

# Thandulwazi Times

## Message from the Head of Thandulwazi

*Dr Themba Mthethwa*



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Head of the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy

As we approach the end of 2016, it is with a sense of satisfaction that we can look back on a year that has in many respects been challenging, but positive. We remain committed to improving the quality of teaching and learning of Mathematics and the Sciences. In this regard, we are continuously exploring innovative ways to improve our programmes and foster effective teaching and learning in these subjects. Indeed, our assessment through internal and external monitoring and evaluation shows a very positive response from our participants.

In 2016, the Academy impacted more than 2800 teachers and learners directly through various educational initiatives. Our strategic goal is to enhance and expand the current programmes offered at the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy and I am pleased to announce exciting new programmes for 2017.

- The Teacher Development Programme, will be offering an accredited ECD Level 5 programme. Furthermore, we will be offering FET Maths and Science workshops in the Teacher Programme.
- For the Saturday School, we will be introducing a Grade 9 development programme which will focus on the Maths and Science foundation.
- For the Intern teacher programme, we have recruited 16 new interns onto the programme thus giving us a total of 40 teacher interns for 2017.
- We have also awarded two new Thandulwazi learner scholarships for 2017, which will grow our current academic scholarships to 4 in 2017.

I wish to express my sincerest thanks and indebtedness to all involved for their unflinching support and cooperation. I would like to invite one and all to support our programmes in all possible ways.

Enjoy reading our newsletter.

*“Education is one of the surest means we have to end poverty and boost shared prosperity, but much of this potential is lost if students do not acquire the literacy and numeracy (skills) in school that they need to succeed in life.”*

(World Bank Report, REACH 2016)

## THANDULWAZI - inspiring a love of learning

Thandulwazi is very proud of our graduate teachers who are making an impact on education in schools across the country. Mr Musa Chauke, pictured below, graduated from the Thandulwazi Intern-Teacher Training programme in December 2014. Musa writes:



*“For as long as I can remember, teaching has always been a passion and a career in education has always been something that I have wanted to do. Somewhere along the way I decided to become a Mathematics teacher.*

*After graduating, I was accepted onto the Thandulwazi Intern Teacher Training Programme at St Stithians College, where I completed a PGCE (UNISA) over two years. The training received on the programme, paved the way for my employment at Curro Meridian School (Cosmo City) as a Grade 8 and 9 Mathematics teacher in 2015. Working as a professional teacher for the first year was interesting as the school was brand new. I was part of a team that implemented policies and managed the school. During the year I started afternoon Mathematics support classes (an idea I picked up at Saints) to help learners who had difficulties with Mathematics. In 2016 I was promoted to Grade 9 head and subject head. Currently I run a Saturday school for Grade 8 and 9 Meridian learners. Extramurally I coach soccer.*

*Thandulwazi has inspired a love of learning and I am planning to register for an Honours degree in Mathematical Education at Wits University in 2017. I believe that teachers who make the extra effort to improve their teaching can make a significant impact on the lives of their students.”*

**Musa Chauke, Thandulwazi Graduate**

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## THANDULWAZI *making a world of difference* in teacher education

### THANDULWAZI TEACHERS CLOSING CEREMONY, 2016



This year 1262 Gauteng teachers and school leaders attended the Thandulwazi Teacher Development Programme over 11 Saturdays. The closing ceremony was held on Saturday, 15 October 2016. Over 1200 teachers, funders and partners, and exhibitors attended this joyous occasion.

Mr Vincent Basson, a district facilitator at the Gauteng Department of Education, was the guest speaker and the theme of his address was *"Who dares to teach must never cease to learn"*. Basson spoke about teachers as lifelong learners and the important societal role played by teachers in South Africa.

Based on feedback from the presenters, the top teacher in each group was awarded a prize at the Closing Ceremony. Trained over the course of the year by Mike Sibanda, two groups of Grade R teachers were selected to perform on the Marimbas and Djembe drums at this event.



