

UZWELO NEWS

#staysafe



AUTUMN_WINTER 2020

IN THIS ISSUE:

This issue of the newsletter will be presented as NEWS BY DATES:

Pre Covid-19 Corona:
December - March

The arrival of Covid-19 Corona:
March

Post Covid-19 Corona:
March, April and May

Black swan events are characterized by their extreme rarity and their severe impact.

THE AUTUMN OF 2020

I was busy preparing for the Uzwelo Autumn Newsletter 2020 when the Corona pandemic arrived uninvited at our doorstep. The doors of Uzwelo Home was closed to protect our children. Our compassionate care givers were essential to manage the everyday activities without fear or fuss.

Seven weeks later the new normal has settled in and the Uzwelo children are healthy and happy. Care givers have also become teachers, master chefs, sport coaches and art fundi's without complaining. The Uzwelo lockdown journey has created memories and forced us to make changes nobody could foresee.

We have experienced a Black Swan event – an unpredictable event that is beyond what is normally expected of a situation and has potentially severe consequences. Black swan events are characterized by their extreme rarity and their severe impact. The invisible Covid-19 virus has had visible effects on our be-ing and do-ings.

The Autumn edition has moved on to Winter. This Uzwelo Newsletter will give you a look at activities before the lockdown announcement and during this lock-up time.

May all be blessed with a 20 /20 vision, the perfect vision, to see the extraordinary in the ordinary in the difficult times and see the beautiful plans He has for us!

Kind Regards,

Wendy Stapelberg
DIRECTOR





NEWS BY DATES:

Uzwelo Rural Orphan Care NEWS:

UROC offers services to children residing in communities neighboring Iswepe and Panbult areas. The closet town Piet Retief (50km) and Ermelo (50 km) in Mpumalanga.



DEC 2019

Number of children that attended the SAFE PARKS during December 2019 / January 2020:

2400



Several netball and soccer tournaments were held and children were eager to compete.

The days were shortened with fun and exercises.

Thank you to the UROC care givers and other sport organizers for all the arrangement to make this possible.



DEC 2019

Children attending SAFE PARKS during December 2019 and January 2020 were spoilt with nutritional meals.

As we know feeding schemes at schools are closed during school holidays. For many the meal that they receive at the Safe Park is the only meal they will have for the day.

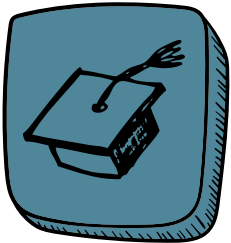
A number of children are victims of chronic illnesses and for them this meal is even more important to ensure their well-being. This service is only possible through the kind donations of churches, businesses and the community as no subsidy for safe park feeding schemes are received.





"EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD"

- Nelson Mandela.



JAN 2020

22 UROC Children enrolled as tertiary students in 2020.

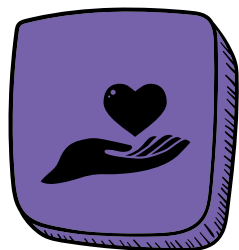
WHAT DOES BACK TO SCHOOL MEAN TO UZWELO KIDS?

- ✓ A new teacher
- ✓ New friends
- ✓ New work

But the best of all **NEW SCHOOL CLOTHES!!**
Thank you to our loyal sponsor NCT for the annual donation of school clothes.



First day @ school.



JAN 2020

UROC was able to assist the tornado victims of Panbult.

On Friday evening, 3 January 2020, severe thunderstorms developed over the Gert Sibande District of Mpumalanga.

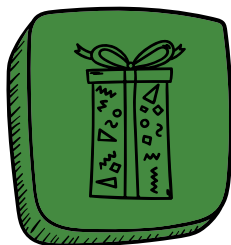
One of the thunderstorms intensified into a supercell thunderstorm south east of Ermelo, remaining over the area for approximately 40 minutes.

The houses of many families were destroyed, as well as approximately 200ha of pine forest, due to this storm. Churches and the local community made huge contributions to assist the families with food, clothes, bedding and building material. UROC care givers supported the traumatized families.



These students are working hard to ensure a better and changed life for them and their families.





MAR 2020

BIRTHDAYS
ARE
SPECIAL
@ Uzwelo Home!!



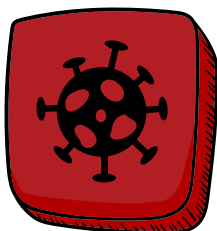
Every quarter we celebrate the birthdays of Uzwelo children.

It's a day that they all look forward to.

Thank you to the Shalom group of Piet Retief for the gifts and eats!

