

February 2020



The month of February, although a 'short' month has played host to a great deal of activity in world news, as the "coronavirus" has taken the world by storm. The virus has caused an enormous amount of concern across the globe with China going into shutdown, while folk who were able to leave China to return home, have had to spend time in quarantine. As a school, we can never ignore such concerns and we will continue to monitor the situation in consultation with fellow ISAZ schools and local authorities. Teaching colleagues of mine, spreading their wings in Hong Kong, have been ordered to stay at home until the 20 th April. We are, however, fortunate that we remain unaffected in these parts of the world and can continue as normal. After much hype the JEFA team arrived at Musikili last week, to indulge our children with a multitude of learning opportunities provided by their investigative, explorative, challenging and enriching programme. The high caliber of instructors ensures that the children engage with the subject matter, while importantly enjoying the chance to receive instruction from personnel outside of our Musikili staff.





The general consensus from the children was that they did not want the week to end! I feel that our staff also quite enjoyed the chance to be observers for a week and much was learnt. JEFA remains an important addition to our academic calendar.

So, one can ask what relevance does JEFA have to our curriculum? As teachers we are continuously striving to stimulate our children, whether it be culturally, in the classroom or on the sports fields. There is no doubt that children learn differently today as opposed to years gone by. Children of today are different, they are exposed to so much more and rightfully so, have so many more questions. JEFA gives us the opportunity to work alongside our children in something that is quite different for us as a staff, but for many children, it is an area of natural strength. A chance to embrace creativity. All human beings have the capacity to generate novel, original, clever or ingenious products, solutions, and techniques—if that capacity is developed. Creative human beings try to conceive solutions differently, examining alternative possibilities from many angles. They tend to project themselves into different roles using analogies, starting with a vision and working backward, imagining they are the objects being considered. Creative people take risks and frequently push the boundaries of their perceived limits. We got to see much of this during the week of JEFA as children embraced the challenges and as those with a creative flare and understanding of mechanics excelled. Yes, there was frustration for some and thoughts of giving up from others when friends had completed challenges before them. But, everyone finished. Everyone learnt something new. Everyone had to persist. Everyone learnt resilience. We need to help our children see that there are many ways to generate ideas and solve problems. Lets help them take risks and push themselves so that they grow. **Joseph Chilton Pearce said, “To live a creative life we must lose our fear of being wrong”**





Our 1st XI cricket team embarked on Wednesday afternoon for the Independent Schools Cricket Festival, hosted by Whitestone in Bulawayo. The Festival gives our boys an opportunity to participate in high level cricket fixtures, while learning and adapting to the more demanding formats of primary school cricket. The team play four fixtures over the four days, which include limited overs cricket as well as declaration cricket. No doubt our boys will be challenged, however, the festival will provide a wonderful platform for team and individual growth. Kudos to Mr. Weinrich for fighting for the invitation to attend this prestigious, sought-after festival.

I wish you all a well-deserved half term break with your families – if you can, try something different!

Rich





Transport Division

We are extremely fortunate to have a team of long serving and reliable bus drivers at Musikili. Our transport team is made up of 3 loyal and dedicated employees who have an outstanding track record of delivering children safely, both within our borders and afar. Derrick, James and Owen are responsible for the majority of our transport requirements, unless the demand is too great and academic staff are required to assist. All three gentlemen take an excessive deal of pride in our vehicles and appreciate the enormous responsibility that they have for the safety of our children and staff. Musikili have a fleet of 5 vehicles, a Tata 42-seater bus, a Toyota Coaster 29-seater, a Mercedes Sprinter 17-seater and two 14-seater Toyota Hi Aces. All these vehicles are used solely for the transportation of our children. The buses are in operation on a Monday morning from either Lusaka or Choma and again on a Friday afternoon to return the children from school to their homes. The local children from Mazabuka also have the option of catching the bus daily to and from school. The buses are used for trips to our countless sporting events, educational tours and other educational camps. In an increasingly demanding lifestyle, boarding continues to be the best option for parents who have to work to meet the financial demands of life. Musikili has identified the need to provide this support for parents, while affording their children the best possible opportunity to be just that – children. Don't hesitate to come and visit us and everything that our established campus has to offer.



