



THREE2SIX

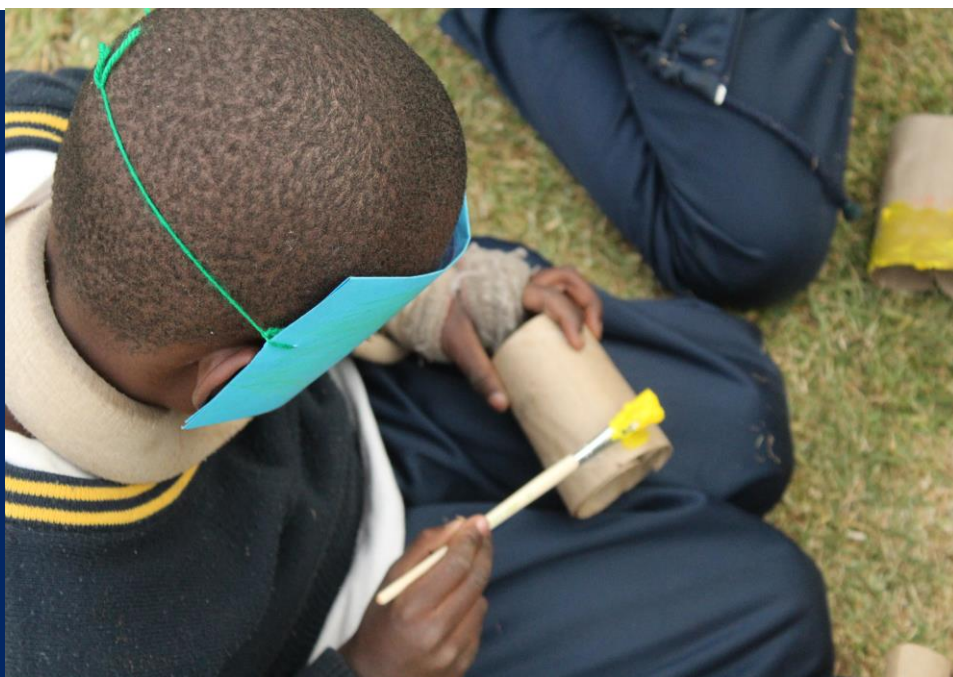
Refugee Children's Education Project

Friends of
Three2Six
Newsletter

Volume 9, 2019

JUNE 2019

NEWSLETTER



World Environment Day

On the 5th of June, Three2Six took part in World Environment Day, a UN Environment event. As part of the activities proposed by the United Nations on that day, lessons were organised on our campuses to educate our learners on the importance of the protection of the environment and on the causes of air pollution, the 2019 theme of the event. With much excitement, our learners then produced toys from recycled materials, from binoculars to cup-and-ball games, using plastic and other materials that can be sources of pollution to create something new from them.

At the end of the day, our children proudly brought the toys they created home to play with their siblings and families.

This was a wonderful initiative to join and we hope this can inspire other educational projects that work with children. Let's all work towards beating air pollution!



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Champagnat Day



June 6th is Champagnat Day which celebrates the feast day of the founder of the Marist Brothers, Saint Marcellin Champagnat. For that occasion, the following day, Sacred Heart College - one of the Marist schools in South Africa - organised celebrations to which all the Three2Six children were invited. The day commenced with a mass in honour of Champagnat which was followed by various activities for the children.

Our older learners participated in a Big Walk, a fundraising event for the day school, and had to team up with Sacred Heart College learners to complete circuits together, when our younger children had their own fun activities (e.g. skipping and hoola hoops).



Before leaving the campus, our learners were given money to spend on the food stalls set up by the Sacred Heart College students, which they undoubtedly enjoyed.

Champagnat Day was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Marcellin Champagnat together and to build great relationships between the day school and Three2Six learners.

Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital visit



They were also happy to know that the project has a place on one of the hospital's walls along with other contributors to the launching of the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital.

Our learners had prepared presents for the children hospitalised and recorded a video for them as the public is not allowed to access the care wards.

