



LET'S BE THE BACKBONE AND NOT THE WISHBONE

3x More Likely



From the outset we engage with the parents & guardians of the young leaders we are serving. Trust is built through relationships and not only do we want to inspire & influence the children, but the key role players in the child's life as well.



We learnt that with this inclusive approach, our chances are 3x more likely to make the desired impact in these children's lives.

Foundation Backbone

ElnaBritzMemorialGolfDay2017



Values - Branding Leaders

It has been a busy and productive start to the year. Our first events took place at the schools with the focus on helping the children settle in and become familiar with the structure of the program and the team while feeling at ease.



Sharing values to create value! We taught the Leader's Value System to the children by making them think about trendy brands & marketing. The kids learned that, as with the likes of Coke, which has a very distinct brand identity, so does a leader has certain attributes that is associated with him/her. Our program links the leader identity with 6 values that are typically recognized as the cornerstones of leadership. These are: Trustworthiness, Responsibility, Respect, Fairness, Empathy and Gratitude & Giving back. The kids committed striving towards these values. Much fun was had as the kids made posters emphasizing these values, and they undertook to distribute and display these posters in their schools so that the rest of the school could also benefit & learn about the importance of these values.





Belgian Visitor

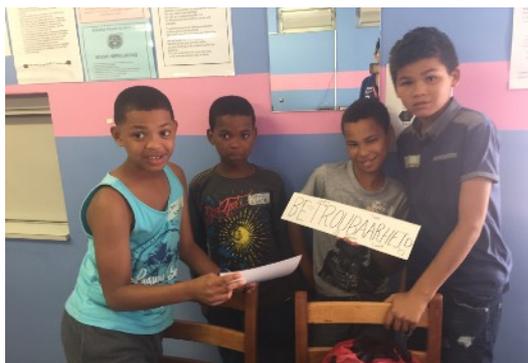
Elien de Wachter joined our event at Mamre Primary. She studies Sport Movement and is currently on an outreach in South Africa from Belgium. It was a great add-on for our leaders to learn some Flemish words and to be exposed to another culture. Elien lead some of the games on the day and was a great help with our Arts and Craft project. The kids loved taking selfies with her as a memory to treasure.



Golf Day Fundraiser

The 6th EOH Elna Britz Memorial Golf day took place on the 16th of March. The team at Synergy started the event in memory of Elna Britz, a beloved colleague and supporter of the Foundation that passed away in 2011. This fundraiser will play a huge role in making our Leadership program possible for 2017. A special thanks to Priscilla Doig, who did a phenomenal job organising the fundraiser. When you don't have words for the work done, we can simply say: Thank you!

To be the best at your game, you need to eat breakfast. After a breakfast treat of banana bread complimented with a fruit and an ice cold milkshake, the kids were ready for a fun-filled day. The highlight of their day was when we did the ceremony where they officially become a member of Foundation Backbone. Each child commits taking up the responsibility of striving to be a leader. They received their prefect badges, engraved with their names, which really has shown to uplift them and give them a greater sense of self-worth and confidence.



We also played Outdoor games, where we focussed on improving listening skill, working together as a team as well as instilling perseverance. The team received their reward in the words of one of our young leaders, who said: "I love to see how happy my friends are, when you guys are here."

Thanks to our Braai masters Titus, Inge & Gerhard and Marieta & Georgie who did a great job providing "Lip-lekker" Boerie rolls served with a homemade tomato relish. The kids had to "work" for their dessert of yummy Easter eggs. We had a fun quiz on all we learned during the day and a correct answer guaranteed an Easter egg.

With February being the month of love, we spoiled our loved ones in our families with home-made chocolates, to remind them of the value of unconditional love. "Love can be taught and it comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." Wise words from a true leader, Nelson Mandela.



GRATITUDE



Our leaders wrote thank-you cards to all of our golfers that played in the Golf day. We placed the self made, personalised "love letters" into the goodie-bags that were handed to each golfer on the day. May they be a blessing to each recipient!

Foundation Backbone would also like to give a special thanks to our loyal donors that contribute monthly to the Foundation. Without your help, we would not be able to continue our important work and touch the lives of the children we serve at Foundation Backbone.

If you would like to be a monthly or regular financial contributor, please email us : info@foundationbackbone.co.za.



Next event?

"Conflict and Bullying"

Giraffe Park: 06, 13, 20 May

"Gratitude helps you to grow and expand; gratitude brings joy and laughter into your life and into the lives of others."

The future!

We asked our leaders about their aspirations for the future. Some had clarity, others had some kind of an idea, and a few had no clue. By changing the traditional question to what problems would you like to solve one day, we saw the lightbulbs going on. The kids immediately started thinking differently about their futures. We taught them about entrepreneurship. Not only did we enjoy making bracelets for our golfers but learned the skill of persistence....those beads can roll every where!! Education is all about creating an environment for the young mind to try and do something despite the fact somebody said you can't.



We are grateful for a successful start to 2017! The principals and teachers that support our events and help us with the logistics deserve a round of applause. The love and compassion they have for the kids is contagious. As March and April are filled with Public holidays and long weekends our next encounter will take place in May. Be safe over the holiday period and enjoy and make the most of what is left of summer.