

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

25 September 2018

### *Triumph for Triomf Primary, the first Growsmart Eastern Cape champions!*

The first-ever Growsmart Eastern Cape champion is Triomf Primary. The school claimed the prestigious Growsmart winner's title out of 60 competing schools and after coming through two tough tie-breaker rounds in the finals of this life-changing literacy competition.

Triomf Primary emerged victorious to win an amazing R75,000 for the school. Triomf Primary is located in Salsoneville in the small town of Bethelsdorp, part of the Nelson Mandela Bay Metro, which is situated about halfway between Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage.

The winning team members also won R10,000 to further their education and their mentor won a R5,000 shopping voucher for team's mentor. The winning team members are Blane Gabon, Caitlin Dampies and Allesandrè Macombo. They were mentored by Dorothy Johnson.

Second-place winner Magqabi Primary School from KwaNobuhle and third-place winner Caritas Primary School from Rosedale, both in Uitenhage, were also rewarded with generous prizes.

A specialised part of Growsmart is its story writing competition in which three Nelson Mandela Bay schools took top honours. Soutpan Primary School's Rekeira Jantjies took first prize of R10,000, Môrewag Primary School's Caylee Von Loggenberg won the second prize of R5,000 and Machiu Primary School's own Tazmyn Kiewiets took third place and won R2,500.

Growsmart is the leading education initiative by Growthpoint Properties and the Eastern Cape Department of Education. The fun competition has meaningful, positive impacts on primary school performance and was launched in the province for the first time in 2018. The curriculum-based programme provides all the materials and resources needed to excel in the competition.

The Nelson Mandela Bay and Buffalo City districts each had 30 schools participating this year, with 500 Grade 4,5 and 6 learners joining in the exciting, educational rivalry.

Themba Kojana, Head of the Eastern Cape Department of Education, attended the recent finals at the East London International Convention Centre where he said it was wonderful to meet young students who are so dedicated to learning and that had made it so far in the competition.

The Eastern Cape is the second province in which Growsmart is having positive impacts on primary school performance. It has already established a nine-year track record in the Western Cape.

Mzolisi Diliza, Chairman of Growthpoint's Social, Ethics and Transformation Committee, says, "We are thrilled with the positive response to Growsmart in the Eastern Cape and pleased to help build a better future for today's primary school learners in the province."



Growthpoint's commitment to Growsmart is in step with its investment in the Eastern Cape. It owns and manages several landmark properties in the province, including Greenacres and Walmer Park Shopping Centre in Port Elizabeth and Beacon Bay Retail Park in East London.

Shawn Theunissen, Head of Corporate Social Responsibility at Growthpoint, says: "Growthpoint is honoured to be part of this community, proud of the winners, and delighted with all the children who put so much into the competition. We are excited to see Growsmart go from strength to strength in 2019 and look forward to more like-minded partners getting involved next year."

**Growsmart:**

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