

## **BOLDLY GOING ..EDITION 5 (MARCH 2010)**



To all our friends and supporters.

It's been a while since we last wrote or updated you on what's been going on here at Amano, so here are the highlights of this term so far.

We faced a few challenges as we have been teaching new classes and different topics that have taken us out of our comfort zone. It's been good to challenge ourselves and learn new things but it has required a lot of preparation time which is tricky to manage when we have the boys and other responsibilities around school. Amanda has taken on the primary school netball team and has been hard at it training them for fixtures – results have been mixed. She has also been organising the primary swimmers and they have enjoyed good success at local galas.

Samuel has taken part in a few football fixtures against other schools and continues to progress; it seems he might be turning into a useful defender if the scrapes and bruises are anything to go by! He has also been more involved in chess and was the reserve (5<sup>th</sup> player) for a school match recently.

Joseph is becoming more into music and can often be seen walking round the house with the ipod on singing loudly. Both boys recently entered the Mr Pirate fancy dress and talent show run in the dorm by our secondary students. They dressed up and did a 'talent' act. Andrew and a couple of parents were the judges. Without bias involved Joseph was joint winner, his song and joke act winning the judges over but the audience choose another boy who did a fantastic mime to a Christian ballad. But in his true gracious style Joseph was so excited when the other lad won it was lovely to see no sulking but genuine pleasure on his smily face!

The headship is progressing steadily; working out what has to happen when, how our filing system works and learning a lot about local politics and the education board are just a few of the challenging aspects of the role. Now Renate (our secretary) is with us in the office it is rather easier too. I don't know how Hilary managed on her own? So between us we are sorting out applications, streamlining the reporting system and updating info throughout both schools.

**We continue to give praise to God for our excellent health and well being out here, it could be worse as other local families suffer in one way or another**

On the school site front I'd like to say things are moving on a pace but I can't. The new building is progressing but quite slowly. It will go even slower when our project manager goes on a well deserved furlough with his family back to Germany. **We would greatly appreciate your prayers for a new project manager whilst he's away.** We have been very grateful for the volunteers that have come from time to time and those here for their year as they have proved a valuable asset to the school site but none of them can take the place of Markus and move the building forward as quickly as him. So we need someone here with the knowledge and drive that he has.

**Please continue to pray for all the people coming through this site and for those who are needed to fill in gap whenever folk are absent or ill.**

A very recent occurrence shows us that the devil is very active against the work here. Unfortunately a child stole some money and was suspended for a while and also a volunteer has been relocated back to Germany for persistently not following dormitory rules. **Please pray that God will protect our children from temptation and help our volunteers fulfil their mission here too in the best way possible.**

At Church Amanda and the boys now are enthusiastic members of AWANA (approved workman are not ashamed (2 Tim 2:15). It's a bit like our Friday Club for those of you who know what that means but basically a bible class with fun and games attached too. Joseph is trying to recruit as

many of his class mates as he can! Amanda does the story, helps with games and activities so she enjoys meeting some of the children from town.

While Andrew was away at a secondary sports weekend, Amanda and the boys joined in a special 'Youth Day' session for the Street children in Chingola. Samuel loved playing football with the children and Joseph was very patient when trying to teach one street lad how to hop-scotch.

Andrew preached his first sermon at Bethel recently about his favourite Psalm, 40, and it went down well so he has been asked to do another one in May. The boys continue to alternate between Sunday School at Amano, the Bethel Service and the monthly Family Services which we have at Amano. Andrew takes a group of secondary students over to Muriel and Steve's for fellowship on a Sunday evening – they really enjoy this. We also help run the 'Dorm Fellowship' (a better name please – anyone??) 2-3 times a term where different groups of teenagers meet, play games, sing and listen to God's word for about 2 hours. So we are gradually getting busier!!

The rainy season is almost at its end but it is leaving us with a vengeance! The school internet server was fried as a result of one recent storm and we had no outside communication for about 1 week until the new part arrived from Lusaka. We have had countless power cuts because of the storms too. The main school generator is broken as well. Last weekend we had no power for about 48 hours so our little 'gel-burner' proved a fantastic buy from Shoprite and we went through a few candles too! If you really enjoy lightening you should come for a visit during the end of the rainy season!

We are sorry this has restricted our communications to all of you, especially those of you who 'talk' to us through Skype but hopefully when the rain and storms go we will be back to some kind of stability and normality like we had when we were first here. In fact it will be a year round very soon. We hope to put some more pictures up onto the PVC church website soon when this busy term comes to a close in a weeks time so please check out our pages then.

We trust our God to continue to bless you all as you bless us so much with your prayers, communications and gifts and we cannot thank you and Him enough for what you do for us here. It is lovely to receive messages, especially the hand written kind as the boys enjoy opening anything with their names on! All our contact details are listed below. It appears our 'tinyworld' email account is disabled at the moment so please use the one listed here.

Every blessing to you all – love and prayers...

Amanda · Andrew Joseph Samuel

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Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"

And I said "Here I am send me" Isaiah 6 v8