

Issue 35 October 14 2015

# Thornhill enews



# Dear Parents and Pupils

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new parents to Thornhill and I trust that your time with us will be both happy and memorable.

During this time, when so much is happening, it is necessary to make a concerted effort to slow oneself down in order to enjoy the journey rather than only being destination orientated.

## Staffing

We bid farewell to Mr and Mrs Baldwin at the end of the year, as they relocate to Zambia. We are in the process of making appointments and will communicate with you once the process is completed.

## Pupil Achievements

Brandon Rouse and Patrick O' Connell recently took part in the National Motor X Championships in Francistown where they were placed 1st and 3rd respectively. This was a national selection event and both boys have been selected to represent Botswana at the All African Nations Cup. This is a fantastic achievement and my congratulations are extended to both Brandon and Patrick.

Mamello Makepe (7S) received an award for 'Strong Leadership' at the final term assembly. Well done and congratulations to Mamello on her well deserved achievement.

Anoushka Brahmhatt recently received 'gold' at the SA Judo Championships in Cape Town. She performed a Creative Kata and her team was placed first overall. Well done and congratulations, Anoushka.

Ahmed Ali was selected to represent Botswana Karate at the Commonwealth Karate Championships in New Delhi India. He performed superbly well and received a bronze medal in the Kumite, which included 30 participants. Well done and congratulation on this fantastic achievement, Ahmed Ali.

Well done and congratulations to Andile Bekker for winning a gold and silver at the recent BSSA League Gala.

## Term 2 House Points

Term 2 saw Limpopo House take the honours, followed by Shashe, Chobe and Notwane. Well done to all the children for accumulating house points throughout the term.

## Rugby World Cup Draw

Each class has participated in a draw for the Rugby World Cup and the winning class will receive a day off school. Should you not be able to accommodate this then rest assured, your child can come to school, as your child's teacher will be at school.

## Fun Sports Day

This event was held during the last week of school and the children had a fun-filled morning competing in the various events. Chobe were crowned the overall winners, followed by Shashe, Notwane and Limpopo. These are vital points, which are put together with other disciplines to determine the overall winning house (Stewart Trophy) at the end of the year.

## Tennis Tour to Zimbabwe

Amidst much excitement, a team of fourteen players in the U11 and U13 age groups set off to Zimbabwe on 10 September, for a festival with Whitestone and Petra. The journey was long, but exciting. The first day of play saw matches against the Whitestone "B" team. Our teams played well and won their matches, which prepared them for the following day's tougher matches against Whitestone and Petra's 'A' Teams.

The schools in Zimbabwe offered new competition and 'unusual' tactics of play, compared to the usual opponents from Botswana. There were some nationally, as well as internationally ranked players amongst their teams. The matches were challenging, especially in the Boys' singles and doubles sections.

The final results for Thornhill were:

Girls singles and doubles - Lost 5-15

Boys singles and doubles - Won 18-5

Based on the overall points, Thornhill came first. Congratulations to the team.

The team was also treated to a visit to the Bulawayo Centenary Park, National History Museum (one of the largest in Africa) and to the Hillside Dams for some sightseeing and rock climbing.

## Swimming Workshop

Thornhill hosted a Swimming clinic for teachers and coaches from all over the country. Our guest coach and presenter was Rocco Meiring, whose passion for swimming has inspired so many.

He gave us an excellent morning of presentations for the Coach and Swimmer. Fundamentals of Technique, Long term Principals, Planning and Training and work templates, which will help coaches to design workouts that are affective for the relevant age groups. After a relaxing lunch he took us all to the pool and demonstrated the building of strokes and skills using different drill progressions.

Many of the coaches who attended this workshop expressed how much they had learned and how inspired they were from Coach Meiring.

Some of our Team Swimmers helped in this workshop and Mr Mering expressed how well they all swam. Thank you to the following children:

Alexander, Andile, Kgosi, Nikhil, James, Madison, Philip, Roelof, Brandon and Maxine.

This is a busy term and I trust that you will all support and enjoy the various events and functions.

**I Greaves**

Headteacher

# 2015 Art Exhibition



Creativity is energy inside all of us. We use our creativity to express how we feel about our lives and to make sense of our world we live in. As humans, our urge to create has always been strong and our earliest ancestors used cave walls and natural materials to record their everyday lives.

Children especially, enjoy Art and have this innate creativity, which has to be brought alive in the classroom. The aim this year in Art was to expose the children, as well as the teachers to as many different Artists, Art Movements and thus different techniques used by the many famous artists throughout History.

