

# Quarterly Newsletter

News and events from Autism Connect Learning Centre

OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2022

Autism Connect Learning Centre aims to function as a learning and resources centre within our community, providing a specialised early learning programme that is Autism specific. Our ethos encompasses neurodiversity and advocacy of inclusion, focusing on early learner intervention.



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Nicolette Ripepi

As Autism Connect, comes to the end of 2022... we have never been more excited for what the future holds. We have welcomed new staff and have said goodbye to a few of our learners as they moved on to “Big School”, wishing them all well on their new journey that awaits... Excitement is brewing for our upcoming 10 Year Anniversary Celebration, which is rumoured to be one spectacular event, (tickets still on sale at our office). As this year ends, we remember the many milestones and challenges we have endured and conquered. We look forward to the new year with its unwritten chapters, new experiences, and unending promise of what is yet to come. I want to take this moment to thank our parents, teachers, learners, donors & sponsors, without you we would not be where we are today.

Looking forward to another happy and healthy term of learning and play.



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## AAC Awareness Month

OCTOBER 2022

Augmentative alternative communication abbreviated to AAC is any form of nonverbal (PREVERBAL) communication used to assist someone experiencing speech and language difficulty. AAC comprises of two main forms of communication.

Augmentative communication which is any system or tool used to supplement natural speech and Alternative communication which is any system or tools used to replace natural speech.

We are so excited to be having these much-needed resources at our disposal. We could not have done it without the generous support sponsor from De Beers Group Services.

## Annual AGM

27 OCTOBER 2022

We have concluded our 9th AGM in October 2022. We wish to thank our partners in government, our parents, and sponsors, for believing in the work we so passionately love.



## Exciting News!

On behalf of Management, Staff and Parents of Autism Connect, we wish to congratulate Nicolette who has been elected to serve on the NEC Board for Autism SA. A big well done and may this new journey be one of great experience and knowledge.





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## World Teachers Day

5 OCTOBER 2022

5 October 2022 was a special day for all Teachers across the world. And being a special need teacher can be challenging at times but so rewarding. In light of this, we want to thank our amazing Special Need Teachers at Autism Connect for all their dedication and passion. Yes YOU... Teachers Teressa Kayser, Anthea Tabanie, Adea Pillay, Cleo Baron, Chanelle Joseph, Michaela Dean and Sage Carolus! We are so blessed to have you all a part of this amazing team. Thank you for the love, hard work and support you give each learner. It is noted. Continue to love and inspire. We appreciate you all! From AC Management

# THANKYOU



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## Open Day

29 OCTOBER 2021





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## Cancer Awareness Month

29 OCTOBER 2021

October is Breast Awareness Month. AC Staff wearing pink to spread awareness. Thinking and praying for all Cancer fighters and Survivors Early detection saves lives. Women should do a breast self-exam every month to look and feel for changes. Regular breast exams can help you maintain breast health and detect cancer early when it is easier to treat and more likely to be cured. Most lumps and abnormalities aren't cancer, but you should still report changes to your doctor.



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## Rush Excursion

OCTOBER 2022

Our learners had an amazing time at RUSH Claremont where they not only had fun but also got to satisfy their sensory needs (vestibular, proprioceptive, and tactile). They had a blast and the whole experience helped them to develop their large muscles, and most importantly they got to be and express themselves.



## Learner Graduations

NOVEMBER 2022

Final toss of the hat. Proud moments. Let's put our hands together for our Graduates. Congratulations! We want to wish our learners well on their new adventure. To Blooms and Balloons - thank you for the beautiful decor. Thank you to all our amazing parents, grandparents and all staff for the role you have played in the lives of our little ones. You made this day extra special. Well done to Ayaan, Inako, Ihsaan, Tashreeq and Achumile.





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## Learners Year End Party

14 DECEMBER 2022

Our learners celebrated their year end party in the form of a Colour Picnic. After a fun-filled picnic the learners received beautiful gifts. Thanks to all our amazing staff, family, and friends for their contribution in donating towards our gift boxes for our learners. The smiles on learners' faces were priceless. A special thanks to Ms Anthea Barendse for her wonderful donations and contribution towards our learners' gifts. Stationary boxes were also donated to all learners by Enous Packaging.



## Autism Connect staff outing

DECEMBER 2022

We ended the year with a lovely Picnic at Wynberg Park. It was indeed tons of fun. Gifts were exchanged and words of affirmation were spoken amongst staff, which was heart-warming. A special thanks to Ms Anthea Barendse and Carers Unite for the lovely lunch.





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## LET'S CELEBRATE!!!

We are delighted to announce that we have secured Rocklands Civic as the venue for our celebration. The event will take place on Saturday, 28 January 2023. This will be an exciting event with lots of music and entertainment. Tickets cost R350.



AUTISM CONNECT LEARNING CENTRE

**10TH ANNIVERSARY**

AT ROCKLANDS CIVIC CENTRE, MITCHELL'S PLAIN

SATURDAY 28TH JANUARY '23 17:00PM

TICKET R\_\_ 3 COURSE MEAL & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Celebrating **10<sup>th</sup>** YEARS ANNIVERSARY

TICKET NO. ---

**R350.00**

@AUTISMCONNECT.ORG.ZA







UNLOCKING  
GREATNESS

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Thank  
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FOR AN  
AWESOME  
2022!!!!