

Report on 2017 activities for AGM to be held on Wednesday 25 October 2017 – Mrs J Fleetwood

2017 has indeed been a busy year, but also an exciting one with the inclusion of activities such as:

- Beyond The Curriculum
- Extra Lessons
- Cyber Safety talk
- Libresse talk to Grade 4 girls and HPV Vaccine
- Measles campaign
- Sexuality talk to Grade 7 learners
- Be Wise and Revise programme
- Study Skills course

And ongoing...

- Counselling
- Intervention – accommodations, referrals and placement of learners in LSEN classes and remedial schools

The above mentioned activities 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. We eagerly await the results to see how our learners have fared.

2017 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, humility, self-discipline and respect, to mention a few.*

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 7 February 2018. 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. We are very proud to mention that 12 of our Grade 7 learners have received academic bursaries for 2018, and 12 have received sports bursaries. We wish all the Grade 7 parents and learners every success as they embark on this new stage of their school careers.

As far as academic intervention is concerned, we have referred a few 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, applied for in 2016, were placed this year and we are happy to report that they are thriving in their new schools. Several of our educators also attended training this year for the new referral system which will be in full swing as of January 2018.

This year started off slowly on the counselling front, but escalated after the July holidays with almost 70 counselling sessions to date for matters ranging from divorce, poor self-esteem, anxiety, abuse and peer related pressure, to mention a few. Some cases have required intervention from District as well as the FCS – Family violence and child protection services. Thank you to the counselling team for stepping in and assisting with the load, especially the period immediately following Mr Richard's passing.

Numerous Parent Meetings have been held on a continuous basis throughout the year, over and above the 3 scheduled 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. T

I would like to conclude by thanking 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 2018.