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Daily updates on Facebook subject to electricity!

Merry Christmas from Zimbabwe!

We have had a very busy lead up to Christmas at Matthew Rusike Children's Home Early Childhood Development Centre.



We had our Graduation and Nativity on November 27th which went very well- here is Shadreck one of our children receiving his Graduation certificate along with his House Mother, Mercy. All the children had great fun with our entertainer and ate chicken, rice, potatoes, jelly and cake. We had so much to spare that we invited family members and other children from MRCH to join us; it was a well-attended day with our Guest of Honour from the local school explaining the benefits of an ECD curriculum. Please pray for our children who graduated as they start at their new schools in January.



Our staff at ECD.

When school finished we had three days training. During the training, which I led, we looked at issues including the role of an adult; the learning environment; the daily routine; planning and assessment and how children learn. This has resulted in some major changes to the way we will deliver the ECD curriculum from January. Please pray for our staff and children as we wrestle with these developments.

And since school has closed we are working hard to develop the buildings and outdoors so that the environment is improved for when the school year starts in January. It is a hectic and often frustrating task so please pray for patience and productivity!

We have also hosted friends from Australia who have developed a drip-irrigation system in our newly developed ECD vegetable garden as well as many other jobs around the Children's Home. Please pray for its success to enable us to supplement our children's diets.



If, while wandering around the inside of an art museum I came across a door that is solidly locked shut, what do I do? Well, if I'm emotionally immature I might wrestle with the door handle or maybe fall to the floor and try to peer beneath it. I might throw a tantrum because I can't get into that locked room. I might squat beside the door, fold my arms determinedly and try to imagine everything inside the room. There are all kinds of ways I might waste my time outside that door in that museum. But if mature, I will simply assume that those in charge of the museum know what they are doing and for whatever reason don't want people going into that room, and that would be good enough for me. So I would turn away from the door, forget about the room and go back into the museum where all that wonderful art was waiting to enlighten and inspire me.

John Shaw related to John1 Chapter 2 v28-Chapter 3v3 by Rob Bell

These are God's plans not our own- please pray for my maturity!

Many thanks for your prayers, emails, generosity and love in 2011. May you have an amazing Christmas and may you come to know your God even more in 2012. Love from Shelley and Baboon xxx