

Trees of Hope

Working with Govera Primary School, Zimbabwe



Govera Primary School have been developing their school grounds

The work started with the erection of a perimeter fence to ensure that the goats did not roam into the grounds and eat the new plants. Then a shade was built to protect the new seedlings from the very hot sun (top right picture). The kitchen garden was prepared in the shape of a mandala - it has been called a mandala kitchen garden. Children, parents and teachers were digging and moving soil to develop the kitchen garden. The children and teachers do weeding and taking care of the vegetables in the kitchen garden. Larger holes were prepared for the planting of tree saplings (top left picture).

1

MORE QUESTIONS

What would you like to ask the children and teachers at Govera Primary School?

2

PICTURES TO SHARE

Do you have any pictures or drawings you could share with the children at Govera Primary School ?

3

WORDS TO SHARE

What would you like to tell the children and teachers at Govera Primary School about your own school ?



Two boys are digging with hoes. Can you use a hoe? What do you use it for?



These are some of the seedlings growing in the nursery shade.



Teachers, parents and children are inside the nursery shade and tending to the seedlings.

This map was drawn by children in August 2001



Reading the map, you can see that Tapfunya, Elias, Edson and Zvenyika (aged 9-10 years) were recording that trees were important features in their environment. How many different trees did they draw?

Today they would be about 33 years of age! We can wonder how they value trees today in 2024. Also we can wonder if the trees they drew are still there. How old are the trees around Hennock Primary School?



The path walked by these women carrying water is marked blue on the children's map.



MR CHANDIMHARA HEADMASTER OF GOVERA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr Chandimhara asked his teachers to speak with the children at school and respond to the questions that children at Hennock Primary School had asked.

From Willows (aged 5-7years) Why do your plants have to be protected from the sun? **We protect our trees from the sun to conserve moisture.**

From Birch (aged 7-9years) How many trees have you planted? **By now we have planted 50 trees in the school yard.**

From Ash (aged 9-11) How many children are in your school? **At our school we have 145 boys and 128 girls. The total is 273 children.**