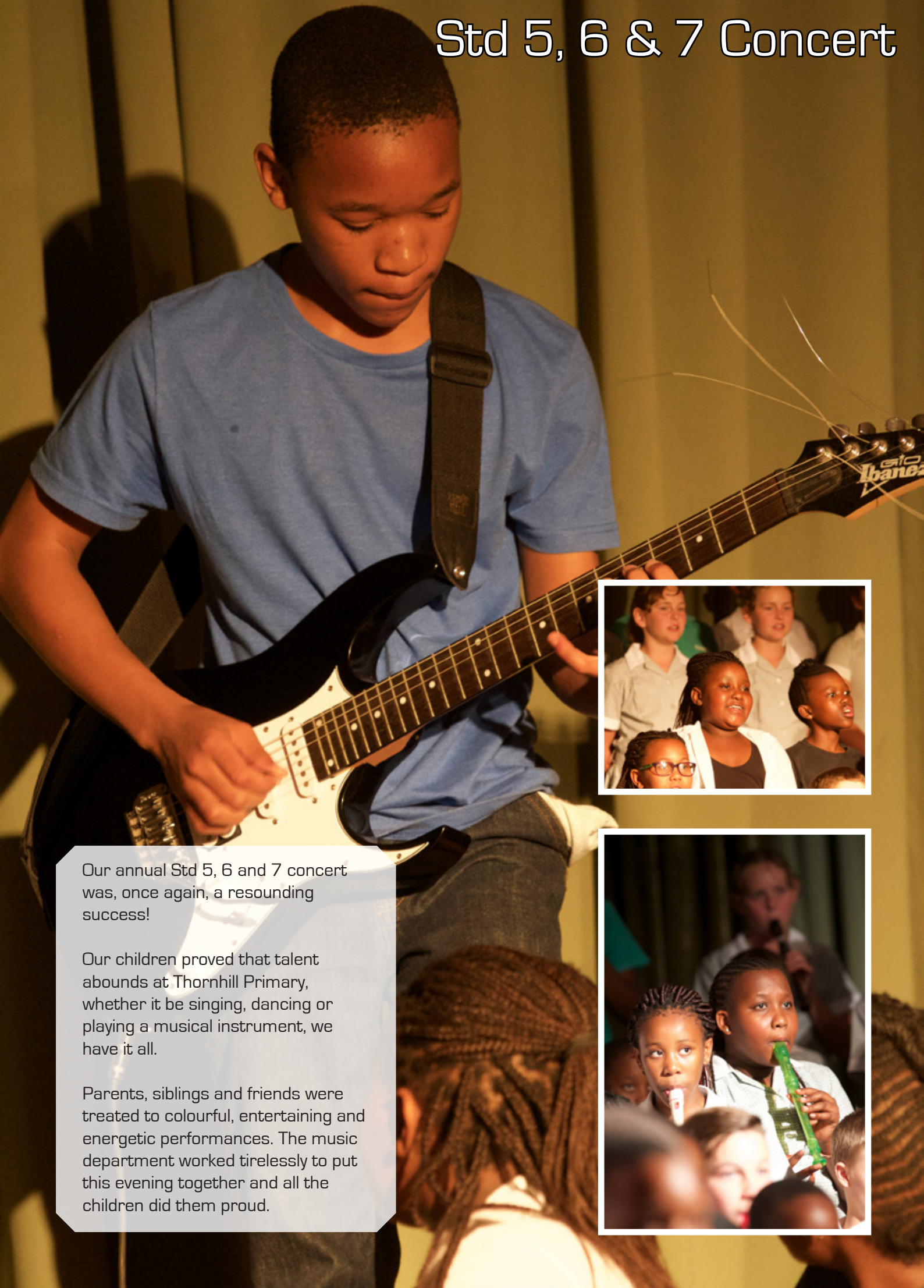
The Art Movements were divided up between the different standards and the children were able to learn about the different techniques and use the different medium to produce their own Master Pieces.

The Art was displayed in Art Movements instead of Standards and we were able to see the development from Reception through to Standard Seven and the progression from cave art to the digital art created using modern technology.

Every single pupil at Thornhill Primary can be proud of their Art displayed.

My thanks and appreciation to Mrs Scales and her committee for the incredible hard work that was put into making this exhibition truly magnificent!

# Std 5, 6 & 7 Concert



Our annual Std 5, 6 and 7 concert was, once again, a resounding success!

Our children proved that talent abounds at Thornhill Primary, whether it be singing, dancing or playing a musical instrument, we have it all.

Parents, siblings and friends were treated to colourful, entertaining and energetic performances. The music department worked tirelessly to put this evening together and all the children did them proud.

