

CAMPHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER





As the weather is turning, the falling leaves tell us that Autumn is on our doorstep.

The hot cross buns and chocolate eggs in every supermarket remind us of the imminent arrival of Easter. How time flies!

Desk hunting and stationary supplies were our main priority at the beginning of the year . I am proud to announce that our School has grown substantially with a total of 70 learners, with each class to its full capacity.

This has been a very busy term for the School on the fundraising front, from attending fundraising workshops to organising events, Michelle van Zyl and Genevieve Linney have done a magnificent job.

Thank you to Michelle and Genevieve for dedicating so much time and effort on our events and making the School so very proud. Thank you to all the staff, teachers and co-workers who assisted them.

Our Fun School Sports Day was a wonderful success and the kids enjoyed it thoroughly. We invited parents to attend and had quite a good turn-out. Thank you to Michele Lor-

ton and to the co-workers who made this a truly spe-

cial event.

We have had a few additions to our Camphill family this term. The new teacher, Suzette Nortje, joined us at the beginning of the new term and she is an absolute gem. Assemblies are much more festive with her playing the piano! Her enthusiasm and positive attitude is like a breath of fresh air.

Nicoleen Potgieter, the new bookkeeper had to spark from the word go, she had to submit the quarterly report to the WCED within 5 days. I apologise to all the parents for the delay in receiving up to date school fee statements, however I take my hat off to Nicoleen for managing everything so well under very difficult circumstances.

Alton, our new driver and maintenance team member, has already proven to be an excellent worker with a heart of gold.

On the Homelife front Angela Coetzee, the new assistant house parent and her family are settling well into the community. Her daughter, Nicole, attends our School and is enjoying her new class. As Elaine Dyers is on maternity leave, Lucky and Margaret have taken over her

cooking duties in the house. Thank you for taking on this extra responsibility.

Two new boarders joined our residential home, Phoenix, this term and are settling in well. In addition, renovations and maintenance to Phoenix House took centre stage this term and we are waiting in anticipation for the final result.

The Association of Camphill Communities UK and Ireland's (AoCC) contribution to staff training. This has made the Skills Academy "Advanced day care certificate" training for our class assistants and house parent Corrie possible. I am proud to report that they are doing extremely well.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the AoCC and Camphill School for providing me with the opportunity to further my studies by sponsoring the UNISA School Management course, which I completed successfully last year. It was a very rewarding experience which will enable me to serve the children and community better.

Then the highlight of the term, on a personal note, was the 18th Birthday of our very own sweet angel, Jamie-Lee Motshabi. She enjoyed every moment of the day, what a special

occasion it was.

But, the term also brought its share of sadness as the NPO administrator from the Camphill Farm Community, André Smuts, passed away very suddenly on Thursday 12 March. Our hearts and prayers go out to his family, loved ones and the Farm Community.

I am sincerely grateful for the support and encouragement from the management team, staff members, co-workers, parents and the board of directors in my role as acting Principal. Together we are a robust team.

We are thankful to our Heavenly Father for every donation and blessing which we have received during this term, and for the last 63 years. I want to wish everyone a lovely Easter holiday and a safe return back to school.

> Jeanne-Marie Botha **Acting Principal**





This term started off well, with teachers and pupils feeling refreshed and eager for the New Year. There is a feeling that it's going to be a good one. Currently our "Lady" Acting Principal, Jeanne-Marie, who has been part of the Camphill community for 12 years is managing her new role with strength, patience and wisdom. We know that she has always had the well-being of the children in her heart, first and foremost.

We are delighted to welcome Teacher Suzette, who feels as though she has "come home". Her joy at being here amongst our precious children is contagious. She is always smiling and her music classes have filled the

school with happiness and laughter.

We celebrated a very special Eurythmy teachers birthday on March 3rd, wishing Louisa many blessings on her 80th birthday. The school and the farm community joined in music and song celebration and Geralyn Laset performed the beautiful Swan Dance. It was a special and fitting tribute to someone very dear to us, who has shared years of her expertise and love with our children.

We have begun this year with a full school, welcoming new children into every class. We started the year with assessments and are now already working towards the end-of-term Concert! We will be following the Mainstream School calendar this year. The shorter

> school day is also making it possible for our children to become more integrated into afternoon community activities.



We have also received untold blessings from all over; for instance, brilliant stationery from Bidvest Data and our amazing co-workers this year organised much-needed swimming pool and therapy equipment. Fabulous donation of clothing for the kids was also received. We also had a day-long photo-shoot, courtesy of Emilie's dad, Frank von Wieding.

Once again, we endeavour to "spread the love" in our community and went to visit Kidbrooke, a retirement village and sang to the residents. OPEN DAY 15 May 2015

Our heartfelt THANK-YOU's for all the love. This is the essence of our School.

