



Pikkewyntjies/Penguinkidz Pre-Primary

"Where creativity makes learning fun"

GPS Co-ordinates : 34° 21' 17.95"S 18° 52' 49.91" E
E-mail : penguinkidz@hotmail.com
Facebook : Pikkewyntjies/Penguinkidz Pre-School
WEBPAGE : www.pikkewyntjies.org
NPO : 003-390 Registration No. C9019
PBO: : 930013866

Zaan Cilliers [Principal] (073) 572-8120
Dina's corner
Mooi Uitsig
Bettys Bay
P O Box 118, Bettys Bay, 7141

NEWS LETTER NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2025

Dear friends, donors, and volunteers,

This will be my last newsletter as principal of Pikkewyntjies.

On **3 December**, Child Welfare informed me that my contract with Pikkewyntjies would not be renewed, and that my time at the school will come to an end on **31 December**. The past two weeks have been incredibly emotional for me, and while there have been many tears, I know that I must now take the next step forward in my life. I am proud of the work that was done to build Pikkewyntjies into what it is today, and I leave the school in a strong position, with **over R2 million in investments and money market accounts**. This is only possible because of **your generosity, support, and belief in our mission over the years**.

Last Wednesday, as I drove into Mooiuitsig, I experienced something I will carry in my heart forever. Children — from the little two-year-olds right up to those who are already working — stood along the road forming an honour guard. Later that morning, all the children came to the school and presented me with the most beautiful **bonsai tree**. **Anwa (17 years old and a former Pikkewyntjie)** delivered a heartfelt speech on behalf of the children in the community, and I sincerely thank him for his kind and thoughtful words.

The parents scraped together what little they had to buy me a **bonsai tree**, and they also kindly handed me an envelope containing a **cash contribution** as a farewell present. Many Pikkewyntjie parents brought thank-you gifts as well.

So yes — who wouldn't cry when leaving all of this behind?

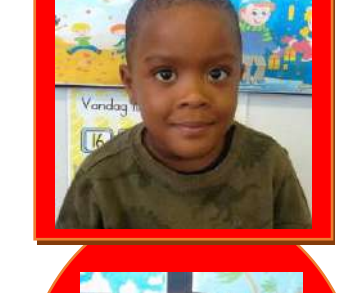
Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for every act of kindness, every donation, every helping hand, and every moment of support over the years. Pikkewyntjies will always be part of who I am.

With love and gratitude
Zaan



On a much happier note, here's a glimpse of what we've been up to at Pikkewyntjies over the past two months!

We kicked things off with **Photo Day**, where a professional photographer visited our school to capture beautiful memories of all our children. Smiles were polished, hair was brushed (mostly!), and every child had their moment in the spotlight. The results were absolutely priceless and will be treasured for years to come.

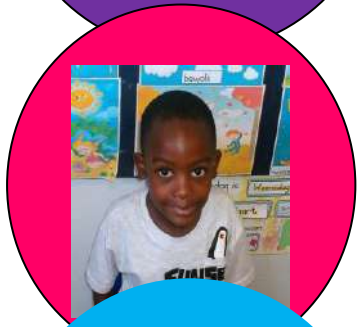


Next up was our **yearly concert**, and what a roaring success it was! The hall was packed to the brim, and parents, family members, friends, and volunteers filled the space with laughter, applause, and song. Our children stole the show, and the audience happily clapped and sang along — proof once again that Pikkewyntjies knows how to put on a performance that warms the heart.



Our winners for 2025- (parents who raised the most money)



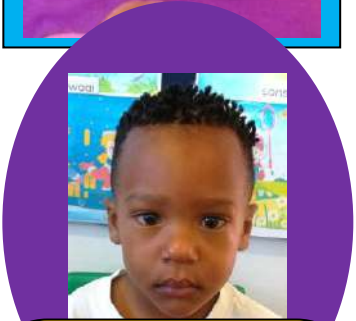
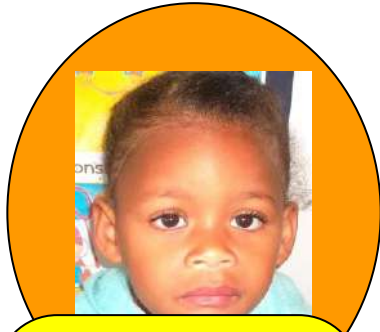


Next up was something **extra special for our amazing children** — a visit from **Father Christmas** himself! The moment he walked into the school, little faces lit up with pure joy. Those wide eyes and excited smiles were absolutely priceless.

