



Since 1952

Camphill School Hermanus

# ANNUAL REPORT

January - December

## 2019

Private Residential and  
Day School for Children  
and Young Adults with  
Special Educational Needs

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## CAMPHILL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

**Chairman:** Geoffrey Weir

**Vice-chair:** Elma Young

**Secretary / Treasurer:** Julio Laset

**Members:** Karin Laubscher  
Mbongeni Mazuthu  
Ray Potton  
Naomi May

## CAMPHILL SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Principal:** Jeanne-Marié Botha

**Deputy Principal:** Johanna Gardiner

**HOD Curriculum Development:** Johanna Gardiner

**Facilities Manager:** Selmon Swanepoel

**Head: Health, Therapeutic, Psychological & Social Services:** Julio Laset



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



**Geoffrey R Weir,**  
BSc, FCA, IBA, Chairman,  
Camphill School Board of Directors

**A**s I reflect on the year, I believe it could be best summarised as a year of adversity and triumph. As you will be aware our School and the Camphill Farm Community, which are located on one site in the valley, were ravaged by a raging bush fire on 11th January. Thankfully and due to the commitment and dedication of our people we successfully evacuated our learners and their carers.

Obviously, the impact has been far reaching as many of our buildings and parts of the estate were severely damaged and the recovery period will last well into the years ahead. You will be aware from my previous reports that our school continues to struggle financially, with a reliance on donations and fundraising both locally and beyond. One major difficulty we will face as we endeavour to rebuild and restore all our facilities will be finding the

funds to replace all that we need, as our insurance will not cover everything that we lost.

As we moved through the year it was encouraging to learn of the efforts and initiatives locally and abroad to fundraise on our behalf, to assist with the restoration. I am aware that our Camphill Family in the UK & Ireland has already at this stage made significant donations to our cause. Particular thanks are extended to the Camphill Foundation for their generous donation.

As we could not operate from our school, the initiative displayed by our Board, our Principal, and the Senior Management Team in making alternative arrangements for the education of our learners off site was tremendous. Our thanks and gratitude is extended to those who helped make a space available to us during this extremely difficult time. In true Camphill fashion, the spirit of togetherness and associative working was never more evident.

Whilst this report focusses on the disruption and devastation caused by the fire, our school activities and other related subjects during 2019, I believe it is appropriate to mention and acknowledge the generosity, support and offers of help from the people in Hermanus and the wider community through this extremely difficult period.

Despite the challenges and obstacles put in our way during the year our commitment to the well-

being of all involved in our School, our engaged staff, our volunteers, our Board Members and especially our learners, some of whom have more challenging behaviours, remains paramount.

As Chairman, I see it as my responsibility and that of the other Board Members to ensure that our School continues to meet the needs of our learners and, if possible, the necessary resources, financial or other, are made available to the Principal and the Senior Management Team to allow this to happen.

Despite our restricted funding, the priorities for the Board of Directors and all those engaged within the School is to find the will, the means and resources to put in place buildings, structures, systems, process and people that will ensure the sustainability of our School. As Chairman, I believe that much of our success is influenced greatly by an extremely enthusiastic, committed and dedicated skilled team of employees, co-workers, volunteers and a Senior Management Team, all operating under the guidance and the watchful eye of our Principal, Ms Jeanne-Marie Botha.

In line with our Duties the Board of Directors has, and continues to, exercise responsibility for ensuring proper arrangements are in place and that all aspects of our business is conducted with probity, in accordance with all legislative and statutory regulations governing our School. Our responsibilities are also to ensure that proper standards are set,

followed and reviewed and the financial affairs of the School are safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively, to allow the School to continue to develop for the benefit and well-being of all our learners.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would extend my gratitude to everyone that has contributed over the past year. The Board of Directors remains confident that the resources currently in place, in particular our skilled and dedicated people, can help ensure that we continue to improve on our previous successes, thus benefitting our learners and their families.

Once again I would encourage you to read the following pages and our regular Newsletter which highlight and report on the many more noteworthy events and improvements to the school, each being told in their own words by those with responsibility for leading these various initiatives.

As always, there are numerous others behind the scenes who make a significant and on-going contribution to the School and it would be remiss of me not to mention a few. In particular, the Mayor of Hermanus, the other Camphill Communities within the Camphill Africa Region (CAR) and the Association of Camphill Communities in the UK and Ireland (AoCC), for their much needed financial and other support that continues to benefit the school.

Heartfelt thanks go to all others who have and continue to provide support; your kindness and generosity is much appreciated and valued. I would also wish to pass on my sincere thanks to all our generous donors, my fellow Board Members, the School Management Team, our Principal, our Fundraising Team and all the staff and parents of our children for their unselfish contributions to maintain our School.

To those that have moved on, I would extend my thanks and appreciation for the valuable contribution made in your time with us. For myself, it has and continues to be an absolute privilege to hold the position of Chairman of the School.

Finally, as we look forward to 2020, work is already underway by the school and the farm teams, together with local community representatives, to welcome the international Camphill Dialogue back to Hermanus in March. This will provide an ideal platform for our visitors to sample and experience all that Hermanus, its people and South Africa have to offer. We are all looking forward to what should be a very significant and enjoyable landmark in next year's calendar.

*"Gratitude turns what we have into enough." - Melody Beattie*



# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Jeanne-Marié Botha  
Principal



It would be an understatement to say that we are thankful for the blessings and grace received during 2019. It was by Grace that our School was saved as a raging bush fire, fuelled by extremely strong winds, swept through our premises on the 11th January, leaving us only half an hour to evacuate to a community hall.

Our School buses were on their way back from taking our learners and staff home when the call to evacuate came from the Hemel en Aarde Rural Safety

Association (HARSA). After evacuating our boarders and their care givers, our one bus went straight to the Camphill Farm Community to help evacuate their residents.

