



Winning Ways

March 2019

Uplands Outreach Newsletter
Real stories, real difference

News from
Leaders
Teachers
Learners

Winning Ways:
8 Secrets of
Success

First Term
Highlights

Dear Friends

The first term of 2019 has been overwhelmingly positive for the Uplands Outreach team, particularly with the opening of our brand-new Japhet Outreach Centre at Uplands. Feel free to visit us for a tour.

With our theme **‘Secrets of Success’** (read more on page 3), we look forward to partnering with our many generous and talented donors, beneficiaries and friends to ensure a year overflowing with success.

Our donors make our ‘winning ways’ a reality – thank you! We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, knowing that your support has made a direct impact on the lives of school leaders, teachers, and learners.

Dr Nicky de Bruyn, Violah Moya and the Uplands Outreach Team

Laviniah Nyalungu is the principal of Zikodze Secondary, which has been Insikazi’s top performing school for three years in a row, in terms of the NSC matric pass rate. She is a veteran school principal who is known for her tireless efforts on behalf of her learners.

“As one of the principals who has partnered with Uplands Outreach for many years, I can say that I have really enjoyed working with this passionate team. I am most grateful to Nicky, who has developed and capacitated me as a female school leader. Zikodze has gone from having a Matric pass rate of 20% in 2010 to being the top performing school in the Insikazi Circuit for the last three years in a row. I am about to retire, so my wish is that Uplands Outreach continues to be very successful in developing the individuals who are next. May God bless them.”

“I really enjoy working with the passionate Uplands Outreach team.”

School Leader



Laviniah Nyalungu
Principal,
Zikodze Secondary School

Teacher



Ntokozo Maseko
Grade 2 Educator,
Nyalungu Primary School
(Standard Bank Teacher
Development Programme)

***“There’s no place
I’d rather be than
at Uplands
Outreach!”***

Ntokozo is a Foundation Phase teacher at Nyalungu Primary, teaching 45 Grade 2 learners every day. She is mentored by another Uplands Outreach graduate, Maggie Manzini, who has shared her ‘secrets of success.’ Maggie noted that Ntokozo’s learners from last year are able to read and are progressing well – which is no surprise. Ntokozo often stays at school in the afternoon, working with struggling learners.

On a recent site coaching visit, Violah Moya noticed Ntokozo’s innovative techniques for connecting with the learners, and for playing games within disciplined routines. She has a special way ([click here](#)) of capturing the children with her energetic reading skills. Here is her recent feedback:

“I personally think that if we as teachers learn to read fluently, and for enjoyment, it will be easy for us to pass the skills to our learners. Fortunately, I am attending Uplands Outreach to learn and improve such skills.

I was visited by Mama V (Violah Moya) on the 5th of March 2019. She visited me to offer on-site coaching for reading. I did shared reading and group guided-reading activities with my learners. The feeling of knowing that Mama V was there to support and help me improve gave me strength.

She gave me positive feedback after the lesson. I felt proud of myself. I believe there's still more to learn at Uplands Outreach and there is no other place I would rather be!”

We continue to track the remarkable progress of the *Learners for Excellence (L4E) Programme*. We are delighted to hear about the successful completion of tertiary study endeavours, recent graduations and, in Sandile Nkambule’s case, subsequent successful employment as a Maths teacher at Fundinjobo Secondary School, where he himself graduated in 2014 (having been taught Maths by the now deputy principal, Mr Aaron Mahlalela). Here is his feedback:

“Uplands Outreach is the greatest story that has ever happened in my life. I remember back in 2012 I was one lost boy from a rural area called Phakane doing my grade 10 at Fundinjobo Secondary School. I had no future plans, nor did I know how to set up long or short term goals.

That's when Uplands Outreach came as a shining light to me through a programme called L4E. Uplands Outreach is basically the reason for my success in life. I got a full-paying bursary to study Bachelor of Education, majoring in Mathematics and Physical Science. I finished on time due to the fact that I was well groomed by Uplands Outreach to practice Covey’s 7 Habits of Highly Effective People.

Today I am a qualified professional educator who teaches mathematics in Grade 9 (156 learners each day) and 10 (139 learners each day). I am planning on registering for my Honours degree in Education. Thanks to the donors who made these positive ripples happen.”

Learner



Sandile Nkambule
Gr. 9 and 10 Maths educator
(L4E graduate and B Ed graduate,
now “paying it forward” at his own
school in the Insikazi Circuit!)

***“Uplands Outreach
has created a
dreamer, a life-
changer and a life-
long learner in
me.”***

Eight Secrets of Success:

Uplands Outreach continually shares motivational techniques with our participants which they, in turn, can share with learners. Richard St. John, marketer and success analyst, has dedicated several years to researching what leads to success. It all started (as he states) when a neighboring passenger asked him this question during a flight to a TED conference, and he found that he didn't have a good answer. Prompted by the question, he conducted over 500 interviews on the subject, pulling wisdom from successful individuals along the way. In his 3-minute [TED Talk](#), he shares those important habits of success with us: Work, Improve, Ideas, Passion, Push, Serve, Focus, and Persist.

First Term Highlights



Thank you for all your support at the opening of the new [Japhet Outreach Centre at Uplands](#), affectionately known as the JOC. The JOC is in full swing, with more than a dozen events and [contact sessions](#) having been hosted here at Uplands since the opening. What a joy! Thank you again to the Japhet Family for their incredible support.

We celebrate our [Annual Impact Metrics](#) from 2018 and congratulate the Insikazi Circuit Manager and our 34 partner schools for these positive results from 2018.

Special thanks to several individuals who have assisted Uplands Outreach during Term 1 with their pro-bono help: *Lori Wagner, Leanne Gitlin, Andy Dalrymple, Dave Harrison, and Yolanda Woodrow.* Thank you!

The [Insikazi Site Visit](#) trip was a great success, with service-minded college pupils joining the group this time. Our thanks to all who took part.

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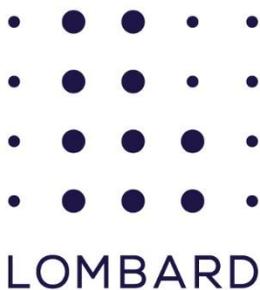
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a quick and easy
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THANK YOU

to all our friends and supporters for allowing Uplands Outreach to make a difference in 2019.

To find out more about supporting and nurturing talented South Africans, please contact Dr Nicky de Bruyn, Director of Uplands Outreach, on ndebruyn@uplands.co.za



Standard Bank



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