

KEDESH MOZAMBIQUE

Heathers update-September 2026

Hello from Beira, Mozambique! Sorry it has taken me longer than usual to produce a newsletter. It's been a busy but productive 6 months. As always there's been some harder things to deal with but also many moments that brought joy. I hope you enjoy reading.

New arrivals to the kedesh family

Since I last wrote we have received 3 new arrivals to the Kedesh family. Mateus, age 14 who is the brother of Benjamin who came to live with us in December. José, age 10 and Azley age 13. Mateus, like his brother is a great dancer and has a gentle personality. José (middle photo on left) is full of energy and loves cycling around Kedesh. He has difficulty in a classroom setting but is gradually learning the value of sitting down to learn his letters and numbers. Azley is bright and keen to learn. He's also got a great sense of humour. All 3 are getting on well at Kedesh.



Teresa



In April, one of the young ladies from the local community, called Teresa, suddenly collapsed and died. I had known Teresa for many years as she had been part of the first group of girls from the community I helped to learn to read. Teresa was just 24 years old and leaves behind a 5 year old daughter. She was living with her



mother at the time who had already lost Teresa's older brother and younger sister to illness in the past. Since Teresa's passing, her mother has sold the land where she lived and completely demolished the house they lived in because of her grief and belief in bad luck being associated with the house and land. Loss feels all to 'normal' here sometimes. Please pray for Teresa's mother, her younger brother and her daughter. Teresa will be missed by all who knew her. (**Group photo-Teresa top right at around age 15. Her younger sister, Domingos who died, is on the left in a yellow dress, age 11.**)

Surprise picnic



After the sadness of losing Teresa, it was so nice to be invited to a picnic in the park in May with four of the young ladies who are being supported to study at university, Rosangela, Etelvina, Rosinha and Cacilda, to celebrate my belated birthday. They are fantastic people who put in lots of effort to make the day special. We had great food, games, laughs, conversations and of course lots of photos. Really made my day 😊.



Visitors

Good news! Our visitors apartment is ready and has already received its first guests! **Greg**, from South Africa who used to help run an orphanage opposite Kedesh, came for 3 weeks to visit and reconnect with former boys and girls from his orphanage.



Then **Angela** from Jersey came for a visit for a few weeks. We



did lots of outings and meet ups whilst she was with us, as Angela has been involved with Kedesh since the late 1990s so has a lot of people she knows and has invested in. She also brought with her air drying modelling clay and paints which our current



Kedesh boys really enjoyed using, producing some beautiful creations.



After Angela left, we got a surprise visit from our American friend **Paula** who was in Mozambique for work and popped into Kedesh for the weekend. We made the most of her weekend visit by taking the boys to the beach, something I hadn't actually done for a very long time! Everyone had a great time 😎



Renovations



A few months ago we had a couple of inspections from the local authorities. They voiced several recommendations that they thought would improve the aesthetics of Kedesh, before they are able to approve our official license. These included, painting the boys room one colour (rather than the existing mix of different shades of blue), retiling the floor, putting in a false ceiling and cutting down the trees! We have been trying to get our official documents for a while from the authorities so we decided to start the

recommended renovations to the best of our ability. Here leaves are considered 'dirty' and our trees and falling leaves have always been a point of contention with the authorities. Rather than cut any trees down, we bought an industrial sized leaf mulcher and have been busily mulching leaves since. With the renovations and mulching in full swing we are now awaiting the follow up inspection from the authorities. Please pray this goes well.



Loss of Chipoco

In July we sadly said goodbye to Chipoco (ghost) who died aged 13. She was a small dog but with a big and quirky personality. She mothered 5 amazing dogs, 3 of which are still with us. She and her quirky ways will be missed.



Camping



Last month it was school holidays for a week and as is tradition, we took the boys camping at a beautiful mountainous place near Zimbabwe, called Casa Msika. This year I stayed back at Kedesh (as I had just had a batch of ducklings hatch, including a sickly one who needed a little bit more attention) and John took the boys in 3 groups, one group at a time. They all had a great time once again of cycling, animal spotting, hiking, eating and swimming and came back with many stories

to tell.

Francisco- one year on

Francisco is starting his second year at university in Portugal. He passed the first year, despite finding certain subjects such as geometry a challenge! He reports that he is still learning so much, both inside the classroom and out. He was blessed to be able to go to a couple of summer camps this summer which he really enjoyed. The family he has been staying with have embraced him like another member of their family and have agreed for him to stay another year with them. This is a huge support to Francisco who has had a lot of cultural shocks and challenges during his first year. Thank you to you all who have and are continuing to support him. We and Francisco are so grateful and Francisco continues to thank God for this opportunity he has been given and for all of you who are supporting him.



Ana



This is Ana. She is the older sister of 2 of our boys. We have supported her in various ways over the years but more recently she has become a bit of an entrepreneur, starting her own salon business in her garden to provide hair washing and styling to people in her community. Myself and Angela visited and were very impressed with how well Ana is running her business, with a client in her simple, makeshift salon during our visit. In a place where it's often hard to make small businesses work, I thought it was worth giving Ana a place in this newsletter to honour her and her efforts and to ask for prayers for her to continue to do well.

Other news bites

Growing season- During winter is the best time to grow a variety of vegetables in our garden. The boys too enjoyed having their own veggie plots and adding fresh produce to their food. It always makes me smile to see how happy the boys are here to eat lettuce!



Chameleon comes to visit - A common myth here is that



if you get bitten by a chameleon, the wound will never heal. It often results in people being very scared of chameleons and choosing to try to kill them if they see one. At kedesh, whenever we see one, we try to break the myth by introducing the boys to it and showing them both how harmless they are and how interesting. Recently John was able to do this when a baby one came visiting. The boys enjoyed taking turns holding it and looking into its fascinating eyes!

Thank you for reading this very long update! That will teach me for taking so long to write one! Thank you so much for your prayers and continued support of us. Please feel free to visit or get in contact. Email: hevdawnpev@gmail.com. WhatsApp: +258843939501.

Much love,

Heather