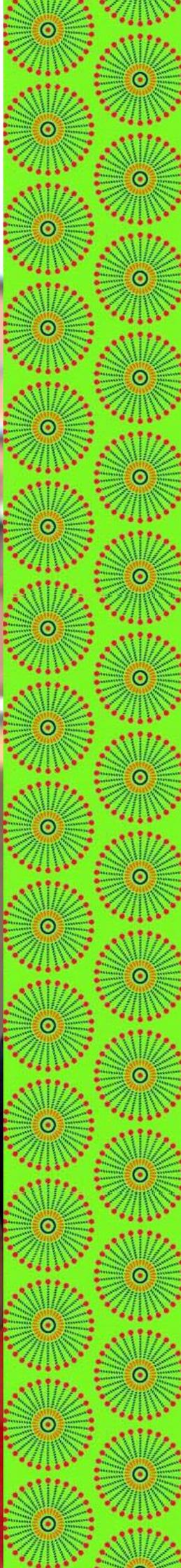


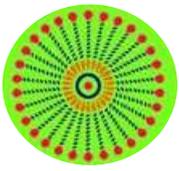


# ITHEMBA SCHOOL

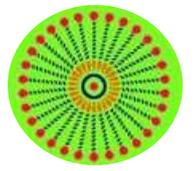
A N N U A L R E P O R T

2021



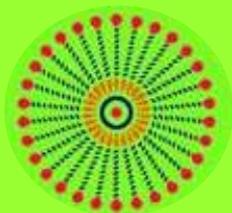


# C O N T E N T S



**'It takes whole  
village to  
raise a child.'**

African Proverb



- Message from the Board
- Our Story
- Vision and Mission
- Highlights
- Stories of Hope
- Our Partnerships
- Financial Update
- Learner Partnerships
- 2022 Staff



# MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

The great joy of being involved in iThemba School is the constant reminder that the work being done here is of lasting value and real significance. Not only are the children being given the kind of educational foundation that will set them up for success in later years, but they are also being taught about their relationship with God and what that means for life now and in eternity. We think these are things which matter hugely and so to strive for success in them is a great joy.

Thank you for partnering with us in this. We are also so grateful to all our partners and staff and parents and supporters. Without you, iThemba would not be the success it has been over the past year.

It's with huge sadness that we say goodbye to Janet Webb, our principal for the past seven years. Under God, Janet has been the driving force in building up iThemba to be a truly high quality ECD. She has been an incredibly dedicated, sacrificial and passionate leader. We wish her well as she travels to the UK, with the hope of ultimately returning to Cape Town to do Christian educational work in the Cape Flats.

We're so excited to welcome our new Principal, Nicky Morris, who will start in January, 2022. Nicky has all the right values and skills for this role and she really grasps the vision of all that we are trying to do at iThemba. We are so grateful to have her on board.

I do hope you enjoy reading this report. However, as encouraging and exciting as it is, it still doesn't do justice to the amazing work that happens at iThemba. So, if you haven't already done this, I would love to extend an invitation to you to come and visit the school and see everything first hand. You'll be amazed!

Yours sincerely,



**Murray Anderson**

Chair of the iThemba School Board



# Looking back on **OUR STORY**



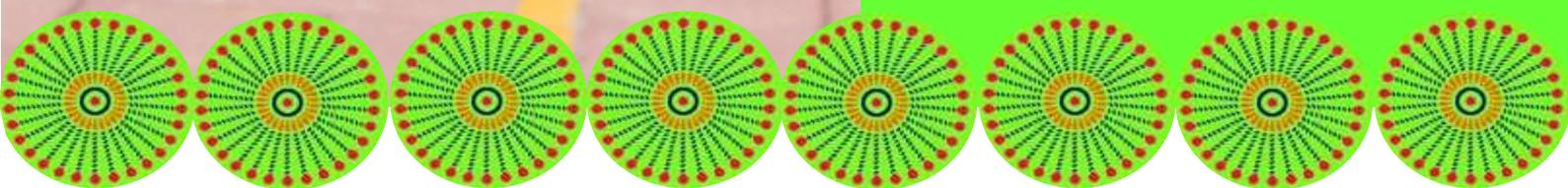
In beautiful Cape Town's South Peninsula, the community of Masiphumelele is home to at least 25,000 people, living in an area with infrastructure designed for less than a third of that number. Early Childhood Development centres in this community are overstretched and under-resourced; many children are unable to access even the poorest quality early years education.

