

Trustee visit to Zambia Sept 2018

We spent time with Kelvin and Alice and obtained the following information about the two schools. The value of the kwacha (K) varies. At the time of writing this, there are K15 to £1.

St Anne's Anglican Community School, Chipata, Lusaka.

Number of pupils – 340 (210 girls – 130 boys)

Over 100 pupils are either single or double orphans.

Teachers –

The money to pay teachers comes from the voluntary parental contributions.

	Grade taught	Monthly pay
Kelvin Bwalya	6	K1,000 (£67)
Charity Phiri	3 & 4	K 800
Mellab Chisala	1 & 2	K 550 (£37)
Langson Zuze	7 & 6	K 750
Wendy Sakalani	Pre-school	K 650

The carer is paid K 380 per month and security guard K350.

Classes are taught in the old church and the two new classrooms.

Classroom 1 has the pre-school children all day and classroom 2 has grade 6 all day. All other grades are taught in the poorly lit old church at the times shown below.

Grades

Pre-school	62 aged 3-6	8.00 – 13.00 + 14.00-18.00
1	43	7.30 – 10.30
2	40	10.30 – 13.30
3	45	7.30 – 10.30
4	44	10.30 – 13.30
5	32	12.30 – 17.00
6	49	7.30 – 12.30 + 14.00 – 16,00 prep
7	25	7.30 – 12 30 + 14.00 – 16.00 prep

Feeding programme -Wed and Friday this term. Nshima is served with a relish containing some of the following- tuna chunks / kapenta fish/ beans / onions/ cabbage/ tomatoes. Weekly cost around K300 in first two terms but rises to K900 for two meals a week in the third term when food is scarce and expensive. Almost half of the cost is for charcoal!

Borehole, tank & pump - All working well. Electricity for pump costs around K400 for 2 months. The chlorine cartridge is replaced every month - K150.

Toilet block still working well but in need of improvement to avoid spread of cholera and other diseases. Cesspit had never been emptied since built in 2009.

K1,200 (£92 at exchange rate then) was given to Kelvin during our visit and it has since been emptied.

Photocopier and computer all working well. Situated in staff room and we saw it being used. We bought 2 packs of paper for them (500 sheets 80gsm). Twice in the last 5 years the Min of Ed has given the school a grant of K800 (£60+) to buy consumables! We bought them 2 boxes of white and coloured chalks. The children provide their own exercise books and pens etc.

Repairs We bought new locks for two classroom doors and Doug fitted these for them. The intention was also to re-paint the blackboards. We tried three shops but failed to find paint to do so.

School Sports – A community sports ground is available 10 mins walk away (we did not see this) otherwise very little room at the school.

St Mark’s Anglican Community School, Chazanga, Lusaka.

Classes are taught in the two small rooms alongside the old church building (pre-school and grade 6), in the two new classrooms and in what was intended to be the staff room(grade 7). The staff room is now combined with the storeroom and the office is in what was once the vestry.

Number of pupils – 193 (95 girls – 98 boys)

There are 5 double orphans and 15 single orphans.

Teachers –

	Grade taught	
Alice Nyendwa (Head)	3 & 4	
Mary Kamukwamba	5 & 6	
Janet Manda	1 & 2	
Martha Sakala	Pre-school	
Frances Kalambayi	7	

Numbers of pupils

Grade		
Pre-school	28	
1	30	
2	26	
3	25	
4	28	
5	20	
6	22	
7	14	

Feeding programme – Wed & Fri this term. This is the same as the meal at St Anne’s but sometimes contains eggs. On the day we were there we were concerned to see the older children being given large quantities of food and insufficient food left for the little ones. This was first meal of the term!

Toilet block built in 2015 is clean and in good condition.

Photocopier & computer. We did not see these on our visits but are told they are kept locked in the old vestry and working well.



What we took out with us in 7 large suitcases!!....

School sports -

Two sets of polo shirts were taken out for each school and in addition a set of rugby shirts for St Mark's. The netball team soon adopted these! There are community school sports days held and with the newly acquired sports shirts, both schools will be able to take part. Footballs, netballs, tennis balls, skipping ropes, and a parachute were also taken out for them.

Text books are still needed in both schools.

We took lots of Maths books and readers donated by Manorbrook Primary School in Thornbury and know they will be a great help. It is also hoped that the photocopier and paper we gave them will help them to cope with the lack of books.

Pre-school educational toys - Both schools have a large pre-school class of children aged 3-6years. We visited all the charity shops in our area and took out two cases of colourful plastic building bricks, wooden jig-saws, bats, balls and simple games. During our visit we bought colourful posters for their walls, paints and some simple musical instruments.

Challenges ahead

1. Seven teachers requesting sponsorship for teacher training.
2. Increasing numbers of children requesting sponsorship for grades 8 & 9.
3. Finding new ways of raising funds.

October 2018