

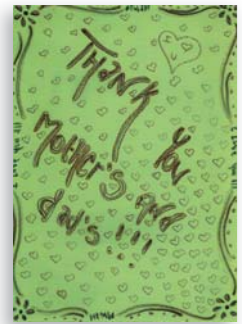
## All aboard ... the Gautrain!

Spirits were high as our girls and boys took a ride on the new Gautrain – for many of them it was their first train ride! The Gautrain trip took them from Rhodesfield to Sandton, and they loved the experience. **Thanks to everyone who helped make it happen!**



## Thank You ...

The best part of our “work” is getting to know and love these extra-special boys and girls. The kids wrote giant thank you cards to all of the staff and donors, and we wanted to share their touching words with you, their “mothers and dads” ...



Thank you for keeping

me up when I was down ... Thank you for being there for me in good and bad times ... Thank you for loving me every day and putting me first ... Thank you for keeping me warm every day ... Thank you for having hope in me. ... Thank you for protecting me, believing in me, and keeping my hopes up ... Thank you for having faith in me ... Thank you for caring for me even if I never wanted you to care for me ... Thank you for teaching me what I needed to know ...

**THANK YOU!**

## Lions take kids to zoo!

The Bizhub Highveld Lions “adopted” our home, paying our children an exciting visit with gifts of tickets to matches at Wanderers, their very own Bizhub Highveld Lions supporter shirts, and a trip to the zoo!

The little ones were thrilled with the adventure and had tons of fun.

Thank you to the Bizhub Highveld Lions for really making their day!



## The Miss Angola's

The Miss Angola contestants recently spent a day at our home, interacting with our children.

They sponsored a much-needed washing machine, brought gift bags for each child, and even modelled for the kids. The children in turn performed traditional dances for the young ladies.

It was a pleasure meeting them and we hope they enjoy the contest!



Newsletter for the Friends of The Johannesburg Children's Home.

January 2011

## Rockin 'n Rollin Christmas!

At the end of last year, a generous donor helped us organise our traditional Christmas party ... with a twist! The theme was a Rock 'n Roll Christmas with an awards ceremony like the children's very own Oscars or Emmys.

And what a rocking and rolling party it was! There was a band playing, and the children had an absolute blast on the dancefloor.

Each of our girls and boys were called up onto the stage to receive their Rock 'n



Roll award from Father Christmas, and you've never seen such gigantic grins as when they were holding their wrapped gifts.

Thank you to all of our kind sponsors and friends who made our Rock 'n Roll Christmas a reality. It was a barrel of laughs and fun, and the kids will be talking about the party for many months to come!



*Left and above right: Father Christmas gave every one of our girls and boys a special present off their wishlist, and they were just thrilled!*

## Find us on Facebook

facebook

We've joined the 21st century! Please look for us on Facebook – log into [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search for **Johannesburg Children's Home**.

There's a special discussion page for old girls, boys, staff, and volunteers. It's a great way to keep

up to date with what's going on at our home, as well as who all our wonderfully generous donors and sponsors are.

We're also on Twitter and LinkedIn if you want to network with us. We love hearing from friends, and keeping you close to our hearts.

Visit our website: [www.jch.org.za](http://www.jch.org.za)

# World cup winners

In the spirit of the World Cup in 2010, we held a competition between the children's cottages – each cottage picked a competing country and decorated their cottage with their team colours and memorabilia.

Owen from the TV programme, *Boots 'n All*, was our celebrity judge and decided that Cottage 8 – the South African cottage – was the winner. Cottage 4 (England) came second, and the Stepping Stones boys' cottage (Brazil) came third. The boys from the Stepping Stones cottage showed the most enthusiasm and really 'got with the programmes'!

The children challenged the staff to a game of soccer and it was a close call ... The staff had to bend



*Above: the Stepping Stones boys' cottage stand together decorated in Brazil's colours.*

*Above: the staff and children hold aloft the trophy, celebrating the victory of having fun!*

a few rules of the game to prevent the kids from running circles around them, and the children very graciously "let" the staff win!

They definitely had world cup fever!

# A flair for the creative

Our children's flair for the creative is put on show every year at the Art Exhibition, which is always held over Child Protection week.

The children's artworks from throughout the year are displayed, and the public are invited to come and see where our children live, and

their talents.

Please join us on 27 – 29 May this year for the annual Art Exhibition and Open day.

*An example of our girls' and boys' fabulous art!*



# Nothing like new stationery!

Thank you to Grandmark for once again donating stacks of school stationery to our children for their new school year!

They've been supporting us for many years, and there's always a buzz of excitement when their gifts arrive!

*The Director and Grandmark staff with some of the boxes of stationery they sponsored.*



## A note from our Director

In 2010, we hosted the World Cup, welcoming

friends from all nations into our homes and our lives.

And in a similar way, friends like you opened your hearts to the children we care for every time you supported Johannesburg Children's Home with your gifts of love and compassion.

I'm constantly in awe of the generosity of our donors, volunteers and supporters, and if I could wish any blessing upon you for the year ahead, it would be that of gratitude.

We're so thankful to everyone who makes a difference in our children's lives. It's a humbling experience to see such genuine kindness and generosity, and to feel the warmth of friends who care.

May 2011 be the year that you experience the joy of friends who love and support you, and gratitude for having them in your life!

Narisha  
NARISHA GOVENDER

# Best years at big school

Our little ones graduated from nursery school in 2010 and are about to go to "big school" for the first time!

We wish them all the best as they start their journey. People say that your school years are the best years of your life. We can only hope this is true for all of our young girls and boys – they grow up so quickly!



*Above: our three children who have graduated to big school next year, with Sandra their social worker.*

# Safe donations with EasyPay



The EasyPay option is the safest way to make your donation to JCH.

Please take your gift form to most Woolworths, Pick 'n Pay, Shoprite or Checkers stores, and just ask the cashier at the

till to process your contribution. The unique code helps us trace your sponsorship back to you!

Your gifts mean so much to our children – and it's easier to give with EasyPay.

# It's raining friends & family

Nothing could put a damper on our children's spirits on Family Day – not even the raging downpour that lasted all of 10 minutes!

Our girls and boys worked hard at being the perfect entertainers for their families, hosts and volunteers, performing

to musical and dance numbers, and even parading themselves in a fashion show.

Thank you to everyone who came out to show their support for our children – we were overwhelmed by the outpouring of love from friends and family.

We love you too!



*Left: the girls model their soccer supporter gear.*



*Below left: Narisha spends some quality time with the girls.*



*Below right: the boys strut their stuff on stage in their traditional outfits.*

# Mandela Day

Mandela Day comes around once a year, asking people to volunteer 67 minutes of their time to a worthy cause.

This Mandela Day weekend (16–17 July), we have lots of projects on the go for volunteers to get involved in – please contact Fiona on 011 023 6870/1/2 or 011 648 1121 to pick a project for 2011!



*Last year's volunteers helped us fix up the gardens!*

