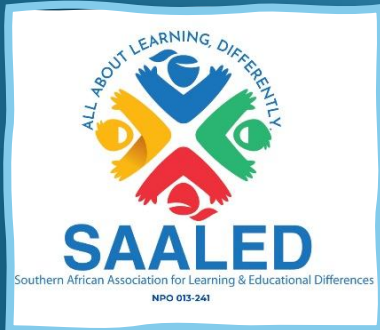




SAALED

Issue: 06, 2025

NEWSLETTER

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Membership fees for 2025:

Subscription fees and Webinar rates for 2025.

School Annual Membership fee:

R2250.00 and entitles 6 teachers to join the webinars and seminar at the member rate thereafter non-member rates apply.

Individual Annual Membership fee:

R330.00 and entitles you to join all events at the member rate.

Webinar fees for non-members:

R310.00 per webinar

5% of all bookings will be donated to an Outreach School, Kings School Muldersdrift

Schools/individuals who are in need, please reach out to SAALED and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Please liaise with your school and make payment as soon as possible.

BANK DETAILS:

S A ASSOC FOR LEARNING

First National Bank

Account No: 62046846020

Branch code: 250655

Please ensure that your name/school's name appears on any deposit notification.

Dear SAALED Members and Friends,

Welcome to the August–September Issue of the SAALED Newsletter

We are delighted to share this edition of our newsletter with you. Over the past two months, we've had the privilege of hosting two successful webinars led by inspiring voices in education—Mr. Sanele Majola and Mr. Gavin Fish. Their sessions have not only enriched our collective knowledge but also reminded us of the powerful impact that shared expertise can have in strengthening our educational community.

As we move through the latter part of the year, we hope each of you finds moments to pause, reflect and draw inspiration from these opportunities. In doing so, may you continue to make meaningful differences—not only in your professional practice, but also in the many spheres of life where your influence is felt.

Using
**TECH & AI
IN THE
CLASSROOM**

Join us for this forward-thinking webinar, where Xoli explores how technology and artificial intelligence can be applied in educational spaces. Xoli highlights practical, innovative, and responsible approaches to integrating AI, showing us how it may support personalised learning, spark creativity, and strengthen engagement in the classroom.

**Thursday
30 October, 2025
18h00**

XOLI MAHLANGU
HEAD OF DIGITAL LEARNING AT SIFISO GROUP

Members: R 220.00
Non members: R 310.00

saaled.org.za

Tech and AI in the Classroom

with Xoli Mahlangu

Thursday, 30 October 2025

Time: 18:00

To make a booking:

[CLICK HERE](#)

We warmly invite you to join us for our final Webinar of 2025, presented by the dynamic Xoli Mahlangu, Head of Digital Learning at Sifiso Learning Group. This engaging and thought-provoking session, “*Tech and AI in the Classroom*” aims to explore the transformative impact of artificial intelligence (AI) and emerging technologies across a variety of contexts.

Professionals, students and tech enthusiasts who are eager to understand how AI can drive innovation, inclusion, improve efficiency, and create new opportunities both in the classroom and beyond should take note of these details, and register as soon as possible- this one is for you!

Participants in this Webinar may look forward to:

- **Practical insights** into how technology is reshaping education and other industries.
- **Collaborative brainstorming** on how to leverage AI in your own professional and personal spaces.

Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a forward-thinking conversation that blends innovation with practice.

Mind Moves Institute- Featured Article: The Importance of Skipping with a Rope for Neuromuscular Integration and Cognitive Readiness by Marietjie Poggenpoel (from the Mind Moves Institute)

Extensive research from the Mind Moves Institute confirms that most learners with emotional, behavioural, and academic challenges retain active primitive reflexes beyond the typical developmental window. While primitive reflexes are adaptive and functional during infancy (up to six months post-term), they become maladaptive if retained beyond this age, impeding neurodevelopment.

Skipping is a **complex, sequenced, and purposeful motor task** that occurs *against gravity* and engages multiple sensory and motor systems *simultaneously*. When performed effortlessly and with focus, it **demonstrates** the **integration of lower brain structures** and the **engagement of higher-order cognitive systems**.

