



## INTERNET ARTICLE

### Clean and healthy hands for a brighter future and society

19 April 2021

The Department for Water and Sanitation (DWS), Mpumalanga Provincial Office continues its handwashing awareness campaign in the Nkangala District. On 19 April 2021, officials from the Department engaged learners from three schools in the Thembisile Hani Local Municipality to remind them of the importance of proper handwashing to prevent the spread of diseases and viruses such as the deadly coronavirus.

Learners from Ekujabuleni, Bawokuhle and Benzangani Primary Schools were educated about the importance of regular handwashing and keeping hands clean at all times to prevent the spread of diseases.

The awareness campaign is more critical to entrench a culture of regular handwashing now than ever before as we are faced with the deadly coronavirus. As schools are closing this week, it is important to remind the learners that it is their responsibility to keep their hands clean so as not to contract and spread viruses and diseases.

Addressing the learners, Ms Lomina Shongwe from the Sanitation Unit in DWS said that proper handwashing is crucial for a healthy life and a brighter future. She encouraged the learners to be ambassadors of proper handwashing in their households and spread the message of the importance of handwashing for a healthy society in their communities. She then demonstrated the handwashing steps and called upon learners to demonstrate the handwashing steps to their peers.

Thato Mtsweni, a Grade 3 learner from Benzangani Foundation Phase School thanked the Department for educating and reminding them of the proper way of washing hands.

"I thought I knew how to properly wash my hands, but today I saw that I was missing some crucial steps in the handwashing process. I will now go and show my friends and family so we all do it the right way and kill all the germs in our hands", he said.

The learners were also reminded of the importance of using water wisely as South Africa is a water scarce country.





## water & sanitation

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“As much as we have to regularly wash our hands, let us do so in a responsible manner and not waste even a single drop as water is a scarce commodity in our dry country. Let us make water conservation part of our lives. Water is life as we use it to wash our hands and put diseases at bay, but let us also remember water has no substitute. Let us make every drop count”, stated Mr Themba Khoza from DWS.

**Themba Khoza**



Department of Water and Sanitation South Africa



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