

Thandulwazi Times

Thandulwazi celebrates its 10th Anniversary

“Education should prepare children for their lifetime, not ours.”

Dr Madhav Chavan, Pratham (India), May 2015

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“Emerging economies that succeed, do so on the back of an effective skills development programme.”

(Dr Sharanjeet Shan , CEO: Maths Centre, at the CSI Trialogue Conference in May 2015)

The Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy was established by the St Stithians Foundation in 2005 and this year celebrates its 10th Anniversary. The programmes have grown to become the largest of their kind in the country, seeking to make a ‘world of difference’ for students and teachers from historically disadvantaged communities. In this issue, Thandulwazi highlights the significant contribution made by the programme to South African education, particularly in the provinces of Gauteng and Limpopo.

As we reflect on the last decade, Thandulwazi celebrates the following milestones:

- Initiated in July 2006, the Thandulwazi-Rokunda Teacher Development Programme has grown from 80 registered teachers, selected from 10 schools by the Gauteng Department of Education, to 1350 registered educators and school leaders from over 400 schools in 2015.
- Thandulwazi has extended its footprint into Limpopo, offering more than 400 teachers working in rural schools the opportunity to attend upskilling workshops on six Saturdays in 2015 at our partner schools in the Sekhukhune District.
- The Thandulwazi Intern-Teacher Training Programme has grown organically from 5 intern-teachers in 2005 to 34 young teachers (pictured below) undertaking pre-service, mentored training in the St Stithians schools this year.



- Over the last 10 years, more than 8500 FET-phase students have benefitted from the curriculum enrichment and extra tuition provided in core subjects by the Thandulwazi Saturday School, which boasts an overall matric pass rate of 97% (2011-14), with more than 56% of Grade 12 students achieving Bachelor Degree passes.
- Five talented black South African students have benefitted from the Thandulwazi Learner Scholarships, which provide funding for three years of tuition (Grades 10 – 12) at schools of excellence.
- In February 2015, Dr Themba Mthethwa was appointed as the first full-time academic head of the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy. Themba’s passion for Maths and Science education and understanding of the sector have already impacted positively on the quality of the programmes offered by Thandulwazi.

As we reflect on the achievements and progress made over the last decade, it is important to recognise and thank Thandulwazi’s many partners, whose commitment to providing quality education for all in our country and generous support make the Thandulwazi programmes possible.

We salute and thank you, one and all – Siyabonga – Re a leboha

Thandulwazi in Limpopo in 2015

Registration Day in Limpopo, 11 April 2015

In 2015, six Saturday sessions of workshops have been scheduled for Limpopo-based teachers at our partner schools, Kgaladi Primary School and Glen Cowie Secondary School, in Limpopo. Sincere thanks to Mr Fanwell Ntuke and Mrs SM Phala, the principals of the host schools for so generously allowing Thandulwazi to use their school facilities. Three sessions have been successfully held this year and some 410 educators have registered for the programme. The majority of the teachers are from the Sekhukhune District; and 93% of the teachers registered for the programme are females. The Thandulwazi Limpopo teacher development workshops focus mainly on Numeracy/ Maths, Science and leadership. Given the demand for places at the workshops over the last three years, there is clearly a need in rural communities for this type of training and upskilling. Thus far, feedback from the educators has been positive and appreciative; and many teachers have started to incorporate new ideas into their teaching and classrooms. We thank all our funders, particularly Standard Bank, Afrisam, the Solon Foundation and AKA Capital, for their generous support. We have no doubt that the Limpopo Pilot will make a positive impact and help to improve the quality of teaching and learning in this region.



STATIONERY DRIVE FOR THANDULWAZI PARTNER SCHOOLS

In 2015 the PTAs at the St Stithians Prep Schools coordinated a stationery drive in support of the Thandulwazi partner schools. We thank the many Saints parents and students who donated stationery and resources for this good cause; and the small working group of mothers who spent many hours cleaning, sorting, sharpening and packing the stationery into 28 beautifully packaged boxes. The boxes are being distributed by the Thandulwazi Director and Teacher Development Programme coordinator, when they visit partner schools this term.



On being a Thandulwazi Intern Teacher

*The world as an intern
May seem like a breeze
But let me put it into perspective
And put you at ease
Being an intern at Saints
Definitely has its perks
Learning the roles of a teacher
And how the school works
Some days are challenging
They put us to the test
We have our studies to complete
So we can't come home and rest
We are involved in culture and sport
And of course teaching too
We are perfecting our lessons
To become the next "guru"
The Boys' Prep is a place
Where our love and passion can grow
We have been given the opportunities
To be free and let our spirit show.
Our futures are approaching
Our dreams are within reach
We have learned how to study
As well as how to teach
Being an intern isn't easy
But it has been a joyful ride
One day we will leave
And become teachers with pride.*

WELL DONE THANDULWAZI SATURDAY SCHOOL GRADUATES

This year we were delighted to be able to assist three Thandulwazi graduates in sourcing tertiary bursaries:



Mazi Capital has awarded a 2015 bursary to **Mr Hector Nkosi (Matric Class of 2013)**, who is in his second year at Wits University and studying BCom (Accounting.) Hector volunteers at the Thandulwazi Saturday School and tutors Accounting and Maths .

