



# MATJANA PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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## OBSERVING TEACHERS AND THEIR KIDS

In the start of year, we expect lot of things to happen in the school. We expecting surprises, fears and pressure from children. Children would come to school only to find that they still want their parents but on the other side they want to come to school. I'm not sure if they are willing to come with their mummies to school.

We have observed that this year there were no cries for mothers. From there 29 children we have this year, we did not receive any cry from the first day. Teachers noted that the kids were happy to be in school. Most of the kids would come to school already knowing the teachers names. The first week theme was "myself". In introduction to this theme,

teachers are expected to introduce themselves first. To our surprise one kid says she knows all the teachers. She said correctly our names but when coming to teacher *Fortunate's* surname, she called out 'Mbonane' instead of *Sihlongonyane*. We never mind as we thought its little time we use surnames. The fact that the other two teach-

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ers' last name is *Mbonane* made us aware that the child's thought is one surname used. The child was corrected. Another thing noted is when the children want



### MEET THE



### MATJANA KIDS



|                              |                            |                              |                          |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>NAME:</b>                 | Shabalala Nosipho          | Nkhambule Khayelihle         | Mamba Yoliswa            |
| <b>MEANING:</b>              | A gift                     | A good household             | 'zulu name'              |
| <b>FAVOURITES AT SCHOOL:</b> | Playing the swings         | Blowing the whistle          | To look pictures in book |
| <b>FAVOURITE FOOD:</b>       | Cake                       | Anything nice, he said       | Like fruits              |
| <b>WANTS TO BE A:</b>        | Doctor                     | Want to workin Jozi          | A teacher                |
| <b>TEACHERS SAY:</b>         | Outgoing and energetic kid | A dancer to be. Hes got vibe | Too soft .               |

## OBSERVING TEACHERS AND KIDS

something to play with from different person. The child would come and report that this one does want to borrow me. Not all the children know each other so it gave them tough time to report someone they don't know. We had good laugh when *Nosipho* (school kid) came to report that a particular boy does not want to lend her a block. *Nosipho* didn't know the boy's name and she didn't know the block. She instructed the teacher to stand up and go with her to show the boy and the thing the boy don't want with. It came to our attention that we must talk about each and every item in the class and its uses.

Luckily our children are good in sharing. They take turns in playing the swings. They share the balls we have and they give turns in selling in the toy store

we have. We are really happy for this. They don't fight cats and dogs for toys. If someone is using a toy, the other child would wait until it is his or her turn to play with. The only thing they lack is patience. They can't wait for too long. Teachers are watching how much time is given to each child to play with a toy. Otherwise some kids have only seconds especially the softer ones.

Our children come from very traditional homes so most of traditional songs and dances are well known. We usually have time to dance once or twice in a week. Being with kids help to realize something you wouldn't think of. There is surname called *Ngwenya* meaning a crocodile. Two boys from the same outlet know each other very well, they are neighbours. The boy with the surname *Ngwenya* was dancing and to our amusement his friend

gave praises. He said "a crocodile that lives in water". That was very good in our culture. It shows being brave and a hero.

One more thing we observed is that *Thembelihle* had a ball flattened and he made it to a hat (like a helmet). He came to a group of children and talked like a big man (pretending to have a big voice). He said "knock, I'm the man of this house. Is everybody ok? .That made the other children laugh and teacher was interested in the conversation and took a picture.



We are looking forward to have a great year with this children who made us laugh each day.

## FUNDRAISING UPDATE



Matjana Preschool partnership with other preschool across the world has made the school to get more support financially. It started with a preschool in Swaziland which donated food and toys. Another Preschool in Belgium had a fun run, fundraising for the school. . Three Preschools in Australia has joined in fundraising for the school.

Matjana Preschool is still receiving donations from its account in Australia. Every donation is spent on what is expected. From the money, one donated to cater a child to buy uniforms to go to primary which it did. The school appreciate your support and cash donation can be deposited in the bank account below

|                         | Swaziland         | Australia                    |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Bank</b>             | Standard Bank     | The Community Mutual Group   |
| <b>Account Name:</b>    | Matjana Preschool | Friends of Matjana Preschool |
| <b>Account Number:</b>  | 0140078375401     | 719585                       |
| <b>Bank SWIFT code:</b> | SBICSZMX          | -                            |
| <b>BSB Number:</b>      | 66056441          | 932000                       |