

# 2020

## VULEKA EARLY LEARNING CENTRES ANNUAL REPORT



*“By education, I mean an all-round drawing of the best in child and man in body, mind and Spirit.” Mahatma Gandhi*

The Vuleka Early Learning Centres seek to follow the ideologies of the legends line of thinking. It is a school equipping the learners with the fundamental basic skills not only to complete but to excel in educational, and the evolving social environment in their homes, country, and world at large.



### **PUPIL DEVELOPMENT:**

Both schools started with high enrollment. We believe our learners need to be developed holistically as Mahatma Gandhi said. This includes having activities offered by reputable people. We offer swimming by Zoo lake instructors, physical fitness and yoga by PlayFit.

We also celebrated Heritage Day motivated by Matshona Dliwayo who says, “If you know where you are coming from, it is harder for people to stop you where you are going.”



We had church sessions with the Youth Pastor on a regular basis and ensured that the learners practise good Christian Values.

The children were very happy to receive an early Christmas gift from Mary Oppenheimer and Daughter Foundation and feedback from parents indicated that they enjoyed and appreciated this gift.



### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

#### **St Francis Staff**

Grade 0- Mrs Angie Khupe  
Grade 00- Ms Judith Mfikwe  
Assistant- Thabisile Buthelezi  
Intern- Caroline Modau

#### **St John's Staff**

Grade 0- Mrs Dudu Buthelezi  
Grade 00- Matlakala Mokgatlhane  
Assistant and Intern - R N Sangweni

Mrs Angelina Nyoni- Khupe took over as the New Headmistress of the Early Learning Centres from January 2020. The staff were well settled and worked diligently, attending workshops and empowering themselves. During the lockdown, we all undertook training offered by the school to better equip ourselves for the non contact teaching. All staff members had online meetings. We encouraged and supported each other and set up their emails on Microsoft teams.

We shared teaching notes, links and teaching resources. We also discussed how best to teach without most of the teaching aids. We suggested individual playdough, counters and self-made puzzles which can be destroyed to avoid sharing.

At the end of the year, the team was saddened by the reality of merging in the near future as many of the learners did not return to school after lockdown.

Student teachers completed all modules and received distinctions in each semester.



### PARENT PARTNERSHIP

We started off on strong footing with many parents attending the Readiness workshop showing great partnership.

As a school, we had never experienced such good parent involvement. This great partnership we experienced, established good communication between teachers and parents which continued during lockdown as the parents sought to help children learning from home. Parents were also happy to receive hard copies of children's work which they collected from our campuses. All fundraising initiatives were supported by parents. Parents communicated and sent well-wishes for teachers on Teacher's day which came as a pleasant surprise for the teachers.



### DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

Different types of print and media are being used in the classrooms to stimulate and ensure compliance by the pupils.

With only four tablets working, the teachers are doing their best to equip learners with basic skills. During lock down, learners communicated with teachers via WhatsApp, ZOOM and Microsoft Teams. It was quite challenging for the learners and teachers alike.

We got positive feed-back from parents of pupils who had started using laptops. Parents were impressed because their children could do some basics and led in communicating with the teachers.

At the end of the year, two projectors were bought, one for each venue, to help when teaching computers and presenting classwork.



### FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

We had a jumble sale earlier in the year, sold hot dogs, had Valentines deals, raffle tickets and Mother's day raffle to raise funds. Our learners also took part in the Karaoke which was cute and very daring considering they were competing against the high school. Such confidence was applauded.

We informed parents and encouraged them to take part in the enrolment referral incentive and we have one parent who did this successfully.

To conclude, our prize giving, showcasing the first time ever graduates at both St Francis and St John's was beautiful. The learners wore their gowns with pride and they said their lines for the concert with amazing preciseness. They displayed an excellent class leaving the Early Learning Centres with confidence as they went to bigger schools.



"A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues." Unknown

*We would like to appreciate Mr Majola and the Vuleka Central Office staff for all you do. Many thanks to Council and all stakeholders, to Sandy for sending the gifts our way and to everyone for all the assistance given to us.*

Angelina Khupe  
Headmistress