

Dear Rotarians

It is such exciting times for us as we watch a dream of many years finally coming together. The Hostel toilet block is getting 'finishing touches'. We are currently painting and tiling. The ceiling and finished plumbing and electrics must be done but then we are ready to start using it! The Classroom toilet block is up to roof truss height. They have been building the verandah this week and preparing to put on the roof trusses which are here and ready for installation. We had hoped to put up the trusses on Tuesday next week, but the concrete we need to cement in the post and fill the verandah, can only be delivered next Friday. They still have plenty of plastering and finishing work on the hostel toilet to keep them building while we wait for concrete.

The build has taken a bit longer than the Contractor initially anticipated due to allowing our trainees to build. All 4 have had practical experience in laying bricks and they built all the inside walls of the class toilet block which will be plastered. They have learned how to plaster and tile. Our chairman concluded his theory lessons last week and we will issue each with a certificate during our grand opening so that they have something to show employers in the future.

During our school's one-week break, the plumber brought the excavator in to dig the long trenches we needed to lay pipes for our sewerage and grey water system. It was quite a chaotic week on all levels and I thank God now that it was done while most of the kids were away! We did get all our pipe laid and even had favour with the petronet supervisor who allowed the excavator to dig over the petrol pipe while he was here which saved us a lot of labour costs if we had to do it by hand. The excavator had to move a lot of soil that was dug up to lay the pipes and dig the enormous holes needed to put the conservancy and grey water tanks. The driver was actually very skilled but if you left him for a half an hour, he would clear twice the amount of bush than was really needed! Part of our bylaws from the municipality requires us to restore the bush that is ripped up during the build so we will have a bigish job on hand. We have a plan to replant a ton of indigenous aloe that got ripped up during this excavation along the path of the pipelines and also line it with some of the bigger rocks so that those in management will always know where the water and sewerage pipes are. That is something that wasn't well documented at Dayspring in the past so we had 3 guys on the road during that week for a half a day, carefully digging around for the borehole pipe and cable!

We have really struggled this dry season with our borehole that is best for drinking water. We have 7 private houses full of big families that have put greater and greater demand on our water plus the school and all that live here. We do have a 2nd borehole that has sufficient water but unfortunately it has a bacteria count that is not good for drinking so we use it for the veggie tunnel and staff toilets. We have decided the best use of our borehole water supply is to plumb in 2 separate sources. The drinking water borehole will supply the sinks in the toilet block and the other borehole will be plumbed in for the toilets. That does require us to install 2 separate tanks and stands but in the long run this will really pay off. We were also blessed with a new sponsored borehole which yields twice as much as our first 2!! We are soo relieved, however, we are still trusting God for the finances to get it completely plumbed in and running. We have some of the finances needed already.

We estimate to be done with both toilets and all sewerage installation by the end of December just in time to be ready for the 2021 new school year! We are soo excited. I know that you, David, were hoping to be here for the grand opening but with COVID restrictions I am not sure how feasible that will be?? We cannot wait for all this COVID hassle to die down and for you to come and see the beautiful finished products for yourself, however, I am assuming we must go ahead with a grand opening even if you are not able to be here? We thought we would invite past students, donors,

(Rustenburg Kloof of course), and other stake holders to our grand opening and we will take videos and pics... We are hoping we can also get or donors interested in stretching their pocketbooks to give towards our new class-block that has been started by Rustenburg Kloof and Ruth's bequest. Let me know what you think of that plan, thank you.

I will send some pics on we transfer and then send the link so you can have a look. We have also been posting on our Facebook page.