### *UJ Evaluation of the 2015 Thandulwazi Limpopo Pilot*

The Standard Bank, one of the major funders of the pilot Thandulwazi Teacher Development Programme run over three years (2013-15) in the Sekhukhune District of Limpopo, commissioned an independent evaluation of the pilot in November 2015. Conducted by the Centre for Development at UJ, the evaluation of the Limpopo Pilot concluded that:

*"Based on the research, it was clear that the Limpopo Pilot Project was perceived to have positive outcomes for teacher development. This benefit was found in areas of knowledge, skills and attitudes ..."* and in learner performance where, *"significantly positive changes were found in relation to Mathematics at the Foundation Phase (an increase of 12.1%) and First Additional Language (an increase of 4.2%)."* (UJ Centre for Development Report, August 2016)



Thanks to dedicated funding from PEP, in 2016 a teacher development programme was facilitated for 424 teachers over 12 sessions at Marotobale Primary School. in Limpopo. 28 Limpopo school HODs participated in the SMT leadership training programme funded by the Solon Foundation.

#### **Feedback from the Limpopo teachers:**

*"At Thandulwazi workshops we were trained to involve learners in the lesson and to make them participate actively. My learners now enjoy every lesson and I am confident that by the time they go to Grade R they will be sharp."*

*"I am very proud to be part of the Limpopo Project because I have learnt a lot and it has made me a better teacher because I am more confident than I was before."*

## THANDULWAZI INTERN TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMME



### 2016 Intern Teacher Training Programme

Over the last 11 years, this programme has grown from :

- 2005—5 Interns on the programme
- 2016—37 Interns training across the educational phases
- 2017—40 Interns on the programme

### Watch out Chad Le Clos—here come the Thandulwazi Interns!

The Thandulwazi Intern-Teacher Training Programme, exposes the interns to a range of opportunities for both personal and professional growth. We identified that a number of the Thandulwazi interns could not swim, an essential life skill particularly for teachers charged with looking after children.

Thanks to Mel Morrison (the Intern coordinator at St Stithians Junior Prep), Thandulwazi Interns were invited to attend swimming lessons provided by Mel, a professional swimming coach, at St Stithians in October 2016. Based on his/her competency in the pool and skills level, selected Thandulwazi Interns will also be trained to teach children to swim. Eleven interns attended the sessions, ten to 'learn to swim' and one as a 'coach'. Wendy Robinson, 4 College students and 2 past pupils assisted Mel with the coaching, so that there was at least one coach per intern in the pool. Mel writes that:

*"The morning started with a lot of nervous excitement. The interns were amazing and the session went on for 1 ½ hours. Some did amazingly well in their first lesson and we will have them swimming in no time, others are nervous of water and will take a little longer. All the interns seemed to enjoy the morning and I certainly found it a really rewarding experience."*



Over the mid-term break, Sindisiwe Shange, Mthokozisi Zuma and the Intern Director attended the entry level cricket coaching course facilitated by the Gauteng Cricket Board at St Stithians Boys' Prep. Well done to all!

During the course of 2016, Interns have attended a wide variety of professional development workshops and conferences too, ranging from: the Singapore Maths Conference in Pretoria; to Interviewing Skills and drafting an excellent CV; to Maths problem-solving workshops run by AMESA; in-house iPad and Excel training sessions; and the Global Teachers Summit at Wits.

### Thandulwazi Interns presented workshops to staff at St Stithians College in 2016



Motsamai Nonyane (4th Year, Maths Intern) presented a workshop on *Diversity in the Workplace* to fellow Interns; and Paseka Ramathoka (3rd Year, Maths Intern) addressed the Girls' College staff on *Classroom discipline strategies used at Boys & Girls' Town*.

