

The real reason behind the Checkers Sixty60 branded plane

South Africans have been waiting patiently to find out why [Checkers launched a specially branded airplane](#) – and now the wait is over, because this festive season the retailer is taking to the skies to deliver more than just groceries and essentials – they’re bringing loved ones together for a truly Xtra special Christmas.

In a new commercial released this weekend (16 November) Checkers provides a glimpse of the first family reunited through the retailer’s latest heartwarming campaign.

Dr. Nqobile Manzini is a senior cardiothoracic surgery registrar and mom to son Siya (5). She studied at the University of Cape Town and is now completing her final year at Groote Schuur Hospital, where she often works shifts lasting up to 36 hours.

Due to her demanding schedule, little Siya lives with his grandmother in KwaZulu-Natal, and Nqobile hasn't seen her son in many months.

Unbeknownst to Nqobile – who thought she was being filmed for an insert on essential workers - Checkers arranged to fly her mother, brother, and son to Cape Town for a surprise reunion.

Siya, also unaware of the surprise, was taken to the hospital where she works. When he saw his mom, he ran straight into her arms, leaving Nqobile completely stunned and overjoyed.

Watching and reliving that moment on film, Nqobile says she was again overcome with emotion. “I really hope this inspires other families to get together over Christmas,” she says.

Checkers is giving away more than 2 000 airlines tickets through its [Festive Competition](#) to connect loved ones from across the country during this special time of the year.

To enter the competition:

- Buy any three qualifying products from well-known brands, swipe your Xtra Savings card in-store, and check your slip for entry details.
- Alternatively, shop on Checkers Sixty60 for an automatic entry.

END

[Sign up](#) to receive the Shoprite Group’s latest news or visit our [newsroom](#) where you also have access to [high-res media images](#) and [videos](#). In addition, you can find us on [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).