



THREE2SIX
Refugee Children's Education Project

*Friends of
Three2six
Newsletter*

**Volume 14,
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JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

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Start of school

Our first term of the year started off in earnest, with full enrollment and some very excited and nervous children. This year again, we have 225 children and 9 classes from Grade R to Grade 5 with a mixed grade class. We registered our new Grade R and 1 learners and welcomed back our other learners.

Our staff component is also an essential part of our school year. We have 18 staff members this year. In addition, our intern, Tony and volunteer, Gianpaolo, joined our team.

We are very glad that we have a full program this year and we look forward to what the year brings.

We remain grateful to all our partners, funders and individual donors for all the contributions that allow us to make such a valid impact on the lives of refugee and migrant children living in South Africa.



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Advocacy update

Towards the end of last year, the project was shortlisted among over 1500 applicants for the "Presence Learning & Teaching Award". Following this, our director Colin Northmore, took part in the Reimagine Education conference in London from the 8th until the 10th of December.

The event that was co-organized by QS Quacquarelli Symonds and the Wharton School and attended by educators, policymakers, important edtech companies and prestigious universities proved to be a wonderful opportunity for the project to network and to showcase its critical work.

On the last day, the project was delighted to receive the silver winner award in the category mentioned above.

This is a wonderful international recognition of the work we have accomplished over the last almost twelve years.



Le Monde article features Three2Six



Our project was featured in an article published by French newspaper, Le Monde (dated 27 December 2019). The article focuses on the difficulties refugee children face in accessing education in South Africa. Three2Six provides education for those who have been denied access into South African schools, for various reasons such as lack of identity documents or financial restraints.

We are blessed to be able to make a difference in our children's lives and to have prestigious international coverage from a French newspaper.

For our French-speaking readers, have a look at the article by clicking on the link below.

https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2019/12/27/afrique-du-sud-le-chemin-tortueux-des-eleves-sans-papiers-pour-pouvoir-etudier_6024240_3212.html

Staff training



On 13 and 14 January 2020, our teachers joined the Sacred Heart College staff for various training sessions. The intermediate phase teachers participated in a talk about getting children ready for high school, with a focus on preparing for English and Maths.

The foundation phase teachers, both Sacred Heart College and Holy Family College campuses, attended a refresher course in teaching literacy for the Foundation Phase.

We are grateful to Sacred Heart College for planning these training sessions for us and for allowing our teachers to participate in the College Staff training sessions.

Alumni day



On 25th January, we held our first Alumni day for 2020. A good number of alumni attended. We had two guest speakers talk to our group of youth about the 'taboo' subject of menstruation.

Our guest speakers were Candice Chirwa: Director and Founder of Qrate and Ivana Merckel: Mina Cup. Qrate is an organisation which addresses the stigma of menstruation through education. Mina Cup is an NGO involved in providing and educating girls about menstrual cups.

The reception from the students was encouraging, and we were able to donate various menstrual products to our students who attended.

The Menstrual Project is a Marist Youth initiative and aims to educate and provide eco-friendly and sustainable options for girls and women in and around Johannesburg.

The next Three2Six Alumni Service Day will be held on the 15th Feb and our theme is Valentine's Day!

Memorial service of the late Enoch Mpanzi



On the 28th of January, Three2Six at Sacred Heart College sent a delegation to represent the project at the memorial service of the late Enoch Mpanzi, a 14-year-old Congolese boy from Parktown Boys School, who tragically passed away while on a school camp.

14 learners, 5 parents, 3 teachers and our campus volunteer went to Parktown Boys to pay him tribute.

It has been an emotional and painful time.

Start of the judo classes at our Observatory Girls campus

On the 29th of January, an exciting new routine started at our Observatory Girls' campus! The children had their first judo lesson. It will take place once a week on Wednesdays throughout the year, much to the children's excitement.

The children already love their judo teacher, Denis.

Thanks to our partner Judo for Peace for offering this to our children!



News from some of our alumni

On 30th January, Adrian Badibanga, a Three2Six past learner came to say hello to our learners. Adrian started with the project in 2008 and left it a year later in December 2009. He is currently completing his tertiary education.

He wanted to come back to say thank you to the project. If it were not for his education with Three2Six, he would not be where he is today. Adrian is currently a senior manager in a catering company. He wants to work with our children to encourage them to learn. It was great to see Adrian again, and to know that he is doing well.

Jemi Luzinga, a Three2Six past learner, who received a merit scholarship to attend Sacred Heart College last year, completed the year with distinctions in all his subjects (90% in Photo Voice Story Telling and above 80% in 10 other subjects). His average is 84% over 66% for his grade average. What a success story!

In addition to that brilliant achievement, Jemi was awarded the following Certificates: Excellence in Junior Secondary for the 2019 Wits University Mathematics Competition, Academic Excellence in Grade 9, Academic Excellence Gold Badge, Gold Badge Award Excellence in Chess and Excellence in Cricket Blue Badge.

Well done Jemi! You made us proud. Keep up your outstanding work.

Academic mass at Sacred Heart College



On the 31st of January, the children and staff from our Sacred Heart College campus attended the Sacred Heart College Academic Mass to start the new school year. The theme was about compassion in the light of the life of Christ on Earth.

Our children joined Sacred Heart College for the Mass Celebration. They were also given the opportunity to do the Readings and to sing during Mass. After the mass, children returned to their classes, then went back home early, armed with a lunch pack and a smile on their faces.

Staff update



At the end of last year, we bade farewell to our long-term monitoring and evaluation officer, Bongi. She joined the project in September 2018. Among other missions, she ensured that our children were provided nutritious meals each week day and tracked their academic performances as well as how our alumni have progressed. All the best Bongi!

At the end of January, our Holy Family College campus welcomed a new volunteer. Gianpaolo is a private volunteer who joined us from Italy! He will be with us until June this year, helping our campus coordinator and teachers in the running of the project on that campus and supporting our children in their learning process. Benvenuto Gianpaolo!

Early this year, our very dedicated IT intern, Palesa, left the project to further her studies. We wish her all the best.

Tony has recently taken up the role. He has just completed a national diploma in business information technology at the University of Johannesburg. Welcome Tony!

Support the project

If you are based in America and wish to donate to the project, you can do so through our 501C3 at <https://www.shmo501.org>.

501C3- Section 501(c)(3) is the portion of the US Internal Revenue Code that allows for federal tax exemption of non-profit organizations, specifically those that are considered public charities, private foundations or private operating foundations.

If you are based in South Africa and would like to support the project, we can provide you with a Section 18A certificate. Section 18A allows a taxpayer, who has donated to a PBO or certain other institutions, to claim a tax deduction.

You also have the possibility to support some of our children to transition into mainstream schooling or offer additional support to those who have transitioned, such as mentoring and extra academic support. Please get in touch with us at Partnerships@three2six.co.za

Thank you for all you do for our kids. You are a part of their lives too!

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