# Marimba Festival



Thornhill hosted seven schools at its annual Marimba Festival. Acacia, Crescent, Botlhale, Northside, Kidz Academy and Baobab attended. We had four different workshops namely: Drums, Mbira, Dance and Marimba. Everyone in attendance enjoyed the day and made lots of friends from the different schools. The concert was amazing with different groups performing what they had learnt throughout the day. We started the evening with our group dance, followed by each school performing their marimba pieces. The best part came when the staff members jumped onto the stage and presented a well-rehearsed dance. Thank you to all the parents who supported the marimba festival, the people who came to watch the final concert and most importantly, the Music Department for such a wonderful event.

# Redempta Rugeiyamu

A first book has been written by past Thornhill pupil, Redempta Rugeiyamu, and was celebrated at a book launch and signing at the school on Monday 28 September. Redempta addressed the children about the book she has written in an assembly for the entire school. This alone was a great feat for her, as Redempta has a condition called cerebral palsy. Born prematurely, and only weighing just over one kilogram, Redempta's parents were informed that she would probably never walk, talk or write. Against all odds, Redempta has succeeded in all three of these. She walked onto stage, and spoke superbly about the book she has written. This was a memorable moment at Thornhill. The staff who played a part in Redempta's success beamed with pride, and fellow students were inspired by her tenacity and determination.

Redempta encouraged the students to never give up, but more importantly to read and read some more. She says reading was the key element to her success in writing this book. Needless to say, scores of pupils were at the Library that same day, wanting to borrow Redempta's book.

After assembly, Redempta signed copies of her book for her fellow students, taking time to greet each one personally with her unwavering smile, and answer any questions they had.

Redempta's book is titled "Luciana and the Seven Magical Rings". It is about a young girl who finds seven rings and enters a world of magic. With two friends by her side, they journey into adventure and must break an evil spell before it is too late. This book may be purchased on [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com) or [www.bookstore.kidpub.com](http://www.bookstore.kidpub.com). Part of the proceeds for the sale of this book will be donated to foundations in Africa that are involved in taking care of children with cerebral palsy.

Redempta is to be congratulated on this incredible success.



# Foundation Phase Spring Day



The morning of Wednesday 16 September began with a flurry of excitement as the children wandered into school in their most colourful clothing and easy smiles.

We gathered in assembly to welcome in Spring! The children wore their colourful Spring hats proudly and they were grasping packets of fresh fruit and vegetables to donate. The array of colours was quite beautiful and the generous gift offerings would be donated to the St Peter's Orphanage and Naledi Kids Club feeding programme. The children sang a compilation of songs about Spring and other favourites. They really do enjoy singing; this is all attributed to our passionate Music department. The fruit and vegetable were brought to the front in class groups and the children were able to parade their creative floral hats. Our children are learning to think of the less fortunate from a young age.

All in all a very special morning and lovely way to start the day. Thank you to our creative teachers and our kind and generous families who make these heart-warming days possible. It is always much appreciated.



# Std 2 Gaborone Game Reserve

Recently, Std 2 took a trip to the Gaborone Game Reserve. Here's what some of the classes had to say about the trip:

'We went for a game drive around the game reserve. We saw ostriches, zebras, monkeys, impala, kudu and warthogs. We saw an extraordinary fight. It was a red hartebeest versus a wildebeest. I voted for the wildebeest and the wildebeest won! We did a scavenger hunt. Our team was placed first and that was the best trip I had.' Lebone

'What I did at the game reserve: I saw a black and white zebra looking for some water to drink. After that we saw a monkey running fast. The warthog was rolling over in the water excitedly. Later we saw a skinny ostrich.' Taahira

'I was a little freaked out when we were on a road where there were loads of trees because I thought we had taken the wrong route and ended up in the jungle, but it turns out it was just the road and the trees were plants for the animals to eat.' Gokul



# Junior Engineers for Africa (JEFA)

It was an exciting and memorable experience, which hopefully everyone will cherish.

