

While we are at the start of the cold and wet winter school holidays, we are hoping you have a good one. For those of you who are taking a break, travelling and reflecting we trust that you will have an equally productive and restorative time.

This has truly been an exciting but challenging term for Tereo with awards, excellent academic and sporting performances from

many of our learners, exciting visits from the Child Commissioner from the Western Cape Government and The Honourable Magistrate da Silva from the Strand Family Court to devastating flooding during May and June. We have also seen the unbelievable support and generosity from our supporters, donors and so many unnamed members of the community who have come to our aid during these terrible floods. But lets start with the news...

What a way to start the Term but with a visit to **The Playhouse Theatre Somerset West** where our Grade 1, 2 & 3 learners were treated to the **101 Dalmatians** and then with a chance to meet the cast afterwards. We were then be able to end off a tough term with the Gr 4 – 6 classes going to see the Playhouse Production of **Jumanji**. Thank you to The Playhouse for making our learners feel so special!



Tereo School

Winter Newsletter

July 2023



Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow Award: Rotary is an international organisation where neighbours, friends and problem-solvers share ideas, join with other leaders and take action to create lasting change. Rotarians take action locally and globally, and each day pour their passion, integrity and intelligence into completing projects that have a lasting impact. So it was with real pride and appreciation to see our CEO Ann Coetzee, recognised by this prestigious organisation with the Paul Harris Fellow Award. Rotarians often designate a Paul Harris Fellow as a tribute to a person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives of The Rotary Foundation. Ann Coetzee was recognised for her contribution to the community through her work at Tereo Community School along

with the work done by Jo Swart at The Somerset West Night Shleter, Liza Starr for the Helderberg Ocean Awareness Movement, Gavin Staude for his work with community gardens to alieviate poverty, and Ruth Daines-Slack. All were honoured with a Paul Harris Fellow Award during the awards ceremony held on 20 June.

AWARDS



PAUL HARRIS FELLOW AWARD

Ruth Daines-Slack | Gavin Staude | Ann Coetzee | Jo Swart | Lisa Starr
with PE Jo Mostert

Focusing on Reading with Understanding: With the enormous focus on literacy and teacher skills especially in the Foundation phase which forms the foundation of all other learning. Our foundation phase teachers attended a literacy enhancement programme during the April school holidays presented by Funda Wanda. This is a very practical hands-on approach to ensure that learners can read with understanding from Grade 1. While Tereo has performed extremely well on our systemic tests with over 80% scored for reading with understanding during the last round of assessments. These newly acquired skills will enhance our teaching approach even further thereby ensuring Tereo offers optimum teaching for all our learners.



Athletic Achievement for our Cross Country Team: Ready, steady GO!!!! There is absolute no stopping our Cross-country athletes this season. They have been practicing around the clock and their great performances lately are definitely evidence of this. Gershwin Herrendorfer has won every race he has participated in in the Helderberg Zone and we currently have strong contenders for the Metro Zone season which is about to commence. The Metro season will culminate in the provincial events, where we hope some of our athletes will compete and hopefully achieve Western Province Colours. Watch this space as by the time our next Newsletter comes out in Term 3 we should have the results!



STOP Human Trafficking: Working at Tereó is not for the faint hearted. Our staff are often subjected to the ugly realities of this world, and this was never truer than when STOP Human Trafficking came to our school on 7 June to present an education session for all staff to assist them with seeing the signs of abuse and trauma and how to deal with the situation correctly. This was truly a rude awakening of what is going on in our suburbs and townships. Our biggest aim at Tereó is to protect and care for our learners so sessions like this are essential to equip our staff with the necessary skills.



The Floods... It was devastating to wake up on the 30 May and discover our school had been flooded, but what was even worse, we were flooded again on the 3, 8, 9 and 14 June with the water on the 14 June reaching depths of a meter within our school. But it is often in times of devastation that the value of friends, donors and supporters are seen with so many coming to the fore to help us.

As we had to evacuate the school, we were unsure where or how we would continue with teaching and completing the all-important mid-year tests. Words cannot express how thankful we are to Imibala Trust who generously offered their premises for us to use until the end of term.



We are also so grateful to the countless people and organisations who helped us recover from the devastation with food, clothing, toys, blankets, and funds. I will be mentioning all those who were prepared to be publicly recognized but there were many others who have chosen to remain anonymous, either way, you reached out to us and went above and beyond what anyone could expect - **you are all simply amazing!**

In no particular order: **Elize de Witt Properties and Clinton, Sharon Gerber Regional CSI and Events Manager Western Cape Pick n Pay and Rustim Moerat Store Manager from Pick n Pay Strand, Imibala Trust, Helderberg Radio, Somerset West Round Table, Helderberg Sunrise Rotary, Somerset West Rotary, Oakwood school, Somerset House, de Hoop Primary School, Somerset West Baptist Church, NG Kerk Omgegemeente, Iphepha for Pupils, Heloise Bruitenbag-Uys, Lynn Merry, Lyn Brandon-Podd Render, Engen Gants Centre, Melvin Transport, Anton de Freitas – Sage & Thyme, P Theron, F Garrard, Richard Saxby and many others.**



In the midst of all these disasters we were honoured to welcome two very special guests - **The Children's Commissioner from the Western Cape Government Christina Nomdo and her team, along with Mrs Da Silva, the Judicial Head and Magistrate in the Family Courts in Strand** with a group of social workers. We work closely with both departments to ensure that our learners get the representation and support that is so essential. The Child Commissioner had a tour of

our school and saw the destruction and then had a quick talk to some of the learners and took time to play and interact with them. You could just feel the love. Thank you for making the time to let our learners know how special and loved they are.



Support the change you would like to see with a donation!

Our challenges ..

The floods have made our fund raising very specific....

- The floods have done permanent damage which means that we will no longer be able to stay long term at our current premises and necessitate us finding a new home for Tereo. We have identified a location in Strand and now have the arduous process of ensuring that these new premises will meet our requirements and ensure that Tereo has a home for the future. This comes with significant expenses. The total cost is around R7 million.
- Through generous donations we have raised over R2 million towards this new home and now seek the rest to cover building expenses, new classrooms and playground facilities.
- If you are able to assist in anyway please contact our CEO Ann Coetzee on 082 678 9077, ann@tereo.org.

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**

Thank you and God bless until next time!



zapper™