

# Arise Orphan Project

**Empowering orphans, vulnerable children and their guardians.**



**ARISE**



*Anderson and Rogers enjoying driving the trucks they have made from recycled materials*

## FUN, FRIENDS AND FIELDS

Outside of school our pupils have a lot of fun with their friends in the local communities. When the Arise team goes to make home visits, we often see the children going up and down the pathways, playing games, visiting one another, making toys and finding food to take home. It is always a joy to see them making discoveries at home, being creative and supporting one another. As well as having time to play, we know that they go to their family's field to help their guardians with planting, weeding, watering and harvesting. Our pupils know a lot about plants and farming from a young age but it is also good to see that they are having some time to play and explore the world around them. God has blessed each child with so many abilities and we love to see them sharing what they know, trying new things and having fun as they grow.

## ADULT LITERACY

In May, we began weekly sessions for our guardians to learn how to read and write. Although we do not have all the guardians attending it's wonderful to have a core group who are committed to coming each week. Many of them did not complete many years in school themselves and as a result, struggle to hold a pencil correctly and form letters. During this term we have seen the guardians' confidence and joy soar as they are beginning to read and write letters independently. Many of them are now able to read 3 and 4 letter words as well as understanding strategies to help them read new words and support their children with reading at home. They all love playing phonics games, showing what they remember and most of all seeing their development as they strive to further their education.



*Guardians coming to our new teaching room to learn how to read and write*

## FOOTBALL MATCH SEASON

Now that the ground is hard and dry, we have been playing many more football matches. There are new teams which have started in the local area and have wanted to have a match with the Arise team. Due to us having quite a range of ages and number of boys, we are now able to put together an older team and a younger team. We recently played two matches on the same day with our younger boys winning 1-0 and our older boys winning 5-0. It's wonderful to see them all training together and supporting one another in the matches from the side lines. The awards we give each term could be for any of the boys as they are based on skill and character rather than age. Praise the Lord for His provision for football club.



*The smaller boys stretching on the side line before their match begins*



## ARISE KIDS

Routines have really helped the children and staff to enjoy kids club. A lot of our children do not have routines at home or even guardians in their home when they return from school. As the 8 – 14 year olds race to the Arise block after school, they line up and know what is expected of them as well as



*Reading Bible story books is a favourite activity*

what the adults will be doing and saying. It's great to see them take off their shoes and enter the room like it is their house and they are coming to spend time with family.

There is a very supportive atmosphere as we learn together, play together and share Bible stories together. We are seeing the pupils desperate to attend every session, hear all the memory verses and not feel like they have missed out. How wonderful it is to have this safe and friendly space for the children to enjoy learning about Jesus.



*Playing team games can become very competitive*

All the games, activities and Bible verses link together every week to reinforce a message that we try to help the pupils understand. This term we have focused on the life of Paul – how

he always trusted God and took every opportunity to share the gospel with others. We also looked at some Old Testament characters – Elijah and Elisha and learned how God works through people and provides for their every need. Our hope and prayer is that the children come to see the God of the Bible is the same God who is alive today and wanting to



*Concentrating hard to complete workbook activities*

work in and through them. At the end of each week, we challenge the children to tell someone in their family or a friend the story that they heard. We also give them tips on learning verses

from the Bible so they have God's word always with them in their heart. Wherever they go, these pupils need to know God is with them and He can help.

## ARISE YOUTH

Term 2 seems to have passed very quickly. All our young people are looking and sounding more grown up and for those who are in their first year at secondary school, you would think they have been there 2 years rather than 2 terms. Many of our youth have shown great commitment to their studies by coming to Arise once or twice a week for extra studies. Although we encourage them to study with their friends at home, we know that this is not always easy or their activity of choice.



*Grade 8 boys coming to Arise for studies: From left: Joseph, Milan, Laban, Galizani, Henry, Given and John*

By coming to Arise to study they have text books to refer to and we are able to check they are doing homework and taking their education seriously. A lot of the guardians are not able to read and write themselves, so to encourage their children to study or giving them time off from chores doesn't always happen.

Study space, extra Grade 9 tuition and Saturday youth are some of the ways our young people know they are loved, have potential and a purpose in God's kingdom. We have had a lot of fun with games and crafts on Saturdays but it has been really special to hear testimonies of prayers we have prayed in previous sessions being answered and the pupils' faith in Jesus growing stronger each week.



*Grade 9's attending extra tuition*



## FARMING AND DISCIPLESHIP



*Many guardians came at the beginning of July to shell our Arise maize from their cobs*

Cold season is the time for harvesting in Zambia and for many in the country the harvest was not good this year. Prices of seed and fertilizer had rocketed in 2022 resulting in a poor yield for many. Our families we were able to help were very grateful that they managed to get some harvest as they now have food to see them through the next season. At Arise we were able to harvest 12 bags; four more bags than we had last year! The guardians worked really hard gathering it from the field, as well as shelling it ready for those in the project whose food runs out at home. Knowing that they might need to come to ask for some near the end of the season helps motivate people to come and help with gathering it in. A huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped with our seed and fertilizer appeal last year.

### TESTIMONY TIME

Every term we are on the lookout for guardians who are coming to Friday Farming and applying what they are learning at the own homes. We are aware that if they have a small vegetable patch, this will help them to have food and possibly something to sell and help provide a small amount of money. For most of us, changing the way we live is hard and that is why many of our guardians just plant their maize each year.

We were overjoyed when we went to visit Richard this term, who has been a regular attendee of Friday farming. He had decided he knew enough about maintaining a small vegetable bed to try one of his own at his house. Hallelujah! He will now have vegetables for his family and also be able to teach his children about managing small beds. Richard was clearly proud of his achievements, and we have said we can help him with buying more seeds if he wants to expand his vegetable area. What a great example he is to others!



*Richard at home with his new vegetable beds having learnt how to make them at Arise*

### Prayer Points

1. Praise the Lord for His continued provision through term 2 and all the opportunities we have had to share the gospel and God's love with people in Kaniki.
2. Pray for our guardians and families as they prepare their fields for planting next year's crop and look for funds to buy fertilizer.
3. Please pray for our pupils in Grades 7, 9 and 12 who will be sitting government exams in term 3.
4. Pray for wisdom for the Arise team as they assess needs each week and make decisions about help and advice to give.

School opens for term 3 on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and closes on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.

Thank you for reading our update on the work of Arise. If you have any questions or would like to further support us in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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