

September 2016

Dear Friends

We have just begun the third and final school term of 2016 in Zambia which coincides with the start of the hot season. Temperatures are already soaring up to 39 degrees C and pupils are busy studying for end of year exams. Here is a taste of some of the developments that have taken place within Tukongote Community Projects in the past three months.

### Teacher Training

The thirteen teachers we are sponsoring at teacher training college in Livingstone have now completed their second holiday program at the college. This term they all settled in quickly and got straight into their studying. They took advantage of an extra week of holidays (thanks to the general elections) to stay in town and do research for their assignments, something that they find difficult once back in the village. Edward, one of the preschool teachers, told us, "We all loved the extra week, having that time to find out the things we need to know to do well at the college." Now they are all back teaching full time in the villages and looking forward to December when they head back to complete year one. Here are Naomi and Parity, our two literacy teachers at Siandunda Primary, who are also attending college.



### New teachers

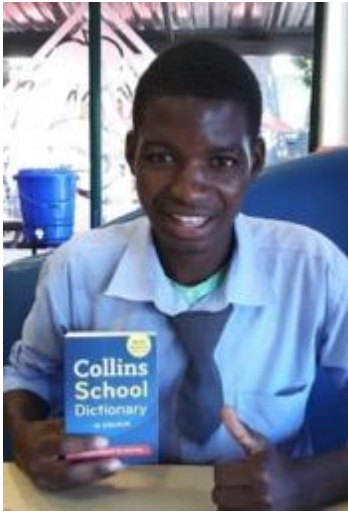
At Tukongote Preschool the number of children has been steadily increasing with each of the three classes having at least twenty-five pupils, a challenge for a single teacher. We decided to employ three teaching assistants. They are all local ladies with real passion for the children. We welcome Noyreen, Mainza and Memory (L to R) to the Tukongote team. Mainza comes from a family of teachers and volunteered for a year at a preschool in Western Zambia, Memory has just moved back to her home village after 7 years as a nanny in town, and Noyreen has the bubbliest personality, declaring that her most favourite thing in the world is singing.

They are in their second week of teaching and it's easy to see the difference that having six extra hands on board is making. It means that more complicated activities can be done, the children can be divided into small groups and can benefit from more attention.



## Individual Sponsorships

While focusing on the Pre and Primary school pupils, we also support older children that we feel show real academic potential. The nearest Grade 7 and 9 classes are currently a 10km walk away, and if they want to take their education further, the only option is to go to school in Livingstone. We sponsor twelve girls and boys in Grades 9 to 12 and two at colleges.



This is Lano. We have been sponsoring him for two years and he is now in Grade 9 at Holy Cross Basic School. Lano always works extremely hard, taking lots of extra tuitions and classes. We wish him all the best with his Grade 9 exams next month.

This is Precious. Webby, her father, works at Waterberry. She is in Grade 11 and has been top of her class all year. A generous guest donation allows us to pay her school fees and buy her the books she needs for school. Precious wants to go to university and become a doctor. She says, "For the sponsorship you have offered, I promise to work very hard, doing my best in academic issues. I am very happy and for this I really thank you."



## The Feeding Programme

The feeding program we introduced last term is continuing. The attendance of the pupils has improved and their concentration in class after break is markedly better. We buy the food once a month from Livingstone and it's not as easy as going to the supermarket! Dambwa Market is a vibrant hive of activity which assaults all your senses at once. It's always an adventure going shopping here!



## Thank you

Once again a huge thank you to all our supporters who give so generously of their time, money, donations and gifts. Without you our projects wouldn't keep growing. Our book wish list is proving popular, and now that we have the extra teachers in class, the books can be used even more effectively. We have also set up a PayPal account, making it easier for non-UK guests to donate. Enter [community@waterberrylodge.com](mailto:community@waterberrylodge.com) as the email address. Further details available on request.

Please keep helping us to achieve more in our local communities, giving the gift of education to as many as possible and opening doors of opportunity.

Sending best wishes and summer warmth from the banks of the mighty Zambezi.

The Waterberry Community Team

Kelly and Lynette

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