THANDULWAZI INTERNS, 2016

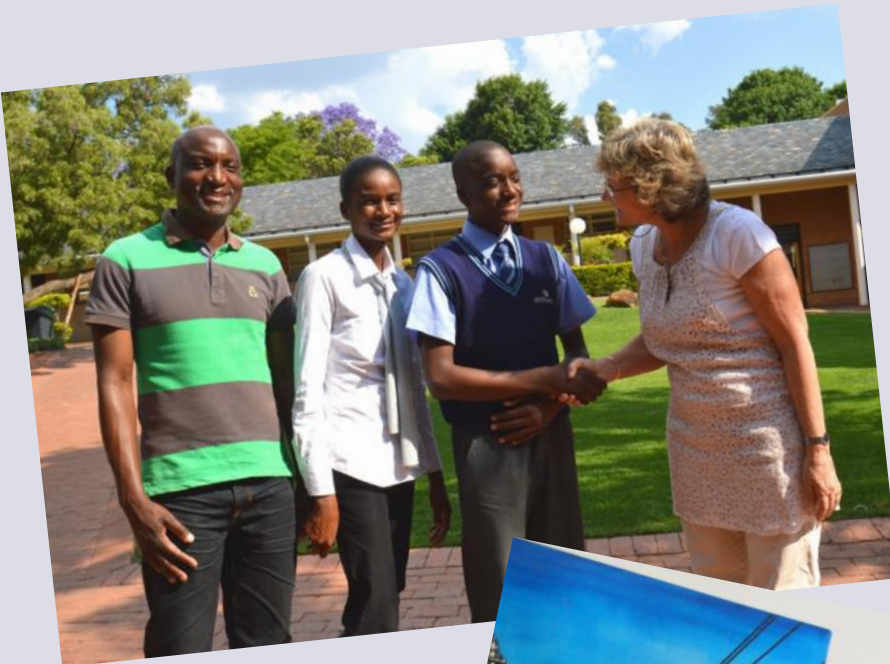


## Thandulwazi Academic Scholarships for learners

### *Congratulations to the winners of the 2017 Academic Scholarships*

Following a most generous donation of funds by two of Thandulwazi's longstanding partners in education, FEM (The Federated Employers Mutual Assurance Company (Pty) Ltd) and Mr Tim Nash of Galactic Unite, the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy is delighted to be able to award two academic scholarships to worthy FET-phase students for 2017-2019.

The Thandulwazi Academic Scholarships were advertised in August 2016 for Grade 10 students (2017). A total of 26 applications were received from Grade 9 students attending 17 high schools from across Gauteng, the Northern Cape and Limpopo. Twenty two students wrote the assessment, which covered Mathematics, Natural Science, English and Problem solving.



Following two rounds of interviews, David Kamanga, a 15-year old student from Cosmo City, has been named as the winner of the **Thandulwazi-FEM Academic Scholarship** for 2017-2019. The scholarship covers in full David's tuition fees for Grade 10, 11 and 12 at St Stithians Boys' College. David currently attends school at Meridian Cosmo City and is a gifted Maths student. In January 2017, he will join the Boys' College as a day-boy.

The **Galactic Unite/ Nash Scholarship at Thandulwazi** for 2017-2019 has been awarded to Thobile Mthimkhulu. Currently in Grade 9 at

Eden School, Thobile hails from Alex, where she lives with her mother and brothers. Thobile is an "effervescent", energetic all-rounder and academically gifted. She will commence her studies in Grade 10 at St Stithians Girls' College in January 2017.

Rofhiwa Mukhondo, the current holder of the **Galactic Unite/ Nash Scholarship at Thandulwazi** is due to matriculate from the Girls' College in December. We congratulate Rofhi on her excellent prelim results and on being awarded Academic Colours in Grade 12.

Thanks to the generosity of our partners in education, in 2017 four students will benefit from the Thandulwazi learner scholarships programme.



*"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." (Aristotle)*

## THANDULWAZI SATURDAY SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

### THANDULWAZI STUDENT ACHIEVES A “HAT-TRICK” IN THE ANNUAL MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

At the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy Prize-Giving held on Saturday 29 October 2015, Thabo Mbatha was named as the winner of the Grade 12 *Mathletics Challenge*. Currently a Matric student, Thabo has attended the Thandulwazi Saturday School for the last three years. He was the winner of the Grade 10 and Grade 11 *Mathletics Challenge* in 2014 and 2015 respectively; and this year he achieved a treble when he was awarded the prize as the top Grade 12 *Mathletics* student. In acknowledgment of his efforts, Thabo was awarded a Thandulwazi certificate of excellence and a cash prize sponsored by 3PLearning/*Mathletics Africa*.

Thabo is a hardworking and committed student, who hails from Diepsloot, where he attends the Itirele Zenzele Comprehensive School. He hopes to attend flight school next year and to achieve his dream of becoming a pilot.

Following hot on Thabo's heels, is a gifted young lady from Letsibogo High School for Girls in Soweto. Xolo Khubeka won the *Mathletics Challenge* last year in Grade 10 and repeated this feat in 2016 when she was announced as the Grade 11 winner.

Thandulwazi thanks 3PLearning for funding the prizes presented to the winners of the 2016 *Mathletics Challenge*; and Protea Chemicals (a division of the OMNIA Group), which has funded the annual *Mathletics* Licence for the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy since 2011.

