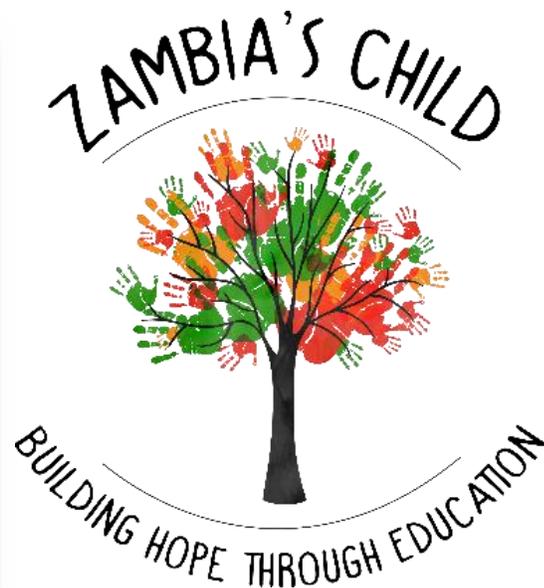




Four of our smiley grade four boys!



JULY NEWS

It has been a very busy few months with lots of Australian visitors, and ICCS has been a hive of activity.

In June we had a small team visit from Australia, as well as David Mansfield from Anglican Aid. The team kept busy during their time in Chingola and Kitwe with various activities including teaching a Moore College PTC subject, assessing students' literacy levels, updating student information, teaching at MCS, taking photos and drone video footage of the school (those who can make it to our Gala Dinner will see some of this), making connections, and meeting and spending time with board and staff members as well as ICCS students.

In July we have been thrilled to welcome TNA, Niesje and Rob, and John who have been visiting the projects.



A preview glimpse of David Crawford's amazing photography!

The school gardens are continuing to be developed as we are starting to grow vegetables for the student lunches. A recent donation from a Sydney art group enabled us to purchase fertiliser, banana saplings, and other vegetable seedlings to increase our produce.



Our women and staff hard at work in the school gardens.

Children continue to entertain the staff and their fellow students at the monthly ICCS school assemblies.



Grade 2 class during their assembly month, entertaining the school with their cultural dancing



We would like to express our sincere thanks to all those who generously gave to our End of Financial Year Appeal.

Some exciting news I have to share is that TNA Solutions will be sponsoring our next classroom module (three classrooms), which will enable Grade 6 to have their own classroom next year, and there will be a temporary dining hall in one of the classrooms. ***We are extremely grateful for the continued generous support of TNA.*** We can now begin raising funds for our next stage of building, starting with the chicken run to help feed the students and eventually provide some income to assist with school running costs.

Gladys Bwalya, Grade 5 student recently spoke of the difficulties she faced as a result of her single mother working full time. This led Gladys to become involved with girls who began to lead her astray. Parents from ICCS began to tell their children to stay away from Gladys. One day two of her classmates sat her down and confronted her about her behaviour. Gladys realised the error of her ways and joined a prayer group, and the friends she had been keeping company with began to withdraw. Gladys says "I have learnt to respect myself, my body and my school. I want to learn and to become a teacher in future. I will not miss this opportunity".



We are extremely grateful for the wonderful work done by our two volunteers, Rachel and Robyn. Amongst other things, Rachel assisted with putting some new policies and procedures into place. She has now returned to Australia and will be missed. Robyn is still here and has become indispensable, organising school shopping and taking students to medical appointments.

KIM MUKUKA, Project Manager, Blessed to Bless Zambia

NEWS FROM KITWE - MCS

The school calendar year is already half way through, and in a couple of weeks school will take a month long break. Staff at MCS are preparing end of term exams for Grades 1-6, while the Grade 7 class will write their mock exams which will be Zonal exams covering all schools in the zone.

In June the school received the Blessed to Bless Australian team. It is always an exciting time for the children and indeed the staff when they welcome visitors from Australia. For the children it means learning more about Australia and of course their favourite part: lunch! One of the team members took time to teach Grades 6 and 7, which was an interesting undertaking for her and for the children.

The school has a new urinal for the boys' toilet, with general repairs to both girls' and boys' toilets, and all leakages have been sealed. The floor of the toilets has also been patched after developing cracks due to water from the leakages.



The school received various text books which have improved the teaching and learning environment in classrooms. Maxine Callow through the Rokana Boating Club fundraising venture donated plastic crates for the storage of text books and other stationery. The text books donated by Blessed to Bless now have some safe storage!

