

Hallo julle!

Soos altyd is daar dinge om voor DANKIE te sê en dan is daar dinge om voor te bid! Dit het begin reën. Wat 'n seën! Ons is baie dankbaar vir die verligting. Ons het begin asem ophou vir die boorgat, want die watertafel is vinnig besig om te val. Aan die slegte kant, het ek weereens malaria. Lourie het ook intussen malaria gehad, so ons loop so beurtelings deur. Die probleem is dat ons nie definitiewe simptome toon nie – ek kry byvoorbeeld nie kouekoors nie, slegs die koorspieke, en soos julle weet, is dit warm, so ek bly maar op my hoede. Lourie sê nogal die dokter gaan dink ons is paranoïes! Wel, ons ken nou al die laboratorium tegnoloog op sy voornaam, Michello, en hy bel ons sommer met die uitslae.

Ons het vandag vir die derde keer die weeskinders en verwaarloosdes by die skool gaan kos gee. Die honger en armoede raak nou die kinders die meeste tot tyd en wyl die mielieoeste inkom einde April. Ons moes eers toestemming kry by die ouers/voogde (die meeste het nie ouers nie) omdat ons intensies nog bevestigte word. Wel, die getal het nou al verdubbel en ons voed nou 70 honger kindertjies. Een van die vereistes is dat ons saam met hulle moet eet (seker om te sien of ons wel dink die kos is eetbaar, haha). Wel, die oefening om sous vir die bazaar te maak daar in die beginjare, help nogal om te skat hoeveel bredie om te maak vir hulle. Ek probeer maar hoofsaaklik proteïen maak, dus vleis, bone en groente. Mama Kalaluka maak die sousie met groente uit die tuin en Mary, die pastoor se vrou, maak die nshima (pap) - 15kg op 'n slag! Op die fotos kan julle sien hoe Lourie saam met die kinders eet.

Sondag na Sondagskool het ek en Lourie die kleintjies bederf met poeding. Wel, ek moes iets doen met die 35 ekstra eiers en wat is beter as vla?! Ons het toe begin om 20 bakkies vol te skep en soos ons aangegaan het, het die



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Hello all!

We are very thankful to God for the first rains we had. What a blessing! It has brought some welcome relief from the severe drought we have had for months now. As a result of the drought, the water table was dropping very fast and we were worried about our water supply. On the negative side, I have malaria again. Lourie had it too, so it seems we are taking turns. It is a bit confusing in that we do not show the classic symptoms of malaria like cold fever. I only get the fever pitches, and it's hot here anyway, so we are on our guard at all times. Lourie says the doctor will think we are paranoid! Well, we are on first name terms with the laboratory technician now and he phones us personally with the results.

Today was the third time we fed the hungry and needy children at the local school. Any surplus maize in the villages is dwindling fast and the sad thing is that the children are most affected by that. This is the worst time of year for them because maize can only be harvested in April next year. Remember, even if they had money, there is no such thing as a corner shop or a local supermarket around here. The number of children we are feeding at the moment has doubled to 70. We are focusing the diet on meat proteins, which is a luxury for them, rather than just vegetables which they often get at home. I usually make a huge beef or chicken stew, Mrs Kalaluka makes the relish with our own home grown vegetables and Mary, the pastor's wife, is in charge of the nshima (maize), 15kg at a time! On the photo we had to eat with the children so that they could feel welcome at our meal. We are quite used to eating with our hands now!

With all the extra eggs we are getting nowadays we decided to treat the kids after Sunday school with pudding and nice home-made custard. We started off with 20 children but as we dished out, the line steadily grew and in the end we had

kleintjies vermeerder en later was dit slegs vla op brood en niks meer jellie nie! Hulle het dit baie geniet.

Intussen het ons 5 HIV wees-babas by die voedingsprogram gekry wat ons babamelk en HEPS (high energy protein supplement) gee omdat hul nie ma's het nie. My eerste baba se naam is Mike. Kyk sy pensie van wanvoeding. Ons het nog nie 'n babaskaal nie en Lourie moes hom op die plaasskaal weeg. Hy is te oulik – maar was glad nie geneë om op die skaal te wees nie! Die babas word opgepas deur oumas of familie wat hulle dan mieliepap voer van geboorte af, daarom die wanvoeding. Ons het Mike vroeër die week hospitaal toe geneem met 'n lelike hoës. Hulle het hom op antibiotika gesit en ja, ek kon dit ook gedoen het.

Op die foto is Lourie en die kinders besig om sprinkane te jag om te gaan visvang. 'n Vriend was so gaaf om vir ons sy 2 visstokke te leen toe hy hier was. Ons is toe na die Monzuma dam om te gaan lyn natmaak. Ek is jammer om te sê dat ons geen visse gevang het nie! Ons het nie eers een byt gekry nie! Die kinders het die uitstappie baie geniet veral omdat daar koekies en koeldrank betrokke was.

Seën en voorspoed vir julle!

Onthou om so af en toe op die werf te gaan loer, want nuwe fotos word gelaai.



to dish out custard on bread to more than 35 children! You must have seen how they enjoyed that!

In the meantime, we have started 5 HIV babies on the feeding program. We give them formula milk and HEPS (high energy protein supplement) because they don't have moms. The first baby's name is Mike, and he is so cute. Because we do not have a baby scale yet, we had to weigh him on the fertilizer scale. He did not like that very much. Look at his huge belly! The babies are looked after by grannies or close family members who only give them maize meal from birth, hence the malnutrition. We had to take Mike to the hospital earlier in the week because he had a nasty cough. They only gave him antibiotics, and yes, I could have done that too.

On the photo the kids and Lourie are hunting for grasshoppers to go fishing with. We got some fishing rods on loan from a friend and set off to the Monzuma Dam for fishing. I'm sorry to say we didn't catch anything; we did not even have a single bite! The kids enjoyed the outing very much though, especially because there were cakes and cold drink involved.

Blessings to you all.

Remember to visit the web site where you can see more pictures.

**Gisela & Lourie**

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