

VUSA RUGBY & LEARNING ACADEMY



ATLAS DIGIBUS REPORT

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SUMMARY

The Atlas Digibus programme has had an excellent start to the year, with the project now serving more than 1300 learners. It is once again operational at the five primary schools in Langa. The programme services Grade 4 learners with an English as a second language (ESL) programme at all five schools. It has introduced a coding programme to Grade 5 learners at all the schools except Thembani, which unfortunately cannot participate due to curriculum restrictions. Grade 4 learners have loved their classes on the bus, with 99% of learners now comfortable using the laptops and logging in independently.

The Grade 5 learners were thrilled to discover that coding was introduced this year, allowing them to continue to attend lessons on the bus. The coding course not only teaches coding skills but also fosters problem-solving, teamwork, and communication abilities.

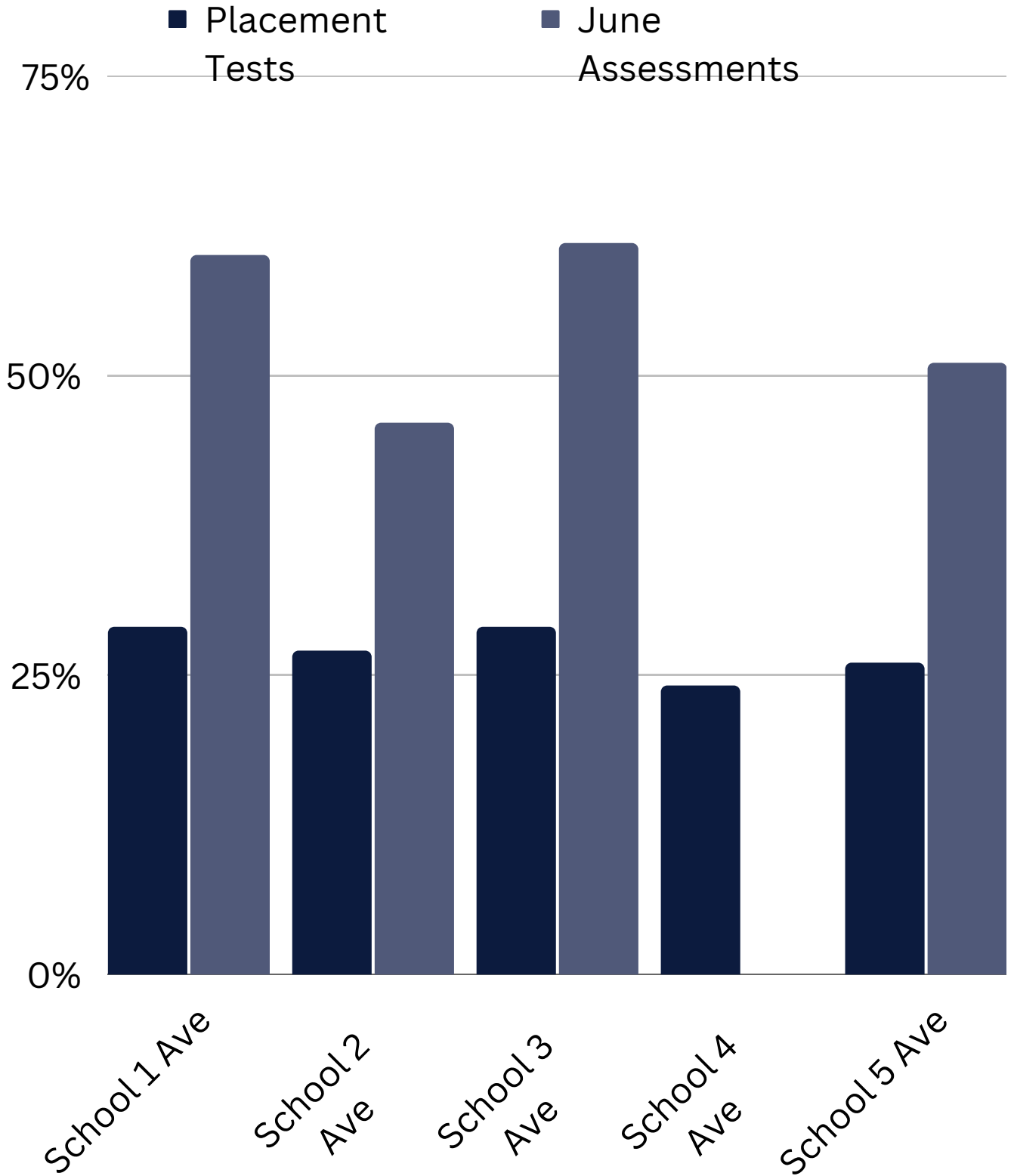
The English program introduced the Reading Eggs application this year, highly recommended by Bishops Pre-Prep staff. Although the program has posed some challenges due to learners being so behind, the students have found it beneficial. The Matific maths program continues to be popular as it uses interactive games to illustrate key concepts. Improvements in language and communication skills are evident, and the Matific program has provided children with valuable tools to understand critical maths concepts.

