

Association for the Education & Care of Young Children

Vereniging vir Voorskoolse Opvoeding en Sorg



Newsletter
March 2020

COVID-19: SOCIAL DISTANCING PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT ON FURTHER LEVELS

On Sunday 15 March 2020 when the president announced a period of social distancing, and later the state of lock-down, our daily lives changed abruptly when centres were forced to close their doors in just a couple of days. Not only did it rob us of the reason for getting out of bed and go to work, but the babies and young children at our centres had to adjust overnight to be without their friends and their second 'mother' that is an example of love, safekeeping and care.

At the end of this month, also the end of the term, we reflect with gratitude on the opportunities where we could offer chances to learn together and advocate for appropriate practice in early childhood development for persons involved with young children and the AECYC.

We are thankful for a workshop offered in February with the theme: *Lesson planning, A jail or a joy?* Presented by Saartjie Viljoen, a member of the committee, every teacher there could feel more equipped to attend joyously to the task of lesson planning and executing their daily duties.

We are thankful for the AECYC seminar on 7 March - it was a huge success. The format and presentation were of the highest standard and we received great praise and appreciation for the chosen topics: *The effect of a passive lifestyle and excessive screen time on the development of babies and young children;* and *The young child with emotional challenges.* Both these topics allow for many training opportunities, discussions and workshops to come.

Two radio conversations resulted from this and the voice and heart of the AECYC was heard. Thank you to Anelize who with myself and Lize could portray the passion and vision of the AECYC.

We look forward with hearts filled with expectation and hope that we will be able to face the trials of a changing world

The challenge persists to make use of every opportunity to get to know your own children's hearts by making use of this time to catch-up. We as teacher-parents get the chance to turn our houses into homes where every member of the family wants to spend time.

We also get the opportunity to appreciate the value of every child's smile, laugh and hug, because that is what we miss the most and it will keep us standing during this time in March and April 2020.

We look upwards with thanksgiving as we know where our hope lies and who our Anchor is.

Lastly, we are grateful for everyone who forms part of the AECYC. Please stay involved by affiliating as school/ centre or individual person, especially now during this time? This will ensure you receive information and ideas directly.

Join the AECYC and be a part of the family for inspiration to quality education and care, and moral support during this time.

We love to share age-appropriate activities that you can customise and share with the parents. We invite every centre and teacher to keep the communication channel with their classes and children open.

Thank you to the AECYC team that despite them being mothers and wives, continue to share the passion and heartbeat for the good of the calling. You are appreciated.

We will share further information via e-mail. Contact us as we would like to hear how we can be of help.

Yours in early childhood education and care

Mariëtte

*Today's
child is
our
nation's
future*

*Die kleuter
van die
hede is
die nasie
van die
toekoms*

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