

10 September 2020



Dear Musikili parents and friends,

Welcome back to the Spring Term of 2020. Surprisingly, for Spring, there is still a little nip in the air which I am sure is providing us with a little respite before the warmer weather arrives. Our campus however, has started to blossom as a number of flowers have begun to reveal their brilliance and fill our gardens which some much welcome colour. The hard work put into our gardens during the quieter periods of this year will now come to fruition.

Our Grade 5 and 6 children had no sooner unpacked their trunks and spent their first night back in the boarding house, when they departed for their outdoor education experiences of 2020. Wild Tracks on the Lower Zambezi played host to our Grade 5s, while the Jordan family farm welcomed our Grade 6 learners. I have no doubt that both groups of children and staff, will return enriched from these experiences having had the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom.

The first week of term has seen our campus occupied only by our Grade 7s, who have slipped back into their academic routines, while beginning their initial preparations for their Chongwe presentations during their Third Term project week. Our Grade 7s have been wonderful this week and it has been quite enjoyable having the time to engage and laugh with

A few of our foundation phase classes enjoyed Zoom sessions this week. Any intention of learning was quickly swept aside but it was very clear that the children loved the interaction and grasped the occasion to share their holiday news and to simply chat to their mates. A good deal of laughter was shared and I am sure further sessions will be arranged.

News from authorities still remains rather quiet. However, from the meetings that I have attended there does appear to be a more optimistic feeling amongst key stakeholders. The ISAZ Executive submitted an all-encompassing "Back to School" policy to the Permanent Secretary this week, underlining the urgency for non-examination classes to resume.

I share with you four philosophies from the great persona, Charlie Chaplin. He lived for 88 years and provided so many with special memories and importantly plenty of occasions for people to laugh. In his 88 years he left us with four statements:

- 1. Nothing is forever in this world, not even our problems.**
- 2. I love walking in the rain because no one sees my tears.**
- 3. The most lost day in life is the day we don't laugh.**
- 4. Six best doctors in the world are...**
 - a. The sun,**
 - b. Rest,**
 - c. Exercise,**
 - d. Diet,**
 - e. Self-respect**
 - f. Friends**



Stick to them at all stages of life and enjoy a healthy life. If you see the moon, you will see the beauty of God. If you see the sun, you will see the power of God. If you see a mirror, you will see God's best creation. So, believe it. Life is an incredible journey, so be sure to live today. Tomorrow may not be!

Having experienced what we can only believe to be the worst of 2020, there is much that can be drawn on from four such simple philosophies. They all rely on each and every one of us controlling the 'controllables' and embracing the possibilities that each day presents. It is our responsibility as adults and mentors to teach our children to appreciate the importance of laughter and lifestyle, while enjoying every day to its fullest capacity.

Mrs. Connellan has prepared this week's Newsletter article and captures the simplicity and brilliance of our furry friends. They seem to have the best of lives through truly finding the time only to control the 'controllables'. These furry friends prove to be so loyal and constantly remind us of the importance of appreciating the 'simple' things.

Have a wonderful week and we look forward to seeing you all before too long – and remember, "A day without laughter, is a day wasted." ~ Charlie Chaplin.

- Richard Jackson



Vernon Chipikili, stands proudly next to his wall mural, which is a new creative play space for our children.



The Power of Pets

There is always a sense of anticipation when a new teacher arrives at a school. It is a time where the children give you the not so subtle once over...who is she? Is she strict? Will we like her?

When I arrived at Musikili in January 2019, this period of seeking the children's approval seemed to last longer than usual. I have put this down to the simple fact that there is a tight knit brotherhood at a boarding school that the children all share.

I spent my first few weeks wondering how I was going to find my way in... jokes, sweets or a good story? Nothing seemed to be working.

There is a single photograph, which so beautifully displays the moment I was given the slow motion nod of approval. It was a late summer afternoon in early February, this group of boys had just showered and were playing a game of football (some in their pajamas of course). I will let the photograph speak for itself...



Having grown up in a home full of pets it is no surprise that I advocate the benefits that animals bring to children's lives. Rustin Moore, the Dean of Veterinary Medicine at Ohio State College, explains that young children rate pets higher than people as providers of comfort, self-esteem and confidants.

Evening stories in the Musikili Boarding House are dominated by two conversations...football and pets! The children love sharing stories about their animals and will often bring up pets who have even passed on.

In a study done by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry they found the following benefits of having pets in the home:

- Pets can be safe recipients of secrets and private thoughts
- Children often talk to their pets like they do to stuffed animals
- They provide lessons about life including reproduction, birth, illness, accidents, death and bereavement
- They can help develop responsible behavior in children who care for them
- They provide a connection to nature
- They can teach respect for other living things

In the fast paced and busy lives that society demands of us, pets are often the quiet constant in children's lives. Take our Musikili campus dog Luna for example; she is a part of every assembly, staff meeting, break-time and line-up. She watches every sports match and attends galas, usually participating at some point. Luna has become a natural part of the children's lives at school demanding nothing in return.

George Elliot once said, "Animals are such agreeable friends – they ask no questions, they pass no criticisms." So for those of us with furry friends at home, let's remind ourselves of the impact they have on children's lives. For those of you sitting on the fence about whether or not to get a pet, take the plunge, you won't regret it!

Ingrid Connellan



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Avery ROBINSON
Faith SHAMBOKO
Tamila UYS
Chloe VAN HEERDEN
Makenzie JACKSON
Kylan HEPPLETHWAITE
Chikonga MOONO
Linnet MANDOZANA
Katie PATERSON
Ernst IHMANN
Tisah VAN EEDE
Cuwien HIKAATE
Zangi MWALE
Raiyaaz VLAHAKIS
Kelvin BANDA
Kushal SHARMA
Peyton ZALOUMIS
Chiti MBULA



You are invited to the:

Official Opening

JUSTIN

Enrichment Centre

Monday 21 September
at 8:30 am
The Justin Enrichment Centre
Musikili Primary School



YOU ARE INVITED TO AN

Information evening & presentation
by Richard Jackson
Headmaster

**HOSTED BY
MUSIKILI
PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



VENUE: 360 Convention Centre
DATE: 17th September 2020
TIME: Starting 5:30

Please RSVP to Cassandra: casgre@musikili.sch.zm OR
whatsapp: 097 186 6822 for more information.



UPCOMING EVENTS



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

ORIENTATION DAY

FOR ALL EARLY YEARS (3-5 YRS)

GRADE 1 & 2 PUPILS

We invite prospective parents to visit our campus and see what makes Musikili Primary School stand apart from the rest.

If you have a child you would like to enroll into our Early Years or Grade 1 & 2 classes, please complete an application form and join us for the orientation morning. Application forms available at

www.musikili.com/application-form

**READINESS ASSESSMENTS FOR GRADE 1 WILL TAKE PLACE ON
ORIENTATION MORNING @ OUR MAZABUKA CAMPUS**

TIME 8:30am	FRIDAY • 9 • OCT 2020	VENUE Mazabuka Campus
TIME 9:00am - 10:00am	FRIDAY • 9 • OCT 2020	VENUE LSK Satellite School (next to Tiny Toes School)

RSVP

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