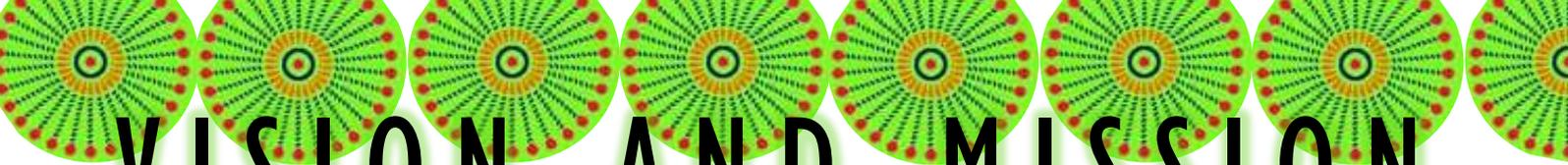
It was in this context that St. Peter's Church in Fish Hoek had the vision to establish iThemba School, providing a quality learning experience, healthy nutrition and Christian education in a safe environment for some of the neediest children in that community.

iThemba, an isiXhosa word meaning 'hope', aims to bring to bring hope for the future to children and their families by giving them an educational grounding that will allow them to thrive, and by sharing with them the message of eternal hope through Jesus Christ.

At the end of a quiet cul-de-sac looking onto the Fish Hoek community fields and the sand dunes, music and children's laughter ring out. In this peaceful location next door to St Peter's Church, up to 60 children, aged 3 to 6, learn, sing, eat, sleep and play each day.

Each child represents a family working hard to fit lift themselves out of poverty. Parents at iThemba pay fees at a level comparable to those charged at a township creche, with the difference being made up by our faithful donors and supporters.





# VISION AND MISSION

and values

We desire for iThemba School to be a place where our children **thrive**.

iThemba School's vision is to give children from under – resourced communities the best possible intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual roots – giving them hope for the future.

Our **mission** therefore to provide

- High quality education
- Balanced nutrition
- A safe and caring environment
- Teaching and modelling the good news of Jesus



“...go and make disciples of all nations.” Matthew 28vs19



Over these past two years with the challenges we have all been presented with during the pandemic, we decided to do what we could to ensure that the environment at iThemba School was a safe one. We have continued to be creative in the ways we do *physical distancing* at our school while still ensuring that our children receive the best possible education we can give them. We reduced our 2021 learner intake to ensure our children could attend school safely every day. At the end of 2021, we ended off with 56 children, but we aim to increase the numbers to 60 this year.



# HIGHLIGHTS



Bongi Bird visited iThemba to remind us about why washing our hands and physical distancing is important. The children loved their program. There were lots of laughs and smiles. A few of our children were even given a fancy Bongi Bird mask that looked like Bong's beak. Bongi is from the Jungle Company.



What a fun morning!

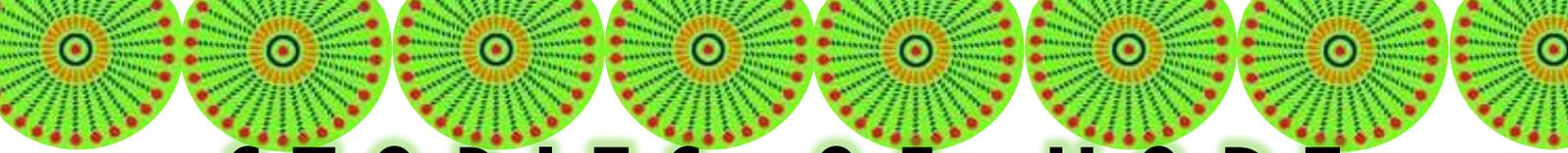
We loved our visit from Steve Sherman. He made our Space Theme come alive for us with his stories, his videos and his tricks. The children even became astronauts for the day.

The Learning Initiative's vision is to support children with barriers to learning, in disadvantaged communities with their incredible team of professionals. We love the partnership we have with them the rich support they provide. We are honoured to have been selected as one of the schools that they support.



Our Grade R's loved their outing to Fish Hoek Beach. For some of our children, it was their first time to go to the beach!





# STORIES OF HOPE

We are so grateful for our relationship with Sun Valley Primary School



Our partnership with Sun Valley Primary School is definitely one of our Stories of Hope and a partnership that we value so much. Over the past couple of years, we have loved working with Sun Valley to make the transition for our iThemba Children who have come to Sun Valley, as smooth as possible.

