



# Newsletter



No. 4 March 2019

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## Welcome

I commend this, our 4th Newsletter, to you.

We have had another exciting and hard-working few months. Trustees Barry, Margaret and Peter have been communicating on a frequent basis with Rev'd Moses Kopa (Headteacher) and Patrick Sichilima (FPZ Administrator) encouraging and training them so that Future Pillars is going from strength to strength in our desire to enable vulnerable children to become excellent supporters for themselves, their families, Zambia, and thus our world. The other trustees also work tirelessly for the cause. For a small charity we are managing big things. Of course, we can only achieve this with your help.

Our two main fundraising projects this year are the 2nd Annual Sponsored Walk and FEED FIVE – see page 6. One-off fundraising, such as the Walk, is important and invaluable; please consider sponsoring the walkers via 'MyDonate' if walking is not for you. We also need to increase our regular donations so that we can plan, sustainably, ahead; FEED FIVE – is intended to help with this. We realise that £20 a month is a big ask, so why not invite friends/colleagues/family/neighbours to combine to contribute.

We are so grateful for all the support you give to the children. Remember that every kwacha goes to them. At the moment £1= 15 kwacha. We take no expenses and we have no overheads.

Our hungry children are crying out for education as well as nourishment for their stomachs.

Gratefully, and with our Greetings, *Rosemary Stanbury, Chair.*

## News from Kabwe

### Headlines

Hi everyone out there!

My name is Moses Kopa (Reverend) the Headteacher at Family Future Community School in Kabwe, Central Province of Zambia

It is my pleasure to share a few thoughts about our school. FFCS is a school that is improving steadily. We have earned a high reputation of being a provider of free education to orphans and vulnerable children in the last 14 years to the surrounding communities and those from the periphery.

Every beginning of the year at FFCS is very challenging for me, because we are not able to take all those who seek a place here. This leaves our hearts broken because most guardians confess "this was my last hope", but my responsibility is to ensure we offer the highest quality of education for as many children as possible, providing a life-saving bridge and a life-changing platform for many children from the most vulnerable families. Working with FPZ trustees, I have introduced a number of policies to enable us to manage the school. The Admissions Policy provides the guidance I need in preventing oversubscription, and hence overcrowding in classes, even though some guardians literally weep in the office pleading with me to have their child admitted in our school.



## Online Donations

Until 30 June you can donate on line to Future Pillars via BT MY Donate

Log on to [mydonate.bt.com](http://mydonate.bt.com)

- Search for Future Pillars

Or

- Use this link to go straight to our page [mydonate.bt.com](http://mydonate.bt.com)

Nevertheless, I am pleased to inform you that we are changing the lives of many children and families who do attend.

### The first term of 2019

Our readiness for the school calendar was preceded by the zero week in which we held a staff opening meeting on the 9th of January, 2019. This was followed by CPD in Literacy for all teachers across the grades and subjects in the school, as we need to improve considerably the literacy levels in the school. The workshop was well attended and well presented by our local staff who were trained by Beverly Simpson and Lesley Majekodunmi, last May, when the team came out to us from UK. We really thank each one of them for this rich knowledge they shared. I am determined, with my teachers, to ensure that our learners improve their literacy skills.

### The teachers

We have some very passionate teachers in the school and some that need a bit of a push. We are working hard to have every teacher come on board in terms of good teaching practices. Since June 2018, I have been working hard with Barry Gransden, FPZ trustee, on a whole range of matters – the development of Senior leadership Team, 5 year plan for all the resources, policy developments, and a lot of documents to help my teachers in planning, facilitating and assessing the children's learning. My task is to search out best practice in my school and enable that to be shared with others, as we raise standards and build a culture for learning – not just for the children! Barry and I are grateful to WhatsApp for enabling us to have very long conversations at minimal cost. It also lets us share some recent joy as we both follow Manchester United!

### The 2018 grade 7 and 9 final exams results

The 2018 Grade 7 results were generally impressive for the school compared to 2017. We are looking forward to improve further in 2019. As for the Grade 9 results, we still have work to do in terms of results and I have already made some necessary staff changes. After Literacy, Mathematics now requires most attention.

### Conclusion

I wish to thank the FPZ Trustees for the wonderful support they have continued to render to our school. I am convinced that this should seriously begin to translate into improved learner performance. However, to use this support to best effect, I have to build human resource capacity – my teachers have no choice, they have to improve their performance and I look forward to reporting this success story in future Headlines.

