

Arise Orphan Project

Empowering orphans, vulnerable children and their guardians.



The rains turn pathways into rivers through the villages – some are possible to pass others are not

HOME-LIFE IS HOME-LEARNING

All our families live in communities where the conditions are very basic and every day involves work for each member of the family.

If clothes need washing, food needs to be found or a chair is required these become tasks for a member of the household.

Now that the rains have begun many jobs involve protecting the house from water and planting crops where there is suitable land available.



A boy of 7 prepares land outside his house for maize with the direction of his elderly grandmother

Every member of the family, from youngest to oldest is able to do something at home. Often without realising it's happening the children are learning and the guardians are teaching. We have been encouraging our guardians to explain what they are asking children to do and why so they are able to understand more about the world around them.

As in any country there is always peer pressure for young people to join their friends instead of helping at home but we are encouraging the children that there is a lot to learn at home that is not taught at school. For those who struggle with school the majority of their learning takes place at home; skills are acquired for looking after a family and raising money in the local community. It is always a joy to see Arise children helping and learning at home with their guardians so proud to pass on some of their knowledge.



Sharing God's word with one of our families in Kamalasha

ALWAYS A WARM WELCOME

Whether our guardians are cooking, sweeping, sewing, washing or resting, they are always so happy to receive a visit from Arise and even more excited when we bring visitors! They know that we will be sharing God's word with them personally and that we are interested in them and their situation. We are not always able to do something for their physical situation but we always pray for them. We also pray when they come to the office and they know we love them and God does too. This term we have been able to visit many families and with the mat making project up and running, some guardians now visit the office more regularly.

PASSIONATE COACHES COACH PASSIONATE PLAYERS

It is a fact that our coaches LOVE football. If they are not working in the field at home or coaching their Arise team, they training themselves ready for the their next provincial league match. They admit their passion is to play football and by coaching at Arise it is also a way of helping the community. When asked what makes them so committed they said, "I don't have a lot to give but I can give my talent." "God has given us this talent and passion for football so we should give it back to God – give it to others." As a result of the passion of these coaches, the passion of our players continues to grow.



Prosper and Progress have been coaching the Arise football team for the past 4 years.



SCHOOL

As you may remember from our last newsletter, term 3 means exams here in Zambia. All of our Grade 7, 9 and 12 pupils sat their exams between October and December and are still awaiting results. By the end of January they should all be out. We hope that all of our younger pupils will be able to progress to the next Grade and that our older pupils will have their certificate to say they have successfully completed their school education. This will mean they will have many options available to them in terms of going to college or applying for a job. The largest limiting factors will be finance for college and the lack of work available. Please pray for these pupils as they now make plans and decisions regarding their future.



Older pupils at Saturday Drop-In studying hard prior to exams and helping each other with their learning

COLLEGE

WONDERFUL NEWS! Musa has finished his nursing training! He has been working so hard all year and was known to his classmates as the one with the answers. When they had questions they would go to find him instead of looking in a book. Musa told us he would send them back to the book explaining if they did not research themselves they wouldn't be able to understand. The penultimate exam needed to be passed in order to sit for the final and only 12 of the class passed – Musa being one of them. He is currently gaining experience in the hospital until he is placed by the government. Musa is so grateful to God and Arise for making it possible for him to train to be a nurse and is keen to start work.



Musa hard at work preparing to become a nurse in Zambia

YOUTH

Yet more fun and games have been enjoyed this term. Most of them have involved water as it has been dry season here. The children always come full of energy, big smiles and ready for physical and spiritual food.



Craft activity time!

They have enjoyed acting out stories and learning details about familiar Bible stories they didn't know before. Each week we ask them what happened last time and there is competition between the children – who can remember the correct names and events. It has been wonderful to see them so excited about



Washing each other's feet & learning about serving

always spend longer doing this as it is different to anything they do at home and lots of fun. This term we have had 40 – 50 children each week but we are ready for this to increase in 2020 when we receive new Grade 3 pupils to Thursday Youth.



Which quiz team can get the most water in their bucket?

This term we have looked at the life of Elijah and of Peter in the Bible. Some of the children have been surprised to find that people in the Bible, even Jesus' disciples struggled with many of the same struggles they face such as fear, doubt and sickness.



Dressing up as all 12 disciples

God's word. We continue to teach a new memory verse each week. Some pupils come to find us mid-week, enthusiastic to tell us the verse - even though they need to remember it for a few more days. They enjoy doing the craft activity and it is clear that they could



Everyone enjoyed making Christmas puzzles and cards this year.



FARMING AND DISCIPLESHIP



Receiving a delivery for our field – a trailer full of manure

Term 3 has been a challenge for all those farming in Zambia. The late rain meant that daily watering was necessary for a long time and some crops struggled to grow. Knowing that the rain would come and being aware of the food shortage, our guardians decided that they wanted to plant more maize than ever before – almost reaching the wall at the end! A great idea as so many will be struggling for food for many months. For crops to grow it would take a lot of ground preparation and fertilizer. Our hard working guardians decided this would be possible and we now have twice as much maize as last year starting to grow! Well done to all our guardians who have helped with this farming project.

TESTIMONY TIME

At our big guardians meeting earlier this term we had a wonderful time of worship after which many guardians wanted to declare how faithful God had been. For some it was when they had no food or money, how God had provided for their every need or made a way for the children in their care to go to school.

Lastly one Grade 12 boy stood up. Lighton had come to represent his guardian as she could not come due to having had a stroke earlier in the year. He told us all how thankful he was to God and his guardian for the wonderful opportunity he had been given to go to school and complete Grade 12. Lighton explained that it wasn't easy to travel to school each day or study at night but he had managed with so much support and encouragement. He inspired us all to continue loving our children and helping them to see the value of education.

Arise maize growing fast and looking very healthy



Singing praise to God for His faithfulness at our BIG guardians meeting in term 3.

Prayer Points

1. Praise the Lord for His provision for our families – food, clothes, shelter, healing, finances and His peace.
2. Pray for all the families struggling for food this year, that God would bless the crops they have planted and for Arise staff to know how to distribute any provisions they have.
3. Thank God for all the pupils who have passed to go the next Grade. Pray for them to have a deeper love for learning this year.
4. Pray for all those in Zambia struggling to find food and water, pray for the government to have wisdom as they set up aid programmes around the country.

Schools in Zambia will re-open on 13th January 2020 to begin Term 3. The Arise Orphan Project continues to run all year round.

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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