

Boldly going ... edition 24 (December 2018)



Can't believe we're almost at the end of another year! It has once again been eventful, encouraging, frustrating and blessed! We both turned 50 this year so to celebrate spent a few days in Lower Zambezi. Unfortunately Andrew got malaria again so Amanda had a boat cruise and 'meal in the bush' alone! We did have a great time though; the highlight being having a hippo

wandering right outside our tent one night. We saw plenty of wildlife in their natural habitat and marvelled at God's creation.



Andrew coped very well this term managing exams and continuing to teach. Again this was eventful as a student with chicken pox had to be isolated, the started just as she began her exams and another missing the key time, and had to be isolated. We Cambridge would accept his papers but praise God, very thankful that a past student of Amano from Germany, who had finished his BA degree came to help out. He was able to relieve Andrew from some of his teaching responsibilities to concentrate on managing exams and attend management meetings again.



trial of Kathleen's Mum student turned up late, were unsure whether they did. Andrew was



Last term we were unable to organise Community Action for Grade 6&7 so earlier this term Amanda and the Grade 6 teacher took the classes to Mapalo Community School for vulnerable and disadvantaged children in the township of Kapisha in Chingola. We had prepared some phonic activities, simple maths games and took reading books to share. We also took copies of the gospel booklet 'God loves me' which the students explained and gave to each child. Our time at the school ended with enthusiastic and lively singing of Bemba and English songs. We know the teachers and children of

Mapalo are excited and encouraged by our visits and hope and pray the sharing of the gospel tract by the Amano students was good discipleship training for them.

Carols by Candlelight service was very well attended again. We think there were over 250 present. This year we had a few more 'performances'; Grade 2 children beautifully sang 'Little Drummer Boy' and 'What can I give Him?' and Samuel and Grace sang a duet 'Christmas Hallelujah'. The Primary Concert 'Hosanna Rock', a retelling of the nativity in drama and song, was very well performed and received. We pray both these events cause students, parents and friends to think about the true meaning of Christmas.



In November Samuel took AS exams. Unfortunately, his North Star chemistry tutor can't continue with the practical part of A level so Samuel will have lessons with a Zambian teacher from Nchanga Trust School in Chingola. He is very well thought of and tutors several Cambridge students. Samuel has decided he wants to be a teacher in the future and has been given some teaching practice with Primary classes this term. Joseph has enjoyed and been an integral part of Year Book and Electronics Clubs this term. Both boys continue to participate in the Family Worship Group and represent the school in sports. It's been the cricket season so they have been influential in leading the team to one victory from our two fixtures.

As always staff leave as they finish their time at Amano and God calls them to other ministries. This term has been no different. This time two primary school staff have moved on, and from being comfortably staffed we are now stretched again. Another teacher is in the UK having medical treatment and will miss the beginning of term. Please pray for more staff – it seems an unending prayer for us but if the school wishes to keep growing and providing the education & discipleship it wishes we have to keep staff levels up and not put too much pressure on each person.

Concluding:

- We praise and thank God for His faithfulness and provision to us and the school.
- Please pray for the boys' studies as they will both sit Cambridge exams next November and Joseph is likely to take an English exam even in May.
- Please pray for Kathleen's Mum's trial; she has been in prison for over 3 years and the trial has stalled again.
- Pray for new staff to come; particularly a Head teacher to lead the school.

Thank you very much for supporting us out here.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a blessed and peaceful 2019

Much love

Andrew, Amanda, Samuel & Joseph

Our address is:

The Kirk Family, Amano Christian School, P.O.Box 10660, Chingola, Zambia, Central Africa

WhatsApp Andrew +260964536278 or Amanda +260964536276

Email: thekirks@amanocs.org Visit: www.parkviewchapel.co.uk or www.amanocs.org or www.echoesinternational.org.uk