

THE OTHER SIDE FOUNDATION SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER | JANUARY – APRIL 2026

“Learn with Passion, Lead with Compassion”

As we journey through the first months of 2026, we are filled with gratitude and pride for the remarkable moments we have shared as a school community. From academic growth to joyful celebrations and impactful engagements, this period has reflected our commitment to nurturing well-rounded learners and building a supportive environment for every child. This newsletter highlights the key activities and milestones from January to date, as captured on our Facebook page and website.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

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HOLISTIC GROWTH

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ACADEMIC PROGRESS AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The year began with renewed energy and focus as learners and teachers returned to school ready to embrace new opportunities. Classrooms have been vibrant centers of learning, with pupils actively participating in lessons and demonstrating curiosity across subjects.

Our teaching approach continues to emphasize:

- Active participation
- Creativity and critical thinking
- Individual learner support
- **Values-Based Education (VBE)**, which gives our learners a strong foundation in becoming responsible individuals and citizens

VALUES-BASED EDUCATION



Through our Values-Based Education curriculum, learners are guided not only academically but also morally—instilling principles such as respect, responsibility, compassion, and integrity. Teachers intentionally integrate these values into the teaching process, ensuring that education goes beyond the classroom and shapes character for life.

Teachers have worked tirelessly to ensure that each learner progresses at their own pace while maintaining academic excellence.

WELCOMING OF GRADE 1 LEARNERS

We proudly welcomed our new Grade 1 learners into the school family after conducting thorough home visitations. This process ensures that we reach and enroll children from the most vulnerable and underprivileged families across different compounds within Matero Constituency.

These visits not only help us identify those most in need but also allow us to understand the learners' backgrounds, ensuring we provide holistic support. Seeing these young learners take their first steps into education is always a powerful reminder of our mission—to give hope and opportunity where it is needed most.



DONATIONS & GENEROSITY

We are deeply grateful for the generous support from our partners and well-wishers. During this period, the school received a generous donation from **Jewel of Africa** and **Anaisha**. Their support will enable our OVC (Orphans and Vulnerable Children) to be fed high-protein porridge twice a week for one full year, greatly contributing to their nutrition and well-

being. Alongside this meaningful support, they also donated one pair of football jerseys for our learners.



Furthermore, the **Upakaar Initiative** continues to support the same learners by providing nourishment for the remaining three school days each week, ensuring consistent care and support.

In addition, **Tamara Luck**, together with her sister **Tati**, made a generous contribution which paid for textbooks, school shoes, and uniforms for bursary students. These essential resources have greatly improved the learning experience and dignity of the supported learners.



GRATITUDE TO OUR DONORS

Such acts of kindness continue to transform lives, and we extend our heartfelt appreciation to all our donors for believing in our vision.

LIBRARY DAY

Our Grade 6 learners had a delightful and enriching experience during Library Day. The learners immersed themselves in the world of books, exploring different stories, ideas, and knowledge beyond the classroom.

The day was filled with curiosity, quiet excitement, and imagination as learners flipped through pages, shared stories, and discovered the joy of reading. Activities like these not only strengthen literacy skills but also inspire a lifelong love for learning.



VALENTINE'S DAY

This year's Valentine's Day was truly meaningful and unique. In collaboration with the Ramakrishna Vedanta Centre, Lusaka, the school extended love and compassion to members of the community who are most in need.

The school contributed cooking oil, while the Ramakrishna Vedanta Centre generously donated corn flour (mealie meal). Together, these items were

distributed as food hampers to vulnerable families.



COMMUNITY IMPACT

What made the day even more special was the involvement of our learners in the giving process. By actively participating, they experienced the true meaning of love—not just in words, but in action. It was a powerful lesson in empathy, kindness, and community service.



SCOUTS FOUNDER'S DAY



Our Scouts proudly joined fellow scouts from across Lusaka District to celebrate Founder's Day at the United Methodist Church, Emmanuel Parish in Kabangwe, Lusaka.

The learners covered a distance of approximately 7 km from the school to the church, demonstrating resilience, commitment, and the true spirit of scouting.

