



"A change is brought about because ordinary people do extraordinary things." Barack Obama

One of my final tasks for the year has been to cross check our provisional figures and prepare for our financial year end which involves examining the funds received, the projects completed, the learning experiences created and the challenges overcome - It's quite remarkable to see what has been achieved and I am struggling to find words to express our appreciation. Our bucket has been filled with a great volume of goodwill and, as quickly as it has filled, we have been able to pour out kindness, counsel,

learning and above all love to our learners. Tere School is ultimately a place of learning to overcome the ravages of poverty and give opportunities through education. So as the year draws to a close, and we prepare to take time out with our loved ones, I would like to thank you for your contribution to our school where ordinary teachers and staff do extraordinary things for the learners within our care.

In a year beset by so many challenges we still have so much to be grateful for as we cannot make a difference in these children's lives, without the support of our donors and partners. It is with thanks to all of you for believing in the work we are doing, and for caring about the well-being of these children. We are truly grateful for all the support we continue to receive in so many different ways.

This year, despite all its challenges we have ended on a high note and here are sample of these blessings...

Prize giving and Academic Awards



At the core of the Tere School Teaching approach is a commitment to innovative education. Where our teachers go beyond classroom interventions to focus on initiatives which reinforce numeracy and literacy activities tailored to the CAPS curriculum and enriching the learning process. Reading for meaning also

remains one of our main focus areas. The success of our approach is manifested in the academic results our learners achieved in the final tests with a significant improvement in results across all grades. We have been able to fast track 6 learners this year and are fortunate to have a learner who has performed at an exceptional level, being accepted onto the gifted programme at Imibala.



In addition we have a learner, Christiano Jordaan, who only started school at age 11 due tragic home circumstances. He has proved to be an excellent student but due to him starting school so late, would not be able to continue at a mainstream school and has been accepted at Axios School of Skills, a technical high school. We have been able to obtain sponsorship so that he can complete his education and ultimately achieve a technical qualification that will ensure his employability in the future. Thank you to Morkel de Villiers for your generous donation and support with this wonderful young learner who has overcome so many obstacles and is yet so willing and committed to make a success of his educational opportunities.



Fun Outings: Puss in Boots @ The Playhouse Theatre – to celebrate the end of the year The Playhouse blessed our Gr 4, 5 & 6 learners with an invitation to see Puss in Boots the Pantomime. What fun was had by all. To boo at the bad guy and clap and dance with the entertaining characters. Thank you to the Playhouse for the wonderful experience.

Noddy Party – the Somerset West round table invited all our Gr 1 – 3 learners to be part of the special event and an added bonus was our Gum Boot Dancers were invited to take part in the Noddy party and performed at each show. What an honour and privilege to be part of an event that has been going for more than 40 years.



Christmas Party

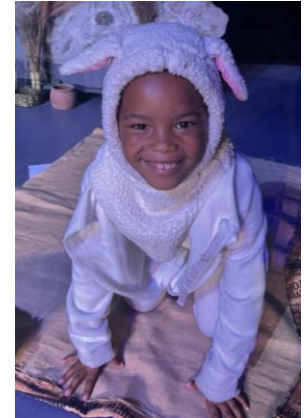
As a delightful build-up to the end of the year, we hosted a vibrant year-end party featuring jumping castles and water slides, sack races and a reptile display and party packs, treating our hardworking children to well-deserved moments of fun and celebration. Thank you to Reece Akerman for all the organizing and Francesca for the generous loan of her home for this highlight event!



In the spirit of spreading joy and festive cheer, our learners also received the wonderful gift of Santa Shoeboxes filling our children's hearts with the magic of Christmas. These were generously donated by the Somerset West Baptist Church and organized by Jo Bredenkamp. This initiative ensured they felt the warmth and joy of the holiday season.



Christmas Nativity Concert



In addition to these festivities, many of our learners and teachers dedicated their time and effort to create a spectacular year-end concert for friends and families at The Playhouse Theatre, showcasing talent and dedication that reflects the vibrant sense of community we cherish at Tereo School. This was a first for our learners who have not only never been part of a concert but have also themselves never been on stage under theatre lights with cameras rolling. A big thank you to the Playhouse Theatre management, Rory Currin of RMC Videographers, who filmed the concert and all the volunteers who helped make costumes and food for this special day. Link to our concert - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Jf-dVfkNiGXWt8y1Df7RtmMMWSK_JPo8/view?usp=drive_link



SA Naval College in Gordon's Bay



The SA Navy is not usually a career our learners consider but we were very excited to welcome the South African Naval College at Tereó on Friday 8 December when the Commander and her team visited Tereó and made a generous donation of much needed books, food and underwear to our school. One of the naval officers very fittingly noted that the word Tereó means "to give" and that they also wanted "to give" to the community by donating to our school. Thank you, South African Naval College! The SA Navy College will also be providing our Grade 7 learners an opportunity to spend the day at the training facility in Gordons' Bay during 2024 to provide show them what career options are available to them after school.

Any donation made is fully tax deductible.

Looking forward to 2024 - this year has been particularly tough with the school flooded 5 times, some of our learners exposed to terrible trauma within their home environments including physical abuse, sexual assault, rape, murder and a learner being hit by a stray bullet.

With the floods doing permanent damage to our school, we have managed to find a suitable property in Strand which we have purchased through fundraising and our chairlady. The stand comprises 4000m² of land with an existing building which would be suitable (after alterations) to house our administration offices, kitchen, hall, ablution facilities, storerooms and computer learning centre. The size of the property also means we can now have playgrounds and some sport facilities for our learners.

Our intention is to move (hopefully) by the end of the first term 2024, this will allow for rezoning, plans and alterations to be completed.

How you can help... Funding is required for - the alterations, classrooms for Grade 1 – 7, toilet facilities, trauma counselling and play therapy room, library, fencing, and sundry costs that go with a move of this nature.

Should you wish to be involved in this exciting journey with us please contact Ann Coetzee on ann@tereo.org or 082 678 9077 for more information.

Any donation will make a difference to ensure that our goal of breaking the cycle of poverty through education is achieved.

EFT PAYMENTS:

Account name: **Tereo Project**
Bank: **First National Bank**
Account number: **62009313339**
Branch name: **Helderberg**
Branch code: **271344**
Swift code: **FIRNZAJJ**



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