



PSP NEWSLETTER

Keeping you up to date with PSP teacher development

2023 TERM 4

From the Director

As we wrap up 2023, PSP reflects with great delight on what we have accomplished this year. We kicked off the year with two new cycles of the Cluster Project (for Foundation Phase Maths and Life Skills, and Intersen Science) and the Mentorship Project (for novice teachers). We also accommodated new requests for workshops with School Management Teams and Teacher Assistants which were well received. We actively pursued partnerships and collaborations with many different stakeholders.

PSP employs a range of Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL) tools to reflect on the impact of our work in schools and on children's learning.

This year PSP introduced additional assessments in our Natural Sciences & Technology (NST) projects to track science teaching and learning. We included interviews with sample groups of intermediate phase learners to assess their understanding of basic science concepts. We also used practical tests to assess learners handling of basic science equipment and we used a learner workbook analysis to reflect on the kind of activities given to children to consolidate learning.

Our initial analysis of the workbooks shows that NST teachers in project schools are actively integrating visual thinking strategies such as mind-maps, drawings and KWL charts (What do we **K**now? What do we **W**ant to know? What did we **L**earn?) The workbooks also show language strategies such as wordlists and shared writing in science teaching have been used. We are pleased that the different strategies implemented by teachers are bearing fruit as we noted a positive correlation with improvements in children's knowledge and confidence. We look forward to 2024 and the many possibilities to further inspire and support teachers.

Wishing all a blessed Festive Season and a prosperous 2024

Dr. Zorina Dharsey

This year we offered 224 courses and 418 classroom support sessions across all projects. These were attended by 3645 teachers, from 668 schools, from 9 provinces, impacting more than 200 000 learners- a 100% increase on 2022.

Assessing our progress



Quality, practical education is our focus and to this end, we assess learners' baseline knowledge and skills in science through learner interviews and practical tasks. Learner workbook analysis allows us to reflect on teaching strategies used in the class.

These assessments provide a snapshot of progress regarding science teaching and learning.



Learner interviews consist of practical testing of skills plus questions on science concepts. Learners create drawings (top right) to show their knowledge.

2024 PSP Registration



SCAN ME

Don't forget to register your school with the PSP for 2024 to get the best value from our services. Scan QR code or click here to download the registration form:

<https://bit.ly/47eYNuH>

ALL PSP COURSES ARE SACE ACCREDITED

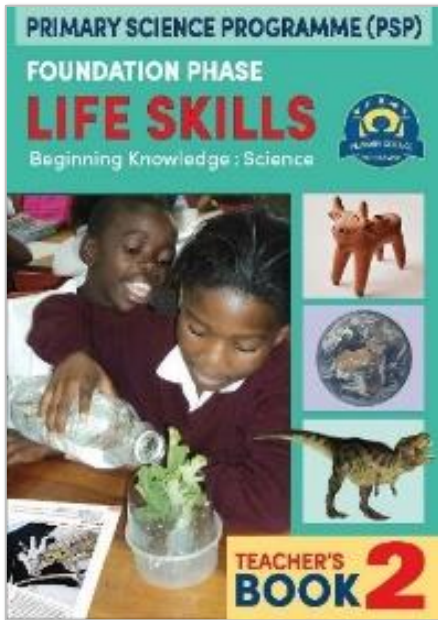


Booking is essential for all courses
See programme for booking links or WhatsApp 071 2902 804



PSP's new LIFE SKILLS book

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF
BEGINNING KNOWLEDGE: SCIENCE
— NOW AVAILABLE!



This teacher's handbook provides practical and fun Grade R – 3 lessons, with rich stories and activities. The lessons are drawn from the CAPS curriculum / ATPs and integrate with mathematics and language. It will soon be available in Afrikaans and isiXhosa.

PSP BELIEVES...

Parents' hands-on involvement in their children's education journey is the key to their success.

PSP is building a focus on providing parents, caregivers and ECD practitioners with practical fun activities to promote early learning through play.



PSP welcomes new trustee, Sam Rolland



Director for Sub-Saharan Africa: Economist Intelligence Corporate Network (EICN).

Sam brings a wide perspective with global experience in macro-economic strategy and forecasting, while actively advising on current economic outlooks based on his involvement and research in many projects in South Africa.

South Africa continues to face multiple challenges as we continue to build the society we desire. From what the Springboks taught us during the World Cup, wonderful things can happen when we as a country buy into and work together towards a shared vision. It is an honour to have been invited to join the PSP Board, and I look forward to contributing my skills and leadership to PSP and inspiring other leaders to be able to do the same."

ANNUAL MASS PLANNING FOR 2024

Our thanks go to every one of the 414 teachers who responded to the online survey sent, and who indicated their needs and requests for support in 2024.

In addition, this year's online Annual Mass Planning Forum events saw 139 teachers from 64 schools, and 29 SMTs from 17 schools attending. The responses have helped us curate a relevant programme of courses. We have shared a summary for 2024 via email and schools are encouraged to align PSP's courses to their School Improvement Plans.

We are looking forward to working with everyone again in 2024!



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