Imbila

CHENGELO EDUCATIONAL TRUST NEWSLETTER

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Chengelo Fellowship Day

May 2022

For the third and hopefully last time the annual fellowship day was on ZOOM and around 60 registered their attendance for what proved to be a highly successful day. (The 2023 day is booked for Walsall on Saturday 22nd April live.) The theme of the day was God's faithfulness in the past, in the present and in the future. This was clearly shown in the contributions from Margaret Collingwood remembering her husband Jeremy, from Ian Richardson remembering his fatherin law Roy Fellows and of Betty Sercombe by her daughter in law Eleanor Beardsell and the substantial contribution all three made to Chengelo. The day also marked the retirement of Bob Baker, the trust secretary after 33 years of involvement in the school. A special feature of the day was the gift of a timely present given on ZOOM from the CET members presented to Bob by his wife.

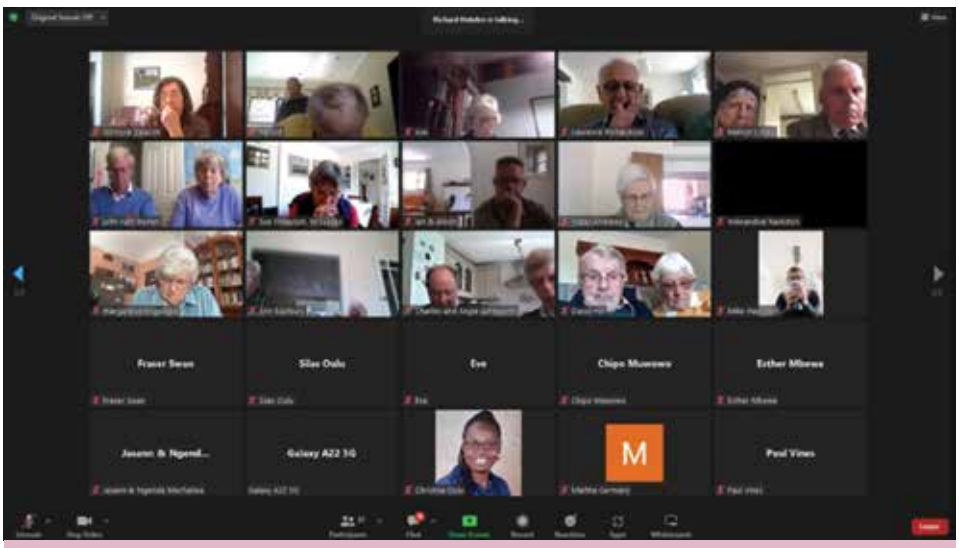
Ronan Wade

The financial report was presented by Ronan Wade. It was simple and extremely clear with an excellent use of graphics. There has been a substantial recovery after recent difficulties and a fuller report will appear in the next Imbila. After that came three presentations from the principal, Paul Vines, the secondary head Chriss Banda and the new director of Ndubaluba Alan Champkins,.

Paul Vines

We were pleased to get a small insight into Paul's domestic life as he had to balance his presentation with the domestic bliss of his six year old daughter's birthday party. Aside from this his report was very encouraging. The school is now the largest it has ever been at 545 with 425 in secondary and 120 in primary. Paul envisages a maximum of just under 600 with a three form entry with a maximum class size of 28, a small big school rather than a big small school.

The exam results were very good (see website) and the school is opening up with ISAZ sports competitions, Ndubaluba trips, concerts, djembe drum performances and seven baptisms in the school pool. The school bubbles are also being slowly abandoned with more whole school gatherings allowed. The graduate training scheme has lapsed for a year because of covid but might well be reintroduced. As one might expect with increasing numbers more teachers have joined the staff than left. Sadly Chriss Banda has announced his decision to retire in August 2013 after 25 years service. One major innovation is the appointment of new staff counsellors working under the school chaplain mainly to work in the boarding and support the boarding staff.