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Hermanus Community. Within a very short space of time the kitchen at the Sandbaai Hall was overflowing with food and bottled water, bedding and mattresses were delivered and when the power went off, generous businesses brought generators and lights. The boarders were all collected by their parents that evening; some parents also took our German volunteers with them.

Fortunately our main buildings had sustained no major structural damage. The fire was contained by a heavy downpour of rain. We were not prepared for the sight that greeted us as we entered the premises. Everything was black, all outer storage facilities destroyed; damage to our borehole pumps, trees and vegetation burnt, huge tree branches lying everywhere and our security fencing was severely damaged.

It was evident that our learners and staff would have to continue receiving their education elsewhere and we thank the management of both the Sandbaai Hall and Bosko Ministries respectively who provided us with the space to do so. Thank you to the United Church and Fernkloof Hall for providing alternative spaces on the days when these halls were not

available. Our residential learners, house parents, German volunteers and Homelife staff were accommodated in two rental properties. It was really a challenging time for all. I commend our house parents, volunteers and staff for their tireless efforts to make our boarders feel at home under these conditions. Unfortunately this turned out to be for a period of 6 months as the Department of Environmental Affairs and National Wetlands specialists determined that the bush fire had ignited an underground peat fire in the wetland situated below our Community, covering the entire area in thick smoke mixed with strong smelling gas that was affecting the ambient air quality in the area.

Between the various local and national government departments and stakeholders it was decided that 25 Working on Fire (WoF) team members will stay at Camphill School employing the "spike tool" to flood the fire from below whilst protecting the remaining pristine wetland. This Palmiet Wetland plays an invaluable role in the Onrus River's catchment to coast area as it filters water flowing into the Onrus estuary so losing 9 HA of it has an enormous environmental impact. Fire Chief Lester Smith and Assistant Chief, Angelo Aplon, made extra staff available to support this team and they were trained to use the spike tool to contain flare-up after the WoF team left.

After the insurance assessment a contractor was appointed to rebuild and repair our buildings and

this work was completed in July. We thank each and everyone that had a significant role to play in the clean-up project.

We welcomed our learners and staff back home in July, at the start of the third term. It was heart-warming to hear their voices and laughter emanating from the playground and school buildings once again. On 12 September our School and the Camphill Farm Community held a joint Thanksgiving service at Mercury Hall to thank everyone who helped us during the fire. The service was led by Reverend Ken Jackson from the United Church with many invited guests and friends in attendance. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the Association of Camphill Communities UK and Ireland (AoCC); to all Camphills worldwide and to many individual donors and friends for your generosity, financial assistance and spiritual support.

There was a lot of catching up to do for the school despite the progress that the learners had made while continuing their education in community halls. This pertains particularly to the Vocational Phase learners as they lost 6 months of skills development workshops. These workshops focus primarily on preparing our young adults for the world of work. Our admissions process was also considerably delayed during the first half of the year causing a drop in learners numbers from last year. Our admissions team is hard at work to remedy the situation.

The second annual formal graduation ceremony for 6 of our vocational phase learners took place in November and we welcomed many parents to this momentous occasion. It was with great sadness that we prepared to send these graduates off into the world of work and adulthood.

Our Board of Directors and management team conducted several strategic planning sessions during October. Due to various factors it was decided that the boarding facilities will be closed at the end of March 2020. These factors included dwindling numbers of boarding applications and the number of appropriately trained staff members needed to provide adequate care to learners with very high care needs which made the service incredibly expensive to deliver. We therefore entered a 189 process with the boarding facility staff members which will be concluded into the New Year. This will ensure that our focus remain solely on our core function; the delivery of quality specialized care and education to our learners helping them to develop to their full uniquely individual potential.

It is my honour to share the exciting news that the School and Camphill Farm Community will host the international Camphill Dialogue 2020 in March. Every three years board members of Camphill Communities world-wide are invited to share views and experiences, generating dialogue around a set theme; this year it will be Camphill Values today.

Preparations for this much anticipated event are underway.

Invasive species eradication and management featured strongly on our agenda this year. We received funds from the Municipality, as well as from the land care section of the Department of Environmental Affairs for this purpose. The land care funds were made available to the School and neighbouring farms to clear the river bed and banks thereby aiding the rehabilitation of the wetland and protecting our water resources.

The highlight during the last quarter of the year was the official hand-over of our new 23-seater Mercedes Benz school bus by the Lighthouse to Lighthouse Ladies (L2L). In March the Association of Camphill Communities (AoCC) donated a shared 16 seater Nissan bus to the Camphill Farm and Camphill School Communities for staff and learner transport. The AoCC also continued their financial support towards training in our Community and thereby enabled us to provide continuous professional development opportunities to all our teachers and staff members.

It has been an honour and privilege to serve Camphill School during this year. We are forever thankful to all our donors, our Hermanus Community, our Board of Directors, our Staff and to our German volunteers who continue helping us to provide a safe and happy haven for all our Learners.

# THE EDITOR'S REPORT

## RESILIENCE AND HOPE

Genevieve Linney  
(PRO and Fundraiser)



**A**fter the devastating fire that raged through our valley, a blackened earth was left behind. Within two weeks after the fire, nature's revival had started and thin blades of grass and flowers never seen before pushed through the scorched soil.

As devastating as the fire was and a challenging time for all, it was a learning experience and impacted all of our lives. Our Children had the opportunity to witness the damage a fire can cause first hand and see how wonderfully nature recovers. Our children expressed their emotions with hearts tied around the burnt old oak trees, in the hope that they would all survive. We believed that we were 'smiled upon' as the fire could have been far more destructive and our School, Camphill survived. Just like the boxes of reams of paper that escaped the burnt teacher's room, we count our blessings every day.

Our Children and staff have a deep connection to the earth and feel embraced and calmed by the peace and serenity of our Grounds. The fire threatened this and made an emotional impression on us all. As the ashes fertilize the soil beneath, this brings about a rebirth and showing nature's resilience.

