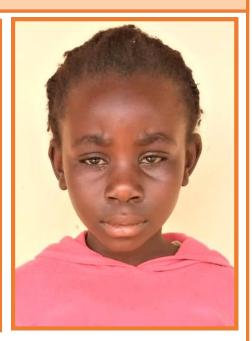


## December Newsletter, 2021



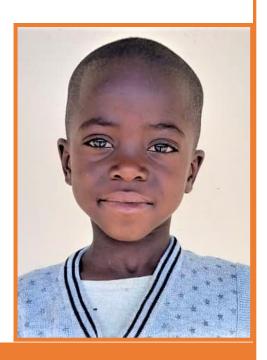




# WILL YOU SPONSOR ONE OF THESE STUDENTS AT SCHOOL NEXT YEAR?







#### AMOS SIMFUKWE, ICS School Principal

Coming from a background of Covid19, the school commenced with the new school calendar on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2021. It was not easy for parents and staff as there was a huge back log of work to be covered. It was very difficult for the children of Ipalo because they had no access to technology that was being used in other places to transmit lessons. Although the school tried to fill in the gap, the efforts were frustrated by parents who were not able to pick up worksheets that the teachers had laboured to prepare.

A meeting was called and the School's expectations were conveyed to the parents. The term progressed well and a number of objectives were met: the incomplete work from the previous term was finished, the next phase of building work was completed (the science lab, the 1 x 3 classroom block and additional ablution block) and the Grade 8 students had an educational tour of *Chimfunshi Chimpanzee Orphanage*. The five members of the school management team visited *The School of St Jude* in Tanzania to gain knowledge from their experiences; this was a wonderful learning trip.

Term 2 started on a good note. However, the Covid19 cases shot up prompting the government to close the schools again. Whatever was gained in Term 1 was lost. This was another big blow for our children and staff. The risk of children at their homes was great, as they would venture into activities that would bring harm to themselves in order to find food. The school organised another food staple distribution to families, and the teachers once again produced worksheets for the children so that they would not lag behind in their work and the syllabus would be covered. This benefited the children as they did not struggle when they came back for Term 3.

Term 3 was quite eventful with many school activities:

**The Inter-House Sports Day:** the four sports' houses (Sable, Kudu, Kanga and Cheetah) competed in athletics and other races. Sable was crowned champion followed by Cheetah, Kudu and Kanga respectively.

**World Teachers' Day:** the staff were given a rare treat as they were taken to Misundu in Ndola and had a jolly good time. It was a day full of fun with games and a barbeque, and two staff (Mwaba and Bertha) who have served at the school since the early years were honoured for their loyalty and the difference they have made in the lives of the students and the entire community.

**Solar Installation:** in April 2019, the school paid Zambia Electricity Supply Cooperation (ZESCO) to supply power to the school, which is essential for its operation. Unfortunately to date nothing has been done. The Lord heard the cry of Ipalo and blessed the Australian Committee with money to buy solar equipment for the school. May the Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless them for their effort and dedication to the school. The school is now well lit with power for computers, fans and other equipment.

#### **Recent and Upcoming Events:**

Two Weddings (staff member and volunteer)
Grade 7 Graduation
Christmas Hamper Distribution

Grade 7 National Exams
Thanksgiving and Christmas Party
Grade 9 Livingstone Outreach and Educational Trip

Thank you for your continued prayer and support for this ministry which God has called us for. May Father God bless and keep you; may His face shine upon you and give you peace with Himself in Christ!



### Update from Ros Philips in the Australian Office

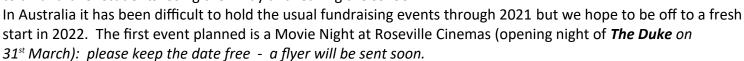
It is hard to believe that another year is nearing an end with the major fundraising event, the annual Gala Dinner, (we are very thankful that over \$40,000 was donated for school operating costs), and the AGM, now behind us. Thank you to Matt Tooker and the staff at *Cadence Media* for their time and expertise on the media production for the online Gala Dinner. Sadly due to other commitments, Matt has resigned from his role on the Committee, and we thank him for his expert support in the area of media and marketing for the past five years.

