

'People need people, to walk to, to talk to, to cry and rely on, people will always need people.'

Ukuwela just loves this poem by Benjamin Zephaniah. It captures the spirit of who we are and what we believe. Where would we be without other people?

The amazing people from Pathcare opened a door for Alexander (Alex) Africa when he started as a laboratory clerk on the 17th of April 2023. Thank you to the whole Pathcare team who have been so supportive including Alex's dad, Edward, who had the following to say: 'I am so happy about Alex ... I think he is just going to be great!'



ALEX (LEFT) STANDING TALL AT PATHCARE, AND SENIOR LEARNERS ENJOYING A WORK EXPOSURE OPPORTUNITY AT HEATHERPARK SUPERSPAR (MIDDLE) AND GERONIMO SPUR (RIGHT)

'To make life appealing, and give life some meaning, it's useful to have other people.'

Thank you to Ukuwela Facilitator, Asisipho Ndzoto, and our University of Cape Town (UCT) Occupational Therapy (OT) students, Caitlin and Bonolo who prepared our learners to fulfill the role of workers through work exposure opportunities at various work sites. A total of 51 Carpe Diem learners attended work exposure opportunities this term. Thank you to SuperSpar Heatherpark, Geronimo Spur, and Loerie Bakery who accommodated our learners!

JEROME PRINS (RIGHT) IS ENJOYING FOLDING BOXES AT LOERIE BAKERY



'If you need a change, to whom will you turn? If you need a lesson, from whom will you learn?'

So much learning took place this term! A big thank you to Rohan Vermaak from African Skills Village who presented a Basic Handyman Course to 14 of our senior boys. The course covered the basics of electrical, plumbing, and carpentry which fits in perfectly with the Maintenance curriculum. Thank you also to teacher Johan de Jager without whom we could not have done it! Our boys were super chuffed with their certificates which they received in person from Rohan!



ABOVE: BASIC HANDYMAN SKILLS TRAINING WITH ROHAN VERMAAK FROM AFRICAN SKILLS VILLAGE. ALL WE CAN SAY IS: 'IT WAS AWESOME!' AND WE LOVE OUR CERTIFICATES!

This term we also concluded with a 'Speech Craft' course presented by the famous (and our favourite Canadian) Melanie Taddeo-Nxumalo and her team. Thank you, ladies, for investing in our senior learners who learned the ins and outs of public speaking. These learners concluded by presenting a short speech about themselves. Their stories truly are powerful, and we wish that they will continue this journey, building self-confidence and knowing their worth. Big thank you also to UCT OT students, Anneke and Luke, for their support and facilitation.

Another Ukuwela candidate who is not shy to learn new skills is Lu-Ann Fouché who recently started an internship as a cleaner at the medical practice of Dr Emmy Verster. Thank you to Chrismelin and Thelma for taking on a new student and investing in our candidates!

It's a thumbs up for Romano Noble, one of our senior boys, who are continuing with his on-the-job training at McDonald's under the watchful eye of Asisipho. This is a patient and gradual journey - keep at it Romano!

'To love and to miss, to hug and to kiss, it's useful to have other people.'

How wonderful to be missed by others and to celebrate with others! Congratulations to Jody Oliver, Jaco Claassen, and Darren Smith for making a difference and reaching the one-year employment mark at Woolworths for which they received their Vasbyt Awards! Who better to share this happy moment than with their colleagues and managers, who were there to celebrate with them? We wish them many more years of happy employment!

Congratulations also to Ikie Fortuin who completed the first three months of his employment at Sub-Saharan Solar. Ikie is braving the winter weather and is usually the first to arrive at work. Keep going Ikie!



CONGRATUALATIONS TO DARREN (LEFT), JODY (MIDDLE) AND JACO (RIGHT) WITH THEIR VASBYT AWARDS! YOU DID IT!

'It's so hard to share when no one is there. There's not much to do when there's no one but you. People will always need people.'

One of our senior Carpe Diem learners found herself in a position where she is unable to attend school. She needed something to give her a new sense of purpose. The answer came in the form of Juanita Theane, a local nail technician (amongst other amazing things) who is doing a splendid job teaching her nail technology skills. The learner has been making amazing progress and we can't wait to share the end results with you! A very big thank you also to Planet Nails George for sponsoring the start-up kit! We really do need each other.

'People live in families, gangs, posses and packs, it seems we need company before we relax, so stop making enemies and let's face the facts, people will always need people, yes, people will always need people.'

Wishing you a warm winter with people whom you appreciate and who appreciate you. Let's make it possible for one another to relax and just be ourselves! Thank you to everyone who does this for Ukuwela and its people. You truly are valued.

Warm winter greetings from George,

