

Enviro Audit winners enjoy an adventure

BRONWEN LANKERS-BYRNE

Fifteen excited Hout Bay pupils and teachers set off for an adventure in the Cederberg last Thursday after their schools took first, second and third prize in the Thrive 2014 Enviro Audit.

This was yet another victory for the winners, Hout Bay High, as they recently received a second prize award in the 2013/2014 Eduplant competition with Thrive's support.

After a long journey the group arrived at their camp site in the Cape Nature Reserve where tents had to be pitched and dinner made before sleep and a full three-day schedule could commence.

The Cape Leopard Trust (CLT) Environmental educators were most impressed with the knowledge our learners already had about matters environmental, but there was much more to learn.

Pupils explored rock paintings, climbed mountains and massive rock structures, gazed at the night skies and looked for scorpions in the dark. They even spotted the elusive boomslang – one of the most venomous snakes in Africa.

Mamsie Mongwe, a teacher at Silikamva, said: "I learned so much on this trip. For example I used to kill poor harmless insects for no reason, but now I see how wonderful each creature and nature is.

"As for snakes, just move out of their way as all they want to do is get away from us scary humans."

By the end of three days the pupils from Hout Bay High, Silikamva and Kronendal Primary and from very different backgrounds had become firm friends.

How they got there ...

At the Sentinel News and Thrive EnviroQuiz/Art event in June this year, Hout Bay schools



■ The three winning school Eco teams of the Thrive Enviro Audit, Hout Bay High, Kronendal Primary and Silikamva, pose before leaving Hout Bay for their weekend away at the Cape Leopard Trust Environmental camp in the Cederberg from November 27 to 30. Chris Bischoff, a Thrive intern (with raised arm on the right), Catherine Philips in light blue shirt and Hadley Lyners, front right, from the Cape Leopard Trust lead the group.

were motivated to get their schools ready for the environmental audit.

Thrive mentors and school eco clubs got to work and engaged with their schools, encouraging them to become greener and more sustainable and to act as role models for the community.

Early in September Andy Le May of Icologie/ewizz, who arrived on his electric scooter conducted surprise visits to the schools to assess the Thrive 5 Pil-

lars of Sustainability: Waste, Local food, Water, Energy and Biodiversity.

Five of the 10 Hout Bay schools, Silikamva High, Llandudno Primary, Sentinel Primary, Hout Bay High and Kronendal Primary got into the final round of the contest where their school's presentation was adjudicated by Jaci van Niekerk of the Environmental Evaluation Unit at UCT on September 19.

Next year the Enviro Audit presentations will take place on World Environment Day, June 5 and the EnviroQuiz/Art on September 4.

Angela Mihal, a Grade 4 teacher at Llandudno Primary, had this to say: "After the Thrive auditor's visit we sprang into action by giving feedback to the whole school at assembly on how we can improve our 'greenness'. We introduced compost bins

around the school, started an Eco Club, restarted our worm farm, extended the veggie garden, begun a system of turning lights off, built a bird feeder to attract birds and compiled a list of green issues that need to be addressed in the future".

If you wish to become part of this programme and wish to assist contact Thrive on 021 790 7226 or email info@thrive.org.za. Visit the website www.thrive.org.za



■ Francis Bayly and Tom Hofmeyr.



■ Lochlan Williamson



■ William Anderson and Francis Bayly.

Llandudno Primary pupils recognised for sporting excellence

Four young pupils at Llandudno Primary School received awards for their sporting prowess this year.

Lochlan Williamson achieved a remarkable double by winning his Western Province junior colours for cricket and swimming.

A fiery opening bowler for the WP under-11 team, he will be taking aim at batsmen from Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal in the inter-

provincial tournament in Worcester in December.

He received his WP colours at Newlands from the president of the WP Cricket Association, Beresford Williams.

Lochlan also achieved WP qualifying times in seven swimming events this year and has been selected for the WP Schools team to compete in the SA Schools

National Swimming Championships in Pretoria.

He qualified to swim in the 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle, 200m freestyle, 50m breaststroke, 100m breaststroke, 200m breaststroke, and 200m individual medley.

Three Llandudno boys also won awards for rugby this season.

Tom Hofmeyr and Francis Bayly received awards for the best back

and best forward, respectively, for the under-12A Atlantic rugby team. They received medals for this.

William Anderson and Francis Bayly also shared the overall cum laude club award.

The citation for this award is: "This player must be seen as the ultimate example of true sportsmanship in our club.

"He must have a high work rate

and training ethos both at practise and at matches.

"He must have earned the respect of his peers and in return must show humility and integrity in his dealings with his fellow club members.

"He must also adhere to the code of conduct of the club especially those related to the female gender and elderly."