Enlighten Projects

An Update - April 2014

Literacy

Coordinator: Verity Philander

The Literacy project suffered during the past two years due to the OED ban on in-class support. Teachers struggle to attend workshops during the week as their days are full. Support and assistance are being given to 30 Somalian learners and some Grade 1 learners at Hawston Primary school in basic reading and language skills. The needs are huge.

An after hour intervention takes place at EET 3 days per week for learners who get referred by the librarian and parents who visit the library or call EET for help. A classroom has been designed in the hall for this purpose.

Meetings with the Shine Centre in Cape Town took place recently. Shine is an educational NGO that has established a good track record in terms of upgrading reading and writing skills in Foundation Phase learners during the past 14 years. Trained volunteers work with learners on an individual basis during school time every day in collaboration with the circuit teams and school principals. School contracts are drawn up beforehand. One SGB member is presented as well. The methodology programs and educational games are excellent learning materials Establishing a Shine Chapter at Enlighten could be a very viable option to improving reading and writing skills in many of our learners – at the centre or at the schools during the mornings - in agreement with the principals and SGB's.

Brombacher Mathematics in 3 schools

Metro South Education District – Cape Town – B&A

This project kicks off in Cape Town, Metro South education district shortly. The three schools that are involved are:

- Prince George Primary School
- Harmony Primary School
- Steenberg Primary School

FET Maths – Qhayiya Secondary School (Grade 9 and 11 classes)

Coordinator: Frank Coetzer and Teacher Vuyo, Qhayiya Secondary School, Zwelihle

The idea of Saturday morning tuition sessions was discussed with the principals and teachers of Qhayiya Secondary school and Hawston High school. It was agreed that the focus should be on Grade 9 and Grade 11 learners and that sessions should be for one hour for each grade. The work content is discussed with the teachers and principals each week to ensure that tuition is "in step" with what is being done in class.

The Saturday morning sessions are tutorials where learners are given worksheets with problems in order to allow themselves to find out where they are struggling. In any event, the problems are worked out and the solutions displayed for all to see. The intervention is really intended to assist learners who are interested in improving their understanding of the subject and to achieve better grades. The idea of a holiday program still needs to be discussed.

Grade 9 – 09h00 – 10h00 40 learners and two tutors – Senior Phase

Grade 11- 10h00 – 11h00 20-30 learners and two tutors – FET Phase

Sandwiches and fruit juice are available for learners. Transport home is provided for five learners who live in Kleinmond.

The Alex Bury Library

Librarian: Elmine Boonzaaier

Toy Librarian: Priscilla Stemela

Assistant: Nomzamo Mtomile during the afternoons

Total membership at the end of February stands at 2600

Total number of items issued during the past month – 2121

960 children visited the library

100 adults visited the library – mostly parents.

School visits with the mobile facility take place to Bosko, Hermanus Waldorf on a weekly basis. The enthusiasm of both teachers and learners are encouraging. 191 children have benefitted during the past month at these schools during the past month.

The library and the Toy library made 21 visits to 24 edu-care centres as far as Betty's Bay and Karwyderskraal. 1101 children have been reached. These visits included home-based sites where the teaching staff makes the most out of nothing. EET visits delivering toys and books are a highlight and make a huge difference to the quality of lives. The EET team's dedication is commendable.

The Overberg Education District asked Elmine to train two interns from Boland College. They have just completed their Level 6 training. The focus of the training is on general library management, learning the the Libwin system and the basics of cataloguing. Once they are ready, they will assist in libraries at Lukhanyo, Zwelihe and Mount Pleasant.

Big Vision LAB – LIT/NUM

Manager: Solomon Manjeya

Assistant: Johnathan Swarts

The weekly activity log for the EET LAB:

<u>Monday morning session</u> - visits take place to two pre-schools – 30 Siyakha and Yomelelani Grade R.-in Zwelihle. CAMI Perceptual skills on the laptops are being taught. The learners are making great progress as many of them are able to identify colours and shapes.

