



# ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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## 1. General Information

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-  Facebook [www.facebook.com/PASkillsSchool](http://www.facebook.com/PASkillsSchool)
-  Instagram [www.instagram.com/p.a.skills\\_school](http://www.instagram.com/p.a.skills_school)
-  YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCokMDw8iT7igdbuNBHDOL8g>

### 1.1 Board of directors

H�el�ene Smit	School founder
Roel Noens	Director – Chairman
Kasper Stockman	Director – Secretary
Sien Bolsens	Director – Treasurer

### 1.2 School staff

Rodine Barends	Teacher – boys' class
Kenneth Myburgh	Teacher – boys' class
Mariette Heskwa	Teacher – girls' class
Christelle van Zyl	Admin and marketing consultant

### 1.3 Students

The school hosted around fourteen boys and eleven girls this year.

## **2. What we stand for**

Our focus for 2025 is responsibility, perseverance, and compassion, where every voice matters.

### **2.1 Our mission**

- To offer a safe space for students from all backgrounds to learn practical and life skills.
- To create independent, sociable and responsible young adults.

### **2.2 Our vision**

- Our vision is to support local youth by providing them with the opportunity to rise above their circumstances and work towards a bright future.

### **2.3 Our objectives**

- Sufficient and suitable school infrastructure
- Crime prevention
- Demand for the labour market
- Tailor-made education

### 3. Donations & volunteers

The school received various donations and support during the year, as summarized below:

Zwartberg High School	Donated sanitary pads for the girls. Continued support throughout the year.
Prince Albert Primary	Donation of stationery and food.
Belgian students	Donated toys and learning equipment for students.
Airpark	Donated free WiFi to the school.
Thursday Ladies	Donated maize for porridge.
Zelda Koorts	Donated pallets for woodwork.
Sarah Bowes	Donated accommodation for the two Citrusdal teachers for 3 weeks when visiting Prince Albert (Die Kuierhuis).
Mari du Toit	Donated files for office use.
Deon Swarts	Donated a gas stove for the boys.
Elsbeth	Donated money each month, along with continuous support for the school
Pedal Power Association	Donated ten bicycles for the students.
Sylvan Morris	Donated shoes for each student. Sponsoring the End-of-Year trip for students and teachers to the beach.
Sophia Morris	Donated a drum set for the students.
Shofar Church	Donated sound system for the annual concert. Donated Christmas presents at the end of the year to students.

Various people donated their time to the school to share their knowledge with the students:

Marijke	Donated time to read stories to the students.
Belgian students	Mats, Caitlin, Jeff and Kameel did their practical at the school, teaching the students various skills. Mats came back in November for another six months to support the school.
Belgian Volunteers	Roel, Sien, and Kasper, for donating their time and resources to support the school.
PA Municipality	School visit and writing a beautiful story on the school for their newspaper.
Pastor Masoes	Outreach session with the students.
Informative talks by various agencies	Donated time to deliver various informative talks to students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social Development</li> <li>- Right to Care (Healthcare Hospital)</li> <li>- Badisa (social development)</li> </ul>

## 4. School achievements

The school achieved various milestones during the year. School activities are also briefly mentioned below.

### 4.1 School milestones

Staff and management had our first '**school retreat**' at the beginning of the year to discuss our path ahead as well as various difficult topics.

Our new **school website** is live!! While we are still making minor adjustments and planning an update soon, we are very fortunate to have one place everyone can go to, to see what we are doing at the school: [www.princealbertskillsschool.com](http://www.princealbertskillsschool.com)

After various challenges, the school is **officially registered** at SARS as an NPO. Now, we can issue a tax certificate to anyone in South Africa who wants to donate to the school.

We continue to publish articles on the school in the **local newspaper** (Prince Albert Friend) that provides more information about the school and its teachers – you can read the articles on our website as well.

**Academic classes** for the year included Afrikaans, English, Geography, Solar System, and Reading and Writing.

**Sport** for the year mainly focused on soccer and netball. Students played friendly games against Albert College.

Boys' class teacher, Rodine Barends, completed her **second practical training** at Prince Albert Primary as part of her education degree in August. During that time, Christelle filled in as teacher.

Our **sister school** in Citrusdal opening. The two teachers spend 3 weeks in Prince Albert for training at PASS, before returning to Citrusdal to open a skills school there in October.



## 4.2 School activities

Various school activities that took place during the year:

The first *teacher and management retreat* was held at Drie Kuilen in January.



Valentines Day at PASS in February.



Cooking classes throughout the year.



Belgian student volunteers – Mats, Caitlin, Jeff and Kameel.



School visit from Kris & Myriam – the founders of Mondibel (one of our school sponsors). In recent years, Roel, Sien, and Kasper have taken over as directors of Mondibel.



As part of the Doen & Leer (learning to read and write) classes, the importance of reading is emphasised. Throughout the year, students read various books based on their reading level.



During the year there are various physical activities days at school, ranging from team sport (netball, rugby and soccer), to stretching and moving around.



The school garden grew to a point where the students grew their own vegetables for use.



Creative classes were a highlight for the students.



