



# April Edition 2021



## CAMPHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# From our Principal's desk



As the end of the first term of 2021 draws to a close we reflect on the blessings received during the past months. Of course we are faced with a myriad of challenges on a daily basis, especially financially, but as long as our learners are happy we are all happy to soldier on.

Camphill School has been hard hit financially over the past year due to non-payment or partial payment of school fees by parents who have been negatively affected by the current economic crisis and the rising cost of fuel, electricity and other essential items needed to continue running our school. It has become even more difficult to raise funds as many corporations and businesses have also been affected by the pandemic and the need for financial assistance by charity organisations is great.

We are very grateful to everyone who supports our Child Sponsorship program and for every donation in kind that we receive. Surplus food donations enable us to provide our learners with a nutritious meal daily, together with a healthy morning snack.

During the past two months we had to say good-bye to two of our bus drivers, Anthony Hansen and Shane Vertuin, as both resigned, but welcomed Ralton Africa to our Camphill family in April.

Camphill School had arranged for

the internal assessment process of our school from May to September 2020 by the Independent Quality Assurance Agency (IQAA). Independent schools must follow this process every 6 years and it is facilitated by ISASA (Independent Schools Association of South Africa). Dave Schutte had already agreed to be our School mentor once again and we were excited to start as this is a means to measure the quality of service delivery to our learners, parents and staff.

The 2014 assessment showed us where we were experiencing challenges and we could remedy that, i.e. introduce school uniforms and more sporting activities for learners, as well as improving communication between school and parents. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and the resulting logistical challenges, the scheduled IQAA process has been postponed till 2022.

The Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA) grace period for implementation expires on 1 July 2021. The POPIA act aims to put measures in place to protect personal data collected and processed by public and private bodies and to protect the individual's right to privacy. This includes protection against unlawful collection of personal information, keeping this information for an unspecified time and the sharing of it to others without the knowledge or the consent of the data subject (person whose information is collected). ISASA members have had the opportunity to attend 3 training workshops presented by Griessel Consulting (a legal- and labour law consultancy that provides businesses and organisations with legal- and employment advice) which proved to be extremely beneficial in providing

guidance and information regarding this process. We are very grateful to ISASA for providing us with such valuable resources which guided us in undertaking the tasks of risk assessment and gap analysis. We are hard at work with our risk assessments and identifying possible safeguards to protect information.



I wish to thank our maintenance department for continuing to keep our estate neat and tidy. They continue to work on small projects that are needing attention as the funds allow. They recently build a new shelter for the swimming pool pump

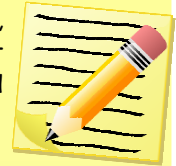


In closing I would like to thank the teachers and staff of Camphill School for your love for our children and your dedication to keeping our school going, providing education and support on a daily basis. It is a privilege to be part of the Camphill School family.

**Jeanne-Marie Botha**  
Principal

# Back to the classroom

After a longer summer holiday than anticipated, we were all back by the beginning of February, ready for our new academic year. We are fortunate to say that everyone is well and back safely at school. Although it is still difficult with the covid-19 pandemic, we are all happy and have adapted and settled in. Thank you for everyone's support and co-operation throughout this difficult time.



With the onset of autumn, we have still been blessed with warmer weather and we try to do as much as we can outdoors with the learners. Social distancing has become the norm and wearing a mask all day has proved a bit challenging for some of our learners.

The Vocational phase and senior learners started with some of their life skill workshops, mostly the workshops that can continue outside. Gardening, car washing and window cleaning workshops have continued. Unfortunately once again we missed out on the job shadowing opportunities for some of our capable learners and we hope that we can continue with the job shadowing later in the year or early into 2022.



We sad good bye to one of our senior learners Nicole Coetzee. The senior class held a picnic on the playground for Nicole and her family Angie, Dirk and Megan. We wish them all well for their future abroad.



Our therapy programme also continued, but not yet offering the full range of therapies to all our learners. We continue with Eurythmy, painting therapy and Marimba classes.

We thank Pick and Pay Hermanus for their kind donation towards our life skill educational programme, the informative posters are being utilised in each classroom. We also thank Tannie Corrie Smit who held a drive through to celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday and collected clothing, shoes, bedding, curtains and dry foods for our School. We thank all who contributed, most of our children received beautiful items of clothing and shoes. We also thank Jeanne-Marie for our Easter Egg treats.

Our Intermediate class with teacher Michele went to visit the petting farm out in Stanford for the morning of the 21st April. They wish to thank their co-worker from last year Carla Bärreiter and her family for the donation received towards the outing and towards a small picnic lunch.

We had a visit from the Police Department to see all our learners in their classrooms and make them all aware about bullying and gender based violence within our communities. We thank them for their informative visit and for their time.

