



Melray in 2017



Melray's Self Portrait



Melray

Birthday: 29th March 2007

Melray is 10 years old and lives with her two sisters and mother. Her mother, Lenine (only 32 years old) recently had her third baby. Lenine is a single parent providing for all three girls. She relies on seasonal work to provide for the family but this is scarce at this time of year.



The house they live in has two storeys - an upstairs with two bedrooms and downstairs with a small kitchen and sitting area. There is running water in the house but no geyser or hot water is provided. They moved from a shack to the house earlier this year but the house is so poorly built that water is seeping in through the walls and the house is permanently damp with mould growing on the walls. The girls are often ill as a result of this with chest infections. The house is in very poor condition.

Melray joined the SOS Africa education programme in the Western Cape in January 2014. As well as providing her with school clothing, transportation and stationery, SOS Africa also pays for her to attend Grabouw Primary School along with the other SOS Africa children. At Grabouw, Melray and the SOS Africa children receive an excellent standard of education in class sizes of no more than 25 children. Since 2014 she has worked hard and receives good reports. She has made lots of friends and is loved by her teachers.



Here is Melray's most recent school report:

MELRAY TERM 3 RESULTS

HOME LANGUAGE (AFRIKAANS)	88%
FIRST ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE (ENGLISH)	72%
MATHS	67%
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	74%
SOCIAL SCIENCES – HISTORY	80%
SOCIAL SCIENCES GEOGRAPHY	92%
LIFE SKILLS	78%

7 (80-100%) / 6 (70-70%) / 5 (60-69%) / 4 (50-59%)

In the afternoon the children attend SOS Africa's very own Aftercare Centre based within the school grounds of Grabouw Primary School. Aftercare is a vital part of their education. There they receive lunch, extra tuition and attend creative learning classes run by the SOS Africa staff. The SOS Africa children are like a big family – at Aftercare they share experiences and grow together. At this time they can also discuss any problems they might be having with the SOS Africa staff.



The SOS Africa Aftercare Centre, Grabouw

We are very proud of Melray and believe that with your help, she will now have a bright future ahead of her!