



**iThembaSchool**

[www.ithembaschool.org](http://www.ithembaschool.org)

Annual report 2019



*"Love one another as I have loved you"*

*John 13:4*

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## Message From Our Board

It's been another exciting and fruitful year in the life of iThemba School! By God's grace we continue to give 60 children from very disadvantaged backgrounds an educational foundation of the highest standard. This report will give further insight into how the school is doing and will share some wonderful "stories of hope" from the past 12 months. We hope you enjoy reading it!

Of course, the work of **iThemba** would not be possible without our amazing team of teachers and support staff. As a School Board we're thrilled to see this team develop and grow, with each passing year, under the leadership of our Principal, Janet Webb.

iThemba is reliant on external funding in order to supplement our school fees. So we're very grateful to those who have partnered with us this year. Without you, the school would not be able to keep going. Please know that your generosity really is changing lives for the better in South Africa. If you're reading this and are keen to partner with us in the year ahead, we would love to introduce you to the school and talk more about the difference your donation could make.

The **Christian** message of **hope** and **grace** lies at the heart of iThemba School: it's what inspired us to start the school, it's the reason we keep on going and it's a message we love to share with the children. We think that's really important in a society that seems to be most concerned with living only for the here and now.

As we look to the future, with hope, our prayer is that God will continue to be glorified through the work of iThemba.

Yours sincerely,

**Rev. Murray Anderson**  
**Chairperson: iThemba School Board**

**Murray Anderson**  
ST PETERS CHURCH  
[www.stpetersfishhoek.org.za](http://www.stpetersfishhoek.org.za)

*"And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ" Phil 4:9*



## Vision and Mission

Our **vision** at iThemba School is to give children the best possible intellectual, physical, emotional and spiritual roots, giving them hope. (inspired by Matthew 28:18-28)

Our **mission** is to offer children from under-resourced communities:

- High quality education
- Balanced nutrition (breakfast, lunch and two snacks)
- A safe and caring environment (including after-care)
- Teaching and modelling the good news of Jesus

*"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority on heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations", Matthew 28:18-19a*

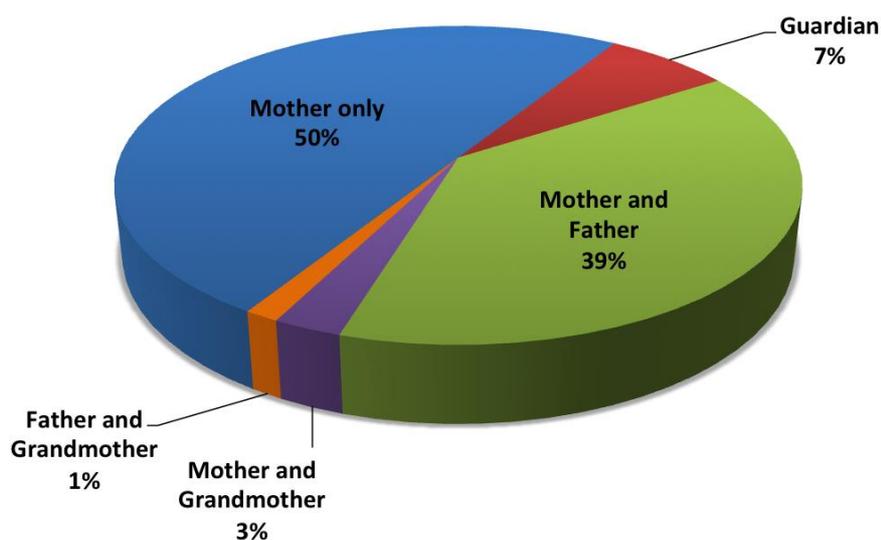


## The Need

iThemba exists to serve **vulnerable children of our community**. The graph below shows how many are being cared for in single parent homes. We offer places to children from families whose income levels are significantly low. Often our children are coming from a place of poverty and very little opportunity.