In line with the founding principles of the Camphill movement, our School maintains the ethos of loving respect for the dignity of the child and a desire to



*"The  
lessons we learn  
from the wild become the  
etiquette of freedom."  
- Gary Snyder*

develop and grow to his/her unique potential. The Rebirth of Fire does a wonderful job of showing us that the fires weren't the end of Camphill, but a whole new beginning.

Always believe in your ability to rise from your own fallen ashes, to emerge brighter and more beautiful than ever before.

# OUR SCHOOL

## The Teachers

*"Believe you can and you're halfway there." - Theodore Roosevelt*



Two days into our new school year we were displaced due to the fire. Fortunately we were accommodated in the Sandbaai Hall till May and in the Bosko Ministries facility till the end of the second term, while Fernkloof Hall and the United Church provided alternative accommodation whenever needed. As all 6 classes were being conducted in one hall it proved quite distracting for some of our learners. Our learners are used to their own space and routine in their classrooms; therefore this was very challenging for teachers and learners alike. We as Teachers tried at all times to keep the routine and structure in place as this is fundamental to our children. After May we moved to Bosko where we were able to separate some classes and some of our Learners were able to receive some therapies as the space was made available for them.

Our third term started off in high spirits; we could move back to Camphill School for the remainder of the academic year. Unfortunately our Vocational Phase Learners missed six months of their life skill workshops and also their job shadowing opportunities, but continued participating in their workshops as soon as they returned back to school. Our therapy programme also continued as normal. Our

school follows the CAPS curriculum, adapted by SANASE for learners with Intellectual Disabilities, interlaced with the Camphill Curriculum and each learner has an Individual Education Plan (IEP). These IEP's are routinely reviewed and adjusted by Teachers, therapists and house parents through collaboration. There was a huge emphasis on these IEP's upon our return to school as reviews have not taken place and the therapy programme had to be put on hold during the first half of the year.

As soon as we were all settled, we quickly held our annual School Sports Day. We wanted to try and do it before our group of young German Volunteers left, so they could be part of the special event. Each class with the learners, volunteers, and teachers took part in various fun races, tug-of-war, three-legged races and egg-on-spoon. Friends and parents came to join and of course our Staff got involved. It was a fun day and it is always encouraging to see our learners cheer on other learners and to see the team spirit amongst all involved. At the start of the term our German co-workers, with some of our learners, gave us a brilliant concert 'The Wizard of Oz'. Dorothy, the cowardly lion, the tin man seeking a heart, the scarecrow were but some of the cast and

had our Staff and Learners in hysterics. Thank you all for such a wonderful performance.

Our Kindergarten and Intermediate classes went to visit our friends at the Kidbrook Retirement Village. We believe in the concept of "Giving Back" and therefore love to thank the senior citizens for their love and support by going to sing to them.

Our soccer team was very excited at the opportunity to play friendly soccer matches against the Waldorf school in August and again in November. Thank you to Waldorf School for this opportunity. To all the supporters who came to cheer on the teams, we will see you in the New Year.

We had some special visitors on Mandela day from Tsogo Sun Hotels in Caledon and Ford Hermanus. As the rain started to drizzle it did not keep the Tsogo Sun men from pulling out weeds in our garden, while the ladies were busy preparing lunch in the kitchen. The 2 Ford representatives started early, preparing sandwiches and finished the day planting seedlings. We thank you all for your kind hearts and thank you for spending more than your 67 minutes here at our School.

Our Vocational Class was privileged to be invited to the Seven Springs Open Day to sell their crafts and play the Marimba. We were also given the opportunity to display our crafts in their Onion Shed. Our Vocational class also visited the Hermanus

Animal welfare (HAWS) where we assisted with the cleaning, feeding the animals and walking the dogs. This opportunity could create a prospect for job shadowing for next year.

The Spring Day outing kicked off the last term. Our entire school community went to Piet se Bos at Grotto Beach for a picnic and fun filled day. It was a lovely sunny day, we all relaxed in the sun, the boys played soccer and after went swimming to cool down for a bit. We all then sat down together to enjoy a picnic lunch prepared by Pick n Pay Hermanus. We welcomed Riette Malherbe in the last term as a Foundation Phase mentor.

Our School was honoured to be invited by The Cape Leopard Trust for a sleepover camp at Disakloof. Twenty senior learners, their teachers and class assistants were excited with the news as this was their first camp ever. A full program from the Cape Leopard Trust was planned, starting off with a visit to the penguins at Betty's Bay and Harold Porter Botanical Gardens. We then went to meet our hosts at Disakloof, where we stayed the night; our accommodation was 5 star quality. We went on beautiful hikes in the mountain and enjoyed several educational workshops about the natural fauna and flora in the area. Our meals were made with pure love and our Learners could not get enough of the delicious food. Thank you to The Cape Leopard Trust, Chris, Naas and Disakloof for giving our Children this wonderful opportunity.

Our classes were fortunate to have had the opportunity to go on different class outings during the term. The Creative, Intermediate and Foundation phase classes visited the famous Two Oceans Aquarium and what a privilege it was. The Aquarium was packed with other schools, but luckily it didn't deter from the enjoyment and the children were able to gasp at the fluorescent jellyfish, cute sea-horses, many technicolour fish and magical sea-creatures of all kinds. To see our Children's faces in the Nemo tank was a thing to behold. The most favourite of all were the sharks and the manta-rays in Shark Alley. We would like to thank Maxitec and Oom Johan for their financial contributions and to teacher Lize-Meri's family for the snack-packs. Without support from generous friends, the life-enriching outing to a special place like this would never be possible for most of our Children. Our Vocational Phase learners went to Grotto Beach and afterwards for a walk and ice-cream at the Old Harbour. Our senior classes enjoyed a picnic here at Camphill.

Sharing concerts take place at the end of every term and at the end of the year we end with our Nativity Play.