The event provided an opportunity for our learners to interact, learn discipline, and embrace the values of teamwork and service. It was a day filled with unity, pride, and the strengthening of the scouting spirit.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

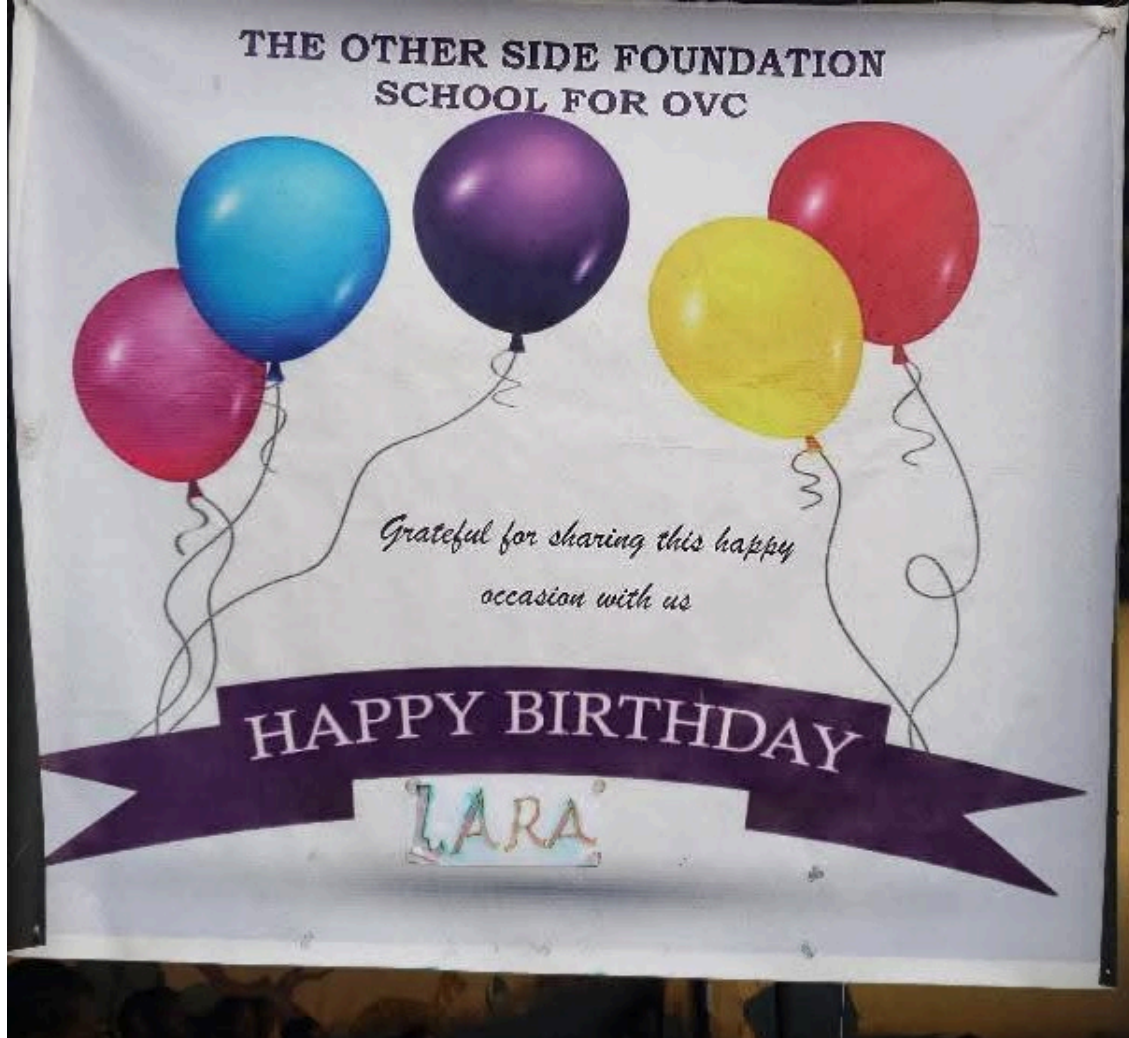
The school staff joined the rest of the world in commemorating International Women's Day, celebrating the strength, resilience, and achievements of women.

This day served as a moment of reflection and appreciation for the vital role women play in shaping families, communities, and the future of our learners. Within our school, we continue to promote equality, empowerment, and respect for all.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

This term was filled with joyful celebrations as we marked four special birthdays within our school community.