iThemba School teaches children the **hope that Jesus offers**, provides **excellent role models**, and a **safe and structured environment** from where they can begin to **thrive!**

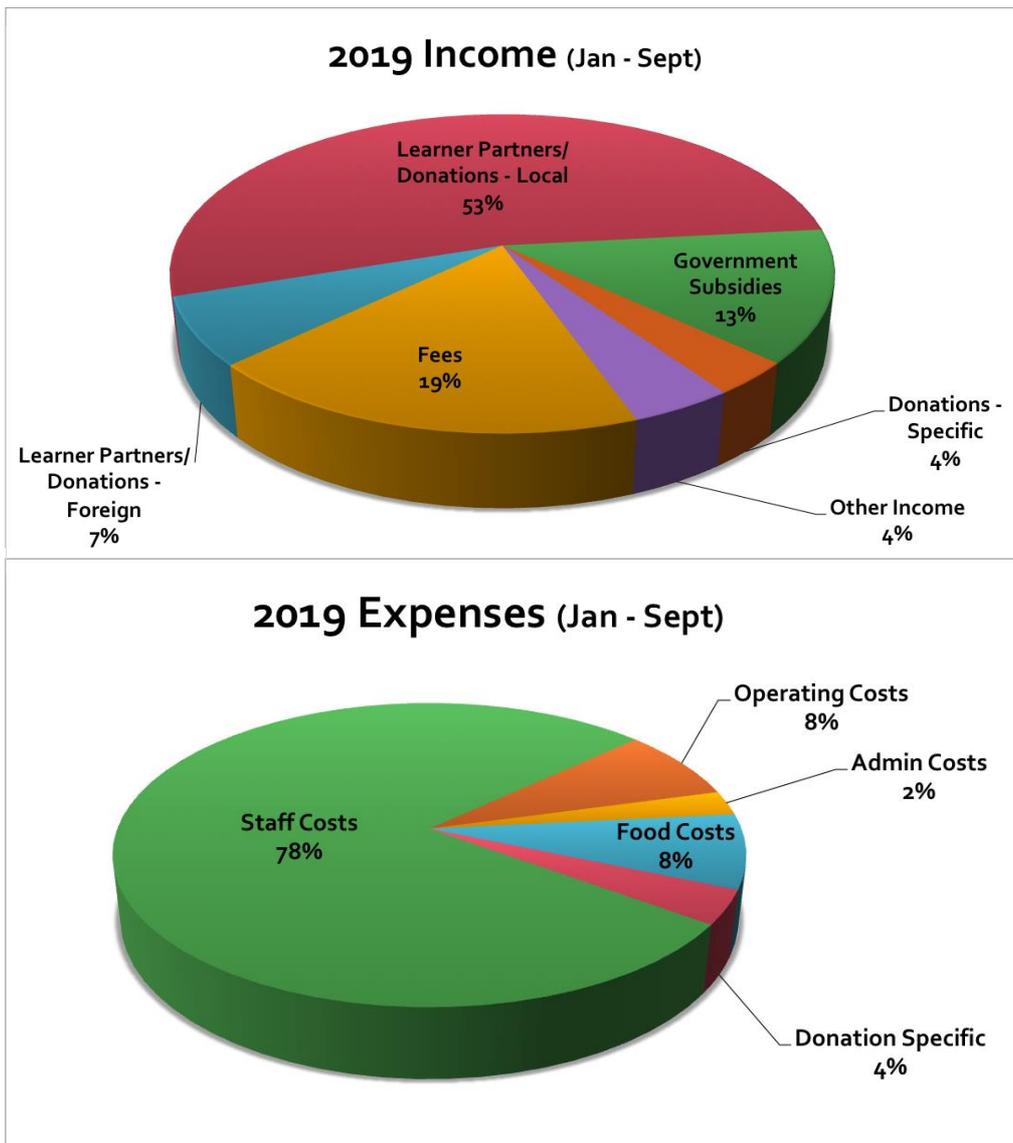
**iThemba Children Caregivers**



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# The Numbers



*"To have accurate and transparent finances is vitally important to us. This ensures that every rand received from our donors can go towards providing top quality Early Childhood Education, for under-resourced children in our community."*

*Kerryn Botha (iThemba School Finance Administrator)*



Alma Mary Nash Testamentary Trust



# The Partnerships

Our *learner partnership program* is our primary funding model. It covers a single child's financial shortfall at school for the year, after we receive the low fees paid by the parent/guardian and a small amount per child from the government departments.

