

**STUDENTS ATTACHEMENTS**

Every year students are placed at different organisations for their attachment programmes. On Tuesday 25th February the attachment coordinator went to Gumare to attach one of the students being Ikaegeng at Sekgele Home for the Disabled. It is helping the less privileged around the Okavango district, specifically the disabled to be independent thus work and earn on a living on their own. The attachment team was impressed with what they saw at the Centre, as they have a number of projects they are doing including; making beads out of paper, thus no capital is required for acquiring raw materials, sewing and cutting and designing Ikaegeng will be attached in the admistration department and the organisation is very relevant for her training. The student allowance was paid by the centre and she signed it and a file that consisted of all the necessary documentation was left there with the supervisor.

The other student was placed on the 27th February 2014 in Francistown being Sister Mpotsang at Patlhogo Primary School where she is working in the braille department. The student had long started attachment on the 2nd Of February 2014. The attachment Coordinator had an opportunity to have a discussion with Sister Mpotsangs supervisors who expressed extreme disappointment on the attachment process; they pleaded with us that we should try and place students before the commencement date of the attachment, the reasons stated being that if we just send our students to them, they will not know exactly what is expected of them and how best they can help our students. They also said that we will be giving them a challenge if we take time to come back for our students, on the same note, they highlighted that we should conduct our attachment like other institutions do. The student had a lot of difficulties, she did not have a braille machine as a result she was not very effective for the 1month that she had stayed, but that was delivered during the attachment on the 27th and all the files and allowance were given to her.

The third student was placed at Serowe Public Library being Ofentse under the Sports Administration Department. That was her second day at work; her supervisor reported that she had not had any problems so far. She was left with her braille machine. The fourth placement was on the 3rd of March 2014 were Gaamangwe Ramokgaane was placed at Matsieng Primary School and Goitseone Peolwane at Paphamang day care in Boseja respectively. Gaamangwe is attached under brailing department and the supervisor reported that she is doing very well and she was impressed since she started on the 1st of February 2014. The student will also be orientated by Mr. T. Kebuileng.

Findings at Phaphamang day care centre according to the attachment coordinator were not satisfactory because they found the student teaching toddlers which she believes she has no knowledge of and is not in any way relevant to the knowledge she acquired at school. It was then proposed that she be withdrawn from the day-care and be helped to find a more relevant institution. The other student was placed at RraMolefe Primary school in Mathethe being Tshupo Keneilwe Matlho who started a week before attachement. Her supervisors were amazed with her doings, they reported she was amazing, they never anticipated that she could help them that much basing on her disability. She is attached to the secretarial department.

The other student was placed at Phuthadikobo being

Kennake Gaopatwe. The report given was that the student is well behaved and of all the work that she is given, she showed competency and also she was said to have displayed her potential by her keenness to learn. However they emphasised on the aspect of role modelling saying that as a primary school, Adults should conduct themselves very well because the young ones learn from them, hence failure to do so that may lead to corruption of the young scholars. She is attached to the secretarial department and will be also engaged in their Agricultural Department before she completes her attachment.

**UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA DISABILITY SUPPORT GROUP**

On the 25th April 2014 the University of Botswana Disability team visited the students here at Pudulogong. The delegates consisted of 5 people whom their main objective of the visit was to share with the students their experiences and challenges as people also living with disabilities and also to encourage and motivate students. These are students with disabilities pursuing their studies at the University of Botswana. One of the speakers Tshupo who is visually impaired told the students that regardless of challenges people with disability have they still have a heart to carry on and also motivated them that they still life after Pudulogong so they should not despair. The other speaker was Onkutlwile who is physically challenged, she told the students that stress is always there how one deals with it is the important part, they should avoid or lose out of ill behaviour. She also asks them not to associate themselves with corruption as sometimes people take advantage of people with disabilities. The third speaker was Boikhutso who is visually impaired, she encouraged students to apply for tertiary and advised them on how networking is very important. The last speaker was Mr Moswela he was basically talking about human right issues especially for people living with disability and encouraged students to attend meeting that discuss their rights as people living with disabilities.



**CORRECTION FROM LAST ISSUE**

- 1. Mr R.R. Raletsatsi - Mr. R.R. Letsatsi
- 2. Ms Sophie Moalosi - Mrs. Sophie Moalosi
- 3. Mrs S Rapoo - Ms. S. Rapoo
- 5. Elder Tihapelo - Elder Thapelo Boikanyo
- 6. Mr. John Lestholo - Mr. John Letsholo

**CLOSING REMARKS**

I Hope this newsletter has given you insight of various activities that has been going on at Pudulogong recently.

**FEATURES:**

- LADY KHAMA CHARITY MARATHON
- EXCELLENCE DAY AWARDS
- BENCH MARKING
- STUDENT ATTACHEMENT
- CAREER AFFAIR
- DIACORE MARATHON
- HAND OVER OF BRAILLE BUDGET SPEECH
- MARIMBA COMPETITIONS
- UB VISITORS
- RIDDLES AND JOKES
- Corrections from last issue



**PUREDET**  
TRUST FOR THE BLIND

Tel: +267 5777480  
www.pudulogong.org

**WELCOME NOTE**

Welcome to the Third issue of our Newsletter, to inform and share some information with you about our activities and issues relating to Pudulogong.

