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STATIONERY PACKS FOR PARKDENE PRIMARY GRADE R'S

January 21, 2013

A Cape Town based NGO will today distribute stationery packs to Grade R learners at Parkdene Primary in Kraaifontein. The learners, who began their school year last week when the Western Cape schools opened, come from the surrounding area and Wallacedene informal settlement. Many of them have not been equipped with the necessary stationery for the year. After hearing about the plight of the children Breadline Africa stepped in and arranged stationery packs to help get them started.

“These children come from poverty stricken homes, their parents could not afford the basic supplies needed to get them started, we wanted to give them a head start in their first year of school,” project manager for Breadline Africa Edna Titus said. “When the teachers at Parkdene informed us about the situation at their school we had to get involved. These children are our future, they are in their most formative years of their education, the stationery drive was the very least that we could do.”

Breadline Africa, who last year supplied a container library to Parkdene Primary arranged just under 100 packs for the Grade R's. The NGO has provided over 175 containers to poverty stricken communities since their establishment in 1993.

“We buy sturdy, water-tight containers at a low cost and transform them into mobile structures. Our projects try to establish a level of self-sustainability within the community,” Titus said.

The disused shipping containers are renovated and used as community kitchens to serve food to the very poor, day care centres for children, sports club changing rooms, health clinics, ablution blocks, educare centres, libraries and media centres in schools.

“Seeing the joy on each of the children's faces and knowing that we've made a small difference is incentive enough for us. We wish them all of the best as they start their school careers,” Edna Titus said.

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