4th Quarterly REPORT October–December 2025

Update of the 4th & final 2025 academic term. By Lydene Naylor.

★Trustees October Visit

We were delighted to welcome our UK Trustees back to the Tyume Valley during this quarter. Their visit included school tours, meetings with Reading Ambassadors, training sessions, local networking, meeting with other organisations promoting education in the area, and time spent at the TVS Learning Centre.

The Trustees provided valuable input during planning sessions and facilitated two additional training workshops for our Reading Club Leaders and Reading Ambassadors. Their involvement continues to strengthen programme delivery and deepen our long-term strategy.




Site Visit with Principal and teacher at Amakhuze PS Figure 1Visiting with RA and Principal at Ncera Pezulu PS

★Reading Stars Programme

The Reading Stars programme received both a morale boost and practical support through the Trustees' visit. Lessons were observed, and constructive feedback was provided to the Reading Ambassadors. Key areas for improvement were identified, and practical strategies were suggested to strengthen delivery.



In-school sessions concluded during the third week of November as the Reading Ambassadors began preparing for the upcoming December Holiday Clubs.

★Book Dash — Book Day Celebration

On 22 October 2025, we hosted our second annual Book Dash Book Day, now a highlight of the Reading Club calendar. SOLON Foundation kindly donated the 2000 Book Dash books to TVS to be distributed in our schools and Reading clubs. These became "owned" by the children who earned them on Book Dash day.

Key achievements included:

• Over 200 learners took part in story activities, games, and shared reading.
• Each child selected approximately four free Book Dash storybooks to take home.
• We were honoured by the presence of ASSITEJ representative **Ms Boitemelo Mbambo**, who joined activities and witnessed the enthusiasm around reading.
• Reading Ambassadors facilitated activity stations and supported learners in exploring their new books.
This celebration continues to strengthen a culture of reading in both schools and homes across the Valley. ★**TVS Reading Clubs** Our reading clubs also enjoyed visits from the TVS Trustees this term and they will continue to operate during the holiday period.





★Partnerships: ASSITEJ & SEF 4

TVS has been fortunate to be included in the **SEF 4** programme initiated by the South African **IDC**, 10 participants in total with received subsidized stipends, which will assist with the continuation of the Reading Stars programme for 2026. Considerable time was dedicated to organising our documents and obtaining fresh police clearance certificates, all of which improves our own internal practice.

★Cape Parrot Project & Hobbiton

40 Children from the Tyume valley were invited to attend this year's Cape Parrot Project environmental, 6-day camp at Hobbiton.

We held a letter wring competition this year whereby grade 6 & 7 learners were invited to write a motivational letter in English, explaining why they should be chosen to attend the camp, of 8th – 13th December, 2025.



Denise & Steph visiting the Cape parrot project in Hogsback



★Holiday Club

This December marks the first launch series of **TVS Holiday Club** sessions. Reading Ambassadors host fun, engaging, and educational activities twice weekly within their respective villages during the summer holiday.

★Training

The Reading Ambassadors and Reading Club Leaders benefitted from a series of training sessions this term, including two facilitated by our visiting Trustees.

Training topics included:

- Story Sack creation and lesson delivery
- Differentiated learning (refresher)
- Holiday Club facilitation

★UK Volunteer

We look forward to welcome a UK educator, who will spend part of his sabbatical in Hogsback from next March. He will facilitate teacher-training sessions during his time, offering additional support and expertise to our programme.

★Fundraising: SOLON Grant & Zenex Foundation Application

TVS submitted a narrative report to SOLON on 15 October, which was well received. The final financial report for 2025—due on **15 January 2026**—will inform their decision regarding continued support for the Reading Stars programme in 2026.

We also submitted a comprehensive proposal to the **Zenex** Foundation for a pilot project focused on Mother Tongue Instruction in Foundation Phase classrooms. TVS was shortlisted and invited to deliver a short presentation to four Zenex representatives. Although our final bid was not successful, the process strengthened future applications and affirmed the relevance of our work.

★Conclusion

The final quarter of 2025 has been both productive and inspiring. Learners enjoyed meaningful literacy experiences, staff expanded their skills and confidence, and TVS made progress in establishing new partnerships and funding pathways.

With Holiday Clubs underway and several literacy initiatives planned for 2026, we look forward to a year of continued growth and measurable impact.



A keen reader enjoying some peace to get on with it.