Coralie Thompson, the new principal at Sun Valley, has continued to keep a strong relationship with our school. We have appreciated the open communication she has had with us and the processes Coralie has put in place to support us as much as possible.

A way that iThemba School leadership has stayed in touch with our past pupils is by baking cupcakes when it is the children's birthdays and visiting our children in their first year at Sun Valley.

We collected some pre-loved uniforms for our Sunbirds that will be going to Grade 1 next year. The excitement was tangible. One of the little boys said, "Teacher, when I go home, I am going to thank God for my new clothes". What a beautiful testimony of the spiritual investments made into these precious lives.

We have 5 more children who will be going to Sun Valley next year. We look forward to seeing them continuing to flourish in their new school.



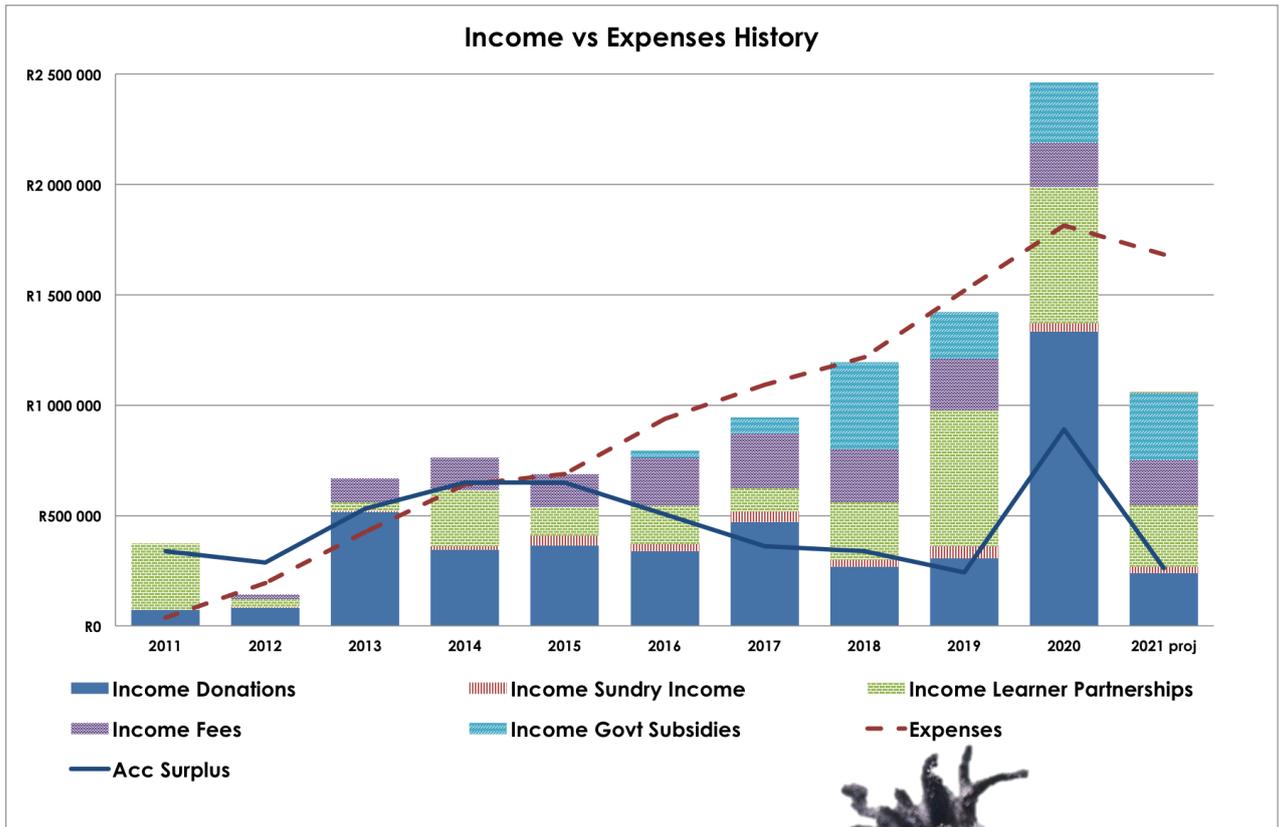
# Our Partnerships

We are very grateful for the incredible partnerships we have. We have met wonderful people in our community and wider than our community who have come alongside in amazing ways to be a part of this beautiful school's story. They have been a part of changing lives for good. A special thank you to St. Peter's Church for your constant love and support.

