

# Siyakhula Waldorf Educare Newsletter

July 2017



Everything you need to know



## Address

2751 Masibulele Road,  
Masiphumelele 7985  
Fish Hoek, Cape Town,  
South Africa

## Email

[Waldorf.siyakhula@gmail.com](mailto:Waldorf.siyakhula@gmail.com)

## About the past/ Our new School Year

### Staff

Since we opened our school again in January this year, our Staff members have changed a little bit.

We are sad to say goodbye to our old Cook Nomangesi and Teacher Nosipho but even more happy to welcome our new Cook Nolupho and new teacher Miss Eyakhe.

Nolupho is a new but also old face at Siyakhula, She worked with us already a few years ago, left because of a pregnancy and has now returned since her Baby is almost two years old.

Eyake joined our Team a few weeks after we opened again. She is a young dynamic Lady, loves her work with the Children and is obsessed with the Waldorf Education. At the moment, she is doing her Training to become a Waldorf Teacher at the "Centre For Creative Education" in Plumstead, Cape Town and joins us at work for three days a Week.

## Working with colors



With our “Biggies”, the older Children, we offer painting as an activity. Every now and then we set up everything you need to paint and change the Classroom into an art Studio. The Children then get the chance to be creative and use their imaginations to create some beautiful work.

In order to introduce them into this field of playing around with different colors, using a brush instead of a crayon and so on, we take them on a journey.

The very first time they get to use one color (Blue) to find out all the different ways of using it and how many “different” colors you can have at the end on your painting by just using this one color.

The second time, we introduce them into a second color (Yellow). It is such a pleasure, watching the children discovering that Blue and Yellow together, makes green.

It becomes even more of a pleasure, seeing their happy, surprised and amazed faces,

when we give them the third color (Red). With this color we arrive at the end of our Journey.

The Children are now very good at using their brush, understanding how the different paper works, how much water they want/ need on their paper and understanding the colors. Understanding how many colors you can get out of these three basic ones. Blue, Yellow and Red.

The Colors they create now are Green, Brown, Purple, Orange and many more.

At the End of our drawing activity our Children are always very happy and proud of their Paintings.

## First Term Outing, February 2017



For our First Term Outing, we planned a Trip to Simons Town, Cape Town. Simons Town is a small village on the way to Cape Point which offers beautiful Beaches and one of many attractions, the famous “Boulders Beach”, a Beach full of Penguins. This is where we took our Children.

Early in the morning a big Bus came to fetch all of our 40 Children and 5 Staff members to leave for this special experience.

Once we arrived a Guide was welcoming us already. He gave a short introduction and told the Children everything about the Penguins they needed to know. All of them were so exciting to finally see those animals. We already prepared them in our daily morning ring. Singing Songs about Penguins and copying their way of walking.

Once the Children had enough of watching them, we continued our Day with a little walk further on the Beach. We sat down, ate our Lunch and finally the Children were free to go and play.

Quickly everyone changed into their swimming costumes and the fun began. The children enjoyed themselves a lot! They played in the water, in the Sand with each other and us Teachers.

Finally all of them could run and just enjoy whatever they were doing in a beautiful and safe environment.



## Second Term Outing, June 2017

Since we are in a new season now, Autumn/Winter and our morning Ring theme has changed according to this with a linking Story about Squirrels and Leaves falling from the Trees, we decided to go somewhere in nature where we might possibly see those things.

We went to the Tokai Forest, Cape Town. This Forest is a nice and open but secured place with big Trees, a lot of space to run and interesting things to find on the Forest Ground.

Once we had arrived, we took a little walk through the Forest, put our things down and let the Children run and play. They played "Catch" and included us Teachers into their games so the Teachers ended up being in competitions with each other about who is fastest, same as the Children.

We even did our morning Ring. Since we had so much space, the Children enjoyed being all together in one group and showing each other which Songs they have been singing in their class or which their favorite ring Games are.

Also, the Children worked hard to pick up interesting pieces of wood, Branches Fir Cones or whatever they could find to decorate their Nature Tables back at Siyakhula.

Very soon it was time to have Lunch and after that, slowly head back already.

We all had an amazing Day full of Joy, Laughs, a beautiful environment fresh air and a lot of Sun.

For the Children our outing Days are some of the most special Days for them and it really opens our hearts as Teacher to see them so happy!



## Siyakhula as its own Organisation

In the past, Siyakhula used to be 100% part of an organization called “Work For Love” which started Siyakhula Educare in the first place. Since then, things have changed a bit. About 2-3 Years ago, “Work For Love” asked Siyakhula to be more independent. This meant, that the Siyakhula Staff had to start staying on their own Feet. Even though they made a Deal with “Work For Love”, saying they could keep the Building for now, many things had to be learnt, such as the Administration, Finances and so on. This “Deal” also said, that after two years of getting used to the new situation, both sides would come together again and work out a new agreement.

