



THREE2SIX
Refugee Children's Education Project

Friends of
Three2Six
Newsletter

**Volume 12,
2019**



**SEPTEMBER 2019
NEWSLETTER**

Inside

- Counselling sessions and food delivery parcels following xenophobic attacks
- Teaching English as a second language
- Anniversary mass at Holy Family College and fun day
- Athletics day at Sacred Heart College
- Alumni day
- English classes for our parents
- Dance show
- Creating a Happy School Workshop
- Deworming day
- Ma Mary's Home visit
- Advocacy update
- Fundraising update
- Staff update
- December holiday program

Counselling sessions and food delivery parcels following xenophobic attacks

On Thursday the 26th of September, four counsellors from the Johannesburg Parent and Child Counselling Centre (JPCCC) visited the Three2Six Project on its Sacred Heart College campus. They offered counselling sessions to our children and teachers, following the xenophobic violence events they recently experienced.

The counsellors were divided into three groups according to the three grades that the project has on this campus. The sessions which lasted an hour were interactive in the form of questions and answers between the counsellor and the learners.



On our Holy Family College campus, a therapy intervention was also organised for our children and facilitated by our Drama Therapist from Drama for Life while on our Observatory Girls' Primary School campus, the site therapist addressed all the learners to give a message of love and hope as they had not identified learners that were directly affected.

In addition to this, extra food parcels were distributed on each campus to support our families during this wave of violence against foreigners.

Teaching English as a second language

On Friday, the 6th of September, our Three2Six teachers from the Sacred Heart College campus joined the Primary School teachers of the College to attend a workshop on how to teach English as a second language. It was run by Aneene Dawber, a speech therapy specialist who works with the Primary School at the College. This three-hour workshop was held in the form of a lecture. Our Three2Six teachers came out of the workshop with strategies on how to improve English reading through all their teaching sessions.

Get involved in our campaigns

Subscribe or make a once off donation to our **ONEPLUSFOUR** campaign



Support your charitable organization by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon](https://www.amazon.com/smile)



Holy Family College celebrates its anniversary



On Friday the 13th of September, Holy Family College celebrated its 114th anniversary and Three2Six's Holy Family College campus was among the attendees of the event. The celebration was characterised by a mass that was held at the College on Friday and by a Colour Fest fun day the next day. The choir of Three2Six children sang in the chapel during the mass celebration and both Three2Six children and the learners of the main school got together for various fun activities and for lunch during the Colour

Fest the following day. Some parents joined the celebration - we all had a wonderful time together.

Happy anniversary to Holy Family College and thank you for including us in the celebration!

Athletics day at Sacred Heart College



On Friday the 13th of September, Sacred Heart College in collaboration with the Catholic Schools Office (CSO) organized a Primary Schools Catholic Athletics meeting.

It was a big event and eight schools such as Assumption, Holy Family College, Holy Rosary, Lourdes and Sacred Heart College (hosting school) along with our project participated in athletics together with a number of parents who came to support the children.

Both boys and girls were classified in different categories according to their age: under 9 years old, under 10 years old, under 11 years old, under 12 years old and the last category was the open category where every child above 12 years old was allowed to compete in.

This athletics meeting consisted in different disciplines such as 60m, 80m, 150m, 200m sprint short races and 600m, 800m and 1200m long distance races as well as relay races. Despite a lack of training sessions due to different circumstances, our Three2Six children were eager and thrilled to participate and compete against other schools, and their performance was remarkable.

Ten of our Three2Six children secured the second position and three of them came third in different categories. The Three2Six Project managed to secure its spot in the top six schools. We are so proud of the competitive spirit of our Three2Six children and congratulate all the participants.

A big thank you to Sacred Heart College and to the Catholic Schools Office for inviting the Three2Six project!



Alumni day



On Saturday the 14th of September, past Three2Six learners came together to celebrate the Three2Six alumni day at Sacred Heart College. It has become our culture to celebrate this monthly event. During this September alumni day, we carried out different activities including a music talent show that was designed to boost the children's self-confidence.

Our Three2Six alumni group showed how talented they are when it comes to singing, dancing and writing song lyrics. They were given time to sing and dance on the stage as a group/choreography or solo. Some alumni preferred to lip-sync, others sang throughout.

The main objective of the day was to empower the children and to create a safe space for them to feel confident enough to be themselves. Most alumni who attended rose to the challenge and demonstrated their talent at dancing. A South African dance style well-known as the Gwara Gwara dance was enjoyed by everyone. The group also enjoyed Hip-hop and Funk dance.

The alumni group had a few minutes to play some sports together and at the end of the event, we shared lunch that was prepared by the members of the Marist Young Adults Johannesburg group.

Our next alumni day will be on Saturday the 19th of October 2019 at Sacred Heart College.

If you would like to take part in this monthly initiative, you are welcome to get in touch with the Marist Young Adults Johannesburg group through their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/MaristYoungAdultsJohannesburg/>

Start of English classes for our parents



On Saturday the 14th of September, we introduced English classes throughout the project for the parents of our learners. This class is run every Saturday at Sacred Heart College by the Turquoise Harmony Institute. It is a three-month course where parents are taught basic conversational English. The first group of 18 parents will finish on the 30th of November and the next groups will carry on next year.

Thanks Turquoise Harmony Institute for offering this wonderful opportunity to our parents! It will contribute to their empowerment and to their integration into the South African society and the communities where they live.