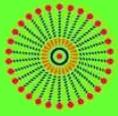


# Financial Update

It's been a tough year for iThemba with the economic climate taking its toll. Some of our donors and learner partners have had to reduce or stop giving. But by God's good grace, we have received a few large donations which have meant we should be able to cover all costs this year. The school's expenses have remained high this year due to Covid protocols and protections. We are very grateful for the faithful contributions of those who have been able to give to iThemba's work, knowing the tough financial situation we all find ourselves in.



# Learner Partnerships



## Learner Partnership Update



Learner partnerships are integral to our funding model. A partnership covers a single child's financial shortfall at school for the year, after we receive school fees and government subsidies.

A partnership amount comes to R14 400 per child for 2022. We are so grateful for the individuals who have taken up single partnerships and for businesses that have taken up multiple partnerships.

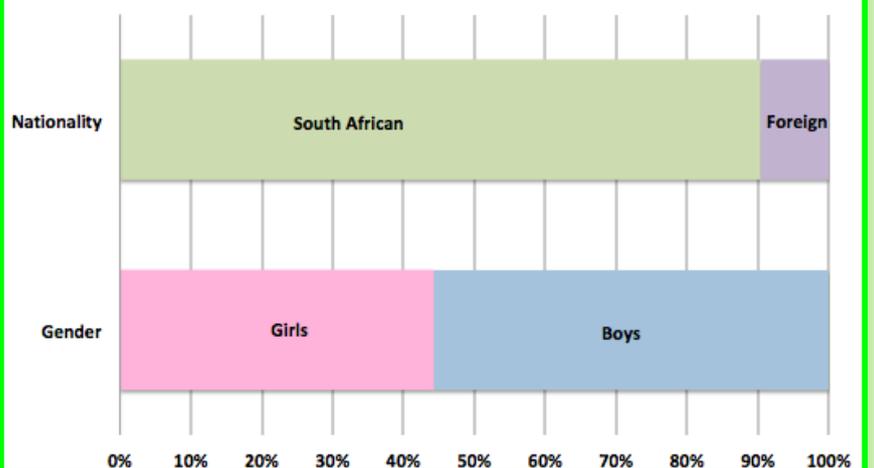
### Learner Partnerships Info 2022

Projected Expenditure	R 1 895 963	\$122 320	£90 284
Projected Income	R 1 032 114	\$66 588	£49 148
Projected Shortfall	R 863 849	\$55 732	£41 136
Shortfall per child pa	R 14 397	\$929	£686
Shortfall per child pm	R 1 200	\$77	£57

**"Education is not a PROBLEM. Education is an OPPORTUNITY."**

Lyndon B. Johnson

### Children's Demographics



# Staff 2022

As a team, we would like to honour and thank our outgoing principal, Janet Webb. Janet has challenged us to serve at iThemba School with excellence. We have all grown tremendously under her leadership. For Janet, working at iThemba School has been more than a job, it has been a calling.



*We welcome Nicky Morris as our new principal and we are so grateful to have her join our team.*

Nicky  
Principal



Shélagh  
Deputy



Natalie  
Teacher



Chrishiance  
Teacher



Nadine  
Office Administrator



Brittany  
Teacher



Lungi  
General Assistant



Sine  
General Assistant



Edith  
Teaching Assistant



Laura  
Chef

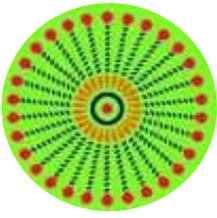


Thembi  
General Assistant

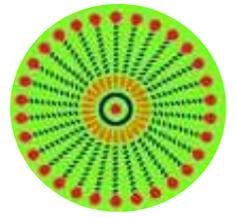


Kerryn  
Finance Administrator





# Be a partner, change a life



**iThemba is a Public Benefit Organisation and we are able to  
issue tax certificates.**

Giving details from different countries are on the  
**How to Help** page of our website:  
[www.ithembaschool.org](http://www.ithembaschool.org)



Snap here to pay

 SnapScan

Bank: FNB Long Beach  
Account Name: iThemba School  
Branch Code: 260 300  
Business Cheque Account : 62328250626  
SWIFT Code: FIRNZAJJ  
Reference: your name / name of your business



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