



## **INTERNET ARTICLE**

### **Mayisela Primary School learners attend a hand washing class**

**01 November 2017**

Children are the good carriers of messages, when you educate a child you educate the nation. As part of the month long Global Handwashing Campaign the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) officials visited Mayisela Primary School in Orange Farm on 01 November 2017 to educate the learners about the importance of washing hands with soaps to curb the spread of communicable diseases such as diarrhea and other related diseases.

Children are vulnerable to a lot of sicknesses due to the conditions of where they stay or play. Therefore, the hand washing lessons are critical towards improving the well-being of the children and reducing the high mortality rates.

Addressing the officials before the start of the programme, Deputy Principal Mr Saul Phore thanked the Department for choosing their school (Mayisela Primary School) for this health advocacy.

“The hand washing education that you are bringing to our school is of paramount importance for the health and safety of our learners. We hope that the learners will take these lessons home to practice and share with their families,” said the Deputy Principal.

Mrs Fikile Mokonoto from DWS advised the learners about the importance of washing their hands with soap at all critical times before handling food or after using the toilet.

She also told the learners that diseases such as diarrhoea can be prevented if everyone practices the following hand washing six steps:

- Wet hands with clean water and use soap;
- Rub both hands together, rub back of the hands;
- Rub in-between the fingers and clean the thumbs;
- Clean under the fingernails;
- Clean your wrists; and
- Rinse well with running water and dry with a clean cloth or by shaking in the air.

“Washing hands frequently and following these steps can prevent diseases and save many lives, added Mokonoto.

Mokonoto also advised the learners to be mindful of saving water when practicing the six steps of washing hands and not leave the tap running.

**Lucky Makgarengi**