



Welcome to a new Malimba School Newsletter, we are delighted to bring you our latest update on the progress of Malimba School in 2013!

We begin with news of exams! August was a very studious month for our Malimba's grade 7 students, as official mock exams have been taking place. Our dynamic head master, Mohammed Mphande, really hopes that his students achieve the great results they deserve and that Malimba will be ranked among the top schools in the province. After all their hard work, the students have been looking forward to their holidays which began on 9th August.



The beginning of the school holidays also marked the end of Mary Nkoma's teacher training at Malimba, training that has been funded since 2012 by Make Me Smile. Mary was over the moon earlier this term when an assessor from Jubeva College of Education in Chipata declared himself very satisfied with her Technology and Social Development lessons and told her to carry on doing exactly what she's doing!

Mohammed was also very pleased with Mary's progress and the support she has given the other teachers since she began as a volunteer teacher in 2007. He told us "We have learned a lot from her coming among us, and we hope that we were able to transmit our knowledge to her too. We tried to teach her how she can be the best in many different situations. The pupils like her very much!" The whole school wishes Mary luck as she heads back to Chipata to complete her last training courses ahead of her final exam in December. After this examination, she will spend a year teaching in a district chosen by the government. Then she will be eligible to return to Malimba, and she is already hoping to come back to continue this wonderful experience.

There is a popular saying in Zambia: "If you educate a girl, you educate the Nation." With this in mind, we are thrilled that gender equality is such a high priority at Malimba school. The staff are so proud to promote equality within the classroom and beyond that they have made a poster for the office where they can monitor the percentage of boys and girls enrolled each month. Since 2012, the number of pupils has increased from 351 and there are now 383 pupils with 191 boys and 192 girls. In fact, the school is now looking for one more male pupil so that there can be an exact balance between the sexes!



YEAR	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL
ONE	21	20	41
TWO	31	24	55
THREE	25	31	56
FOUR	29	32	61
FIVE	20	20	40
SIX	28	25	53
SEVEN	25	20	45
PRE	12	20	32
TRADE TOTAL	191	192	383



Do you remember that the Malimba School library opened in September 2012 thanks to Make Me Smile's fund raising efforts and the commitment of the local community? Well, the library now has doors, desks and quite a few books! Helena, a young teacher in charge of the library, monitors the children, advises them on books, and registers their names to get an idea of the library use.

It's fantastic that teachers have also noticed progress in reading since the library opened, and during the examination period the room is available for pupils who want to revise for their exams. Malimba are also very happy to have again come second in the annual reading competition held between local schools, a fantastic achievement which we hope will only improve with the opportunities for reading presented by the new library.



As is to be expected so early in its life, the Malimba School library does still need a helping hand in terms of resources and facilities. Tribal Textiles have plans to provide the library with more shelving and desks in the near future and thanks to the 'Book Bus' scheme - a volunteer organisation working with schools to encourage reading amongst junior pupils - the library has also received a new stock of books this month.

Unfortunately, the variety and quantity of books is still limited which is why we are launching a new book donation initiative in Zambia's capital city Lusaka this month. The scheme will run hand in hand with Tribal Textiles' sister company Jackal and Hide, who will collect pre-loved children's books at their beautiful shop in Lusaka. The books will then be transported to Malimba, where they will help introduce a new generation of children to the magic of reading.



A very new and very exciting initiative has begun at Malimba this year: the school now has a garden!

The garden has been created with the support of the local community in order to educate the children about growing vegetables without using pesticides. And what a success it is! The garden currently has 8 plots maintained by students from grade 5 and 6. Each pupil is responsible for a particular row and they learn through experience how to sow and grow various vegetable.

Natural techniques are used that encourage helpful insects and organic school waste is recycled, turned into compost, and used in place of chemical fertilizers. The community also helps by providing seeds and advice. When a crop is ready, the vegetables are sold in the village and the profits are used to buy furniture and equipment for the school. In the future the Malimba staff hope to extend these plots and produce enough vegetables to be self-sufficient at school.



And finally, some wonderful fundraising news! If you have been following Tribal Textiles' activities online, you may have noticed an exciting new initiative: the Amaizing Bag project. Amaizing Bags are made by local men and women using recycled maize sacks donated by Zambia's National Milling Corporation. Each bag is also given a unique 'Tribal Twist' to make it fun and stylish.

Amaizing Bags are sold in Tribal Textile's shops and also by stockists around the world. The project donates 100% of the profits from sales of the bags to local charities. .



The fantastic news is that this year, all profits from the sale of Amaizing Bags will be donated to Malimba Community School! We are so excited by this news, and can't wait to bring you the Amaizing Bag totaliser in our next newsletter along with details of how the money will be used to help the children and teachers of Malimba!

We hope you have enjoyed reading about the wonderful Malimba Community School and their activities this month. Of course, none of these good news stories could happen without the continued support of our generous donors and the local community.

If you would like to donate funds to Malimba, you can rest assured that 100% of donations go directly to the school's educational and training needs. And it doesn't take much to make a big difference to these children's lives: £70 will pay a teacher's salary for a month, £40 will buy school stationary supplies for a term and with just £20 Mohammed can help pay the expenses of one of Malimba's wonderful volunteer teachers.

Making a donation couldn't be simpler: for UK based contributions, please visit <http://www.makemesmile.org/donations/> or if you are based in the US, please visit <http://www.generosityinaction.org/MalimbaSchoolFund.htm> to make a donation online.

Until the next time, please accept our thanks on behalf of all the children and staff at Malimba and the wider

community for making the school possible.

Please contact Tribal Textiles www.tribaltextiles.co.zm or Make Me Smile www.makemesmile.org to find out more.