

ABCA AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER

Gauteng Shipment

It's always exciting to see where our Lauren and Andrea distribute our books in South Africa. Elise made a special appearance at some of the schools during her South Africa visit this month.

August was a particularly busy month and here is a further update from our last shipment:

Eendracht Primary School in Pretoria

Eendracht Primary School did not have a library before. This library was set up by Chabad South Africa, who run a program where they raise funding to set up libraries at needy schools. This is the first library that they have set up in a school classroom, as they usually set up the libraries in refurbished containers.

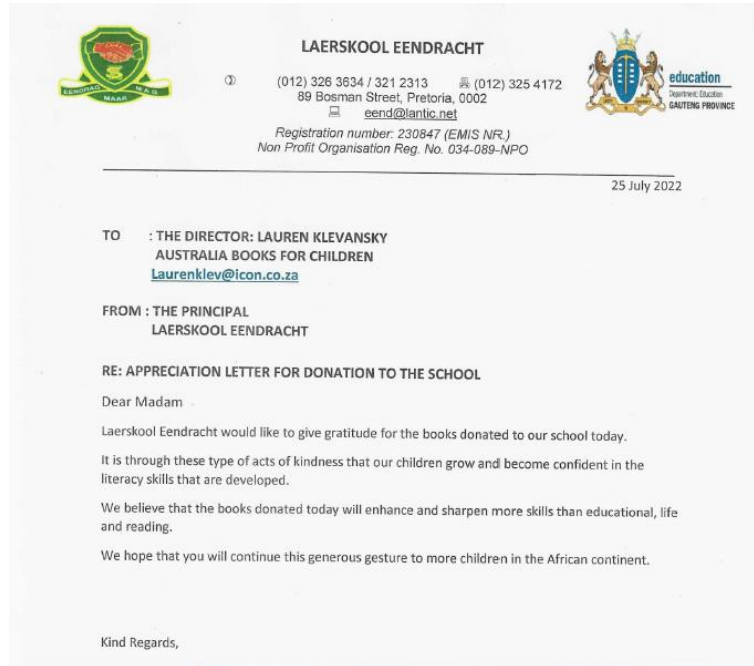
This library did not have many books and the shelves were very empty, as the funding the school gets does not extend to buying library books. Connie, the librarian, and the students were very happy to receive ABCA books for the library.



The young girl holding the 'Kitten' book was very excited with the book she found in the box of books and wanted to take it back to her classroom straight away to read!



Sharon on the left, and Connie (the librarian) on the right.



Orange Grove Primary School & Hooked on Books

We were very happy to visit Orange Grove Primary School in Johannesburg, and to donate ABCA books to their school library. The school invests a lot of time and effort in teaching and encouraging students to read. Runway Properties sponsored a Hooked on Books appearance and chose this school for the show and ABCA book distribution. The actors from Hooked on Books act out the stories of selected books, but they don't give away the ending of the book. They encourage the students to find the books in the school library to read how the stories end. ABCA enjoyed being a part of this inspiring culture of reading!

Check out our video [here](#) and [here](#)





Rust-Ter-Vaal High School

Rust-Ter-Vaal High School is situated near Vereeniging in Gauteng. The students can't afford to pay school fees, and the school is funded by the government. These funds aren't enough to buy extra books, and the school has never had a library. The school was very happy to receive books from ABCA as the students finally had books to read! Marcheline Norkee, the Business Studies teacher, took charge of the books and said she was going to set up a system so that the students could start reading as soon as possible.

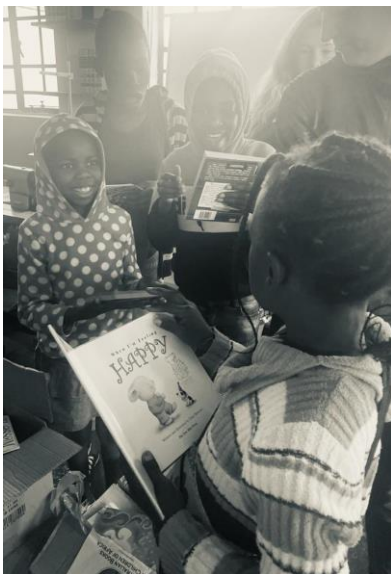


Timbuktu in the Valley

Timbuktu in the Valley is a 'pop up' school. Situated in Victoria Yard, in Lorenzville, Johannesburg, it provides a haven for children who do not have easy access to education. The founder, Victoria, is a journalist who created this warm shelter. The seeds of Timbuktu began when a young child approached Victoria and asked her to mend his bike. Instead of fixing the bike herself, Victoria taught the young lad how to do it himself so that he could become self-reliant. The next day a number of other young children arrived for bike-mending lessons. And so began a heart-warming project where people working in Victoria Yard gave of their time to teach children skills that they have, like trumpet playing, stilt walking and cooking.

During COVID, many students from disadvantaged backgrounds were left in the lurch as they did not have access to computer equipment and the ability to learn remotely. There were also students who had dropped out of school due to difficult circumstances. Into the breach stepped Timbuktu, which provided a haven for these students and began classes for kindergarten and primary students. The school focuses on core teaching subjects like Maths and English.

