

FEBRUARY 2024



EBENEZER KAZUNGULA

NEWS



Big news in February was a visit from some of the Ebenezer Zimbabwe Team, including Brilliant and Sithabiso Khoza who stayed with us for 2 weeks. The Khozas are both Ebenezer graduates themselves and are very involved in training at Ebenezer Matobo. We loved having them participating in our lessons, family nights and across our Productive Learning Areas (PLAs), encouraging us and sharing from their own experience and expertise. As the lead Agriculture trainer at Ebenezer Matobo, we particularly enjoyed Brilliant's input in our field work and agriculture projects!



Our second years have continued with their weekly outreaches during February, with visits to Global Samaritans Children Home and the Sonrise Community School close to Ebenezer. At Global Samaritans our apprentices enjoyed sharing with the children on Peer Pressure. At Sonrise Community School they had a lot of fun playing games with the school kids and donating items such as stationery and toilet paper. Which was appropriate, as their main topic for the day was hygiene, a pertinent subject with rising cases of cholera in our region.



We have been continuing to meet in our families to have fun together on Thursday nights. A recent highlight was our Art evening during which apprentices showcased their talents in designing and creating family banners!



As we approach the end of the Ebenezer year, with graduation happening at the end of March, application forms have now gone out for our next intake of apprentices in June.

PRODUCTION

A lack of rain has continued to be a challenge for us and many farmers in Zambia. Thankfully, we did receive some rain at the end of February which has made a difference to our sunflower and maize crops which have been struggling with the dry conditions.

In the middle of February, four first year apprentices placed a further 2 batches, totalling just over 9,000 birds. This means we currently have four houses under production.

Heat has been a challenge for our broiler production and we are working hard to implement schemes to both cool our poultry houses during high temperatures and cool the temperature of our water supply.

Our layer flock has reached an age of 42 weeks and is hitting a lay rate of 83%. This means they are producing about 100 trays per day.

We suffered a disease in our layer flock which has seen our lay-rate dip. Alongside managing our flock health, apprentices are working hard to ensure the correct quality and quantity of feed is being supplied to our birds, and we look forward to seeing the lay-rate rise once more!