*We thank all our Friends for  
being a part of our year and for  
keeping our Children close  
to your hearts.*



# HOMELIFE

## House Parents

**T**wo days into our academic year, we had to quickly evacuate our two homes Phoenix and Cloister. It took us all 15 minutes to grab the necessary stuff, but to Jonnelize (Cloister House Parent) it felt like the longest 15 minutes of her life. The House Mothers got everyone in the bus, children, volunteers, dogs, Angie (Phoenix House Parent) grabbed the children's medication and Jonnelize even remembered to lock the door as they left. As they all left their homes, they could see the flames behind them. That was an experience that we will all not forget easily.

As the conditions at the school were not favourable with the smoking wetlands, we found two homes, one in Onrus and one in Sandbaai to house our residential children, volunteers together with both House Parents. Our Homelife staff was split between the two homes to assist in the cooking and cleaning while Elaine, our cook, went to Sandbaai Hall every day to cook lunch for all our children, volunteers and Teachers. It was a trying time for all of us but our children seem to settle quickly.

Our third term started off with a lot of excitement as we could move back home to Camphill. We thank everyone that made this transition easy for our

Children and staff. Sadly we had to once again say goodbye to our group of German volunteers while welcoming our next group. This year we have fewer volunteers as we have fewer residential children. We have established a new partnership with Alex Greenless from the Amafrica Experiences volunteer programme and received 4 volunteers from her, as well as one volunteer from Freunde der Erziehungskunst. We would like to thank both organisations for their commitment to our school.

Our Homelife department is responsible for creating an environment where not only our residential, but also all our day learners, are loved and cared for. The staff of Homelife also assists the young German volunteers to settle in and feel at home during their residency.

We continue to provide 100 nutritious meals to all our learners, volunteers and supporting staff, this includes a lunch and snacks daily, as well as three meals a day for the residential learners and volunteers. We want to thank the Peninsula Feeding Association, Checkers Hermanus, Engen Convenience Store, Woolworths Station Square and Whale Coast Mall for helping to feed our learners, supporting staff and volunteers every day. The surplus foods we collect weekly make a significant difference and used to supplement all our meals.

Besides the fun activities and outings the residential learners enjoy during some weekends and in the



*"If you want to change the world,  
go home and love your family."  
- Mother Teresa*

evenings, the spiritual life is also an essential part of their week. Our volunteers continue to make wonderful Bible suppers on Saturdays and participate in non-denominational services on Sundays. The residential learners also participate in all the religious festivals celebrated at the school during the year.

# ADMIN AND MAINTENANCE

Genevieve Linney (PRO & Fundraiser)

Where to begin was the question on all our minds as the school year began. As you can all appreciate, this year started off with much repairs, renovations and a tremendous amount of cleaning up after the fire that swept through our Community. Two weeks after the fires, we were fortunate to have CSV construction from Cape Town clear and remove burnt vegetation and big trees and stumps. A digger loader and a large team spent two weeks on site and we thank them for their time and valuable contribution in assisting us. It took contractors approximately six months to rebuild and restore buildings, fix the security fencing and make sure the estate is safe for all to return. Thank you to Camphill Communities Worldwide for your contributions and to the Association of Camphill Communities UK and Ireland for your support towards our uninsured losses and thereby helping us to rebuild our community.

During this period the only staff members on-site were the maintenance and administrative departments. They were working very closely on all on-

going projects and ensuring all operations were running smoothly and efficiently.

Our Maintenance department welcomed Shane Vertuin to their team and as a bus driver. The drivers have an enormous responsibility in transporting our learners and staff members daily to and from school. The first half of the year our learners were collected and taken to the community hall from their homes and taken home in the afternoons.

Apart from the cleaning up project, we had several other projects on the go. A generous donation from the Hermes Trust in the UK, together with Vincent Brogan, made the upgrade and renovation of the Kindergarten bathrooms possible. This project was completed in March. The River Cottage Project was undertaken with the help of the Camphill Foundation USA. Essential renovations could be done to one of the oldest houses in our community where Julio

"The deepest lessons come out of the deepest waters and the hottest fires."  
- Elisabeth Elliot



Lasert (our Medical Officer), Geralyn (our Eurythmist) and their son (Emmanuel) live. We thank both these donors whole heartedly for your significant financial contribution towards these much needed projects.

As always we thank our Auditor Mr Don Adams for conducting our Schools audit.

# THERAPIES

Julio Laset



The implementation of our therapy programs was adversely affected because the School was displaced for the first 6 months of 2019, as consequence of the fire which swept through the valley at the beginning of the school year. This caused the learners to be away from the Phila Therapy Centre at the Camphill Community. In the second term at Bosko, eurythmy classes for senior, creative and upper school classes resumed. We are grateful to Bosko for providing us a room wherein limited painting, speech and occupational therapies could be provided. The horse riding was only for creative class due to distance and limited class schedules. Hence, it was a big relief for all learners when they were able to go back to Camphill School grounds in the third term. This also meant that provision of a wide range of therapies that enabled us to meet the therapeutic needs of learners, both individually and as a group, resumed. These include therapeutic eurythmy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, massage therapy, painting therapy, physiotherapy,

music therapy and horse riding. We continue to engage the educational psychologist for the assessments of our learners.

We wish to acknowledge our team of dedicated and committed team of therapists who really worked wholeheartedly with enthusiasm: Luise Boedinghaus and GERALYN Laset for conducting Eurythmy classes; GERALYN Laset for Therapeutic Eurythmy; Lee Meyer for Speech Therapy; Annetta Saaiman and Elana Nel for Occupational Therapy; Daniel Kamber for the recorder, marimba and drumming classes; Beatrice Pook for etheric massage; Wilhelmine Valentine of Klein Riding for horse riding; Felicia Jordaan for physiotherapy; Nicole Knowles for Play Therapy, Ashleigh Temple-Camp for painting therapy and Lianna Morrison, our educational psychologist from Overberg Therapy Centre. We also acknowledge Ms. Marlinda Wright of Just Care for providing counseling sessions to one of our learners and Mark Robson from the Organisation

One Life Rescue who provided counsellings to our traumatized staff members after the fire.

