

Barbara's Update from Mercy Rescue.

Hi everyone

It's the start of the Christmas break here in Kenya. Schools are closing some have already, the children return on the 2/3 January. Can you imagine having your children home from school for almost 10 weeks.

Please pray for our children who are still in school taking their final exams, before leaving and going on to further their education either in university or in trade school which is an educational opportunity to train students for a specific job. Much like an apprenticeship. These children will be home mid to late November depending on which papers they are taking.

As has become practice here over the past few years at Mercy Rescue, Christmas has also come early, due to lower than average number of babies at the centre. Most members of staff are now at home with one of the babies. This is also good for staff morale as they don't have to worry about finding childcare for their own children. It is so quiet here in the centre now. Everything neat and tidy, little or no washing. Gone the hustle and bustle of daily life here. Security staff are still around and one member of staff comes in once or twice a week to batch cook meals for them. As is usual practice, staff on duty get a basic meal each day. During this quiet period contractors arrived yesterday to start on the underpinning of the



homes of two staff in the grounds.



Day two, as you can see it's all being dug out by sheer hard graft, no mechanical diggers. We are hoping that all will be completed by the end of the month, so that the staff can return home.

I'm still visiting staff in their homes, even more to visit now. I'm always amazed at their generosity, giving of what little they have. One day last week I went to visit Rebecca a member of staff who is currently on maternity leave. She's a baby girl just 6 weeks old, I wanted to take something for her daughter, but was told by both Jedidah and Sally that the baby was well provided for. So instead I took a basic food parcel which was well received. Later that evening Sally had a call saying how grateful she was for the food, as she literally had no food in the house. Yet she gave me bread and jam when I arrived. These people who have so little have very generous hearts.

Dennis is still in the hospice, although we have not visited for a few weeks, he is making progress. He is more settled, feeding well and gaining weight. We are all praying that he will be able to return to the care of Mercy Rescue in the near future.

Thank you all for your love and prayers. Take care, God Bless, Barbara.