Afternoon sessions in the lab - 11 Learners from nearby primary schools are exposed to CAMI Maths. Multiplication and division remain a challenge. As from May, Pet Education for Grade 5 learners from Zwelihle Primary will commence. A software programme will be installed on the Enlighten desktops.

<u>Tuesday morning session</u> - a visit takes place to Bosko - 22 Grade R learners. They are doing very well with their ability to grasp computer usage at such a young age – on the laptops with CAMI perceptual.

An afternoon session in the lab is attended by learners from Waldorf who are getting ready to go into main stream schooling in high school. They need assistance in Multiplication and Division – CAMI Maths

Wednesday morning session - a visit to Bosko Grade 3 and 4, 29 learners - CAMI Maths

Afternoon session in the lab: ROBOTICS team with 26 learners split into 2 groups.

<u>Thursday morning</u> visit to Waldorf school, Grade 6 and 7 – work done with CAMI Literacy. 46 Learners struggle as some learners perform at Grade 4 level still.

Afternoon session in the lab – CAMI Reader with the focus on nouns and pronouns. The Waldorf learners speak English very well but lack grammar and writing skills.

<u>Friday morning</u> session in lab – LAB maintenance and Robotics training

Afternoon session - Robotics - Mind Storms - Senior and FET Phase

Robotics

Facilitator for We Do: McNoughton Chokera Learners Age 6-9

Facilitators for Mindstorms: Frank Coetzer and Nic Powell Learners Age 10-16

WeDo: Three afternoons per week - Monday, Wednesday and Friday

Schools: Mount Pleasant Primary, Hermanus Primary, Lukhayo Primary and Zwelihle Primary.

A group of 16 homeschoolers with their parents attend a session in the EET hall on a Wednesday afternoon.

General outline of the ET Robo club – Mindstorms.

The Robotics Club operates under the banner of Big Vision. A set of rules as well as a constitution have been drawn up to provide a framework within which members can take part in activities. All the other forms, such as application for membership are in place.

At present club members are from two schools; Qhayiya Secondary and Northcliff High school. Most members are in Grade 8 and are about 15 years of age. The club meets every Wednesday and Friday afternoon. Transport is provided to fetch learners from school and to take them home. Membership has more or less stabilized now at 34.

Early Childhood Development Project - ECD 1

Project Coordinator: Mabel Saul

Mabel continues to visit 8 home-based sites in Zwelihle on a weekly basis. Most of these crèches are not registered with the Department of Social Development and are in desperate need of support and assistance .207 small children attend the crèches.

15- 25 practitioners attend monthly Theme Workshops at EET on a Saturday. The past month, an enrichment workshop was presented and 21 practitioners attended. The topics of the workshop: Positive Thinking and Capacity Building and the activities included folk dancing and painting. The folk dancing was presented by a volunteer, Swiss creative education teacher.

Mabel was invited to attend a Parenting Course, at the invitation of Friends of the Schools and funded by GMSA.

The upgrading of the Phaphama edu-care centre in Zwelihle is long overdue due to a lack of funding. Since Lottery funded the project, it is a work in progress.

Quality ECD in the Overstrand Project – DG Murray Trust

Coordinators: Betsey Joubert and Maatjie Wandrag

The team continues to work in 14 edu-are centres. During the past 8 months, some principals feel that their schools are now functioning well. Although most have improved substantially, there are still many areas that can be improved for them to really deliver a quality programme. In addition we have signed a Service Agreement with Boland College to assist all their B Ed students to understand and implement their training better. We also assist with on-site assessments of students. We are identifying a control group so that we can assess whether our intervention has a positive impact. We are excited about this new angle to our project which could have important implications for the effectiveness of ECD training in FET colleges.

Science and Technology Project

Project Coordinator: Schalk Botha

EET has been invited by the InterSec Advisor for the Overberg district – Ryk van Romburgh. Schalk was introduced to the teachers. Mr. van Romburgh described the role of Enlighten in detail. Teachers were encouraged to make use of our facilities, expertise and learning materials. Teachers as far as Barrydale asked for our assistance!

