



# Welcome News

from South Africa

February 2019

## BACK HOME FROM GRAHAMSTOWN

After 5 weeks staying with Mother Zelma, the Sisters and the children I am back home in Dorset. It is certainly good to be home but as the temperature there was 28 degrees when I left, I am feeling a little chilly! Not only do I miss the heat, I miss the children too – they kept me very busy every day. I arrived just in time for the New Year and having heard that there was to be a firework display in Grahamstown at midnight, Mother Zelma and I woke up the children, donned coats and hats and stood in a good place to watch. Well, we waited and we waited....you have guessed, no fireworks. Luckily I had put some sparklers in my case and so they saved the day. During the following week before they went back to school, we had a day on the beach and also a visit to a farm where they could get really close to the animals.

Of course, we had work to do to get ready for the new school year and so I did the same as last year and took each child individually to town to buy their new uniform, their stationary and choose bags, lunch boxes, drink bottles etc. As before, they loved this personal attention! In the heat it was a challenge for me but I had wonderful help this time from some lady assistants in the main shop who seemed very amused that I had so many children to buy uniform for. Very definitely this “mega shop” saved the 4 Sisters who care for the children a lot of time and effort!



After an early night for everyone the first day came and how very lovely they all looked.

For the next few days all we heard each afternoon was; “My teacher says...”!

**Phelisa** – now 12 - moved up 2 grades (a complete mystery) but is VERY happy with her new teacher and, at my gentle request, he has given her homework – just like her sister and brother. **Emmy** - now 9 – had an excellent end of year report. She is very bright and taking in everything her school offers her. She has joined the School Choir this year. **Phelo** – now nearly 8 – had some wobbly times at school last year but in spite of that I can see that he has made big progress. He is very motivated to read as well as his big sister. **Onelani** - now 5 - started “big school” and was very brave! **Inam** – just 5 this month – also started big school. Not a backward glance - this little one is sailing already!

## OUR NEXT FUNDRAISING EVENT

Will be on **SATURDAY 13 JULY** in the garden of **PADDOCK HOUSE** in **PIDDLEHINTON**.

As the children will be here and they absolutely love cake, the event will be an **Afternoon Tea** and we have booked our lovely African drummer, Kwame, to lead us all in a big drumming band.

Nearer the time we will send invitations but please do hold this date for this very special occasion.

## GIVE AS YOU LIVE

Very many thanks to those of you who signed up for this. Already we have raised over £40 for Future Bright Trust. It really is so easy. When you shop at over 4,000 top stores including Amazon, Marks and Spencer, Expedia and John Lewis via Give as you Live, they'll turn a percentage of your spend into free funds for our charity!

If you feel a bit uncertain please let me reassure you that there are no catches or difficulties – just a very effective way to support Future Bright Trust. Find out more by connecting to

<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/future-bright-trust>.

## LASTLY.....

The mystery of the Christmas card posted in Glasgow!!!

Try as I may – and I have tried so hard – I have not managed to find out who was the wonderfully thoughtful and generous person who sent me an anonymous card containing Scottish currency with the message; “something towards cold KFC in the sun”. Clearly it is someone who I have told the story of the children being happy to eat cold KFC on the beach but I cannot recognise the handwriting, nor do I know anyone in Glasgow.

I am stumped! I can report that I did most certainly use the money to buy chicken and chips for the children on the day we went to the beach. And....there were ice creams later in the day! Everything was very much enjoyed – smiling faces all round.

THANK YOU whoever is the generous giver – such a lovely and thoughtful gesture. You have proved that I am not such a good detective after all!



**Inam on her 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Registered charity no 1159539

For more information see our website [www.futurebrighttrust.co.uk](http://www.futurebrighttrust.co.uk) or ring Sue Hennessy on 07770 738170

To donate on line [www.give.net/20180380](http://www.give.net/20180380)