



MEDIA RELEASE FROM GROWSMART, AN INITIATIVE BY GROWTHPOINT PROPERTIES AND THE WESTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

7 September 2018

## Growsmart Western Cape finalists announced

Children from across the Western Cape are preparing for a thrilling battle of the brains in the hopes of becoming Growsmart champions.

Growsmart is the leading education initiative by Growthpoint Properties in collaboration with the Western Cape Department of Education, is an annual programme focused on boosting the literacy, numeracy and science performance of primary school children.

The competition has now reached its most challenging stage yet for the fierce, young intellects. Of the 160 schools that began participating in the competition at the beginning of year, the top 22 teams of three learners each have advanced to face each other in the finals.

**Growsmart is proud to announce the 2018 competition finalists are:**

**Literacy:** *Northpine Primary, Hillwood Primary, Liwa Primary, Marconi Beam Primary and Dr. van der Ross Primary.*

**Mathematics:** *Blomvlei Primary, St Augustine's Primary, Spine View Primary, Yellowwood Primary and Palm Park Primary.*

**Science:** *Welcome Primary, Tuscany Glen Primary, Talfalah Primary, Intshayelelo Primary, Heideveld Primary, Gardenia Primary, Floreat Primary, Bridgeville Primary, Blackheath Primary, and Balvenie Primary.*

**Debating:** *this category introduced to Growsmart Western Cape for the first time this year, the finals have come down to two schools, Lantana Primary and Intshayelelo Primary.*

These hard-working, talented teams will be in action at the Western Cape Growsmart finals, which is being held at The Lookout at the V&A Waterfront on 15 September. Finalists in the Eastern Cape competition will be

And, the stakes are high. For the final round of the Growsmart competition, the winners are rewarded with substantial prizes worth more than R500,000. However, it isn't only the finalists that have exciting opportunities to look forward to. At the competition's semi-finalists received application forms to apply for bursaries at Growsmart's three bursary partners Saili, Christel House, and Leisure Education Trust. Last year, six Growsmart graduates were given bursaries to attend these high school in 2019.

To get to the finals, learners and their dedicated mentors have gone through an intense process of preparation based on a specially compiled Growsmart newspaper, which is the cornerstone of the competition and sponsored by Novus Holdings. The Growthpoint newspaper is a fun, competitive and exciting resource that is curriculum-based and helps educators and learners to master their required syllabus work. Nearly 58 000 copies of the Growsmart newspaper and printed are distributed the participating schools for learners in grades four, five and six.

Jewel Harris, who heads Growsmart for Growthpoint, says: "Congratulations to all our finalists and we wish them the very best in this challenging last round of the competition. The high-impact results of the Growsmart programme are only possible by working with our wonderful partners in both the private and public sector. The commitment of Growsmart sponsors and the extraordinary passion and



persistence of the amazing learners and teachers at participating schools is changing lives for the better and creating brighter futures.

Growsmart values partnerships and has attracted the support of leading names whose contribution is transformative for educators and children, their families, communities and South Africa as a whole.

Sponsors also include Via Afrika, Grant Thornton, Pearson South Africa, Koreserv, Essential Cleaning Services, Synergi Dance Group, McDonald's, Pick n Pay Constantia Village, Checkers Bayside Mall, Spar Althen Farm Stall, Two Oceans Aquarium, Caterkid and Vida e Caffè.

Growsmart began nine-years ago in the Western Cape and expanded into the Eastern Cape in 2018. These school's teams from the Eastern Cape will be given the opportunity to shine at Growsmart semi-finals and finals, which will both be held on Saturday, 8 September 2018 at the East London International Convention Centre.

Now in 210 schools across two provinces, Growsmart is a leading illustration of the impacts and importance of ongoing effective public-private partnerships.

Shawn Theunissen, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility at Growthpoint, says: "Growsmart helps us to give primary school learners access to quality education, and makes a positive contribution to alleviating the challenges such as youth unemployment. Our investment in this education project creates social capital for our business, our stakeholders and Growsmart sponsors."

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