

# MPHATLALATSANE

DEPARTMENT OF SPORT, ARTS, CULTURE & RECREATION NEWSLETTER **NALEDI YA MESO**

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This year marks the 30th commemoration of South Africa's democratic dispensation and we celebrate this Freedom Month under the theme "30 Years of Democracy, partnership and growth". The 27th of April holds even greater significance this year as we celebrate the 30th anniversary of our nation's first democratic election. Furthermore, this Freedom Day also marks the 28th anniversary of the enactment of the South African constitution as the supreme law of our country. Today, South Africa celebrates Freedom Day to mark the liberation of our country and its people from a long period of colonialism and White minority domination (apartheid). Apartheid 'officially' began in South Africa in 1948, but colonialism and oppression of the African majority had plagued South Africa since 1652. After decades of resistance, a stalemate between the Liberation Movement and the Apartheid government was reached in 1988. This Freedom Day we celebrate the achievements we have made over the past three decades of our democratic journey. We also remember the sacrifices of unsung heroes and heroines who fought for our freedom and a nation that is truly democratic, equal, representative, fair and free from all forms of discrimination. Freedom Day therefore serves as a reminder to us that the guarantee of our freedom requires us to remain permanently vigilant against corruption and the erosion of the values of the Freedom Struggle and to build an active citizenry that will work towards wiping out the legacy of racism, inequality and the promotion of the rights embodied in our constitution.

<https://www.dsac.gov.za/Freedom-Month2024>



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# OPENING AND HANDOVER OF BOITUMELO SEBOTHELO PUBLIC LIBRARY IN SOUTPAN



On Wednesday, the 10th of April 2024, Deputy Minister for Sport, Arts and Culture, Ms. Nocawe Mafu and the MEC for Sport, Arts, Culture & Recreation, Ms. Limakatso Mahasa proudly handed over a state of the art library to the community of Soutpan .. The Boitumelo Sebothelo Public Library which was built at an approximate cost of R19, 152 million, was funded from the Community Library Conditional Grant which is made available through the National Department

of Sport, Arts and Culture to provincial departments to transform and upgrade public library services throughout the country.

This library will fill a huge gap in terms of fulfilling the information needs of the community who will now for the first time have a fully-fledged center of information excellence.

The well-furnished library consists of children and adult lending sections, a reading area, reference section, an activity hall, a study hall, computer room and a toy library. The toy library service

will not only support early childhood development but games such as chess, scrabble, monopoly and others to cater for the needs of older children and adults.

This library opening follows immediately after the recent construction and official opening of other libraries such as the Ishmael Moketa Morapela Library in Smithfield built at a cost of around 21 million and the Jan Lebesse Public Library in Van Stadenrus built at a cost of around R 17 million. The department is set on the construction of libraries in

the province with the aim of ensuring continuous learning and development.

The library is equipped with 19 computers providing free internet access, e-mail and word processing facilities.

The following services are provided:

- Book lending services with approximately 7 000 library materials.
- Reference services with reference collection of encyclopedias, dictionaries, atlases and yearbooks.
- E-publications and e-Britannica reference sources will be provided

online through the internet, making it possible for the community to gain access to e-reference resources

- Newspapers and periodicals in digital formats
- Educational Toy Library Services
- Storytelling, reading clubs and community based literacy activities will be hosted in the activity hall.
- Services for the visually impaired.
- Holiday Programmes.



# DEPUTY MINISTER NOCAWE MAFU HANDS OVER AN OUTDOOR GYM FACILITY AND COMBI-COURT IN PHUTHADITJHABA



The National Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC), Deputy Minister, Ms Nocawe Mafu in collaboration with the Provincial Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation MEC, Ms Limakatso Mahasa officially handed

over an outdoor gym facility just outside the Bakoena Royal Palace in Phuthaditjhaba, Qwaqwa. In addition to the outdoor gym, a joint traditional and political delegation led a visit to Reahola Senior Secondary School where the Sports Trust has completed

a Combi- Court and Netball Court on school premises. Hosted as part of the Ministerial Outreach Programme and also in partnership with Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality, Sports Trust and Netball South African (NSA), this programme serves

as a continuous government effort to develop schools in rural areas and to make school sport the bedrock of sport development. Various football and netball clubs within the Maluti a Phofung Municipality also benefitted from the sport equipment

and attire that was distributed during the day's events. The following schools, football and netball clubs within Maluti a Phofung Municipality benefited from the sport equipment and attire:

SCHOOLS	FOOTBALL CLUBS	NETBALL CLUBS
1. Mamello Primary	African Hotspurs	The Proteas
2. Letlotlo Primary	Junior Bucs	Junior Madrid
3. Reahola Secondary	Mangaung Ajax	Young Stars
4. Mafube Secondary	IT Paradise	Caleb Mates
5. Tiisetso Primary	African Star	Kasi Team

**The criterion that was followed in selecting schools and sport clubs that will benefit from this programme was as follows:**

- Schools within a 5km radius of the facility.
- Netball clubs around the Bakoena Royal House participating in the Rural Sport Development Programme of the Department.
- Local Football Association sport clubs in the promotional league



# SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY WEEK 2024



**S**outh African Library Week is an annual celebration highlighting the valuable role libraries, librarians, and library workers play in transforming lives and strengthening of our communities. Library Week in South Africa was celebrated from the 15th to the 24th March 2024 under the theme: “LIBRARIES FOSTERING SOCIAL COHESION”.

This year’s theme emphasizes the important role libraries play in communities. Libraries serves as centres, where people from various different backgrounds come together to exchange ideas, learn and participate in

cultural and intellectual activities. By providing access to information, technology, resources and programmes, libraries broaden horizons, connect individuals and encourage the development of a shared sense of purpose and identity.