(Hector Nkosi (left)) with his mentor & Thandulwazi HOD of accounting, Martin Perold)

A Standard Bank Bursary was awarded to **Reneilwe Lynnette Ntlatleng**. Reneilwe was the top Matric achiever at Thandulwazi in 2014 and attended Reitumetse Secondary School. Reneilwe travelled from Soshanguve each Saturday to attend the Thandulwazi Saturday School.



(Reneilwe (right) photographed with the Standard Bank CSI Manager, Ms Johanna Maphutha)

The Sir Percy Hunting Foundation granted funding in 2014 and again in 2015 to **Ms Dipono Bamba (Matric 2013)**, who is currently studying towards an MBBCh (2ndYear) at the UFS.

Thandulwazi graduate teacher selected for US teacher exchange

Richard Sibeko (pictured below, centre), graduated from the Thandulwazi Intern-Teacher Training Programme in December 2012 and secured a post as an English teacher at Lebone II College in Rustenburg. We congratulate Richard on his selection for a four-week teacher exchange to San Francisco (USA) in February 2015.

Richard writes: *"All is well in the dusty mountains of Rustenburg; I cannot believe that this is my 3rd year working here. It has been a challenging three years, however, the experience I gained at St Stithians as an intern, Saturday School tutor and locum has really helped. This year, I will be teaching Grade 8 and Grade 10 English. I will be starting a pilot AP English class with our Grade 11s later on this year ... I have been accepted for a 4 week teaching exchange to San Francisco through an organisation called, Teach With Africa and Lebone II. It was a long and gruelling process and the news came on Christmas eve ... I am very nervous but excited at the same time. I leave on the 26th of February 2015. Thank you once again for all your continued support. I am proud to have gone through the Intern Programme at St Stithians."*



Well done, Vuyo

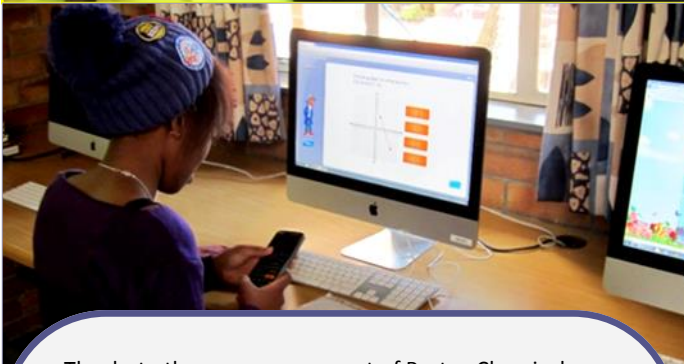
Vuyolwethu Ndaleni (Matric Class of 2014) was awarded a bursary by the Department of Water Affairs & is studying towards a Bachelor of Science degree at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Her mother advises that Vuyo is doing well in her studies this year.



Thank you to our partners in education, 2015



Sincere thanks to the Virgin Galactic Team who completed the London Marathon in April 2015 and, in honour of Mandela Day, raised funds for a learner scholarship at Thandulwazi.



Thanks to the generous support of Protea Chemicals and 3P Learning, the *Mathletics* programme has been provided to all Saturday School students and teachers attending the 2015 Thandulwazi programmes.

Thandulwazi thanks the organisers of *Vintage with Love* for the generous funding granted from the proceeds of their 2014 sale, which funded Answer-Series Maths & Physical Science Workbooks for 1000 students attending the 2015 Saturday School programme.



The Johannesburg Articled Clerks Association (JACASS) has been a valued partner of the Thandulwazi Saturday School since 2012 and this year JACASS donated funding for scientific calculators for the new Grade 10 intake of students.

Thank you JACASS!



THANDULWAZI HIGHLIGHTS, 2015

Grade 12 Thandulwazi Careers Day, 07 March 2015

227 Grade 12 Saturday School learners, participated in the annual Thandulwazi Careers Day, held at St Stithians Girls' College, on Saturday 07 March 2015. The students were addressed by a range of speakers about different career options, including optometry; careers in the recording industry and sound engineering; opportunities in Industrial Engineering; becoming a CA; engineering and training opportunities in the new unmanned drone technology; and teaching as a career.



Students were also given the opportunity to engage with a variety of tertiary institutions (Pretoria University; UNISA; Wits University; Boston College) and companies (Standard Bank, ESKOM, Ernst & Young, Unmanned Technologies) about bursary, training and career opportunities available.



Congratulations to the Thandulwazi Matric Class of 2014— 94,1% pass rate



The top Grade 12 Achievers of 2014 were recognised at the Thandulwazi prize-giving held on 31 January 2015

A Peer Tutor reflects on the Thandulwazi Saturday School

I am one of hundreds of students who have been a part of the legacy that is Thandulwazi. The environment at Thandulwazi is truly remarkable and I have never seen a group of young people who so desperately want to learn. Who so desperately want every tip and bit of help they can possibly get.