These two years came to an end now so since we opened the School again in January for a new year, some of the Siyakhula Staff Members have been going to Workshops together with a representative of “Work For Love” and a Siyakhula “Mentor” from another Waldorf School close by, the “Imhoff Waldorf School”

After a few Weeks of Workshops, many Discussions, a lot of Information and good Team Work, Siyakhula chose, out of three Options, to now be “under the umbrella of Work For Love” which means, they are somehow still independent, doing their own Administrations, having their own Team, making their own decisions and so on but being supported by “Work For Love” when needed. Siyakhula also gets to keep the Building further on.

Both sides are happy with this Decision and agreed to communicate and work together as good as possible.

A huge THANK YOU goes to “Work for Love” at this point, for always supporting and hearing us.

## About what we are doing at the moment

Most recently we had our St.Johns Festival, which we prepared for.

The St.Johns Festival, is a Festival that happens in the evening, once it is getting dark outside. All parents are invited to come with their Children and bring some soup which will be shared at the End of the Festival as a lovely Supper to have with everyone together.

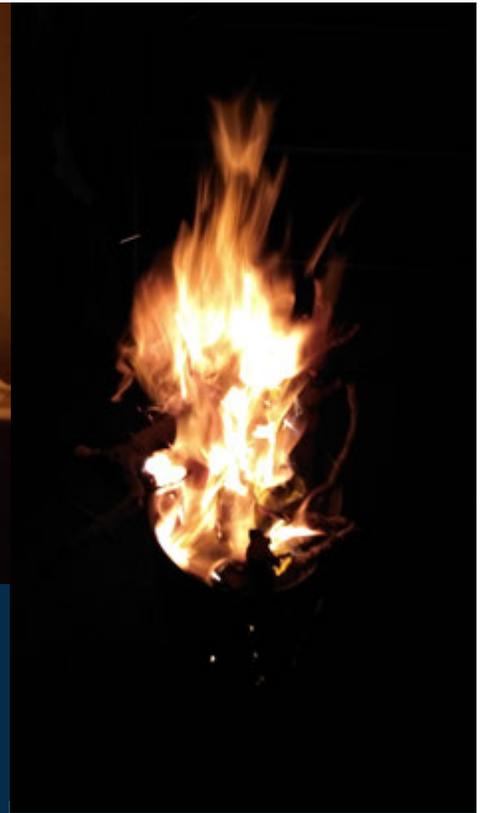
Once everyone has arrived, the Children and Parents go inside the beautiful decorated Classroom and sit down.

Now, a puppet Play takes place, accompanied by a beautiful Story.

Then, each Child gets hand out its self made Lantern and goes to get it lid. Children, Parents and Teachers now all go outside for a little walk in the dark streets lighted by their Lanterns. Everyone sings Songs together while walking.

The children know these Songs very well since they have been part of our new Winter Morning Ring the last few weeks.

Now, once everybody is back again, it is time to enjoy the Soups, sitting around our lovely warm Bond Fire, chat and look at all the Lanterns.



## The preparation for our Festival

In order to make the Lanterns, we asked all our Parents to pack their Child an old Tin, which then could be the Base.

The Teachers then started hammering wholes in these Tins so that they could shine nicely later on.

To decorate the Tins with a lovely paper, the bigger children donated their first painting, using all three colors, which we then oiled and glued around. Since the little Children don't do paintings yet, we prepared their papers for them.

For the handles, we used wire as our base. The Children then were free to decorate these wires with beads which we gave them.

Also, it is our task as Teachers to teach the Children the songs and create a linking Story for the Morning Ring around this Festival so that once the Day has come, they know what we are doing and what is going to happen.



# The Future, what is going to happen

## New Children

“Work For Love” has started their own Kindergarten but now unfortunately has to close it again so, since we work in cooperation and help each other, Siyakhula is going to take ten of their Children from the beginning of next term. This means, that each class at Siyakhula, will have about five more members. In order to create more space for everyone to be creative in their play, we thought of changing the Classrooms around a little bit. This is going to happen at the last day of our Holiday Care, which is happening at the moment, so that everything will be ready once the new children arrive. We are looking forward to meeting them and expanding our number of Children!

## Volunteer

Unfortunately the Year of our current Volunteer has come to an end, she is leaving on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July.

Even though we are sad about it, we are looking forward to welcoming our new Volunteer, who will arrive in the middle of September.

Same as our current one, she is coming all the way from Germany and will be part of our Team for one year.

She will be working in both classes, helping with administration and wherever else it is needed.

We are glad to be able to get support each year from overseas and looking forward to meeting a new personality.

## Outing

For our third Term Outing, we are hoping to be able to visit the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens in Cape Town. It will be around spring time, which is the best time to go there. All the Flowers will be blooming, Birds will be singing and the Children will be able to see all the different plants in their best shapes.

Also, a big excitement will be the famous “boomslang Bridge” which winds its way through the gardens, on top of the Trees and provides a beautiful view over Cape Town its self.

## Thank you

We have arrived at the end of our Newsletter now and would like to thank you for reading all your way through it and being interested in our work.

We hope we have shown you a little more of our world, the Work with the Children and the Waldorf Education itself.

## The End