2366 participants from various Free State Public and Dual-Purpose Libraries celebrated Library Week with the following activities:

## **Children**

Children participated in various play activities, like story hours, colouring-in, puppet shows, singing, etc. Parents were invited to come and play and read to their

children in the toy libraries.

## **Teenagers - Know Your Resources**

Teenagers answered questionnaires on the use of various resources such as books, reference work, electronic resources, etc.

## **Young Adults**

Participated in poetry, drama and debates.

Arts and Culture, e.g. Traditional

dance and Music Played indigenous games such as Morabaraba.

Competed in board Games, e.g. Chess, Scrabble, Monopoly.

## **Elderly**

The elderly were invited to libraries to share interesting books that they are currently reading, reading aloud and discuss challenges they are facing as older persons and knowledgeable persons were able to advise them on

how to cope in those situations.

## **Visually Impaired**

Library orientation for the visually impaired was conducted by librarians, and visually impaired users where encouraged to register for library membership. Demonstrations on the usage of Daisy Audio Books and basic computer skills were given to the users on:



# WORLD BOOK AND COPYRIGHT DAY

World Book and Copyright Day is a celebration to promote the enjoyment of books and reading. Each year, on 23 April, celebrations take place all over the world to recognize the magical power of books - a link between the past and the future, a bridge between generations and across cultures. UNESCO chose this day as it is a symbolic date in the world literature. It is the day on which the world lost several prominent authors. UNESCO pays a world-wide tribute to books and authors to encourage everyone to access books. Libraries made this a fun day by having activities and reading to pre-scholars, children, teenagers, adults and the elderly: There were 1397 participants from different Free State Public and Dual-Purpose Libraries. Free State Provincial Library

Services celebrated World Book and Copyright Day with the following activities:

## **Door-to-Door Campaign 2024**

This was the main activity that was done by Fezile Dabi District this year. It is a project of 10 years that will run through to all the districts in the Free State - every year on the 23rd of April. This project is important to market libraries and to promote the love of reading in our communities.

## **Sections visited: Dinoheng Section**

On the 23rd of April 2024 Fezile Dabi District together with Head-Office, Library Services represented by the project co-ordinator Ms. Pearly Mfeku and Mr. Lesly Dibeco joined Kroonstad Libraries (Sedibeng, Brentpark, Kroonstad, Vooruit-sig, Tswelopele and Fezile Dabi District Library) for a door-to-door-campaign

in a quest to promote reading, use and protection of libraries, publishing and copyright. The team was joined by the District Manager, Mrs. Adele Bezuidenhout and later the co-ordinator of the South African Library for Blind in the Free State and North West Province, Ms Nobantu Boqo, also joined. The team sampled Dinoheng (Koe-koe Village) since they are far from the library and the team finished off at Makoeng Mall in Constantia, Kroonstad. On the door-to-door campaign, the team gave books of different languages to community members. The team paraded with their hand-made banner with the words: "World Book and Copyright Day Celebration". They attracted community members and triggered interest. Community members were also randomly asked to read an abstract

or section from a books given to them for free as part of "impromptu reading". The community members were encouraged to use their libraries often. During the door-to-door campaign Ms Boqo reached out to community members that were shortsighted or deaf, and explained to them the services for the visually impaired offered by some of the libraries and how they can benefit from using these services to their advantage.

## **Activities done in all Libraries: Book Review Activity**

Exhibition of books of different languages was displayed in libraries. Grades 7 – 10 learners did book reviews. Authors from the community were invited to the libraries to assist children who are interested in writing books.

## **Activity for all different**

**ages** - Different age groups wrote stories to make a booklet with their names. The booklets will be kept in the library as a reminder of World Book and Copyright Day 2024.

## **Youth and adults**

The youth and adults were informed about applying Copyright of information from various resources, especially books, visual resources, etc. They were taught about copyright infringement, plagiarism and methods of referencing. The purpose of the activity was to teach them not to copy the work of other authors/writers' word by word, using correct referencing techniques and copyright infringement for example do not copy videos on TikTok, and present it as your own work.

## **Little ones and the Elderly**

The elderly told their own stories

to the little ones. The librarian also narrated interesting stories for these groups separately. Colouring-in activities were also done afterwards. The purpose still remains to enjoy

books and reading.

### Teenagers

The teenager's researched about the challenges in South Africa and debated about them - issues such as voting, education, health,

corruption etc. They also debated on issues such as how Africa's economic problems can be resolved.

### Children age 6-15

The librarian had

a library tour with the children and gave them an opportunity to learn on how to use the reference materials as some of them are still struggling to use these resources. They

also did numerous activities such as poetry sessions, drama, shared reading, and group reading.



# BLOEMSHOW HIGHLIGHTS



# BLOEMSHOW FAMFEST



# UNITAS SECONDARY SCHOOL SOCIAL COHESION



Department of Sport, Arts, Culture and Recreation (DSACR) through its Heritage Services unit hosted a Provincial Social Cohesion Dialogue at Unitas Secondary School in Welkom, Lejweruputsa District

with young girls mostly in Grades 11 and 12.

As part of working towards a cohesive society and national building, this dialogue tackled a number of topics including the position of women in South

Africa, mental health, reproductive health, Relationships, GBV and Rape.

The dialogue set up commissions where each group dealt with a given topic and discussed solutions. DSACR invited

Departments of Health, Education, SAPS and an NGO called Hello Genius.

One of the commissions dealing with the position of women in SA decided to name themselves “Game Chang-

ers”, the group plans to further their agenda by starting a book club. They will be influencing more young women in their society to take up space and become game changers.



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