MEKI MWAPE, Headmaster, MCS

Prayer Points

**Please pray for our students, many of whom come from harsh home environments, and for the ICCS staff, Zambian Board and Australian Committee as they seek to make the best decisions on behalf of the students and their families.*

**Thank God for His continued provision for the projects, and for His guidance and wisdom.*

**Please pray for the growth of the school, and that ZC would continue to raise the funds needed to sustain the projects.*



Staff Spotlight –

Staff Members Requiring Sponsorship

Our staff members are crucial to the work in both Zambia and Australia – it is because of their passion, dedication and hard work that the school runs smoothly. Please consider supporting a staff member, even \$20 per month will be a great help.

Francine has been teaching at ICCS since January 2017. She teaches Grade Two and loves her students. She also values education and has been enjoying the staff development held this year.



Mary is our Deputy Head Teacher and also teaches Grade Five at ICCS. She is married to an Australian missionary in Chingola. She started working for ICCS in 2016, and is passionate about teaching. Thanks to her hard work and efforts, her students' English skills have really picked up this year.



Katongo is our social worker and has been working for ICCS since November 2015. He spent a few months volunteering for the school in late 2014. He is passionate about helping vulnerable families and loves his work. Half of Katongo's salary is already sponsored.



General donations are already stretched to cover items such as family assistance, internet connection for administration work in Chingola and Kitwe, fuel and vehicle costs (maintaining the Blessed to Bless vehicle), insurance and auditing. Currently these staff wages also come from general donations, so it would be wonderful to find sponsors for these needs. ***Perhaps your workplace or school would consider taking on one of these staff members as a joint sponsorship?***

Can you spare some time each week to volunteer in St Ives?

Ros Philips requires regular weekly volunteers to help with the office work for Zambia's Child, which is becoming an increasingly big role for one person. She is very grateful for the weekly and fortnightly volunteers, especially for Roger who has been faithfully volunteering once a week for five years now, updating Quickbooks on the Australian side, and for Shirley who regularly assists with receipts and also mail collection when Ros is away.

There are several other other volunteers who assist on a semi-regular basis and of course our Australian committee who work tirelessly behind the scenes to expand the work of Zambia's Child.

To enquire further or to assist with staff sponsorships or to enquire about volunteering, please contact Ros Philips on 02 9144 5452 or blessedtoblessaustralia@gmail.com.



GALA DINNER 2017

The time for our second annual Gala Dinner (Saturday 9th September) is drawing near and you should have already received an invitation. For further information, please contact Ros Philips on 02 9144 5452. This year we will be having an online auction which will commence two weeks prior to the event, so if you are unable to attend on the night, you can still take part in the auction!

Last year we had over 180 attendees in half the ball room at the beautiful Shangri-La Hotel in Sydney, which was a fantastic turn up for our Inaugural Gala Dinner. This year we are hoping to hire the full ball room, which needs a minimum of 240 people, so please book a table and bring your friends to help make the event a success. The evening promises great entertainment with wonderful Host Leigh Hatcher, and Singer and Actress Penny McNamee from Home and Away. Of course there will also be a three course meal with drinks included.

Our goal this year is to fundraise at least \$75,000 for the next stage of our building program plus furniture for the new classrooms. The first 20% of funds raised at the Gala Dinner will go towards the Ipalo School's operational costs.

BUS FOR ICCS

We are hoping to raise approximately \$35,000 to finalise the purchase of a new bus for ICCS. \$20,000 has already been raised thanks to two generous donors. It will be wonderful to have our own bus to transport the children to school each day, take them on excursions, and provide transport where necessary for other groups including the women's clubs.



DONATION FORM



OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT

(Tax deductible)

Blessed to Bless (Zambia's Child)

Name.....

Address

Suburb & Post Code.....

Phone.....

Email.....

I want to donate to:

Sponsorship Fund (OR ZCD OD29)

Building Fund (OR ZCD OD58)

General Donation (OR ZCD OD29)

Donation Amount \$.....

Please circle: MasterCard / Visa / Amex / Diners

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Expiry Date: ___ / ___ CCV _____

Name on Card.....

Once only Monthly Quarterly

Half Yearly Yearly

MAIL: PO Box Q190, QVB Post Office NSW 1230

(Cheques made out to 'Anglican Aid Overseas Development')

OR

DONATE ONLINE at www.anglicanaid.org.au

EFT Anglican Aid BSB: 032078

Account No: 253522 Ref. Zambia's Child

EMAIL enquiries@anglicanaid.org.au

CALL 1800 653 903



Grade Three students outside their classroom