Dance show



On Sunday the 15th of September, our Grade 4 and 5 learners from the Sacred Heart College campus attended a junior dance show named "Back to reality" at the Victory Theatre, in Johannesburg. They were invited by Romy Petersen, a Sacred Heart College parent who is running the Andrea Beck School of dance. She has been involved with the Three2Six project for the last ten years and has been especially assisting and supporting our families the most in need.

Children were introduced to another type of dance that they were not use to. Our Three2Six children enjoyed the show and were very interested especially because

most of the dancers were from the same age group as them or younger. Romy was so generous, she even gave the Three2Six children readers and snacks.

The show was also used to pay tribute to the late South African pop music writer and singer Johnny Clegg, well known as a White Zulu. Johnny Clegg, who passed away in July of this year, was a cultural icon and an anti-Apartheid activist.

We would like to thank Romy Petersen for the invitation and for the wonderful show!



Creating a happy school workshop



On Monday the 16th of September, six delegates from our three campuses (our campus coordinators and some of our teachers) attended a workshop on how to run a Happy School.

The Workshop was organised by Dr Jacqui Von Cziffra-Ergs, an Educational Psychologist and Dr Ben Furman, a Finnish Psychiatrist, Psychotherapist and an internationally renowned teacher of Solution Focused therapy, Coaching and Organizational Development.

The whole workshop was focused on how to approach minor and major problems in a solution focused manner, knowing that behind every problem, there is always a skill to develop.

Deworming day



Every year, the Catholic Institute of Education (CIE) organises a deworming day for the children in the Catholic Schools. Our turn was on Tuesday the 17th of September.

Our children based at Sacred Heart College were told the importance of deworming and how often it has to occur in a year. Then the school nurse gave a deworming tablet to every child whose parents had given their consent.

Ma Mary's Home visit

On Friday the 20th of September, twenty children from Ma Mary's Home in Vlakfontein, just outside Johannesburg, came to visit their friends from the project who are based on the Sacred Heart College campus. Our relationship started last year when our Grade 6 learners travelled to Vlakfontein to visit the children at Ma Mary's Home.

This year, Ma Mary's Home and partners, among whom the Baila Dance Company and the Foundation for Professional Development Business School, decided to rather bring some of Ma Mary's children to visit the project. They watched Three2Six videos to get to know more about the project and, as the different schools around were celebrating Heritage Day, they sang and danced together.

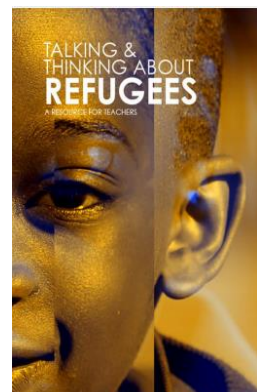
It was such exciting shared moments. The children in the project were very emotional as they realised how much love and effort their friends had put into visiting them. Our children also learned that they are not the only ones going through difficult times in the communities where they live.



Advocacy update

On the 17th of September, we had the great chance to present our "Talking and Thinking about Refugees" resource to fourth year student teachers from the University of Pretoria. The crowd of over 100 students was receptive and engaging.

Through this hour presentation, we were able to sensitize them on issues relating to xenophobia and refugee rights. We believe that raising awareness on these issues by introducing them into the pre-service and in-service training of teachers and teaching them in our South African schools and beyond can lead to a wide shift in mindsets.





Copies of our resource were distributed to a big group of attendees who were eager to use it during their teaching practice in a few weeks. Thank you very much to the University of Pretoria for giving us this meaningful opportunity!

If you would like us to visit your university or your school to introduce our resource to your teachers or to your student teachers, please do get in touch with us on manager@three2six.co.za

Fundraising update

We are now only two months away from the end of the year and are still actively working to raise funds for next year.

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 Johannesburg.

The project has various ways in which its partners can benefit from contributing to the project in cash or in-kind:

For our American friends: 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 America and would like to contribute to the project, please contact our American fundraising team on 484-602-7365 (cell phone number) and 212-410-1185 (office number) or contact partnerships@three2six.co.za. A reminder that the mailing address of our 501c3 is: Sacred Heart Marist Observatory % Margaret Minson PO Box - 1294 New York, NY 10028-9998.

For our South African friends: Section 18A which allows a taxpayer, who has donated to a PBO or certain other institutions, to claim a tax deduction.

If you would like to partner with us and support some of our children to transition into mainstream schooling or offer additional to support those who have transitioned, such as mentoring and extra academic support, please do get in touch with us on partnerships@three2six.co.za We are always available to answer any questions you may have.

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

**Sincerely,
Nthabiseng Seane
Fundraiser
partnerships@three2six.co.za**

Staff update



We would like to introduce to you our new Three2Six Project volunteer, Charlotte Dagueneau. She is from France and started volunteering in the project on the 10th of September and she will be based at Holy Family College campus. She will be helping Three2Six children with various activities including the reading activities inside and outside the classrooms.

A warm welcome to our new volunteer in the Three2Six family!

December holiday program

Our end-of-year holiday programme is soon approaching! It will be held between the 2nd and the 13th of December at Sacred Heart College, in Johannesburg.

For those who don't know about it, this is for us an opportunity to expose our learners to activities that we do not have time to do during the rest of the year given the limited time we have with them every day and the constricted curriculum each term. Examples of what we planned for our learners last year include science, drama, robotics, seedlings, swimming, an outing, yoga and a disco party!

We are looking for both international and local (Grades 10,11 & 12) volunteers to work alongside our teachers and team to support this year's Holiday Program. Volunteers will receive a training on the first day of the program and will then help run and supervise activities during the five hours that the program will run each day.

If you would like to join us for a week or more, please make sure to contact Kate on: holiday.programs@three2six.co.za

We look forward to hearing from you!

