

## **AGM Presentation Wednesday 26 October 2016**

### **Foundation Phase Department Mrs Y Smith**

Good evening ladies and gentlemen. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to be with us tonight.

Let's get down to business now. – the scholastic year 2016.

There are 4 Grade 1 to 3 classes, thus making a total of 12 classes in the Foundation Phase Department offering Home Language English, First Additional Language Afrikaans, Mathematics and Life Skills as the teaching subjects. A Second additional Language, Zulu, was introduced in Grade 1. This was done in an informal manner using songs and greetings. Our thanks go to Mrs Mahlangu who was willing to assist us in teaching this language. We received beautiful posters, a story book, lesson plans and poems to aid the learners. Mrs Mahlangu used puppets as an introduction, so when the learners saw the puppets they knew what was going to happen. Next year Grade 1 and 2 will be doing Zulu. Thank you in advance to Mrs Sihlangu for assisting us in Grade 2.

Here I would like to pause to thank the educators for all their hard work they have put in and for the manner in which learners have been guided and supported.

Thank you to the SGB and the parents for allowing us to have interns to make our loads bearable. They have been of invaluable service to us. Thank you for being willing to do whatever was asked of you and for being our right hands and even our left hands too.

Now down to academic matters.

1. The educators have attended courses and talks in order to broaden their knowledge and refresh and enthuse them with

new ideas. These aspects have then been successfully implemented in the classroom. Many Saturday workshops were attended. Thank you ladies for giving up your time to attend.

2. Grade 1 – 3 did a spelling challenge at school. Only the Grade 3's went through to Cluster level and competed against schools in our cluster. Siza Gule did us proud, but did not make it to the next level. They needed to spell words like electricity and pollution.
3. All our learners took part in a Mental Mathematics challenge at school level first of all. There was a time limit and many found it difficult to solve 30 sums in that time. Many learners did very well and we are proud of them. Alexis Kid in Grade 3 needs a special mention, as she won at school level and went through to Cluster level, but sadly did not go further as the competition was stiff. Our learner's biggest downfall is not knowing their bonds and tables and are working with their fingers. All our appealing to the learners to learn them, fell on deaf ears. Parents, please assist us here.
4. In August some learners in each grade were exposed to an external exam called Conquesta Olympiads. The questions are based on general knowledge and reading short paragraphs and answering questions. We are waiting with bated breathe to see how our learners performed.
5. Each year we have a Life Skill celebration where an aspect is highlighted. This year Art and music was emphasised. The use of colour, lines, shading. Overlapping and movement. Some of our Grade 3 learners were exposed to the art and dances from schools in our cluster.
6. Our Grade Threes will be writing Provincial papers in Maths and English in November.

7. A big thank you to the parents who ensure that homework is done on a daily basis. Thank you to those parents who have supported our decisions and strengthened our hands regarding discipline. Your support is appreciated and valued as your child's education is a combination of teacher, child and parent working together to get the optimum performance from them.
8. I thank you for listening attentively and I wish you and your family all the best for the rest of the year.