



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Observing World Toilet Day by encouraging learners to keep toilets clean for the health of the nation

19 November 2018

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) joined the world in observing World Toilet Day by joining learners at Likhweti Primary School in Kanyamazane in the City of Mbombela. The learners were engaged in an educational awareness session where they were educated and reminded of the importance of clean toilets.

Annually, 19 November is World Toilet Day which highlights the importance of a toilet for human dignity and health and inspires action to tackle the global sanitation crisis. This year, the theme is **“When Nature Calls”** highlighting the serious importance of a proper toilet when nature calls. The theme also emphasizes the importance of a toilet for human health and a healthy environment.

Mr Themba Khoza from the Department of Water and Sanitation outlined the history and background of the World Toilet Day and encouraged the learners and the educators to ensure that the toilets are always clean and hygienic to prevent the spread of diseases. “We need to always keep our toilets clean at all times as nobody wants to use a dirty toilet. You are lucky here to have flushing toilets so take care of them and keep them clean at all times, as billions of people in the world do not have access to proper toilet facilities. A toilet is one of the most important places that is normally taken for granted. We all take note of the importance of a toilet when nature calls and we are pressed to relieve ourselves. We have brought some toilet cleaning brushes to ensure that you keep the toilets clean and hygiene to prevent the spread of germs and diseases, so use the brushes correctly to ensure clean and safe toilets for the use by all. Also remember to wash your hands after using the toilet and before touching food”, he stated.

The learners were also encouraged to promote water conservation in their homes and educated their parents, family members and friends of the importance of saving water in our water scarce country and the washing of hands to prevent the spread of diseases such as diarrhea and cholera.



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The school principal, Mr DB Kubheka thanked the Department for the awareness and the material provided and encouraged the learners to always use the toilets in a proper manner and always leave them in a state they would like to find them, especially when they are pressed to relieve themselves.

Themba Khoza