

Crossoads

SEPTEMBER
2025

Families



Crossoads News

A Grateful Reflection

And here we are already halfway through our second year! Two years may sound like a short time, but for Crossroad Families it feels like such a big milestone – filled with stories of hope, growth, and new beginnings.

When the dream of creating safehouses first took root, we knew it would take courage and faith. We had no guarantees of funding or success – only a deep conviction that children deserve a better future. Every day since has been a step of faith, and every evening a moment of gratitude.

Our hearts overflow with thanks to God, and to every supporter, donor, and friend of Crossroad. Without you, none of our successes would have been possible. Thank you for strengthening our hands so that together we can build brighter futures for children.



Holiday Fun!

Keeping 13 children busy for four weeks of winter holiday is no small task! But we made a plan:

- A day trip to Avalon Springs, where the hot pools were a big hit on a cold day.
- A road trip through the breathtaking Tradouw Pass to Barrydale.
- A visit to Greyton, a village where time seems to stand still.

A mountain hike in Montagu, complete with brave (and freezing!) swims in icy rock pools – with the promise to return in summer so the girls can join and enjoy the pools too.

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ACADEMIC:

Hope in the classroom

This year five of our children started their high school journey. What began with uncertainty has turned into confidence, and they are doing well. Only one out of the group struggled last term, but with support and hard work we believe this too will turn around.

A special highlight is Elrico Welkom – our first learner in matric (final school year). After being out of school for nearly two years, he joined Jakes Gerwel Technical School in 2023. Today, he stands first in his class and is already working with a teacher to apply for further studies in 2026. Elrico is living proof that circumstances do not have to hold you back.

Our youngest boy, who once faced serious discipline challenges, was recently awarded the title of “Handwriting King” for the neatest writing in his class. His pride shone through – the first recognition he has ever received – and we believe it’s just the beginning of greater achievements.

For most of our children, this is the very first time in their lives that they can attend school every day – neatly dressed, with full stomachs, and with someone waiting after school to help with homework and offer a warm meal. These simple privileges are new, life-changing experiences for them.



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Home Life:

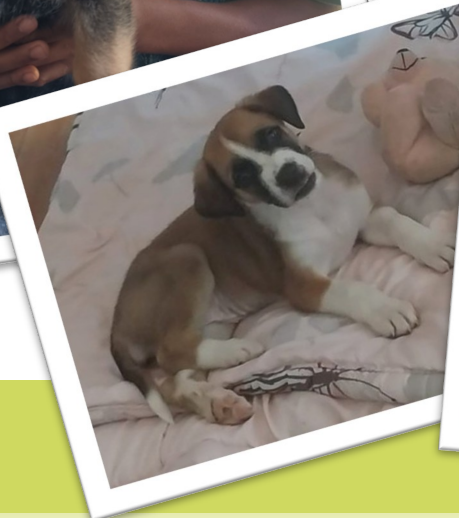
Becoming a family

Our boys' home recently welcomed two brothers, Gaywin (14) and Eldino (8). For little Eldino, it was extra special – he celebrated his first-ever birthday party here at Kruispad. The joy on his face when he saw balloons, treats, and a small toy gift will stay with us forever.

All the children have settled in beautifully, and despite their different backgrounds, we've seen very little conflict. Instead, we see "brothers and sisters" who care for one another, play together, and are building a real sense of family.

Every second Saturday is garden day at the boys' home. Once just an old bus depot, the grounds are slowly transforming into a child-friendly space for play and relaxation. What started with reluctance has turned into excitement, with the children now proudly suggesting ideas for what we should plant or build next.

And of course, we have two new furry "children" – Nippy, a Saint Bernard/Alsatian cross at the girls' home, whose endless energy keeps everyone busy, and Titan, a Saint Bernard/Rottweiler cross at the boys' home, always ready for mischief and play.



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Closing Words:

At Crossroad Families, we believe that hope, love, and opportunity can change children's lives.

The work is not always easy, but the results – a smile, a passed exam, a first birthday party remind us why we do what we do.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Your involvement – whether through prayer, time, donations, or support – makes a tangible difference.

Together, we can ensure that many more children receive the safety, education, and future they deserve.

With gratitude,
The Crossroads Families Team

Blessings & Treats

This past quarter our children were spoiled and blessed again by the community:

Thank You!

- **Lactalis**, our local dairy factory, treated us on Mandela Day with milk, cheese spread, and Steri Stumpies – an absolute feast for the kids.
- **The VGK Church** gifted each child a parcel filled with toiletries and tasty treats, always a highlight when they get to open a special package.
- **Local farmers** invited us to harvest fresh vegetables like sweet potatoes, cauliflower, broccoli, and butter-nut – a generous provision that will feed us for months.