Shrove Tuesday

Our boys and girls all gathered on Tuesday 25 th Feb to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, or better known to our children as "Pancake Day". Shrove Tuesday is the day before Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. The name Shrove comes from the old middle English word Shriven; meaning to go to confession to say sorry for the wrong things youve done. Lent always starts on a Wednesday, so people went to confessions on the day before. This became known as Shriven Tuesday and then Shrove Tuesday. The other name for this day, Pancake Day, comes from the old English custom of using up all the fattening ingredients in the house before Lent, so that people were ready to fast during Lent. The fattening ingredients that most people had in their houses in those days were eggs and milk. A very simple recipe to use up these ingredients was to combine them with some flour and make pancakes! The boys and girls all had a great deal of competitive fun, in their houses, to identify the fastest pancake flipping house. Special thanks to our incredible kitchen staff who prepared all the pancakes for the races, as well as for our delicious break time treats! With Lent starting on the 26 th , the challenge is to identify what meaningful item to give up for the next 40 days!





Vic Falls Triangular

A dominant weekend of sport was enjoyed by Musikili over Valentines at the annual Vic Falls Cricket & Tennis Festival, which was contested by Vic Falls Primary, Petra Junior College & Musikili. Our U11 Tennis and Cricket players were especially strong and the results bare testimony to our depth at this level. The girls played no fewer than 6 doubles fixtures per pair and went on to record 17 wins with only one closely fought loss. In total the Musikili girls were on the winning side of 70 games, conceding only 11 throughout the festival. Brooklyn Khan and Mia Miers were top of the pile with 24 games to 3 in the unbeaten 6 game streak. The Open girls' fixtures were tightly contested, which was to be expected after seeing the Vic Falls and Petra players in action at the Falcon Festival. Although the two pairs went down by 4 matches to 8 in the doubles, the score-line is somewhat deceptive with the girls winning 23 games to 40, most of which went down to deuce. Jodi Bawden and Peyton Zaloumis came through on top, winning 4 from 6, taking 20 games against 14. The top singles player was Hannah Mulder who won 1 and lost 1 game. The U11 Colts Cricket boys were in an aggressive mood, scoring runs all over the field at a rapid rate. In the 4 games they played, they were undefeated, totaling 551 runs for the loss of only 5 wickets over the weekend. Their opposition batters could only muster 329 runs in losing 29 wickets overall. Aiden Clubb was in sublime form scoring 140 runs without losing his wicket in 3 innings, which included a brilliant 100* in a 20 over match. Ryan Jellis was hot on his heels with 110 runs, with a quick-fire 74* in a massive partnership with Aiden. Tristan van der Merwe joined the party and smashed an undefeated 64 runs in his two knocks. Joshua Anis bowled a skillful line and length picking up important wickets in each game. His figures of 5/15 were the best of the weekend. Ryan showed his all-round ability in taking 5/16 and Twalumba Hamutete was the next best bowler with 5/30. Across the field the U13 boys got off to a smashing start in winning both T10 games on Friday. The same results were looking likely on Saturday in the split innings format, scoring 166 against Petra and bowling Vic Falls out for 67 in 20 overs. Some rather interesting umpiring and score keeping in defending 166 runs, resulted in a tie against Petra and a few disappointed players. They picked themselves up and went on to record a comfortable win in chasing down Vic Falls' total in 5 overs. Benjamin Coventry continued his rich vein of form at the Falcon Festival and smashed 118 unbeaten runs in 49 balls, which included a swashbuckling 50 against Petra. Almost every one of the players were retired not out during the course of the games, which proved their ability to protect their wickets as well as putting runs on the board. Following on from the excitement of Caleb Coventry's hatrick last weekend, Leo Clarkson was not to be outdone achieving the near impossible feat of taking 3 consecutive wickets, all three with the ball hitting the stumps. Leo ended with 5/32. Caleb continued to show his reliability as the team's go to bowler, picking up 3 wickets overall. The U13 boys amassed 414 runs in losing 9 wickets in their overs, whereas the opposition batters only managed 222 runs with the fall of 18 wickets.





From all of us at Musikili.... enjoy your break



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