

### **News from Swaziland Schools Projects**

### April 2024



### **Welcome to the April SSP Newsletter**

This edition features an update from Sulutane, A 'Thank You' letter from a school and news on how you can connect with us via our new social media platforms.

### **Easter Auction**

The SSP online auction closed on Easter Monday and a massive £2,600 was raised. A big 'THANK YOU' to all our supporters who bid for and won some of the items!



#### **Sulutane**

Work on the new preschool/community room was progressing well until Tropical Cyclone Filipo made landfall in Eswatini on 12-13 March, leading to frequent rainfall in the country. On 25 March Johannes, our amazing Project Manager, visited Sulutane to check on the painting of the hall and toilets being done by Hlatshwako and his team.





Johannes says: "It was drizzling in Mbabane; but the rain became more intense as I approached Sulutane. The heavy rain caused flooding in the area, making buildings of the Preschool inaccessible.

The new building, which had a raised foundation, was in better condition compared to the old buildings.

The construction team had to stop work due to the continuous rainfall. Painting of the old buildings should be finished by the first week of April depending on the conditions of the weather. We had planned to leave Sulutane before the end of this month, but now we will stay longer to complete the work."



# **Flood Support**

If you would like to help directly with Sulutane and the schools affected by flooding please contact us via the 'Donate now' button below, stating 'Floods' in the subject line.

Thank you for your support!

**Donate now** 

## **Desk Repair Project**

The following letter has been received from Hlobsile Thwala, the headteacher at Ekutfunyweni Primary School:

"All staff and students at our school hereby write to express their sincere appreciation and thanks to SSP for the assistance you have given; assembling, renovation and refurbishing 27 single desks and 47 double desks.

Your help and assistance came at a time when the school was in dire need for furniture, after an observed increase of the enrolment. We are short of words to express our sincere gratitude and thanks for this kind gesture. May the Lord Almighty God Bless You abundantly.

We are very much optimistic that with your assistance and support, we will reach the expected standards. And our pupils will benefit and shine on their educational endeavour".

Hlobsile Thwala



**Support our Desk Repair Project** 

### **Bank Details**

Thank you so much to those who have switched their donations and standing orders to the new account. If you are yet to switch over, please note the details below:

Coop Bank Business Account

Name: Swaziland Schools Project

Sort Code: 08 92 99

Account Number: 67293834

# **Bursary Student**

SSP funds 34 young people to attend high school. From time to time, we will be telling their stories and in this edition we introduce you to Setiphelele, a bright 17-year old girl from the Elangeni located in the Manzini region.



A shy but jolly child, Setiphelele lives with her mother at her late maternal grandmother's homestead. Her mother was forced to return there when Setiphelele was 13 and her father was arrested for alleged sexual violation against a neighbour's child. He has been in prison since then.

This had a huge impact on Setiphelele's life and she had to repeat her Grade 4 class in primary.

Since the arrest, Setiphelele's mother has struggled to single-handedly support her daughter without any form of employment. It has been a battle for the past 6 years up until this breakthrough of a sponsorship.

Her mum says: "I've been trying to secure a job for many years but nothing formal nor permanent has come through. I survive and support Setiphelele by doing odd jobs around the community including doing laundry for my neighbours living within the community".

Setiphelele is currently in Form 3 at a local High School and promises to work hard so she can impress her sponsor whom she wishes to meet one day. Saying this with a beaming smile, she mentioned that she honestly doesn't know where she would be if it was not for this kind act of supporting her with school fees, and she said:

"I owe my life to the sponsor."

#### Sponsor a child

Funding a young person to receive a High School education with food and uniform included costs approx. £400.



#### **Social Media**

SSP now has a presence on Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook. Trustee, Harry Woodrow says:

"Please give our new <u>Instagram</u> page a follow or find us on <u>LinkedIn</u>. We will be posting more regular updates about ongoing projects and how to get involved."

**SSP** on Instagram

SSP on LinkedIn

You can also see our updates on <u>Facebook</u> by searching: @Swazilandschoolsprojects or use the Facebook link below.

SSP on Facebook

# Looking for a Speaker?

Want a speaker to present to your group? Please email us, we would love to share our stories about Eswatini and do **NOT CHARGE A SPEAKER FEE**.

**Email:** contact@swazilandschoolsprojects.org or use the link below to message us.

SSP is registered with the Fundraising Regulator





Follow us on Social Media or contact us via our website or email using the links below. We would love to hear from you.











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