DWS commemorates World Toilet Day at Loti Primary School

19 November 2020

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), Mpumalanga Provincial Office commemorated World Toilet Day (WTD) with learners at Loti Primary School in Nkomazi Local Municipality on Thursday,19 November 2020.

The educational awareness commemoration reminded the learners and staff of the importance of proper toilets for human dignity, especially the girl child. The audience was also reminded of the importance of keeping toilets clean and hygienic to prevent the spread of diseases.

World Toilet Day which is commemorated on 19 November annually raises awareness on the importance of a toilet and the plight of the many people who are still without toilets and proper sanitation facilities. It is crucial to note that there are still many people throughout the world who do not have access to a toilet or proper sanitation. The focus of the WTD is about taking action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 which deals with water and sanitation for all by 2030.

The theme for the WTD this year is *"Sustainable Sanitation and Climate Change"*, focusing on how sustainable sanitation can assist in mitigating the impact of climate change as it is getting worse. Floods and drought are threatening sanitation systems.

As part of the educational awareness, the learners were also reminded of the importance of proper handwashing to prevent the spread of diseases, especially now that we are faced with the deadly coronavirus.

Ms Lomina Shongwe from the Sanitation unit demonstrated the proper steps of handwashing and also showed the school assistants how to properly clean toilets to keep them clean, hygienic and healthy at all times.

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To ensure that the school keeps the toilets clean and the learners and staff members healthy, DWS donated toilet papers, gloves, domestos sachets, multipurpose cleaner, bleach, soaps, sanitizers, toilet brush cleaning sets and buckets.

Themba Khoza