



One Family Learning Centre

PO Box 240073, Vitanda St, Ndola, Zambia

Newslett

Dear friend

One family appreciates your interest and help with our project and would like to keep you up to date with developments.

This newsletter is a new initiative to inform those of you that have helped us in the past, and those who may be interested in helping us in the future about the latest news from Vitanda Street.

It has been an incredibly busy start to the year for *One Family*. Below are a selection of the many activities the Centre has been involved in so far in 2003.

Please let us know your comments on this newsletter, so we can make the next one even better!

Yours sincerely

Anne Hövels
Secretary

New Logo!

You can see our new logo at the top of the page. The children at One Family were asked for designs expressing how they felt about *One Family*, and the final result is an amalgamation of some of their ideas.

We have now added this logo to the front of our building, our letterhead and our latest publicity leaflets.

Website Update

The website has also been given a new look. To see the latest version, point your browser at:-

www.geocities.com/onefamilyschool

A lick of Paint

In January, the Centre was repainted inside and out. Those of you who have visited the centre will know that the walls were painted with a water-based paint that had proved impossible to keep clean.

The class rooms have now been repainted using a cream gloss paint, and the toilet, washroom and kitchen have been done in blue. The outside front wall has also been painted blue, with an attractive sign featuring our new logo.

Thank you to Mark Hughs, who's company provided much of the labour for free.

New Staff and Volunteers

One Family has been run since it was reformed in July 2001 on the dedication and commitment of our volunteers. Now we have become a little more established, we believed it was time to professionalise some of our staff positions. As a result, we have successfully advertised and recruited a number of new salaried staff.

Firstly, the post of Centre Co-ordinator was filled by *Nolly Nakasamu*. Nolly is a founding member of *One Family* and has been performing this role in a voluntary capacity for 18 months.



Leeven explains fractions to Daniel

Leeven Shambwekwa joins us to teach level 3. Levin is a trained teacher, and has been working with street children for a number of years.

Emma Kamanga, a qualified pre-school teacher has joined us to teach the children with no previous school experience in our Level 1 class.



Jane teaching level 1 some basic maths

Jane Silupya and Julius Banda join Nancy Mayamba as volunteer teachers.

This brings our full complement of staff and volunteers to six. This is great news for the Centre, as one of our abiding problems has been the shortage of personnel. We would like to wish all our new staff and volunteers well as they settle into their work at the centre.

Nolly receives some Top Tips

We have been very lucky to have *Vicky Shaw*, a management specialist from the UK, to join us for a three month period.



Nolly and Vicky working on the new timetable

Vicky has been working alongside the Centre Coordinator to strengthen the administration, communication and day-to-day management of the Centre. Together, they have overseen the recruitment and induction of our new staff and Nolly has been able to develop new management skills and practices.

We are grateful to Vicky for giving her time for free. She will be with us until April 2003.

Task Force for Street Children

A new organisation has been set up in Ndola, made up of representatives of organisations such as *One Family* who are working directly with street children.

This group meets weekly to co-ordinate the activities of the various NGOs with the Council and Government. So far there are 15 members and one of the first items on the Taskforce's agenda is to verify organisations working with street kids.

Many groups claim to be helping street children when they are applying for funds from local and international bodies, but their activities remain only on paper. Task force will be conducting lightning tours of projects to see what is really happening on the ground.

We welcome this initiative as we have met our fair share of 'Briefcase NGOs' who divert funds away from those actually doing the work.

Afternoon activities

We have been trying to improve on our programme of afternoon activities at the Centre. These activities not only gives the children a rounded education, but also provide one of the main draws away from street life. The following programme is now in operation:-

Two players from Zambia's national football team have been taking the boys for coaching and practice on Mondays and Wednesdays.

On Tuesdays, *Justin*, a local craftsman, has been instructing the children in woodwork. He has also donated wood to the Centre, and we hope that when the boys become sufficiently skilled, perhaps we can use some of their work to raise money for One Family.

Thursdays is music afternoon, when *Mustafa*, a musician in one of Ndola's most popular bands, comes to the Centre. Mustafa has been encouraging the boys to write and perform their own material. *One Family* was recently donated some drums, which the children are learning to play.



Mustafa, the Music Man, with the children every Thursday afternoon

Friday afternoon is swimming. *Hope Humana* have agreed to us using their pool for a small fee, and as this is perhaps the most popular activity with the children, we are happy to pay.

This programme has been immensely popular with the kids, and as a result we are now reaching some of the hardened street children who have resisted joining us. No doubt our children have been telling them that '*School is Cool!*'

Donations & Fundraising

One Family has received donations from two individuals this month, Mrs *Yollette Inskip*, Ndola, Zambia and an anonymous visitor who walked in off the street.

We also received a donation from *Simba School*, Ndola, Zambia. With the help of their teachers, the school Choir organised an 'Evening of Christmas Carols', with the proceeds going to *One Family Learning Centre*.



Simba School Choir raising money and good cheer!

The evening was a great success and the audience enjoyed both the carols and the mince pies. It was also a good opportunity to raise the profile of *One Family* in Ndola.

Future fundraising activities are to be held this month by two schools in the Netherlands.

AOC Oost School is organising their second action for us under the direction of *Barbara Munsterhuis*. Barbara came to Zambia for a month in July 2001, and was a great help when we first opened our doors in Vitanda Street. We are hoping that this action will be supported by the organisation *Wilde Ganzen* (Wild Geese), who may double the money raised by the school.

St Jozef School in Agelo is also undertaking their third fundraising activity on our behalf this month.

Our sincere thanks to all those mentioned above!

One Family is a registered society of Zambia and is an affiliate of the Community Schools Secretariat, Ministry of Education, Zambia.

All enquiries to Anne Hövels, Secretary, One Family, PO Box 240073, Ndola, Zambia.
