

# EDUGATE NEWS

July / August 2016

Edition 7, Volume 7

## THE HIGHLIGHTS

- EduGate students out doing practicals in July.
- EduGate hosts a five-day Workshop on ECD.
- EduGate Mid-Term Review for Phase II

### EduGate Students out doing Practicals

In July our students were once more attached to different preschools in Mbabane, Malkerns, Ezulwini and Manzini to do their three weeks of practicals. Trainers went on the first day to introduce our students to the owners and during the second and third week all EduGate trainers were out observing and assessing students during the practicals. The observation is a positive step towards growth for the project to give marks and give feedback to the students on what went well and areas for improvement.



*Participants made their own materials during the workshop to use back in their preschools.*

### EduGate Hosts a five-day workshop on Introduction to ECD

In August EduGate hosted a five-day workshop for thirty-two preschool teachers from the Hhohho Region. This workshop is in partnership with the Ministry of Education, wherein EduGate builds the capacity of preschool teachers who are already working in preschools but cannot attend formal classes due to various reasons such as family commitments, level of education, etc.



*A group photo with participants during the last day of the workshop.*

The participants were very active throughout the five days and they were still yearning for more even during the end of the five days. They expressed their sincere appreciation to EduGate for the new skills and knowledge gained during the workshop and that it would help them to do things differently when they go back to their classes.



*Brother Juha interacting with children in one of our ICBC preschool during his observations.*

### EduGate Phase II Mid-Term Review

On the 6<sup>th</sup> August, 2016, EduGate welcomed the arrival of Mr. Juha Valta from Finland. He had been commissioned by HLL to conduct an evaluation Phase II of the project. In his schedule he was able to meet CMS leaders, Government officials, and to visit all ICBCs to observe classes and to hold group discussions with parents as stakeholders of the project. He also had a meeting with ECCD Senior Inspector, Ms. Gwen Simelane, at the Ministry of Education and he also met the Heads of Department from Ngwane College, a similar training center owned by Government. He also spent time observing our trainers in the classroom to see firsthand how they interact with our teacher trainees. He was able to have individual interviews with all trainers and the Project Manager. Further, he met with Pastor Tim, our Director in the farm who oversees the day-to-day running of our project and their meeting was very fruitful.

### Visit by Ms. Suvi Mikkanen

We welcomed the arrival of Suvi, a professional photographer from Finland in the month of August. She is visiting the EduGate project to assist with taking professional pictures for the Teacher Resource Book Manual. She has been formally introduced to members of the TRB and a schedule has been created to be followed during her stay. The list of items to be photographed has been created by members, discussed and approved by Rauna. Members have been assigned to work with her on different themes of the resource book.



*Washing hands with running water.*

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