Nearly half way through 2016!

This year is flying by - and we are thrilled with the way things are going thus far. Training at Urban Voice and Blue Orange Spaces and Training has been a real treat for all of us, our courses are all booked to the brim and our Early Learning Resource Library is adding incredible value to the diversity and quality of early learning programs at our Masikhule-mentored pre-schools. We are eagerly looking forward to what the rest of 2016 has in store!

TRAINING

Persona Doll Training
The opportunity recently arose to send Lulu (our ELRL Manager) on the Persona Doll Train the Trainer program. This approach builds on universal storytelling traditions to promote inclusion, address prejudice, promote emotional intelligence and develop empathy and values in a non-threatening way. Phelisa Manyisane-Somciza from Persona Doll (PD) and Lulu then presented the PD approach to the 15 teachers attending our Advanced ECD course.

What a wonderful experience to learn how little children’s thought processes, critical thinking and problem solving can potentially be addressed so successfully through story-telling! If you would like to donate a Personal Doll (handmade in Paarl) to one of the ECD centres who attended the training, please let us know: info@masikhule.org. Dolls cost R450 and will benefit the children as well as adding value to the teaching experience.

**First 1000 Days Training**

15 Teachers/volunteers/parents attended our First 1000 Days training in April where we shared the importance of the first 1000 days of life - from conception to 2 years - and how this period lays the foundation for future learning and success. Read more about this course.

SnapScan is a mobile payment system that uses a ‘QR’ code for payment of goods, services and for making voluntary donations from your phone.

Simply download the App onto your smartphone and register for the service (takes less than 1 minute!). Then scan QR code with your phone, enter the amount and voila – donation done!

See how easy it is here: [http://www.snapscan.co.za](http://www.snapscan.co.za)

**MySchool Card:**

Please consider making Masikhule a beneficiary – you can have up to 3 beneficiaries. It takes less than a minute to do:

[http://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/update](http://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/update)

If you don’t have a MySchool Card, now is the time to sign up! It costs you nothing and every swipe counts.

**Masikhule Relate Bracelet:**

Are you sporting the latest in trendy arm-ware yet? If not, it is time to get your Masikhule Relate Bracelet – and one for everyone you know too!

You could even buy in stock and sell the bracelets to make yourself some...
Advanced ECD Course

Venturing into deeper water ... well, at least ankle-deep ... into the Pond Life Theme.

Last term's Advanced Course saw 13 enthusiastic women from 9 ECD Centres exploring holistic child development programs for all ages. Modules include expert training such as Physifun and a visit to the Helderberg Nature Reserve with an informative talk at the Mike Woods Environmental Education Centre.

Available currently from
Masikhule sandv@masikhule.org,
Erinvale Hotel, ECHO,
Cynor Pharmacy and
Jordan Wines.

Debit Orders:
Teacher Enrichment Workshops

In response to results of our screening assessments of large groups of 4 – 6 year old's, we have offered 4 Teaching Enrichment Workshops thus far. These workshops have been developed and presented by an Occupational Therapist, with the main aims being to identify barriers to learning, to appreciate the value of certain developmental skills for later learning and how to address barriers to learning in the preschool years.

Hear more about this program from Léanne Keel, Masikhule's founder.

Topics have included visual-motor integration, visual perception skills, pencil grip, development of cutting skills, bilateral coordination, amongst others. Feedback from the teachers has been very positive. Vanecia from Immanuel's Haven said: “I now understand why how children sit and their posture can affect their pencil grip and ability to cut”. Sylvia from Love and Peace said that she now understands why a few of the children in her class struggle to draw shapes, write their names and have behavioural problems. We at Masikhule believe that now that children's behaviour is being understood, and corrective methods are being introduced, these children will enter schooling better prepared and less frustrated!
The importance of regular mentorship cannot be emphasised enough - training on its own simply does not obtain nearly the same results of successful implementation in the classroom.

It is through our regular visits to the Early Learning Centres that we are able to spend time with the teachers, working together through the implementation and planning of a quality Early Childhood Development Program, understanding where our program can be tailored to meet the constant challenges that arise.

Themes being successfully implemented in the classroom due to our training, Teacher Enrichment Workshops and resources from our Early Learning Resource Library.

At Masikhule we provide a holistic Mentoring Program, with the purpose of ensuring the long-term sustainability, growth and ultimate independence of these centres. Our trainer/mentors visit up to 30 ECD Centres twice a month, reaching nearly 2,000 children.
"This is why it takes us so long to say goodbye!"

Watch video Kannyaethu Goodbye

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**EVENTS**

**#TBD2016**

Masikhule has also been selected as a beneficiary - please support #TBD2016

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**Thank You**

To the following for much-appreciated donations

Julie Botha
Heather Shand
Paula Butler
Louise Spagnuolo
Romaney Pinnock
Marilyn Brink
Felicity Gallagher & Compress DSL
Nino Messina
Active Light
Judith Cross
Linda Merand
Trudie Coetzee
Our annual Mandela Day initiative is just around the corner - so time to get knitting! We will be collecting blankets (fleece or knitted), squares, small scarves, beanies and jerseys (ages new-born to 6 years) on 18th July at Erinvale - details will be posted on our website and social media platforms.

**ECHO Charity Golf Day 2016**

Many thanks to ECHO for choosing Masikhule as a partner for their annual Charity Golf Day in March. The day was a resounding success and their generous donation of R40 000 will make a huge difference to the running of our Early Learning Resource Library. Thanks also to the sponsors, suppliers and players - we appreciate the support!

**Charity Business Breakfast**

Huge thanks to Helderberg Sunrise Rotary for the Charity Business Breakfast held on 12th May at the Lord Charles to raise funds for us. The guest speaker, Nicky Newton-King, was engaging and inspiring and was great to hear that she grew up in Helderberg. For the support to date -

*Thank You*

**for ongoing support**

- Bomi Holtkamp
- Mrs C. Stevens
- Coronation Methodist Church
- D. Coombe
- Dalene de Beer
- Department Social Development
- Dr P. Keet
- ECHO
- F. Gallagher
- Gill Rimmel of Tinroof
- Joostenberg
- Kim Gericke of Fussfree Design and Printing
- KWWV
- Lombard Insurance Company
right here in the Helderberg. Our thanks to everyone who supported this inaugural event.