

Report on 2016 activities for AGM to be held on Wednesday 26 October 2016 – Mrs J Fleetwood

2016 has indeed been a busy year, but also an exciting one with the implementation of programmes such as:

- Beyond The Curriculum
- Extra Lessons
- Be Wise and Revise and the
- Study Skills course

Which have included as many learners as possible across the spectrum. The Beyond the Curriculum classes, which ran concurrently with Extra Lessons, afforded several learners an opportunity to attend and prepare for the Conquesta papers which were written in September. This year NS was added to the programme for Grade 6 & 7 learners.

2016 also saw the continuation of the Character Solutions programme which was started in term 3 of 2015, the goal being to encourage and reward positive, good character, shown through acts of *loyalty, kindness, courage* and *thankfulness*, which are the 4 themes we tackled this year. Learners who display the opposite behaviour are guided and corrected in order to encourage them to display more positive behaviour and build character.

The High School Expo in February was once again well attended and we have already received a very positive response for the next one, which will be held on the 1 February 2017. Grade 5 and 6 parents, please do make every effort to attend this time worthy event. With the new online application system, this is a perfect opportunity to ask all the relevant questions. Several of our Grade 7 learners have received bursaries for 2017 and we wish all the Grade 7 parents and learners every success as they embark on this new stage of their school careers.

We have referred several learners to the District Support Based Team to assist with placement of these learners in remedial or special schools, based on identified learning barriers that continue to be a challenge for these learners within the classroom. Several learners have been placed this year and we are happy to report that they are thriving in their new schools.

This year has been a busy one on the counselling front with almost 100 counselling sessions that have been for matters ranging from divorce, poor self-esteem, anxiety, abuse and peer related pressure, to mention a few. Some cases have involved Child Welfare. We had 7 of our educators complete a Certified Counselling course which was hosted at CKPS, and who are assisting with counselling learners. We were also able to provide school clothes and lunch to several learners who have been in need throughout the year, to ensure that they are able to function at their best whilst at school.

Many educators were also afforded the opportunity to attend workshops and courses throughout the year, with topics including discipline, drug detection, bullying, identification of learners with barriers and many more.

Parent Meetings have been held on a continuous basis throughout the year over and above the 4 Parent Afternoons, as well as our Open Day providing parents and educators an opportunity to discuss academic or behavioural concerns, and together, work on a way forward to support and assist the learners in a positive manner.

I would like to thank my colleagues, who all form part of the School Based Support Team, for their assistance and support over the last year, for diligently identifying learners in need and working endlessly with parents and paperwork in order to provide the right means of support for these learners. Thank you to you, as parents, for supporting your children by attending meetings, following up where needed and allowing the SBST to assist your children as and where needed. I wish you a very successful exam period with your children and look forward to working with you again in 2017.