

## **DPW invests in the education of Platfontein children as part of Mandela Day**

Life will never be the same for the small remote rural community of Platfontein in Kimberley, Northern Cape.

This after Minister TW Nxesi visited two Early Childhood Development (ECD) centres and a combined school in the area to paint, donate items including computers, blankets and clothes, and to plant trees as part of his Mandela Day contribution on 17 July 2015.

The Minister was accompanied by the Director-General Mr Mziwonke Dlabantu, Deputy Director-General: Corporate Services Mr Clive Mtshisa, Chief Financial Officer Mr Cox Mokgoro, the Kimberley Regional Manager Ms Sylvia Moholo and DPW officials from both the Head Office and the Kimberley Regional Office.

As part of the activities for the day, the Minister and his entourage accompanied by traditional leaders from the area visited one of the centres where they painted walls before proceeding to the second ECD centre where they planted trees and donated blankets and toys. The delegation also went to !Xunhwesa Combined School where the Minister donated 20 computers to enhance education in the area.

Addressing the Platfontein community at the combined school, Minister Nxesi urged parents and the community at large to protect the donated computers. "We have renovated the school and installed burglar guards on the windows and doors. We have donated computers. Whenever we donate computers to schools, in many areas they get stolen. We therefore appeal to parents and the community to look after these computers because they are meant for the education of your children. Protect them from thugs. This is a small way of giving to this community. Tata Nelson Mandela use to say that we need to make sure that we invest in the education of our children," said the Minister.

In his closing remarks, the Minister reminded the community that the donations were not only from the Department, but Public Works officials had also contributed from their pockets to add to the list of items donated to the schools. He thanked the officials for the generous offer to the schools and for making the Mandela Day event a success.