

FEBRUARY 2024



EBENEZER RAPALE



# NEWS

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It has been another good month at Ebenezer Rapale, with our new first year apprentices continuing to settle in well as they get stuck into lessons and production. They have been particularly enjoying their Bible lessons with Alberto - they can hardly sit still with their many good questions and they are amazed to know that Jesus came to change sinful people like us!

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Our apprentices have continued to be actively involved in their local churches, with one Family Group visiting a different church each week. Pictured here you can see them joyfully setting off to participate in a new congregation which was planted in January.

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In our Family Night gatherings we have been meeting as three families to study the book of Ephesians. Discussions have focused on what it means to be created in God's image, where do we see the fallen condition and how should God's people live?

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A significant development this month has been the construction of a new water reservoir to replace tanks we had been using which were continually spilling and requiring costly repairs and maintenance. Installing this much more sturdy tank will ensure the efficient running of our irrigation and water supply to campus.

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On the theme of water, we are thankful that our dam remains healthy and of good capacity to keep supplying us with all of our water needs. It continues to be a real blessing to us at Ebenezer.

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# PRODUCTION

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There has been lots of good developments in our productive areas this month. We concluded work on our security fence which has enabled us to place our first batch of broilers in one of our traditional style aviaries! This is exciting for everyone, especially our apprentices who will now benefit from the experience of farming these birds in a small-scale context which they will be able to replicate beyond Ebenezer.  
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We have been particularly impressed with second year apprentice, Silvio, who has been caring for this first batch of broilers. Silvio is a cheerful young man who has shown a great desire to learn and who actively participates in lessons with enthusiasm. This enthusiasm and dedication has been evident in his farming and we are already seeing the fruit of his hard work with the birds exceeding their target weights at the end of week 1! We hope these encouraging results continue until the end of the batch.  
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Our laying hens are 51 weeks old and are continuing to produce consistently, with a lay-rate of 89%.  
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This month we planted 1 hectare of maize and half a hectare of pigeon peas. The growth of these crops so far has been very positive.  
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