



AUSTRALIAN HIGH COMMISSION PRETORIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 31 May 2010

Local schools 'adopt' Australia

Masakhane Primary School, in Zandspruit, Roodeport area, Gauteng will tomorrow morning host the Australian High Commission for a visit to their school, as part of the FIFA 'Adopt-a-nation program'.

The FIFA Adopt-a-nation program encourages schools across South Africa to support one of the 32 participating nations and, at the same time, learn more about that country's culture and diversity.

The event at Masakhane Primary School will feature a handover of materials about Australia, a possible appearance by the official mascot of the FIFA 2010 World Cup, Zakumi, as well as encouraging the kids to get behind the Australian soccer team, the Socceroos. It follows visits today by the High Commission to four other schools in the Roodepoort area.

Around 5,000 of the learners from these local schools (including 400 from Masakhane Primary School) will attend the friendly between Australia and Denmark later that day kicking off at 2.00pm, in nearby Ruimsig stadium. Their presence at the game is thanks to the collaboration of Monash South Africa and the Lapdesk Company.

Australia will be one of only five (5) teams to play friendlies on South African soil before the FIFA World Cup, offering around 10,000 children from township areas near Roodeport the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see a world-class football match.

Event details

11.00am for 11.30am on Tuesday 1 June, 2010

Masakhane Primary School, Zandspruit

Please see attached a map and directions to the school.

Please note the school is near Ruimsig stadium, where Australia will play at 2.00pm against Denmark

For details regarding the Australia - Denmark friendly, and for information regarding the Socceroos team, please direct all enquiries to Football Federation Australia. Please contact Mr Rod Allen, Head of Media Relations on +27 83 468 8524 or rod.allen@footballaustralia.com.au or Mr Adam Mark, Media relations on +27 83 577 8882 or adam.mark@footballaustralia.com.au

For information regarding Australian High Commission activities during the FIFA 2010 World Cup, please contact Public Affairs Officer, Mr William Blomfield on +27 83 409 3619 or william.blomfield@dfat.gov.au.