The School strengthened our partnership with Hermanus Child Welfare, Department of Social Development and the Association of Persons with Disabilities (APD) in addressing the child protection and social concerns of some of our learners. Likewise, we also acknowledge our partner institutions; acknowledge our partner institutions; the practice of Drs Abel & Muller, the Hermanus Provincial Hospital and Clinic, the Hermanus Community Centre, as well as the Red Cross Children's Hospital and Lenteguer Hospital in Cape Town for all their support to our referrals to them.

We want to acknowledge the generosity of our funding donors most especially the Anglo-American Chairman's Fund and the hard work of fundraisers who made it possible for us to offer comprehensive and valuable therapy program to all our Children.

# STAFF AND VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Julio Laset

**C**apacity building of staff by means of providing training opportunities whenever possible, remains a vital component of ensuring quality education, care and service delivery in our school.

Camphill School implements a Foundation Year Training for the temporary young Volunteers wherein various topics such as anthroposophy, first aid, HIV AIDS, basic home care, the conditions of the learners are discussed to help them in their tasks in school. Unfortunately this training was interrupted for the 2018/2019 batch after the fire as their work schedules in the temporary venues of School and Homelife needed to be adjusted. A three-day intensive Orientation Seminar was conducted for the 2019/2020 young co-workers by the School's Management Team. The In-Service Foundation Year training for Class Assistants also resumed in the Fourth term.

An essential and comprehensive training workshop on Managing Challenging Behaviour was conducted by Chantal Snyman from Studio III Training Systems with our staff in two batches; 16-18 March and 19-21 March. Sixteen staff including the Principal, Medical Officer, Teachers, Class Assistants, Houseparents and Carers benefited from this

training and it assisted them in their tasks in school and residential houses.

Among the other trainings attended by the Teachers and House Parents included the course on "Tapping into our Teens and Tweens: Understanding and harnessing their emotional, social and neurological Changes" by Professional Minds in Cape Town. Workshops on Helping to prepare children with intellectual disability on puberty and Practical Communication and Thinking ahead: Understanding Sexual Development and Sexual Health of Children with Severe and Profound Intellectual Disability hosted by the Western Cape Forum for Intellectual Disability on the 29th May, 30 July and 23 October.

One Houseparent attended the 2019 Hostel Workshop by SANASE end of July. As a follow up on this training, a two-day Practical Training on Homelife with focus on Proper Hygiene and Food Handling was conducted at Camphill School for the Homelife staff from 3-4 September by Ms. Melanie Coetzee. Four staff from the different departments was sent for First Aid Training 19-20 October which was conducted by Joan and Nortje Associates (EMR).



**THANK YOU**  
to the Association of Camphill Communities  
for supporting continued professional  
development of our staff and teachers.

# FESTIVALS AND CULTURAL LIFE

Julio Laset

In Camphill, the celebration of the Christian Festivals is integral to the education of the children and community life of the school. It helps strengthen the community spirit with the participation of all the learners and all staff from the different units together. The themes of the festivals are also taken up in the religion lessons which are held once a week in the classroom.


The big fire that swept through the Hemel-en-Aarde valley in January displaced the school learners to two community halls. This however did not hinder us in the celebration of festivals in school wherein we did simple preparations and programmes.

In the first term, the school celebrated the Holy Week Festival with The Seven Last Words at Sandbaai Hall.

Since the learners were not allowed onto the Camphill School grounds, Ascension Day was celebrated at the Rotary Way viewpoint with the theme of the Risen Christ as ruler of life. The day was started with the ascending bus trip to the viewpoint. We then continued with our program with the verse, bible reading, and singing and ending off the day with the blowing of bubbles.

We celebrated the Whitsun Festival at Bosko Hall still with the white motif and circular set up of lit candles in their big room. The passage of John 1:1-5 was read in 12 different languages: English, Afrikaans, isi-Xhosa, isi-Zulu, Dutch, German, French, Spanish, Greek, Romanian, Latin and Filipino with representations from all the departments of the school: school, homelife, therapy, administration and maintenance. The lyre music provided the quiet and solemn mood for the Festival.

With the whole school back to Camphill School grounds in July, we are able to celebrate the traditional St John's Festival which is also referred to as the Festival of Lights in winter. The whole school community gathered around in the school courtyard for the text reading, followed by a lantern parade, accompanied by singing, which traversed the school campus. The parade ended at a darkened St. John's Hall which was brightened by the lights from the beautiful lanterns prepared by the learners and teachers. There was a short program of storytelling on the Light Bearer delivered by one of our teachers, Suzette, and eurythmy performances by Geralyn and Luise. The festival culminated with the gathering around a bonfire and the throwing to



*"A nation's culture resides in the heart and soul of its people."*  
- Mahatma Ghandi



the flames pieces of paper where everyone had written things they want to change in their lives, symbolizing change.

The Festival of St. Michael was celebrated with singing of Michaelmas songs, eurythmy performances and a short play of "A Knight, A Lady and the Dragon" by the Senior Class at St. John's Hall. This was followed by an obstacle course which was designed by the teachers and co-workers and this was participated by all learners and staff. The obstacle course represented the dragons and life's challenges that can be conquered.

The Advent and Christmas festivals were ushered in with an early Nativity Play attended by invited guests and visitors from the Hermanus Waldorf School and Curro School on 28th of November and by the Camphill Farm Community and guests on 29th of November. We had our traditional Advent Spiral Garden in Mercury Hall beginning of December which was also attended by the Camphill Farm Community.

