

# Spring Break Classes



## THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL SUPPORTS THE “LAST PUSH” ACTIVITIES IN PROVINCES

The closure of schools for the Spring Break offered provinces an ideal opportunity to support learners with revision and consolidation activities (last push) through the “Spring Classes,” before the commencement of the 2017 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examination. The Director-General of Basic Education, Mr HM Mveli, who is well known for “leading from the front” began his visit to the classes across the nine provinces. The purpose of the visit is to motivate learners to take advantage of the classes and buckle down to some serious studying so as to improve the quality of passes in the 2017 examination.

In responding to questions relating to the role and impact of these “Spring Classes, the Director-General said that “the Spring Classes are being institutionalised in provinces as one of two major consolidation of learning activities on the school calendar. While the organisation of the classes in each province may differ in the packaging of programmes, duration, number of subjects targeted etc they are essentially similar in outcomes. All the provinces are preparing learners towards improved examination results.

In encouraging learners to stay focused on their studies, Mr Mveli said that thorough preparation for the examination will decrease anxiety and raise confidence levels. It is important that learners remain calm, collected and this will only be possible if they leave no stone unturned in their quest for understanding concepts and content and knowing how to apply them in all subjects.

Some learners took the opportunity to confirm the value of the classes, citing that the classes provided them with space that is conducive to studying and that this augurs well for improved performance in the examinations.

In this week’s Thuto, visits to all nine (9) provinces are featured.



**basic education**

Department:  
Basic Education  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



## Free State

Key provincial education officials in the Free State Province are working very hard to sustain the trend of excellent results this year. More than 4500 learners in the Lejweleputswa District attended Spring Classes during the September school holidays in preparation for the 2017 National Senior Certificate (NSC) Examination.

The Spring Camp Programme is an annual initiative hosted by the Provincial Department of Education during school holidays to help underperforming schools to improve their results. Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli visited the district on 03 October 2017 to encourage learners to prioritise their studies during their September school holidays. He also provided support to the Provincial officials who are responsible for co-ordinating the programme to reach out to targeted learners.

Currently, the district utilises the camps as an opportunity to pay special attention to the progressed learners and boarderline learners who performed below average in the June examinations. In some camps, learners in Grade 9 to 11 were also accommodated. Another strategy that is helping the province to lead in education is the effective implementation of Quality Learning and Teaching Campaign, which plays an integral role in mobilising parents to work with schools in improving the throughput rate in the province.

During his visit, the Director-General visited six Spring Camp centres which included Unitas Secondary School, Harmony High School, Teto High, Mosala High School, Ventersburg High School and Welkom High School where he motivated learners.

Some of the learners shared their experiences about the camps. Phala Mathabang from Harmony High School, acknowledged government for organising the camps. "Unlike when we are at home, at this camp we have sufficient time to study and the environment is quiet and free from any disruption. When there are challenges in specific subjects, teachers are at hand to provide clarity. Catering is also taken care of and this assists in saving time because we are no longer forced to go home for lunch."

Moses Likotsi also from Harmony High School said: "I personally think that this camp will help me to improve my performance, particularly in Business Studies and Economics hence we have the best teachers on the ground. I urge my fellow learners to grab this opportunity with both hands and study hard to be amongst the top achievers in the country. The camp creates a good environment for us to learn effectively as it gives us an opportunity to interact with each other."

Sylvia Mahoko from Monyakeng High School highlighted: "When I am in this camp I am able to study. The camp helps me to gain more knowledge in the subjects that were always challenging to me. The most critical thing that I want to achieve out of this camp is to improve my performance in Mathematics, Accounting and Economics."



**"Education is the passport  
to the future, for tomorrow  
belongs to those who prepare  
for it today." Malcom X**







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