



SUPPORT SERVICES MONTHLY NEWS

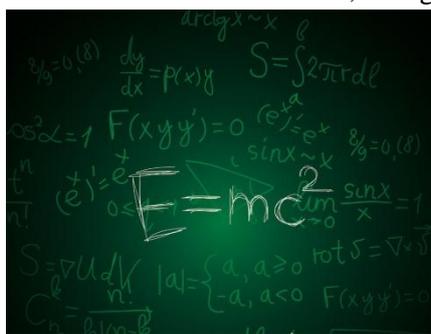
3rd May-10th May 2016

LOCAL OLYMPIADS

THE SEARCH FOR MATHS GURUS IS UNDERWAY

NOMPILO BUTHELEZI

Maths plays a very important role in our everyday lives. We use maths in day to day activities like making purchases, tracking cell phone minutes or even baking. Many aspiring careers require a solid foundation in mathematics like for example to be an Engineer, an Architect, Computer Scientist, a doctor Etc. all require you to have pure maths. Learners need to constantly be involved in maths programs to enhance their problem solving techniques and improve mental calculation and reasoning skills.



Pure Maths (Maths Core) is encouraged at schools to ensure successful careers upon school completion

EThekwini Municipality's Office of the Deputy City Manager Support Services in partnership with the Department of Education organised the Local Olympiads 2016 which is aimed at training learners in maths, recognising their intelligence and potential of being maths geniuses.

Primary schools from the Umlazi and Pinetown district were selected and the Support Services crew went out to these schools to begin with the selections tests to determine which learners will go through to

being trained for the big Local Olympiads competition. Upon arrival at the Primary Schools. Teams introduced themselves to the principal/HOD and Maths educator at the school.



Pictured: Learners at Saphinda Primary with EThekwini Municipality staff Nompilo Buthelezi and Saphinda Maths Educator



Pictured: Lihle Shandu (EThekwini Municipality) reading through instructions of the paper with the learners

They signed the participation register and proceeded to organising either a school hall or classroom for the learners to write in. once the learners got seated on their desks, one of the Support Services member introduced the team and then went through the instructions of the paper together with the learners.

The selection test ran from the 3rd April 2016 till the 10th April 2016. First up was Saphinda, Sukuma, Ekuphileni, Umnini Memorial, Sibukeyana and Ophapheni Primary Schools. Second day was Umphumelela, Sinenzuzo, Maphumzana and Inkonkoni Primary. The 3 teams continued the 3rd day, visiting Benjamin Pine, Khethamahle, ST Leo, Verulam and Just Juniors.



Pictured: Learners during their test paper

Other schools visited were Daluxolo, Peaceville, Nonqanda, Winston Park and Palmiet Primary.



Pictured: Learners reading through test papers

Feedback from the learners regarding the paper that they wrote was 50/50. Some said it was challenging but writable. Some said it was extremely difficult but they tried to write to the best of their ability.



Pictured: Lihle Shandu and Sibusiso Ndlela (EThekwini Municipality) and learners after their test paper



Pictured: Happy learners after their paper

The Support Services team calmed the learners by providing them with Coke refreshments, aquelle water, Lipton ice tea and Jungle bars.



Pictured: EThekwini Municipality Staff Learners with the sponsored Coke refreshments



Pictured: Learners at Primary with their aquelle refreshments



Pictured: Learners with their Lipton ice tea refreshments

One of the major concerns was that some of the schools were in isolated areas where vehicles had to travel on unleavened road surfaces making it difficult to control the cars,



Pictured: Gravel roads that some of the teams had to go through to get to the Primary Schools

however the Local Olympiads selections test was completed with success.

A schedule of feedback is awaited that we reflect on how the learners did during their test as marking is still in progress. The

Support Services team will then receive further instructions on following up with the top achievers.



Pictured Above: Some of the Schools that were visited for the selection test

