

The Tujisaidie Community School

In the month of March 2024 Just Be a Child donated text books, story books, pens, pencils, crayons and many other school stationeries to our school. The effect of these great learning materials has contributed to the following different but immense growth in:

1. Literacy and numeracy growth in the school children. We have been able to notice a growth and better reading and number work growth in the school learners. Every twice a week the preschoolers of ages 3 years to 6 years get time to interact with the small children's readers which has brought the love of opening books and recognition of different photos, pictures as most of the pictures are coloured and bright. The lower primary children of ages 6 to age 9 years interact with the books also twice a week where they get an opportunity to read young children story books and have bettered their knowledge of reading and number counting. The upper primary learners of ages 10 years to 15 years are now very committed in reading as they can access books of great and different tastes of their ages. We have noticed a literacy improvement from below 50% in the previous years to up to 60% this year.
2. Academic improvement across the school. Most of the subjects are written, taught and learned in English and all the books we received are in English, leading to better access of books with better and wider English vocabulary. This has led to the better development of children reading and comprehending what they read, due to this wider availability of English books has led to better academic performance in school as most learners can read and understand because of constant access to books. Currently in school 8 in every 10 learners are meeting or above expectations in academic standards.
3. School population increase. Because of better literacy levels and great performance improvements the school children population has increased from 290 learners in the year 2023 to 343 learners in the year 2024, this increase is majorly brought about by the better academic performance and better literacy and numeracy levels brought about by the access to books from Just Be a Child as more parents trust our school with their children's education.
4. Art and craft materials. Just Be a Child donated a lot of books which are very helpful in the teaching and learning of art and craft. The books in paper folding, sewing, drawing, painting and colouring amongst many other different types of art books has led to the love of arts by our school learners. The crayon pencils and coloured pencils have greatly bettered the

learning experience as all learners can now practically colour, draw or paint as the materials are readily available thanks to the donation from Just Be a Child.

5. Parents' feedback. The school parents through the parents' meetings, parents' association and the school parents WhatsApp group, have positively received the availability of the different genres of books, as most parents can attest to the academic improvement of most of their children through the donated books. A parent was heard saying their children are helping them read at home as a child is given a book per week to read at home. Those in the upper classes of grade 4 to grade 6 benefit greatly, as literacy levels in most of our school parents is low.
6. Children interest. The school learners are delighted to have books they can physically touch and peruse through as each and every child in the classrooms have books to read either for educational purposes or for entertainment. Children have come together through the help of the class teachers to create reading and study groups which has greatly bettered their love for books and reading materials as received from Just Be a Child. The pre–primary children received the small wooden chairs which have helped in decongesting their classrooms and improved classroom arrangements as most of them are now able to each sit in their own chairs.
7. Teachers' response. Teachers have been very grateful for the availability of a wide range of books to read on while doing research on their lessons and lesson development. The teachers are happy that the text book to children ratio has greatly improved, where each child has access to more than 15 different types of books. This has made learning more practical and more understandable as learners have books to build up on what the teacher has taught. This has greatly reduced the burden the teachers went through in search of teaching aids and materials to bring a vivid picture of learning like in science and social studies that require photos and pictures which clearly show what the teacher was or is teaching.

Just Be a Child has brought more light in the education within Tujisaidie community school. Teaching has become more lively and learning more enjoyable. Lives of community members are being changed one after the other as more children in the school are accessing books of their own choice, love and interest.

The school is targeting to improve literacy and numeracy levels to over 80% of the school learners by the end of 2026 and this is made more achievable through the books and stationery donated by Just Be a Child.

