**DELTA PRIMARY TEACHER PROJECT**

**BC SUPPORT FORUM 2015**

**Meeting 1: 29 July 2015**

**Time:** 14h15 – 15h30

**No of teachers:** 14 – All Foundation Phase teachers attended the meeting (See register)

**Main Focus:** To orientate and prepare teachers for the next 4 support sessions and to provide a refresher of the core components of the programme/approach

**Handouts/Resources:** 10 cognitive tool kits and picture sets were distributed to the teachers. The kits, at this stage, were given on long loan – until the end of year. The Grade Rs and Grade 2s will share kits. Four additional teacher manuals and training files are needed for the new teacher and teachers who were not trained. The school has made a commitment to purchase the latter.

**Evaluation:** No formal evaluation was done of the session.

**Content of the meeting:** i) purpose of the support sessions, ii) refresher activities: mediation and conceptual fluency, iii) revision of the teaching model, and iv) teacher reflections.

**Comments:**

* The teachers warmed to the session as it progressed and seemed more positive about participating by the end of the session.
* The refresher was very helpful for the teachers and seemed to trigger their knowledge about the programme.
* The teachers participated actively during the session even when they were not 100% certain.
* The teachers were able to recall all the steps of the teaching model as well as some of the icons associated with the steps. They also seemed to have a reasonable understanding of the procedures associated with each of the steps.
* The session seemed to clarify some misconceptions about the programme and how it could be integrated into their daily programme.
* The teachers were very grateful to receive the materials.
* The Grade 1 teacher who was filmed for the Cyril Harris Memorial Trust shared her experiences with the group. She also mentioned some of the benefits of the programme for her learners (increased language) since she has started to use the programme.
* The principal was very positive about the support programme that is being offered to his teachers. He would like the programme to become the core approach/driver of educational change in the Foundation Phase. He indicated that he would like to see the programme infused into all aspects of the school.

**Recommendations:**

* Provide additional resources for four teachers at the school. Remind the principal about this.
* The focus for the next session will be on the teachers and their experiences of the programme inside the classroom.
* If the video made for the CHMT is ready, then we might be able to show the clip to the teachers
* Introduce the teachers to other support options that are available: SupportNet Meetings and Mediator Zone