

BIZWENI BUZZ

Term 2 2026



**BIZWENI
CENTRE**

— FOR CHILDREN —
WITH DISABILITIES

"What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. These are but trifles, to be sure; but scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable." - Joseph Addison

GROWING GARDEN

We are so grateful for our friends at Virtual Resource. Not only are they part of our Support a Child programme, they are always quick to help out wherever they can.

As soon as our Life Skills class put out a request for seedling donations, VR arrived laden with an array of vegetable and flower plants for our Teaching Garden. Thank you VR, for being such super supporters. Your generosity supports hands-on learning so they can experience the excitement of growing their own plants.



WINTER WARMERS

A couple of curious Class 1 boys had fun exploring the colourful crocheted blankets that were kindly donated.

A sincere thank you to the Helderberg Rotary Anns and Beaumont Primary School for their Jersey Drive and the generous donation of six large bags of warm clothing and beautiful blankets. Your thoughtfulness is helping to keep our children warm this winter while reminding them that they are loved and cared for.

TIP TOP TABLES

Sometimes we are blessed, just out of the blue! This is what happened when Turner & Townsend/Profica delivered an amazing donation of three modern tables, four high-quality office chairs, and a printer. These items are already making a meaningful difference in our Life Skills Class and the office.

We are incredibly grateful to Donia for nominating the Centre, and to Turner & Townsend for choosing to support us in such a practical way.



SPUR BIRTHDAY

What a wonderful way to celebrate Bizweni's 28th birthday! April marks the month our Centre first opened its doors. The Spur team surprised us with Chico the Clown ice cream and a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday". We had a good giggle and definitely felt the Spur love!

A heartfelt thank you to Indigo Spur, the Rotary Club of Helderberg, and everyone who came along to celebrate with us. The Centre received 10% of the takings that night, and thanks to our loyal supporters, we raised a fantastic R3,000! We couldn't have done it without you.



NEXT GENERATION OF KINDNESS

If you have read previous editions of the Bizweni Buzz, you will see that we mention our friends from Applewood Prep and Beaumont Primary every year. One would think that we would run out of things to say about these fresh-faced volunteers, but no. We love how easily they become part of our routines, playing, chatting, and connecting with our children without hesitation or judgement.

These visits are about so much more than spending time together. They are a beautiful reminder that friendship has no barriers. We all learn from one another, celebrate our differences, and discover that kindness, acceptance, and laughter are things we can all share. If only the whole world could do the same!

We appreciate every single one of these young volunteers – the next generation of leaders, teachers, healthcare professionals, neighbours and friends. By spending time at Bizweni, they are learning lessons that can't be taught from a textbook: empathy, inclusion, patience and the value of seeing the person before the disability. We hope their experiences here will stay with them long after they leave school, inspiring them to build communities where everyone belongs.

The future is brighter because of children like these.



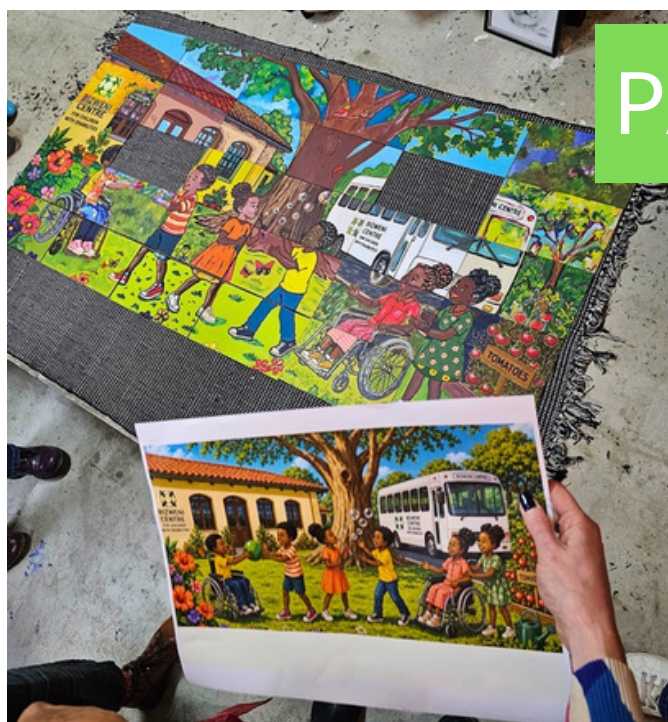


SWIM FOR GOOD

A huge shout-out to all the super strong Strand Lifesaving Nippers kids, moms and dads who swam their hearts out in the Harbour 2 Harbour race in May. The Midlife Mermaids were inspirational when they took on the relay swim, braving the cold (and sometimes oily) water, proving to their kids that they've still got what it takes! Every swimmer and supporter helped shine a light on the work we do and the children we care for. Thank you for making a difference, both in and out of the water!

