

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



Kwazulu Natal

The streets of the Zululand District in the KwaZulu-Natal Province were filled with school children travelling to various Spring Camp Centres where the last push activities were hosted. In a few days all Grade 12 learners will be sitting for the National Senior Certificate (NSC) Examination and provinces are doing the best they can to prepare the sector as well as learners. Basic Education Director-General, Mr Hubert Mathanzima Mveli proceeded with his Spring Camp Monitoring Programme in KwaZulu-Natal Province to check the effective operation of the last push activities and to ensure that learners are receiving adequate support during the September School Holidays.



On 07 October 2017, Mr Mveli met with Zululand District officials to assess the conditions in which learners were taught and also to give them a word of encouragement as they made final preparations for the examination. More than 5000 learners in various centres showed up for this year's Spring Camp classes catering for all high enrollment subjects namely Mathematics, Physical Science, Accounting, History, Geography, Business Studies and Economics.

During his oversight visit in the province, the Director-General, went to five Spring Camp centres in Ulundi District. The centres included Masibumbane High School, James Nxumalo Agricultural High School, Vryheid Comprehensive Secondary School and Magudu Inn. The District used the Spring Camp Programme to allow teachers to revise the high enrollment subjects whilst assisting learners with challenging topics.

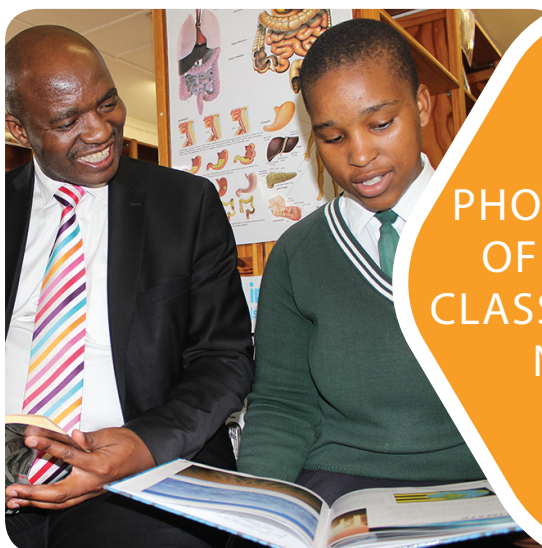
All the top achievers were accommodated in Magudu Inn where they were taught for ten days. The other learners including progressed learners, repeaters and borderline learners were accommodated in other centres. During the briefing meetings with various centre managers in the district, Mr Mveli said that, "the visits come at the right time when the world is celebrating the role of teachers in the education system. I would like to commend all teachers who sacrificed their time during this period to come to these camps and prepare learners for the examinations. "Children are the greatest assets of the Republic of South Africa. We have to join hands in ensuring that all young people receive quality education in this country," remarked Mr Mveli. My visit to this province is to work with both provincial and district officials to monitor the effective operation of the Spring Camps whilst ensuring that they serve a purpose of improving results.

"So far the Spring Camps in this country are viewed as the most significant activities playing a crucial role in encouraging learners to concentrate on their studies. Some of these children might find it difficult to study at home due to environmental factors, therefore in-housing them in these camps will make a huge impact on their studies," said the Director-General. Mr Mveli advised the district officials to follow-up on learners who did not pitch for the spring classes, saying that they might be a stumbling block for the district to achieve excellent results.

Some learners who participated during the Spring Camp Classes shared their views about the programme. Siyathokoza Bhengu from Ngcolosi Secondary School: "I came to this camp with lot of challenges in Mathematics and Physical Science. However, the knowledge that I gained through this programme was sufficient. I am now ready to tackle my examination. As compared to the environment at home, Spring Camps are very good because they create a platform of engagement amongst teachers and learners."

Mthethwa Nduduzo from Mondlo Secondary School: "I would like to thank our government for organising these camps for us, they really made a huge impact in our studies. My message to my fellow learners is that camps are meant to enable us to improve our results; please let us make use of the opportunity to work harder.

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



PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD
OF THE SPRING BREAK
CLASSES IN THE KWAZULU-
NATAL PROVINCE



DEPARTMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION

222 Struben Street, Pretoria, 0001

Private Bag X895, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa

Tel: (012) 357 3000 • Fax: (012) 323 0601

Private Bag X9035, Cape Town, 8000, South Africa

Tel: (021) 486 7000 • Fax: (021) 461 8110

Call Centre: 0800 202 933

website

www.education.gov.za

facebook

www.facebook.com/BasicEd

twitter

www.twitter.com/dbe_sa