I wish you good health and great blessings from God our Father.

*Reverend Moses Kopa*

## From our Director of Resources

*Patrick Sichilima writes:*



As some of you will know, I have been involved with FFCS for a long time and have acted as the link between our UK sponsors and the school.

I am a family man and enjoy spending time with them, mostly at weekends. I am also a Chelsea supporter, which has been a good experience until recently, when fortunes changed at Old Trafford – Moses Kopa and Barry Gransden both support Manchester United and do not let me forget it!

Here at FFCS, we are thrilled with the new 2-classroom block which was funded by FPZ. It is already being used by the children, and this has increased the number of classrooms. We expect to see improvements in the children's learning soon. The



children are now also using the donated furniture which came from UK in the container last June. We are grateful to those who donated the items to FFCS. All items that were donated are being put to good use, and when the children see the items donated to the school they always smile. The teachers and the children are now enjoying the learning much more. The school are still growing and donations to the infrastructure is still needed for classroom furniture and resources, helping all our children in their basic education.



The G8 pupils have received the new uniforms, funded by FPZ, and this has really helped the children to take a pride in their appearance, reporting to school and lessons on time. Thank you for the donation of the uniforms which will go a long way in the life of the children, including the knitted jumpers in the colder weather.



The Pre-School class have also had their uniforms and the furniture provided by FPZ. It is heart-warming to see the children looking happy and, of course, very smart.



From the top classes in G9, the prefects play a very important role in the discipline of the school, encouraging and helping children to stay on site for their studies, but also reporting on negative behaviour. The School Leadership Team has distributed uniforms donated on the last container from UK to the prefects.

We are thankful to our sponsors who donated the uniforms, as you are helping us develop a sense of pride and care in our children, contributing to real improvement in the attitudes of the children as well as the adults.

## Teacher Tale

*One of our teachers, Ephraim Singoyi writes:*

I am a teacher in the primary section, with a G7 class – the final year in this section. Every day I wake up from sleep believing for a good day at work and indeed most of the days are good but each day is different as it has its own challenges and struggles amidst joys and successes.

My school day begins at 06:30, which itself is quite a challenge as I have to walk a long distance from home to reach school. Sometimes I have to cycle to work with my father's bicycle to reach school on time

and in the rain season I usually get soaked by the rains on my way to school and from home. This does not deter me as I am fully aware that the future of the children is in my hands, and, of course, they get soaked too! This really encourages me the more when I see the sacrifice and commitment from my learners regardless of their age and other social challenges.

Moving onto the teaching and learning processes, I really enjoy teaching the learners as they give me the satisfaction of being their mentor, moderator, encourager, inspirer and motivator for their lifelong career goals. As nice as it may sound most of these learners pose a challenge to me in successfully implementing my teaching activities as most of them come from an impoverished home-life in one of the three shanty compounds. Through personal engagement on my part, I have been very encouraged by changes that have been manifested in most of the learners in my class.



Lessons start at exactly 07:00 and end at 17:00, there are two sessions in the programme of our school, with the primary classes being on-site for one session. My day often goes beyond 17.00!

It would be very unfair if I fail to acknowledge how the feeding of our learners has helped me tremendously to have healthy and strong learners in my class. This motivates them to be in class hence making my work easier as many of them attend lessons. Most of my learners come to school on an empty stomach.

Working at FFCS is challenging, but I enjoy it. The school is well run and the considerable support from the UK through FPZ is a great motivator to me. In my stay at this school, I have witnessed many developments like the construction of a 1x2 classroom block, the arrival of the container from UK which came with classroom materials like tables and chairs also some books and many other things. Really the passion and love for the vulnerable child in our sponsors is clearly evident.

I love being part of FFCS family and I look forward to seeing more children`s lives transformed and promoted educationally at this school.

*Ephraim Singoyi*

## Pupil Points

*And now, meet two of our pupils:*



Hi everybody, my name is Charles Shula and I am in G8 at Family Future Community School. I love my school because they teach us good morals and academics. I recently passed my G7 exams which I wrote in November 2018. I managed to score 711 points in the exams and I have come back to my favourite school. I know that my education at FFCS is sponsored by the Future Pillars Zambia. After passing my exams, FPZ bought me my school uniform and I am learning for free, just like my classmates are. We all received the uniforms for free. We just had to buy

books and pens. Here we are given food, at lunch time - nshima is prepared for us. This really helps me to study hard, but the challenge I face in my education is that I walk a long distance from home to school as my home is very far from my school.

