



YEAR END NEWSLETTER
December 2021



IMHOFF AT PRESENT

The children at Imhoff Waldorf School, the Early Childhood as well as Primary are in the process of finishing the school year. Thankfully we have all been at school for most of 2021 with lessons taking place in our classrooms, and, outside in the forest. We are also very fortunate that the children can play

under trees and run on unstructured land at break time.

We had to work online for some time during this school year and used various online learning platforms. It was an experience we hope never to go through again.

Unfortunately with Covid-19 arriving many families were unable to pay fees and as a result the school took a substantial financial knock. Teachers and administrative staff have been working on a salary cut since last year, hoping to return to full salary soon. The employees at Imhoff Waldorf School are not the only ones affected by the Corona crisis; many of our school families who tend to own small businesses and the surrounding communities are also struggling financially.

Despite these struggles our community spirit is strong and we support each other as best we can.

Bilqis Pandey
For The Sponsorship Group

SEVEN YEARS PLUS AT IMHOFF

Being in a Waldorf school is really special because it gives you the freedom to be creative and it allows children to think independently. Here we were given an opportunity to express and find our inner selves.

Eurythmy helped us to view life from a different perspective. It also assisted us to have inner peace in life and to speak without words. It made us feel within ourselves.

IsiXhosa was important for more of our classmates because it is their third language. It also encourages children to learn about other cultures.

Joining this school was a miracle to us, a blessing and it continues to be so.

Dayyaan, Iviwe, Xhasanani
Class Seven Children



SPRINGTIME IN ECD



Spring has sprung and there are so many little bobbing daisies and flower fairies welcoming and witnessing us as we pass. We walk over hill and dale, around rocky outcrops beneath tall trees, and settle in sun-dappled places with a view of the mountains, lakes and sea!

After singing our blessing, the children eat with relish and enthusiasm - eager to be done with so mundane a task as food. They want to go and play on the rocks and koppies, hiding and seeking, climbing and finding treasures. We are visited by all manner of beetles and bugs. Often we are lucky to have the goats passing by, some of them with bells round their necks playing a gentle tune as they pass. The llama's love to have sand baths on the dusty road crossings in the sun. The quieter children often spot tortoises.

Before heading back to class, we always lie on our backs on Mother Earth and look up through the branches of the trees to the light and sky above ... and then close our eyes. After a little rest we put our bags on our backs and head on home

to the class garden and house. All are rosy and soul satisfied after a morning of close contact with nature, here at Imhoff Waldorf school.

Laura Moss and Nan Raubenheimer

Kindergarten and Playgroup Teachers

MICHAELMAS FESTIVAL



“In Springtime St Michael, with sword and with shield, passes over meadows, through orchids and fields.”

At the end of our third term, which is Spring Time in the southern hemisphere, we celebrate the time of Saint Michael. Saint Michael is an archangel, a spiritual warrior in the battle of good versus evil. He is considered a champion of justice, a healer of the sick, and the guardian of mankind. Michaelmas is a time of tasks and conquering one's inner challenges. The picture of our tests comes in the form of a dragon and we tame the dragon with our might and determination. This is the last festival the class 7s have with the whole school before they continue their journeys onto high school. The class 7s have the privilege to wear the dragon and sway to the beat of the drum as they rhythmically slither their way around the field and finish at the line of class 1s, to be tamed with verse and swords.



“Dreaded dragon, green and black
 Jagged scales along his back
 Thorny wings thrash higher and higher
 Fearless fangs and eyes of fire

Michael with sword of light strikes against the dragon's might
 Tame this monster of the night, Michael archangel bright”

Candice du Plessis
 Class One Teacher

CLASS 3 CAMP

On the 27th October 2021 at about 9 o'clock in the morning we left the school on our way to Wellington on a farm called Bloublommetjies Kloof. When we arrived there after a long drive of about 2 and ½ hours, the children unpacked the cars and went in a big barn/sleeping area, which was set ready with mattresses for all the children to sleep on. They were orientated around the farm. It was very hot in that valley that afternoon. Their first task was to make compost by mixing cow dung and some green weeds then water. After that they had a snack break and went for a swim in a very cold dam to cool their bodies. They had so much fun playing around. Second task was with animals where they had to feed the pigs, collected the cows and horses and brought them into the stables. Then after supper they had tea and went to bed it was very hard to sleep because of all the excitement of being together. In the morning they were divided into groups and did different tasks like working on grooming the horses and milking the cows, the second group fed the pigs and collected eggs and fed the chickens then had breakfast together. Then the next tasks were preparing for supper, made burgers and baked rolls while the other group learnt to make butter from fresh cream milk. They also collected green veggies from the garden to make a salad for supper and helped grill the burgers on the fire. After supper and washing up the dishes we went for a night walk in the forest to listen to a story in the dark in the moon light and went to bed early we were exhausted.

The tasks continued the next morning and we started packing up getting ready to leave. It started raining when we were preparing the blessing of the compost by performing a ceremony.

This camp has been an experience of a lifetime for my group as a whole, which bonded so nicely together.

Fezile Mdzinwa
Class Three Teacher

