

## Congratulations, Celebrations and Graduations

DECEMBER 2015

The last quarter of 2015 has been busy, rich and fulfilling for Wordworks and its partners. We celebrated our 10th birthday, and applauded the achievements of volunteers, teachers, parents and children across our programmes. Events included the Ready, steady...read and write Co-ordinators' celebratory tea and volunteer-led graduations for little Grade Rs and Grade Is; a graduation for Home-School Partnership Programme teachers; and STELLAR Lead Teachers' displays and certification events across the province. We also participated as a beneficiary in the annual Paddle to Read for Mandela boat race. Enjoy these visual memories with us.



Visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/wordworksSA](http://www.facebook.com/wordworksSA), or our website [www.wordworks.org.za](http://www.wordworks.org.za) for details and pictures of these events, and much more.

# Ready, steady...read and write

An early literacy support programme

- 66 schools and 17 partner NGOs participated in the programme this year.
- 697 volunteer Co-ordinators and Tutors worked with 2951 Grade R and Grade I children who attended weekly lessons to improve their reading and writing skills.



"I have noticed a steady improvement in reading, writing and language but the biggest boost has been the pupils self-confidence – 'I can do it!' Their enjoyment says it all." (Volunteer)

"Not only are they learning, I'm learning as well because now I know how to teach children and help children to read." (Volunteer)

# Every word counts

families learning together

- 22 trainers of Home-visitors and ECD Practitioners from 9 partner NGOs from the Western and Eastern Cape were trained on this programme.
- Over 200 Home-visitors and ECD Practitioners are using EWC resources in their work with parents and young children.



"The materials are colourful, informative, brilliant!" (partner NGO)

"I feel inspired to use all the material in our Moms and Tots and Clinic Programmes." (partner NGO)

## Wordworks in 2015

### Home-School Partnership Programme

Supporting informal learning at home

- 44 Schools and 5 partner NGOs participated in the HSPP this year.
- Close to 100 Foundation Phase Teacher-facilitators were trained to offer the programme.
- 716 parents/caregivers received certificates for attending at least 5 out of 7 sessions.
- Over 1500 children benefitted through their parents' participation in the programme this year.



"I learnt that all parents are teachers, no matter what their circumstances and quality of their education." (Teacher-facilitator)

"(I learnt) to love and to listen to my child and take his ideas." (Parent)

The following were trained on the STELLAR programme:

- 8 ECD and 46 Foundation Phase Advisors in the Western Cape
- 183 Lead Teachers in the Western Cape who will train 3000 Grade R teachers in 2016
- 37 teachers in Zimbabwe, Botswana and Zambia
- 25 trainers from 11 partner NGOs in Western Cape, in the Eastern Cape and in the North West Province

About 6 600 children have benefitted through their teachers' participation in this programme.



"For the first time in a long time my passion for teaching is coming back. A highlight was gaining confidence in what type of teacher as well as person I'd like to be and am capable of being." (Lead Teacher)

"I have learnt a lot. I know that oral language development is very good for pupils to be able to read. I know what phonological awareness is and I have many activities that one can do to promote language development. I also know that parents have a role in children's learning. I would like to thank the facilitators for such a wonderful programme" (Grade R teacher)



Thank you to everyone who belongs to the Wordworks family for everything you have done to support young children's language and literacy this year. We wish you a safe and happy holiday!