



Spring camp fun for kids

Pupils from Lungiso High School enjoyed team-building activities in Tsitsikamma as part of Kouga Wind Farm's Mzamo wo Moya after-school programme.

Kouga Wind Farm has been driving education as a tool for transformation in the Kouga area, its Mzamo wo Moya (Effort of the Wind) programme forming part of its vision to open up learning opportunities and uplift communities.

Mzamo wo Moya is one of more than R6.5m worth of education and skills development projects funded by the wind farm, which is based in Oyster Bay, since 2015.

Sixty Lungiso High School pupils from Grade 8 to 11 have been benefiting from this dynamic and interactive after-school programme.

It has been implemented since the beginning of September by Lofefe as one of two pilot projects in the Eastern Cape, with the other one at Hankey Senior Secondary School being sponsored by the neighbouring Gibson Bay Wind Farm.

Tried-and-tested methods and activities are used to achieve a balanced programme of academic support, arts, cultural enrichment, recreation and nutrition.

A very excited group of Lungiso High School pupils from Humansdorp attended a spring camp at the Khoisan Village, in the Tsitsikamma area, in September.

The fun-filled activities they enjoyed were a mixed bag of sightseeing, coaching and team-building sessions to challenge old stereotypes, and in the process, help break through limiting beliefs while also building the pupils' self-esteem and confidence, providing hope for a better future.

For many of the pupils it was their first time at a school camp and they had only good things to say about their experiences.

"I have learnt to communicate with other children, respect my peers and together be as one," says Siphokuhle Tombe.

Athandile Tshemese adds: "Before the camp I was a person with anger, and now I see so much change in myself. I learnt respect and to share with others." ■

Bursary students pay it forward

Promising young 2019 beneficiaries immerse themselves in their studies while also volunteering in their communities during the holidays.



Since its inception in 2015, Kouga Wind Farm's development focus has been to help communities of the Kouga area achieve sustainable economic growth through education, skills development, healthcare and recreation.

Testament to this commitment has been a paid-for bursary programme which is managed by Masinyusane and has invested more than R1.2m in sponsoring 22 students to further their education since 2018.

In 2019, 17 students received bursaries worth a total of R776,000. The 17 were shortlisted and selected by an independent panel of judges from a large pool of applicants after the programme was advertised in the Kouga area and on social media.

While they may be studying in different fields, the bursary holders are all armed with a burning desire to succeed, have worked hard to achieve good matric results and have a passion for their chosen future careers.

The bursary programme enables matriculants from underprivileged communities in KwaNomzamo, Umzamowethu, Sea Vista, Kruisfontein and surrounding farms to spread their wings at tertiary education institutions across the country.

These students don't have to spend sleepless nights - apart from burning the midnight oil behind the books - worrying about the cost of tuition, textbooks, accommodation, food and transport.

Besides financial support, the programme maintains close contact with beneficiaries to encourage accountability for their academic performance, as well as providing appropriate support where needed.

Beneficiaries also have the opportunity to attend leadership and personal development workshops to maximise the probability of success in their chosen careers and life in general.

Apart from knuckling down in their various fields of study, beneficiaries are required to serve in their communities during their holidays.

This aspect of the bursary programme aims to cultivate the spirit of ubuntu, as well as a "pay-it-forward" value system.

Several beneficiaries have even gone above and beyond their prescribed 50 hours of service to help their communities.

Jeffreys Bay's Zintle Mathanjana, who is doing her diploma in agricultural management at the Nelson Mandela University, was among the first to complete her pay-it-forward hours in July.

She volunteered at the Ward 14 councillor's office in the Kouga Municipality, doing home visits in Ocean View to identify families in need of assistance with groceries.

Vathiswa Ntshota, from Sea Vista, is another beneficiary who has gone above and beyond the required hours. Vathiswa is in her second year at Damelin College, where she is studying human resources management.

She has been giving of her time at the Shekinah Soup Kitchen and has also been involved in cleaning public spaces under the Community Works Programme. ■



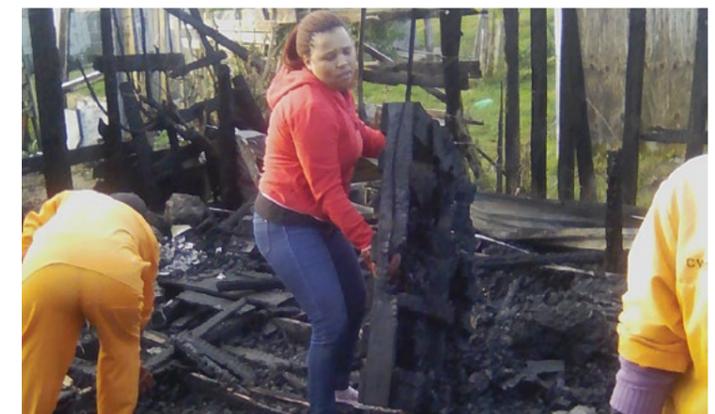
IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

"Giving back to the community is the most selfless thing I have ever done and I thank the Kouga Wind Farm bursary programme for encouraging us to volunteer our services in our communities. It made me feel very good knowing that I was part of a team of people who were changing someone's life. I truly believe that the families and the community as a whole could be transformed for the best through this initiative. To lend a helping hand wherever I can is what I have learnt from this and I will continue to do so."

- Zintle Mathanjana

"I have been part of the Kouga Wind Farm bursary programme for two years now and it has been a great honour. Helping others through community service has been a fulfilling experience as I got the opportunity to give back to the people in my community. I would like to thank Kouga Wind Farm for their generosity in funding my education and helping me to shape a bright future for myself, my family and my community."

- Vathiswa Ntshota



Ready for a safe summer



As we head into a long, hot summer, making sure that your kids know how to be safe at the sea, dam or river should be a priority.

In September, Kouga Wind Farm sponsored the NSRI water safety schools programme that reached 11,567 children in Jeffreys Bay, St Francis Bay, Oyster Bay and Humansdorp.

While the NSRI's boat crews and lifeguards rescue many children from drowning each year, the organisation believes it is much better to teach them how to stay out of difficulty in the first place.

Instructors visited the communities, spreading the message of water safety to children of all ages - from crèche to high school level - and teaching them life-saving skills like CPR, how to escape a rip current and how to get help in an emergency. ■

SEA RESCUE EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

National 112
St Francis Bay 082 990 5969

Jeffreys Bay 079 916 0390
Oyster Bay 082 990 5968

Wild adventures in Addo

Kruisfontein Primary School's Grade 3 pupils enjoyed an unforgettable adventure when they visited the world-famous Addo Elephant National Park in August. For most of the 120 pupils from Humansdorp, it was the first time that they experienced a close encounter with some of the Big Five - including elephant and buffalo. And while it was a lot of fun, the daytrip was also about outdoor education, forming part of their English, Afrikaans and Life Skills curriculums. Kouga Wind Farm was happy to help make learning memorable! ■



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Lungiso High School • Kokowiet Creche

OR EMAIL YOUR DOCUMENTS TO:

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