

Dear Friends of CLinC,

St Mark's & St Anne's Anglican Community Schools

St Anne's and St Mark's have successfully completed another school year. Our two headteachers are Alice Nyendwa at St Mark's and Charity Phiri at St Anne's. They work tirelessly to provide an education for as many local children as the schools can hold! They have been with us since the schools opened in 2010 and we are very grateful for their hard work.

Grade 7 pupils have taken their exams and are waiting to get their results. The successful ones will be given a place at Chipata School and, as you know, their school fees are now paid by the government. We wish them well in their studies.

Teachers

There are five teachers at each school. All teachers received pay for all twelve months in 2023. This comes mainly from the money sent by CLinC, together with a small monthly top up from the parental contributions.

Teacher Training

Eight of our current teachers have now achieved teaching qualifications. Last term, money was sent to cover the registration of all eight teachers and also to enable them to acquire their teachers' certificate. This is now essential for all teachers.

The two teachers who are untrained, rely on their own grade 12 studies and help from other teachers. They have both now completed their two years at the schools and may be considered for teacher training next year.

Congratulations.

Alice and Mary graduated in November this year. They will continue to teach at St Mark's.



Feeding programme. A sum of K15,000 (around £700) was sent to each school last



term, an increase of K3,000 due to the rise in food costs. Charcoal and maize meal are bought in bulk and used over the twelve weeks. The remainder of the money is used weekly to buy onions, tomatoes, beans, soya chunks and other items from the local markets. These are made into the flavourful, nourishing 'relish' that is eaten along with the nshima. All children receive a hot, nutritious meal twice a week.

Two events happened at St Mark's, a **Careers Day** where people from the local community came in and told the children about the work they do. The money raised from this event went towards an **Educational Tour**.



Repairs last term

The **cesspit** at St Anne's was successfully emptied and four pit latrines had '**toilet pans**' fixed. This makes it much easier for the small children and more pleasant for everyone!

The **photocopier/ printers** at both schools were serviced and are important for the printing of exam papers as well as classwork.

Outstanding projects.

We have requested quotes to **repair the desks** at both schools but have not yet received them. Hopefully we can get this done for the start of next year.

The **windows of the two classrooms** at St Anne's, built in 2021, are still unglazed and the classrooms unpainted.

Repair is needed to the concrete area alongside St Anne's classrooms and the drainage needs improving. The drainage problem has become more serious since the building of a carpark nearby!

More classroom space is required at St Mark's.

Unfortunately, we are unable to consider these three projects until the Chipata Chazanga Anglican Children's Project Board meet and give us advice and quotes.

Link with St Andrew's School in Cromhall

In November, Enid and I went into St Andrew's School, Cromhall, to talk to the year 5&6 about the children we had met in both schools during our visit in May. We took many letters from the Zambian children along with us. The children were delighted to receive them and wrote their replies. A few days later, I was able to send these letters to Zambia.

Recent Fundraising and events.

The planned events for September to December all went well and raised large sums of money for CLinC. The Cromhall Show raised just over £230, the Christmas Craft Fair raised an amazing £800 and we made £370 at Wotton Charities Fair.



Charities Fair Nov 25th



The Christmas Craft Fair Nov 4th

Changes for the future

For many years we paid the school fees for the grade 8&9 pupils to ensure that they continued their education. However, school fees are now paid by the government. Zebra Trust still sends an annual grant which will be shared between the poorest of the families to help with uniform.

CLinC has decided to concentrate on getting children off the streets and into community schools.

During our May visit to Lusaka, we spent time in two more community schools. Both were doing the same valuable work of providing an education for the poorest children. We discovered that they had no support or help with their running costs and most of the teachers were not paid for many months. Trustees feel that this is something we can help with. There will be more news about this in the next newsletter.

THANK YOU

Once again, our thanks go to **Cromhall Shop** for enabling us to sell jams and small crafts throughout the year.

... to **'Crafters'** in Wotton under Edge for allowing us to sell craft items to raise funds.

... to **'Under the Edge Quilters'** for their support throughout another year.

...to **'Jackie's Country Crafts'** at Berkeley for offering our craft items for sale.

..to those of you who have standing orders for monthly, quarterly or yearly donations. This does help us to plan ahead with confidence.

...to those of you who can Gift aid your donations. This brings in around £2,000 a year and costs you nothing! I have forms if you would like to Gift aid your donations.

Thank you to all of you for your continued interest and support.

Without you, we couldn't do it.

Ann, on behalf of trustees of CLinC -December 2023