Michele Lorton



I was associated with the Uniondale High School for approximately 32 of the 40 years spent in Uniondale. It is thus understandable that I was very sad to bid farewell to the picturesque little Karoo town, with its beautiful stone churches and friendly folk.

I started at Camphill School at the beginning of the year. My first impression of Camphill was a feeling of peace and tranquillity. I realised that this really is a small piece of Heaven on Earth. I immediately knew that this was where our Heavenly Father wants to use me as an instrument in His hands.

An added blessing is that my family also resides here in Hermanus and I am now able to spend a lot more time with them and my special grandchildren.

How does one say thank you for having been given the privilege to be part of Camphill School?

It feels like one big family, everyone, especially the children, have crept into my heart.





@ Camphill School



Teachers visit to Camphill Alpha

On Wednesday, 3 December 2014, myself, five teachers, one class assistant and Julio Laset set off to visit Camphill Village West Coast outside Malmesbury.

We received a very warm welcome upon our arrival and were served delicious eats and tea.

Then we set off to visit Renate Sleigh. Renate and her husband Julian were founding members of Camphill Village West Coast (or also known as Camphill Alpha), a community for adults with special needs.

Renate told us how her father, (one of the founding members of the Camphill Movement in Scotland), fled together with friends and children with special needs during the Second World War. Renate's father was Karl König, he promoted the principle that all children, no matter what their disability, contain within them a divine spark of humanity deserving of love, respect and nurturing. She went on to explain that Camphill ad-

dresses the whole human being in its entirety, following a holistic

approach which does not distinguish between body and soul, working "from the inside out".

It was a rewarding experience to learn more about the Camphill Philosophy. The two days spent there were very informative and we returned refreshed and relaxed.

The teachers would like to thank the Camphill School management team and Camphill Village West Coast for this wonderful opportunity.

CAMPHILI

Johanna Gardiner



The Intermediate class, accompanied by former co-workers Johanna Dümmel and Michelle Iser, was treated to a fantastic outing on Monday 23rd March to the Rocklands Petting farm.

We started by having snacks in the gardens. All the animals were out and about, waiting for our buckets of tasty food. Fluffy, soft rabbits were the girls favourites, but the baby kid (goats) stole the hearts of the boys and co-workers. The teenage goats were very naughty and kept jumping up and stealing our food. Then the cheeky rooster put his head right into the bag of chips and had his snack for the day.

We then strolled over to the potbellied pigs and multi-coloured piglets. They were playfully oinking and rubbing their backs on the tree-trunks. Last were the ponies, who were friendly and delighted to receive crunchy apples and carrots from us. On the way home we went to Voëlklip Beach to wash our dusty feet. It was a fun and stimulating outing and the children were well-behaved and learnt a lot about how to treat farm and domestic animals.



Always time for balloons

We started off this year in full swing with lots happening in the house.

We accepted two new boarders into our residential home at the beginning of the year, Maddison and Shaun. They are settling in well. We now have nine boarders in our home and our small family is growing.

A lot of maintenance work has been happening in the house from filling some of the children's uneven floors in the bedrooms to the house being scraped and painted on the outside and given a fresh new look.

We would like to thank Maddison's father Eddy Gibbon for the very generous cash donation towards tiles for the bedrooms and the paint. Our maintenance team have managed to tile three of the bedrooms and they will paint the bedrooms in lovely bright colours during the April holidays.

Besides all the work being done in the house, there have been several parties and celebrations. Four of our residential children celebrated birthdays, Neil and Pieter in February and Chandra in March. Of course there was also our special Camphill child, Jamie-Lee's 18th birthday on the 10th of March. Thank you to Jeanne-Marie, the Residential parents and the school for contributing towards an evening out to Colcachio's for pizza's and ice-cream. The children loved the outing, even former co-workers joined in on the fun.

I want to thank the local community for all the donations we have been receiving. We have been truly blessed with regular food donations, as well as clothing, bedding and books.

I want to thank Angela our Assistant house mother and the rest of my team for your hard work and dedication this term.

We look forward to our cook Elaine's return at the beginning of our second term from her maternity leave.

May everyone have a blessed Easter and enjoy your time with your family during the holiday.

Cornelia Le Roux











Festivals...

In preparation for the Easter and Lent Festival, the children heard Lent stories and sang hymns in their weekly religion classes. As part of the activities over the Passion Tide week they celebrated Palm Sunday on the 29th March with the residential children in their Sunday service. The whole school will have an opportunity to participate in the Lent service on the 31st March.





school of Williams

On the 12th March, the Camphill children, parents, staff and co-workers had a wonderful fun sports day here at the school. To add to the excitement of the day each class was colour coded into green, blue, white, yellow, orange and red teams.

