

# A Note from the Teacher's Desk

Tonya Small-  
Jabulane Christian Academy

AUGUST 1, 2008



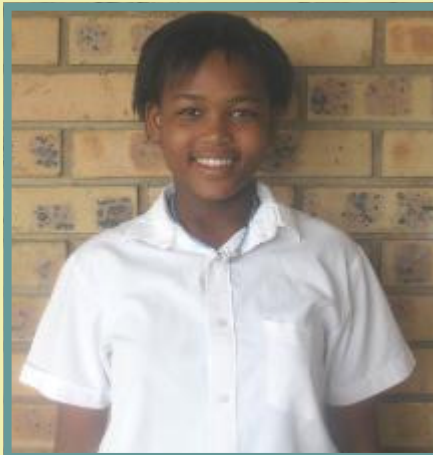
## Upcoming Events

Heather's Birthday	8/3
Prudence's 13th Birthday	8/4
Mikey's 12th Birthday	8/7
Dodds Arrive	8/7
Mixons Return	8/8
Salome Manaka's Birthday	8/8
Konyana's 6th Birthday	8/9
JCA Parent/ Teacher Conferences	8/11
JCA Parent/Teacher Conferences	8/12
JCA Parent/Teacher Conferences	8/13
Rudolph's 8th Birthday	8/14
Elias Matjeni's Birthday	8/15
Peinkie's 4th Birthday	8/20
Dodds Depart Michele Returns	8/21
Siyabonga's 6th Birthday	8/22
Dipuo's 2nd Birthday	8/24
Jack's 5th Birthday	8/26
Ruth Leaves for US	8/27

## Miss Small... according to her Students

**Miss Small is a joyful teacher and she** is always laughing with Miss Rumley. Miss Small and Miss Rumley like to travel together. She sometimes spends some of the weekends with Dipuo. She teaches us math, economics, technology, and natural science. Miss Small is good at math and she teaches us easy methods to work out problems. Miss Small likes Skittles, so when I go to into her house, the first thing I see in her house is Skittles. When she thinks of problems for us to solve, the first question will be about Skittles. Miss Small's house is free for all the people. Sometimes we go into her house and look at movies. Sometimes we do our Bible study in her house. She bakes some of my favourite cookies. When she bakes, she sometimes gives the left over cookies to our family. Miss Small likes to learn Tswana words, but she says them wrong, so we laugh at her in our class. She is a blessing to us because she teaches us the Word of God. One day Miss Small broke a chair while sitting it. Overall, we love Miss Small.

~By Prudence



Miss Small is a person who likes to teach. She is a kind Teacher. Miss Small loves to bake cookies and she loves to play with her laptop. Miss Small enjoys teaching us math at school. She is a person who likes to talk a lot. Miss Rumbly (this is what they call Heather) and Miss Small are best friends. They like being together everywhere they go. Miss Rumbly and Miss Small like to learn Tswana but they like to say them wrong so we laugh at them. Miss Small likes to eat Skittles a lot in the class, at home, and in the car. Miss Small is a person who likes to wear pants but not skirts. Miss Small loves to play basketball and she likes to go shopping. Miss Small likes to play with babies. Miss Small is a kind and loving person, a fun person to be around and spend time with, and a person who is not lazy, but fun.

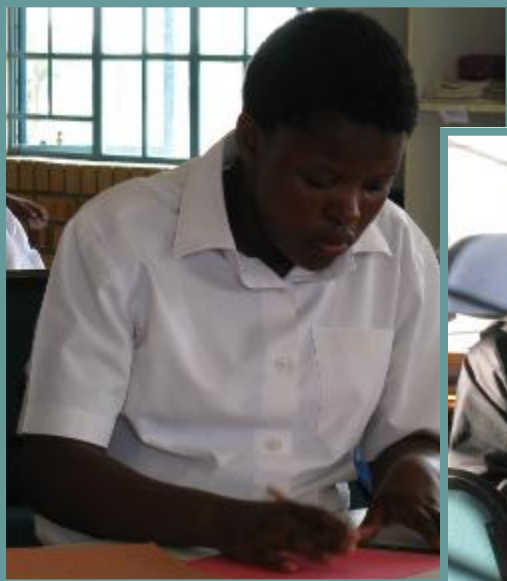
~ By Nomvula (Johanna)



## Miss Small according to her Students Continued...

Miss Small doesn't like snakes! She smacks them with a hammer on the head, picks them up with a stick, and throws them into the bushes. When Miss Small is home, she bakes and brings cookies to her family. By the way, Miss Small is my elder sister (I have been adopted into Neo's family). She likes to laugh a lot and eat Skittles all day long at school when she is hungry. She also likes playing with Dipuo at her house. To be Miss Small is a lot of work.

~By Neo



I like Miss Small because she is kind to all the children and big people. She is a respectful person. I like her because she is a good teacher. She makes things easier for us at school when we are struggling with math and natural science. She likes to laugh when we make jokes. She loves to call us to her flat to watch movies with her or to play games with her. She is a helpful person at Bethesda. She does lots of things in Bethesda like teaching, writing Raise to Praise (our weekly village newsletter), and taking care of children if the parents are gone. I like her because she knows maths and she loves to play with kids and she gives kids sweets. She also likes to scream if she burns herself, which she does a lot.