ZOOM Fellowship Day

HERE & THERE

Fellowship Day 2023

It is hoped that the next fellowship day will be live at the church of St Paul's at the Crossing, Darwell Street, Walsall, WS1 1DA on Saturday 22nd of April commencing at 10.30, courtesy of Philip and Anne Elledge. There is limited parking at the church and the nearest car park is at Town Row, off Lichfield St WS1 2AD, close by. The worship and meeting area is on the second floor but there is a lift. The Elledges can reserve parking at the church for those with disability issues. There is a coffee shop downstairs and eateries within a few minutes walk.

Please consult the C.E.T. website nearer the time.

Swimming Champion

Asher Banda, a Chengelo pupil, has been invited to take part in the FINA World Swimming Championships in Hungary shortly; Interesting that a youngster from a landlocked country can do so well. We wish him all the best.

Story boarding

One of our students interviewed in this newsletter enjoys story boarding. This terminology is new to your editor and I wonder if one of our distinguished readers can enlighten him.

Chriss and Martha Banda

Chriss and Martha stayed with us in April 1985 while visiting various Christian schools in the UK. His retirement announcement during his presentation brought back happy memories.

Chengelo Fellowship Day *(Cont.)*

Lights have been added to the Astro turf and basketball courts. Three new staff houses have been completed as well as three workers' houses, the lights and the workers' houses with the support of C.E.T. funds. Additional accommodation is being added to Luapula and Kabompo houses and the bathrooms and showers are being refurbished. EMI World will visit at the end of July to do an assessment on power and water provision as the school grows. For those not aware of the organisation, it is worth consulting its website. It seeks to enable mission through its engineering skills fostering design, discipleship and diversity.

All students have received Covid vaccines and many have received a second dose provided by the government. Paul expressed his thanks to all the nurses in the clinic for their hard work over the past two years limiting the effects of the pandemic.

Chriss Banda

The spiritual life of the secondary school has suffered because of covid. Students have been unable to attend North Church and within school students have been meeting in bubbles rather than whole school groups. Church services were organised in bubbles at different times and places around the school campus.

The school was closed for six or seven months and teaching had to be carried out on ZOOM. Discipline was difficult at first when school reopened but as the school settled down behaviour improved markedly back to its pre-pandemic levels.

Leadership: two teachers have been appointed as deputies academic to replace Rachel Beaumont as well as well as two deputies pastoral. Having an additional 93 students has put extra pressure on staff and especially house parents.

Sport: The school won the ISAZ netball and came second in the girls football. The boys did not perform quite as well. There was also an exciting water fight one afternoon between students from different houses.

On a personal note Chris is thankful that his asthma has been kept in check by the school clinic and is thankful too for the Scottish heritage bestowed on him by some of the teachers

Alan Champkins: Ndubaluba

Alan has been in post for some seven months and Ndubs is now running at full capacity. 932 youngsters and 53 groups have been through the centre. There have been five outside groups and there was special appreciation from ISL (the International School of Lusaka) who plan to make regular return visits.



ZOOM Fellowship Day

Chengelo Fellowship Day *(Cont.)*

C.E.T. gave Ndubs £20,000 for the purchase of equipment, replacing the thatched roofs of several buildings, upgrading the kitchen and improving the ablutions and showers.

Alan's dream for Ndubs is that it may become the outdoor evangelistic wing of Chengelo. The centre is registered as an adventure provider with the Zambia Duke of Edinburgh scheme. To fulfil this potential the centre needs volunteers from within and outside the country to commit to at least a year, a new 4 wheel drive vehicle and replacing the thatched roof of the dining hall.

Let us continue to remember Paul Vines, Chriss Banda and Alan Champkins in our prayers as they lead the school forward in the coming days.



The new workers' housing



The new floodlights

School Photo Album



Ndubaluba



No Health and Safety in Zambia!



Baptism in School Pool



A Level success



ISAZ Football 2022



Celebration of sound in the School Hall



World Book Day



World Book Day



Celebrating IGCSE Results 2021

Student Interviews - Enala Nkhwazi 'Spiritual Prefect'

Q: Why do you think your parents sent you to Chengelo?

