

June 2019 Newsletter

Dear Friends of Makeni,

In the past few months we have been working on several things concerning the School, St Nicholas Orphanage and settlement. As you know, these are now the only things that are important on our agenda.

Makeni School



science practical examinations.

Now that the school is an Examination Centre for Grade 7, 9, and 12, we have a challenge of providing enough furniture and science materials for practical examinations, which will now be taking place three times a year for Grade 9 and 12. The Ministry of Education has implemented continuous assessment as part of student grading. This means that practical examinations will not be limited to examination time in November/December of each year. There is now financial pressure as the schools will have to find three times the current money to provide for all the items and materials needed for the



So far, Makeni School has managed to conduct all the practical examinations without problems. Our budget for these examinations is K54,000. We are also working on replacing the asbestos roofing sheets on the Grade 8 and 9 classrooms, which are very old and damaged. During the rainy season pupils were being soaked. It will cost us K7,500 to do the job.



We have just spent K21,458 on buying the required pupils' and teachers' books for all subjects in the primary section. We are yet to find money to buy the required books for the secondary section of the school. The changes in the syllabi and lack of consistency by some suppliers of books creates this situation.



We are also fabricating more school desks from our carpentry workshop to be used by pupils during the Grade 9 and grade 12 Examinations in October November. Makeni Ecumenical Centre School, as an Examination Centre for the two grades is expected to cater for 250 pupils, majority of whom are coming from other schools that have registered to use our school to write their examinations. We are required to provide chairs and desks for every pupil. So far we have fabricated 40 desks at a total cost of K12,000. We hope to fabricate 70 more by the end of July 2019.



School desks being fabricated in the carpentry workshop at Makeni Centre. Right - Gift Machaya and Mr. Edson N'gandu cutting wood



The school is now doing well in sports, with the acquisition of the school bus and sports equipment. We have bought sports equipment worth K5,000 and this has encouraged the pupils and teachers to participate in sporting activities. We are yet to buy them football and netball jerseys.

Pupils and a teacher during sports time at Makeni Centre School. They are playing basketball and volleyball.

St Nicholas Orphanage

At St Nicholas Orphanage we have managed to provide all that was very much needed for the children's school and welfare. We now have 17 children and we spend K7,100 per week for their food and other necessities. We are glad to report that there is generally some improvement in their school performance. Those in the primary school are doing well except for two girls, Anna Tembo and Bupe Bwalya, who last term got an average of 44% and 29% respectively. These two girls are in this situation because of their background. They started school late. We are trying to motivate them to do better by giving them extra academic work. For those in the secondary section, we have two who have not managed 50%. These are Basil Tembo and Josphat Mwanza. We are coaching them to see if they can improve their performance.

Older Children updates

We would like to thank all our esteemed partners and donors for the good work they do and the support they render to us especially to the children. Our partners and donors, what you have done for the lives of the children here at St Nicholas Orphanage is today bearing much fruit. The lives of some of the children you were supporting financially, materially and morally have changes for the better. We currently have Gift Machaya on our staff, who is doing well in the maintenance department of the Centre. He can repair simple electrical faults, do basic plumbing, repair buildings and do carpentry works. We are happy with his work. We also want to let you know that Francis Mtonga has just returned from Mongu in the Western province, where he was on attachment at Lewanika General Hospital. He has been awarded a certificate as a best student in Molecular Biology Practical for 2019. He also has been awarded a certificate as an active member of the Students Executive Council for the year 2018 at his college. You can see that your support is not in vain as you have changed the lives of these young people. We salute you!

Agricultural Settlement Projects

On the settlement project, we are still working on the issue of verifying plots, re-demarcating and giving titles for all the settlement villages in Chisamba area. We are working with the government through Chisamba District Council.

The Clinic project at Mwomboshi is still in progress. The staff house is complete and our partners from Japan will be sending their representative to Zambia this month. He arrives on Wednesday 19th June 2019 to see how the project can proceed from now on.

Bishop Andrew Mukuyamba