The partnership amount comes to R12 000 per child for 2020. We are so grateful for the *individuals* who have taken up *single partnerships* and thankful too for the *businesses* that have taken up *multiple partnerships*.

## Learner Partnerships Info

2020

**Projected 2020 expenditure:**

R1,678,392	£93,244	\$111,893
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**Projected shortfall** after fees, government subsidies and projected learner partners:

R720,024	£40,001	\$48,002
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**Projected shortfall per child/year:**

R12,000	£667	\$800
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Shortfall per child per month:

R1,000	£56	\$67
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*ONE Partnership for ONE Year = ONE child to receive the following and more!*



65 hours of stories



796 meals and snacks



65 hours of art



248 hours of Numeracy



# The network

Together we are bringing love and hope to these special children!



- Families
- Partners
- Teachers
- Support Staff
- Board
- Supporters
- Businesses
- Volunteers
- Other schools

To stay connected with us and our network of supporters please follow us on the following channels or visit our webpage [www.ithembaschool.org](http://www.ithembaschool.org)



iThembaSchoolNPO    iThembaSchool/Fishhoek

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We rely on support from our network of local organizations.

This year has seen more local companies come on board!

**Pick 'n Pay, The Arcade, Fish Hoek** has worked alongside us and assisted us in our weekly food order. They have provided many items for us at no cost and have faithfully and generously provided eats at some of our events and occasions.

**Central Mica Hardware** They have taken on paying for our CMR membership and are also working together with us to keep our DIY costs as low as possible.

**Blue Dog Technologies** continues to generously provide us with our WIFI every month and have provided us with free hours of support service.

**Rugby Tots** provide an action packed weekly lesson for each class, including ball handling skills, coordination and fitness.



# Stories of Hope: Our Events

This year we ran a number of meaningful events through the year. Each of these had a slightly different flavor and each one was a significant time to share the iThemba Story with others. We were so thrilled with the response to and the partnerships that came from these events.



We held our third annual *Classical Music Concert* in February and it was a wonderful evening of quality classical music and we raised funds through tickets sales.

We invited media guests and other interested parties to attend our first *'Invitational Open Hour'*. The morning was wonderfully supported and we were thankful to Pick 'n Pay Fish Hoek for provision of eats. Our guests enjoyed seeing our school in actions and getting a snippet of the fun, learning and our vision.



We were delighted to be the beneficiary of The Studio Art Gallery's *Mandela Day Art Auction*. The block art canvasses were all created by local artists and the 67minute silent art auction was wonderfully supported by the community. We were so privileged to be part of this wonderful initiative.

The families of iThemba School enjoyed a wonderful *Family Day and AGM*. Together they heard all about the importance of books, stories and the local library. Children created their own books with their guardians. Our parents were introduced to iThemba Board members, and challenges and highlights of the year were discussed.



# Stories of Hope: Sun Valley Bursaries



One year later...



## Bursaries for 2020

We are so excited that TEN of our learners have been selected for Grade R bursaries to this outstanding Primary School for 2020! We can't wait to see their progress as they take on 'big' school.

## Follow-up: 2019 Bursary Children

In 2018 Sun Valley Primary offered four of our children sponsored bursaries in their Grade R classes. Our four past pupils have thrived! Their teachers had the following to say:

"He is a bright boy who always participates in circle time and shares his knowledge on certain theme discussions"

"What a delight it has been to have her in my class this year"

"She pours creativity into her art activities"

"She brightens up the day with her beautiful cheerful smile and let's nothing bother her"

"She takes everything in her stride!"