A very special thank you to the **Metropolitan Golf Club Ladies** for donating a big bag of presents for each child, and to the **Friends of the Penguinz Shop** for sponsoring an additional gift bag. The surprises, laughter, and happiness filled every corner of the school — truly magical moments.

We only wish you could all have been there to share in the joy!





Then the real fun began! We hired **two water slides** — one for the big children and one just right for the little ones. Water and children are always the best of friends, and the laughter never stopped. They splashed, played, and slid for what felt like forever!

After all that excitement, the children enjoyed a **special Christmas lunch** prepared just for them. By then, they were so happily exhausted that it looked like they might fall asleep right there at the table — full bellies, big smiles, and very tired little bodies.

Moments like these remind us why we do what we do — creating happy memories, full hearts, and childhood magic that will last a lifetime.

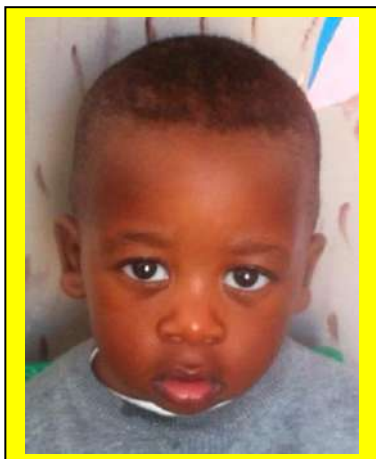




Next up, **Jessica and the wonderful ladies from St. Francis Church** surprised us with *another* visit from Father Christmas! They arrived with parcels filled with all kinds of delicious snacks, along with cupcakes that delighted both young and old.

To make the day even more special, Jessica also arranged for the **fire brigade** to join us — which caused great excitement among the children! We made sure to return the kindness, hard work and dedication by treating our special visitors with snacks and cupcakes as well.

Thank you, Jessica, for your thoughtfulness, care, and the love you poured into making this day unforgettable. We truly appreciate it.



Like all the years before, **Sheethal Gordhan**, her friends, and I raised funds to provide **Christmas food hampers** to some of our needy parents. The food was bought, carefully packed, and personally handed out to the families.

The gratitude we witness every year is deeply humbling and reminds us how privileged we truly are. For many families who have very little, that food parcel became their **Christmas survival pack**.

Thank you to everyone who donated money, food, or time. This is truly what Christmas is all about — caring, sharing, and lifting one another up.



My pride and joy every year!

