

Little People

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

June 2009

Big changes for little people – because of you



If you kindly sent a gift towards Kiddios Cottage – a unit at our home that's being revamped especially for our youngest children – *thank you!*

You'll be pleased to hear that work on the cottage will take place during the mid-year school holidays – when it's less disruptive for the children.

We'll keep you updated of progress through our website – and will feature the revamp in the next newsletter.



The generosity of friends like you has ensured that our Kiddios Cottage will soon be revamped for our little ones.

I spy, with my little eye ...



Spec Savers, in conjunction with Ster Kinekor, brought their mobile clinic to our home to conduct on-site eye tests.

We were grateful for the opportunity to benefit from this excellent service and extend our thanks and appreciation to the optometrist and sponsors.

Visit our website: www.jch.org.za

An amazing race – and day

There's nothing like an 'amazing race' – filled with fun activities – to build team spirit.

And an amazing – and whacky – event is exactly what we held at the home recently.

Our children and staff thoroughly enjoyed themselves – and after a frenetic day of running around completing lots of funny tasks, a lot of little people (and big ones) slept like babies that night!

The event was a great success and – as you can see from the photos – led to loads of laughter!



Blowing up balloons was never this much fun!



The winning team, from left: Alain, Palesa, Hopolong and Nelisiwe.



Filling up buckets by using punctured two-litre bottles ... not easy!



Our boys gladly plastered their faces with lipstick – in the interests of winning, of course!

A note from our Director



Child Protection Week has just passed – and as always, it was good to see the plight of children being highlighted in the media, and

by different organisations and government departments.

If only this subject received as much attention every day of the year! It certainly warrants it.

Circumstances

Sadly, it seems that child abuse and neglect are becoming more rife with each passing year.

The girls and boys in our care are fortunate in that they are in safe hands, well cared for – and every effort is made to help them heal from the experiences they've endured.

You are the reason this is possible – thank you for being our partner in this important journey.

Narisha

NARISHA GOVENDER

Learning by doing

To help them learn about various issues – and to encourage teamwork – we give our children a theme every term on which to base a special presentation.

The task is sweetened by the promise of prizes – and since their presentation can take any form, their creativity is nurtured, too.

Sponsors

Our first term theme was 'HIV/Aids' – and although all our cottages prepared interesting exhibits, the girls and boys from Cottage 4 scooped the main prize of a TV and Playstation.

Thank you to all the children for their excellent work – and to the sponsors of our prizes.



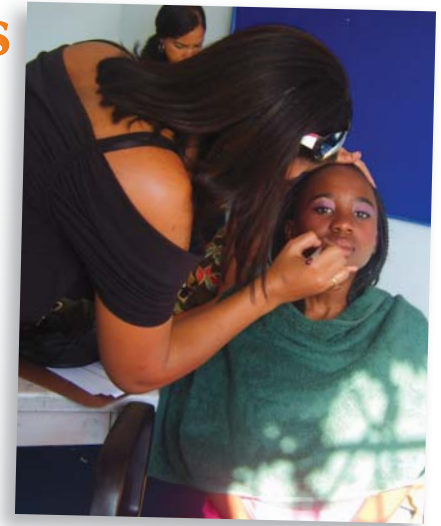
Children from Cottage 4 during their presentation ... and below, excited prize-winners.



Grooming course lifts girls' spirits



The girls who enjoyed the grooming course model their new 'look' ... from left, back row: Lesedi, Thembi, Palesa, Gracia, Nellie, Lindiwe, Gugu, Wilemina, Shanice Front row: Precious, Andile and Khanyesa.



Thembi has her make-up professionally applied before the photo shoot.

Our girls were treated to a 10-week grooming course, kindly offered by Roxanne Manuel.

Important topics such as social skills, deportment, confidence and self-esteem were covered – which was all of great benefit to the girls.

There was an extra treat for the young ladies on the last

day of the course, when professional make-up artists gave them a 'make-over'. An outdoor brunch ended off the course in great style.

We extend grateful thanks to Roxanne and to everyone who helped to give our girls this extra-special experience.



Below: the spectacular outdoor brunch setting.

Movie premiere for our children



Tanith Bester, Miss Queen of the Universe, stands alongside our display at the premiere to accept gifts on our children's behalf.

Bedford Centre, in conjunction with Ster Kinekor, held a red carpet fundraising premiere of *Slumdog Millionaire* to benefit our home.

The 'fee' charged for viewing was a donation of new clothing, toys or food – and little Miss Queen of the Universe, Tanith Bester, was on hand to accept the

donations on our home's behalf.

Our children were thrilled to meet Tanith and the event organisers the next day, when they visited to hand over the event's proceeds.

Our children loved the toys and other items that were handed over after the event.



Home happenings

Easter bunny cheer



SA Homeloans sponsored an Easter egg hunt for our children. Debbie Mulder shares a cuddle with Siphelele (left) while Vania (above) helped the children store their bounty of eggs in their shirts!



Painting for effect



Volunteers from Tracker painted our children's gym area with much enthusiasm. Thank you to the cheerful Tracker team.



Servochem's Golf Day

All dressed up for a good cause are, from left: JCH social worker Sandra Yung Fah, Servochem MD Andre du Plessis, JCH PRO, Fiona Duke, radio station 94.7's Graeme Joffe, who was master of ceremonies, and JCH Director, Narisha Govender.



Big smiles from tiny tots



Fit to play

These rugby players didn't need a full team to enjoy themselves – just love for the game.



Two of our tiny tots were happy to hold their pose – and their ready smiles – for the camera.

Important dates to diarise

The **Annual General Meeting** of The Johannesburg Children's Home will take place at 10am on 8 October 2009, at 45 Observatory Avenue Observatory. Please contact Nokwazi on 011 648 1120/1/2 to confirm your attendance.

Our **Golf Day** is scheduled for 4 September 2009 at the Royal Johannesburg Kensington Golf Club. True Colour Events is hosting the day. For more information, hole sponsorship and four-ball prizes, please contact Fiona or Margaret on 011 648 1120/1/2.