



From left: MEC Makolo Mohale and Deputy Environment Minister Maggie Soty show pupils how to plant vegetables.

Photo by Dan Xangaza

Minister, MEC lead clean-up drive

By **DAN XANGAZA**

GOVERNMENT leaders rolled up their sleeves and led by example during a clean-up campaign on Friday.

Deputy Environment Minister Maggie Soty and Free State Environmental Affairs MEC Makola Mohale visited Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu in the province.

They helped rid Reentseng Primary School of rubbish and cleared illegal dumping spots at Tawana Primary and TM Setiloane high schools.

They also planted trees and established vegetable gardens.

The two leaders also donated school shoes, bags, stationery, gardening tools, waste bins and desks to pupils at the Tawana and Reentseng primary schools.

“Our main purpose is to create jobs and economically empower our people through proper waste management,” Soty said.

“When you throw away waste, you throw away gold. What is important to us is creating jobs from waste.”

She said it was everyone’s responsibility to ensure the environment was kept clean.

“People just throw baby towels around. They are health hazard and cause diseases.

“If our environment was clean, there would be less overcrowding in hospitals,” she said.

Soty said she was happy when Mohale told her the provincial government had employed an extra 50 people as part of the extended public works programme.

“Although it’s a short-term job, it puts food on the table while the government is trying to create decent jobs,” the deputy minister said.