All the same I appreciate all the help I receive from the sponsors and the school will help me to have a better future. I just wish this school was running from G1 all the way to G12 - that would make my secondary school education to be complete. Even reaching this far in my education is a very big achievement. Therefore I thank FPZ for their kindness and the school with its teachers who are teaching us. God will never forget you.

Thank you.

Charles.



Hello, my name is Grace Chikwaba. I am 11 years old and I am in G7 at Family Future Community School. I live in a part of Kabwe, called Mwalala which is close to the school. I love the teachers at our school because they teach us and encourage us on how to be hardworking, achieve good grades and they also teach us how to read and write in English.

Thanks to FPZ, my sponsors from UK, I want to thank you for the things you do for us like building us more classrooms, giving us food and providing us with books.

Grace.

*Editor's Footnote – the school runs from Pre-School to G1 and through to G7 which is the top of the primary section. Much like UK, all children take national tests at the end of G7. So far it also has G8 and G9 classes after which there are more national tests. Currently children at FFCS who wish to go on further with their academic studies have to transfer to another secondary school for G10, 11 and 12. It is hoped to provide these grades at FFCS in the not too distant future*

## Social Media



*Did you know that we are on Facebook? Follow **Future Pillars Zambia** on Facebook to see news of events... and many more photographs!*



## Looking Ahead

### The Second Future Pillars Walk; Dorset 1 June 2019

*One day, one vision, one mission – empowering vulnerable children.*

Join us on 1 June 2019 as we walk The Isle of Purbeck Round and raise money to feed, educate and train over 1200 vulnerable children and young adults in Kabwe, Zambia.



#### What's it all about?

A TEAM effort to raise funds for vulnerable children/young adults in our programmes in Zambia. Conquer all or part of the walk – the full walk is 29 miles starting and finishing at Swanage Methodist Church, but shorter options from 4 miles upwards are available.



#### What's provided?

- Help with transport arrangements
- Food: Oh yes! Including afternoon tea/cake in Kingston and lunch at Corfe Castle.
- Drinks: water stops at the end of each section and at intermediate points
- Walk leaders and marshals as required – so no excuse for getting lost
- Booklet guide to the walk including maps and information about points of interest, history, geology



#### Interested?

Speak to a trustee or visit the [events page](#) on the website to read more about the day and the route, and to download a booking form. The event has been set up on BT's "MyDonate", so you can create an online sponsorship page linked to this if you wish. If you are not able to walk but would like to sponsor the walkers please go to the event page on [mydonate](#) to do so.

## FEED FIVE

*When budgeting for meals, do you have 'enough to spare for a little one?'*



We invite you to consider helping us with the cost of feeding one or more vulnerable children in the feeding programme at the Family Futures Community School (FFCS) in Kabwe in one of the poorest areas of the town. Imagine providing the midday meal for children sitting round your table. For many this is their only meal of the day. Learning is very difficult on an empty stomach, no matter how good the teacher.



**It costs £4 to feed 1 child for a month. Around 850 children are fed a day.**

We are delighted that many of the AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children we have fed and educated in the past have grown up to become 'pillars' of their own community, for example by becoming teachers, healthcare professionals or learning a trade, helping to build a future for this desperately poor area of Zambia.

Any help you can give to our current children will make a real difference.

**You may sponsor any number of children but 'FEED FIVE' and get photos and feedback.**



If you feel able to commit to sponsoring five children (£20 per month), you will receive a regular update with photos and feedback on the progress of the five

## Our Website

Visit our website for more information on Zambia, Kabwe and our programmes  
[www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk](http://www.futurepillarszambia.org.uk)



children you are feeding. Maybe you could consider clubbing together with family members, friends or colleagues to 'FEED FIVE' together. Is this something that your mums' group, church house-group or work office, could feel good about sharing? If you are a grandparent, could this be a special project to do together with your grandchild?

Speak to a trustee or visit the [Feeding Programme](#) page on the website to find out more and download a feeding sponsorship form.