All the children were in high spirits and eager to participate in all the activities of the day. We started off with long distance running and walking races. As they crossed the finishing line all the supporters clapped and cheered them on. The girls then challenged the boys at tug of war, which resulted with the girls falling to their knees in hysterics. Wheelbarrow races, bean bag balancing

and three legged races were tackled with enthusiasm. We concluded with the apple-bobbing game, a firm favourite. It was heart warming to experience the team spirit amongst the classmates. We look forward to next year's fun and games....to our wonderful children, you are all winners.







Counting the pennies

I was born and raised on a farm near Robertson in the Western Cape and I have a great love for farm life. In 1972 I matriculated at Worcester Commercial High School, a school which specializes in Accounting subjects.

In 1973 I started at an audit firm in Bellville as a junior accounting clerk. I continued to work in an accounting/audit environment until 2002. Through all my years I have amassed a vast experience in this field.

This has afforded me experience and a broad foundation in working with customers from various industries. I have a systematic approach to tasks, with attention to detail being my top priority.

During those years, I raised three healthy and now successful sons on my own as a single parent and I am deeply thankful to have this blessing.

From 2002 until January 2015 I worked as accountant/ financial manager at Baden Tec Electrical and

> until recently, at Arccon Electrical in Caledon.

I was invited to Camphill School's Sports Day during February 2013 and I was taken inspired by the farm life, the special children and the wonderful spirit of the Camphill Family.
In 2014 I sponsored the medals for the Sports Day anonymously. This initiated the "Friend of Camphill" slogan on the medal ribbons today.

When I heard in November 2014 that the bookkeeper was relocating, I immediately submitted my CV. This was the opportunity I had been waiting for to join the Camphill Family.

I joined the wonderful team of employees at Camphill School, Hermanus on 2nd February 2015. I was welcomed with a beautiful birthday card made by the children which was placed on my desk.

What a wonderful way to start a new job!

I consider it to be a huge privilege to have become part of Camphill School. I have never experienced an environment so filled with love and thankfulness.

I sincerely believe that I can use my experience and knowledge to further the interests of Camphill School and that I shall be an asset to them. I look forward to a long, happy and fruitful relationship here.

Nicoleen Potgieter



Caution: Wet Paint

Well the year started off with a bang! The kindergarten children were surprised to find an 'indoor swimming pool' in their classroom. Sneaky intruders stole the last of the copper pipes but the maintenance team managed to repair and clean the kindergarten class in a jiffy.

On the renovations front, Blue Gum received a 'facelift' in January and is now being occupied by one of our new teachers, Suzette Nortje.

We are currently in the process of upgrading our residential home, Phoenix. The interior and exterior walls have had a lick of paint. Leaking taps are being repaired and replaced. The cupboards are being fixed and new floors have been laid and tiled. The Homelife staff are waiting in anticipation for the extension and renovation to their kitchen. Special thanks go out to Joan St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust who has made this possible.



Then huge congratulations go out to Collins for passing his driver's test. Once the need arises he will join the bus driving

team, with the fourth bus. The 3 school busses which currently collect and drop off the children on a daily basis are now running like a well oiled machine.

Sadly with a heavy heart we bode a fond farewell to Godfrey at the beginning of the year and welcomed the latest member to our crew, Alton. I would like to thank the maintenance team for all their hard work and dedication to the school this term and wish everyone a well deserved Easter break.

Clint Fouche





A BIG THANK YOU

to everyone that contributed towards our Street collection on the 28th March in Hermanus.

We brought in a record of R 9 120.00.

Thanks to all the staff, our children, our co-workers and volunteers that collected. We will be back on the streets on the 31st of October 2015.



School office-028 312 4949 Fax Number- 086 522 1749 Our new website address is

www.camphillschool.org.za

Don't forget to sign up to My School. Every swipe counts. Please call the school office for more details or visit our website to find the application form.







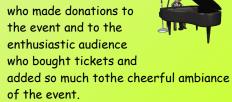
We had the privilege to invite one of South Africa's most versatile entertainers, Ian von Memerty. He performed at our glitzy fundraiser on 7 March 2015. Ian has become loved around the nation as the Host of Strictly Come Dancing, the Judge on SA's Got Talent and as the creator of the record breaking A Handful of Keys.

The Hermanus Municipal Auditorium opened its doors at 18:30 and boasted an elegant setting with refreshing drinks and canapés, encouraging fervent guests to enjoy, whilst waiting in anticipation for the 'captain of entertainment' to commence.

As guests had the opportunity to take their seats Ian was waiting in the wings to present his Cabaret Show, which shared highlights of his extraordinary career. He dazzled his audience with his pianistic dynamite and sheer magical music. Some would say an evergreen performer-working at the very peak of his powers.

