

JANUARY 2023



EBENEZER RAPALE

# NEWS



2023 has got off to a good start at Ebenezer Rapale, with staff and apprentices returning to training refreshed after the quieter Christmas period.

Foundations for Farming lessons are continuing to enthuse and engage as apprentices see the difference between this conversation farming method and the practices they are familiar with at home.

Bible lessons have continued to spark good discussion and apprentices are enjoying having Andrew Cunningham take them through material from Community Health Evangelism (CHE) which focuses on our relationship with God, ourselves, others and creation.

Business lessons are also proving interesting and helpful as Ilda takes our apprentices through basic business principles and terminology, exploring topics such as profit and loss and what differentiates businesses, making one better than another,

A new development in our training for which we are grateful is literacy lessons with Claire Cunningham for those apprentices who struggle to read. Thank you Claire!

Family Nights are providing great opportunities for staff and apprentices to get to know one another better. Rather than following a structured programme we have been enjoying spending relaxed time together, praying for one another and playing lots of games - it seems we have some very competitive apprentices!



# PRODUCTION

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This month saw us close our green maize harvest with a total of 31,937 cobs harvested! Our apprentices worked hard to achieve a good quality crop and we found the market to be very ready, meaning we had had no trouble selling our entire harvest and we made a profit!

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Our struggle with tuta continued in our tomato crop but we made the best efforts we could to treat the crop and now we are doing all we can to protect the half hectare of tomatoes we have remaining in the ground.

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Our green houses are currently being prepared for the planting of a variety of kitchen crops including pepper, cabbage, carrots and cucumber, all of which will contribute to a healthy and balanced diet for our apprentices.

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We currently have 3,471 layer birds continuing to produce. They are hitting an average lay rate of 81.5%.

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# INTRODUCING

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Claudia graduated from Ebenezer back in 2020. We identified her as someone with potential and invited her onto our staff team to help look after our female apprentices. She is great in her interactions with the apprentices and provides good feedback to the rest of the team on how they are doing. Benaldo fulfils a similar role with our guy apprentices. He has started a successful youth group on Monday nights where they discuss "Mens Stuff" which has been great for our male apprentices. It is a blessing having Claudia and Bernardo on the team and we are thrilled that their friendship has developed to the point that they plan to marry later this year! What a great example to our apprentices of a good relationship!

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