The attitude of the students is what keeps me going back each Saturday. Their gratitude, devotion and all round quest for knowledge inspires me to want to do more. The impact that Thandulwazi makes on all involved, is immeasurable. The students receive the opportunity to build their own better future. Thandulwazi puts the responsibility of education into the students hands and allows them to get out, what they put in. This empowers the students and gives them the opportunity to make their dreams a reality through education.

Thandulwazi meets a real need in South Africa by granting resources to those who really need and appreciate them. The program fulfils all who are involved. Thandulwazi has completely changed my outlook on my own education, my school, my life and my country.

I will never truly be able to explain how much Thandulwazi has impacted my life. Nor will I be able to describe how much my experiences at Thandulwazi mean to me. And it is for this reason that I would like to thank each and every person who has been involved in making this project the success it is today.

Gene Firth, Grade 12, St Stithians Girls' College

"The capacity to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice."

(Brian Herbert)

Thank you to our 2015 partners & funders

The growth, impact and reach of the Thandulwazi programmes would not have been possible without the support and benevolence of individual donors and corporate funders, both past and present. St Stithians College continues to be a major partner to the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy, providing 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. On behalf of the Thandulwazi beneficiaries, we thank all our partners in education for their generosity and commitment to providing effective quality education for all in SA.

The Thandulwazi Trust is grateful for the funding received in 2015 from the following companies, grant makers and trusts in support of the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy:

Afrisam (South Africa) Pty Ltd, AKA Capital (Pty) Ltd, ApexHi Charitable Trust, Astra Fasteners (A division of Astra Group Holdings (Pty) Ltd), Babcock Africa Services (Pty) Ltd, Babcock Nthuthuko Engineering (Pty) Ltd, Babcock Target Plant Services (Pty) Ltd, Cashbases SA (Pty) Ltd, Charities Unlimited, Ceiling & Partition Warehouse (Pty) Ltd, Empowerplus (Pty) Ltd, Epoch & Optima Trusts, ESKOM Holdings SOC Limited, Growthpoint Properties Limited, Hill & Knowlton Strategies, Infection Protection Products, Johannesburg Articled Clerks Association (JACASS), Joest (Pty) Ltd, K2Capital (Pty) Ltd, Ké Concepts (Pty) Ltd, Leeroy Agencies, Liberty Group, Lightstone (Pty) Ltd, Mackenzie Foundation, Mary Nash Memorial Trust, Matemeku Development Trust, Moto-Engil Construction SA (Pty) Ltd, Motor Music cc, Multinet Group, Nedbank Group Limited, Oppenheimer Memorial Trust, Parnis Engineering, PPC Ltd, Protea Chemicals (a division of OMNIA), Solon Foundation, Sparcmelt (Pty) Ltd, Standard Bank of SA Ltd, TR Hindson Family Trust, Ukhozi Pipeline (Pty) Ltd, Virgin/ Galactic Unite

Each One, Sponsor One—Our sincere thanks go to the following individual donors for their generous financial support:

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Autism SA (Teacher Workshops); Rachel Cauldwell and EduAccess (t/a PencilBox); Mbewu Movement; Microsoft SA; PWC Inc; James Ralph (Pty) Ltd (Casio); RENASA (Literacy Workshops); Snackworks; Kevin Weinerlein; Celeste Oates & Werksmans Attorneys

Volunteers—Sincere thanks to the many volunteers who so generously share their time, skills and expertise with the Thandulwazi beneficiaries

Bongani Dube (Maths tutor, Saturday School); Johannesburg Articled Clerks' Association (JACASS); Kopano Mashishi (English tutor, Saturday School); Lee Moodley (Volunteer, Saturday School); Lori Borello (Leadership Workshop Presenter); Mogola Segooa (Accounting tutor, Saturday School); Mpho Moseki (Mentor); Munier Badat (Maths tutor, Saturday School); Renaldo de Gouveia (Maths tutor, Saturday School); Tshediso Khuzwayo (Accounting tutor, Saturday School);

St Stithians Peer Tutors (*Katie Davies, Samantha Ball, Gene Firth, Tiaan Harmse, Jesse Rabinowitz & Luca Milanesi*) and *Duncan Smale (SJC, Peer Tutor)*

UJ Tutors (*Naledi Nong, Jodi Broadhurst, Candice Pienaar, Azra Asvat, Waseela Yusuf, Njabulo Nkabinde, Paul Segoele, Nakita de Villiers*)



Thandulwazi Events to diarise

06 June 2015

Founders' Day at St Stithians—Guest Speaker : Ms Geina Mhlophe

27 June 2015, 15 & 22 August 2015

Thandulwazi Limpopo Teacher Workshops

08 August 2015

Thandulwazi Saturday School—Careers Day for Grades 10 & 11

19 September 2015

Thandulwazi-Rokunda Closing Ceremony for Teachers

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Thandulwazi Trustees: Lee Astfalck, Mahlathi Khoza, Khumo Morolo, Kelly Naidoo

Director: Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy

Dr Themba Mthethwa

Programme Coordinators:

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Intern-Teacher Training Programme - Mrs T Mngambi