



August 2009 Newsletter

www.ikhayalethemba.com

facebook name: ikhayalethemba



Dear Friends,

What a wonderful staff team we have at the moment. Let me introduce some of them. At left we have Normahlube, our housekeeper and cook who makes particularly delicious soups for us in the evening. Next to her is Noxy, our children's worker who tells fantastic bible stories with a modern day twist. To the right are our students Tobelani and Phiweka who really enjoy kicking the ball with the children. Not in this picture is Mhinti, our community worker, who is learning to thread her way through the informal housing to visit the families of our children and Mandy, our very enthusiastic gardener.

During the holidays the children enjoyed a five day holiday club called "Healthy Me" which taught them about health, safety and hygiene. Older children benefited from Drug and Alcohol awareness that Mhinti and Tobelani taught as part of their PASCAP studies in running After School Care.

This term the children are busy with a literacy program focussed on HIV/AIDS education and prevention. The program centres around a reading book we are developing. Ken Loots offered us his services as illustrator and Wendy Warrell is doing layout. The books are informative and the pictures are fun. We are hoping we might be able to sell them to other services when the series is complete.



Katherine and Intensive Care Centre children

UK/Norway Fundraising Trip

My 12 year old son, Joshua, and I had a wonderful trip to the UK and Norway. We were loved and spoiled by so many people and felt so incredibly welcome! We visited with our partner and donor church Oslo Vineyard as well as making new connections with

Joshua at Blidworth Oaks handing over our book "Bongeka and Friends"



Nottingham Vineyard and Kenilworth Methodist. We spoke at three schools - Clinton Primary, Nottingham Junior and Blidworth Oaks. It was wonderful to spend time with our UK fundraising volunteers, Lizzie Hope and Caroline Flood, who ran a Quiz night whilst we were there and raised over R10 000. Liz Doyle has since completed her Alps bike tour raising R15 000. I had so much fun in Germany with our US fundraising volunteers, Christy Neff and Marie who I met for the first time. I was also able to catch up with my website designer and cousin, Rose Wells Wilson, and work on updating the site.

Money - the ongoing story!

Whilst we had a lot of fun meeting people in Europe, we didn't come home with our wallets full. We were therefore surprised and delighted by a successful funding application to State Lotto which we submitted 2 years ago! The money will be through later this year. Along with this we have had renewed interest from our long lost donor - Mustard Seed Trust, and very positive indications from the American Embassy. All of this should see us on a much stronger financial footing by Christmas.

Ayabonga and Anathi enjoying afternoon tea.



We still have a very difficult few months ahead though with debt accumulating each month. Now is the time for a fundraising event! Are you game? Every little bit counts. Please help us pay our staff and feed the children!

Finally, a big thank you to the Australian donors who continue to contribute so significantly to our monthly cash flow and many of whom gave extra money last month! You are our oranges and apples!

Katherine.