



Welcome Message

We all know the saying “When the boss is away...”. Well at the Anna Foundation things haven’t changed much in this regard since Anna went on maternity leave last month. Our staff are passionate about the work we do and we just get on with what needs to be done. No coaxing needed! The children have written their year-end Anna Foundation exams, and while papers were being marked and report cards prepared, the children have been busy practicing their “Giving Back” plays which will be performed for the residents of various places of refuge, orphanages and homes for the aged next month.

I’m pleased to share with you that Anna and Pierre welcomed baby Caitlin into the world on 9 November! Caitlin is a little bundle of delight and already bringing so much joy to both doting parents. Since Anna's (temporary) farewell last month, there have been a number of people asking about the person behind the name so for those of you who have been wondering about who Anna is and how the Anna Foundation came into being, why not [take a peak here](#).

A very exciting time of year indeed!

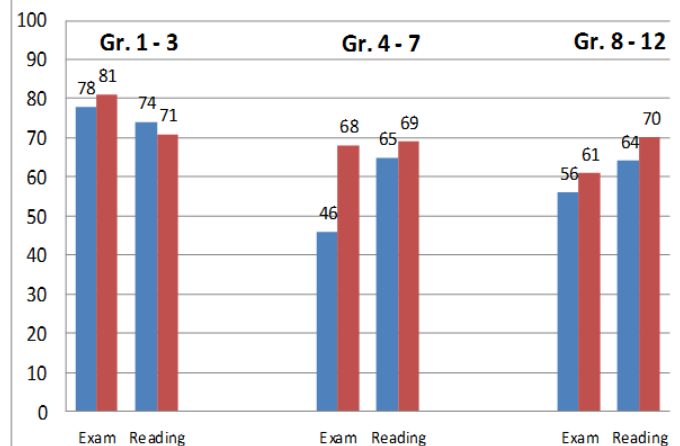
Carolyn

3 R’s Curriculum News

At the start of November the worksheets explore various aspects of **entrepreneurship** and starting one’s own business. Would I need to study further and what subjects would I need to complete at school to go into this field? Our learners look at advertising their product or company, logo design and the impact of their business on their community. During the month we continue with much additional **money maths practice**. We find our older learners battling to work out discounts when purchasing an item: the “scariness” of dealing with percentage and fractions still needs to be overcome, although despite saying this we have also seen a number of “light bulb” moments where children suddenly understand and the look on their face at that instant is priceless – the realisation of “I CAN do it!”. We encourage the children to **prepare for school exams** at the clubs and to ask questions and seek help in the subjects with which they are most in need.

In lieu of **HIV/Aids week** in December, this year we discuss not only the topic of HIV/Aids but also educate the children about other contagious illnesses such as Tuberculosis as this is particularly prevalent in the farming communities.

To end the academic year all of our learners have written the **Anna Foundation grade-specific literacy and numeracy exam**. Each child’s reading ability has also been assessed and marks are awarded for fluency, grammar and reading with understanding. We are delighted to see a considerable improvement between the overall June and November exam marks, especially in the Grade 4 – 12 group! Over the past few months we have been encouraging the children to read more books and many hours have been invested in improving the children’s understanding of maths. We are now seeing the results and are determined to continue on this path in the new year. We are extremely proud of the children!



Fun and active games are incorporated in the **sports** hour which is ideal in getting the children’s blood pumping and a chance for them to enjoy some much-needed fresh air. All our farms have also started practicing their Christmas plays and carols which will be performed at a number of orphanages, old age homes and other farms in the area. This forms part of our time of “**Giving Back**” to the community which is a chance to teach the children to think of others and not only themselves.

■ Jun. 2011
■ Nov. 2011

ANNA FOUNDATION YEAR-END SHOWCASE

The Anna Foundation Year-End Showcase was held at the Rustenberg Wine Estate Community Centre on 10 November. The evening was well attended and among our guests were a number of farm owners and directors from the farms on which we work, funders, volunteers and supporters. We were extremely honoured to have the **Western Cape Minister of Agriculture**, Mr Gerrit van Rensburg and his wife also attending the evening. Upon arrival guests could enjoy snacks and a glass of wine whilst looking at several **exhibits** which highlighted different aspects of the 3 R's Reading, Running, Righting programme. This included an education corner showing examples of remedial tools and other academic resources, a sports display and an information table with information about our involvement with various fundraising programmes such as the [1%Club](#), [MyVillage](#) and [Wines with Heart](#).