Our Easter Festival was held firstly at Dawn Complex with the younger classes and the following day in the school courtyard with our senior learners. We thank Julio, Geryl and Emmanuel for organising and to our Teachers, Class Assistants and learners for being actively involved.

We break on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April for a short week of holiday. We start our second term on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**The Teachers**



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[www.camphillschool.org.za](http://www.camphillschool.org.za)  
[school@camphill-hemanus.org.za](mailto:school@camphill-hemanus.org.za)  
Tel. +27 (0)28 - 312 4949



# Therapies



Camphill School is guided by the Western Cape Education Department (WCED ) COVID protocols and restrictions which are diligently being adhered in all departments of the school. Hence, these also affected the implementation of therapies. Fortunately, we were able to continue the eurythmy classes and eurythmy therapies, painting therapy and music/marimba in all classes.

As the children are no longer able to have access to our communal Phila Therapy Centre during these times because of COVID protocols in Camphill Community next door, therapies for our children has to be done at St. John's Hall. We have also converted a room in Dawn Complex for the painting therapy.

Other therapies such as occupational therapy, speech therapy, massage and horse riding remain to be suspended. Gerylyn continued to do the extra lessons which were started last year for the senior and upper school classes as a new therapeutic initiative to support the children.

She also started this term with puppetry for the Foundation Class which is done once a week, with a theme on "Father Sun and Honey Bee" as therapeutic approach in enhancing their imagination, rhythm and memory.

Julio Laset

# Festival Time...



In the light of the COVID protocols and restrictions, Camphill School still found ways to celebrate Festivals this year. The mood of the Lent Festival was created in the Religion Classes in their classes. We had planned a Lent Festival with the Seven Last Words in St. John's which would have been done per class. It is unfortunate that it did not push through because of transport problems to and from Zwehlile.



We had meaningful Easter Festival celebrations. We held separate programs for the Foundation, Intermediate and Creative Classes at the Dawn House Complex and the Senior Classes and Upper School at the Main School Complex.



We had a Easter verse, Bible reading, class performances and eurythmy performances on Easter themes. One of the teachers read an Easter Story and we culminated with the singing of "Sun of God". With this, we are able to keep the Easter message alive in our hearts.

We continue to hold the Services - Children's Service, Youth Service and Offering Service for our learners during the term.

Julio Laset

# Camphill Thank You



With Intellectual Disability Awareness month in March and World Autism Acceptance month in April, we wish to thank The Village News and Hermanus Times for sharing our story in our local newspapers. We also wish to thank Radio Helderberg and Vanessa for allowing us the opportunity for the live broadcast in March.

We wish to thank Corrie Smit for your unique initiative with having a drive through for your 80th, thank you for all the in-kind-donations and for keeping our School and children close to your heart.

We realise the significant role our Community plays and the Communities world-wide and we thank you all for the valuable contributions you make. All contributions, whether big or small, is met with a grateful heart.

We continue to encourage our communities and friends to join our Child Sponsorship Programme. As most parents can afford little or nothing towards their child's school fees, this programme covers the child's specialised education received, weekly therapies, transport to and from school, together with a nutritious lunch and snack daily. For further information on this fundamental programme, please visit our website or contact me directly, Genevieve on 082 71 57817.

If you still haven't signed up to a MySchool card, please contact our School office on 028 312 4949, every swipe counts. The donations received monthly from our MySchool users goes directly towards our operational expenses

Thank you to the following donors who have contributed monetary donations this term.

The Rosenalf Trust	Joshua King Foundation	Mourne Grange UK
Freunde Der Erziehungskunst	Frank Pronk	Fonds de Fraternite
MySchool	Vincent and Dympna Brogan	Kirchenkreis Lichtenberg
Dr Mickey Fauel	Simone and Reto Tritten	Carla Bärreiter and Family
ABSA	Stephan Welz and Co	

We also thank our regular contributors, who month after month, support our School and our learners, in particular-

Rob and Margaret Molyneux	Carin Johnston	Jan and Letanie Nel
Alan Bailey Civil Engineer CC	J van Tonder	Marinda Smit

Equally important are the donations-in-kind we received during the first term, it is impossible to mention all our generous donors, but we would like to thank the following in particular:

Pick and Pay Hermanus- Educational posters	Corrie Smit and Friends- Clothing, bedding, shoes, curtains, dry food.	Anja Brand and Louis Mostert-Dried Fruits
Jeanne-Marie Botha-Easter Eggs	Peninsula Feeding Association- Dry foods	Woolworths Station Square and Whale Coast Mall- Surplus Foods
Yvonne Mego- Puzzles, crayons, games	Checkers Station Square- Surplus Foods	Anja Brand-Wooden Playing Blocks



Genevieve Linney