

Hermann Ohlthaver Trust NMU ICT Engagement 2018

Report on Semester 2

July to end of September 2018

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1. INTRODUCTION

In this second semester report (July to end of September 2018), we are reporting on our activities at Charles Duna Primary School and Chubekile High School in Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape Province.

2. CHARLES DUNA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our support of ICT at Charles Duna Primary School and Chubekile High School continued during the second semester. There is a steady growth in adoption of ICT by educators. Importantly, another Mathematics teacher, Ms Solwandle, has now joined in on the act by using the computer laboratory to complement her classroom teaching. Also noteworthy, is the work by Ms Calana in using the computer laboratory, as well in her classroom, to expose her learners to digital resources. The computer laboratory is now by far the most popular centre at school. The ability of the senior learners in grades 6 and 7 to use digital resources to do projects and assignments has improved tremendously over the course of the year. This was achieved as a result of the timetable that is in place which allows learners regular access to the facility. In the following sections, the progress from July to the end of September 2018 is reported.

2.1 Learner Access to the Computer Laboratory

During the first semester we reported that 462 learners had access to the computer laboratory. Grades 4A and 4B have been added to the timetable and are accompanied by their Mathematics teacher, Ms Solwandle. This pushes the number of learners accessing the computer laboratory up to 560 (See Table 1 below).

Classes allocated periods on the Computer Laboratory Time Table							
Class	Periods per week	# Learners					
Grade 3b	2	39					
Grade 4a	2	50					
Grade 4b	2	48					
Grade 4c	1	47					
Grade 5a	2	41					
Grade 5b	2	39					
Grade 5c	2	39					
Grade 5d	2	41					
Grade 6a	3	34					
Grade 6b	3	35					
Grade 6c	3	37					
Grade 7a	2	36					
Grade 7b	2	36					
Grade 7c	2	38					
Total # of Learners		560					

Table 1: Access to computer laboratory

2.2 New German Volunteers

Johanna and Marie ended their tenure in South Africa during mid-August. We have now been joined by their successors, Sophie Hasselmeyer and Matthis Wilhelmi. Their arrival was delayed by almost one month, as they were only able to join us in the second week of September. Before leaving Germany, they were briefed by Johanna and Marie regarding the work in the computer laboratory. So far they were introduced to the computer lab and have been working through the Mathematics software. They have also been familiarised with the existing timetable for the lab.



2.3 Teacher involvement

Below we provide an overview of what some of the teachers are engaging with currently.

2.3.1 Ms Solwandle

This teacher works in the Mathematics section teaching grades 4 and 6. She has now also been slotted on the timetable for the computer lab. She accompanies her learners to the lab on Mondays and Tuesdays and mainly uses TuxMaths for mental Maths activities. She has now also been trained to utilise other Maths software such as Mathemagic and the PhET simulation software. She will start introducing the PhET simulations to her learners during the next term.

2.3.2 Ms Calana

Ms Calana, the Natural Science for the grade 6 and 7, is continuing to make extensive use of the ICT resources available. She regularly uses a data projector in class for lesson delivery. She makes extensive use of the "TTS website" to download lesson plans and worksheets for use by learners. The grade 6 and 7 learners were able to access the lab regulary during term 3 researching the theme of energy. The pictures that follows, are examples of worksheets used by learners to complete an investigation by accessing online resources in the computer lab.

QUIZ 1	
INSULATION AND ENERGY SAVING	
INVESTIGATION: Visual Activity (watch the answers)	video clip and fill in the missing
Video Clip 7: How to Demonstrate Insulation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8I96BzSN	
1. You will need the following 10 items:	(10 × ½ = 5)
Water ; Zip log	bag +2 : Hand :
Ice blocks : fat	: Stop wath :
Blue colouring: Jug	: Plastic container
· Speen	The second s
2.1 Hypothesis question:	(2)
How tongyon think	the deit will take

QUIZ 1					
INSUL	ATION AND EN	NERGY SA	AVING		GIRE
INVEST	IGATION: Visual /)	Activity (wa	atch the video cli	p and fill in t	he missing
Video Cl https://w	ip 7: How to Dem ww.youtube.com/v	onstrate Ins vatch?v=81	sulation Principle 96BzSNNqE (4:	as Science 46)	Projects
1. Y	ou will need the fo	blowing 10	items:		(10 × ½ =
	Water	;	fat	;P	astic jug
	Ice cubes		Speen	- : -	lastic contain
	blue food to	ouring . V	leastables show	touca :	Hand

2.3.3 Ms Peteni (Grade 3B Teacher)

The grade 3B class continued visiting the computer lab during term 3. The focus was mainly to improve their mouse and keyboard skills. These learners were exposed to MS Paint during their weekly period.