I believe my parents sent me to Chengelo because of the experiences and opportunities that the school offered. My older sister's exemplary attitude, results and spiritually mature nature was nurtured by the values of Chengelo. I joined the primary school in 2012 while applying for other schools at the same time. However, the significant improvement in my academics was a sure sign that I was staying here for a long time. My parents always had confidence in this school.

Q: What are the things you like best about Chengelo? Are there things you particularly don't like?

I have come to appreciate the high standards that the school encourages all of us to achieve our goals. The physical environment in Chengelo is serene and nearly eradicates the distractions that would otherwise not allow me to study with the plethora of sports and drama activities. My only bone to pick is the continuous turnover of teachers which means losing family. We have come to know teachers as people to run to, to listen to us when frustrated with the stress of going through our teenage crises.

Q: Outside of the classroom what have you particularly learnt during your time at the school?

I've learnt the importance of community when we are all striving to reach goals as a school. I have come to see the values Chengelo stands for through its community service, encouraging students to take part which has been extremely inspiring to me.

Q: How do you spend your free time?

I spend my free time doing a lot of research about history, current times, beliefs and ideas that satisfy my fascination with the unknown; I also enjoy artistic expression through music, painting, photography and story boarding just to refresh my mind. I feel I am truly in my element as a creative person.



Enala Nkhwazi

Q: What are the pleasures and difficulties of being in leadership positions?

Leadership allows me to become the person I needed to be. It's such a privilege to be a part of even a few peoples' journeys. Being an example to those around me does build a bit of pressure but I feel it's taught me to carry myself like a leader but be myself at the same time.

Q: What subjects are you studying and what are your plans for the future?

I'm currently studying Business, English literature and Design and Technology. i plan to study Marketing, and I hope to make African markets more fitting to our county's and continent's own businesses needs and build a better relationship with local and continental products for Africans.

Student Interviews - Caleb Nyirenda 'Head Prefect'

Q: Why do you think your parents sent you to Chengelo?

My Uncle recommended Chengelo to my Parents but my parents couldn't ignore his recommendations. They wanted me to go to a school with a good education which would have a long lasting impact on my life.

Q: What are the things you like best about the school?

I like the fact that it's a good Christian school with great educational facilities and the fact that we're are very secluded from the rest of the country. It's a tranquil and peaceful environment. Another thing that I love is the intense passion for sports that we all seem to have because it's a refresher! Sports take our minds away from life's daily struggles. Other things like mandatory outdoor trips turn out to be fun experiences that I will remember for a lifetime.

Q: Are there any things you don't particularly like?

There seems to be a stigma when it comes to communicating with teachers and telling them how we feel in regards to our mental health. Sometimes it feels like they are only there to teach and that's not the way things should be not just in Chengelo but around the country - we need to build a sense of community.

Q: Outside the classroom what have you learnt during your time at the school?

Perseverance, be it climbing a hill, or walking several kilometres with a "Zesco looking pole" popularly known as a "flog" strapped to your shoulder with your friends, to cross-country in the blazing sun: one quality that will never leave me is perseverance. I've also learnt that your friends' luck is never yours so don't follow the crowd. Many of your friends will pressure you into things that are wrong but remember your conviction and faith in God.

Q: What are the pleasures and difficulties of being in leadership positions?

I love the fact that people look up to me. I feel a sense of responsibility because it is my duty to be an example to my peers and the rest of the school. My life should be a testimony of God's goodness and how a good attitude can take you far - a lion can never be the king of the jungle with an attitude of a sheep!
But on the flipside being a leader is challenging because you have to make unpopular decisions. At the end of the day you can't please everyone but what's more important is that you make the right call.

Q: How do you spend your free time?

Sixth form students rarely have free time but when I do, I make time for reading the word of God. Apart from that I love to play football: it's a very great passion of mine. I spend time on social media and check up on my friends when I'm unwinding. I also love to read, mostly novels but also a few biographies.

What subjects are you studying and what are your future plans?

