

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way... The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. **Isaiah 46:1,2,7**



# PUTMAN NEWS

June 2024.



**!Newsflash! We have booked flights to visit the UK 1-29th December 2024!**



As some of you will have heard, there were severe rains here in April resulting in devastating mudslides in the local area. This impacted the community heavily with many losing loved ones and material possessions. RVA itself only experienced minimal damage with one of our fences being broken and a river of mud flowing down onto our lower sports field. We, as a school, are doing what we can to comfort, care for and work with our Kenyan neighbours and staff to provide resources, prayer support and facilitate meetings with the council to press forward with necessary road and bridge repairs. We thank God that our employees, Cecilia and John were not harmed and their families are safe. However, during the last few weeks Cecilia has had to put herself and her granddaughter at risk crossing makeshift bridges and walking through flowing water to get to and from work.



A Kenyan man named Willie who works in the vehicle maintenance department at RVA lost his home, and his wife during one of the mud slides. He and his two sons were left with nothing. He stayed briefly at RVA in empty accommodation and after a week or two he sent this humbling message:

*I feel a great urge to write to everyone in the RVA fraternity to thank all of you for your Love, Support and great care accorded to us! But I don't have that strength. The Lord God reigns in my life! I know that he loves us and has good plans for us! Loss of dear-loved ones and loss of all material possessions has instilled and strengthened my faith in HIM. I'm not counting my losses! I'm counting the immeasurable blessings God has accorded me. I will Keep my faith and Trust in him, it is another Chance that He has given us to Praise, serve, honour and testify that our Lord is in control, and HE REIGNS in me.*

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In April we accepted the invitation to become dorm parents for the next school year! We have just moved into our new accommodation which is one huge house currently being renovated! The family rooms are mostly downstairs, and the dorm rooms upstairs. The dorms each have a Swahili name and this one is called Suni which is a small deer. It will house 7th grade girls (UK year 8) but currently there are only a very small number on



roll. We pray that God will use us to be warm, fun and wise dorm parents, and that as a family we will embrace our new sisters/daughters with generosity, authenticity and love. The girls will move in late August in time for the start of term on 2nd September. Zoe will continue to teach Kindergarten in the mornings and is predicted to have another small class of just five students. John will have a reduced timetable to accommodate the extra duties of the dorm and will likely move from teaching grade 11 English to teaching in Junior High (grades 7&8). It will be quite a change from this year but we are very excited for how God can use the gifts he has graciously given us. Our evenings and weekends will be busier hosting dorm activities but we should get some time off during the afternoons most days. Sadie and Amber are happy with their new bedrooms and are also excited to have some little sisters (especially Amber!).

At the time of writing we have four weeks of school term left. After that we will spend three weeks in Nairobi at ABO (Africa-based orientation) a required AIM training course which we should've attended this time last year before coming to RVA but could not due to UK commitments. **For prayer:**

**Thank God** for calling us to be dorm parents. **Thank God** that we have had a wonderful first year at RVA. **Thank God** that we are all well and that our girls are happy. **Thank God** for our support team who stand with us in prayer and provide finances.

**Ask God** that he will bless our next few weeks as we unpack, and furnish the dorm. **Pray that** as we go to ABO we would have enough energy to concentrate on the learning. **Pray for** Kijabe residents as they grieve and rebuild after the flooding and mudslides.

**Finances:** Our short-term finances look good; day to day we are fine. However, medium to long-term projections show a shortfall currently leaving purchases like a vehicle not possible. If you would like to give:

