



*PRESS RELEASE**

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"YOUNG LEADERS GRADUATE AT ST JAMES PRIMARY SCHOOL"

St James RC Primary School, in Kalk Bay, proudly hosted their first Toastmasters Youth Leadership Graduation and Showcase Evening for twenty Grade 7 learners on Wednesday 22 August 2018. The programme was a collaboration between the Two Oceans Toastmasters Club (Fish Hoek) and the Kalk Bay St James Special Rating Area (KBSJ SRA) Social Development Team, who facilitates community projects in the area.

The Toastmasters Youth Leadership Programme is a workshop consisting of eight one-to-two-hour sessions that enable young people under the age of 18 to develop their communication and leadership skills through practical experience. The workshops are structured for small group learning and are limited to 20 students. The programme was presented during the school day over 8 weeks by Distinguished Toastmaster and contracted social worker to the KBSJ SRA, Marion Thomas.

In the workshop, learners are taught valuable skills including:

- Being able to evaluate their own speaking ability
- Preparing and giving speeches
- Giving Impromptu talks
- Controlling their voice and body gestures
- Giving constructive feedback
- Learning to work in a team to generate and facilitate ideas that can be presented to an audience and more

The learners were assigned to a team and each team was tasked with generating a fundraising idea to present to the school staff, SRA management, parents and Toastmasters at the event. Learners also prepared small statements of what it meant to be a part of the programme. Their personal growth was evident as they stood proudly and delivered heart-felt speeches with confidence and sincerity. Mrs. Lynette Saunders, the school principal, thanked the Two Oceans Toastmasters Club and the KBSJ SRA for their sponsorship, commitment and endorsement into the lives of these 20 young leaders.

Two Oceans Toastmasters Club meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the Mugg and Bean in Longbeach Mall at 18h00. For more information, contact Desilu Crossman (Vice-President Public Relations) on 2oceansdesilu@gmail.com



Above: The new graduates of the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Programme with Distinguished Toastmaster, Marion Thomas, who coordinated the 8-week programme with support from the Two Oceans Toastmasters Club and the KBSJ SRA Social Development team.

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