Due to the full schedule of schools during Term 1, it was decided not to present any afternoon workshops but to concentrate on <u>in-class support for teachers</u>. Enlighten has now become a regular feature in technology classrooms in Mount Pleasant, Lukhanyo, Gansbaai and Bosko Primary schools – Grade 4 and 5. Grade 5 teachers needed much more support – e.g. Schalk devised a model on which their skeleton structures could be based. Grade 6 tasks were based on pure chemical research to be done by pupils and Schalk assisted with the interpretation and formulation of the assignment and guidance concerning classroom management during execution of the experiments. Hawston Secondary schools requested support for their Grade 8 learners. The teachers asked for demonstration lessons. Enlighten has full permission to support teachers. 19 Teachers are being supported in 9 schools.

Frank Coetzer and Schalk were tasked by Mr. van Romburgh to prepare a training workshop in Electronics to be held in Caledon in support of the Senior Phase Technology teachers.

Green Garden Project – Overstrand Municipality

This project is run by the Municipality with the aim to empower the practitioners at the crèches mainly in Zwelihle. EET provided help to start their own veggie gardens and also to teach the little ones about gardening. The community gets involved as well. Enlighten was asked to do the initial training. The EET garden project has become well known!

The Music Project

Project Coordinator: Anna-Marie Kotze

Facilitators: Elsa Venter and Joanie Smith

The EET Music Project is going from strength to strength. Main project activities are

- Specialized training and support for teachers consisting of workshops, follow-up visits and inclass support in collaboration with the OED curriculum advisors.
- School-based support for participation in marimba workshops for teachers, marimba and steelpan band festival, ArtsCape Youth Music festival and UNISA Theory and practical exams.
 The team is active in 11 schools, primary and senior, reaching 276 learners and 11 teachers.

 Initiatives: OMAC (Overberg Music and Arts Academy networking with the OED and twinning with ELF). The aim of OMAC would be to provide affordable top class music tuition to adults and learners – theory and practical. Networking with department is on-going. (Jenny Bridgeman)

The Classical Marimba band performed at the Anglican Church flower festival recently. This was a hugely successful performance.

An EET Vocal Sextet has not started yet. (Anna-Marie, Mabel, Unity, Priscilla, Nomzamo and Ziyanda)

The Abagold Choir – Anna-Marie is preparing this choir for the FynArts festival in June. Training consists of one hour per week. Abagold is funding this project.

Rune Alver visit from Norway – in action at the moment ta Zwelihle Primary. Rune is a Norwegian pianist, who on behalf of the Norwegian government, is doing outreach work in South Africa. Enlighten was approached by Friends of the Schools to assist with this project.

PUPPETRY

Coordinators: Lisa Joy Nicholson and Ziyanda Gova and 6 team members

The 7 puppeteers continue to perform shows at schools, including crèches, churches and homes in the community. Puppets are hand-made at the Enlighten Centre and training/puppet-play and rehearsals take place on a weekly basis. In mid February the team started working on a new African story "Demozana' which is still in process. Each puppeteer continues to do 12 shows and 12 clubs per month while the new story is being prepared.

In the puppet-clubs, as well as hearing the stories or watching the shows created by the stories, the children engage with the many activities which are part of creating a puppet-show i.e. drawing, drama, singing and making cardboard puppets to present their own puppet shows. Puppet club numbers range from 8-2- depending on space available in homes. Two puppeteers in Zwelihle have, on their own initiative, started to make soup for their puppet children, using ingredients obtained from Red Cross every month.

Visual Art

Project Coordinator: Alex Forsyth

This project is being implemented in schools on request, in collaboration with the OED curriculum advisor for Circuit Two. Art classes are being tutored at Zwelihle Primary and Qhayiya Senior during the afternoons.

Grade 8-12 11 learners

Grade 4-7 24

Activities are: Patterns, decorative lettering and slide show of inspiration, making rhinos in paper mache, scrafito drawing and free drawing to music, collages and figures, wax resist with water colour and Still Life drawing on black paper.

Enlighten pottery coordinator, Celeste Fourie, has joined on Thursdays to assist with the Grade R's at Zwelihle Primary. The pottery room is still out of action due to the flooding.

