



# 10 October 2011

# the fisherman's tale

## From the Principal's Desk



Our Third term began on a high note as the World Methodist Conference took place, this is only the second time this event has taken place in South Africa and we were privileged to have it in Durban. There were visitors from African countries such as Kenya and Nigeria as well as delegates from Japan, Brazil, Australia, U.S.A, Ireland and England. Udobo School had a stall at the conference where we sold birthday calendars, mugs, pens and key rings and made lots of friends for Udobo! People were fascinated by our dvd that we set up to run throughout the day, we were blessed by the use of a large screen supplied by Superior Vision. We had two groups of visitors to our school who had a tour of the school and the church and then were entertained by the children as they sang, danced and recited scripture verses. Many people were moved to tears by the children and I looked at them with new eyes, they have truly come such a long way in a few months and I am humbled by the way they have gained confidence in a second language. They really are amazing little people and we need lots of prayer in order to keep our school available for little ones such as these.

Our first fundraiser for the term was a Line Dancing afternoon on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September, we were able to call upon the expertise of a former member of MMC,

Gina du Toit, who came all the way from Ballito to lead the dance. It was great fun and a chance for

Parents from the school and church members to have fellowship together.



Gina teaching the dance moves



Kids getting into the swing of things

We had our big fundraiser on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September in the form of a Spring Walk – parents again came in to help us mark off laps as the children walked around the church grounds ten times... the children coped well but the adults were exhausted! They then carbo loaded on macaroni and cheese. We broke up on that day for a short holiday although our teachers were rewarded with two extra days as they had worked two public holidays doing fundraising.



...We just walked 10 laps round the church...



Kimberly won the hamper kindly donated by Sonja Carlyle

We are registering children for 2012 at the moment, sadly we are not able to accommodate children from out of the area anymore as the local schools cannot receive them into Grade 1 as they are so full. Naturally any out of area children will be able to complete their time with us.

As a staff we attended a workshop with the local Pre-schools and Grade 1 teachers and it was encouraging to note that Udobo School is right on track as to the requirements of the Grade 1 teachers and that our children are doing well in Grade one. On the down side many of our teachers have been ill this term and at times we had four staff members off at the same time which placed a huge strain on the remaining staff as they have to fill in for absent colleagues. It is wonderful to be a connected to the church at times such as these and people of MMC have so willingly given of their time to keep us running smoothly. I am nervous of naming people as I am aware of how easily people get left out but I have had Callie Martin driving the bus, Jeanette Plantinga, Miriam Deats, Eric Manicom, Joan Prenger and Renee helping in all sorts of areas and am so grateful to them. Thanks too to my assistant teachers who have been used on a rotational basis in the kitchen and worked so willingly.

Vasie Daniels, our so able secretary and office assistant left us and she is a great loss to the school and is greatly missed. However, her leaving us was eclipsed by the great shock and sense of unreality at the untimely death of our kitchen supervisor, Elizabeth Spiller who passed away on the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The staff was naturally very distressed and our Pastor Ansie came and conducted a counselling session with us to talk through the experience and help us begin to assimilate what had happened.

**Anne Snyders**



**Elizabeth Spiller**

### **Farewell to Elizabeth Spiller:**

We are saddened by the sudden and untimely loss of a very dear young lady. Liz cared deeply for the Udobo School and all it stands for and was a faithful ambassador who never missed an opportunity to spread the word about the school. Liz loved the children and working with them fulfilled her wish to 'work with children'. Liz was a determined person, one of her wishes was to own her own home and she managed to do so, she also won a trip on a cruise ship and she and hubby Robert had a wonderful holiday. Liz married Robert 10 years ago and she was a devoted wife, they were a couple whose names were always mentioned together. They were a hospitable couple who welcomed folk into their home and their cell group met there as well. She loved to give and never missed a birthday and if one was ill one was sure to get an sms from Liz. A truly caring person Liz never hesitated to affirm people. Liz also had her funny little ways that made her unique and not easily forgotten, she did not like Mondays and grunted a greeting on that day always saying "I'm in a bad mood" – luckily it did not last! She hated being asked to do more than one thing at a time and her favourite saying was – "I only have two hands". She therefore had the nickname 'Lizzie-two-hands' amongst the staff and she enjoyed the joke with us. I think that if we all learn from her life to love deeply, care genuinely and affirm people while you still can then we would have learned something by knowing her. We will miss you dear friend and take comfort in the fact that you are safe in the arms of Jesus and to her husband and best friend Robert our love goes out to you in the loss of your precious wife and pray that lovely memories will comfort you until you meet again.

### **Cute Quips:**

Kolwani from yellow group was twirling a block in his hand and said 'I can do magic with this' when I asked 'please show me'  
He rolled his eyes and said 'you are too late, the show is over'

Nhlanhla in orange group:

Teacher: 'please name two wild animals

Nhlanhla: 'the elephant and the teacher

..(meaning cheetah, I hope)

Teacher Lizette asked the children where they came from as in whereabouts,

Lisa: 'I come from the swimming pool' (J.J. is from the underground parking at the airport )

Tanatswa in pink group rolled up Teacher Daria's pant leg and had a good look, turned to her friend and said : 'it quite bright here I think she is either Indian or Chinese' ... by the way she is neither!

### **Parent letters:**

Once again this term we have received constant letters of thanks for the birthday cakes which the ladies of the church bake for the children. This is a ministry that touches the hearts of our parents as well as thrilling our children. The expressions on the children's faces when 'their' cake is delivered is so wonderful to see. Once again our thanks to Isobel and her team of ladies who do the work so quietly and selflessly, making 100 cakes every year and making 100 little hearts very happy as well as bringing joy to the families of the birthday children.

## A busy term



Enjoying a milkshake at Wimpy



Building a tall tower



Computer lesson



Working in the vegetable garden



In the Fantasy room



Dressed for Heritage da



Please continue to support us by using your My School Card. Please contact the Udobo School Office for application forms.

**New applications:**

The school is processing new applications and is filling up rapidly. Interested parties with children between 4 – 6 years can phone the school on 031 469 0029 or call in at the office for admission criteria.

**End of year function**

Note the school's end of year function will take place on the morning of 2nd December 2011 in the church.

**We at the Udobo School thank everyone who supports us in any way at all. Without your support it would be very difficult to keep the doors of our school open and 100 little**

**children would miss out on a quality Pre-School education. Please continue pray for us as we continue to thank God for you.**

**BAITING FOR BEQUESTS**

Would you consider leaving money to your favourite charity? "With thankful hearts let your requests be made known to God "(Phil 4:6) and let your bequests be known for Udobo!!

Have you considered this form of support for our organization? Charitable bequests are made through wills or revocable living trusts. They are simple to arrange, offer flexibility and can reduce estate taxes.

If /or when making a legacy gift to our school/s please make sure that it is paid directly to:

The Udobo Ed-U-Foundation (a charitable trust registered in Durban, SA  
 - FR No. 031-161-NPO)  
 Banking Details  
 First National Bank  
 Mobeni Branch (Code - 221026)  
 Account No. 62061351442

Your legal advisor may find the following helpful:

I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to the Udobo Ed-U-Foundation, a tax-exempt, non-profit organization based in Durban, SA...[select one of the following]...

The sum of .....

.....% of my estate

The following described property

The residue of my estate to be used for such purposes as its board of trustees