



17 December 2014

Brick by Brick Malawi newsletter Christmas 2014 – Last Chance!

The walls of the final building are going up as we speak. The masons are now putting up the 'ring beam' which is a solid reinforced concrete structure above the windows that circles the building and makes it impervious to earthquakes - this is, after all, the rift valley and prone to shaking – sometimes vigorously. In the beginning of the New Year (2015) we will be ordering the last load of materials for roof construction, desks, blackboards etc.



We now have 122 students and 3 teachers. The teachers are provided for by the government. When the final building is complete, we will have room for 148 students comfortably and 5 teachers.



The school has become quite popular locally, and I suspect that the final number of students may be even greater as the desks could possibly accommodate 3 students each.

There is roughly an equal number of boys and girls. As you can see in the foreground there is water and there are two pit latrines associated with each of the classes. However there is no electricity - all light comes from the windows.

The status of the project is 3 completed buildings (grades 1-4 and a teacher's house) and one partially completed building for the 5th and 6th grades.



When the final touches are done on this last building, we will regard the school as finished. Karin and Bruce will be going to Malawi in 2016 to view the result and take pictures. We will then send these photos to all of you who receive this newsletter.



Merry Christmas (Sangalala Khisimisi)

Thanks to all of you for your generous support.

Greetings from Bob, Bruce and Karin