

DWS in KwaZulu-Natal raises awareness of sanitation as part of World Toilet Day

15 November 2018

The 19th of November marks World Toilet Day as declared by the United Nations General Assembly in 2013. The day, celebrated under the theme '*World Toilet Day: when nature calls*', aims to raise awareness about the importance of toilets in people's lives

To commemorate the day, the Department of Water and Sanitation in KwaZulu-Natal (DWS KZN) hosted an awareness campaign at Nkolovuzane Primary School within Ilembe district municipality on Thursday, 15 November 2018. The aim of the awareness campaign was to educate leaners about sanitation, health and hygiene and good toilet habits.

"World Toilet Day is a day aimed at raising awareness so that people can start talking about good toilet habits. Toilets are important; lack of toilets in schools can cause problems such as poor health, absenteeism, and decreased productivity in school work," said Thembeka Bengu from DWS KZN Sanitation Unit Directorate during her presentation.

Bengu advised learners to always practice good hygiene, especially after visiting the toilet.

"If you are not cautious about your bathroom hygiene this can be hazardous to your health and those around you. Always make sure you wash your hands with soap after visiting the toilet," Bengu explained.

To celebrate World Toilet Day, a number of activities have been organised across the country to mark this day and beat the stigma associated with toilets.

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