



St Francis Outreach Trust

Supporting disadvantaged communities

Patron : the Most Reverend Njongo Ndungane

Quarterly Report June 2013

Life is exciting and changes continually at the Homes to Grow.

On the 25th June the court will decide the fate of our sixth child, a little girl of 7 years, who is already a part of the family and feels very much at home.

Our five year old underwent a hip operation at the beginning of February. After 3 months of obediently following doctor's orders and not placing any weight on her affected leg, and living in a wheel chair, she passed the last check-up with flying colours. The X-rays were excellent too, so she is now allowed to walk again without any support or assistance. She proudly showed me the other day how well she can already jump and how much fun she has climbing up the jungle gym and whizzing down the slide.

Our fulltime assistant foster mother, having now fulfilled her contract, which was drawn up and signed to help Mother Joyce with the special care of our patient, ended her involvement with the home at the end of March.

Our foster mother has not been idle. Joyce attended a nutritional course. Michelle was present at her certification party and Joyce is now looking forward to planting herbs and applying the newly learned methods to the preparation of her meals.

At the beginning of May one of our associates set up a Facebook page for us: Facebook/homestogrow. Have a look and see if you "like" it. Help us spread the news of our Homes to Grow and follow our progress towards the second home.

In mid-August the wait will be over, when you can purchase our unique South Peninsula Calendar, now in international demand. The 2014 calendar has new recipes, beautiful scenes of the Cape and lots more.

The price will be the same as last year, R120, and less with larger orders. We will ship for the cost of the postage if you contact us. Some images will be on our website: www.stfrancistrust.org as of August.

One of our children never went to pre-school and therefore has difficulties in school. Previous remedial time with a trained teacher was helping but could not be continued as the person moved. We have now found 4 cooperative and enthusiastic ladies who are seeing our 3 oldest children for a remedial lesson once a week.

Our four-year-old whose speech problems have improved considerably, is very fortunate as Natalie from Peninsula Speech Therapy has offered to come to the house twice a month on a Saturday to work with her.

A few weeks ago I received a scary call from Joyce at 23:30am, informing me that a fire was burning in our cul-de-sac. She had already sent the children away with a friend to protect them from the smoke. Fortunately our house was unharmed and Joyce kindly let the people involved store some of the possessions that they saved in the home. The next day we distracted the children from the shock with an Easter egg hunt.

Great news, we have a new associate who joined us! Alice Butterworth has years of experience in working with the underprivileged and has already organized a visit of a Firetruck to the crèche of two of our girls. Joyce received detailed instructions for fire Safety. The Fire extinguishers were serviced and we will ask the fire department to come and give us a fire safety Certificate. Welcome Alice!

Our partners of Ibongho Trust have given us amazing help this year. Besides raising and sending us large sums for the building of our second home, they also arranged a grant from Book4life in the Netherlands. From them, Joyce received new bed linen for all seven beds, a new couch and had another one recovered. We placed new colourful material on the dining chairs and painted the house inside and outside. Thank you Germa and Con and all you kind trustees.

My thanks to all the trustees of the St Francis Outreach Trust who are an incredible group of Individuals, not scared to get their hands dirty and give of their time caring to cheer our children up. Bless you!

Monika du Sautoy
Chair

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