



BUILDING HOPE THROUGH EDUCATION

# NEWSLETTER

Zambia's Child  
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December 2024

Stories of Changed Lives from Zambia

[www.zambiaschild.ngo](http://www.zambiaschild.ngo)

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It's been another very exciting year for Zambia's Child, with our first students celebrating their Graduation from Grade 12 at the end of November. From when we began in 2007, through to today, it has been our partnership with you and our dependence together on God that has created the opportunity for these 29 students to learn and grow, readying to take hold of their future. Their Graduation was a true celebration, not only of the students' determination and commitment, but also the loving guidance and support they have received from our remarkable staff and teachers on the ground in Zambia.

In 2025, our team at Ipalo Christian School will continue to work with these graduates in our inaugural Gap Year Program. This year will be spent preparing them for tertiary study, undertaking skills training, or readying to join the workforce. A structured discipleship course will be a key feature of their program. Your prayer support for these young people will be vital as they go through this period of transition and preparation.

As Christmas approaches and this pivotal year comes to an end, we fix our eyes on Jesus, the baby born into poverty who would change our world. As you draw close to him, may you know the deep joy and peace he offers not just to the world, but to you. We look forward to your continued fellowship in 2025.

Yours in Christ,

Ros Philips *on behalf of the Team at Zambia's Child*



## Grade 12 Graduates!

Friday 29 November marked a milestone in the story of Ipalo Christian School, with the first class of Grade 12 students celebrating their graduation. Many of the 29 graduates were in the very first class when the school began in 2013. Eleven years later, with hard work and exams now behind them, they each took to the stage to receive their Certificate of Completion.

With us were, Mayor of Chingola, His Worship Mr Johnson Kangombe, Paul and Henry from major donor, Lead Forensics, school architects Peter and Vanessa from PAA Design, Bruce York, President of Zambia's Child, Kim Mukuka, Vice-President and Founder, members of the Zambian Board, former volunteer, Elizabeth Clarke and sponsors from Australia. [Cont. over page]





## Grade 12 Graduates Continued

This moment was achieved through the commitment of sponsors, donors, the admin team, teachers, support staff and parent volunteers in Zambia, plus the efforts of students themselves to give their all to their studies.

Hosted by ICS Chaplain, Mr Mapoma and ICS Board Member, Reverend Lumbwe, the ceremony recognised every student's efforts and special awards were received by those who had achieved exceptional performance. Poems,

cultural performances, and surprise guest, Ephraim, rounded out the formal celebrations. Visit our Facebook page, to see more photos and videos from the day and enjoy the celebration!

The day also marked the Graduation of our Grade 7 students. We are so proud of the efforts of every child and look forward to seeing them develop and grow in faith and learning next year.



## Lighting the Way

What a privilege to be able to bless our families in Zambia with the gift of light this year. In October, 50 of our school families received a Lifelight Solar Light Audio Bible, thanks to the generous support of Australian donors.

These lights are fully self contained, providing light to households without electricity, enabling students to study and do homework at night. Each unit also includes an audio Bible in both English and the local language, Icibemba.

After a lesson in how to use them, parents were excited to share the lights and Bibles with their families.



## Our Students

As we come to the end of the school year, the first in which we had students all the way from Reception through to Grade 12, we're thankful to God for his blessings and provision. The impact of the school on the lives of our students and their families is immeasurable, providing opportunities to learn, grow, develop skills for life and achieve their full potential. Here Deborah and Victor share their stories and the difference that ICS has made in their lives.

### Victor Head Boy 2024

*"If not attending school I might have been roaming the streets, or dealing in drugs, or even becoming a father at a young age. I might have become a robber or a beggar. Thanks to my sponsorship at Ipalo, I am not in this situation". - Victor*

Victor came to ICS in Grade 10. With the support of the school and his sponsors, he was provided with uniforms, food, medical care and a fresh start,

*"Before starting at Ipalo, I was bullied, usually went to sleep without food, and struggled to understand some subjects in class."*

Not only has Victor learnt new ways to study, concentrate and learn, under the guidance of the school staff he's also developed into a young leader, becoming Head Boy at Ipalo while completing Grade 12 this year.

*"If I had not been given a place at Ipalo, my life would have been miserable. Thanks to my teachers and my classmates for their support, my life has improved."*



### Deborah Head Girl 2024

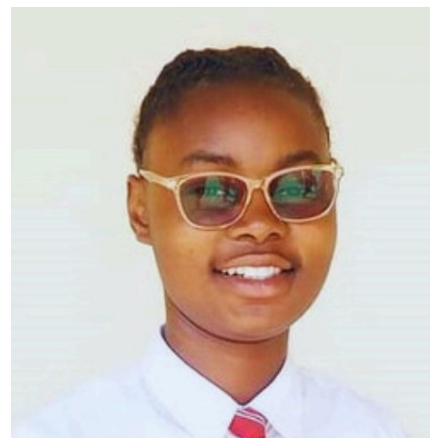
*"I remember my first day at ICS, when I started in Grade 1. I was so excited to meet new friends, and the environment was so amazing that I never wanted to leave to go home." – Deborah*

Having completed her National Grade 12 exams and celebrated her Graduation, Deborah has experienced the life-changing impact of ICS.

