

The OUTCRY Newsletter : Nov 2015

Zanini Bantwana is a Christian Outreach Organization dedicated to meeting the needs of lonely, sick and disadvantaged children in the Government Hospitals in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. Our passionate team visits the children daily, telling Bible Stories, facilitating developmentally stimulating craft activities and bringing the children toys to facilitate this. They love and listen to these precious children, and in doing so help to assist their healing process.

# "Never will I leave you, never will I forsake you"









"Behold I am with you always"

The end of the year is quickly approaching and in reflecting back on the past year it is both humbling and exciting to see God's hand over us and the work that we do. His provision and faithfulness is woven throughout our ZB story.

## **New Learning Experiences**

The team had the privilege of visiting 3 of the local private schools/play schools for a morning of observing and learning. They embraced the learning opportunity and were excited to bring back what they had learnt to the children in the hospitals. The headmistress of Sunnylea said the following:

"Your team were sweet, perfectly suited for their work, well trained and far more motivated and engaging than any nurses or teachers I have ever had."

## Children will find a way to play despite their pain.

I think that this is something that has always amazed me. The children have an innate desire to play and engage in games and crafts despite severe pain and limitations. Storytime continues to be a favourite and a wonderful opportunity to share God's truth through Bible stories. The team continue to impact the children's lives in such a variety of ways. What a privilege it is to do His work.

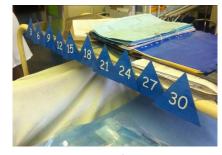
### Getting Serious about Teaching: Some news from CJ about our Education Programme

CJ writes: I cannot believe that we are in the last quarter of the year already, time has gone so quickly and it makes me sad to think that I am coming to the end of my time with Zanini Bantwana.

In the past few months I have managed to set up an assessment to establish



what level each child is at. It is based on South African standardised tests that all school going children write each year. This tool has been helpful for me to gage their level and then plan what areas need to be addressed accordingly.



Additionally, I have built up a file of lesson plans that cater to the needs of the children in the hospital and cover some of the basic math areas that children learn in school. Most of these lessons are adaptable to the age or level of the child. Due to my strong belief that teaching is not about handing out worksheets, I have also put together packs of creative resources that help to teach the lessons in a more interactive (and hopefully fun) way.

It has been great having Khanyi helping me in the afternoons with the teaching. She is able to communicate a lot more easily with the children than I am able to, and she is a great teacher!

My isiZulu teaching vocab has definitely improved by having her around © Thank you Khanyi.

This year has been an incredibly challenging one yet also a rewarding one. I have had sad moments and happy moments; I would not change the experience for anything!



## As one door closes another opens

We are so sad to be saying goodbye to CJ and are deeply grateful for all that she has achieved this year. Teaching in the hospitals with the forever changing variables is no easy task. She has been faithful and consistent in her work and has laid a foundation for us to continue building on. The children and the ZB team are going to miss her very much.

We are delighted to inform you that Alice Krusekopf, a woman of faith, integrity and extensive teaching experience will be joining us in the new year to continue establishing the teaching programme. God has remained faithful at provide the right people at the right time.

### The Wykeham Collegiate

The High School Wykeham Collegiate girls have consistently visited Greys hospital throughout this past year. On Wednesday afternoons they come and teach, play with and read to the children. The children love the one-to-one attention. It has been wonderful to have such an interactive relationship with this school over the past year.



### Actions speak louder than words

We were invited to speak at a local church to tell more of what we do in the hospitals. Instead of telling people what we do, we decided to show them.

Mpume and Toyse did the team proud by running the children's Sunday school. Despite the language barrier they were able to share the good news through stories, games and craft activities.

### Jen's adventure to North Ireland

I am so excited to be coming to Northern Island during December/January to visit. I would absolutely LOVE to meet you in person. I will be at Fitzroy Presbyterian Church in Belfast on Sunday December 20th and Macosquin Presbyterian Church on Sunday January 10th. It would be great to see you there. I will also have time for individual coffee dates if you would like to know more of what is going on in Zanini Bantwana and what we have planned for the new year.

## Please join us in praying for

- The team: That God would bless and encourage the team as they continue with their good work. That God would renew their strength as they continue into the last few weeks of 2015.
- CJ: That she would enjoy her last few weeks with us and that she would be able to consolidate the the work that she has started and finish strong. That God would go ahead and prepare the way for her as she gets ready to au pair in America next year.
- Two of the Team have experienced deep loss and heartache within their personal lives over the past 2 months, please pray that God would draw near to them at this time and full them with His peace that passes all understanding.
- Educational Programme: To give thanks for Alice Krusekopf and for God's faithfulness in providing us with the right person to continue the work that CJ has started. That we would be given the wisdom as to know how to move forward with this project which we know adds such value to our hospital work.
- Networking: That we would be able to maintain our relationship with The Wykeham Collegiate School and to continue to expand our network and support within Pietermaritzburg.
- Give thanks for our the programme has continue to grow and evolve and how new opportunities continue arise. Pray that God's will be done and not ours.
- Wisdom: To follow God's lead as the Zanini Bantwana Programme continues to grow and evolve to meet the changing needs and dynamics in the hospitals

Your Donations enable us to do this work - Thank you!  Donations can be sent to:  South Africa: FNB Account: 62180674270; Branch Code: 220825  UK: Cheques payable to "Fitzroy Presbyterian Church" sent to Garth Graham, 1 Malone View Crescent, Belfast BT95PL and marked for Zanini Bantwana.  Secure online credit card facility: http://www.givengain.com/cgi-bin/giga.cgi?cmd=donate&cause_id=1809  REF: Your name if you wish to receive an acknowledgement.
"Come children, listen to me and I will teach you the fear of the Lord"