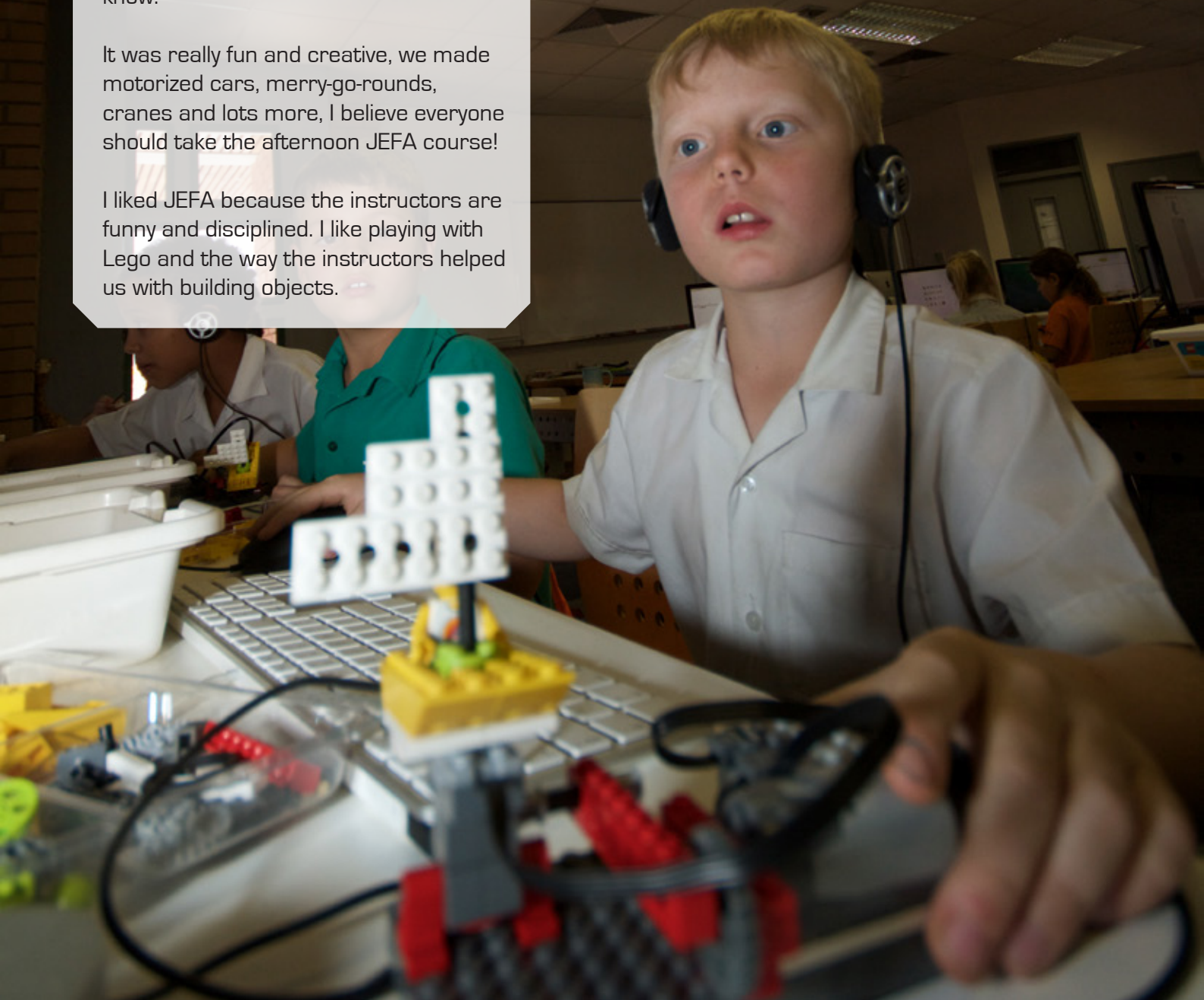
It is a well-designed programme to boost children's creativity. A little bonus this year was mathematical bingo and the coordinating poi.

The friendly facilitators were always there to help and assist while building and could always crack a joke or two. JEFA is an incredible organization, which will never be left unnoticed by children.

