

Lesotho Visit - February 2017

Students and staff from Beechen Cliff recently returned to the school in Lesotho, Southern Africa, to continue the on-going project.



Tseko School - Mokhotlong

Tseko is a very poor and remote school near Mokhotlong in the Kingdom of Lesotho with no running water or electricity. Previously we have painted murals, generally brightened up the classrooms, provided resources and constructed much needed furniture. Recently, under the direction of Russell Suchet from Sani Lodge, we have helped to build an additional classroom – basically a concrete block box.

Our focus this time was again to brighten up the learning environment and consider the furniture situation. We had to take everything we needed as there are very few resources in the country. On arrival, we quickly realised that a considerable amount of school furniture was broken and simply piled up at the end of one of the classrooms. We set ourselves the task to fix as much as possible. Beechen Technology department donated some hand tools which we added to when we bought all the decorating materials at a builder's yard in Underberg, SA.



Fixing desks and benches – Tseko Mokhotlong



Tseko teacher learning woodwork

There were a number of men who were keen to develop their woodworking skills so between us we were able to reinstate all the desks and benches which gave them thirty-two places for the older children which equates to around fifty of the younger children who previously sat on the floor.



Tseko staff and our students

Miss Isaac, who is an accomplished artist, set about painting murals of the map of the world, a map of Africa and lovely paintings of local animals and birds. Our students worked tirelessly in hot and humid conditions, determined to complete the tasks.



Beautiful murals of local animals and plants.

From our base at Sani Lodge we also visited a Zulu school on three occasions to help them with their pronunciation and understanding of English - essential for them to pass the entry exam for High School. Kwa Pitela School is one of the poorest schools, a Government non-fee-paying school. They read to us in their shipping container library whilst some of our students taught English using work tasks. The teaching generally is not very dynamic so we would like to think that the teachers and children gained from our short stay with them.



Lesotho / South Africa border post.



Kwa Pitela – Zulu school

Mr J Young
Outdoor Activities



Reading in the Library at Kwa Pitela



Teaching English at Kwa Pitela