

Inside this issue:

- Introduction
- World teachers day
- World Values Day
- Later solar lamps
- Scouting
- Educational tour
- Directors' visit
- Christmas party
- PAT meeting
- TOSF annual staff dinner
- Grade one enrolment
- Closing day

NEWSLETTER

2024 Last Quarter

THE OTHER SIDE FOUNDATION SCHOOL
FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN
Learn with Passion. Lead with compassion.
P.O. BOX 330074, Email: tospzambia@gmail.com
PLOT N° 337/06/07 GEORGE COMPOUND LUSAKA

Introduction

The media team of the other side foundation school for orphans and vulnerable children is delighted to share our newsletter which traces all the exciting events which occurred in the last quarter of 2024, We would like to express our gratitude to all our donors and volunteers who ceaselessly support our grassroots outreach programs. Their generosity and dedication has allowed us to keep our programs running smoothly and effectively.

World Teacher's Day

Teachers make the biggest difference in the classroom when it comes to learning and they play a pivotal role in shaping the future by nurturing students and stimulating them mentally. This year's Teacher's day was celebrated under the theme "Valuing Teachers' Voices: towards a new social contract for education. This theme highlighted the importance of integrating teacher's perspective into educational policies and forging a supportive environment for their professional development. Being the rare few Values Based Teachers in Zambia, we want to express our indebtedness to our director Mrs. Champ who recognizes us as exemplary teachers practicing human values both in and outside the classroom giving us the extraordinary acclaim to annually participate and celebrate Teachers' Day in Zambia.

World Values Day

Values are fundamental beliefs that govern our lives, World Values Day is commemorated every third Thursday in October. This year's theme was "bringing values to life;" TOSF School acknowledges and celebrates this important day as it has certified Value Based teachers who practice and inculcate these values in their students through their values based syllabus. The theme resonates deeply with the values of love, peace, right conduct and non violence taught and practiced by teachers and students alike. This year's values day was celebrated on 17th October.



Educational tour



Educational tour exposes our learners to real life situations which help them to develop critical thinking skills and make informed decisions. Like the saying goes "all work and no play makes jack a dull boy," The Other Side Foundation School students had an opportunity to visit Twalumba Resort for their educational tour this year where they had so much fun playing on the merry-go-round, banana ride train, fishing and swimming.

The Directors' Visit

Every year our School Directors amidst their busy schedule, fly over 15 hours from Singapore to Zambia, to table issues of developmental projects namely the academics, administrative issues, maintenance of building, meeting prospective donors, sorting finances, contract renewals, interacting with our pupils and if time permits meeting parents and guardians during PTA meeting and doing home visits. Each visit is characterized with numerous meetings with staff concerning the welfare of the vulnerable and orphaned children it serves. Each visit is also a new milestone to the advancement of the school. Thank you for touching so many lives of marginalized children and their families through the free education, feeding program and free healthcare the Foundation offers.



Christmas party/birthday celebration

Like Mother Theresa said “It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you, yes it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand”. It is not how much you do but how much love you put in the doing. We feel privileged that Mr. and Mrs. Sorenson, family and friends chose to sponsor our annual Christmas party which coincided with the 1 year old birthday celebration of their daughter Kornelia

A delicious pre-Christmas lunch was laboriously cooked by the entire staff of the school for our orphans and vulnerable students. Like last year, this year again we invited some very vulnerable grandmothers who are guardians to our orphaned pupils. It was such a delight to see everyone eating to their hearts content and enjoying the students’ performance on stage.



Grade one enrollment

The enrollment of grade one commences every year in November to secure a place at our school for the forthcoming year. Unlike other schools , we screen families whose child is being considered for enrollment at our school coupled with home visitation to ascertain the vulnerability of the child, the living conditions and how many children go to school in that household. This is to ensure a place is given to a deserving marginalized child who otherwise would never have the opportunity to be schooled.



Solar Lanterns

Immense Load shedding has struck Zambia and no one knows when it will come to an end following 2023/2024 drought which was declared a national disaster by the president. People are living for more than 48hrs without electricity and if power comes only last for not more than 2 hours. And this has affected citizens economically and socially.

In the midst of this horrible load shedding, Mr. Scott Johnson founder/CEO of Sufishent, Kentoon Rotary and Marni Silverberg the organizer of this donation from Evergreen Community Charter School, Asheville, North Carolina donated 33 solar lamps to The Other Side Foundation School. And the beneficiaries were all TOSF employees, 1 student as a reward for his brilliance, another student who happens to head a home (child-headed) and lastly but not the least the old grandmothers.

As TOSF School and on behalf of the 2 learners and grandmothers we are very much grateful for this kind gesture.



Parent Teacher Association

It has been the tradition of our school that as the term comes to an end Parent Teacher Association meetings are held. This is to enhance communication between the two parties and how best they can work together to ensure quality education is delivered to all the children regardless of their status. This term the PTA meeting was held to plan important projects to be carried out next year so as to enhance quality education for our students. We want to appreciate our ever dedicated parents/ guardians for their tireless commitment towards the well being of the education of our vulnerable students. Zikomo makolo (Thank you guardians/parents).



Scouting

Scouting is the world's leading educational youth movement empowering 57 million young people and volunteers to be active global citizens and agents of change in their communities. The Other Side Foundation School introduced scouting in 2015. The movement has brought about positive reinforcement to a number of students. We are proud to report that one of our former students, Joshua Lungu is now a Rover Scouts Commissioner for Lusaka District representing our school at the District level. None of the community schools in and around Lusaka, except for our community school, offers scouting as an extra curricular activity. Only private and some government schools offer this ECA



Closing day/ Staff Dinner

The school closed on 6th of December 2024, parents/ guardians came in numbers to collect progress report cards for their children. However, the day ended with the annual staff dinner which is sponsored by our School Directors yearly. It is a fellowship where important achievements and accomplishments are discussed. It is always a joyous and a light moment for the members of the teaching and support staff. It was held at Lusaka Hotel. We shall forever be thankful for kind and thoughtful gesture of Mr and Mrs Champ.



Acknowledgement

Our special thanks goes to all the donors and volunteers who made this year a success. We wish you well in all your endeavors in your lives. We are full of gratitude for your perpetual support which greatly impacts the lives of the vulnerable children, widows and single mothers in the downtrodden communities that we serve. For those who wish to partner with us, feel free to contact us and support our noble cause. Do follow us on the following platforms the latest updates.

Facebook: Friends of TOSF School Zambia / The Other Side Foundation School For OVCs