#### *A Saturday School graduate writes:*

*“I was part of the Thandulwazi Saturday School programme in 2013 and as a result I was greatly advantaged in my matric year. I would like to thank the team for such a beneficial programme that seeks to help learners in their studies and promote mental growth.*

*One of my favourite sessions in the year was the motivation session held on the 16th of March. It was on that day that I began to believe that my dreams are possible and can be achieved.*

*Currently I am a 3rd Year student at the University of Johannesburg, where I am studying accounting.”*

**Katlego Morifi**  
*Thandulwazi Matric Class of 2013,  
Achieved a distinction in Accounting*



### Thandulwazi Maths & Science camps for Grade 12 students, 2016

This year the Top Set Gr 12 Maths students participated in a weekend Maths Camp at the Heronbridge Retreat Centre from 22-24 July 2016; and attended a Maths Focus day in the July holidays to focus on past papers and preparation for the prelim and year-end exams. Additional calculator training workshops were facilitated by CASIO and focused on statistics, which forms part of the Maths curriculum.



One hundred Thandulwazi students attended a weekend Physical Science Camp, funded by the Standard Bank, in the Magaliesberg in August 2016. Making use of a portable science lab, students focused on examinable experiments and demonstrations; and had a great deal of fun while acquiring Science skills, hands on knowledge and understanding of Science equipment and chemicals at the same time.

## Thank you to our generous partners & funders, 2016

*The growth, impact and reach of the Thandulwazi programmes over the last 11 years would not have been possible without the generous support and benevolence of individual donors, corporate funders and grant-makers, both past and present. On behalf of the Thandulwazi beneficiaries, we thank one and all for their generosity and commitment to providing effective quality education for all in South Africa.*

### Corporate funders

The Thandulwazi Trust is grateful for the CSI funding received in 2016 from our corporate partners; grant-makers and trusts in support of the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy. A full list of funders is available on the following [link](http://www.stithian.com/thandulwazi/content/page/thandulwazi-funders-and-partners) (click here) or:

<http://www.stithian.com/thandulwazi/content/page/thandulwazi-funders-and-partners>

### Each One Sponsor One Campaign

Our sincere thanks go to the growing number of individual donors who fund a teacher or student to attend the Thandulwazi programmes.

### Fundraisers

64 cyclists rode under the banner of *Team Thandulwazi* in the 2016 Telkom 947 Cycle Challenge on 20 November 2016 and raised over R180,000 for the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy. Thank you One & All.

### Donations-in-kind

We acknowledge with gratitude the in-kind donations and *pro bono* professional services received from the following donors, which have enhanced the programmes offered by the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy:

AGSA; Answer Series; Autism SA; Nicki Miller & Bottleblue Design & Advertising; The Bureau Print; EduAccess (t/a Pencil-Box); Astrid Scheiber (Casio); Ferndale Books; Hall's Investments; Hill & Knowlton Strategies; Johannesburg Articled Clerks' Association (JACASS); Knowledge Partners (iNesi); Oak-hill Cellars; Pan Macmillan; PWC Inc; Rob Masefield & 3P International Holdings (Pty) Ltd; Roedean Interact Committee; Social Innovations; Sodexo; Wade Eshelby; Celeste Oates & Werksmans Attorneys.

### Volunteers

Sincere thanks to the volunteers who share their skills and expertise with the Thandulwazi beneficiaries at the Saturday programmes; the St Stithians PR students and the Grade 11 & 12 Peer Tutors

**St Stithians College** continues to be the major partner to the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy. The College provides the facilities and infrastructure for the programmes; computer labs and internet access; staff to administer/ co-ordinate the programmes; support staff to prepare the venues; and academic staff, many of whom teach at the Saturday School, facilitate teacher workshops and/or mentor intern-teachers.



### Thandulwazi dates to diarise - 2017

#### Thandulwazi Saturday School

- 14 January 2017 - Registration & Matric 2016 Achievers (Mears Hall)
- 21 January 2017 - Final Registration
- 11 March 2017 - Thandulwazi Careers Day

#### Thandulwazi Teacher Development Programme (Gauteng)

- 11 February 2017 - Registration 1 (existing card holders)
- 18 February 2017 - Registration 2 (new registrations)

#### Thandulwazi-PEP Teacher Development Programme (Limpopo)

- 28 January 2017 - Registration & Briefing

Website: [www.thandulwazi.com](http://www.thandulwazi.com) / E-mail: [thandulwazi@stithian.com](mailto:thandulwazi@stithian.com)

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Gauteng Teacher Development Programme - Mrs R Klinck  
Limpopo Teacher Development Programme - Mr N Fernandes  
Intern-Teacher Training Programme - Mrs T Mngambi

