**[LOCATION] CHILDREN CELEBRATE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY**

*Children at [SCHOOL NAME] join thousands of others across the country to show why time outdoors should be part of every school day*

[DATE]: Children at [NAME OF SCHOOL] went outdoors to play and learn on Thursday as part of the global Outdoor Classroom Day campaign. The campaign – started in London, England, in 2012 – aims to make outdoor play and learning part of every child’s day as organisers say it is critical to children’s health, wellbeing and happiness.

[DETAILS OF YOUR DAY HERE]

[Principal’s NAME] said: *“There is a wealth of evidence that suggests that outdoor learning and time to play outdoors throughout the school day are beneficial to children, and I couldn’t agree more. When our children are outdoors they are more engaged, their mood is lifted and they are more active. Following our involvement in Outdoor Classroom Day we will be taking a serious look at how we integrate more time outdoors into every school day.”*

*Louise Van Rhyn, CEO of Symphonia for South Africa said: “Research has found that children who spend time outdoors have better mental health, are more physically active and are more resilient. Teachers who get involved in the campaign tell us the same thing, which is why we are delighted that thousands of schools around the world got involved again this year. We believe that schools can lead the charge for more time outdoors for every child every day.”*

Other schools can sign up to take part in the next Outdoor Classroom Day on the website: <https://outdoorclassroomday.co.za/>

**ENDS**

For more information and to arrange an interview, contact:

[NAME AND NUMBER OF CONTACT]

**Notes to editors**

[SCHOOL NOTES TO EDITORS]

**About Outdoor Classroom Day**

Outdoor Classroom Day is a global campaign to inspire and celebrate outdoor learning and play. On the day, thousands of schools around the world take lessons outside and prioritise playtime. As well as having fun, they show how important and easy it is to give children more time outdoors. So that schools can participate on a day that fits with their climate and term times, the global campaign has two dates each year (visit the website for upcoming dates). The global Outdoor Classroom Day is led by [Semble](https://semble.org/) (formerly Project Dirt and a founding member of the campaign), in partnership with Unilever as part of their Dirt is Good movement. *The South African campaign is led by NPO- Symphonia for South Africa*

**About Symphonia for South Africa (PfP)**

The PfP initiative speaks to the idea that enhancing the quality of education, improving the school environment and encouraging engagement between parents and teachers are meaningful and attainable goals that would provide an upward spiral of real change in society. <http://www.pfp4sa.org/>