Neurodevelopment is not random but follows an innate, hierarchical blueprint.

Mind Moves is a structured movement programme designed for both classroom and home environments. It targets primitive reflexes, guiding them to full maturation and integration through repetitive, specific movement patterns. Once these reflexes are integrated, the “survival brain” is relieved of primitive motor responses, allowing the “thinking brain” to focus on higher cognitive functions such as reading, numeracy, problem-solving, and executive functioning.

According to Melodie, “movement is medicine.” This captures the essence of incorporating skipping with a rope as a dynamic and playful therapeutic activity to support postural development and neuro-integration. Mastering this complex, gravity-defying movement reflects the maturation of balance, coordination, and sensory-motor integration.

✳️ **Read the full article here:** [The Importance of Skipping with a Rope](#)



Movement is the essence of life.



www.elearning.mindmoves.co.za

www.mindmoves.co.za



Webinar Review: *Inclusion as Positivity in School* presented by Sanele Majola

The webinar “*Inclusion as Positivity in School*,” presented by **Sanele Majola** on 25 July, was an inspiring and thought-provoking session that explored the powerful connection between inclusivity, positivity, and student success.

Sanele unpacked the importance of cultivating a school culture that embraces diversity, values every learner and promotes acceptance. In today’s diverse educational landscape, his message resonated strongly: inclusivity is not just a practice, but an attitude that ensures every child feels respected, supported, and seen.

The session was practical as well as uplifting. Sanele emphasized relationship-building rooted in empathy and understanding — between educators and learners, and among peers themselves. He demonstrated how inclusive practices directly improve academic outcomes, strengthen emotional well-being, and enrich social interactions. A central takeaway was that positivity is not an add-on, but a vital driver of inclusive environments where children thrive.

Participants left the webinar energized and reflective, as echoed in some of their feedback:

- “Thank you very much, San. An incredible talk! Just what I needed after a tough day.”
- “I am so inspired. I am optimistic that I really need to work on a lot of things to be more inclusive and positive.”

This webinar was a resounding success, and we are grateful to Sanele for sharing his wisdom and passion. We also wish him every success with his exciting upcoming publications — no doubt they will continue to influence educators in meaningful ways.

Webinar Review: *Teacher Support & Leadership* presented by Gavin Fish (18 September)

On 18 September, **Gavin Fish** delivered an engaging and insightful webinar on “*Teacher Support & Leadership*.” His session highlighted the critical role that leadership plays in cultivating schools where teachers feel genuinely supported, valued, and empowered to give their best.

Gavin emphasized that effective leadership is not simply about strategy, but about empathy, transparency and vision. By embodying these qualities, leaders can inspire teachers to thrive and contribute meaningfully to a dynamic educational community.



One of the most impactful elements of Gavin’s presentation was his practical advice for emerging leaders. He reminded us that strong leadership is built on care — not only for staff and students, but also for oneself. His message underscored the importance of mindfulness, self-care and balance, pointing out that leaders who take care of their own well-being are best positioned to support others.

The webinar was both grounding and motivating, leaving participants with actionable strategies and a renewed sense of purpose. Gavin’s guidance struck a perfect balance between professional leadership practices and the human-centred values that sustain educators in demanding roles.

Here is some inspired feedback from participants of Gavin's Webinar:

- *"I have come to realize that it's important to prioritize one's mental health as it affects your performance and how you affect your team and the students in our care."*
- *"Thank you for reminding us to look after ourselves first - this is the power of stepping away! We need to find our no!"*

Final Webinar for 2025. Not to be missed!!

- **Using Tech and AI in the Classroom** – Exploring innovative ways to integrate technology and AI to enhance teaching and learning experiences. 📄 🖥️

Conclusion

As we close this issue, we wish our readers strength, balance, and joy in the important work we do each day. Amid busy schedules and the demands of high stakes learning environments, may you find moments to pause, rest and restore. By taking care of ourselves, we ensure that we can continue to take care of others — with energy, empathy and purpose.

Stay inspired and keep making a difference!

With heartfelt appreciation,
Joe Pillay
Chairperson, SAALED

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