Behind the scenes leading up to this event was touch and go. Two weeks before the event we had only sold 20 tickets! We were ready to hit the panic button. I contacted Ian and he replied 'selling these shoes is not for the faint hearted' however with extreme dedication and enthusiasm we sold a jaw dropping 160 tickets in a record time of 3 days.

All said and done, this was truly the highlight on the calendar thus far and we would like to express our sincere appreciation for the support we received from all those



Michelle van Zyl





Come rain or shine, Camphill School celebrated its fourth Annual Sports Day Challenge on Saturday 14th February.

Enthusiastic MTB cyclists and trail run-

ners mastered the challenge of the tough courses laid out for them across the Hemel en Aarde Valley. Scores of walkers of all ages and mommies with prams, jogged or strolled their way around gentler picturesque routes, designed by Hermanus Adventures, under the leadership of Paul du Toit of the Wine Village.

Back at home base people had the opportunity to feast on boeries and ice-cream whilst enjoying the sounds of our marimba band and the wonderful dance performances by the Hermanus Line Dancers. People also had the opportunity to win brilliant prizes from our pop-a-balloon- raffle and needless to say it went off with a bang. We would like to congratulate Louise Rundle for winning our lovely Valentine's Day hamper.

It was a fantastic day, enjoyed by all, and once again was supported by the Hermanus community. Thank you to each and everyone who made this day such a success. A special thank you goes out to Paul du Toit, from the Wine Village, The Hermanus Rotary Club, KIA Motors Hermanus, Oasis Water and Beauty Fires.





THAN K YOU

Camphill School has been greatly blessed by all our generous donors who have become loyal partners with our Board and staff providing a caring and supportive environment in which our children can flourish and grow to their full potential.

Donations continue to arrive since the beginning of the year. This all contributes in creating a stable financial environment. We give grateful thanks to God and our generous friends.

We are delighted to announce that our new website has gone live with a few amendments still to be made.

We are continuously promoting our Child Sponsorship programme and pleased to say that we have seen substantial growth in our donors. If you are interested in our programme please visit our new website www.camphillschool.org.za for more details.

Since the start of the year, we have hosted three successful fundraising events:

- Sports Day Challenge 14 February R 16 137.00 was raised.
- Ian von Memerty Cabaret Performance 7 March R24 523.00 was raised.
- Street Collection 28 March R 9 120.00 was raised.

Apart from those who supported our Sports Challenge, Ian von Memerty Cabaret Performance as well as our street collection, we would like to acknowledge the contributions made by the following:

Association of Camphill Communities UK and Ireland (AoCC)	The Syringa Trust	Lily Ashton Charitable Trust
Marine Crew Services SA Pty Ltd	Frances J Appleby Trust	TS Berwitz Trust
United Church Hermanus	Victoria Frances Clive -Smith Charitable Trust	Alfred Rosenberg & Associates
Freunde de Erziehungskunst	Viking Fishing Group	Team 73
Geoff Saevitzon in celebration of Mr R Kurland's 60th birthday.	Investec Bank	Acacia Trust
Janette van Wyk	Emmanuel Laset	Several anonymous donors

We also thank our regular contributors, who month after month, support the School and its children, in particular:

(*New child sponsors)

Ad Ops	Kerrin Michelson	My School (please do sign up)
*Joshua King Foundation	Jamie-Lee Grant	*Simple Active
Jan and Letanie Nel	JDE Manufacturing	PJ Myburgh
Rusty Demmer	Jaci van Heteren	Several anonymous donors

Equally important are the donations-in-kind we received during this period -

Hermanus Homes (School desks)	Hospice (Craft material)	Bidvest Data (Stationery)
Anja Brandt (Food)	Madron Lettuce Farm (Food)	Jenny Hattingh (Books, Curtains)
Mr and Mrs Hough (Geyser)	Mr Andre van der Merwe (Curtains, bicycle helmets)	Mr and Mrs Kuhn (Weaving Loom, wool and materials)
MerciaTeubes (Bedding &Towels)	Lindsey Davis, Lynn Rogers, Fiona and Cassie Store (Easter Eggs)	Nicole Linney (Bedding, Books and Toys)
Kara Niemantinga (Toys and Books)	Pack n Bake (Jill Fouche - Easter hamper)	Jose Ferreira (Craft materials)

As always, we would like to thank the convenience store at Engen Hermanus, the Peninsula Feeding Scheme for the food which they supply to us on a regular basis and the community of Hermanus for their ongoing support.

Genevieve Linney





Thank you to Fiona and Cassie Store for the bags of Easter eggs. We are truly blessed to have friends like you.



Account name: Camphill School

First National Bank

Acc no 524 7070 4936 , Branch code: 200412