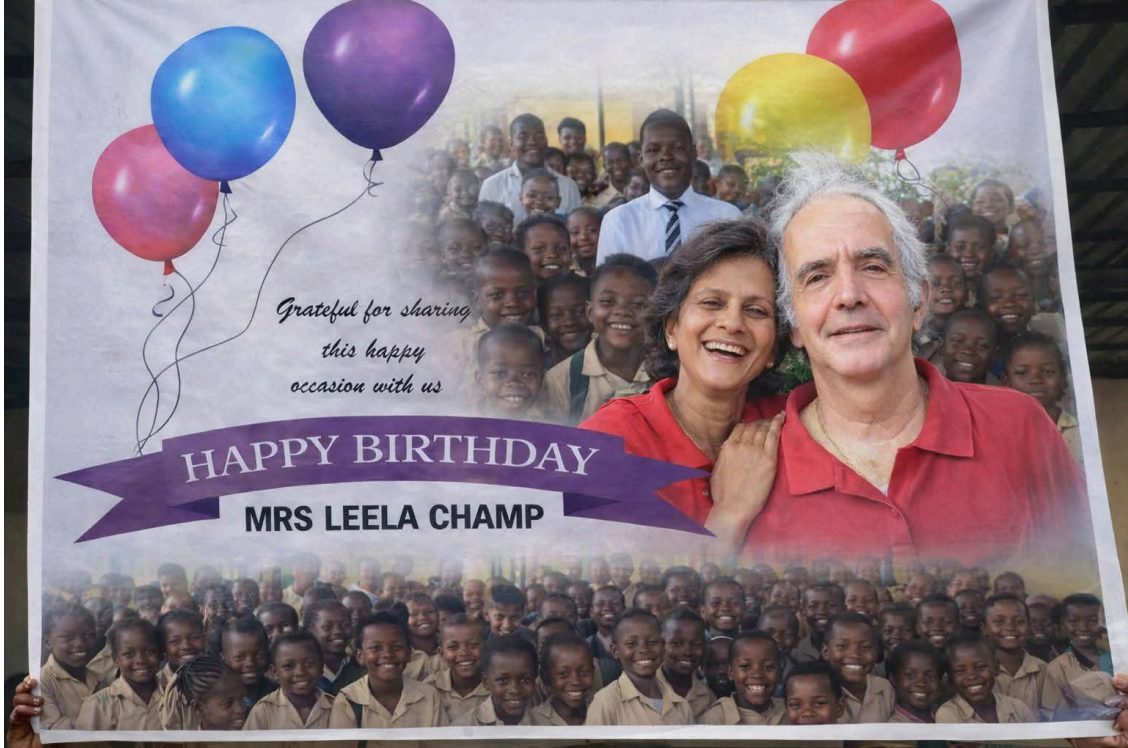


On 2nd March, we were privileged to celebrate Lara's 1st birthday. Her family chose to share this special moment with other marginalised children at the school. Cakes were provided and distributed among all learners and staff, spreading joy, love, and togetherness. Truly, noble parents procreate noble children, giving rise to noble citizens.

This was followed by the birthday of one of our beloved colleagues on 8th March, bringing staff together in appreciation and unity.

On 27th March, we celebrated Ram's 5th birthday. Just like his sister's celebration, the family extended their love by sharing cakes with learners and staff, creating a lively and heartwarming atmosphere filled with laughter and happiness.

Lastly, and most notably, we celebrated the birthday of our school founder and director, **Mrs. Leela Champ**, on 12th April. This was not just a celebration of a birthday, but a celebration of a visionary leader whose compassion and dedication have transformed countless lives. Her unwavering commitment to uplifting vulnerable children continues to inspire both staff and learners. The day was filled with heartfelt appreciation, gratitude, and recognition of the incredible impact she has made and continues to make.



PTA MEETING AND OPEN DAY

The term concluded with a successful PTA meeting and Open Day. Parents and guardians visited the school to collect their children's report forms following the end of Term 1 examinations.



This event provided an important platform for engagement between parents and teachers, allowing for meaningful discussions on learner progress and ways to continue supporting their educational journey.

CONCLUSION AND THE JOURNEY AHEAD

The period from January to April has been one of growth, compassion, and meaningful impact. Each activity, celebration, and partnership reflects our commitment to providing not just education, but hope and opportunity.

As we look ahead, we remain dedicated to strengthening our programs, expanding our reach, and continuing to uplift every child entrusted in our care. With the continued support of our community, partners, and well-wishers, the future is bright.

Together, we will keep learning with passion and leading with compassion.

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Empowering minds. Transforming lives.