



HEATHER IN MOZ - JAN/FEB 2016

Happy New Year

Happy New Year to everyone. Last year seemed to rush by in a blur of activity that it's hard to look back and remember everything that went on! But what I do know is that God has remained good and faithful to us in the area of provision and safety and health. My prayer for 2016 is that I would grow in wisdom in dealing with the more challenging boys that we have at Kedesh. Although we have a range of ages, the youngest being 7 and the oldest 19, at the moment we have quite a big group of 14-16 year olds. I am forever learning how best to help support this age group as they try to become independent and find their identities as individuals. I'm sure parents of teenagers will know what I mean when I say that at times they drive me a bit crazy! At this point I also want to say a massive thank you to all of you who support me personally with your prayers, encouragement and those who support me financially and help to keep me here. I know I couldn't be here without you all and I'm thankful to have the opportunity to be here and be a part of this forever changing and growing family.



Never ending heat wave & little rain

I know that all around the world countries have been experiencing strange weather patterns this year. For us too we've experienced a much warmer and drier rainy season so far. Temperatures have been consistently between 37-40 C and instead of getting lots of rain following high temperatures, to raise the water table after the dry season and prepare the land for rice planting, we have received very little rain. The water level in the pond is usually above our heads at this time of year but right now it's barely just above our knees (as demonstrated by my dog).



As a result of very little clean well water, we have been using the pond water to wash with and the well water we're reserving for drinking and cooking with. So water from the pond is pumped every morning, fireman style, to a tank and then a bottle of bleach is added to it to help make it cleaner and smelling nicer! As well as water for drinking, cooking and bathing, the lack of rain has left many with failed crops and with fear over how they will feed and provide for their families this year. So please pray for us to be blessed with some good rain storms very soon.

Patricia's back!

Last month we welcomed Patricia back for her 7th visit here at Kedesh. Patricia 1st came to Kedesh in 2008 with a YWAM team and has come back not once but every year since then. She's become a very good friend to me and to us all at Kedesh, really like one of the family so it's always such a blessing when she's here. She has many talents but one is playing volleyball and she has previously helped lots of our boys get very good at playing. This year she also helped and inspired several of the younger ones to continue in the same tradition!



Girl's beach trip

Over the past year I've been helping a group of girls from the local community learn to read. I have grown to really love these girls and so at the end of a year

of hard work I decided to treat them all to a day at the beach. Several of the girls had never been in the sea before, despite living 25 minutes away from it and for all of them it was a chance to have a day off from the normal household chores they are expected to do as girls here. I think everyone enjoyed themselves!



Toni's grandmother's new house

The last couple of months the older boys have been working really hard on building a new, traditional style house for Toni's grandmother. The need became more urgent when we discovered that in her former house, that was in state of disrepair, someone had broken in and attacked her one evening, resulting in her moving in with neighbours until her new house had been finished and secure. This month the house is completed and happily she has been able to move in. This is her on the left, in front of her new house, with one of her friends and neighbours.



Older boys moving on

It's always both a happy and sad occasion when the day arrives for our older boys to move out. This month we have 5 boys moving out. Francisco and Jona

(brothers), Santinho, Tito and Paizinho. Francisco will be starting University, sponsored by Delta, an organisation Patricia is involved with in Switzerland, and the other 4 boys have jobs working in a clam factory. Thankfully they are all moving out to houses in our neighbourhood so we will still be able to check how they're getting on! But they have all proved to be very good, responsible, hardworking young men and we have high hopes that they will continue to do well in this next stage of their lives. Please pray for them as they settle into their new homes and adjust to a new routine.



Other random news

A gift for the widows - A Canadian friend of ours who knows about the group of elderly widows we support decided she wanted to bless them with a gift at the end of the year. So in December the ladies were delighted to receive a chair! It may not seem like much but here a chair is a bit of a luxury so it was a much appreciated gift.



Dinner with 'old boys' - A tradition started a few years back for myself and Patricia to visit and have a meal with some of the former Kedesh boys at one of their houses. It is always something we enjoy,

spending time with them and seeing and hearing about their lives. This year we had the meal around Jose and his wife Angelica's House. It was again a lovely time, despite the odd power cut we still all managed to chat and enjoy ourselves.



Another house to build- Following completing the traditionally built house for Toni's grandmother, we are now starting on another building project. Thanks to friends of Kedesh, we have been given the funds to build a brick house for a local family that we support. Maria is HIV positive and is a widow and has one grown up married daughter and 3 sons, Luis (14), Cadoso (7) and Manuel (3). Luis and Cadoso spend the days with us at Kedesh and return in the evening to the small, two roomed rented house where their mother and younger brother live. Having no husband, little extended family and HIV it's been very difficult for Maria to survive and provide for her family. So we have been supporting them with rent for their house and food. But it is a huge blessing to now be given the opportunity to build them a permanent house to live in.



Answers to prayer/Thanks

- For Toni's grandmother having a new house to live in.
- For the older boys who are moving out, having jobs, support for university and places to live.

- For the school holidays and the fun we've had with Patricia and other visitors.
- For the girls in the girls groups who were able to have a day out at the beach
- For the bit of rain we've had that has helped everything grow and turn green
- For the finances we have received to be able to further bless our group of elderly widows we support
- For the support we have received to be able to build a house for Maria and her family
- For funds to be able to prepare things for the start of school next month - like equipment and uniforms
- For the older boys who have already moved out and are proving to be such good example to others at Kedesh
- For safety and good health

Prayer needed

- For the start of school next month and getting back to a good routine
- For the boys who moved out this week that they would do well in their new homes, jobs and studies
- For Maria's house and the building process.
- For proper rain to come and fill our pond and wells.
- For the girls in the girls groups to be able to study well at school despite responsibilities and distractions
- For finances to continue well in order for us to continue to improve Kedesh and support Widows and other vulnerable people.
- For the political situation, which is still unstable. Please pray for peace and resolution amongst the different political parties.
- For me to become more wise and able to deal with the more challenging teenage boys we have at Kedesh.
- For continued safety and good health.

Much love and blessings to you all and thank you for your continued prayers, interest and support.

Feel free to contact me or even consider visiting! - hevdawnpev@gmail.com

Heather