



# PSP NEWSLETTER

Keeping you up to date with PSP teacher development

2023 TERM 3

## From the Director

### Connection and Collaboration

This year PSP's work has benefitted from connection and collaboration with other education-focussed organisations, helping us to add value to our work and providing much-needed resources to struggling teachers.

Education-focussed organisations are bound by the common objective of improving learning outcomes. Teachers and learners are after all central to our efforts. Therefore, it is important to find ways to combine our strengths and work together for the greater good. PSP also participates in a project which works in this way with several organisations collaborating closely as project partners to provide training and support for school leadership, Literacy and Maths at selected schools. Successes achieved in this project are accredited to the partner group.

Working together has inspired further work, such as working with parents on how they can support children's learning at home. The more teachers connect with parents to share information, the better equipped both will be to help children achieve academic success. Children whose parents stay involved with schools attend school regularly, develop better social skills, and in most cases achieve better results.

PSP maintains its connections with education districts and officials, school management teams and teachers towards achieving positive outcomes across our project work. We also endeavour to forge strong working relationships with sister organisations for the benefit of schools and teachers in our programmes.

We wish you all an awesome Term 4.

Dr. Zorina Dharsey

### Farewell to our beloved colleague



It was with deep sadness that the PSP bid farewell to

**Ntombizodwa Nxawe,**

our colleague of many years who passed away in July. May she rest in peace.

We will always remember our dear Zozo in action...

## PSP connects through Penreach

Based in Mpumalanga, Penreach builds capacity for improvements in education with a wide range of programmes benefiting teachers, students and children from 0 – 18 years.



PSP participated in an exceptional event hosted by Penreach, where different 'Transformative Learning Hubs' gathered to share and learn from each other and observe Transformative Learning in action.

**"This experience was valuable because it stimulated new thinking to use in our own work"**, said Novosti Buta, PSP's Programmes Manager.

"It became clear that we can work together and build partnerships, both within our own groups and with others in the bigger community of organisations in education. One exciting idea was to create a 'Hub Network Coalition' for closer collaboration."

## PSP Annual Mass Planning Forum 2023



PSP's Annual Mass Planning Forum (AMPF) will be held online

📅 For teachers: Wed 18 October

📅 For SMTs: Wed 1 November



Find both links in this QR code.

Please complete the survey to share your teaching, leadership and management requests for 2024. **Link to AMPF survey:** <https://bit.ly/46rD2ra>.

Open this link: <https://bit.ly/3PvJuGS> to reserve your place for the event.

WhatsApp us on 071 2902 804 should you experience challenges.

**PSP's Innovation Project delivered 50 courses, attended by 2 386 teachers from 528 schools in eight provinces during January to June this year. This benefitted over 100 000 learners.**

ALL PSP COURSES ARE SACE ACCREDITED



Booking is essential for all courses  
See programme for booking links or WhatsApp 071 2902 804



# New Mentorship Project cycle already shows positive impact



PSP's new two-year Mentorship Project cycle with 25 first-time teachers is already showing positive results.

The project coordinators, Rugaya Essa and Tracy-Lee Stevens Murray report that:

Mentors have used strategies to improve mentees' relationships with their learners through making lessons practical, fun and hands-on and using a co-authored approach by involving learners in the lesson objective. This implementation has already seen some positive results in learner behaviour and engagement.



Children learn best when they...

Experience and do



Hands-on

Question and think



Minds-on

Talk, read and write



Words-on

Participate and enjoy



Hearts-on

## PSP BELIEVES...



**Children DO have the courage to struggle through problems.**

Allow children to struggle. They have the courage to persevere and will experience a special exhilaration that comes with overcoming difficulty. This builds grit and will encourage them to keep on trying new things.

## TOP TIPS FOR TEACHERS: READING

### In the classroom:

- ✓ Invite children to bring a book, story or poem they enjoy and let them read it to the class with actions/role play.
- ✓ Read fun poems. Children enjoy rhyming words.



### Working with parents or caregivers:

- ✓ Collect reading material around the house such as recipes, product labels that list ingredients, instructions for certain medication, directions for making / putting things together. Read these with children. This will show how relevant and important reading is.

Mentors note that classroom demonstrations, constant communication and workshops are pivotal in growing relationships and are helping novice teachers through what seems like a jungle to navigate. Workshops provide opportunities to share problems and to interact with other novice teachers recognising the same challenges, to network and exchange ideas.

# Introducing new PSP facilitators

We are delighted to welcome two new Foundation Phase facilitators, Ms Yanga Greyi-Centane (left) and Ms Mandisa Xobongo (right) who bring a wealth of practical experience, personal vision and broad ideals for education.



"The greatest way to prepare a child for the future is by giving them a book. This was my personal vision when I entered the teaching profession.

My love for reading led me into postgraduate studies, as well as extra-curricular activities focusing on literacy. I believe every small step brings me closer to my ultimate vision: the change I want to see in society begins in my classroom."



"Throughout my career, my objective in the classroom has been to reach each learner in a way that suits their unique learning style and

ability. This led me to my postgraduate studies in special needs education. I believe that learners need to be developed holistically to reach their full potential. I believe in integrating work with play and making learning more enjoyable through songs, rhymes and mnemonic devices."



## PRIMARY SCIENCE PROGRAMME (PSP)

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