



News from Swaziland Schools Projects

January 2024



Happy New Year and Welcome to the January SSP Newsletter

This edition features an important message about how future donations can be made to SSP, as well as news from Sulutane, our Easter 2024 Auction and an amazing milestone.

Change to Bank Details

URGENT

Thank you all for your donations – you will know from the newsletters about the difference you are making to the lives of many schoolchildren and young adults in Eswatini.

On 1 January 2024 we are changing the legal status of our Charity to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. As a consequence, we have to change our bank account as banks insist that the new charitable structure has to have a different bank account.

So please may we ask you to change any donations including Standing Orders from 1 January 2024 to the new account so that we continue to receive the donations. Details are as follows:

Coop Bank Business Account

Name: Swaziland Schools Projects

Sort Code: 08 92 99

Account Number: 67293834

THANK YOU

Sulutane

The construction of the new toilets and preschool room/ centre for the community is well underway at Sulutane. Johannes visited in mid-December and reports as follows:

"Today I went to Sulutane to evaluate progress made on construction of the preschool. I was pleased with work done last week. Our builders have finished the block works and will now start doing the roof. Timber for the roof has been purchased at Mpaka, it will be delivered on site tomorrow. We intend to purchase the metal sheets for the roof in Mbabane as the Mpaka warehouses do not have strong metal sheets. The best they had was 0.4 mm thick and we know that huge hail stones break 0.4mm thick metal sheets. The ones we can get in Mbabane are 0.5mm thick and will not break.

When they finish the roofing, they will have a break for Christmas and New Year. They will return after New Year to complete the construction."

Johannes and Nomcebo had also been at the preschool the week before because it was the graduation ceremony for children leaving the preschool. This is a huge occasion in a community and was attended by children, parents and some community public figures. Johannes writes:

"Nomcebo and I were very pleased to attend the ceremony. In Eswatini, especially in rural areas, there are very few preschools with qualified teachers. As a result, there are parents who are reluctant to pay school fees for their children because they do not fully appreciate what the children are learning. They assume that children spend time playing as they do in most neighbourhood care points (NCPs). These care points were set up to feed and look after orphans and vulnerable children some years ago during the worst part of the HIV/Aids disaster. Therefore,

Nomcebo and I attend the ceremonies to explain the importance of preschool education to parents and the children showcase what they learn.

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Various community leaders including the Chief's representative give speeches and witness what the children are learning in order to publicise the good work that preschools do.

In our case Nomcebo was the main speaker and presented the certificates to graduating children.

The function was held in the new building even though it was not complete; it served the purpose. All the speakers expressed their gratefulness to donors for funding the construction of the building.”

Milestone

Can you believe that SSP is 25 years old this year!!

Our founders, the late Fr John Tibbs and the late Fr Jack Dobson who started it all would be so proud to know that their work continues. Watch out for news in future newsletters about how we are celebrating 25 years of making a difference.

Easter 2024 Auction

The SSP online auction of goods and promises will take place in March next year and end on Easter Monday (1 April).

If you can offer a lot to be auctioned, please contact Keith at contact@swazilandschoolsprojects.org

I can offer a lot

Donations

We are sometimes asked whether supporters can raise or donate money for specific things, so here are a few examples:

- **£6** will fund a solar light for a child to do homework without having to use a kerosene lamp or candle.
- **£30** will pay for a school uniform for an orphan or vulnerable child.
- **£400** funds a year's high school fees as well as daily food and school uniform for one child.

Donate now

Facebook

SSP has a Facebook page - please follow us on Facebook by searching: @Swazilandschoolsprojects or use the Facebook link below.

SSP on Facebook

Looking for a Speaker?

Want a speaker to present to your group? Please email us, we would love to share our stories about Eswatini and do **NOT CHARGE A SPEAKER FEE**.

Email: contact@swazilandschoolsprojects.org or use the link below to message us.

[Email us to book a speaker](#)

SSP is registered with the Fundraising Regulator



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We would love to hear from you.



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