Ms Peteni continues to grow in the use of ICT in her classroom. She uses a data projector daily in lesson delivery. The grade 3B class is exposed to a rich variety of digital media in the form of video clips, pictures and notes. This requires intensive preparation which she manages to do all the time. This all translates into a very positive learning environment and can be seen by the eagerness of the learners in her class to engage in learning activities.

2.3.4 Ms Sume (Principal)

The skill of grade 6 and 7 learners in producing presentations has seen remarkable growth over the course of the year. Ms Sume has adopted a "project based" approach to teach the content of the Life Skills curriculum. Learners are encouraged to develop into independent learners who are free to research the various themes of the curriculum and generated their own content. Some of the themes included health issues, substance abuse, careers and the constitution of the republic. With the assistance of the German volunteers, the learners were guided to do web based research, generate written notes and produce PowerPoint presentations as a final product. Below are three examples of presentations developed be learners.

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3. CHUBEKILE HIGH SCHOOL

In this section, feedback pertaining to Chebukile, for the period August to September, is provided.

3.1 Innovation Leadership Conference

This inaugural conference took place at St Domonic's Priory in Port Elizabeth during the June Holidays. Ms Yolisa Mpahlaza was sponsored by Chubekile High while three additional teachers received sponsorships from SchoolNet South Africa to attend the event.

3.2 August Training

During August, the following aspects were attended to, namely:

- 21st Web Page design using Komposer (3.5 hours)
- 22nd Introduction to W3School.com for access to all the HTML tags (3.5 hours).
- Grade 8 and 9 learners were given tasks using Pivotstick Animator
- A review of Tablets at the schools
- 23rd Further HTML Tags and the use of <u>https://www.w3schools.com</u> site
- Tablet investigations
- 29th Installation of UWAMP and Word Press
- Introduction to Word Press
- Tablet investigations
- 30th Introduction to Word Press before the server went down
- Tablet investigations

3.3 Computer Laboratory use by teachers

Ms Yolisa Mpahlaza reported that there has been an increase in the use of the Computer Laboratory with teachers taking classes to do research, deliver PowerPoint lessons and write up reports.

3.4 Teacher Laptops

A number of teachers received laptops from the Education Department for use in preparation and in the classrooms. Support is provided when teachers request assistance.

3.5 Computer Tablets

Like the Computer Laboratory, the Tablets had never been used before. On investigation it was discovered that they were linked to the Vodacom Network with open access to the Thutong Educational Network via the dedicated WiFi server. Due to the fact that there was no WiFi connecting to the NMU network, these tablets were of restricted use. They did not have the Google Play store App restricting the installation of additional APKs. This problem was investigated and has been resolved:

- Missionvale High Site:
 - All equipment still in good condition.
 - Logged on assessed the links were offline.
- Chubekile:
 - Assessed site got the internet up and running also faster and more stable than before.
 - o The UPS was off, we got the server up and running fine now

The Tablets are able to access the internet through a Raspberry Pi's setup as an access point, as well as a separate access point devices. It was recently discovered that there is an access point in the server cabinet which could potentially be used for this purpose. It was recommended that a password is assigned to this device to manage the use of the WiFi for users accessing the computer room.

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3.6 UWAMP Server

UWAMP software was installed on a single PC to act as a web server with Apache, MYSQL and PHP installed. A small group of learners were introduced to working with Word Press before the network went down, but it has now been restored again (see 3.5). The UWAMP server can also be used to distribute other software and information to all PCs on the network. There is a need for learners to have access to their own personal network space in the near future, thus introducing them to the cloud.

3.7 Computer Lab Prefects

A group of 4-5 Graded 11 learners are showing tremendous talent, as well as dedication to helping others. The recommendation is that a system of Computer Laboratory Prefects be adopted for 2019 to assist the staff in managing the centre, especially in the afternoons.

3.8 Schedule for teacher training

Problems has been experienced with scheduling training for teachers, as they have reported an overload of school administration. Efforts will be made to continue with training in the fourth term.

3.9 Chess and Sudoku

Chess and Sudoku have been introduced. There has been a positive response to this approach. It has been noted than many of the learners are only interested in surfing YouTube videos, expected when learners explore the internet.

4. CONCLUSION

The support to the schools is making a difference in both learners' and teachers' lives. It is through the support of the Herman Ohlthaver Trust and Mr Alan Appel that we can continue to provide assistance and hence we would like to thank the Herman Ohlthaver Trust for the fantastic support.