

# Resource Centre & *IE Team Newsletter*

## Inclusive Education Team News

The Tafelberg School Inclusive Education (IE) Team has had an exciting and productive year. The team consists of a psychologist (Mrs Kidd), an occupational therapist (Mrs Platt) and a speech-language therapist (Ms van den Berg). The team welcomed a new member in the third term, Ms Kempthorne, who stepped in to fill the psychologist position while Mrs Kidd is on maternity leave.

One of the highlights of the year was the commencement of Grade R integrated therapy class groups at a designated full-service school (a mainstream school providing education to all learners irrespective of differences in learning style or ability), Northway Primary School. The speech-language therapist focused on vocabulary building, language skills and listening skills, while the occupational therapist concentrated on gross motor skills, fine motor skills and visual perceptual skills. The psychologist focused on emotional awareness and body awareness. It was encouraging to see many of the learners make progress and develop through the course of the year. Specific learners were screened by the occupational therapist and the speech-language therapist, to assist in providing them with the most suitable support. Alpha Primary School and Dunoon Primary School are other full-service schools that were supported by the IE Team, in collaboration with Circuit Based Support Teams (CBSTs).

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The Tafelberg School IE Team with Northway Primary staff members. From left: Ms Vlotman, Ms Kempthorne, Ms van den Berg, Mr Heinrich, Mrs Platt, Ms Visagie



Debby Kempthorne

## Inclusive Education Team News *(continued from page 1)*

The team continued to screen Tafelberg School applicants, to determine suitability for placement at the school, make recommendations to parents and provide support to learners in their current schools. Follow-up of learners on the Tafelberg School waiting list was also done, to provide support to them and their teachers in their current schools.

The team attended an exciting two-day virtual training workshop on the Western Cape Education Department *Teaching for All* Moodle course, which will be accessible to educators shortly. The course focuses on providing educators with skills to support inclusive education in their classrooms.



Some of the Northway Grade R learners' work

## Changes in team members

We would like to welcome Carey-Lee Vermoter, a school-based psychologist, who will be joining the Resource Centre Team in 2022.

We thank Warda de Kock, a speech-language therapist, for her time and contribution to the Resource Centre. She will be joining the Inclusive Education Team next year as we say farewell to Natasha van den Berg. Natasha will be moving into a school-based therapy post at Tafelberg School.

Cheryl Martin will be the new Intermediate Phase representative on the Resource Centre Team.



Carey-Lee Vermoter



Warda de Kock



Natasha van den Berg



Cheryl Martin

## WORKSHOPS

Tafelberg School Resource Centre continued to host various workshops during the second semester. Most of the workshops were presented online, which enabled more attendees to access the workshops.

## GOOGLE EDUCATION

Chris Eloff, a high school educator, continued to present the Google Education series to staff members at Tafelberg School. The presentations were attended by educators from the junior and senior schools. These educators learnt how to use the different Google applications to ensure effective hybrid teaching. This training assisted them to better support learners and parents at Tafelberg School.

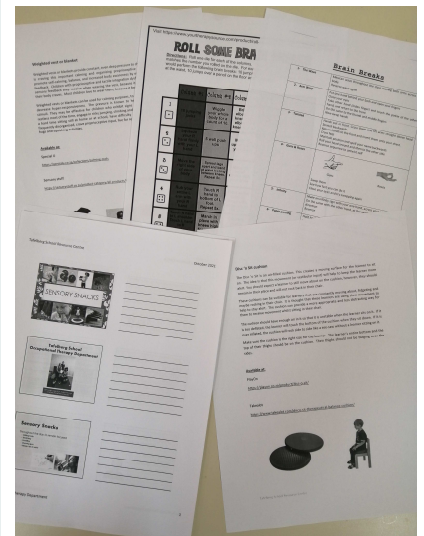
Google Apps for Education



## SENSORY SNACKS IN THE CLASSROOM

Self-regulation is the ability to understand and manage your behaviour and your reactions to feelings and things happening around you. It includes being able to regulate reactions to strong emotions like frustration, excitement, anger and embarrassment. It is the ability to calm down after something exciting or upsetting has happened. It helps us to focus on a task and refocus attention on a new task. It is also being able to control impulses and behave in ways that help you get along with other people.

This online presentation was presented by Chanelle Shankland, an occupational therapist. It focused on equipping teachers with strategies to promote regulation in the classroom. Equipment, which could be used to support optimal concentration (such as fidget toys, weighted vests and slanted writing boards), was discussed.



Resources provided during the Sensory Snacks workshop

## ASSESSMENT ACCOMMODATION TRAINING

The scribe training team at Tafelberg School continued to provide assessment accommodation training to educators, classroom assistants and other interested members of the community.

On 23 August 2021, participants completed the practical session after having attended a theoretical workshop in Term 2. The team also hosted another two-part workshop on 23 October and 10 December 2021.

Once again, Tanya Tolken, Carolien Snyman, Annemarie Bester and Carey-Lee Vermoter provided an excellent workshop, which was enjoyed by all participants.



## **Workshops 2022**

### **Becoming a Thera-parent**

Date: 9 February 2022

Target audience: Parents (Junior School)

### **Holistic Intervention in the Classroom (Foundation Phase)**

Date: 21 February 2022

Target audience: Gr 1-3 educators

### **Setting accessible assessment tasks and test papers**

Date: 22 April & 6 May 2022

Target audience: Intermediate Phase & senior school educators  
(Tafelberg School)

### **Dealing with anxiety**

Date: 16 May 2022

Target audience: Parents (Junior & Senior School)

### **Teaching Afrikaans to learners with learning difficulties (Intermediate Phase)**

Date: 22 August 2022

Target audience: Gr 4-6 educators

### **Developing gross motor skills through play**

Date: 24 October 2022

Target audience: Foundation & Intermediate Phase educators

### **Scribing workshops**

Workshop 1 dates: Term 1 (Theory) Term 2 (Practical)

Workshop 2 dates: Term 3 (Theory) Term 4 (Practical)

Target audience: Anyone welcome to attend

### **Google platform for parents**

Date: Term 1 in 2022

Target audience: Parents (Tafelberg School)



## Find us on the internet

Remember to visit our Facebook page (Tafelberg School Resource Centre).

Make sure to have a look at the Resource Centre section on the Tafelberg School website, where you can find previous newsletters as well as some useful tips and ideas.