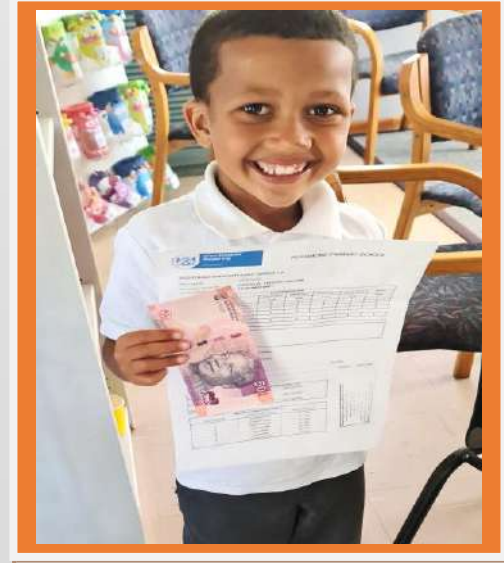
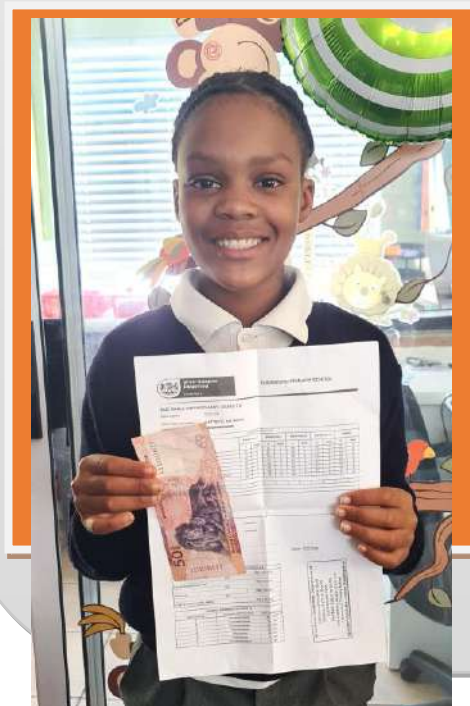
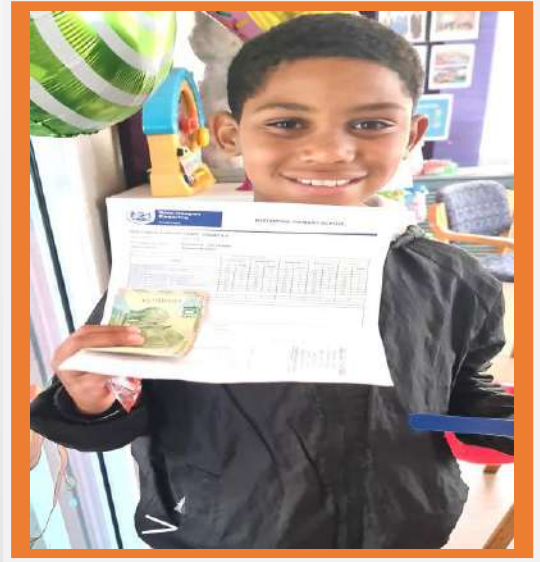
Once again, our children brought their year-end report cards to school and exchanged them for a parcel filled with all kinds of sweets and chips — plus, of course, an ice cream!

As many of you know, children who show strong progress or achieve **all 7s** on their reports also receive a **cash reward from my own pocket**. This tradition allows me to keep track of the progress of our former Pikkewyntjie children, even after they've moved on.

I am incredibly proud of them. They are truly doing exceptionally well in both **primary and secondary school**.

Well done to *all* my kids — you continue to make my heart smile.

Here are some photos of them...which I could post them all.



Saying Goodbye

Below are a few photos of the children saying goodbye to me, along with two of the many letters I received. These moments and words touched my heart in ways I will never forget. These 2 letters are from my former Pikkewyntjie kids that will be in Gr 12 next year.

Letter 1:

Dear Miss Zaan,

Today I say goodbye with a heart full of gratitude. Thank you for all the love, patience, and good work you have given me and so many other children over the years. You did not only share knowledge, but also created a safe place where we could grow, learn, and laugh.

I will always remember how you made my first school days lighter with warmth and care. You played a big role in building my foundation, and for that, I will always be grateful.

May your path ahead be full of joy, rest, and blessings. Your legacy lives on in every child's heart that you have touched.

With heartfelt thanks and appreciation,

Keanan ❤️ 🥺 🌸

Letter 2:

Dear Teacher,

Thank you for all the years of love, patience, and laughter you put into every day. You made my first steps in learning so special, and I still carry the warmth of your classroom in my heart.

May this new chapter of your life be filled with rest, joy, and wonderful adventures — just like the joy you have brought to so many children.

With gratitude and a smile,

Ethan ❤️ 🥺



Last but not least...

I want to say a **huge, heartfelt thank you** to each and every one of you for your incredible support, love, and care over all the years I have spent at Pikkewyntjies. Words truly fall short when I try to express the depth of my gratitude. You have been more than just friends, donors, and volunteers — you have been a part of my family, and each of you holds a very special place in my heart.

Even though my time as principal is coming to an end, my heart and my dedication to the children of our community will never fade. I may be “too old” for some, but that will not stop me from continuing to serve, guide, and support the kids in any way I can. The work we started together is far from over.

Thank you again, from the bottom of my heart, for walking this journey with me. Your generosity, kindness, and belief in our mission are what have made Pikkewyntjies the special place it is today.