We are enormously grateful to St Andrews Anglican Church, Roseville, for their very generous mission support donation, to go towards staffing costs for 2022.

As you will see in Amos' report, solar power is now operating at the school - and what a difference it is making there!

In Zambia, schools close for the Christmas holidays on 10<sup>th</sup> December so it will be a very busy time at ICS in this last week of term.

Sadly, a number of the students have lost a parent or close family member during this term, and the school closures earlier in the year due to Covid19 have also led to a handful of students losing their way and leaving the school.



Lights at the school

You might be interested in ordering an Entertainment Book (now digital): at a cost of \$69.99 for the Single City Membership, these are of excellent value. Have a look at the link - <a href="https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/210v650">https://www.entertainment.com.au/orderbooks/210v650</a> - 20% of the sale of these memberships is donated to Zambia's Child.

If you would like to make a donation to the school, and purchase a gift card for Christmas for a friend or relative, you can do so using the following link - <a href="https://zambias-child.square.site/">https://zambias-child.square.site/</a> - and you can select either an electronic or paper card with pictures from Ipalo Christian School.

Planning ahead - we hope that we will be able to meet together next year at the annual Gala Dinner which will be held at the Kirribilli Club in Lavender Bay - on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2022. An invitation will be sent next year. You may have seen the email for the 2021 Christmas Appeal. Food packages will be given to every family at the school, which will provide them with the makings of a Christmas meal, and some food for the holidays when the children are not receiving their nourishing school lunch. We will send photos of the distribution to supporters in the new year. Thanks to those who have already contributed; there is still time to donate to this appeal.

If you can help one of the new students starting at ICS by sponsoring their education next year, please contact this office. Some of the little faces are on the front page - all of them are vulnerable children living in poverty, and would not attend school without the sponsorship program. There are currently 35 students who need sponsorship, and 11 members of staff remain unsponsored. There is now an option for a contribution towards staff salaries by adding \$20 per month (or \$240 per year) to the student sponsorship - this information will be sent to all current sponsors before Christmas. Even a small donation for the wonderful ICS staff will be a blessing.

The Australian Committee would like to express gratitude to another retiring member - Bruce Goldingay (Vice-President/Honorary Treasurer). Bruce has worked tirelessly for almost eight years to provide an accurate and transparent record of accounts for the organisation; he has also been the key liaison person with our corporate supporters, and has worked closely with the architects and builder on the design and costing of new building works at ICS, as well as monitoring the frequent currency fluctuations to manage the best financial outcome. Bruce will be greatly missed by the team.

On behalf of the Australian Committee, and the Zambian Board, I would like to thank you all for your support and prayers throughout the year. We wish you a peaceful and joyous Christmas, and a new year filled with God's abundant blessings.



### **Prayer Points**

- Please pray for the students who have lost a parent or close relative, and for those who have left the school due to difficult life circumstances.
- Please pray for our Grade 9 students who are currently sitting their external exams and will finish this week. Pray that they will remember what they have studied, for their protection and safety, good health and discipline to manage their time well and for good results.
- Please pray for our Grade 7 students who have completed their end of primary exams recently that they will all be successful so that they may continue into secondary school next year.
- Please pray that the Grade 9 students will be able to travel to Livingstone in December for their first school field trip away from their town. The students raised almost K7,000 from their fundraising walk, and generous donors in Australia have also contributed, but there is still a large shortfall for the cost of the trip.
- Pray for unity of purpose for the entire staff team in Zambia, in order to keep abreast of God's vision.
- Trust the Lord for a breakthrough in the lives of the ICS students; pray for them to grow in a relationship with God and be freed from the fear of witchcraft and poverty.
- Please pray for suitable accommodation for the school Principal, as he has continued to experience intruders and theft from the house where they live.
- Pray for God's provision of funds for the next stage of building work at ICS Module 6 and other buildings.











#### How to Donate



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