



Newsletter

LANGA TOWNSHIP PRE-SCHOOL TRUST UK

ISSUE N°1 JUNE 2011

LTPT officially launched

The new charity, Langa Township Pre-school Trust, was launched on the evening of 24th June in St. Paul's Church Hall, Hemel Hempstead, 50 people attending. Best wishes for the project were received from the Patron, Dr Alan Smith, the Bishop of St. Albans and also from Lord Boateng, who knows Langa well from his days as British High Commissioner to the Republic of South Africa. At the end of the presentation Dr. Bob Parsons MBE, also a Patron of LTPT and himself the Founder of Hope for Children, warmly supported this initiative.

In his illustrated presentation Gordon Gaddes outlined the history and development of the townships and spoke about work of the Trust to support the Dalukhanyo Pre-school in Cape Town's Langa Township. He also spoke of what had been achieved to date and detailed the Trust's plans for the coming year.



Ryan Strong

Stills from a video tour of Langa Township screened at the launch



Ryan Strong



photo Ryan Strong

Dalukhanyo Pre-School

The Pre-school, a community project with a maximum attendance of 185, is arranged in four age groups, covering the range from babies to six years of age.

There are 10 trained staff and a cook, who are paid if there is any money left after 'essentials' have been paid for. The teacher/child ratio at 1:23 is much higher than in Western Europe where it is around 1:7.

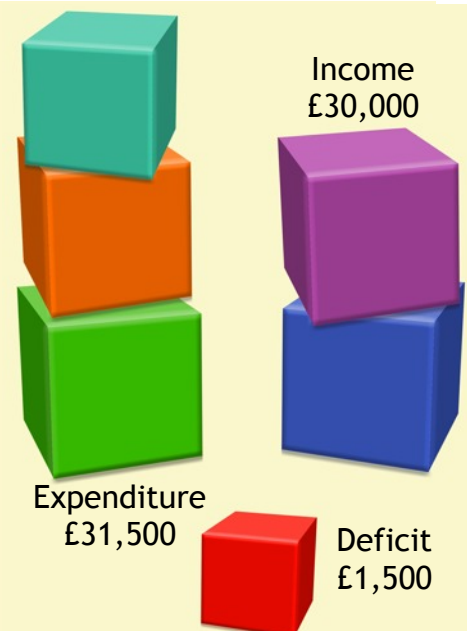
The school is open weekdays throughout the year apart from the Christmas break.

The Budget

In sterling terms the last annual budget of the pre-school showed an expenditure of £31,500 and an income, from local government and fees of £30,000.

The aim of the Trust, therefore, is to raise money to spend in ways to help the Pre-school and its children and parents. It is estimated that in the first year the Trust will be able to raise £4,000 and the first priority is to buy food for the children, many of whom receive their most nutritious food regularly in the School. This action will take some pressure off the Budget and enable staff to be paid somewhat more regularly.

It is important to record that the Trust has been established, and is being run, without administrative costs as a result of voluntary work in home offices and gifts covering promotion materials and stationery etc. The only costs expected to fall on the Trust Account in the first year or two of operation, other than the cost of things bought for the pre-school, will be money transfer costs in paying suppliers in Cape Town.



Fresh food - the 1st priority

Seven baskets of fresh vegetables and fruit will be delivered to Dalukhanyo each Tuesday by Harvest of Hope, a major project whereby micro-farming is encouraged in the townships to provide food for the families of the micro-farmers and to enable the surplus to be sold for cash. On placing the long-term order for food for the children the Trust received this encouraging message from Harvest of Hope 'Your amazing support is greatly appreciated as this order will be adding income to quite a few of our Abalami micro-farmers thus improving and uplifting their lifestyles'.



photo Ryan Strong

Warm fleeces for cold children - the 2nd priority

The second Trust priority as soon as possible will be to fund the purchase of fleeces and track suits for the children. The School is unheated and the children badly feel the cold in the non-Summer months, so the hope is that we will be able to provide all the children with a warm fleece well before the Winter of 2011 is over.

Fulfilling these two priorities, the food and the fleeces will cost around £3,500.

Looking ahead

In November Pam and Gordon Gaddes will be on holiday in Western Cape Province and will use part of the time to make contacts in Cape Town and Langa, to check on progress and to consider what can be done in the second year and what the longer-term needs and vision might be. By that time we should be able to see more clearly what the Trust's income might be for its second year of operation.

Langa Township Pre-School Trust UK

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Trust web site up and running - www.ltpt.org.uk

Our web site has been designed to give visitors an insight into the background of Langa Township and into the aims and aspirations of the Trust in supporting the work of Dalukhanyo Pre-School.

There are links from the web pages to the pre-school's website and there is a facility to register as a Friend and a form to download for those who would like to make a donation.

We are planning for the near future to make it possible to donate directly on-line.

