



TEREO COMMUNITY SCHOOL

• NEWSLETTER – SPRING EDITION – SEPTEMBER 2020

2020 the year that was...

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...”, the famous opening lines of Charles Dickens’ novel, *A Tale of Two Cities*, are as apt today as they were when they were written more than 100 years ago. 2020 has truly been a year of challenges and while we have prepared for so many eventualities in our lives and work, from automation, robotics, and artificial intelligence, none could have predicted the ultimate black swan—the Coronavirus outbreak disrupting business, travel, family gatherings, schools and people’s livelihoods around the world!



February 2020

But despite all these upheavals, lockdowns, face masks and social distancing, Tereo has continued providing the much needed support for children and their families with food parcels and care, remaining faithful to our mission of giving children at risk the opportunity to learn in a place of safety which has remained key to our actions throughout these troubled times.

New Beginnings...

We started this year with a new Project Manager, new staff and a Bridging class.

Project Manager - At the end of 2019 we said goodbye to our previous Project Manager of 17 years, Naomi Ferreira. Ingrid Johnson was appointed in her place from January 2020. Unfortunately, the toll of this task with COVID-19 was too much for her and her services came to an end at the end of July. We are however delighted to have found a fantastic new Project Manager in Ann Coetzee who has been appointed in this position. You can get into contact with Ann via email at ann@tereo.org or call her on 082 678 9077.



Bridging classes for newcomers

This class was designed for learners waiting to be placed at other schools fitting their abilities to cope with work and social situations. As well as learners coming to school for the first time at 12 years of age.

Previously we placed all Grade 1’s in one class but older learners tended to feel more insecure and their emotional needs are different to that of a 7-year-old so separate classes result in happier children. This class has been one of the big blessings this year.

Post Covid: Back to School

Then Covid-19 came and toppled the world. At the start of lockdown we only had a dream to feed our learners once a day at school. It is with unbelievable gratitude that we can say our Tereo Families and staff were taken care of right from the start. So much so that we have been feeding families instead of just the learners. We were blessed by Mrs. Rupert from the Imibala organization and the Somerset Rotary Club that offered weekly food parcels to the pupil's families and Tereo Staff. They have fed over 80 families every week since the 26th of March 2020 to date!

We have received in abundance and some left-over parcels are handed to people who had severe income loss, older persons and families with small children. These people do not know us but have been grateful for the blessing of food in their homes whenever we have left over parcels to deliver.

When it came time to re- open Tereo in mid-August the team of teachers and supporters banded together to bring about a school ready for "post lockdown, social distanced schooling". We were blessed with paint. Our interior is all painted and looks beautiful and fresh. The learners were wonderfully surprised by our hard work to get the school and school yard ready for their return. It looks all bright and inviting with all the colorful dots indicating social distance. Some teachers took this time to brighten up their classroom and floors with words and counting cards that will help with accidental learning.

Preparing the Parents and the School for the "new normal"



We have fed over 80 families every week since 26 March 2020



The food parcels continued throughout lockdown making sure that the children and families so reliant on Tereo did not go without and when it came time for the children to return all the necessary processes were in place to ensure their ongoing safety...



Ensuring a future for our children...



More and more of our older learners are being accepted at other schools. This year we have applied for about 7 learners to a local school of skills. Their applications are being processed and we believe they will get placement. This makes us work ever harder so that our learners are on the same level that is needed to be able to cope with the workload in public schools.

With so many stories of success to share a gallery of photos is probably the easiest way to show how much has been done and the incredible support we have received from so many. Thank you to all those who have supported us in the past 6 months of lockdown with financial donations, food parcels and commitment to ensuring Tereo is able to continue serving our community.

Follow us on Facebook to catch all the latest news & photos...

TEREO SCHOOL IS A REGISTERED NPO & PBO
ALL DONATIONS ARE FULLY TAX DEDUCTABLE

TEREO PROVIDES EDUCATION, DAILY MEALS,
CLOTHING AND MUCH NEEDED EMOTIONAL
SUPPORT TO CHILDREN, NO MATTER WHAT THE
CHILD'S CIRCUMSTANCES.

So how can you get involved or support us?

Banking details:

Tereo Project

First National Bank

Account Number
62009313339

Branch Number 271344

Swift Code: FIRNAZJ



We have several options open to you

- ✓ You can donate funds using either by EFT or Snapscan (this can be done monthly or in a lump sum)
- ✓ Contact us and get involved in one of the many projects we are involved in to improve the lives of these children.
- ✓ Donate food
- ✓ Contribute to the running of the school (toilet paper, security, stationary, etc.)

For more info: Call Ann Coetzee on 021 851 4005 or 082 678 9077

Facebook www.facebook.com/Tereo-Project

Website: www.tereo.org

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