I am taking Maths, English Literature, Physics and Business studies. I plan on doing a course in electrical engineering in the UK and return to my country with the skills I will have acquired. As for the other subjects (like Business and Literature) I study them in order to keep my options as wide as possible.



Caleb Nyirenda

Treasurer's Report

2021 Finance Report

Once again we thank you for your support of Chengelo School through donations to CET. The picture is shown in the diagram to the right.

We began the year with £196,715 of funds, received income of £21,302 and investment growth of £27,432. We incurred expenditure of £64,543 to balances at £180,906 at the end of the year.

A summary of income and expenditure is shown below:

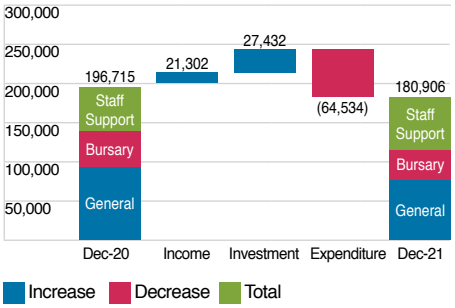
Income	
General Fund	
Donations	£11,496
Fundraising	£65
Legacy	£5,000
Restricted Funds	
Bursary Fund	£1,160
Staff Support Fund	£11,395
Richardson Fund	£1,160
Thompson Fund	£600

Expenditure	
General Fund	
Chengelo	£45,000
Admin	£3,444
Restricted Funds	
Bursary Fund	£7,500
Staff Support Fund	£5,600
Richardson Fund	£2,000
Thompson Fund	£1000

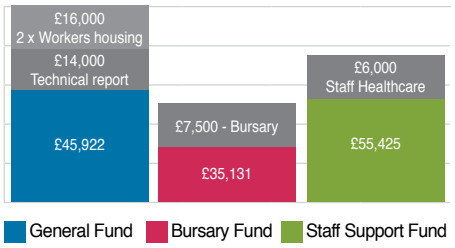
In particular the Trust made donations of £45,000 to the school which has helped support investment in water purification, solar lighting in hostels and development at Ndubaluba. In addition the trust supported expat staff with contributions to health insurance, and contribution to the bursary fund for the school to use at their discretion.

Following a discussion with the school at the recent Trustee meeting it was agreed to support the school with continued bursary and healthcare support as well as 2 further workers houses. In addition the school have asked for a contribution towards the cost of generating a technical report to look at longer term energy efficiencies across the school.

Overall Review 2021



CET Commitments 2022



Giving and Change of Banking Arrangements

If you would like to support the work of the CET, please do contact our treasurer Ronan Wade at rawade@gmail.com

For those already giving, we will be moving our account from Nationwide to CAF bank and would kindly ask anyone with a standing order to update their details as shown here.

CAF Bank, Account No. 00014024
Sort Code: 40-52-40

R Wade, Treasurer, CET

From the Editor's Armchair

The Fellowship Day reports were all very encouraging not least in the way the school is opening up to large group gatherings and the beginnings of inter-school competitions from the intermediary stage of bubble groups. This paints a good picture of a halfway house between strict regimentation and full integration.

We must give thanks to God for the fact that while Covid has sadly caused the death of several thousand Zambian nationals (3,900 according to the BBC website), its impact has not been as great as had been feared for a developing country with stretched medical services. It was very encouraging to hear that many of the students and staff had received at least one vaccination and some two. Obviously the pandemic was far more damaging along the line of rail than in Mkushi but the various forms of the virus have become more easily transmissible so it is a matter for prayer that Covid is restricted as much as possible.

Now that the lateral flow test is no longer freely available in England and that covid precautions no longer restrict much foreign travel, it is easy to think that the epidemic is over and that we have the freedom to live pre 2020. Yet the virus is still with us and many of us know neighbours and friends who have and have had the virus in recent days. Super fit adults and grandchildren are not immune. Lets pray that the church community in Britain continue to exercise caution and keep the word 'bubble' firmly in our mind's eye. Let us also give thanks for the wise leadership of Chengelo in steering the community through the epidemic and to the staff who had to develop their latent computer skills for zoom lessons.

Steve Baker

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