

From: [Ruth Rising](#)
To: rrising@ebm.org
Subject: SPAM-MED: March Update
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2010 3:47:39 PM

Dear friends,

What a crazy, blessed, tough, wonderful and exciting couple of weeks it has been at Bethesda! One thing I can say for sure is that things are never dull or boring at Bethesda! Several weeks ago now, we got word that we could take another little girl named Mable. She's a sweet little 8-year old girl who has had more hardship in her life than most people I know. We are so thankful that she could come and now live in a home with sweet, godly parents and a whole group of brothers and sisters. She is doing so well and is very thankful for her new home!

We are almost finished with Term 1 in school already ----we are all gasping a bit as it has come so fast but all the teachers will be thankful for a few weeks of break before launching into the second term. Right now, we have a team of 9 athletes and a team leader from Purdue University, IN. Our children are a bit in awe of their size and their strength as they can easily throw our kids in the air (not to mention doing many, many push-ups and flips and other exciting tricks!) Most of the adults are holding their breath when we see the children flung so high but the squeals of delight from the kids make it clear that THEY aren't afraid!
☺

I am excited as we have a new Business Manager named Rudi van Jaarsveld, who is able to oversee all of the finances, maintenance and the office. He has been a joy to get to know and we really appreciate his servants heart and his expertise. I think he is enjoying the variety of his job as one minute he's racing after a backhoe in his car to see if they are the water people we've been waiting for days to show up, the next minute he's entering receipts into the computer and the next minute he's helping to repair the playground's carousel/merry-go-round!

About 2 weeks ago, we had a Skills Development day for our teaching staff. Roger and Carol Cryan, some gifted teachers who work on behalf of Bethesda, taught some great workshops on our godly purpose as teachers, knowing our students biblically, and I did one on biblical classroom management. I believe the information was a great reminder and a challenge to our teachers.

I am also praising the Lord for his safety – a few weeks ago, one of my dogs woke me up with a deep, loud bark just before I heard a gunshot. Then both of the dogs were going crazy. I heard lots of shouting and then three more gunshots and then more shouting. I decided to just stay in my bed for a while before getting up to investigate. The neighbours behind my house had someone attempt to break in and they were chased off. I don't believe anyone was hurt and unfortunately, they got away but it's a good reminder again that the Lord is my safety and my security. I had jitters for about a day or two but there is nothing so restful as knowing that ultimately, what happens to me is in God's design and control. (That doesn't stop me from locking my doors though! ☺)

Thanks again for praying and for your words of encouragement!

Serving Christ,

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