



March 2012

CYCLE FOR HOPE



Adèle Bellairs

Adèle Bellairs is cycling the Cape Argus Pick n Pay Cycle Tour on Sunday 11 March to raise funds and awareness for Home of Hope and Pink Drive. Bellairs said she recently underwent surgery and is not able to ride competitively this year, but that she wanted to have a fun ride while doing something helpful.

“Home of Hope is always appreciative of individuals who make a personal effort to assist our organization. Any sum of money raised is helpful towards caring for the children in our care and school projects,” said CEO Eleanor Brook.

Please support Adèle by sponsoring her R1 for every kilometer cycled. The race is 110km, so R110 sponsorship. All sponsorships for Adale’s cycling fundraiser should be paid directly into bank account: Home of Hope, Standard Bank branch 022209, Cheque Account no 272800988. Use ABCT12 (Adale Bellairs Cycle Tour 2012) as your reference.

AMATHEMBA MOVES TO NEW PREMISES



Amathemba learner practicing rhythmic writing

January 2012 saw Amathemba move to the premises of the West Coast Christian School (WCCS). The move brought with it much excitement and many challenges. The children were excited that they would be part of a “big school”. Once school started the Amathemba learners were very quickly overwhelmed by the “newness” of their surroundings. Having grown used to a small school on small premises, the sheer size of the WCCS premises and the number of WCCS learners took some adjustment by the Amathemba learners, even though they run on a different time table to the WCCS. The Amathemba school team put interventions in place to assist the learners and to ensure an easier transition.

The move to two specially allocated classrooms on the WCCS premises enabled Amathemba to expand its special needs educational services to more children this year. The Amathemba primary school campus is now able to accommodate a maximum of 20 learners. The School is still awaiting the rezoning of the property on which the pre-school campus is situated, after which time it will be able to accommodate a further 20 learners in the pre-school.

"It gives us great pleasure to observe the excitement with which the Amathemba children are learning," said School principal Cecilia van Niekerk. A microscope was donated to the school and the children could not believe what they were able to see whilst examining various plant and animal specimens. The children were so excited by this discovery that it had them in their gardens collecting various dead insects that they could look at under the high magnification of the microscope."

"Quote of the term by one of the children" as selected by the teachers. When told by their teacher that they were going to dissect a sheep's brain, one of the Amathemba learners earnestly asked. "If we cut open the sheep's brain, do you think that we'll be able to see what it was thinking?" Needless to say, it's these kinds of things that make teaching such a rewarding job.

Anja Heyns, a physiotherapist from Petro Vorster Physiotherapists in Blouberg, has greatly helped Amathemba by setting up a physiotherapy program tailored specifically to helping the children develop and fine tune their gross and fine motor skills. The program will be implemented by Amathemba's physical training instructor, Jessica Hearn.



Remedial teacher, Yvonne Engelbrecht with a learner

AMATHEMBA NEEDS YOUR HELP

Amathemba is in need of sports equipment to help implement the program put together by the physiotherapist. The School needs large exercise balls on which the children can do various core strengthening exercises, as well as smaller gym balls for throwing and catching. Also needed are a small exercise trampoline, hula hoops and plastic beach rackets. If you have any of these items that you no longer use, or if you would like to donate any of the items mentioned, please drop it at the Home of Hour offices, 13 Clam Road, Table View. We would be highly appreciative.

FOSTER CLUSTER NEWS



Aquarius House children with Mona, their foster mother. Faces have been blurred to protect the identity of the children.

The children in Home of Hope's foster cluster program had a wonderful Christmas holiday and were blessed with many gifts that were donated. There was much to celebrate as all the children passed their various grades at school, and are happy and well integrated into their foster families and local communities.

The aim of the foster cluster care program is to have the children in the care of Home of Hope feel that they are a part of a normal loving family and not children in a child care institution. "We are excited to have our first matriculant this year. She is working hard as it is her hope to study Social Work. Home of Hope will continue to support her and guide her towards becoming a self sufficient, responsible, contributing member of society," said CEO, Eleanor Brook.

"Raising children who suffer from FASD is a huge responsibility and at times extremely challenging. We thank our foster mothers for their dedication, love and commitment towards the children entrusted to their care," commented Brook.

In order to help the Home of Hope supported foster mothers and also other care-givers of FASD children in the community, Home of Hope, together with a clinical psychologist, is putting together support groups and seminars to better equip parents to care for these children. If you would like to find out more about the support groups please contact us at Tel: 021 556 3573 or e-mail: info@homeofhope.co.za.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Home of Hope will be hosting its seventh annual Golf Day at the Milnerton Golf Club on Thursday 10 May 2012. It is one of the main fundraising events for the year and appeal to you for your support. Not only is this Golf Day an ideal business networking opportunity, but players also get to enjoy a day on the golf course whilst making a difference in the lives of children who have been abandoned, abused and neglected and those who suffer from HIV and FASD.

All players are welcome, including, men, women, professional or amateur, even those who can only hack or shank their way around a golf course - it's all in the name of charity. Official club handicaps are required or players will play off a maximum handicap of 18. A light dinner, prize-giving with some exciting prizes, and an auction will follow the golf. Please contact Marilize or Genevieve at ph 021 556 3573 or e-mail info@homeofhope.co.za for bookings or enquiries. We are looking forward to seeing you there.



Tullow SA at our 2011 Golf Day at the Milnerton Golf Club



Ladies Lunch 2011: Wendy Hinson, Lisa Arenson, Janine van Aken and Pauline Sayers

Home of Hope is hosting its first ladies lunch of the year. Also a key fundraising event – the Ladies Lunch is on Saturday 21 April 2012 at Moyo, Blouberg. Home of Hope's Ladies Lunch events have become very popular and are well supported. The theme for this event is "Out of Africa", which includes dress up for those attending. There will be fabulous prizes for the best dressed women, as well as amazing raffle prizes and auction items.

Tickets for the Out of Africa Ladies Lunch have already sold out. Not to worry if you've missed out, Home of Hope is planning to host another fundraising Ladies Lunch on the 1 September 2012. Remember to book early.

For further information, to make a donation, or sign a monthly debit order visit www.homeofhope.co.za or contact Marilize or Genevieve at Home of Hope, Ph. 021 – 556 3573, e-mail: info@homeofhope.co.za.

