



NEW ERA SCHOOL CELEBRATES 30 YEARS WITH A GALA FOR ALUMNI THIS OCTOBER!

Written by J.G. JESMAN

New Era Schools in Ntcheu District is celebrating its thirtieth academic year. Founded in 1993, the school was one of the very first institutions to offer private education in Malawi. "For three decades our school has grown significantly," said the founders, Mr and Dr. E Jesman. New Era School started as a girls' only secondary boarding school when opportunities for young women were lacklustre. In the years that followed, a boys' secondary boarding school was introduced, and more recently, a co-education primary boarding school and a nursery. "We can't go anywhere without meeting one of our alumni. What better way to celebrate this blessing than a gala with all of them at our school in the first term of the thirtieth academic year? We are inviting our alumni to join us here in Ntcheu on Saturday 21st October, 2023. Mark the date in your calendar!"





New Era School prides itself on innovation. Currently its mission statement is to provide twenty-first century holistic education to a standard that's competitive on a global scale. "What this means is that we are one of the few private schools fully utilising IT to teach students from primary school all the way up to form four," said their IT officer, Mr Beni. "Our Executive Director and his wife have established links with Ubuntu, Africa's leading education platform as well as many partners in the UK, India and elsewhere.

We are a local school with international aspirations. We want to be part of the larger picture."

While children in developed nations are learning programming and coding; and when technologies like Chat GPT are indelibly altering the education sector around the world, it could be very easy for many schools in Africa without computing power to get left behind. It is encouraging that a Malawian school— an old but wise one—should place itself firmly in the race. "Computer usage is advantageous," the directors said, "because it gives the students context. Not many kids can't imagine what a blast furnace looks like, or what Scotland is like, but with platforms like YouTube or Khan Academy, students at New Era Schools get a real sense of what they're studying."

Malawi has a vision for 2063: to be an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant nation. What better way to develop the required talent to fulfil this promise than to teach young people using computer technology? New Era School aims to support Malawi's objectives by providing the necessary skills for future workers and leaders. "Ultimately, our school has always sought to be at the forefront of education; to provide the kind the learning the world needs, not simply the kind that everyone offers."