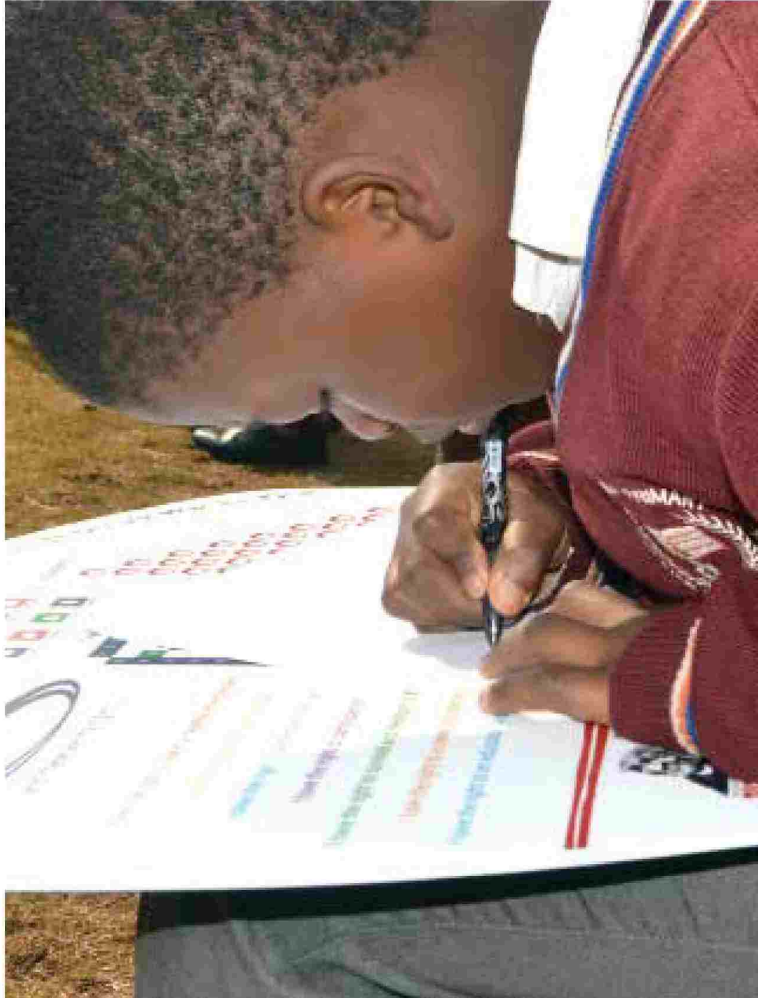


Removing barriers to education



A learner from Rondebult Primary School working on his lapdesk.

Tutudesk: a partnership initiative by the family of the Nobel Prize winner, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, and the Amway Corporation, handed over more than 1529 Tutudesks to Rondebult Primary School. This Germiston school became the latest beneficiary of the campaign, which was established with the objective to help underprivileged children realize their right to education in learners and the benefit of doing so without the hindrances often associated with poorly equipped schools.

The handover event was attended by representatives from the Amway Corporation, Desmond Tutu's family and a group from Vanderbilt University in Nashville Tennessee (USA). The guests of honour were no doubt the girls and boys of Rondebult Primary, who sang and participated in numerous activities while they eagerly anticipated the handover. Rondebult's Headmistress, Mrs Nozuko Khenyana, welcomed the various delegates and gave a brief history of the 130-year-old school, which she joined in 2010. The school has since gone through various upgrades; all geared towards addressing challenges of overcrowding in the classrooms. "Thank you to Amway South Africa for your faith in our school," said Mrs Khenyana speaking to the Tutudesk partners. "We have challenges, but we are improving and we know that we can do it regardless of the challenges. The desks will alleviate pressure and improve our results. Our learners will be eager to come to school knowing that they don't have to share a desk."

Speaking at the handover, Amway South Africa's General Manager; Raj Parshotam said: "The learners are the special ones. When we look at the country ten years from now, it is this group which will be the engine of the economy." Amway, through its One by One division and the Tutudesk campaign, has to date invested over R2,2 million and distributed over 14 000 lapdesks to schools all over the country in the areas which Amway operates.