Overstrand Junior Town Council – 10th Cycle of JTC

Project Manager: Unity Mtomile

The first leadership and Life Skills camp for the new group of JTC was held at Wortelgat near Stanford during the second week of January. The program for the weekend focused on leadership, team building, adventure life orientation and of course having fun! The program was coordinated by the Wortelgat team and was conducted in a most professional manner.

The first centralized meeting with the councilors and their mentors was held on the 5th of February at EET. The meeting was well attended. Guests were two members from Kids Can! an after-care centre in Kleinmond. A list of their needs has been circularized and it was agreed that the group will take the centre on as one of their projects for 2014. They enjoyed a Robotics session in the hall, facilitated by 4 members of the Big Vision laboratory.

Other projects for the year are:

- The Cansa Relay for Life 2014
- Termly Radio Interviews on projects and progress
- The Siyazama Service Centre for the Aged in Zwelihle
- Painting of Siyakha crèche in Zwelihle
- Two orientation tours arranged by Overstrand Municipality will be undertaken in April and May 2014 to Gansbaai and Kleinmond.

School of Dramatic Arts

Project Coordinator: Elenore Wessels

The focus for Enlighten Dramatic Arts for Term 1 is on Qhayiya Secondary school. The teachers and learners are very enthusiastic and formed a drama group, consisting of 15 learners. The learners meet on a Thursday afternoon. A Talent evening has been organized for the 20th of March.

Elenore will assist learners who will take part in the 2014 Eisteddfod. They will also take part in the Artscape Student festival.

Creative Arts Training:

During the Standard Setting meeting with the OED, it became clear that many teachers feel inadequate to teach Creative Arts. Unfortunately, many of our district schools did not attend this meeting. During the lead teacher training, EET was introduced to Margie Clarke – OED curriculum advisor for Creative Arts. The department is now aware that EET is available and ready to assist teachers in this district. They welcome the assistance.

Foundation Phase Enrichment Project (FPEP)

Project Consultant: Tracey le Roux

Coordinator: Colleen Roberts

Facilitators: Leonie Wolmarans and Lidia Milne

This project is being implemented in 3 schools: Hawston Primary, Mount Pleasant Primary and Gansbaai Primary and consist of

- Classroom observations Grade 1-3
- Classroom observations Grade R
- Classroom intervention, working with learners in class
- Consultations with teachers during break time and after school
- Consultation with other professionals eg counselor, social worker, therapists
- Consultation with parents

93 learners are being attended to - Grade R and Grade 1. Most learners have been referred for multiple problems. Literacy remains a problem – lack of basic language skills rather than reading. Auditory, listening as well as letter identification and blending for learners who repeat Grade 1 are being addressed.

It took most of February for letters of consent to be signed by parents and to do all the assessments. Paperwork is now completed and the work has started finally.

A workshop was run at Gansbaai for all Foundation Phase teachers. The aim was to familiarize them with the project as well as to introduce them to practical activities. Grade 2 learners need assistance but EET does not have the capacity t this stage.

A parenting workshop was held at Hawston on the 26th of February. Grade 1 teachers ran the workshop which is a great achievement. All systems are in place now.

Counseling

Project Manager: Lianna Morrison

The project is active in 5 primary schools in the Overstrand. The project assists young people to deal with traumatic experiences, helps young people to understand the consequences of criminal actions and helps learners and teachers to find strategies for coping with life stress.

The schools: Okkie Smuts Laerskool, Kleinmond Laerskool, Mount Pleasant Primary school, Gansbaai Primary school and Hawston Primary school. The total referrals for 2013 were:

EET PROJECTS – April 2014

In-Class Support

After School Support

Alex Bury Library and Toy Library – Grade R	Alex Bury Library and Toy Library
Big Vision intervention in two private schools	Big Vision CAMI support in Lab
Brombacher Maths in 3 schools in Cape Town	FET and Senior Phase Maths on Saturdays
Literacy – Foundation Phase learners	Literacy Foundation Phase learners at EET
Foundation Phase Enrichment in 3 schools	Music Project – teaching and training
School Counseling	Visual Art and Drama
	Junior Town Council
	Pottery
	Puppetry
	Robotics