

MAC NOTES

News From the Manaleni Achievement Centre (MAC)

KwaMhlanga, South Africa



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Computer Classes

The MAC offers computer classes to their children. We are focused on the middle schools and trying to build a strong foundation of computer literacy or skills. This year we started with the basic concept of IT and under it we concentrated on hardware since it is very essential for improving the performance of the children while working on a computer and also mastering using all the devices.

Bible Study

Every Monday at MAC we have bible studies both for kids and teenagers. The main focus on the kids side this beginning of the year was teaching the kids about God's love, Patience, Perseverance and Valuing things that you can't see. MAC teachers believes that it is also imperative to teach all these topics to the young kids as early as possible so to build a very strong foundation in their spiritual wellbeing.

On the teenagers bible studies the focus was on learning to dwell on Christ, they also discussed about the significance of good image in the society and guarding hearts. All these topics were well supported by the scripture and as MAC we believe in linking all the lessons with real life experiences while also growing the spiritual wellbeing of our children.



Teenage Talk and Kids Talk

- ▶ Every Friday we have Teenage Talk and Kids Talk at MAC where we discuss social issues more especially the ones that are directly affecting the lives of our children and their families. Some of the topics that were discussed during this term were topics like Self-respect, Personal Planning and Study Strategies amongst others. We started the year with a discussion about MAC pledge. We believe that the pledge is imperative and is the pillar of MAC.



USA team visit to the MAC

- ▶ The USA team that was led by Paul and Ginah Butler, came to visit the MAC and they offered their experience and skills to the Centre. They gave different presentations on careers that our children can pursue. The team also took some time to have a girls talk session where they talk about different issues facing girls, including health. They also brought some ice creams just to spoil the kids.



Presentations from the USA team.



Girls Health Talk With Sharon



Ice Cream Time



Staff Highlights

- ▶ This year in February we welcomed a new staff member to our MAC team who loves children very much. We are joined by Tholakele Rosinah Mahlo (*on the right*). She joined the cooks team at the kitchen to serve us with more healthy and delicious food. On behalf of all the MAC family we welcome Tholakele to the MAC family and we want you to know that we appreciate you.



Tholakele Rosinah Mahlo



- ▶ The MAC was officially opened for 2019 by the briefing by the Centre Manager (Mrs Jabulile Sibeko). She spoke to the children about what to expect from the staff this year and also reminded them about the MAC pledge since they are the driving force for all the MAC family. We make sure that we instill and emphasis its importance. It is also to start the new year on a high note and remind and refresh the minds of the children following the holidays. The children are reminded to start the school year focused on studying hard so they don't find themselves trying to catch up later in the year.



- ▶ The MAC staff and teachers continue to make sure that our future leaders succeed and change their lives for the better. The MAC teachers are the main drivers of the MAC pledge, therefore it is always imperative for them to lead by example.

Students News

- ▶ This year the MAC has added six new students. Their names are Nhlonipho Mavimbela, Nondumiso Ludidi, Nomthandazo Ludidi, Nandipha Nyaoza, Banele Mankosi and Njabulo Ndlovu.



New MAC mates



- ▶ During the school holidays MAC students and alumni were present at MAC. They decided to assist in the kitchen just to do something for the MAC. No one asked them to do that, they just decided to do it out of the goodness of their hearts. This is an example of serving and committed that are part of MAC pledges. We encourage and applaud any act of humanity. Most of our MAC alumni joined us during the holidays just to spend some time with other MAC mates at the Centre.



Christopher and Tshepiso (MAC graduates)



MAC Soccer Team and Recent Born (Mhlengi)

- ▶ MAC teenagers also had a soccer game played against a team from the Manaleni community. The game was just a fun game, it wasn't a tournament or any competition, it was just a game to unite young people in the community and promote healthy life style amongst young people.

Operations

- ▶ The MAC is committed in providing the children with nutritious, healthy food and our place with good hygiene. Every year the Department of Health comes to check our place to make sure if we still complying with their health standards. They came to evaluate the Centre for the first term in 2019 and the results came back clean. The Department of Health normally does the check-ups about 4 to 8 times annually. The municipality is still experiencing water problems. However, at MAC we have our own water borehole system and **Thanks to the MAC donors who donated the whole system to the MAC**, the Department also takes our water samples to their lab to examine them. So far all the results we have received show that our water is clean and healthy to drink.



MAC Water system (we also have our own filtration, disinfection system and booster pump controller)

More MAC news

- ▶ This year on our first term we had our MAC birthday party and because of the wonderful work we do to the community and the relationship we have with other organizations this year our birthday was a collaboration between MAC and Golden Finch Foundation's owner Ntombi Khumalo. Ntombi decided to come and celebrate her birthday with the MAC kids and she even shared the expenses of the party all just for the MAC kids, the whole MAC family including the Centre manager really appreciate the good work that Ntombi has done for MAC. The pictures



*Jabu Mahlangu (SAAYC provincial coordinator),
Ntombi, MAC's manager and some MAC kids*



MAC Children Enjoying Their Birthday



MAC Holiday Programs for the Children (1st term)



Team Building Games

- ▶ During school holidays all the MAC kids participated in MAC holiday programs that are designed to assist them with team work and also to have fun. At MAC we believe in “edutainment” meaning we like having fun while learning at the same time. The pictures on this page show our children enjoying a variety of games that were played on the school holidays and of course we had to include a bit of reading to sharpen their vocabulary and also to assist them in improving their performance at school. The MAC staff normally participate and conduct the programs to strengthen the bond between the staff and the children.



Excited MAC kids

Manager's Corner



- ▶ This year we embark on a journey toward greater success. We aim for even better results in every MAC program that we do. We are always trying to compete with the great work that we are always doing. We want to achieve more simply because we are an achieving organization hence Manaleni Achievement Centre. Therefore in 2019 we hope for nothing but the best results in helping our future leaders and helping the community.



The MAC Family Supporting Some of the Community Members Who Have Lost Their Mothers.

What is the Manaleni Achievement Centre (MAC)?

The MAC is an after school Centre near KwaMhlanga, South Africa that cares for HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children. The Centre provides a safe place for approximately 90 children that range in age from 5 to 20 years. The MAC is a qualified South African non-profit company (NPC) supported by donor funding from the USA and South Africa. The MAC is a Christian based facility providing meals, school uniforms, Christian training, English and educational tutoring and computer skills development. The MAC is focused on providing supplemental education opportunities beyond public schools and supporting post-Matric students at trade schools, colleges and universities. Through a process of character-building addressing Body, Mind and Spirit, the MAC strives to develop future leaders for the Manaleni Community. To learn more go to www.manaleni.org or contact Paul Butler (paul.butler.carolina@gmail.com), John Darling (ldarling23@mac.com) or Linda Darling (ldar23@mac.com) donor representatives.