March/April Newsletter 2015 [www.gregsophiesangwine.org.uk](http://www.gregsophiesangwine.org.uk)

Dear Friends,

We start by apologising for missing our first monthly newsletter! So here is a double month edition (again a couple of days late…we will get better!)

Time flies incredibly quickly when you have small children, JT will be 7 months old on Tuesday and is growing into such a delightful boy. He has a great sense of humour and his laugh is infectious! He is eating more solid foods, sitting and sleeping well and his health has been well. So we are feeling incredibly blessed!

We are both really well and continuing to love our life in Zimbabwe. We have been fortunate to have had the school holidays over the month of April and been able to spend huge amounts of time together as a family. It was a rainy start to the holidays but the sunshine returned for the second half and we have had time to relax together, talking and praying through our future both for our family and our projects.

When we return to work next week, we will be having the support of a young lady to support with looking after JT at the school whilst Sophie is working for a couple of hours each morning. Please pray that JT settles well with her and Sophie finds the separation from JT okay!

**One Way School**
Our school now has 82 children and employs 10 local people. We’re proud of the progress of the children and the staff continue to grow more and more confident delivering excellent lessons to their classes. Of our 82 children 11 have free places and a further 5 more receive assisted places for their education. We are also expecting more children to start school at the beginning of the next term which opens on Tuesday and this will be an answer to prayer both for filling of the places and for financial stability. Please pray for continued registrations.

**Licence(s)**
The school licence for a Primary School requires 3.2 hectares of land, we currently only have 1.2- this poses a problem! In the eyes of the law as it stands, we are unable to obtain a licence to hold a full Primary school on our premises. Currently, we have 4 classes up to Grade 2, making us an infant school. Through our communication with the local Education Minister, he is happy for us to continue offering education to these children and has offered to help us get paperwork in place to allow this officially. However, there are some huge hurdles still to overcome and the licencing laws are having a huge impact on the potential future of the project in terms of its immediate development and its longevity. We are in need of prayers in this area first and foremost, but we trust God will see all papers get into place.

**School PTA**
We were keen to establish a culture of fundraising in the school so it was with great delight that we could set up a PTA and their first events, including a family fun day have so far raised $1200 for the future development of One Way School. We want Zimbabweans to do 100% of the fundraising for their school so we’re pleased with how we’ve begun. Additionally, a parent who is a contractor has offered to donate bricks and sand as well as giving us the builder to do the work for free so people are really stepping forward to aid the continued education of their children.

**International support**
Growing a school (or any business) in the current economic climate is difficult but it is our belief that God continues to want the best for the children of One Way School so we don’t want to stop. There are a number of projects we’d love people to raise money for. Would you be happy to hold your own fundraising event for the future of One Way School? A run perhaps or a swim? We’d love to be able to-

1) Develop a sports field
2) Buy sports equipment
3) Build and resource a library and computer suite

Another incredible option would be to donate an old laptop or an old set of books to resource the school. Or you could support us through buying us some sports equipment? If any these things appeal to you then please contact us. It’s our way of rewarding the local people here that their fundraising (which isn’t natural to them) isn’t going un-noticed and we can support them also.

**Visas**Our current visas see us to October 2015. When we return to school next week we will be submitting the paperwork and finances to extend these. Extensions will enable us to ensure the longer term sustainability of the project and continue to work alongside the staff and children of the school. Please pray that we would receive the amount of time requested and there would be no complications with the process.

**Prayer Points**

* That JT would settle well with his minder and Sophie would be okay and able to continue her work training and supporting the teaching staff
* That we would continue to receive registrations for every class and the school would find itself in a stable position
* That God would provide open doors with regards to the licencing for the Infant School
* That we would have an easy application process for the extension of our visas

A huge thank you for your support over the course of our time here thus far, we have come huge leaps and bounds in a short space of time and your support has been of great encouragement to us. We thank God for the opportunity we have here and hope to continue with the good works.

God Bless,

Greg, Sophie and JT x