**LADY KHAMA CHARITY MARATHON**

The lady Khama charity marathon took place on the 2nd March 2014 at Fairgrounds Holdings in Gaborone where it was the starting and the finishing point. The marathon had three different categories being the 5km, 10km and 21km respectively with different age categories as well. The marathon was well attended and the weather was perfect for the run. Pudulogong took part in the race were five students and two staff members run the 10km. All that took part from the team completed the race even though they all did not get medals but they all winners as they finished the race. Good news is one of our students got position two in the boys junior category being Kopano Lebang and he was awarded a Gold medal by his Excellency Lt Gen Seretse Khama Ian Khama. Congratulations to the whole team that took part in this marathon. Not only did they run for fitness or the love of sport but they have given in a donation to other charitable organisation by registering for the marathon.



## EXCELLENCE AWARD DAY

As an organisation that prepares an individual for the outside world beyond school, excellence awards are one of the activities that are conducted to help the students accomplish that. The Secretarial Department organised this Excellence award day lead by Ms Raditloaneng the Secretarial Instructor. It took place on the 11th of March 2014 in classroom 1. The whole objective of this award was to motivate students to work hard, build the spirit of team work, and as its said practise makes perfect that was one of the objectives of having such an activity. The students were given different roles that they were judged on and the judges were from different departments being Mr Pheto from IT, Mrs Molefe from the library and Mrs Jacob from agriculture.



The students were assessed on the following points, Dress code, speaking skills, presenter moral level, on stage performance, preparation & knowledge of task, voice projection, and consistency in speech, feedback from audience and time management. The top three who won the presentation were Iren Jamara and Joseph Batshane respectively. To the secretarial studies department great job on the awards.



## Benchmarking for Institutions Offering Rehabilitation, Simulation, Education and Training to Learners with Disability in South Africa

The Training Coordinator Mr Temba Sibanda attended the benchmarking exercise for institutions offering rehabilitation, education and training to learners with disability in South Africa, Cape town on the 9th-16th March 2014. The objectives of the trip was:

- To identify best practises in order to adopt good features of the programmes, projects and services to improve overall strategy performance.
- To measure against and compare with other institutions and assess the reason for any differences for the purposes of improvement and to be in accordance with both government and international standards.
- To improve networking collaboration, relationships and mutual understanding between participants.
- To establish new programmes that can be introduced in order to broaden the scope thus increase enrolment and diversify programmes and services.
- To identify and establish the overall coordination of non-governmental organisation in order to assign coordinating office of people with disability to enhance its coordination.

While on the benchmarking the training coordinator was assigned the following centres being Alta du Toit Adult centre, Jan Kriel School, Pionner Printers & Production Center, Camphill Western Cape and National Institute for the Deaf.

### RIDDLES

A dad and his son were riding their bikes and crashed. Two ambulances came and took them to different hospitals. The man's son was in the operating room and the doctor said, "I can't operate on you. You're my son." How is that possible?

A: The doctor is his mom!

## BOTSWANA NATIONAL MARIMBA COMPETITIONS

The marimba team took part in this year's national competition that was held in Mahalapye on the 5th of April. The competition was divided into two categories that is the disability and the able and they were judged accordingly to that. Pudulogong scoped the first position under the disability group and second position went to Maepe Group (former students at Pudulogong). On the able group first position went to Francistown SOS, 2nd Tlokwenng SOS and Third position went to Kids Academy. Other schools that took part were Motswedi Cjss, Day Star English Medium, Mount Pleasnt, Madiba Senior School, Kgaswe Primary English Medium School, Nata Senior School, Serowe College of Education, Serowe SOS, and High Ridge Primary.

## CAREER FAIR

On the 28th of March 2014 our 2nd year students went for the career fair that was held at Ditshupo hall. The students had an opportunity to visit stalls of their choices and ask questions. This is an opportunity for the 2nd years as they are completing this year for them to apply for studies at Tertiary level. Although most of the tertiary institutions in Botswana does not cater for the visually impaired a few that were available like Limkokwing shared a few information with the students.



## DIACORE MARATHON (STALL)

On the 30th of March we were amongst some of the charities that set up stalls at the marathon venue that is Grand palm hotel. The aim of having a stall there was to advertise our centre to the community at large that came for the race. The turn up was amazing a lot of people came through to our stall and it showed in deed a lot of people really do not know about our centre and what it offers so this was the perfect platform. We thank the Diacore organisers for seeing it vital to invite us to set up a stall at the event. The day was fruitful.



## HAND OVER OF BRAILLE BUDGET SPEECH

The first ever print of the National budget speech in Braille language was handed over on the 3rd April 2014 by the Minister of Finance and Development Planning O. K. Matambo to Mrs. S. Ramsay from Botswana Council for the disabled who was receiving it on behalf of all members who are training people with visual impairment. The permanent secretary Mr. S. M. Sekwakwa started off by giving welcome remarks. The permanent secretary mentioned that this year, the ministry has taken a further step to cater for the visually impaired members of our society and produced the 2014 "The Peoples Guide to the Budget". He further went on to say this is a demonstration of their commitment to embrace all members of our society in undertaking the mandate. This is also in line with the two pillars of our National Vision 2016 of; to be Compassionate, Just and Caring Nation, and also to be educated and Informed Nation. Like other members of the society the visually impaired have the right to be informed and Educated about how the national budget is being allocated, more importantly how it is going to address their needs, challenges and aspiration. On the other hand during her acceptance speech Ms Ramsay thanked the minister for his consciousness and warm heartedness to remember to include the visually impaired persons in his deliberations. She further went on to say that today we speak of inclusion, participation of PWDS in the mainstream society and gone are the days where there was ignorance, neglect, avoidance and discrimination.

