



Servant Leaders for Tembisa

7 September 2010

The ultimate aim of Nokuphila School is to grow servant leaders for Tembisa. The hope is that the next few decades will find Godly, contributing citizens of Tembisa – those that are values-driven and set on serving others in their community. Not too long ago, the school celebrated “Entrepreneurs Day”. If you happened to find yourself in one of the classrooms you would see a child standing in the ‘queue’ of the ‘bank’, waiting for a ‘teller’ to deposit his ‘money’. In another class, a ‘shopkeeper’ was serving a ‘customer’, and another was ‘grocery shopping’. If these children become successful entrepreneurs through the quality, values-based education they receive; if they are responsible, caring employers; if they act socially and environmentally responsibly; if they pay their taxes; and if they contribute to creating a thriving economy in the township of Tembisa, then the Love Trust would have made a difference. If girls become doting mothers who go on to raise more servant leaders; if boys become responsible fathers and leaders in their home; if children grow up to be more concerned with the wellbeing of others than the acquisition of material things, then Tembisa will be a better place.

This is how we will measure the impact of our work and whether or not we have been successful in our endeavours.

A few months back Nokuphila hosted parents of our children over “health week”. While the health of their children is the parents’ responsibility, we hoped to empower them with better tools and education around issues of health and hygiene. Our qualified volunteer doctor, Ann Mathews (also an apprentice at Christ Church Midrand), provided parents with information on common ailments, how best to treat them, and the resources available. She has also begun investigating what the local clinics offer and how to access the best treatment. In the meantime, all children were evaluated by Ann at the beginning of the year and have shown a marked improvement in weight and general wellbeing. She believes this is due to the nutritious meals provided for by the school.

Developing an attitude of servant leadership starts at an early age. While Nokuphila serves children that are most in need, we believe that everyone can give, and to be given the opportunity to give is a real blessing. As part of the Mandela Day initiative, Nokuphila children visited the New Jerusalem children’s home, to share their fruit and tea with children at New Jerusalem. It is our hope that experiences like this will nurture a strong social conscience.

Education does not end at preschool which is why our plans to grow the school into a primary and secondary school of excellence for those most in need, are forging ahead. Next year we will open the doors to our first Grade R class, and our fundraising team are hard at work to enable the purchase of

..... additional property to expand our school and infrastructure. Schools are also not just about children but

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about the remarkable people who have been called to teach. South Africa suffers a desperate shortage of teachers and we hope to create a centre of learning for those interested in pursuing teaching as a career.



We hope to raise sponsorship for the studies of individuals who have expressed such an interest, as well as provide the practical experience of teaching at the school.

In all of this, we are so grateful. Grateful that we are nearing the close of a highly successful first year and that we've been privileged enough to work with such inspired people that made this a reality. We are grateful to those of you who have taken it upon yourselves to champion the Love Trust cause by climbing mountains, cycling monstrous distances and calling upon colleagues and friends to assist. We are grateful to those of you who thought of us when you were clearing out cupboards and sheds, who introduced us to your companies, and to those of you who have volunteered that increasingly precious commodity – time. Thank you to all who have championed our cause and have given so freely. And above all, we thank God, who makes all things possible.