



THREE2SIX
Refugee Children's Education Project

*Friends of
Three2Six
Newsletter*

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NEWSLETTER

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Our learners were on holiday for the greater part of August but returned a bit earlier to catch up on their schoolwork, because of the constant intermissions due to COVID. The learners at Holy Family College used four days out of their holiday for catch-up lessons and the learners at the Sacred Heart College campus came back one week early to catch up as well. The Observatory Girls' Primary school campus was only closed for two weeks, to allow for lessons to be made up as well.

Food distribution

One of the things that has been a constant blessing during COVID for our learners and their families is the provision of food aid through the support of our donors. On 14 August, the project's team distributed food parcels to all its families. The parcels consisted of non-perishable goods such as tins of food, pasta, biscuits, and cooking oil, and of hygiene products.

This was made possible thanks to the support of a Scottish donor, the Maitri Trust, with whom the project started a partnership recently. The Maitri Trust dedicates itself to improving the quality of education at a systemic level in South Africa, India, and Mexico.



Soap donation from UNHCR



In August, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), through Future Families, generously donated close to 900 soaps to the project. These were all donated to our families in the weeks that followed.

This support is much appreciated as our families currently have limited financial resources due to COVID and face difficulties to buy necessity items.

Holiday programme at Sacred Heart College



Our Sacred Heart College team held a three-day holiday programme from the 26th to the 28th of August. The children were divided into two groups. One came in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

Our class teachers were involved in the activities and were helped by students from the host school and two teachers. The days were organised so that children could experience as many activities as possible during this short programme.

Our team of motivated volunteers organised physical sessions for the learners such as cycling and athletics, science experiments ran by a science teacher from Sacred Heart College and Maths practice activities, music and arts, isiZulu, remedial classes and religious education as well as reading and writing sessions to support them with their language learning.

It was a pleasure to have our past volunteer France help with the activities!

Some of our extra activities have resumed

Library



The Three2Six library started in 2012 to reinforce student's English learning abilities. It also helps children to get acquainted with the use of the library. It runs once a week and it is managed by a volunteer.

Remedial class



The remedial class has been organised to assist children who are still struggling to read and write in grade 4. These are few children who have missed out important stages of their learning because of the non-conducive learning conditions they went through.

Gardening



SHC Campus has resumed with their gardening activities this September. The vegetable garden was started in 2015 by the Three2Six parents to supply the vegetable parcels that were sent regularly to the families. The garden is currently maintained by the parent of a former Three2Six learner.

Camp with our Grade 5 class

On the 13th and 14th of October, our grade 5 children went on a camp with our teaching staff and two past Three2Six learners who joined the project at its inception, in 2008. These two days at Kloofwaters camp were filled with fun activities and helped everyone bond again. Find out more in our October newsletter!



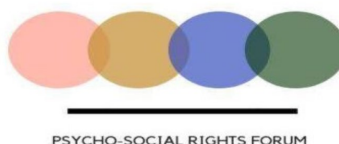
Online “Talking and Thinking about Refugees” resource

On 18 August, a team from Mindburst came to the Sacred Heart College campus to film an online version of our Talking and Thinking about Refugees resource (TTR). This is a resource we created to combat xenophobia in schools and to raise awareness on refugee issues. Through lesson plan ideas, we discuss various topics concerning for instance identity, being a refugee and the rights of refugees from a local and international standpoint. Ordinarily, we would host training on-site with student teachers and current teachers, but considering the



current restrictions, we are developing our training pack for an online audience. This will allow for a wider distribution. Everything will be shared soon on our website. Stay tuned!

Psychosocial rights forum meeting



On 10 September, as we do every month, our project representative attended a psychosocial rights forum meeting. These events, organised by Sophiatown Community Psychological Services, invite partner organisations, including Lawyers for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Save the Children, to share with the network any human rights violations or issues that their beneficiaries (refugees, asylum seekers, migrants) have faced during the past month in their access to services. These monthly meetings lead to referrals to partner organisations for assistance on a case-by-case basis, to advocacy activities and can lead to litigation by its legal partners.

In October, the project will be taking part in three online Indabas around creating a sense of belonging in a fractured society. These will be organised by the Forum, Synergos and the Consortium for refugees and migrants in South Africa (CoRMSA). Stay tuned!

Terre des Hommes partners meeting



From the 15th until the 17th of September, our team attended a partners meeting organised by one of our funders, Terre des Hommes (TDH). The discussions touched on how COVID-19 impacted our youth networks, staff, general activities, M&E activities, as well as on child safeguarding within our organisations during this crisis.

Partners also shared their experiences on how they adapted their services to the current crisis to best serve their beneficiaries according to their most urgent needs.

This three-day dialogue was very informative and helpful, and made us reflect on our response to the pandemic and how to face difficulties, should another emergency arise in the future.

CoRMSA partners meeting



On 29 September, the project joined a partners meeting organised by CoRMSA which was attended by organisations from different areas of expertise and provinces. The meeting objective was to develop a policy brief and an advocacy strategy on how to address South African policies affecting migrant children, to ensure these policies protect their rights.

This is part of a 41-month project targeting children and youth in migration and their communities to ensure that they are empowered to know how to claim their human rights, to enjoy inclusive policies and access to basic services.

Thank you!

Through the initiative of Br. Dan O'Riordan, Vice Provincial of the Marist Bros., the Marist High Schools in the United States raised \$6,000 for Refugee Children. This was the focus of the schools 2019-2020 Service Program. Of this amount, Three2Six received \$1,200.

In September, we received contributions from our partners which include FMSI and Caring Women's Forum.

We would like to thank all of them for their generous donations and their continued support.

Staff update



From 1 September, Charlotte Margerit, our project manager for the last two years, has changed roles, to head up our advocacy, communications and stakeholder engagement components of the project. This is a new position at Three2Six which supports all the other aspects of the project and promotes the work accomplished over the years. Should you wish to contact her, she is now reachable at advocacy@three2six.co.za.

Thanks a lot Charlotte for your dedicated work.