



ORBUS AUSTRALIA  
NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY TO APRIL 2014



*“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16*

Orbus Ministries Australia Inc is a Christian not-for-profit volunteer charity which exists to demonstrate the love of God through word and deed to the weak and vulnerable. The Orbus Centre in Ngumbe, Blantyre, Malawi is a joint project between Orbus Australia, the Presbyterian Church of Victoria (Australia) and the CCAP Blantyre Synod. We invite you to visit the Orbus Australia website at [www.orbusafrica.org](http://www.orbusafrica.org) , to view the [Orbus Photo Albums](#) and to visit the Orbus Centre in Malawi.

### Orbus Centre Update:

#### The Orbus Kindy and Junior Primary School for OVC:

Changes have been made regarding the oversight of the Orbus Centre in Malawi, with the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) Blantyre Synod transferring the responsibility for the Centre internally from their BSHDC division to their schools division, the Synod Education Office, which has a large number of schools under supervision in southern Malawi.

The Education Office recently visited the Orbus School and reported that "Impressive teaching and learning activities are taking place. Checking of students work revealed that teachers are dedicated." Enrolments are as follows:

| CLASS          | ENROLMENTS |       | TOTAL      |
|----------------|------------|-------|------------|
|                | BOYS       | GIRLS |            |
| Nursery school | 31         | 33    | 64         |
| STD 1          | 33         | 28    | 61         |
| STD 2          | 28         | 23    | 51         |
| STD 3          | 18         | 18    | 36         |
| STD 4          | 11         | 9     | 20         |
|                |            |       | <b>232</b> |



#### The Orbus Farm:

The farm has performed reasonably well during the period. There are currently approximately 43 pigs and piglets, 6 goats after recent sales, and 200 chickens. The period saw Orbus' best maize crop produced which has now been harvested. Pumpkin, Chinese cabbage, onion and sweet potatoes have also been grown. Some fruit trees are growing well with some guava fruit nearly ready for harvest. The farm manager, Lameck has recently completed a three day course on "[Farming God's way](#)."





### Site Improvements/developments:



General improvements at the Orbus Centre during the period include: Electricity has been connected; 30 new desks have been organized; solar powered security systems, special alarm and security lighting systems controlled by remote controls have been installed; steel security door protectors have been fitted; solar power has now been installed on the Calvin Building, with two very good floodlights lighting the pig shed, goat and chicken sheds; and arrangements have been made with the Malawi police force to have two policemen and their families living on the Orbus property, in the Martyn Lloyd-Jones building apartments. Orbus will provide this accommodation rent free in return for their presence, which it is hoped will act to increase security and protect resources, livestock and crops. The first policeman has already moved in.



Additional improvements during the quarter include general maintenance; the refurbishment of the chicken shed; providing additional toilets; fitting skylights in the Spurgeon classroom building to allow in more light; fixing the irrigation system; dividing the Standard 1 classroom into two new classrooms, and repairing the Augustine well pump. Extra activities at the Centre have included women's craft classes; and re-starting the porridge feeding program which ceased for a few weeks during and after the January holiday period.



### Prayer Requests:

- For each of the children attending the Orbus Centre to put their trust in Jesus.
- For the salvation of souls in the wider area.
- For the neediest of the children in the area to come to the Centre.
- For the children who are HIV+.
- For the provision of the children's material needs.
- Praise God for the smooth start of the new Grade 4 class.
- For the provision of electricity.
- For the policemen and their families.
- For Orbus teachers, staff and volunteers.
- For John and Sue's time volunteering at the Centre.



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*"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life." Jesus (John 8:12)*