

Dear parents

We are making wonderful progress in the planning of *Nyatsele*!

Last week we visited the chiefs of Maphalaleni and Ekuvingelweni to discuss *Nyatsele* with them. They were very interested in the idea, and agreed to give us whatever support we needed, and indeed we are to be hosted at the Maphalaleni Umphakatsi for one of our overnight stops. We will follow the Swazi tradition of *kuhlehla* (work in exchange for hospitality) and we discussed with the *badlancane* what chores we could help out with. The *indvuna* at Ekuvingelweni kindly agreed to our request for a photo, which Siphon Mavimbela took, and which is attached here.

We would also like to reassure you that your child will be fully prepared for *Nyatsele*, mentally and physically, by July next year. In their CAS lessons we will cover the following areas:

- First Aid, map reading
- Siswati phrases and culture
- Tents, equipment (How to use tents, gas cookers, backpacks, etc so that the item is preserved and the user is safe and comfortable)
- 'Leave-No-Trace' camping
- Fitness and swimming - lessons will be offered so that every student has the opportunity to be safe in the water
- Nature observation
- Team work
- Meals: how to budget, plan and cook a balanced and nutritious meal
- Guest etiquette - how to behave as a guest and how to make conversation (I am sure you as parents continually remind them about these things, but there is no harm in going over it again! I'm also sure that there will be interesting inter-cultural discussions on this topic.)

Watch out next week for the equipment list so that you can start to collect the necessary items over the holiday if you wish to.

Attached is a final photo of one of the other beautiful areas we visited last week as part of our *Nyatsele* planning.

Warm regards from your *Nyatsele* Co-ordinators
(Elinor Lowry and Siphon Mavimbela)