Prior to the main presentation, three of the Rustenberg children took to the stage and each confidently recited their own well-rehearsed poem. This was followed by a lively **song and dance routine**, performed by all of the children from the farm's after school club which our guests thoroughly enjoyed. The evening's **presentation highlighted various aspects of the Anna Foundation's programmes** including an explanation of the 3 R's "Reading, Running, Righting" programme and what each 'R' is all about. We also informed our guests about other aspects of the Anna Foundation such as the on-going training of our 3 R's teachers, our School Scholarship Programme, highlights throughout the year and our plans regarding expansion in 2012. Through the presentation we demonstrated how each aspect of the foundation has grown and undergone a number of positive adjustments during 2011. These modifications re-emphasise how we are moving forwards with the times and aware of the ever-changing needs and constant growth of our children and teachers. In closing, we thanked our main sponsors, donors and supporters for their support whether monetary or in kind. Each one has contributed towards the success of the Anna Foundation during the year.



Kevin and Heather Arnold (Waterford) with Cathy Brewer

A special thank you to all who assisted towards the evening: Rustenberg, our farms (wines, juice and contribution of olives), [C&S Audio](#), [Ten of Cups](#), Leka Ice and [The Culinary Academy](#) for the delicious cupcakes

THINGS KIDS SAY

TEACHER: "What is your favourite soapie?"

CHILD: "Lux, Juffrou!"



AN IMPORTANT DECISION

Recently, at one of our farms a very small child had climbed a tree and was quite near the ground when he was called to come inside. In all sincerity he said:

"Now... I have a very important decision I need to make: Should I jump down... or should I climb down?"



AN ARTY AFTERNOON

Marli Ackerman, one of the Anna Foundation's old friends, volunteered her creative skills for an afternoon of arts and crafts. After the children had finished with exams, Marli visited two of our projects and showed the children how to make a variety of monsters, butterflies and 3-D stars, amongst other things. She provided each child with their own box full of goodies needed for the crafts such as scissors, glitter and glue. Needless to say, the children had a ball! [Click here to take a look at some of the final masterpieces](#)



MARIANO'S STORY

Eight year old Mariano Williams is a Grade 2 pupil who attends the Neethlingshof after school club. At the start of his Grade 1 year, Project Manager Naomie Lötter noticed him struggling a great deal with his school work and immediately put him on a **special remedial programme** as he was falling further and further behind his classmates. By the end of the year Mariano would still confuse letters (b/d and j/h), could not recognise double-sounds (oo, oe, ie etc,) and was unable to add or subtract the most easy sums because his numeracy basics were so weak. His attendance at the after school club was very poor as a result of his struggling with the academics and the fact that could not complete the worksheets on his own. When he did attend, he was unenthusiastic and reluctant to tackle the worksheets, regularly glancing at his classmate's work for the answers. We were most surprised to hear that Mariano had passed his Grade 1 year and concerned as we knew that he would fall even further behind in the year to come if nothing was done.



Upon starting Grade 2 our remedial teacher at Neethlingshof gave Mariano much additional support. She paid special attention to improving both his literacy and numeracy, reading and spelling skills through a number of ways, for example: listening exercises (what sound do you hear at the beginning/middle/end of a word); using easy-wipe flashcards to write in the missing sounds; using paper money for maths exercises and on the whole, making lessons as physical and 'real' as possible. By incorporating these methods of learning, children often understand the work much more easily as it makes more sense "away from the question paper". In addition to these remedial tools, much on-going encouragement and praise was given to Mariano and in June we started seeing a phenomenal improvement not only in his academics but in his whole attitude towards his school work. His self-esteem has improved a great deal and currently he can't wait to come to the after school club in the afternoons. These days Mariano often asks his 3 R's teacher Katy, for new, more challenging assignments and completes them without any assistance from her or his classmates! He enjoys maths and language and loves to read – a total transformation.

