



→ Provincial Winner

## Excellence in technology enhanced teaching and learning

**Name:** Lalindei Botha  
**School:** La Rochelle Girls' Primary School, Paarl  
**District:** Cape Winelands

**Lalindei Botha's (affectionately known as Lilly) exceptional contributions to the field of education, particularly in integrating technology into her teaching practices, have set a benchmark for excellence and innovation.**

Lilly's journey as an educator is marked by her passion, resourcefulness, and bubbly personality, which resonate through her work and interactions. As a wife, mother, and educator, she has taught a diverse range of learners from Grades 4-7, covering all subjects with a special focus on Technology and C&R across the school from Grade R.

Her innovative spirit is evident in her ability to unite and support learners from various backgrounds, including challenging townships, farming communities, and middle-class environments. By bridging gaps and fostering inclusivity, Lilly creates opportunities for all her learners to thrive.

Ms Botha's commitment to professional development is unparalleled. She actively engages in numerous professional development courses and networking events, constantly upskilling herself and sharing her knowledge with fellow educators and learners. This dedication to lifelong learning sets a positive example for her learners and colleagues alike.

As the ICT manager at her school, she ensures the seamless functionality of the school's IT infrastructure, planning, maintaining, and supporting the effective incorporation of technology. Her leadership in this role is instrumental in driving technological advancements within the school. Additionally, she has held roles as subject head, head of hockey and culture. She has also organised and directed three concerts during a trip to Singapore with 40 learners, explored innovative teaching approaches in classrooms, and showcased South Africa in an interactive gallery.

Lilly's contributions extend beyond her classroom. She started a C&R club, successfully applied for sponsorships, and integrated 21st-century skills into her classes. Her involvement in various ICT and Robotics communities, such as TAO, Paarl Robotics, Schoolscape and Edtech Gurus, highlights her dedication to fostering collaboration and innovation.

She employs a variety of creative strategies to engage her learners with ICT, making learning fun, interactive, and meaningful. From developing interactive content and video resources to promoting digital collaboration using platforms like Padlet, Canva, and Purple Mash, she transforms her classroom into a dynamic learning environment that emphasises self-guided learning, collaboration, and critical thinking. By utilising other tools like Tinkercad, Mash, and Google Classroom, Lilly empowers her learners to take ownership of their learning and work independently.

Her sporting achievements further showcase her innovative use of technology. As head of hockey, she uses ICT for tactical planning and field analysis, enhancing her learners' understanding of the game. Her ability to integrate technology into sports demonstrates her versatile application of ICT in various educational contexts.

One of Lilly's main life goals is to assist fellow educators in their

growth. She creates explanatory videos on ICT topics, helps educators integrate technology into the classroom. Her empathy, understanding, and positive reinforcement bring a sense of community and collaboration among her peers.

Through her dedication to professional development, Lilly has completed over 15 courses in the last six months alone, including Digital Assessment and Collaboration, Hands-on Tech, and Micro-bit training and so much more. She continuously seeks to enhance her skills and knowledge, ensuring she remains at the forefront of educational innovation.

Lilly's efforts in incorporating ICT into her teaching have had a transformative impact on her learners. By catering to different learning styles and promoting 21st-century skills, she prepares her learners for a rapidly changing world. She considers these 21st-century skills as the "power skills" needed for the 4IR.

In recognition of her outstanding achievements and commitment to enhancing teaching and learning with technology, we proudly honour Lalindei Botha as the provincial winner in the NTAs. Her exemplary work serves as an inspiration to educators everywhere, demonstrating the profound impact that technology can have in shaping the future of education.