



MATJANA PRESCHOOL NEWLETTER

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FAREWELL AND HAPPY GRADUATION TO MATJANA'S CLASS OF 2018

As always, at the end of the year, every preschool in Swaziland holds a graduation ceremony. It is a happy day where children and parents gather to see their children perform and show

off what they've learnt at preschool. And of course they dress up in their graduation gear and receive certificates.

The end of the 2018 school year marked the 12th year

of success at Matjana Preschool. And the graduation ceremony was better than ever before.

The event was well attended and many important people from the area

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came, including the Member of Parliament. Local parents and community members were also there. Preschool teachers from other preschools and a headteachers from a local primary school were also there.

The graduation started at 10:00 am, when the Matjana kids entered the preschool classroom doing a nice grand march. Then, one child asked the others



MEET THE



MATJANA KIDS



NAME:	Sibonginkhosi Sibandze	Temasoso Mbonane	Sisekelo Dlamini
MEANING:	We thank the lord	Classic	Pillar
FAVOURITES AT SCHOOL:	Playing with blocks	Drawing	Playing with toys
FAVOURITE FOOD:	Bread and drink	Meat and rice	Buns
WANTS TO BE A:	Soldier	Nurse	Teacher
TEACHERS SAY:	Even after a year at preschool, he's very shy!	She's full of fun, a bit cheeky, and loves to laugh.	He's very enthusiastic and interrupts us sometimes.

FAREWELL AND HAPPY GRADUATION

to sing a song and pray because every gathering in Swaziland starts with a prayer. After that, there were lessons taught by two of the kids, one about shapes, colours and letters and the other about road transport.

"It was so thrilling to hear kids teaching fluently and openly to the public without being shy," Teacher Swane said.

They all went out of the classroom again and entered parading one by one. As each child entered they said their names, and a few things about themselves, like their age and sex. They said all this in English, showing their parents some of the new language skills they had developed at

preschool. Some students dedicated their parade to their parents, thanking them for taking care of them. Others dedicated it to the teachers, security guards, cooks, co-ordinator, community and their colleagues.

Then, the girls went out to change into *luvadla* (traditional skirts) to perform *ingadla*, the Swazi dance for girls. They also did an exciting drama where they were talking about child abuse whereby there was a child who was abused by her stepmother got helped. After the play the students performed a poem titled Our lovely School Matjana Preschool.

Also boys went out to change and they danced traditional dance for boys,

sibhaca, when they came back in. This was an outstanding performance. Thanks to teacher Qiniso who provided them with the drum beat.

The school likes to give thanks to Matjana Primary School headman who was the guest speaker and presenter of certificates. He emphasized that the kids should be encouraged to wear gowns again when they graduate from universities.

The last and most important part of any event in Swaziland is refreshments. So we closed and the kids and parents went to eat food which was prepared by the school committee.



FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Thanks to all the people who've supported our work in 2018, including the Macquarie Presbyterian Church Breakfast Club for their Christmas donation, Sepp, Barb, James and Hester for their regular donations, and Matt and Bea who sponsored our teachers studies in 2018. We're having a difficult time financially and really need your help to get the 2019 school year off to a good start. Please make a donation if you can.



	Swaziland	Australia
Bank	Standard Bank	The Community Mutual Group
Account Name:	Matjana Preschool	Friends of Matjana Preschool
Account Number:	9110001038268	719585
Bank SWIFT code:	SBICSZMX	-
BSB Number:	66056441	932000