~By Sipho



## Things Kids Say...

Recently, due mostly to the chilly weather during our break time each day and the fact that I am now able to actually run for a little bit without feeling like I will pass out, I have started joining in on our class soccer game. That is when I'm not wearing a skirt or heels. According to my students, I am improving at my game. In fact, I have come close to scoring in a few of our games. Well, this week, the inevitable happened and I was actually able to steal the ball from Lerry, who is one of our better players. In the height of my glory, I managed to trip myself and fall right over the ball. I thankfully did not injure myself and I did what any non-graceful human being should do and laughed hysterically at myself. One of my students rushed over to my rescue to help me off the ground. I had to sit out a few minutes only to pick all of the grass, thorns and dirt off of my sweater before I could return to the game. Upon returning to the classroom Bongani asked me, "Miss Small, why when you fell down, did you laugh at yourself?" I explained that my options were to pout about falling or laugh because it really was funny. He replied with something I like to call an ah-ha moment that went something like, "OH...I get it!" followed up by much laughter on my part and the other students in the room.



## Team Season is Winding Down

Team season is a time enjoyed by everyone at Bethesda. We are extremely blessed to have a constant flow of college students and church groups coming to and from the Bethesda property throughout the year, and especially during the summer months when colleges are on break. This summer we have had a team of students from Faith Baptist Bible College in Iowa and Baptist Bible College in Pennsylvania, a team of adults from Forrestville Baptist Church in Ohio, and another team of student from Cedarville University in Ohio. The teams have worked on numerous projects that have included stacking and moving bricks, spreading fertilizer over our grass gardens, laying brick for a

walkway and flower bed, painting a building, putting up iso-board for insulation in the team center, burning overgrown bush, taking cookies to people in the community, visiting the sick, and day camp for our Bethesda children, just to name a few.

We look forward to being joined by two more teams before the end of the year along with a visit from our board members October. Team season is fun, but it is also a very busy time for everyone as it means many extra mouths to feed on the property, airport runs, and many hellos and good-byes. Our prayer is that God would continue to bless us with amazing work teams and with safety and great fellowship while they are here.



## Camp Discovery

Figured into the schedule for the last two Saturdays that the Cedarville team was here were “surprise activities”. For the first surprise activity Becky, the team leader, and Michele arranged for the team, our oldest ten children, and a few staffers and interns to go to Camp Discovery, which is a team building camp just down the road a bit from the Bethesda property. There were three different obstacles or stages to our time at camp. The first stage was somewhat of an obstacle course where we had to go over and under some wooden logs that were above our heads, we went over and under single wooden posts set up like croquet wickets, we had to climb a wall with a rope then climb through a rope net to get out the other side, and finally we had to cross a series of balance beams that were different heights over the top of a muddy pit. The activities were quite difficult and it really challenged the kids to think beyond what they could do on their own and think more about what they could do with the assistance of the group of people surrounding them. After the obstacle course we went on a scavenger hunt of sorts and then finally on a game drive. We wrapped the night up by gathering around a fire after dinner and discussing how we could apply the lessons we learned from our challenges to our individual spiritual lives. We discussed how the body of Christ is essential in how successful we are in our walk with Christ. God uses his people to sharpen us, encourage us, and push us to places we do not think we are able to go.



## Good-Bye Interns...

An intern is defined as anyone who comes to Bethesda on a short term trip without a team. Interns can stay anywhere from two weeks to a year at Bethesda. We have been so blessed this year with numerous interns. Unfortunately, we have had to say or are going to have to say good-bye to 4 interns in about a month and a half as they are all heading back to the states to continue their studies in the fall.

This year we were blessed to have Nichole Finklea, (top photo) who came to Bethesda for the second 6 month stint in January. She was a wonderful help in her assistance at school, especially during Heather and my bouts with sickness. Nichole is now back in the states and getting ready to go back to school at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago.

Miss Ellie McIntosh (second photo), whom I met on my first trip to Bethesda, came back to spend her summer with us here. Ellie has been a great help with teams and at school. During last term and this new term, Ellie helped at school by teaching a class for our grade R students that are just beginning to learn English. She has exhibited a true servant's heart in that everything she has been asked to do, she has jumped at the opportunity to serve. Ellie returns to the states in time to begin a new year of her schooling in Boyce College in Louisville where she is simultaneously working on her bachelors' and master's degrees.



Karissa Bollenbacher (third photo from top) came to Bethesda in June to be a part of our team for two months. Karissa will be a senior at Cedarville in the Fall and she is a missions major. She came to Bethesda for an internship that is part of her schooling. She has done everything from child care, office work, team assistance, and helping in the school. Karissa has been a blessing to us all and we will be sad to see her go. Nora Chasnov (bottom photo) came to Bethesda on July 2nd to spend 1 month with us before heading back to Cedarville for her junior year as a nursing student. This is Nora's second stay at Bethesda as she came last year on a team from Cedarville. Nora's time here has been spent doing child care, working with the team, and helping prepare food for the team and all of their ministries. She also spent a day substituting in the school so the teachers could go to a training workshop.

We are thankful for each and everyone of these girls and the many others that have come and gone over time. We are very glad that we do not have to say good-bye to all of our interns as we still have one remaining intern, even after everyone seems to be on a mass exodus to the states. Alyssa Callison is here for the full year so we do not have to say good-bye to her until December. We are also expecting three other girls to join us for different lengths of time between now and the end of the year.

### Prayer Requests:

- Continued improvements in stamina & health.
- Developing godly relationships with staff.
- Mixons, Michele & Ruth are all in the US at different times during August, September & October.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming. Though our parents are easy to communicate with, it is always a challenge to clearly identify our students' strengths & weaknesses and provide feedback.

### Praises:

- I was granted leave approval this month and was able to purchase a ticket to come home for a visit over Christmas.
- I am now off all prescription medications except an inhaler and am essentially symptom free with breathing.
- School is off to a great start! It is a joy to be back in the classroom, however tiring it may be.

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### Websites of interest:

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[www.ksbc.net](http://www.ksbc.net)  
[www.ebm.org](http://www.ebm.org)