

Nebo Primary School celebrates the end of the year with vegetable garden opening

IMMEDIATE RELEASE 01 December 2015





CAPTION: Learners at Nebo Primary School in Ravensmead had tons of fun at an end of year celebration hosted by Peninsula Beverage Company (PenBev) and Expro. The party coincided with an event to officially open the school's new vegetable garden which will provide fresh produce for their feeding scheme for needy learners. The garden was established by Vusulela School Makeover in partnership with the Coca-Cola Africa Foundation and TIP Technologies.

There were screams of delight as the children of Nebo Primary School in Ravensmead celebrated the end of a successful year with a party hosted by Peninsula Beverage Company (PenBev – the local bottler of the Coca-Cola products in the Western and Northern Cape), together with Expro. A jumping castle and clown on stilts provided great entertainment for the children who kept cool in the summer heat taking turns on the water slide and drank ice cold refreshments. They enjoyed lunch and refreshments before leaving school with a goodie bag of treats and a Just Juice.

The celebration coincided with an official ceremony to thank The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation (in partnership with PenBev) and TIP Technologies for their support in establishing a vegetable garden at the school. The 300 square meter vegetable garden has been fenced securely to prevent vandalism and is located next to four bright green water tanks. The tanks, each with capacity for 10 000 litres, form

part of a rainwater harvesting project that has been installed specially for irrigation of the vegetable garden.

Vusulela School Makeover managed the establishment of the vegetable garden. Managing Director of Vusulela, Deon Weideman said that the garden would supply fresh produce for the school's feeding scheme. The two meals that disadvantaged children receive at school is sometimes the only food they eat each day. "It is incredibly encouraging to see the commitment and support from the school and district education department, the community and the sponsors to make this vegetable garden a success," remarked Weideman at the official opening event. Planting of crops will begin in the New Year said Weideman.

The end of year celebration and launch of the vegetable garden was a particularly special occasion for Nebo Primary School Principal, Karin Williams who will retire at the end of the school term. Williams thanked PenBev for their support in the establishment of the vegetable garden as well as various other projects at the school, including plumbing work and renovating toilets, installing water fountains and providing a complete facelift to the school's library.

"The foundations for a thriving vegetable garden have been laid and I know that the school will make this a success. Teachers can use the garden to educate learners about nutrition and learn to take responsibility for the plants," she said adding that the opening of the vegetable garden was a wonderful way for her to bring her 41 year long career at Nebo Primary School to a close.

PenBev Commercial Director, John Joubert acknowledged the great contribution that Williams had made to the school. "If we can do even a little bit for your school in return for what you have done for the children here, we would be greatly humbled."



CAPTION: Nebo Primary School Principal Karin Williams will retire at the end of this year, having served there for 41 years. Pictured above is Williams receiving a farewell gift from John Joubert, (Commercial Director) at PenBev (left) Photo: Craig Wilson [High resolution image available on request.]

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