

# UKUWELA IINDABA QUARTERLY IMPACT SEPTEMBER 2025

Spring is here and Ukuwela celebrated the season with all the appropriate activities! Our senior boys toiled the soil at Norgarivier Nursery where they had the opportunity to prepare pots for plants and seedlings with the most beautiful soil. A big thank you to Mornè and his team for accommodating us. This team really takes it to the next level with the care and attention they put into every task, big or small.



**ABOVE LEFT: CULTIVATING SKILLS AT NORGARIVIER NURSERY**

**ABOVE RIGHT: WAX ON, WAX OFF AT PROTEA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT KING GEORGE**

Spring wouldn't be the same without a spot of spring-cleaning! Thank you to Protea Hotel by Marriott King George for providing our senior girls with a unique work experience opportunity in the housekeeping department. The journey with Protea Hotel expanded to one of our senior boys, Keagan Prins, who jumped in early in the mornings to gain extra hospitality experience. In addition to lovely staff, great service and beautiful amenities, this Hotel has heart!

Spring is a time of renewal and regeneration and Ukuwela stepped up for the occasion when we partnered with seasoned Beauty Therapist, Gretha Taute, who presented a Facial skills training course to our girls. Once the girls mastered the sequence of steps to follow, you could hear a pin drop in the room. Our girls were calm, composed, relaxed and enjoying every second of either giving a facial, or receiving one. We even had members of the public come for facials on the last day of training to put our girls to the test. We could not have been prouder to hear: 'It was the best facial I ever had!'.



**ABOVE LEFT AND RIGHT: WHAT A DELIGHT! FACIAL TRAINING WITH SEASONED BEAUTY THERAPIST, GRETHA TAUTE**

Just a short advertisement break to express our gratitude to our funders who make these skills training courses possible. Following our knives skills training course during the previous term, we invested in chef knives to enable our learners to build on their skills. We also invested in spa products to give our learners the experience of working with industry related products and up their skills to what would be expected of them once they are employed.

Speaking of employment and expectations, Ukuwela would like to give a big shoutout to Andrè Leen, his family and the team at Africorp on reaching the one-year work-anniversary milestone! Congratulations Andrè for your consistent hard work and dedication. May you have many more happy years doing what you do best!

Ukuwela had the most inspiring visit to the Take-Away shop at the Engen garage in Albertinia where we met Eileen and her team of ladies who prepare the most delicious meals and snacks between Cape Town and George! This formidable team welcomed our very own Ukuwela candidate, Dimitri Vaaltyn, into their midst when he started a work experience opportunity with them on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2025. We are so happy for Dimitri who is not only learning new skills but also building positive relationships with his colleagues.



**CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR  
VASBYT AWARD, ANDRÈ!**



**DIMITRI AND HIS TEAM OF LOVELY LADIES!**

Relationships are what it is all about and this term we had the opportunity to connect with businesses, parents and the community. Our annual Umbulelo breakfast has become a staple on the Carpe Diem menu where we get to celebrate local donors and individuals who invest in our school and its people. We spent a beautiful morning together on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September and was reminded of the privilege we have being able to develop the potential of our learners. Shoutout to Rudy from Ciro's and Libhongoletu from Protea Hotel by Marriott King George for running a delicious hot beverage bar for our guests!

Ukuwela reached out to Sabrina Love, an NPO for children with disabilities in Plettenberg Bay when we visited them on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September. This organisation is aligning their activities to prepare their youth for the world of work and there is so much we can share and learn from each other. It is heartwarming to know that we share similar dreams.



To prepare and equip our parents when learners leave school, we facilitated a parent evening together with the relevant teachers. It is so important to create a space where parents get the chance to openly discuss the future of their children and their significant role in shaping their future.

For Ukuwela, spring is indeed a time of new things, old things that have been brushed up and growth!

May this season mean the very same to you.

Greetings,

*The Ukuwela Team*



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