



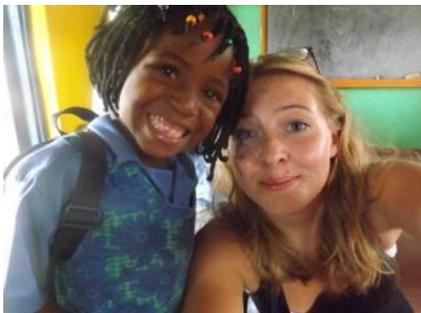
Welcome to the New Year....

I would like to say a big welcome to our new volunteers, Clayre Goldberg, Sarah Howsam, Bryony Jones and Isabel Raven, they have all settled in to Malawi life very well.

Clayre, our new standard 3 teacher is pushing their English and maths by playing a lot of fun games. She says “The school is very colourful, a good environment to encourage learning. The Children are very well looked after and happy”



Sarah our standard 1 teacher has done a great job introducing the new children in to school, teaching them the first English words. This is what she has to say... “The children were very loud, but bubbly, loving and attentive. They are very welcoming, always want to be with you and help you. I found they got upset when I’ve been sad.”



Bryony has been writing scary stories with standard 4 about monsters and ghost, we’ve been hearing a lot of screams and shouts from her classroom, all for Halloween!! Bryony’s thoughts on teaching “I was very nervous about looking after all the children, especially when you walk into the class and there are 24 pairs of eyes watching you, waiting for you to speak”





Isabel is working hard with the standard 2's on their theme work, senses; we have had to smell a whole lot of strange things over the past week. Isabel found that "Arriving in Mangochi was overwhelming though I found it fascinating looking at the different way of life. On arriving at Palm Beach to our comfortable house I started to see the beauty of the country and its people."

Here are a few words from Rita....

A warm welcome to all out volunteers! I have had a traumatic time in August, as some of you know may have heard, and missed our volunteer's arrival. Thank you Taryn, you have been amazing! She selected and interviewed the new Standard 1 intake, organised school uniforms, collected and introduced the 4 new volunteers to the school, parents and village.

Meanwhile I was at Garden City Hospital where my son, Ian (25) lay in a critical condition in ICU, he contracted some strange viral bacteria, and was put on quinine in Malawi. His body reacted violently 24hrs later, as all his vital organs failed. We luckily managed to fly him out by air ambulance. On arrival his Bilirubin count was 2.5. Doctors out Ian onto full life support and dialysis, but said the chances were remote that he would make it. They gave him 12 hrs. Mercifully, after a long daunting stay in the ICU, he was transferred to a normal ward, and two long months later on the 2nd of October, Ian and I came home. He is still on medication, his left side still drags a bit, but he is exercising and seems normal. A true Miracle. Thank you to all of you for your support and prayers. I was amazed that so many people prayed for him and gave support. Thank You!

We would like to say a very big thank you to all those who have supported us over the last few months, donating funds, stationary for school, reading books, T-shirts and medical supplies. Thank you for your time you have spent helping in classrooms, with maintenance, painting, fixing windows, and just getting stuck in doing anything that needed to be done!



Another big thank you and a sad good bye to our super stars from last year, Gina, Josh, Beca, and Becca. We all wish you all the best for you futures, study hard, be good and listen to your teachers!

Follow the link to read their thoughts on their year with us meant to them

http://boleralpms.com/volunteer/volunteers_thoughts/school-volunteers-2012

While Trijnet and Jurrian were visiting, they gave each class a block board to paint a mural on, here are the final paintings. They will be hung up around the school.



Our new Standard One Class



Standard Two



Standard Three



Standard Four

We are raising funds for Bolera Palms Community Development Projects in Malawi. Bolera Village has a population of 1792 people and near to 500 houses. Our aims are to supply each household with a Rocket Stove, reducing firewood usage by up to 65%, introduce a Tree Planting Program per house, install solar water pumping systems to supply clean water, introduce drip irrigation projects to improve crop growth and reduce water wastage and the building of the Bolera Palms Community Centre which will serve as a communal centre point for village meetings and educational and productivity workshops on micro-finance.

Further information and how to support us can be found at:

<http://www.gofundme.com/1i1l08>

<http://bolerapalms.com>

<http://www.responseabilityalliance.com>

Till next time, lots of love

Taryn, Rita and the children