WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

TODAY, WE SAY THANK YOU. TOMORROW, WE KEEP FIGHTING

SOUTH AFRICA'S CLASSROOMS RUN ON YOUR COURAGE

NNF 33 **5 OCTOBER 2026**

On World Teachers' Day, NAPTOSA honours the educators who walk into South African classrooms every day, often against great odds, and give our learners a future.

We see you: teaching in overcrowded classrooms with too few desks, books, and hands to go around. In schools still struggling with ageing buildings, unsafe sanitation and limited ICT. Doing it while carrying a heavy administrative load, adapting to curriculum changes, and supporting learners who arrive hungry, traumatised or years behind in reading. You do it while managing learner discipline and, too often, your own safety. And you do it while worrying about job security, workload, burnout and your own wellbeing and mental health.

Many of you are also social workers, counsellors, mentors and sometimes the only stable adult in a child's life. Qualified young teachers still search for permanent posts, while colleagues in the system carry the extra load of vacant posts and multi-grade classes. Yet you remain. Despite everything, you keep showing up, and South Africa's learners are better for it.

To every teacher who teaches in overcrowded classrooms, manages heavy workloads, supports learners through hardships, and is being punished by poor administration and victimisation, we are here. For now, we simply celebrate you.

NAPTOSA sees your sacrifice and stands with you. We continue to fight for safe schools, manageable classes, fair conditions, teacher wellness and the respect you deserve.

Thank you for every day you showed up.
Thank you for every learner you believed in.
We are honoured to stand with you.

HAPPY WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

BL Manuel
Executive Director

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