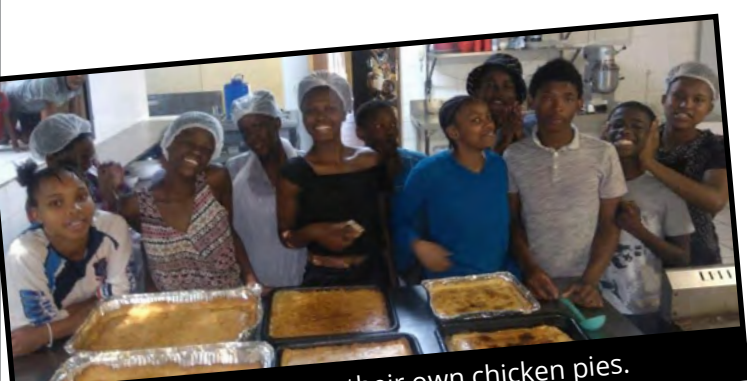
Do you want to be a birthday partner? Contact Wendy @ 082 388 0569





MAR 2020

Stay Home



Children making their own chicken pies.



The jumping castle brought many hours of amusement.

In accord to the lock-down regulations the holiday plans of Uzwelo children were changed. Instead of visiting their parents, families or holiday friends for the March/ April holiday they had to stay at Uzwelo Home, an essential care facility. Sadly they were also not able to receive visitors either. The daily programme was however re-designed to have fun, bring laughter and learn new skills.

"The most basic of all human needs is the need to understand and be understood." - Ralph Nichols



What is more tasty than PIZZAS!

The therapeutic team focused on assisting the children to understand the facts about the Covid-19 virus and deal with their feelings of isolation, fear and uncertainty.

They were reassured that they were safe and the hygiene routines were intensified. A predictable routine that offered a sense of structure and normality was maintained.





APR 2020

**NO SCHOOL ?
HOME SCHOOL @ UzweloHOME!**

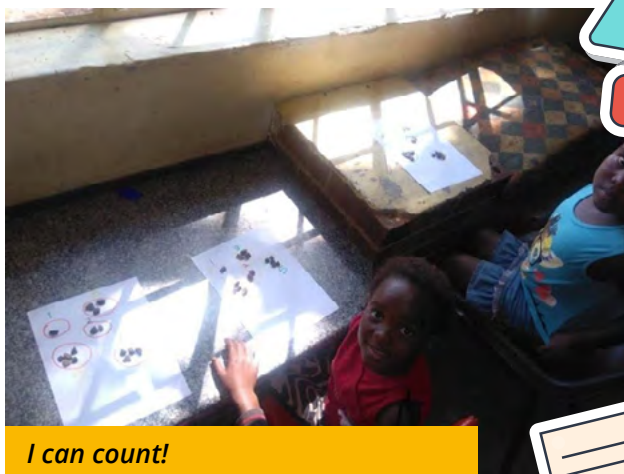
It is a challenge to offer 40 children in 14 different schools continues educational support.

Revision of the previous terms' work has kept children and care givers busy. A few schools have been able to provide educational material and homework via different media platforms. The children are looking forward to going back to school and will willingly exchange the Uzwelo classrooms to be back with their beloved teachers.

HOME SCHOOL @ UzweloHOME!



Pre-school lesson with the care giver.



I can count!



Stay Safe

THE SAFETY AND GOOD HEALTH OF OUR ESSENTIAL WORKERS IS PRIORITY.

All health and safety measures comply with the lockdown regulations. Our own branded Uzwelo masks are provided to all staff. We salute the essential workers for dedication and hard work throughout these challenging times.

THANK YOU to Department of Social Development for the sanitizing liquid.



LEADERSHIP IS NOT A POSITION OR A TITLE, IT IS ACTION AND EXAMPLE

Thank you for your actions and example you set in demanding times at Uzwelo Home and UROC:

MEET THE TEAM



Ms. **Nosipho Mntyali** is the Manager and Social Worker of Uzwelo Home



Ms **Nomusa Vilakazi** is coordinator and social worker of Uzwelo Rural Orphan Care (UROC)





Final note from our side



The locked period has opened the hearts and purses of compassionate community members, churches and businesses for the children of Uzwelo.

THANK YOU!

This donation will feed the beneficiaries of UROC residing in Iswepe/ Panbult area.

UZWELO HOME

BANKING DETAILS



FNB

Current: 6203 277 4699
Piet Retief
270144

UZWELO RURAL ORPHAN CARE

BANKING DETAILS



FNB

Current: 6212 098 7617
Piet Retief
FIRNZAJJ335