We will continue to encourage and support Mariano so that he remains determined and goes from strength to strength with his academics. We are so proud of him!

FUN RUNNING IN THE WINELANDS

The children participated in two fun runs this month: our Franschhoek and Paarl farms took part in the **Timbercity Orchard Run** held on 5 November in the beautiful Dwarsrivier Valley. Unfortunately the weather did not play along and wintry-looking clouds nestled over the valley but the chilly air failed to stop the children from Buffet Olives and Solms-Delta giving of their best and they ran across the finish line with broad smiles.



*Our Winelands Winners:
Athenkosi (2nd), Axholile (1st)
and Lehandr  (3rd)*

A completely different season graced the **Winelands Fun Run** on 19 November (remember that swelteringly hot Saturday?!) in which the majority of our farms took part. The mass of yellow t-shirts resembled a field of sunflowers against the bluest of skies as the children set off on the 5km run from Coetzenburg stadium. We were most impressed with the first three Anna Foundation runners over the finish line as they all hail from Timberlea farm: Axholile Tshixo (Grade 5), Athenkosi Tshixo (Grade 3) and Lehandr  Robertson (Grade 5). While the children did the fun run, the parents of our Scholarship children manned a water table and helped to quench the thirst of the passing runners by handing out water sachets and coke.

Thank you to Nolan Hendon (Dwars River Athletics) and Hans Hugo (Helderberg Harriers) for our children's race entries and also for your on-going support of the Anna Foundation.

TEACHER'S YEAR-END CELEBRATION

On the last Friday of every month during the year, our 3 R's teachers and all Anna Foundation staff get together for a morning of training. These sessions are crammed full of useful information, skills training, feedback and sharing, and equip our teachers with various tools which can be used to implement our 3 R's "Reading, Running, Righting" programme on the farms. With 25 November being the last Friday for training this year, we decided to do something special with our teachers and give them a chance to enjoy one another's company and celebrate a year of hard work.



After meeting at Rustenberg, our usual month-end training venue, the farm teachers climbed into the Anna Foundation minibus not knowing where they were being taken. On arriving at Somerset Mall they were delighted to hear that we were off to the **Ten Pin Bowling** alley and after randomly dividing our group into teams of five, the games began. For the majority of our teachers this was their first bowling experience which made it all the more exciting. There was much laughing and teasing as each one had their chance to try and knock as many pins over as possible. We saw a number of fascinating techniques including the "two handed side roll", bowling "a la boules" and the "under-leg swing". Whoever said that 'technique is everything' clearly did not see the high scores resulting from these fancy moves and those of our teachers and staff bowling in a "normal" fashion were given a run for their money!

After playing two games each, we drove back to Stellenbosch and enjoyed a quiche and something sweet (thank you Timberlea!) before our Head of Education and staff training, Nellie de Wet said a few words. Our 3 R's teachers have a lot



responsibility in their roles as teachers at the farm projects and we are so proud of all the hard work which has been invested in the children, their enthusiasm in what they do and how they have grown as educators during the year. It is also wonderful to see how close our teaching staff have grown and how new friendships have formed. Prior to the staff party, each person had selected a fellow teacher to whom they would give a Christmas gift and before saying our goodbyes for the year these little presents were exchanged. What a wonderful way to end such a memorable year.

THANK YOU!

- **Franschhoek Christmas Market (Amelia Schwenke):** R10 000 contribution and for choosing us as the benefitting charity
- **Regular Financial Donations:** Lille Howe Trust, Croft Trust, Dr Brom, van der Merwe Family
- **DG Murray Trust:** R5000 "Christmas Bonus"
- **Wines with Heart:** Kind contribution
- **Feet Charity:** Much appreciated donation of books and resources
- **Dwars River Valley Athletics:** R1000 donation
- **Culinary Academy:** Christmas parties for Solms and Simonsig children and your involvement throughout the year
- **Marli Ackerman:** Afternoons of fantastic art and crafts
- **1%Club Members:** We can't thank you enough for all you are doing each month!
- **Eikestadnuus and Franschhoek Tatler:** Publishing of articles