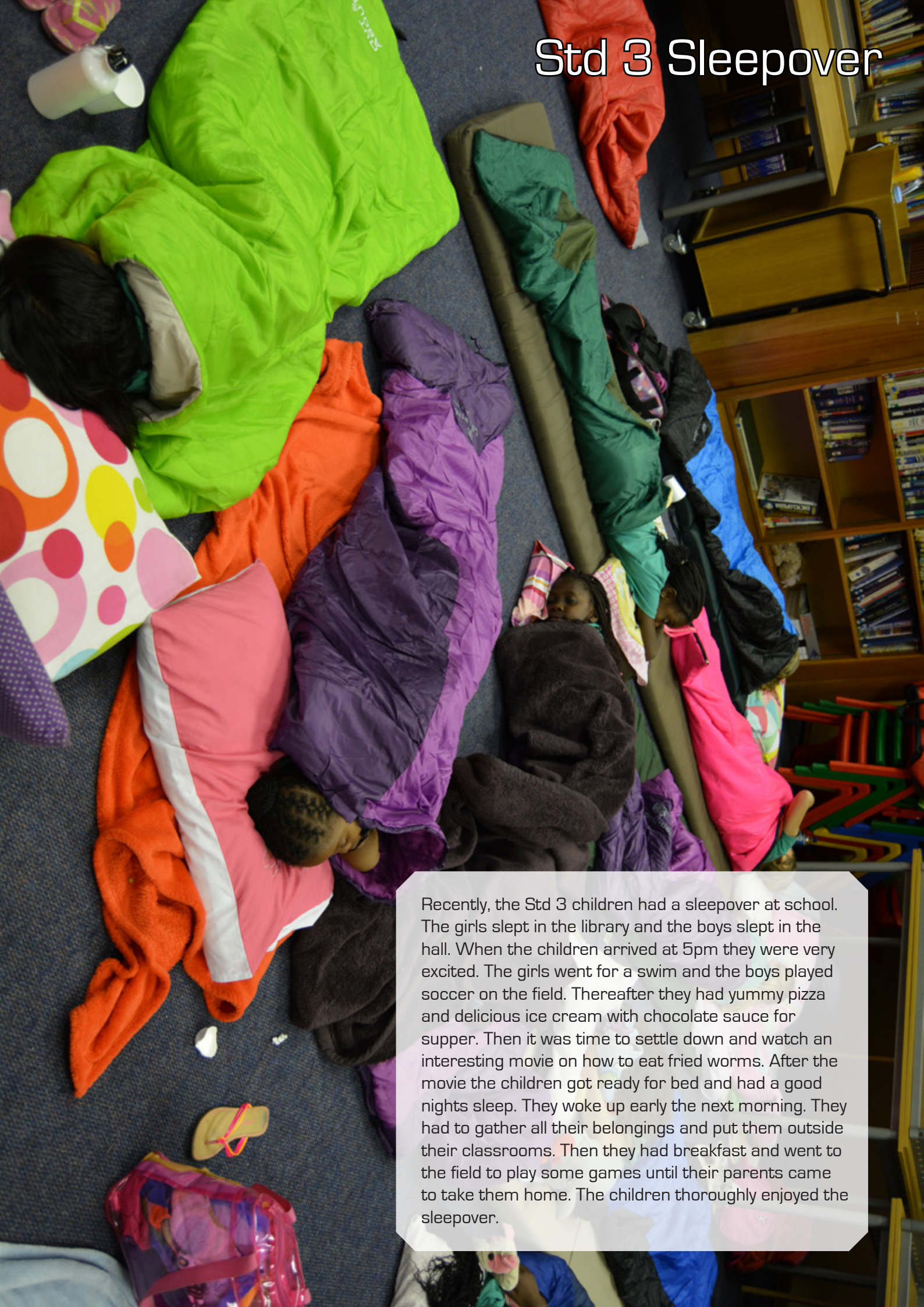
We learned what the parts do and we didn't just play games, but learned many important aspects that we need to know.

It was really fun and creative, we made motorized cars, merry-go-rounds, cranes and lots more, I believe everyone should take the afternoon JEFA course!

I liked JEFA because the instructors are funny and disciplined. I like playing with Lego and the way the instructors helped us with building objects.



# Std 3 Sleepover



Recently, the Std 3 children had a sleepover at school. The girls slept in the library and the boys slept in the hall. When the children arrived at 5pm they were very excited. The girls went for a swim and the boys played soccer on the field. Thereafter they had yummy pizza and delicious ice cream with chocolate sauce for supper. Then it was time to settle down and watch an interesting movie on how to eat fried worms. After the movie the children got ready for bed and had a good nights sleep. They woke up early the next morning. They had to gather all their belongings and put them outside their classrooms. Then they had breakfast and went to the field to play some games until their parents came to take them home. The children thoroughly enjoyed the sleepover.

# Softball

We hosted Clifton School from Francistown during the second week of term and they brought their U13 teams to take on Thornhill. Northside joined in the festivities on the Friday afternoon with their U11 teams.

These fixtures provided some excellent pre-season exposure and the standard of softball was excellent.

Results were as follows:

**U13 Girls vs Clifton**

Lost: 8 - 5, 15 - 9, 12 - 7 and 12 - 5

**U13 Boys vs Clifton**

Won 16 - 5, 12 - 3, 13 - 6 and 14 - 7

**U11 Girls vs Northside**

Won 5 - 2 and 9 - 2

**U11 Boys vs Northside**

Won 11 - 3 and 15 - 3



# Basketball

## vs Raserura

U13 Boys lost 8 - 6

(Player of the Match - Andile)

U13 Girls won 10 - 6

(Player of the Match - Wame)





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October 14 2015  
Thornhill ICT Department