This experience was both a reminder and an eye opener to our children for the community around them. We thank Prudence and all the staff at the hospital for their hospitable spirit.

On 11 June, our grade 5's visited Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital as part of their Life Skills learning outcomes. They have to develop their sense of compassion and their involvement with the communities living around them.

The staffs at the hospital were delighted to receive our children as they participated in creating art to decorate the walls of the hospital while it was still under construction.

Our children were taken around the facilities and had the opportunity to ask questions. They were happy to know that, as any child, they qualify to be treated at the hospital regardless of their status



Concert for Refugees



On the 21st of June, the children of our project and their parents were invited by the Turquoise Harmony Institute to the Concert for Refugees, an initiative from the Institute to promote social cohesion between South African and refugee communities, to foster solidarity on the challenges faced by refugees and on the current situation in Turkey.

Our learners and their parents enjoyed excellent musical performances by famous local singers and artists such as Yvonne Chaka Chaka and the Johannesburg Philharmonic Orchestra. During the event, our project had the great opportunity to be presented to the audience and to have its "Précieuse" video, produced by our volunteers and children, shown. Sacred Heart College was commended for hosting the Three2Six Project which was hopefully a call to the audience to start playing their role in improving the lives of refugees around them.

Our children, who do not get much exposure to art in their daily lives, loved the performances and the overall experience!

We are very grateful for the invitation and welcome this fantastic initiative from the Turquoise Harmony Institute to celebrate World Refugee Day.

Visit from Kray Ramathan Foundation



On Wednesday 26 June, Ms Lilian Ramathan came with her family and Kray's old school friends to visit the Project. The visit was organised in the loving memory of the late Kray Ramathan, Lilian's son, who tragically passed away last year.

Kray Ramathan completed his matric at Sacred Heart College and was actively involved with the children of our project during the time he was at school. He took every opportunity he had to help, either in the classes, assisting slow learners; at the fields, helping with sports or supervision; or volunteering during holiday programs.

For his birthday, Lilian remembered and honoured the love Kray had for the Three2Six children and made for them individually designed Kray Ramathan Foundation winter blankets to keep them warm during this winter season.

The Three2Six Children were very touched and send their heartfelt thanks to Kray's family.

First National Day of Prayer for Refugees and Migrants



In February 2019, the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SABC) declared 30 June 2019 as a National Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees. The first National Day of Prayer was organised in lieu of celebrating World Refugee Day which is celebrated on 20 June every year.

The event was held at the Cathedral Christ the King in Doornfontein and was organised by the Department of Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees, the Consortium for Refugees and Migrants in South Africa (CoRMSA), the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) and Bienvenu Shelter.



Our children were invited to participate in the prayer among an average of 450 participants from governmental and nongovernmental organisations, as well as a significant number of migrants and refugees.

The main message conveyed by Father Pablo who celebrated the mass reiterated Pope Francis' message about this year's Refugee Day celebration, stating that it is not only about refugees and migrants, everyone is concerned.

Father Pablo insisted on the fact that people should change their mind and learn to share, especially with the ones who are the most in need.

The three2Six Children participated in the offertory during mass; and sang and danced during the social and cultural sessions. It was all in all a special and a happy celebration.



- Roundtable with Lawyers for Human Rights

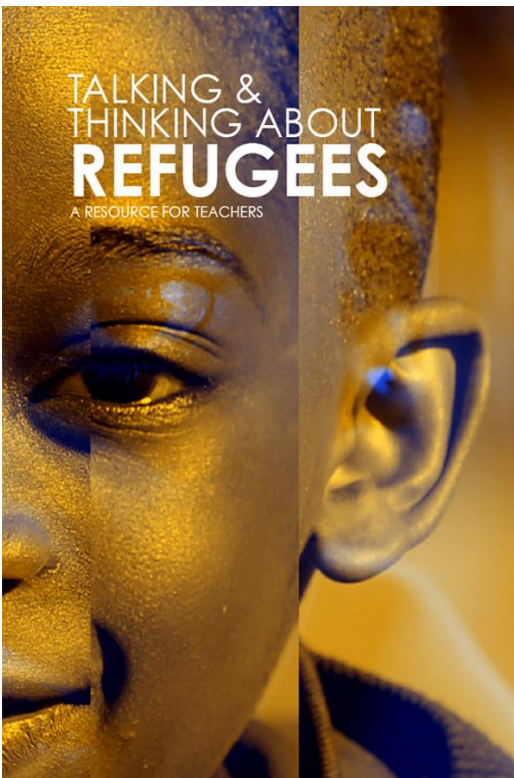
On 19 June, Three2Six took part in a roundtable discussion organised by its partner Lawyers for Human Rights on the experience of separated and unaccompanied migrant children from the Great Lakes region in South Africa.