We are truly grateful to the Hermanus High School Interact Club for organising Christmas Santa shoe boxes for each of our learners which they distributed to all our learners. It was a really touching experience for all. We enjoyed our Christmas Secret Santa marked by the exchanging of gifts by the whole school community, followed by our Christmas Community lunch at Mercury Hall. The celebration

of St Nicolas Day took place on the last day of school wherein the Upper School prepared the St Nicolas play. This was followed by the visit of St Nicolas, played by Hans Peyerl, as the learners experienced the joy of receiving his gifts. In this celebration, Luise and GERALYN also performed some Eurythmy. It was a joyous event to end off our school year.

We still had Bible Suppers in the transient houses of residential learners on Saturday evenings. The non-denominational Services also resumed when the school was back at Camphill in the third term. These are held each Sunday for the residential learners and twice during the term for the whole school.

The school has also been busy with other cultural activities. The harmony of music continues to fill our hearts with the regular choir singing of the school every Friday with piano accompaniment by our

teacher Suzette. The usual end of term concert only took place at the start of the third term with artistic and musical performances including eurythmy and singing. This provides opportunities for the sharing of the terms themes and highlights the activities in the school. The school children sang to the management of both Sandbaai Hall and Bosko Church at the end of July, to thank them for accommodating the school during the first half of the year.

One of the highlights of the year was the Greek play performance in eurythmy "The Myth of Demeter and Persephone" performed by the Upper School learners. It was a lovely performance and everyone enjoyed it. The outreach of our learners to the Hermanus community continues with the singing to retirement villages within Hermanus.



# GROWING UP THE CAMPHILL WAY

Julio and GERALYN LASET



Emmanuel and his family moved to Hermanus in 2006 from the Philippines. His mother was a Waldorf Kindergarten Teacher and Emmanuel was admitted to the Nursery Programme of the school, where she taught, but could not continue as the school was not equipped to address the needs of autistic children, such as Emmanuel. His parents came to South Africa with the hope of finding a place similar to that of a Waldorf School which provide a holistic approach in meeting the educational needs, spiritual growth and development of the child.

At the young age of seven, Emmanuel's formal schooling at Camphill began. He was first placed in an older class as the younger class was full. He could not speak properly, but he was a very noisy boy with his babbling and repeating his words. In the afternoons he would be running off to the neighbouring farm community to see the cows and horses with his father or mother in tow.

With the move to a younger class, he learnt to interact with children his own age, where his speech gradually developed. He learnt songs, verses and poems quickly and would repeat them non-stop. A few years later his parents became House Parents and Emmanuel learnt to live with another 8 children and adult volunteers. With the homes rhythm and rich

home life activities, Emmanuel was taught the value of giving and sharing with others, as he was an only child.

Throughout the years, Emmanuel was very fortunate to have been taught and influenced by several dedicated teachers who had great understanding of children with special needs. Under the loving guidance of one teacher who taught him the longest in his formative years, Emmanuel blossomed into a confident and gifted young adolescent. He learned to read well, draw, act and perform in plays, puppetry, craft work and play musical instruments such as the cello, marimba, harmonica, drums and the piano.

Besides a very rich school life which helped develop and mould his character, the therapies (horse riding, music, Eurythmy) also helped address his developmental problems such as hyperactivity, obsessive tendencies, self-integration and sense of rhythm and movement. The triad structure (homelife, school, therapy) is an essential feature of a Camphill setting and works well in addressing the needs of children in need of soul care. Another essential feature of Camphill life is the celebration of services and festivals in which Emmanuel was always actively engaged in.

Emmanuel graduated in 2018 and has now integrated into our School community and works as a team member of the Maintenance department. He also assists the Farm Community next door during school holidays and weekends. We all recently celebrated Emmanuel's 21st and so proud of the young man he has developed into. Emmanuel is not only well known to all at Camphill but has also become a familiar face in and around town as he regularly joins the Hermanus Parkrun (currently on his 178th run) and frequently visits the public library in Hermanus and in Zwehlile. Emmanuel has grown into a young independent man and loves to engage in conversation with anybody and everybody that comes along his path, sharing his stories, comic books or just having a laugh. We thank Emmanuel, for allowing us all to be a part of his journey here at Camphill.

"I came from the Philippines, I grew up in South Africa and Camphill has become my home."



# FUNDRAISING AT CAMPHILL

Genevieve Linney (PRO & Fundraiser)



*"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." - Mother Teresa*



It is impossible to mention all the generous donations that our School received during and after the fire we experienced. Each and everyone played a significant role in assisting us and helping us get back on our feet. We as a Camphill Community could not have done it without you. We were truly humbled by the display of compassion, generosity and community spirit within our Hermanus Community and further afield.

As more than 90% of our Learners are drawn from the local disadvantaged communities within the Greater Hermanus Region and parents can pay little or nothing towards their school fees, we have once again placed huge emphasis on our Child Sponsor-

ship Programme. We thank our Child Sponsors, locally and internationally for their monthly or annual contribution and we hope that we will have a possible sponsor in place for each learner in the near future.

We thank the Lighthouse2Lighthouse Ladies 2019 for the incredible journey we shared together. After having been selected as their beneficiary for their 2019 walk, announced in September 2018, it has been an incredible time together and valuable experience. We have felt truly privileged and honoured to have met such inspirational and incredible women and to have been a part of your walk. Our new 23-seater Mercedes Benz School Bus was officially handed over in August and has joined our transport fleet, transporting our Learners and Staff daily.

The Hermanus High School Interact Club visits have become a special highlight on our calendar. Our Foundation and Intermediate Classes have the opportunity to spend time with these wonderful friends at least three times a year and it is always such a wonderful experience for all. We thank our friends for the Fun Day planned at the High School, the Spring Day picnic where all our Classes were able to join and for our Santa Shoe Boxes at the end of the year. The interaction between the children is always

special and we value your friendships. We thank you too for your Casual Day participation and to our whole community in Hermanus for your ongoing support with this fundraising endeavour. Special mention to the Hermanus Primary School for your special Casual Day collection every year, thank you.

