

Diane Cusick

Location: **Lusaka, ZAMBIA**

Mission: **Early childhood education**



“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given....”
Isaiah 9:6

I have lots of time these days to reflect as I battle this illness. I have had a wonderful life both here in Ireland and in Malawi and Zambia and I am aware that I have been privileged to visit parts of the world that many people have never seen, and that I have lived among amazing people, many of whom are my best friends.

I have spent some time in hospital since my last bulletin due to side effects of immunotherapy. This has left me a lot weaker than I was before I went in to hospital. However, the side effects are gradually easing which is such a blessing. I am ever grateful to the medical teams who take care of me and the staff in the cancer centre at BCH, they are incredible in their care and compassion. I am not sure if I will be able to continue with immunotherapy because of the severe side effects.

Because I have been in hospital I have not had much interaction with the teachers in Zambia, but I have every confidence that they are doing a good job as they continue to serve the children in the Early Childhood centres.



Some of the Zambian Teachers

As we come into Advent and celebrate the birth of Jesus, I am so thankful to be a child of God. Where we are helpless on our own, and sometimes wonder why, he sits by our side and listens to us and calms us with his presence. This is something I have felt strongly in the last few months, that no matter how hard it gets, God is by my side holding my hand.

Thank you for your prayerful support. Wishing you all a festive season full of the joy, love and peace that only Christ can bring.

Please pray:

- For Diane and for the medical team as they decide whether to continue with immunotherapy, taking into account the severe side effects on Diane's body.
- For Diane's energy levels to improve.
- For Diane's family and friends, as they support her through this journey
- For teachers, friends and colleagues in Malawi and Zambia as they do the work of Early Childhood without much support.

Thank you for your continued support. Keep updated with my life and work by checking my blog...www.dianecusick.blogspot.com