There were representatives of organisations working for those children in the field of advocacy, education, legal assistance, social and medical support.

The fruitful discussions helped identify gaps and barriers that prevent such migrant children from enjoying a full and unlimited access to those services because of their status.

These will now be explored by Lawyers for Human Rights to address them through litigation and advocacy.

Big thank you to Lawyers for Human Rights who help protect children's rights.



- Three2Six presentation at a PTEDC meeting

On the 27th of June, the director of Three2Six presented the project and its Talking and Thinking about Refugees resource at a Provincial Teacher Education and Development Committee (PTEDC) meeting at the Durban University of Technology.

Attendees included representatives from the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Department of Basic Education (DBE), various higher education institutes, the South African Council for Educators (SACE) and teachers unions.

The presentation was well received and several promising contacts were made for a wider distribution and implementation of the teaching resource. Stay tuned!

- Three2Six at the United Nations

Three2Six has been invited by its long-standing funder Misesan Cara to join a side-event of the United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development on the 10th of July in New York. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the project to be presented to a wide range of actors from various countries and to develop its network.

The team will also be attending events held as part of the HLPF as South Africa reports on the actions it has taken towards achieving those goals. We will share more on this in our next newsletter!

We ask that all our partners share the details with other partners that might be attending or know of those that are invited from various countries to the conference, to please attend the side-event where the Three2six project will be presenting, we would appreciate this greatly.



Fundraising Update

The project will once again, like to welcome on board the following funders who have opened their doors for a new cycle of funding for the project starting this mid-year.

Breadsticks Foundation **Terre des Hommes**

To all our partners who have committed to providing funds for this year, once again we are very grateful for this and appreciate your commitment to making a difference. We are still in the process of collecting some of the funds committed for 2019 and trust that 2020 will be a better year.

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

If you are based in America and would like to make a contribution 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:

Sacred Heart Marist Observatory % Margaret Minson
PO Box 1294
New York, NY 10028-9998.

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

We are always available to answer any questions you may have and looking forward to updating you with the 2018 Annual Report and Financials of the project.

Sincerely,

Nthabiseng Seane
Fundraiser
011 081 2200/ 065 860 2506
Partnerships@three2six.co.za

Johanna's visit

Johanna, a volunteer at the project in 2015, visited our team and our children when travelling in South Africa for a few days this month. It was a great pleasure to welcome her at Three2Six again and to find out about her projects. Thank you so much for the thoughtful donation to our children.

We always appreciate having our past volunteers visit us. All the best to you Johanna and the project's doors are always open for your visit.

Three2Six staff update

This month, we sadly had to bid farewell to two of our long-term campus volunteers.

Farewell Alex



On 12 June, the project said goodbye to its private British volunteer, Alex Murphy, who was based at the Observatory Girls' Primary School campus for nine months.

The teachers and children of the campus prepared songs to thank her for the time spent together and for all the efforts she put into ensuring the children enjoy their learning experience. This included the introduction of Ipad classes on the campus and helping in the library.

Farewell Georg



At the Sacred Heart College campus, we said farewell to our German volunteer from Kindermissionswerk-Die Sternsinger, Georg Tannen, on the 24th of June. He was on the campus for ten months where he offered support to our campus coordinator with office work and dedicated the rest of his time to the children and to helping teachers in the classrooms.

Thank you both so much for the passion you have shown and all the time you devoted to our project and to our learners. You will both be missed very much. Stay in touch and come visit us soon!

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