



CHRIST CHURCH BARNSTON  ST MICHAEL'S PENSBY



February 2025

# PUTMAN'S PROGRESS

*May the peoples praise you, O God; may all the peoples praise you. Psalm 67:3&5*

## Give thanks:

- A safe trip to the UK
- Precious family time
- A great start to Term 2



## Home for Christmas!

We spent four weeks in the UK visiting family, friends and churches. God really blessed us with good and healthy reconnections and a chance to indulge in some home comforts - it was definitely a treat to spend Christmas with our sending church and so much time with our loved ones. This is also where we were furnished with a new name for our newsletters moving forwards. Inspired by our vicar's love for alliteration and the classic Bunyan text (John and Zoe were both born in Bunyan country - Bedford) we bring you **Putman's Progress!** The picture above is taken outside Christ Church Barnston on Christmas Day.

## Home for New Years!

As wonderful as it was to be home in the UK, it's good news that coming back to RVA also felt like returning home. We are now half way through our 5th term here and feel very settled into life and ministry. Here are a few of the highlights and impacts of the last 6 weeks. Sadie was sent as a delegate to the 43rd East Africa Model United Nations Conference as part of the Economic & Political Committee. She spent the first term preparing as an academic class but from 4th-7th February she left campus at 6am to go to Nairobi's UN building to debate motions designed to help the nations work together and develop solutions for the world's most pressing challenges. It was a fantastic opportunity which she really enjoyed. Sadie has also been a member of the RVA U17 football team. Half way through the season they are currently unbeaten - they won a 10-team invitational tournament, and have progressed to the final of the KAISO (Kenya Association of International Schools Sports Organisation) Cup. So we're on our way to Wembley!! (Not literally)



Amber has also been very busy! She has joined an outreach program in the village of Machani which is two miles from campus, but up and down on dirt tracks all the way. Amber is in her element playing games, singing songs, doing crafts and sharing a meal with lots of children from the village who come to this “Sunday School” set up by one of the ladies in the local community for children with nowhere else to be. It’s great to see her learning mission through doing! She is also a key member of the U15 Hockey team and their fortunes are on the up. They had not scored a goal for 4 seasons before this one but they now score in most games and have even taken a win. Amber is pictured with the team below. (No7)



## Home for Eternity!

It’s really important to remember the role RVA is playing in AIMs vision to see Christ-centred Churches amongst all African Peoples. The families whose children board here or live here are and have been involved in mission with some of the hardest to reach people groups in Africa. Many work in the north in conditions very inhospitable to Christians, or in unofficial war zones or drought and famine-ridden counties but we’re all working towards calling people home to Jesus forever. If you like the “Where’s Wally” books you can search for John in the photo above left leading, “My Lighthouse” during our Titchie Sunday when the Primary School takes over the service. Their heartfelt prayers for the Jiye people of South Sudan was the highlight of the service for me. There are people like the Jiye all over Africa searching for the light that is Christ and we play our small part in loving and discipling these children to enable those families *to let their light before men that they may see your good deeds, and praise your Father in heaven*. We’re so privileged to partner with you in prayer towards these goals and thank God for you regularly as we collaborate together with you in this mission.

## Prayer

- We’re still waiting for our work permits since arriving in August 2023. Please pray for these to be granted soon, and that they are not back dated given we’ve had no benefit from them yet. Then for the ongoing process of residency permits, ID numbers and such that follows.
- Rejoice with us that one of Zoe’s Kindergarten students went home after her Last Supper lesson and gave his life to Christ.
- For our Dorm girls as they continue to grow and mature. For the remainder of this term we continue taking the 321 course slowly and Zoe embarks on a series of sessions about Pornography with all the 7th grade girls with input from our Chaplaincy team.
- Amber and John travel to Suswa volcano overnight on the 2nd March for a Science trip. Pray for a great time of learning and fellowship with the whole of 8th grade.
- Zoe conducts screening for next year’s potential Kindergartners this week as well as includes extra home-schooled children in her classroom for “Educational Support Week” where homeschoolers come for a week’s respite at RVA.
- We have some new students arriving who have been evacuated from Eastern DR Congo. Pray for a good transition for them and for the peace that passes understanding to be a real and constant presence.

We’re so grateful for your ongoing continual prayer, financial and emotional support. For those that give annually or as and when please use the web link below to give online or to find the details for our sending office to give in the way that best suits you.

<https://eu.aimint.org/people/theputmans/>