

Liz Smith testimonial for CART and SISONKE

When my time in Port St Johns ended my heart broke and even today I still miss it. In my time there I met the most amazing people and discovered a new level of happiness that I didn't know was possible. I spent 7 weeks teaching English at Sisonke school. I'm trying to think of a good way to describe what it was about PSJ that made me fall in love with the place...so I'm going to note the things that I most miss about it:

- Going for walks along the Umzimvubu river, where I had a huge mountain on either side of me with the amazing view of where the river and ocean met up ahead.
- Driving through town in the back of the bukki (ute) and seeing a little kid's face light up because I was his/her teacher.
- Having the children at school bring me their work to correct- they would stand so close to me and touch me in amazement and play with my hair. 8/10 times their work would be incorrect, bless their souls, and they would keep going back to try and get it right in the hope that they might get a sticker from their "teacher".
- Taking the five Grade 3/4 girls for dance class, and watching them truly dance from the heart.
- Having a student say "I love you teacher".
- Being in an area with so many like minded people; the people who I was volunteering with were utterly amazing, we all shared the same ideas and beliefs about life, and I learnt a lot from many of them.

This list is not EVERYTHING, but it hopefully gives you an idea. It was such an amazing experience however I would recommend staying much longer...7 weeks was not enough time for me!