



A Place of Refuge and Hope

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School Wrap Up

July 28th marked the end of the 2016-2017 Malawian school year and the end of the first year of class at the Miqlat Primary School. While it's an exciting time of year for all of our students, it is especially exciting for our 30 Standard (Grade) 8 and 20 Form 4 (high school senior) students. Standard 8 is the last year of primary (elementary) school and concludes with the students taking a giant nationwide exam to earn their Primary School Leaving Certificate of Education. Their PSLCE scores will determine where each student attends secondary (high) school in the fall. In Form 4, our students have just completed their exams for the Malawi School Certificate of Education. Alexander Mpemba, pictured here holding his graduation photos, is thrilled to have finished his grueling four years at one of the best government secondary schools in the Thuchila area. In the practice exams leading up to the official MSCE, Alexander scored 2nd in his school and 5th in his school grouping which meant competing

against students at 12 different secondary schools. This ambitious young man dreams to attend the University of Malawi's Chancellor College and become Miqlat's first lawyer. We're praying for peace and rest for him and all the other exam takers as they must wait until late September or even early October to find out their results.

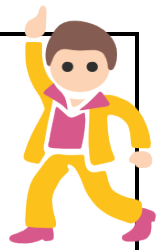
Miqlat School, Wrap Up and Visions of the Future

As we finish our first year of Miqlat Primary School, we are immensely grateful for what the Lord has done with our new step of faith. Experimenting and learning how to blend cultures to educate students who have long lacked proper attention has been no small feat! We thank our teachers Nellie and Juniah for working with us this year as we got our feet on the ground, and we wish them well in their futures as both will be leaving us in August. Nellie will be getting married and following her husband to a new location, while Juniah is returning to school for further study. We are excited to announce that this means we will be bringing in a team of 6 brand new teaching graduates from DAPP Teacher's College to begin our 2017-2018 school year, with 4 classes at Kogoya and 2 at Thuchila! We will introduce them to you over the next few months as our new buildings are finished and their training begins.



Dancing the Day Away

On a non-school related note, Club Saturdays at the Hope Centers have taken on a distinct dancing theme the last two months as we've pursued more contemporary dance at Kogoya and have been hosting a local dance competition every other week at Thuchila. This competition has brought teams from each village that Thuchila serves and has given us an opportunity to host nationally renowned gospel singers and a professional traditional dance troupe at the Hope Center for the grand finale. Our young people have been enjoying the new and unusual activities so much that they are showing up to morning tutoring classes in greater numbers than ever so they can be ready to participate immediately as afternoon activities begin.



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