*"Coming from my background, it would have been a challenge to start school because of the school fees, uniforms, books and many other things needed for my education. I might have been given in marriage by now; I could have been a young mother with five children."*

Sponsorship has made it possible for Deborah to have a different future. A future full of hope and possibility.

*"In my years at ICS, my life has changed. Academically I had challenges in some subjects, but with the encouragement, support and mentoring from teachers and fellow students I have improved, and my faith in Christ has grown."*



**Sponsorship** If you would like to give a young Zambian like Deborah and Victor the opportunity to be part of ICS in 2025, we'd welcome your support. There are opportunities to sponsor current students in both primary and secondary, plus our incoming Reception students who will start in January.

Sponsorship options also include regular giving to our **Staff Fund** and the **Tertiary Fund**.

Visit [www.zambiaschild.ngo](http://www.zambiaschild.ngo) to find out more or call Ros at the Zambia's Child office.



## Gala Dinner Thank You!

We're thankful to God for the success of our Annual Gala Dinner in September. It was a particular honour to welcome His Excellency Dr Elias Munshya, High Commissioner for Zambia to our evening and to hear from him about the importance of organisations like Zambia's Child in creating opportunities for young people in Zambia.

Together we raised over \$80000 and secured new sponsorships for students. The funds raised made it possible to proceed with the immediate installation of new ceiling panels in the classrooms at ICS, ensuring that the summer months were bearable for teachers and students. The remaining funds will be directed to the building of the school library and contribute to the Staff Fund.

Thank you to everyone who attended, to those who donated items for the raffle and silent auction and to all who bought raffle tickets, bid in the auction, sponsored and donated. Together we are changing lives.

## 'Support entities providing education to vulnerable in society'

**By MOFFAT CHAZINGWA**  
ZAMBIA'S High Commissioner to Australia and New Zealand Elias Munshya says organisations working to support the Government's efforts to provide educational opportunities to the most vulnerable are crucial and should be supported.

Dr Munshya said this during the Zambia's Child 2024 Fundraising Gala Dinner held at The Epping Club in Sydney over the weekend, where he was guest of honour.

Zambia's Child is a charity-based organisation registered in Australia and Zambia.

Dr Munshya praised the efforts of Zambia's Child, a Christian organisation focused on improving the lives of vulnerable children in Zambia through education and community development.

Funds raised at the event would be directed towards improving Ipallo Christian School in Kasompe, Chingola, which serves underprivileged children in

the region. This is according to a statement issued yesterday by First Secretary for Press and Public Relations at the Zambia Embassy to Australia and New Zealand Charles Mucholo. Dr Munshya applauded the organisation for its Christ-centred approach to education, which not only imparts academic knowledge but also fosters moral and spiritual growth.

He said education was the foundation for national development, and organisations like Zambia's Child were crucial in supporting the Government's efforts to provide educational opportunities to the most vulnerable.

"Education is the foundation for national development and so organisations like Zambia's Child are crucial in supporting the Government's efforts to provide educational opportunities to the most vulnerable," he said.

And Zambia's Child Vice-President of Operations and co-founder Kim Mukuka emphasised



•MUNSHYA

the organisation's commitment to delivering quality education rooted in Christian values.

Ms Mukuka said that Zambia's Child also supported Manuel Community School in Kitwe and remained determined to supplement the Government's efforts to improve access to education.

## News from Manuel Community School

It has been a year of highs and lows for Manuel Community School (MCS). Among the memorable moments was the building of a new toilet block, with flushable toilets. The support of Zambia's Child helped make this vital resource a reality, and it was devastating for the school to be impacted by a storm in November which blew out the roof of the school and toilets. Repair works are currently underway to restore facilities. While students and staff continue to mourn the sudden loss of Kennedy Chipili, Year 7 teacher, year-end assessments were recently completed and parents look forward to seeing the results of their children's study in 2024.

*"The icing on the school year was the Christmas party held on 5 December. The students dressed up and enjoyed the treat!"* – MCS Principal, Meki Mwape



### Join Us in Prayer

- Pray for our Grade 12 Graduates as they prepare for their Gap Year.
- Praise God for the care recently provided to two of our students with critical medical needs. Pray for ongoing healing.
- Pray for rest and refreshment for the Principal and staff following the intense Examination and Graduation period.
- Pray for all families to be adequately provided for during the Christmas holiday period. And for safety and good choices for students.

### Save the Date

#### Fundraising Trivia Night

Join us on **Saturday 22 March 2025** for our annual Trivia Night!

All ages event.

Bring your friends, family, Bible study or youth group for a fun night out and raise funds for Zambia's Child!

More information coming soon.

**22 March 2025**

### How to Donate

Be part of Zambia's Child and impact young lives and the future of Zambia.

To find out how you can make a regular donation, sponsor a student or make a one off gift, visit our website.

<https://zambiaschild.ngo>

To find out more contact Ros at the Zambia's Child office by emailing [blessedtoblessaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:blessedtoblessaustralia@gmail.com)