



Percy Mdala School Update

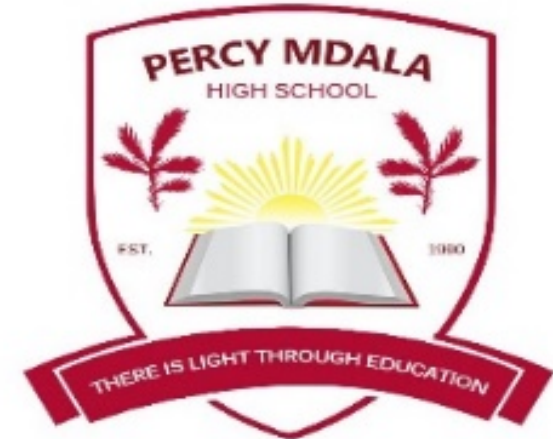
JANUARY, 2018

Message from Principal Nicholas

On behalf of the learners, parents, educators and the School Governing Body (SGB) of Percy Mdala High school, I would like to extend a word of gratitude for your generosity. Your efforts cannot go unnoticed; moreover, delivering on your promises is a big plus. The financial injection through sponsorship from USA, particularly the church congregation was a great help.

We were able to secure the services of a young and vibrant teacher who relentlessly performed his duties satisfactorily. The school was able to deliver the curriculum to the best level this year. Workload was evenly and fairly spread amongst the teachers due the relief brought about by the employment of this teacher.

We were fortunate to hire someone who is familiar with the school because he once rendered a voluntary service to the school. This is an advantage on our side as we are familiar with his teaching techniques and skills and he understands our education needs. Learners did not find it difficult in understanding the teaching style and responded very well during assessment.



Message from Principal Nicholas

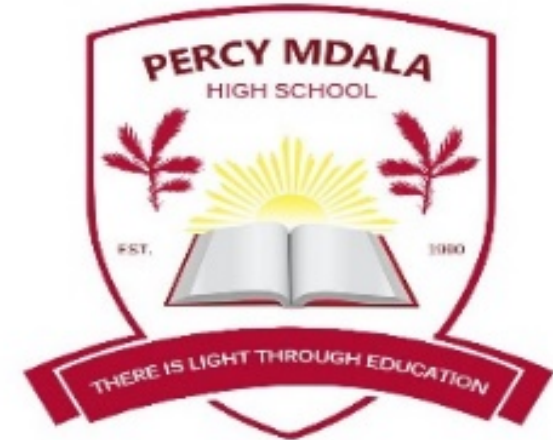
Thank you for the very good news of your support. I'm on top of the mountain. Happy new year to you. My sincere gratitude to all of you. You are doing a great job, your efforts has exceeded my expectations.

I'm short of words to thank you guys. You don't have an idea how you really saved this sinking boat. Education is the winner and the previously disadvantaged children will benefit.

The teacher took charge of one class and this brought a big relief. There is also a big improvement with regards to results as learner pass rate increased.

We will be very pleased to hear that you will continue with the assistance. We wouldn't like to go back to the past challenging experience. This will really ensure growth and prosperity, and the winner is the child because if you empower a child you build a nation.

Thank you ever so much. God bless you.



Meet Denver Jeremy Jantjies Mathematics Teacher



Interests:

- Academics - Mathematics; Science; Philosophy; Psychology; Anthropology
- Wisdom seeking - meditation; peace of mind; truths of life
- Music (all genres).
- Reading - academic related
- Outdoors - explore the nature

A Message from Denver: *"First and foremost I want to say that I am proud to be teaching at Percy Mdala High School. The school became my second home, and the people I work with, my family. I'm looking forward to continue my journey at Percy Mdala High School. There is so much I still want to do. I have an appreciation for excellence in the subject area of Mathematics. I'm very grateful for the opportunity afforded to me by the school and looking forward to continue rendering my services if given another opportunity. I appreciate everything they did for me in developing my professional state and achieving objectives as a team. Thanks so much to the sponsorship."*

Grade 10 students taking a math exam under Denver's supervision.

Students are hard-working but class sizes are large.



Focus on Mathematics ~ School uniform, including shoes

12th grade students from Percy Mdala were able to attend a study camp which was organized by the district education department as a strategy to improve Grade 12 final exam results.



Other ways to help ~ Meals

For 10 students:

\$4.54/day

\$127.12 for month

\$1,016 for year

A meal is provided for each student daily, and students who stay for study sessions receive an extra meal.

The need is great due to the rate of unemployment and families where women are the sole bread winners, or a household headed by children. For some, this is the only guaranteed meal of the day.

The fire which raged through Knysna in June is another factor which exacerbated the need.

Other ways to help ~ School uniform, including shoes



In a setting of poverty, school uniforms allow students to be on an equal footing and keep the focus on education.

\$68/student provides 5 shirts, 2 pants or skirts, 2 pair of shoes, 5 pair of socks, 1 sweater, a school tie, and a belt.



Other ways to help ~ School supplies & calculator

\$25/child for
calculator

\$30/child for
other supplies

The school can provide only minimal writing books and textbooks; the rest must be supplied by the learners, including Scientific Calculators (\$25), Instrument box, ring-binder, flip files, pens, etc., make up the remaining \$30 need

Other ways to help ~ Sports Kits

Any amount will help:

Soccer team (\$325)

Rugby team (\$528)

Netball team (\$284)

The school plays a variety of sporting codes. This will include *soccer* (football), *rugby*, *netball* and *cricket*.

The school provides the uniforms for the whole team.

Players on the team each need 2 sets.

Other ways to help ~ Computers

To make learning and teaching efficient and productive, computers are needed for the library. Students are able to use them to do research and assignments, including access to Google.

The move from textbooks to e-learning is not only efficient, but prepares students for the modern world.

Any amount will help.

Other ways to help ~ Tutoring

After school tutoring sessions are another intervention to support learning and help those who are struggling to keep up and not drop out.

In these sessions, the teacher is able to repeat and revise some concepts which were not clear during a lesson.

For about \$100/session, 60 students are divided into 3 groups to receive extra help for 2 hours per day, twice a week.