

Hays in South Africa August 2019



'Take up the cause of the fatherless'
Isaiah 1:17

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2 August 2019

Dear Friends at Tuggeranong Baptist Church

Greetings from David, Janenne and Rachel. Welcome to our August newsletter. We are getting in early this month as it is our last newsletter from South Africa before we head back to Australia for a few months of 'Home Assignment'. We will be in Australia at the beginning of next month and we are looking forward to catching up with as many of our partners as possible before our return to South Africa. See more about our plans for Home Assignment below.

The local Bothas Hill post office recently closed. So we now have a new postal address, which is:

PO Box 290
Hillcrest, KZN 3610
South Africa

Don't forget we love to hear from you! Please keep in touch and share what is happening in your life, your family and how we can pray for you.

With our love

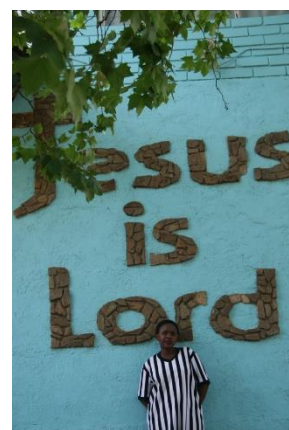
David, Janenne & Rachel

Home Assignment

During September, October and November this year, we will be back in Australia for our next period of "home assignment".

The time has flown by since we were last in Australia and it is now nearly time for us to spend some time again at "home". It seems strange to say that, as we are very much at home here at iKhethelo. We are so blessed to be able to serve our Lord Jesus in such an amazing place as iKhethelo and it will be hard to be away from the people we love and serve here, even for such a short period as three months.

"Home assignment" is a period of time for us to reconnect with those churches and individuals who are partnering with us in what we do at iKhethelo. It is also an opportunity to spend some time with family and friends. We will spend time reflecting on our ministry away from the constant demands and stresses of life caring for so many vulnerable children. Hopefully, at the end of our home assignment, we will be refreshed and renewed, ready for our next term at iKhethelo.



We will be in Canberra for most of our time. We will also spend some time with family in Wollongong. We would love to catch up with as many of our partners as we can while we are in Australia.

One of the things we need to do while we are back in Australia is to raise our financial support ready for our next term. Our desire is to return at the beginning of December in time for the busy school holidays which start the first week of December.

Please pray with us about this. If you are already supporting us financially, would you be able to make an increase in your support? If you are not yet supporting us financially, would you consider becoming a financial partner of this ministry? If you are not in a position to support us on a regular basis, perhaps you could make a once-off gift.

If you would like to become a financial partner or make a change to your support, please contact the SIM office either by email (donor.relations@sim.org.au) or phone (1300 746 580). Regular and once-off support can also be made online at www.sim.org.au/hay.

While back in Australia we will be applying for new visas for our next term. Please pray with us, that there are no issues with this, and our new visas are granted.

Preschool to "Big School"

Our three oldest preschool children will be starting Grade R (equivalent to Kindergarten in Australia) at Forest View Primary School next year. With Janenne and Rachel away during the latter part of this year, we decided to enrol them in a local preschool for the remainder of this year, which will also help their transition to "big school". After their first week, we received some very positive feedback, which is a testament to the wonderful work Janenne and Rachel do with our youngsters. The preschool teachers were extremely impressed with how advanced our children are with numeracy, language and other skills.



The three oldest children in this photo start "big school" next year

Sporting Excellence – Siyabonga*

* name changed to protect privacy



Siyabonga is one of our boys who attends Forest View Primary School. He excelled at the recent school athletics carnival. As well as coming first in the 800m and 100m events, he was also awarded Victor Ludorum (overall champion) for 2019. A few of our other boys and girls placed in events in their respective age groups.

Siyabonga has also been excelling at rugby. He plays for Forest View Primary School's 1st rugby team and is the top try scorer for the season. He is also the

team's goalkicker. This great photo of him running with ball in hand (below) was recently published in our local newspaper.

In July, Siyabonga was invited to attend a coaching clinic with two former Springbok players.



A Visit from our Alumni



In June we had a visit from half a dozen of our iKhethelo alumni. These are former children of iKhethelo who are now studying or working and living away from iKhethelo. We often have these former children come and stay (like Thando, who we included in our last newsletter). For some, iKhethelo is the only family they have. On this occasion, they all came on the one day with the purpose

of spending time with our high school children and giving them some insights into what to expect when they move out of the village one day to study and work.

An Answered Prayer

For the last few years, it has been our desire to have a married Zulu couple with children living at iKhethelo. While we have wonderful Zulu house mothers in the children's cottages, we have wanted the children exposed to a stable Christian Zulu family.

While we and another white (South African) family are here to love and care for the children, it is important for the children to witness and relate to a thriving family from their own cultural background. Our prayers for this to happen have been answered with the Mthembu family now living at iKhethelo. Joe and Nothile are on staff at a nearby church and work among youth in the nearby community of KwaNyuswa.



For those who pray:

Praise God:

- for the Mthembu family moving to live at iKhethelo
- for all those who partner with us in this ministry here at iKhethelo by praying for us and providing the financial support we need to be here

Please pray:

- for our plans and preparation for Home Assignment
- for safe travel to Australia at the end of August
- for the increase we need in our financial support for our next term
- for our new visas to be granted
- for the other staff at iKhethelo whose workload will increase while we are away

Pure and genuine religion in the sight of God the Father means caring for orphans and widows in their distress and refusing to let the world corrupt you.

James 1:27



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