"He used all learning opportunities presented"

"He enjoys reciting poems and songs"

We are so proud of these four past pupils and can celebrate in the fact that the foundations that were put in place at iThemba School of loving learning, resilience and the ability to engage and communicate have stood them in a strong position. We continue to follow their progress with anticipation and love.



# Stories of Hope: Our Innovative School Programs



## **Bible Teaching:** Our daily assemblies focus on

teaching the children:

- Bible stories
- Biblical doctrine
- Prayer
- Memory verses
- What we learn about God from our classroom theme of the week

We use a three-year strategy for the content, to ensure the children have fun while learning big concepts about God, who Jesus is and how to pray.



## **Protective Behaviours:** Each year our

children learn simple strategies and skills to keep themselves safe, no matter where they are.

They have learnt all about how their body belongs to them and about how they can listen to their bodies to know when they feel safe or unsafe. They have gained confidence in expressing their feelings through this program!



## **Positive Discipline:** Our discipline strategy

aims at teaching children to identify their own emotions and those of others. It involves problem solving and learning how to make good behavioural choices.

Our children learn to self-calm and manage their emotions using a variety of innovative methods such as this sensory wall, brain gym and our special 'calm down box' (with calming play opportunities).

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# Stories of Hope: Fire Relief

In July a terrible shack fire swept through a part of Masipumelele Township. The majority of our children and some of our staff reside in this area. The fire completely destroyed over 200 homes in a matter of few hours in the dead of night. But this story is one of hope and in the worst of times the community (local and international) that supports our school rallied.



We received physical donations of food and clothes for immediate victim relief. These we were able to distribute to the families affected by the fire who were linked to our school. Community members assisted in fetching and delivering donations of building supplies, providing meals and sorting clothing. People opened up their hearts, their homes and their wallets to help these families. Thanks to Sydney Cheil Church, St Peters Church and volunteers, Mitchell Gie, The Pole Yard, Financial donors, iThemba Staff and Do-Nation for all your love, support and assistance. May we always be motivated to help if we are in a position to do so.

iThemba's cook, Thandi - who lost her entire home in the fire has been able to rebuild her house and as she said, 'Thank-you God and thank-you everybody for your love and help'.



Thank-you for your help in  
the fire relief efforts.

The iThemba School Team

# Closing

iThemba School exists to serve **marginalized communities** and to bring lasting hope through the education of the youngest, most vulnerable in society. Our prayer is that by this we will be raising solid future leaders.

We have been so blessed to feature in a number of different media platforms this year. If you would like to feature our school please be in touch to receive a link to our **media kit**.



Becoming You



Our long term vision is to **grow iThemba School into a donor-based primary school**, in partnership with St Peter's Church's plant in the Masiphumelelo community. Rezoning permissions for the land and establishment of governance structures are in progress. Pastor Bheki Dikeni has made progress; building relationships in the community while teaching the Gospel. Weekly Sunday services and Sunday School are up and running. The plant has been named: uBabalo neThemba Church (Grace and Hope Church).

Emma Reid has worked hard in 2019 at strengthening **our financial base**; bringing new partners onboard. She will be relocating to the UK at the end of 2019. Going forward, Kerryn Botha our Finance Administrator will be communicating with our partners.



[kerryn@ithembaschool.org](mailto:kerryn@ithembaschool.org)

*"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever", 1 Thes 5:18*



iThemba School Staff 2019

*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



**Bank:** FNB Long Beach  
**Account Name:** iThemba School  
**Branch Code:** 260 300  
**Business Cheque Account number:** 62328250626  
**SWIFT Code:** FIRNZAJJ

*“Truly I say to you whatever you do for one of these brothers or sisters of mine you did it for me”, Matthew 25:40*