ENTREPRENEURS DAY

On 25 June, we had great fun at Beaumont Primary's Entrepreneurs Day. Our table showcased a selection of merchandise made with love by our teenagers in our Life Skills Class. The beautifully scented soaps were a big hit, as was the colourful Playdough. The children were also such great sports, buying our sparkly Christmas decorations even though Christmas is still a long way off! A special thank you to the Grade 7 prefects, who helped sell our products throughout the morning – we loved their enthusiasm! Thank you, too, to Beaumont Primary for giving us this opportunity.



PAINT & CONNECT

Our Paint & Sip annual fundraiser is always loads of fun, and this year definitely delivered. We changed things up a bit, and guests helped create a unique Bizweni mural by painting individual pieces that will be assembled and displayed at the Centre. It turned out amazingly!! Each piece is beautiful in its own way - just like us. A special thank you to Sulette at The Workshop, who played a huge part in making the event such a success. We are incredibly grateful for her support. Thanks to the generosity of the lovely ladies who attended, we raised just over R13,000, which is absolutely fantastic!

OUT & ABOUT

We are passionate about giving our children the chance to explore the world beyond the Centre. Whether it's a trip to the beach, a visit to the aquarium, or going to the mall for a treat, these experiences are about much more than just having fun.

Outings give our children the opportunity to learn through real-life experiences, discover new sights, sounds, and environments, and practice social and life skills. They build confidence and reinforce the themes they learn in class.

Without the Centre, many of our children would have few opportunities to enjoy experiences like these. Watching their faces light up as they experience something new reminds us why we love what we do.



Bridging Abilities Sports Day



Two Oceans Aquarium

Sir Lowry's Pass Firestation



Pebbles Project Oral Hygienist





CELEBRATING LAURA

Recently, we had the privilege of welcoming the Schütt family to the Centre as they celebrated their daughter's life in the most beautiful way. Surrounded by pink cupcakes, chocolate cake, a candle inscribed in her memory, and a framed photograph, they shared stories of a little girl who brought so much love to those around her. Mienie led an uplifting music session where we all sang, clapped and danced together. Our hearts went out to the Schütt family as they remembered and celebrated their precious Laura, and we thank them for choosing to share this special celebration with us.

SHANE'S RACE

On 13 June, we were delighted to be invited to the prizegiving at Shane's Sailing Regatta in Gordon's Bay, where we had the opportunity to represent Bizweni Centre's work to the sailing community. It was a relaxed and enjoyable evening, giving us the chance to connect with people who were interested in learning more about our children and the work we do.

A heartfelt thank you to Shane's parents, Tim and Romana, for including us and helping to raise awareness of disability.



FOOD DROP

As the school term came to an end, each of our families received a food parcel filled with essential staple items, along with a bag of chicken, to help support them over the three-week holiday.

For many of the families we serve, school holidays can place extra pressure on already stretched household budgets.

These food parcels help bridge the gap, ease food insecurity, and provide some peace of mind, ensuring that our children continue to have access to nutritious meals while the Centre is closed.



Thank you

to all our monthly givers for choosing to be a part of our children's lives.

We couldn't do what we do without YOU!

www.bizwenicentre.co.za



WAYS TO GIVE

givengain



Bizweni Centre for Children
with Disabilities
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Branch code: 632005
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POPIA = Protection of Personal Information Act

This law is designed to protect how your data is collected, used and stored.

And we take your privacy seriously

Our newsletters are here to keep you informed about campaigns and other goings on at Bizweni Centre for Children with Disabilities.

You are receiving this because you have signed up for our mailing list! Whoo-Hoo!

If you wish to continue receiving updates from Bizweni Centre, then you're all good - no further actions are required from you!

HOWEVER

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