We would also like to thank Koos du Toit who bought brand new Gum Boots for every learner here at School. Thank you Koos for keeping our Children close to your heart and for keeping their feet dry during the cold rainy season. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Nelia Louw at WhaleCoast FM for giving Jeanne-Marie our Principal the opportunity for doing a live broadcast. During this interview, Jeanne-Marie expressed the need for gum boots for our Children and thereafter Koos made contact with us. We would like to acknowledge the role that all members of the local media continue to play, in particular The Village News, Hermanus Times, Whalecoast FM and Nosy Rosy for always sharing our story.

Once again we would like to wholeheartedly thank the AoCC and Camphill USA, as well as Camphills all over the world for your compassion and support during this difficult year.

# DONATIONS TO CAMPHILL SCHOOL

## IN-KIND DONATIONS (JAN - DEC 2019)

**W**e would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those that made donations in kind, no matter how big or small to Camphill School. We are deeply grateful, especially to our Hermanus community, for everything we receive. The greatest majority of all the items can be used by our learners, if our learners cannot use the items, we sell it, thereby generating additional income for the school.

It is impossible to mention all our generous donors, but we would like to specially thank the following:

- EnviroServ Waste Management – Washing Machine and stationery
- Anne Murray – Crafts and wool
- Christa Steyn – Clothing and linen
- Willie and Georgia Haye – Crafts and stationery
- Corlia Malherbe Bloch – Clothing
- Hermanus High School – Fun day at High School, Spring Day Picnic, Santa Shoeboxes for all the learners, jerseys
- Beanery – Coffee donation
- Ilze Nothing – Two fridges
- Yolande Uys – Children's videos

- Toinette and Johannes du Toit – Lamb for Christmas Lunch
- Marine Hotel – Piano, two catering fridges, kitchen appliances, linen and towels
- Maxitec – Donation towards outing to Two Oceans Aquarium
- Chanelize Lorist / Vennesa Botma – Linen, curtains and crockery
- Koos du Toit – Gum Boots for all the learners and toys
- Ford Hermanus – Lanyards
- Engen Convenience Store, Nikki van Heerden, Gateway Spar and OK, Pick n Pay- Donation of food for lunches and picnics
- Coca Cola Beverages – Cold Drink donation
- Toy Run Trust – Toys for our Children
- Walker Bay Nursery – Plants and trees
- Peter and Sarah Curtis – Two Single beds and mattresses
- Sean and Anja Brand – Easter Eggs
- Hermanus Rotary Club – Story books
- Nico Louw – Handmade Leather bag and belt for a Raffle prize
- Midas Caledon – Car wash products
- Marlien Bruwer – Bedding



*"We make a living by what we get.  
We make a life by what we give."  
- Winston S. Churchill*

- Janine Boschhoff – Jungle Gym
- Anet Schutte Coetzee – Stationery
- Murray Stewart – Clothing and bedding
- Riaan Nel – Fridge
- Leo Benning – Clothing
- Krone – Champagne donation for L2L event
- Gansbaai Superstar – Ice Cream donation
- CSV Construction – Clearing of school grounds after fire
- Prag – Shoes
- Joanne Grobler – Clothing
- Lize-Meri Franck and Letitia Hayes – Picnic

# MONETARY DONATIONS JAN - DEC 2019 (R1000 - ABOVE)

## Over R 100 000

- Lighthouse 2 Lighthouse Ladies Walk 2019 ..... R 706 237.00
- National Lotteries Commission South Africa ..... R 400 000.00
- Association of Camphill Communities UK and Ireland (AoCC) ..... R 385 021.00
- Anglo American Chairman's Fund ..... R 200 000.00

## R 50 000 - R 100 000

- John St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust ..... R 100 000.00
- Camphill Foundation USA ..... R 60 396.00

## R 20 000 - R 49 999

- Lilly Ashton Charitable Trust ..... R 33 223.00
- Sea Harvest Foundation ..... R 30 000.00
- Overstrand Municipality Grant-in-Aid ..... R 30 000.00
- Fonds De Fraternite ..... R 27 950.00
- Frances J Appleby Trust ..... R 26 334.00
- Western Cape Community Chest ..... R 25 000.00
- MySchool ..... R 23 412.00

## R 10 000 - R 19 999

- Freunde der Erziehungskunst (Child Sponsors) ..... R 18 211.00
- Willem and Anette Theron ..... R 18 000.00
- EnviroServ Waste Management .... R 15 000.00
- Rob and Margaret Molyneux ..... R 12 000.00
- Alan Bailey Civil Engineering cc... R 12 000.00
- Alfred Rosenberg and Associates ..... R 11 340.00
- Kirchen Reis Liechtenberg ..... R 10 678.26
- Nedbank Group ..... R 10 000.00
- Joshua King Foundation ..... R 10 000.00
- Chris Jooste ..... R 10 000.00
- Haygrove ..... R 10 000.00
- Mr Post ..... R 10 000.00

## R 5 000 - R 9 999

- Studio Health ..... R 8 070.00
- Philip J Myburgh ..... R 7 200.00
- Victoria Frances Clive-Smith Charitable Trust ..... R 7 000.00
- Hermanus Adventure Centre and ABSA Cape Epic ..... R 6 000.00
- AMA Africa Co-Workers ..... R 6 000.00
- Marine Visa Solutions (Carin Johnston) ..... R 5 500.00
- JET Lee Will Trust ..... R 5 500.00



- Rosalind Hendry ..... R 5 000.00
- G vd H ..... R 5 000.00

## R 1 000 - R 4 999

- Hermanus Primary School ..... R 4 600.00
- Camphill Copake ..... R 4 154.00
- Frank Pronk ..... R 3 500.00
- NG Onrus Church ..... R 3 000.00
- Dr Mickey Fauel ..... R 2 760.00
- V Malan ..... R 2 000.00
- Bailey Wedding ..... R 2 000.00
- Trevethick ..... R 1 800.00
- Max Lockette ..... R 1 498.60
- Heidehof Old Age Home (Caledon) ..... R 1 260.00
- Hermanus Staans Saam ..... R 1 000.00
- HHR C-SCH Ann ..... R 1 000.00
- Patrick Chapman ..... R 1 000.00
- Robert Johnson ..... R 1 000.00
- Rusty Demmer ..... R 1 000.00

# FINANCES

**S**ummary of the audited Financial Statements of Camphill School (Incorporated Association Not for Gain) for the period between January 2019 and December 2019 is set out below.