## Marathon Man



Treasurer Peter McAughey is at it again! Not content with signing up – and testing the route – for the full distance of the FPZ sponsored walk, Peter McAughey will run for Future Pillars in the London Marathon on April 28 2019. If you would like to sponsor Peter, please

Speak to a trustee or email [trustees@futurepillarszambia.org.uk](mailto:trustees@futurepillarszambia.org.uk)

## Dates for your diary

A Lent Ploughman's Lunch will be held at Rosemary's home in Abingdon from noon on [Wednesday 27th March](#). Rosemary will also be at Stamford Methodist Church on [Wednesday 3rd April at 2.30pm](#) to give a presentation about FPZ entitled 'Our Story and future plans'. All welcome.

## Closure of BT MyDonate



On 21 January BT announced that its fundraising platform MyDonate is to close on 30 June this year.

BT MyDonate was the first commission-free service of its kind. Future Pillars have been using MT MyDonate since our foundation in 2017, and our June sponsored walk was set up on the site at the beginning of January, ahead of the announcement. We like BT MyDonate because there is no commission payable by

either the donor or the charity. Funds raised are sent to the chosen charity within 30 days, including Gift Aid.

When you go onto MyDonate you will see a warning that the site is closing...but donations can be made on MyDonate until midnight on 30 June 2019. We have decided to leave the sponsored walk on BT MyDonate, in the hope that walkers will have mobilized their support by then. In the meantime we are researching an alternative platform which will not charge fees – watch this space!

## Trustees' visits

This year there will be two separate visits to Kabwe by trustees and supporters. Barry and Becky Gransden will be visiting in May, and as before will focus on Family Futures Community School. Rosemary Stanbury and Peter McAughey will visit in July. Peter will be undertaking an audit of the accounts with Patrick, while Rosemary will focus on the sponsored students and skills programmes.

## Can you help?

We hope you have enjoyed news of the projects you have supported. We need £80,000 a year just to maintain the existing activities in Kabwe. If we are to develop these projects we are going to need to raise at least **£100,000** a year – and we will need your help to do so:

- Could you organize an event to spread the word and raise more support?
- Could you make a regular donation?
- Would you like to join us on a trip to Kabwe and help out on the ground?

Speak to a trustee or contact us using the details provided if you would like to talk about these or any other ideas! **Thank you**

## Contact Us

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# Future Pillars

Empowering vulnerable children in Zambia

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## DONATION FORM

To make a one-off or monthly donation please provide the following information. The easiest way is to set up using online banking but you can also complete and detach section 4 and take this to your bank manager to set up the standing order arrangement.

**SECTION 1 —PERSONAL DETAILS** (it is far cheaper and easier for us to send information including newsletters by e mail but please do contact us if you have an alternative preference for communication).

Full name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
E mail \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2 —DONATION SUM** All funds are hugely appreciated. We pledge that 100% of funds raised go directly to our approved programmes in Zambia. All UK costs are met by specific donations by FPZ Trustees. As an example it currently costs £4 a month to feed each child a nutritious meal every school day and it costs £12 a month to sponsor a child to Upper Secondary level so they can gain a crucial qualification and have hope for a better future. You can make a real difference. Please pay to FUTURE PILLARS (ZAMBIA), Lloyds Bank PLC, Sort code 30-84-87 account number 39911960. Or kindly include a cheque/cash.

One off donation £ ..... Cheque/cash enclosed   
Monthly donation until further instruction £ ..... Date of donation (or first donation) ...../...../.....

### SECTION 3 – GIFT AID DECLARATION

Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate! I am a UK Taxpayer

Please treat all donations I make now and in the future and since 22 June 2017 as Gift Aid donations until further notice. I confirm that I am a UK Income or Capital Gains Tax Payer. I have read this statement and want the Charity named above to reclaim tax on the donation detailed above given on the date shown. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax or Capital Gains tax in the current tax year then the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all of my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. Please contact the charity if you wish to cancel this declaration or change address details etc.

X .....

### SECTION 4 —TO SEND TO YOUR BANK

To the manager of \_\_\_\_\_ Bank at (address) \_\_\_\_\_  
Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Sort Code \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to make a regular donation to Future Pillars (Zambia) of £ \_\_\_\_\_ as stated above, commencing on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/20\_\_

Please pay the above sum commencing on the above date to FUTURE PILLARS (ZAMBIA) , Lloyds Bank PLC, Sort code 30-84-87 account number 39911960, until further instruction in writing.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT

