



News from EPF Nametil

DI EDITION

MARCH 2010

Welcome!

It was five weeks ago that we arrived here in EPF Nametil and what a five weeks it has been! As a part of our role as Development Instructors we have been making weekly newsletters to inform the people locally about the things that go on inside the school.

This time we decided to create a special edition for those of you in Denmark and at home who want to know more about the things going on at one of the many teacher training colleges here in Mozambique.

We hope you enjoy and we will see you all again soon.

Belinda & Nadja



We miss you!

Our Role in the School

Before leaving Denmark, no one seemed to be able to tell us what the role of the DI in EPF Mozambique was or what we would be doing once we arrived. Now that we are here, we can understand that that is because the role varies from place to place and needs to be flexible in order to suit the needs of the school.

Neither of us had received a work plan before we arrived in



Headmaster Silvestre holding a meeting with the students in the sunshine.

Africa but were very happy to learn that the teachers were waiting for our arrival in order to listen to the ideas of what we wanted to do

here as well as tell us about the needs of the college. It was a very nice welcome and made us feel immediately at home here.

Now, and for the past five weeks we have been holding computer classes with the students, running the English Club, visiting the students on their teaching placement in the local primary schools and writing weekly newsletters.



Students returning from their agriculture lessons.

We have also been involved in celebrating some special events in the local community and have assisted in getting students to and from the hospital when they are unwell.

Overall it has been a great start to the project although sometimes a little slow compared to the constant 'busy-ness' we had become accustomed to in Denmark.



One of the buildings of the college.

College Uniforms

Two weeks ago every student in EPF-Nametil received a uniform to wear to both their teaching practice in the primary schools and their lessons within the college.



Students studying for exams. It is so

nice to see them walking proudly in the village: their orange pants or skirts with white, collared shirt reflecting the professional nature of the college.

The first day the students were wearing their uniforms we told them they looked 'muito bonito'

and they were so happy!



EPF-Nametil students wearing their uniforms with pride.

Students Teach in Local Schools



An EPF student correcting pupils work at Nametil Primary School.

There are three primary schools quite near to the college that the students do their teaching practice in. This takes place from Monday-Wednesday - half of the students attending the schools in



EPF student teaching in Mutacaze Primary.

the mornings and the other half in the afternoons.

As DI's, we were asked to observe the students lessons and to take some photos in the schools. This sounded like a great idea until we took out the camera and were stampered with hundreds of excited children! The first few times we had to leave as we seemed to be causing more harm than good as the teachers chased away the students with a stick.

Now we've learnt to be more discrete and take quick shots while no one is looking! It's very nice to visit the schools.



Effects of taking out a camera at 7 de Abril Primary School.

*“Teaching the computer classes is my favourite part, the students are so sweet and so happy when they learn something new. They are like little children!”
- Belinda*

Many students discover how to use a computer for the first time.



ICT Classes

Our daily computer classes are for sure a highlight of DI life here in EPF-Nametil.

The 122 college students are divided into groups of 7 and have a 1-2

hour class either in the morning or the afternoon.

So far we have taught them to open and save a Microsoft Word document; to type their names and change the style and colour of the writing; to insert a photo of themselves (which they love) and

to make a table in order to type up their lesson plans.

Some students learn very fast while others take a little longer.



International Women's Day

On Monday the 8th of March the community of Nametil celebrated International Women's Day.



Small theatre piece about a husband and wife.

As a way of representing the college, students put together a short theatre play and sang the EPF song to the people of the village.

We couldn't understand much of what was going on in the play but saw some kind of representation of a married couple and an audience who were laughing a lot. Students received a big applause at the

end so it's safe to say it was enjoyed by all, including us.



Students singing for the local community.

Nametil Wedding



Two weeks ago we walked past the teachers living area and saw a bride and groom sitting inside watching TV.

Next thing we knew we were told

Yes...that is us at a wedding in our old clothes (Bustrup t-shirt and all)!

it was time to go as we were invited to help celebrate their wedding with a dinner at the local restaurant.

We asked if we should change clothes but were told it was okay as we are foreigners so people will think we look fine no matter what we are wearing.

So, we went along wearing our old

clothes while everyone else was dressed nicely to celebrate this event with the community and take some photos.

We enjoyed a nice dinner and some dancing with the other guests. It was very nice to be invited.



"I like our English classes very much because the people here are so much motivated to learn English and even if it's difficult to teach 122 people at one time it's still a very nice job and is lots of fun."

- Nadja

English Club

On Wednesday evenings from 7-9pm we hold an English Club that most of the 122 students attend.

So far it's been a little difficult to manage with so many students and limited electricity but with the introduction of the projector and the students' willingness to learn there is a great vibe that keeps everybody motivated.

Over the past few weeks we have taught them some greetings and numbers and have noticed more and more students greeting us with 'good morning teacher' at breakfast times.

Next week we will give them a test and then hope to divide the group into three in order to make the classes more interactive.



Students determination lights the room.

Football in the Village

The weekly football games draw many spectators to the grounds



EPF-Nametil boys football team

situated in the centre of the Nametil village.

As a part of the International Women's Day celebrations the EPF girls got a team together and beat their opponents with a score of 2-1. The same week, the boys team played in an exciting match that ended in a tie. They were not as successful last week, losing to

their opponents with a score of 2-0.

It's always very exciting for us to watch the games although a little scary when a goal is scored and the entire crowd stand up and cheer, some running excitedly onto the field.



EPF girls celebrate International Women's Day with a game of football in the village.

Upcoming Plans...

In addition to our job here in the college we are planning to fundraise some money in order to help the school build a small medical centre where the students and people living nearby can get tested for malaria and other things without having to spend all day waiting at the hospital.

At the moment we need to gather some more information and discuss with the project leader as to whereabouts he wants to construct the building but after that we will be trying to raise some money so if anyone is interested in supporting the cause every little bit will make a big difference here!

We will let you know more information in the upcoming months.



Other Things Going on in the College

As well as all the teaching and learning taking place within the confines of EPF-Nametil there are many other activities that occur in the daily life.

The college employs a goat keeper from the local village who feeds and takes care of the goats. It's very nice



Goat keeper taking care of the future dinner for the students. Mmmm...

to see him looking after them until the next day we find one of their heads in our kitchen freezer and the rest of their body being cooked by the students for lunch or dinner.

The head meat has a strange pink colour and the tongue...we prefer not to talk about that one.



Students preparing the lunch-time food. Yes, we think that is goat.

There is also much construction taking place during the day times as the college is only two years old and not completely finished. At the moment there is a team of builders who come in to finish building the convention centre and additional housing for the future teachers of the college.



Workmen finishing the convention centre to be used for meetings and important school events.