A certified copy of the full Financial Statements is available from the School on request.



"Wealth is the ability to  
fully experience life."  
- Henry David Thoreau

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

	Year 2019 31 Dec	Year 2018 31 Dec
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Rendering of Services	738 346	1 009 180
Child Sponsorship	136 600	154 168
Donations	1 634 301	1 448 235
Donation from Lotto	400 000	-
Donations Overstrand Municipality	30 000	-
Specified Donations	290 397	250 000
Donations Community Chest	25 000	-
<b>Subtotal Income</b>	<b>3 254 644</b>	<b>2 861 583</b>
<b>Other Income</b>		
Recoveries	115 617	47 372
Fundraising and Insurance Claims	1 211 996	94 484
Other Income	137 882	147 952
Interest Received	166 312	165 258
Government Grants	1 353 817	1 488 204
<b>Subtotal Other Income</b>	<b>2 985 624</b>	<b>1 943 270</b>
<b>EXPENSE</b>	<b>(6 430 229)</b>	<b>(4 706 837)</b>
Operating (Loss) Profit	(189 961)	(98 016)
Fund Transfers	(138 000)	-
<b>(Loss) Profit for the year</b>	<b>(51 961)</b>	<b>(98 016)</b>



## ASSETS

31 Dec 2019

31 Dec 2018

### Non-current Assets

Property, Plant & Equipment

907 400

531 946

### Current Assets

Trade and Other Receivables

586 894

426 721

Cash and Cash Equivalents

2 127 051

2 820 859

**2 713 945**

**3 247 580**

### Total Assets

**3 621 345**

**3 779 526**

## EQUITY & LIABILITIES

31 Dec 2019

31 Dec 2018

### Equity

Reserves

1 247 724

1 353 574

Retained Income

2 056 572

2 108 533

**3 304 296**

**3 462 107**

### Liabilities

Non-Current Liabilities

Other Financial Liabilities

-

202 000

### Current Liabilities

Trade and Other Payables

309 341

115 419

Provisions

7 708

-

**317 049**

**115 419**

### Total Liabilities

**317 049**

**317 419**

### Total Equity and Liabilities

**3 621 345**

**3 779 526**



## STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS AS AT 31 DEC 2019

### TEACHERS

Michelè Lorton, Johanna Gardiner, Suzette Nortje, Liesl Fourie, Lize-Meri Franck, Riette Malherbe

### MAINTENANCE

Selmon Swanepoel, Siyamthemba Ndzeku, Bradley Temmers, James Boonzaaier, Hans Peyerl, Emmanuel Laset, Shane Vertuin

### VOLUNTEERS 2018/2019

Tania Gottsleben, Sophie Stiller, Sophia Rose, Annika Schilling, Angelo Valerio, Oliver Gödde, Max Hobinka, Anna Zinke, Ben Fischer, Lotta Horns, Paula Woltering

### VOLUNTEERS 2019/2020



Lea Brink, Karolin Katsher, Gretha Charlotte Zieger, Melissa Müller, Carla Bärreiter

### CLASS ASSISTANTS

Valda Coetzee, Lonel Olivier, Nontombi Xungu, Katrina Botha, Nosipho Prince

### THERAPEUTIC SERVICES

Julio Laset, Luise Boedinghaus, Lee-Anne Meyer, Annetta Saaïman, Beatrice Pook, GERALYN Laset, Daniel Kamber, Lianna Morrison, Elana Nel, Wilhelmine Valentine, Macyla Blignaut, Ashleigh Temple-Camp

### MANAGEMENT



Selmon Swanepoel, Jeanne-Marié Botha, Johanna Gardiner, Julio Laset

### ADMINISTRATION

Jeanne-Marié Botha, Nicoleen Potgieter, Genevieve Linney, Amanja Swart, Geraldine May

### HOMELIFE



Angela Coetzee, Jonnelize Swanepoel, Elaine Dyers, Margaret Steneveld, Delia Chome

# MISSION STATEMENT

Camphill School Hermanus is a therapeutic community in a rural environment setting for children and young adults with special needs. We use a Curative educational approach in home, school and therapies. We aim to uphold the dignity of the human being by addressing the spiritual uniqueness in everyone, creating opportunities for developing individual potential.

## VISION

We envisage Camphill School Hermanus as a thriving centre of Curative Education for children and young adults with special needs. We are a committed community of appropriately trained people, adequately resourced, working with sound communication and professional practices, striving to identify and meet new challenges.



## HELP US TO HELP CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



*Become a Friend of Camphill School and help us support these special children*

All donations made to Camphill School by South Africans are tax deductible as per Section 18 A of the South African Income Tax Act.

Non-profit Organisation 003-320 NPO  
Section 21 Incorporated Association not for gain. PBO.

### Banking Details

FNB Hermanus | Acc name: Camphill School  
Acc no: 524 7070 4936 | Branch: 200412 | Swift Code FIRNZAJJ

PO Box 68, Hermanus 7200, South Africa  
t +27 (28) 312 4949 | f 086 522 1749  
genevieve@camphill-hermanus.org.za | [www.camphillschool.org.za](http://www.camphillschool.org.za)





**WE THANK**

**DR MICKEY FAUËL**

Dental Surgeon - B.D.S (Wits); L.D.S\* RCS (England)

**AND PSG WEALTH HERMANUS**

**FOR JOINTLY SPONSORING THIS  
ANNUAL REPORT**

