



# DASHA FOUNDATION

## SCHOOL / CENTRE / PROTECTIVE WORKSHOP

Dasha School  
Celebration Year

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Celebration Year

**FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES**

### On the go again!!

#### A few FAREWELLS.

The end of 2015 saw us having to say “farewell” to Mrs Alet Negus—our Level 3 & 4 Practical class teacher. We were truly blessed and privileged to have had her with us. Wishing Alet many relaxing and quiet moments in her retirement.



We also said farewell to one of our learners, Alex Gordijn. Alex started at Dasha in 2005. It was wonderful to watch his growth and development over the years. Great to be able to send off a confident teenager to a new life in The Netherlands. All the best to Alex and his family as they settle down in their new home.



At the beginning of February it was time to say “goodbye” to one of our Protective Workshop youngsters—Boeta Roux. We wish him all the best in his morning job at Westend Spar. After being at Dasha for just over 15 years, we will all miss him, but are so proud of what he has achieved.



We WELCOMED a new teacher for our Level 3 & 4 Practical Class—Mrs Martie La Rochelle and in mid-February Mrs Jacky van Wyngaard joined our Protective Workshop to assist there. We trust that they will enjoy teaching and working with the special Dasha learners.

New learners who started this year are: Dimphe Thobejane, Thulisile Mathebula, Kean Potgieter, Innocent Ndlovu, Solomzi(Junior) Simelane.

Dasha School was started in 1995 by Mrs Louisa Krugel. 2016 is thus a really special year, as this section of Dasha Foundation celebrates 21 years of working with these special children. Watch out for our next newsletter for more on the beginnings of Dasha

#### MESSAGE FROM A DISABLED CHILD.

“I give you opportunities to discover the depth of your character, not mine.

The depth of your love,

Your commitment,

Your patience,

Your abilities,

The opportunity to explore your spirit,

More deeply than you imagined possible.”

(Taken from a bookmark from the Education Dept. in support of Child Protection Day 1999)

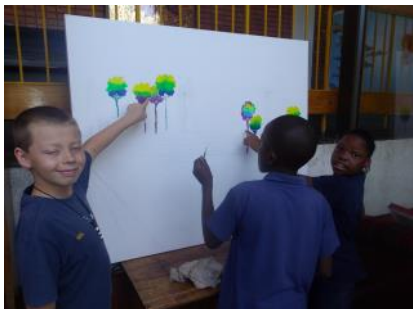
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**Art Gallery**

The Level 3-5 Academic class visited the Mbombela Art Gallery in February. They were welcomed by Mrs Marietjie Henning, the curator and an artist herself. She showed them the various art works and explained the different techniques used. To end this special morning, each learner was given the opportunity to paint a special 3- colour tree, guided by Mrs Henning. The learners went back to School very inspired and will soon be painting on their own canvasses!!!



**Valentine's Day Dance**

On Saturday 13th February our annual Valentine's Dance was held for all the over 16's. The school was transformed into a magical place—with hearts, balloons and candles. The youngsters danced the evening away, ended up at 22h00, exhausted, sore feet but lots of smiles and happy faces!! To supply them with energy they were given a delicious meal of chicken, rice and salad, ending with a yummy plate of ice cream and chocolate sauce. Followed by music, photo sessions, lots of dancing, lots of laughing, lots of chatting - what a wonderful way to spend a Saturday evening!!





**Music Group.**

The Dasha Music Group was invited to perform at the MAPD Casual Day event held at the Emnotweni Arena on the 1st of March. The 12 learners were transported by Mr Mshothola of Ntwanano Tours and Transport. They showed their great musical talent to all the guests by singing and dancing to "Every Move I Make" and "Tonight, Tonight"



**Water Week 2016.**

The Level 3-5 Academic class made a poster to take part in the competition for National Water Week. The purpose of the poster was to educate others on how to save water. The learners used mixed mediums of drawings, magazine pictures and paint, and the result was, a beautiful poster. The learners were invited to present the poster on 17th March at Mbombela Stadium. A number of schools participated in the function by presenting drama sketches, poems and art-work. It was a very interesting morning for our learners and they won the First Prize in the Poster category, a brand new computer.

CONGRATUALATIONS!!!! WELL DONE TO TEACHER CHANTAL AND THE LEARNERS. VERY PROUD OF THEM.



**Plants and Reptiles**

On a beautiful drizzling and cool Friday morning, the Level 3-4 Practical and Level 3-5 Academic classes visited Montana Garden Pavilion to learn more about the plants and reptiles. The learners were fortunate to see pythons, crocodiles, guinea pigs, lizards, fish, dogs and more....! Some were brave enough to hold a chameleon, snake and touch a bearded dragon. The children were all spoilt with a snack pack and cool drink. After spending an educative morning there, the learners bought some seeds for Dasha to plant in the school garden.



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**Determination**

**Intensity**

**AMBITION**

**STRENGTH**

*Being*

**D.I.S.A.B.I.L.I.T.Y.**

*Inspiration*

**TENACITY**

*Yearning*

*Imaginative*

**THANK YOU**

Thank you to our special volunteers who have assisted us, in so many different ways.

Each volunteer, has in their own special way, made a difference in the lives of the children and young adults.

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart!

Thank you to all who have supported, sponsored, donated equipment, materials and provided financial assistance to us. You have all made a tremendous difference in the life of each child or adult at Dasha, with your generosity and kindness.



### **Easter Bunnies come visiting**

Thank you to the staff from Produkta Nissan and Gerhard van der Merwe Attorneys who came along and spoilt the learners with yummy, yummy Easter treats before the children headed off to their Easter holidays.



### **UPCOMING EVENTS.**

**April is Autism Awareness Month.**

**23rd April—Saturday—Main Event organized by Mbombela Municipality.**

**Civic Centre Park—08h30**

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Saturday 23rd April—Dasha will have a stall at the MNBDC Fun Day which will take place at Nelspruit Primary School from 09h00.

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30th July—Dasha Fun 3 in 1

On foot or bicycle or horseback Distance 8 km. Start 08h00. "Best of the Rest" area

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1st October - Dasha Market Day

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Watch out for information on Dasha School's 21st Birthday Celebration!!!!

Link up with our Facebook Page or Web Page to be updated on these events and others which are being planned!! OR

Contact the School Office .