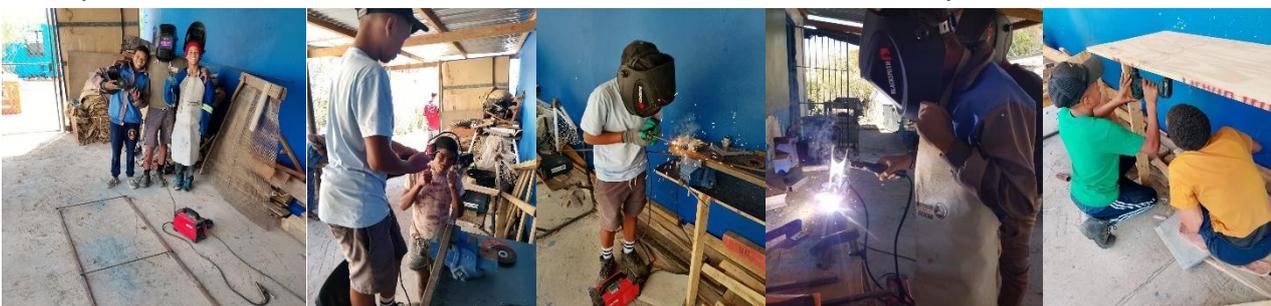
Woodwork classes resulted in our first school bench. Hopefully, we can make even more next year.



Various academic topics were discussed with Thursdays being our weekly classes.



Welding classes were very popular and a significant new skill for several students. A practical example of the drill classes was to make a new workbench for the practical classes.



The school got a fresh coat of paint with recycling and creativity being used to decorate the school.



The two new teachers from our sister school in Citruidal came to visit the school for training and experience.



We held our first parent-teacher meeting in August where the school shared more of what we do, how we teach the students, and basic rules our students are taught to follow.



The boys played friendly soccer games against Albert College.



Students visited a local to learn more about their beautiful garden filled with vegetables, flowers, and chickens.



The Pedal Power Association donated 10 more bicycles to the school in November.



Nine students completed a **“Basic Computer Training Course”** in over a few months at the eCentre through the Western Cape Government.



Our Diploma and Concert event took place in the V GK Hall where the students sang, danced, performed a drama and fashion show. It ended with them receiving their certificates for the year along with the top 11 trophies.



The End-of-Year trip took students and teachers to George for an educational vegan brunch experience, a trip to the mall, and finally spend the afternoon at the beach. For several students, this was their first visit to the beach.



On the last day of school, Shofar Church brought every student and teacher an early Christmas gift.



To finish the year, the students sold some of their handmade products at the local market.



## 5. Municipality article on the school



**Jandre Maya, or 'Homie' as he is known amongst friends, struggled with drug use and was begging on the streets when he joined the Prince Albert Skills School (PASS) in 2019. And it was here that his whole life changed.**

Slowly but surely his old habits started making way for new ones, like consistently showing up for school and taking pride in his work in the school's kitchen. He also secured weekly jobs in town, and this has greatly built his confidence. With 2025 marking his final year, Jandre hopes for steady employment. "He's proof that second chances can spark extraordinary change," says Rodine Jaftha, a teacher at the school since its start in 2017.

The deputy mayor, Cllr Sidney Koonthea, recently paid a visit to the school to have an informal discussion with the teachers and gain a better understanding of their needs and challenges. He extended his heartfelt gratitude for all the hard work they do in helping our children acquire the necessary skills to have a promising future. He also noted that the challenges of drug dependence and unemployment are too big to solve alone, and that community involvement is vital to provide mentoring and opportunities for these young people.

Equipping young people for the future and securing internships or full-time jobs are some of the main goals of the school. Jeandre 'Boerber' Moses's story shows how it is possible. He joined PASS in 2023, as a short-tempered young man who struggled to work in groups. But over time, and with constant support, he learned to calm himself and became a reliable student – even doing extra work during school holidays. By the beginning of 2025, his efforts paid off and he was sent for a three-month internship which blossomed into a full-time job in town.

PASS currently mentors 18 boys and 13 girls who have slipped through the cracks of traditional schooling. Under the guidance of dedicated teachers Rodine, Mariette Heskwa and Kenneth Myburgh, students dive into hands-on skills like gardening, cooking and woodworking.

Daily discussions nurture emotional intelligence and resilience and provide a safe space where vulnerabilities can be shared and turned into strengths. "These young people arrive carrying heavy loads," says Kenneth. "But here, they learn to offload and rebuild."

Some of the school's biggest needs include rotational internships at local businesses for real-world preparation. The youngsters also need tools like sewing machines, welding equipment, cement and bricks for construction, a lawnmower, pallets for woodworking, an oven and kitchen essentials like aprons and mixers, as well as sporting gear such as hockey sticks and tennis rackets.

A school minibus for transport would be the cherry on the top. According to Kenneth, "These aren't only tools; they're lifelines in equipping our youth for self-sufficiency."

"PASS doesn't just teach skills, it also restores hope," says Cllr Koonthea. "These kids deserve a fair shot at the workforce – your involvement could launch their futures." Prince Albert thrives when we uplift each other. Let's rally for PASS – because every tool donated, every opportunity extended, etches brighter tomorrows.