ABCA visited Timbuktu to donate much needed books and were so impressed by the culture of learning and the dedication of the carers and teachers. We were inspired by the pure joy reflected on the faces of the students when they rifled through the books and then lost themselves in their chosen book.



LEMBURTON IN THE ALLEY

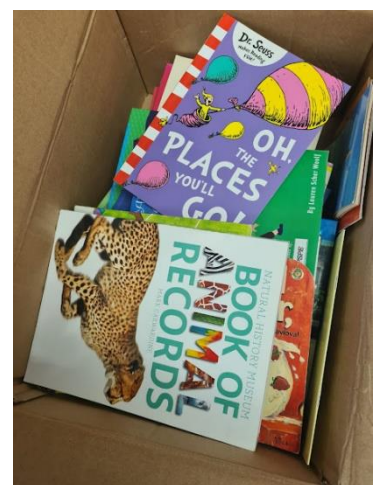
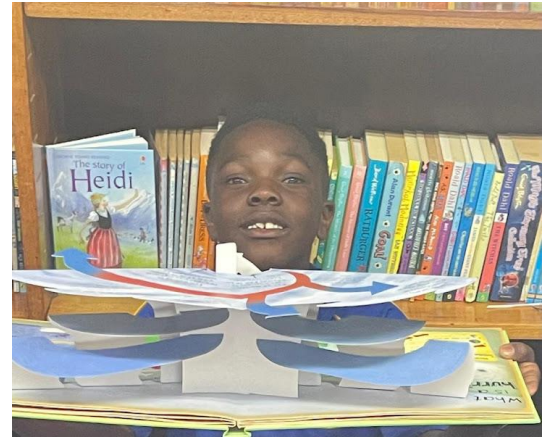
Monday	ENGLISH	ENGLISH	MATHS	SKATING	CHAIR
Tuesday	MATHS	LEGO SKITS ENGLISH	DRAMA	TRUMPETS	LEADERSHIP
Wednesday	MATHS	ARTS - LEGO	CONTEMPORARY DANCE	ARTS - MUSIC	FRIDAY
Thursday	MATHS	TRACE ARTS ENGLISH	KNITTING	BOXING	TRUMPET
Friday	ENGLISH	ARTS LEGO	CHOK	CRICKET	TRUMPET



Dalmondeor Primary School

Dalmondeor Primary School situated in Mondeor, south of Johannesburg, welcomes students from poorer economic backgrounds. The school is rich in dedicated teachers who despite lack of resources ensure that the students are given a strong education. The school until recently did not have a library because all rooms had to be used as classrooms. Thankfully, in recent times new classrooms were built and one of the older classrooms is now being converted into library. The teachers are determined to use this space as a special place of reading and employed a talented artist to create a fun environment for children to lose themselves in a book.

ABCA happily agreed to provide books to populate the empty library shelves. ABCA visited Dalmondeor to donate books and were so taken by the wonderful, inviting library environment. We loved answering questions from the students about Australia, including the differences between animals in Oz and African animals. The students also enthusiastically took up the challenge to read two books in the next month.



Thank-you letter from Dalmondeor Primary School

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15 August 2022

DONATION - MEDIA CENTRE

To whom it may concern

Laerskool Dalmondeor Primary would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous donation of books for our media centre.

We strongly believe that reading and books are both vital in the development of our children. It is with the assistance of people like you that we can continue to help our children in reaching their dreams through helping them develop to their full potential.

We look forward to working with your team in the future.

Kind regards



G. Potgieter
Principal

Zimbabwe

Sofgoti Zimbabwe – ABCA / Rotary Initiative

Through David Grieve's stalwart loyalty to the children of Zimbabwe and his connection with Rotary, ABCA has managed to send a number of books to Bulawayo, Zimbabwe and mainly to an organisation called SOFGOTI. SOFGOTI is an organisation that looks after communities affected by AIDS. As part of their work they run a school and provide shelter for orphans. ABCA first started sending books to SOFGOTI in 2012. The books were used to create a library for the school and orphans. Two years later we shipped a huge shipment of books to Zimbabwe 'door to door.' It is notoriously difficult to get books to Zimbabwe but through David's persistence we managed to ship books in 2013, 2014, 2017 and 2019. In 2019 Rotary organised for ABCA boxes of books to be included in a much larger shipment of aid to Zimbabwe.

This year Rabbi Moshe Silberhaft, aka the Travelling Rabbi, who has a close connection to SOFGOTI visited the library and sent us some lovely photographs of students enjoying ABCA books. Of course, we will try and find a way to send some more books to Zimbabwe in the coming years.



Port Elizabeth Shipment

The shipment of books was initially scheduled to arrive in Port Elizabeth on 10 August, but the ETA has now been postponed to 7 September. The sea freight company are trying to find out from the shipping company what the delay is and why the ETA has been pushed out by a month.

Grill'd Local Matters – You'll find us on a jar at Grill'd Balaclava in August

Last chance to buy a burger at Grill'd Balaclava.

EVERY PURCHASE RECEIVES A TOKEN – IT'S A SIMPLE AND DELICIOUS WAY TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT!

ABCA Australian Books for Children of Africa Ltd

**WE NEED YOUR
TOKEN VOTE!**

We'd love your support! Simply head to Grill'd Balaclava during August for a burger and pop your Local Matters token in the ABCA jar

Grill'd