PRESS RELEASE – PERSBERICHT:

Launch of Eenders & Anders Afrikaans/Dutch course and website for Afrikaans Home Language – an exciting new investment in South Africa’s youth

Introduction
With the Dutch language having been absent from South African schools for well on thirty years, it is with great pride and joy that SASNEV (Suid-Afrikaanse Sentrum vir Nederland en Vlaanderen) and Protea Boekhuis Publishers announce that on 22 January 2018 the first Afrikaans/Dutch package of courses for use in schools, Eenders & Anders, became available,

The aim of these Afrikaans/Dutch courses – a series for learners from Grade 6 to Grade 11 – is to introduce Afrikaans Home Language learners to the Dutch and Flemish culture, language and literature. Learners start off on well-known terrain (Afrikaans and South Africa) and proceed from there to explore new worlds (the Dutch language, as well as the Netherlands and Belgium). They look at that which is the same in the different countries and languages, but also interrogate that which is different.

Themes
Grade 6: Pleased to meet you! – Prettig met je kennis te maken!
Grade 7: Food fit for a king – Een koningsmaal
Grade 8: Knights in shining armour and role models – Ridders en rolmodellen
Grade 9: Getting about on a bike – Fietsen
Grade 10: Camping – Kamperen
Grade 11: Fairy tale for a city kid – Sprookje voor een stadskind

Most learners will be acquainted with (say) the legendary characters that are discussed, and will realise that our cultures have a great deal in common, but they will realise that there are also differences – some of them superficial, others more fundamental. Learners know South-African goodies like koesisters and melktert, but what about Dutch stroopwafels and their larger cousins, Belgian waffles? Learners will find out how Dutch and Flemish people approach the business of going camping and how important bicycles are in the Netherlands. They will also be introduced to knights in shining armour and our very own role models, as well as a host of other interesting things.

Information about the curriculum
Eenders & Anders complies with all the requirements of the National Curriculum and Assessment Policy Statement (CAPS). Each of the individual courses for Grade 6 to Grade 11 Afrikaans Home
Language learners can be presented in its entirety (a learner’s book plus a teacher’s guide per grade) during a two-week cycle in the school year. They have been compiled in such a way that each one of them can replace one of the chapters in the language handbook. They can be used as enrichment for the top classes, but may also be used for revision, as additional material for the teacher, or simply as a fun way to get to know more about the Netherlands, Belgium and the Dutch language. The language sections, among other things, look at areas where similarities and differences between Afrikaans and Dutch are very evident, such as spelling, loan words and vocabulary development.

The contents of the courses for grades 6, 7, 8 and 9 link up with the CAPS curriculum quarter 2, weeks 5 and 6. For these grades they not only cover all the work set out for weeks 5 and 6 in quarter 2 in the curriculum, but also touch on work set out for other weeks. The contents of course 10 and course 11 not only cover all the work that is set out in the curriculum for quarter 4, weeks 33 and 34, but also touch on work from the weeks directly before and after these two weeks.

There is also a bonus for teachers! A special Quartet Game has been developed as part of the package. The teacher’s guides for grades 6 to 8 include a bonus Quartet Game that consists of no fewer than 9 quartets (categories). The Quartet Game is a card game in which the players all try to collect as many quartets (4 cards with each matching theme) as possible.

Language territory
The project aims to break down language barriers and to introduce speakers of the same mother tongue community to each other across continents in their “Eenders(heid) & Anders(heid)” – their “sameness and otherness”. Afrikaans is the mother tongue of 7 million South Africans. Dutch is the mother tongue of about 17 million Dutch in the Netherlands and of 6 million Flemish in neighbouring Belgium. That makes up almost 30 million people who can more or less understand each other. The Flemish speak their Dutch with an accent that often makes it sound like Afrikaans – it is called Flemish. But, in contrast to Afrikaans, Flemish is merely a spoken language, not a written one. For reading and writing, the Flemish use Dutch. During the two weeks that learners are using these courses, they will be taken on an exciting, adventure-packed journey to the Low Countries.

Website
The Eenders & Anders package of courses provides learners with a window on the Low Countries (the Netherlands and Belgium) and consists of a learner’s book and a teacher’s guide for each of the above-mentioned grades, as well as a website, which will go live on Friday 9 February 2018. Orders can be placed on this website (www.lespakket.co.za), as well as at the online shop of Protea Boekhuis Publishers (www.proteabookwinkel.com).

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