



Home of Excellence

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King Shaka High School

PRINCIPAL acknowledges SPONSORS



Acting Principal S Mqadi

There are no words that can express how privileged we are as a school to have Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation as our sponsors. Since Grindrod and Adopt-a-School became part of King Shaka High School there is an unbelievable and remarkable improvement that is evident in the infrastructural development and improvement of matric results among other things. Ill-discipline amongst boys and teenage pregnancy amongst girls has reduced so much since 2009, the year we were adopted.

Grindrod has transformed the infrastructure of our school to a level that can only be compared to model C schools. Today King Shaka High School boasts of a top-class computer lab that is fully equipped.

Grindrod has also revamped the consumer lab as well as the science lab. Both labs have been refurbished and fully equipped in a way that places our school as one of the best schools in Umlazi. King Shaka High School is more than 40 years old but today all the buildings look as good as new courtesy of renovations done by Grindrod. In addition Grindrod is currently completing the building an Administration block. The infrastructural development has created a conducive environment for teaching and learning.

Besides the infrastructural development, Grindrod together with Adopt-a-School Foundation has done a lot for the betterment of our school. For example, maths, science and accounting teachers have been trained and all the teachers spent a weekend away for strategic planning and team-building last year. This has helped us to have a working document with functional school committees. Our school is more organised than before.

It is an honour to be the manager at a school powered by such a generous and progressive sponsor. I would like to thank the Grindrod staff for attending the "Back to school for a day programme" and Mandela day; these events have challenged us and our learners to be better individuals and a team. We thank you.

Acting-Principal: S Mqadi

Vision

Our vision is to have a literate, skilled, advanced and patriotic society capable of participating in progressive and democratic processes, thus contributing to growth and development of the country.

Mission Statement

To provide equitable quality education enabling learners to be knowledgeable, disciplined, assertive, diligent, trustworthy and successful which will improve their position in life and the society as a whole.

PHILILE has a dream

I have a dream; this is MY dream not Martin Luther King's dream. I have a dream about my school King Shaka High. I have a vision about my school mates, a dream about myself. It's a dream where excellence becomes part of our daily life. It's a dream where the name King Shaka

is intrinsically synonymous with the word excellence.

They say every journey begins with a single step and I can safely say we are at the right path taking into consideration the remarkable effort from our educators after the strategic planning

they have attended, some of our learners and the work done by Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation in our community. Today is better than yesterday, but it is my dream to make tomorrow much better than today.

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Philile Mbotho (9A)

Leadership training changed our lives

Last year in October we were privileged to be the selected learners to attend a two-day leadership training at Bluff Eco-park. This leadership training was organized by Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation. It was facilitated by Bakang Enele from Adopt-a-School Foundation. Mr Mavhiza and Mr Khumalo attended as the two supporting educators.



At the Eco-park

Eco-park was the perfect venue for this training camp. The surrounding lush tropical bush offered a unique natural environment that was conducive for learning life-changing aspects. Our facilitator Bakang Enele inspired us with a plethora of his motivational sessions. His mountain-moving words of hope and optimism are still vivid in our minds. He taught us what it takes to be good and inspirational leaders.

It was great watching inspirational videos that touched and changed our lives. One of the most inspirational videos was on Nick Vujicic. Nick

Vujicic was born without arms and legs due to rare congenital condition, but that did not stop him from living his life and conquering all challenges. We were all touched and inspired by his motivational speech when he said, "If I fail I try again, and again. If YOU fail, are you going to try again? The human spirit can handle much worse than we realise. It matters HOW you are going to FINISH. Are you going to finish strong?"

We learnt a lot from this leadership training. It dramatically changed our

lives and this is evident in a change of attitude towards education and life from all of us who attended the training. Realising how privileged we are to be part of such a wonderful programme, it came to our minds that it was obligatory for us to go back and positively influence other learners at school. With the help of Mr Mavhiza and Mr Khumalo we formed a team called "King Shaka Activists". All the initiatives and successes of our team at school are a clear testimony to how the training camp changed our lives.

As King Shaka Activists we have developed a culture of presenting motivational speeches at the school. This has cultivated a sense of self-confidence, dignity and sense of responsibility as leaders. Our biggest initiative so far is the King Shaka Spelling Bee competition. We managed to source sponsorship from Global Dignity Club and the event was one of the most exhilarating and yet educational. At the moment we have embarked on a school magazine project.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Adopt-a-School Foundation and Grindrod for their amazing support of our education. Last but not least we would also want to thank all our educators and fellow students for their solidarity towards the betterment of King Shaka High School.



Back at School-King Shaka Activists

King Shaka 2013 Spelling Bee Competition

The Spelling Bee Competition is the first of its kind at King Shaka High School. This is an initiative by King Shaka Activists, an idea they adopted from the National Spelling Bee competitions in USA. This competition has received standing ovations from both educators and learners because of its dynamic structure which allows both learning and fun.

The competition has three segments which are the preliminaries, semi-finals and championship finals. In the preliminary round learners from the same class compete amongst themselves and the winners represent their classes in the semi-finals and championship finals.

The aim for this competition is deeply rooted in attempting to improve spelling skills amongst learners. Educators are responsible for compiling a list of words that were used in the competition.

The preliminary round held on 3 May was very successful with 20 students making it to the semi-finals.

