

JOSHUA SCHOOLS UPDATE

The Joshua Foundation Schools
Sponsorship Newsletter

Aug 2011



Left: New head teacher team
Far left: Cook carrying water



Form 2 students singing praise songs before their mock exams

A CHANGE AROUND

Meanwhile we have had a change around of jobs in our schools as well. The unfortunate circumstance was a case of theft of examination fees by one of our secondary teachers. Thanks to the good accounting system put in place by Allan and Sue Dow this was discovered early. The enemy is always looking for opportunities to undermine and destroy our work. The resulting loss of a teacher has led to some interesting and potentially positive changes. God's solutions have a way of outsmarting the devil's tactics! We now have a **NEW HEAD TEACHER TEAM** operating in the primary school. Together they are excited about growing and developing the school in new and progressive ways. And we have a new cash clerk. Goodbert, who was head of primary, has graciously taken on this important position for which a person of proven faithfulness is required. Please pray with us for these important people in our school. Their success really affects the children in our care.

MAGUGU STUDENTS are back hard at work after their mid-year break. Exams are on us and the pressure is on! For these students good examination results are critical to their futures. A poor result can mean a life of joblessness, drudgery and poverty. A good result can mean opportunity, hope and a chance to escape the poverty that so enslaves Tanzania. So far our local and mock exam results are promising, especially in the primary school. The secondary school has again this year been plagued with high staff turnover, a common problem in Tanzanian schools. Why? The government teacher training colleges can only supply 65% of the needed secondary school teachers. The teaching jobs go to the highest paying positions. We struggle to compete....

But, on a high note, after much prayer for **GOOD TEACHING STAFF**, we had two strong applicants recently for positions in the secondary school. They are from Kenya and Uganda and so we are waiting to see if they will get their work permits. Both say that they are here by the call of God to work in Magugu. We continue to pray!!



Goodbert, new cash clerk

Sarah and Shelley continue to do a great job of **MENTORING** the seven student teachers in their care at Joshua Primary School. These students are *almost finished with their written course* work and ready to focus entirely on teaching practice. *This week they are doing a one-week teaching block but in six more weeks they will be into full-on teaching.* Their progress is encouraging and we have the side benefit of having Sarah and Shelley's input into the school by way of professional development and teacher support. The new head teacher team will be getting special focus from them over the coming term.

If you know of any teacher down under who would love to spend an **OE IN TANZANIA** do let us know. We have many opportunities for teachers, from short-term to longer-term work. Just contact me directly as our Joshua addresses are not always working!!
 lyndatz@gmail.com

Student teachers working with mentors



We are also excited to be able to tell you that the **FUND RAISING FOR DOING UP OUR PRIMARY SCHOOL**

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT WAS SUCCESSFUL and we now have a lovely bright playground again!!



SWAHILI TO ENGLISH

Last little bit of news! We have been gradually transitioning our primary school from being Swahili medium to English medium over the last four years. This year our last year of Swahili medium students graduate, and we will be officially a full English medium school in 2012. That is viewed very positively by the government, and gives us a unique niche in the local district.

Abundant thanks to those of you who are faithful sponsors to students in our schools. You make it possible for us to serve this community! We appreciate you all.



A primary school teacher working with her students outside the classroom