However, the most significant benefit of the Atlas Digibus has been observing school staff learning new teaching and management methods. This shift in approach has positively impacted how teachers handle their classes. A questionnaire distributed to the after-school program children last year revealed that many students were afraid to attend school due to staff behaviour. School teachers have noted a change in student behaviour when students participate in the Digibus program, emphasizing the effectiveness of positive reinforcement over punishment.

While determining long-term impact measurements is not yet feasible, the current benefits are evident. These include improved classroom management, 100% of children gaining digital literacy skills, and special attention being given to learners with difficulties. The assessment results on the following page demonstrate just how far the children have come. Notably, head teacher Lebohang Mokoene goes above and beyond for her students. Recently she requested The Berenstain Bears early Reader books for struggling readers, creating instructional videos to support the learners when she is not around.

Overall, The Atlas Digibus has shown positive outcomes and promising potential, impacting students and teachers.

Grade 4 Assessments



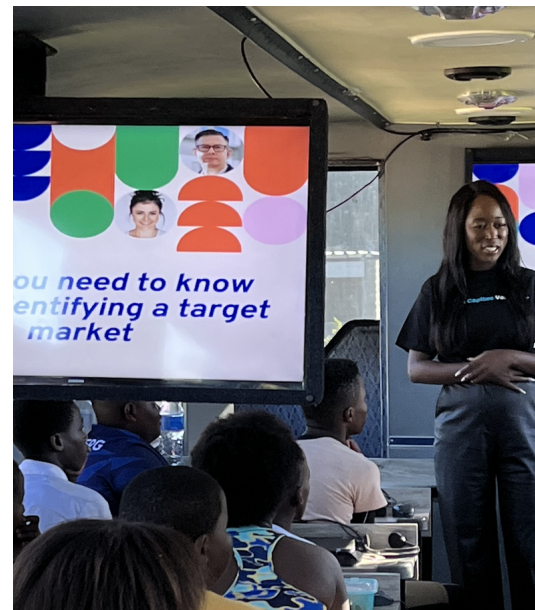
School 4 assessments were not completed due to circumstances beyond our control.

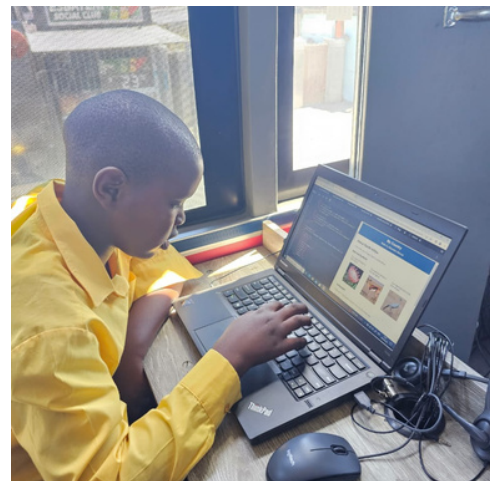
Additional Impact

In addition to its regular operations, the Atlas Digibus mobile classroom has had further impact through various programs and collaborations:

- **Utilization by Grade 11 & 12 Learners:** During primary school exam periods, the bus was made available to Grade 11 and 12 learners at Leap School. This allowed them to access educational resources and study materials during crucial exam preparation periods.
- **Peer Learning Program with Bishops Boys:** Every Wednesday afternoon, Grade 9-11 boys from Bishops School visit Langa and support learners from the afterschool program on the bus. This peer learning initiative helps foster knowledge sharing and provides additional guidance and support to the students.
- **Young Entrepreneur Day for U13 Learners:** On Friday afternoons, U13 learners participate in a young entrepreneur day. Capitec bank staff, VUSA staff, and external speakers facilitate entrepreneurship workshops for the students. The program culminates in a market day where the learners can showcase and sell their entrepreneurial products.

These additional initiatives highlight the flexibility and adaptability of the Digibus in catering to the diverse needs of learners beyond its regular activities. By involving Grade 11 and 12 learners, promoting peer learning, and nurturing entrepreneurship skills, the Digibus continues to provide valuable opportunities for growth and development among students in Langa.





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