The semi-finals were more interesting with the participants battling it out at the school assembly. Mrs Kheswa and Mr Khumalo were the pronouncers and the judges were Mr Zulu and Ms Ngcobo. The support which the participants received from their classmates was outstanding. It was interesting to see students from GET and FET competing in the same competition. The surprise of the day was Nomcebo Ncaca from Grade 9A who spelt all the



A Global Dignity Club representative hands over prizes to the top three Spelling Bee winners, from left, Phumlani Nyoka 11C, Nosihle Magwaza 12A and Nomcebo Ncaca 9A.

words with ease. She was the only student from GET phase to make it to the championship finals.

The Championship finals were breathtaking. The Hip Hop music performance from learners brought life and enthusiasm to this remarkable event. There was a fierce battle as most participants

spelt almost all given words correctly irrespective of how tricky the words were. Some of the words spelt with ease included: entrepreneur, colleague, miscellaneous, diarrhea, pseudonym, exuberance, mediocre etc. The ultimate winner who became the first King Shaka Spelling Bee Champion was Phumlani Nyoka from Grade 11C. Nosihle Magwaza (12A) came second with Nomcebo Ncaca (9A) taking third position.



From left are Ms. Ngcobo (judge), Mrs Nzama (judge), Mr Khumalo (pronouncer) and Mrs Kheswa (pronouncer).

Rap singer Zama (11C) entertains.





Grindrod is proud to have been a sponsor of King Shaka High School in Umlazi, near Durban, through the Adopt-a-School Foundation, since 2009. As a company, we believe our corporate social investment is best directed at schools, and we feel happy when we see that 62% of learners passed matric last year, compared to 38% in 2009. Congratulations to all those involved in the preparation of this newsletter.



2012 AWARDS DAY: R13 750 given to best learners

King Shaka High School 2012 Best Learners Awards Ceremony was a big and inspiring event. On this day of 7 December 2012, Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation gave away a total of R13 750 to the best performing students. In the history of King Shaka High School this is the largest amount of money ever to be spent on motivating students. This is an ultimate reflection on how Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation are fully committed in improving our learners' academic performance.

The learners were informed about the prizes to be won well before writing their end-of-the-year exams and posters containing prize details were distributed. Thus most learners were motivated to be diligent in their studies as they aspired to excel in their exams with a hope of receiving awards.

Some of the learners who received awards on the day include Philani Ndunakazi who walked away with R3 000 for being the most improved learner. Nomathemba Mahlinza got R2 000 for being the best learner in mathematics and physical science.

At this awards ceremony Nothando Shabalala who is now in grade IIE, gave a report on the leadership training that was sponsored and organised by Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation. Philile Mbotho's "I have a dream" speech painted a picture of learners' eagerness to excel. The day ended with the awards handover by Ms Bongwiwe Ntuli from Grindrod and Ms Banyana Mohajane from Adopt-a-School Foundation.

The success and magnitude of 2012 awards ceremony is working as a source of motivation for learners this year in 2013 as they are working very hard in their studies expecting recognition in the same ceremony at the end of this year.

Credit must therefore be granted to Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation for coming up with such initiatives that positively influence learners to excel in their academic performance. Expectations pertaining to the 2013 Awards Ceremony are high and the Principal is urging all learners to consistently excel in all subjects.



Best learners who received Awards:

Grindrod Most Improved Learner

1st prize, R3000: Ndunakazi Philani (IIC)
2nd prize, R2000: Sanelisiwe Mhlongo (IOa)
3rd prize R1000: Madiya Mbali (9c)

Shanduka Best Overall Learner in Grade II: R750

Mvundla Lindokuhle (grade II)

Subject Prizes Open to Grade II Students

• **Mathematics** : 1st prize, R1000: Mahlinza Nomathemba
2nd prize R750: Kunene Mlungisi

• **Accountancy** : 1st prize, R100: Chiliza Nokwazi
2nd prize, R750: Nxele Ntandoyenkosi

• **Science** : 1st prize, R1000: Mahlinza Nomathemba
2nd prize, R 750: Myeza Phindile

• **English** : 1st prize, R1000: Magwaza Nosihle
2nd prize, R750: Chiliza Nokwazi

I have a dream

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I was privileged to attend a leadership training workshop organised by Grindrod and Adopt-a-School Foundation. There I learned that if you want success as bad as you want to breathe, then you can definitely be successful. Success comes at a price. No pain, no gain. That is why American artist 50 Cent said: "Sleep? I don't sleep. Sleep is for those who are broke." I love myself, I love my school, I love you all and it is my little dream to see us moving up the ladder of success making our school an academic powerhouse of excellence. Lastly I want to thank Mr Cyril Ramaphosa for initiating the Adopt-a-School Foundation because I would not be as positive as I am today. After the news that one of our peers has been awarded a full bursary from Mr Ramaphosa's Educational Trust, I knew the future is here and is upon us to take it with both hands. Thank you Sir, you are our inspiration.

This is my dream, my ambition, my vision. What is your dream? A blind person asked God, "Can there be anything worse than losing eye sight?" He replied, "Yes, it is losing your vision". Meaning losing vision is worse than being blind. So let us not forget that success is in our minds and that we are the architectures of our own destiny. This is my message for my fellow learners.

I have a dream, what is your dream?

PHILILE MBOTHO (Grade 9A) - A Member of KING SHAKA ACTIVIST