



Annual Report

April 2022 - March 2023





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Chairperson Report

Karin Drescher

Dear Friends,

It is with great joy that we look back on the past year and the growth of Clever Kids in many aspects and the academic success of the students at school. A milestone has been reached. The first of our learners have reached grade 12 and have successfully graduated, some even with many distinctions.

We are very delighted that we were able to rent the neighbouring building to accommodate the increasing number of 67 children. It has been almost a year since we were able to move into our second house. It is such a blessing to be able to use these beautiful rooms. Having enough space makes teaching and homework supervision so much easier.

The impact of disrupted education since the COVID 19 outbreak has been devastating, especially with learners from disadvantaged communities in South Africa. They are between 75% and a full school year behind where they should be, according to latest statistics. We have really felt the effects of this over the past year. The children worked hard to catch up on the content they had not covered during this time.

Thanks to our computer lab in the new building, we can offer the children an additional tool for learning. A subscription to an online learning programme in Math and English is an excellent way to identify and close gaps and prepare for testing. The rush of desperate parents who want to register their children with us and the long waiting list for children who are keen to join Clever Kids shows us the demand and relevance of our work to support students in their academic studies. We will continue to do our best in the coming year, to serve the children of the community in Masiphumelele.

THANK you so very much to all our donors for your loyal and valuable support over this last year. Thanks to your support, we have not only been able to help the children with their school education, but also to clothe them, satisfy their hunger, buy school uniforms, support them in crisis situations and give them a very special treat with excursions and birthday parties. Your help means a great deal to the children and the staff and we greatly appreciate it.

And finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to our hard-working and dedicated employees, teachers and volunteers. We're so grateful to have an amazing team like you who allow our program to run so effectively. Showing our children that you truly care not only about their education but also about their well-being means the world to them.

Kind regards,
Karin Drescher (Chairperson)

A New House!

Karin Drescher



We expanded into a new house with 3 classrooms, a bathroom and a small kitchenette. This has allowed us to add a computer room and two more classrooms to Clever Kids. The computer room has been such an incredible addition as it allows for students with projects to be able to go and do their research while the rest of the class can continue with their homework. The extra two classrooms are used for our primary school children during the afternoons. We are so grateful to everyone that has made it possible for us to grow Clever Kids.

Grade 1 - 7

Siphokazi Konzani (2016 - present)

Friendships

The students that we work with know each other quite well. There is a strong sense of community that is so beautiful to see develop throughout their time here. The students are either neighbours, siblings or cousins and walk to Clever Kids together and back home again. The students spend a lot of time together which means that the friendships that are formed during these years are strong. We are grateful for students that value their friendships and community.



Fun

Having fun together is a great way to build relationships. We often play games, dance, skip and make some crafts. Learning should be fun, so we always encourage educational play.

Learning

When Grade 1 students join us, they often lack foundational skills of holding pencils correctly, struggle with their alphabet and numbers. Our tutors focus on filling in these learning gaps, emphasising confidence and proficiency in English and Math. Grade 4 students face the challenge of adapting to English textbooks for their additional subjects for the first time, and we take pride in their dedication and the support provided by our outstanding tutors.



Grade 8 - 12

Jeremiah

Education in South Africa, especially in places like Masiphumelele, can be a bit of a struggle with limited resources and infrastructure, and not enough teachers. Clever Kids aims to make life a bit easier for the primary and high school students with providing a safe learning space for tutoring and homework support. Clever Kids helps the high school students get a grip on those tough subjects, like Math and Science.

But it's not just about playing catch-up. These extra lessons give students a more personal touch, something regular classrooms often miss. Clever Kids steps in with smaller groups and more attention, boosting confidence and motivation.

Clever Kids students have done so well at Masiphumelele High School in 2022. They received numerous academic awards in subjects considered difficult, such as Mathematics and Physical Sciences. Teachers at nearby schools where our students attend frequently encourage their pupils to join Clever Kids as they can see its fruit.

We are so proud of the high school students for their determination and perseverance.



The Essentials

Andrea Scheepers

Clever Kids goes beyond just providing homework support and tutoring, they have become a safe place in the community. Students who attend Clever Kids receive a nutritional meal before the tutoring and homework begins to ensure that their brains and bodies are well nourished. Students also receive assistance to basic needs such as school uniforms, school supplies, sanitary pads, and haircare. By addressing the basic needs of the students in the community, they are able to learn and in turn grow into flourishing young people. At Clever Kids, celebrating birthdays are very important! The students' birthdays are always celebrated with a song and some cake for everyone to share.



Milestones

Kingwell Kavule

The story of Kingwell starts in grade 8 when he was invited by an acquaintance turned friend, to study with him at Clever Kids. Kingwell realized the valuable assets that Clever Kids had to offer in terms of textbooks, study guides and access to internet that would assist him in his studies. Not only were there resources available but there were also dedicated tutors such as Jeremiah and Puseletso that encouraged and assisted him with Physics and Maths.

Kingwell arrived at the end of his school career with immense victory as he matriculated in 2022. He reflects on who he was when he started at Clever Kids, a quiet and shy young man that slowly gained confidence in himself. Kingwell matriculated and is now giving back by investing in the young students at Clever Kids through tutoring. He loves being able to motivate, encourage and assist the students at Clever Kids in the same way that he was by Jeremiah and Puseletso.

Stories such as Kingwell's is a reminder as to how the safe spaces created for students to grow in their potential, will continue to be a gift that keeps on giving. It is a joy to see the young man that Kingwell has grown into!



Outings

Andrea Scheepers



Clever Kids love to learn, but what they may even love more are outings to the beach! This year our students, tutors, volunteers and staff put on their swimming suits and headed off to the beach to enjoy the beauty that Cape Town has to offer. We are so lucky to get to enjoy a day at the beach with all of our students.

Here's what some of our kids had to say about the beach outing:



The beach outing was really nice. We went swimming and had ice cream!

Kamva, Grade 4



We played, we ate KFC for lunch and we went to the beach and swam. My favorite part was when we all had ice cream together!

Amahle, Grade 6



We swam and after an hour we had some lunch and ice cream. My favourite part was getting to swim in the ocean and just enjoy being outside!



Thimna, Grade 12



All Things New

Karin Drescher



New Washing Machine & Dryer

We are so grateful to Shoprite and KIC for their donation of a washing machine and dryer. This has helped us to continue to assist staff and students with laundry needs and drying clothes on a rainy day.

Subscribed to an Online Learning Programme

IXL is a great tool for practicing and reinforcing Math and English. The adaptive scoring system ensures students move at their own pace, at the right level of difficulty. The interface is simple to use. The questions are visually appealing, provide instant feedback and the detailed explanations for incorrect answers make the program a good instructional tool as well. The printable certificates are great motivators. Kids love their time on IXL and learn how to use a computer at the same time. We have seen great improvement



Thank You!



We would like to thank all our donors, our partners, our volunteers, our tutors, our supporters, our staff, our students and our community for supporting us all these years!

Get Involved

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