



The pitter patters of... The Potter's Village

Baby Boom

The month of March will be remembered as one of the most stretching months since the start of PVM. We admitted a total of 4 babies on verge of death in a period of less than 3 weeks.

Baby Gi was the first one to come on 12th March and opened the way for three others. She was whisked away from her mum who was subjecting her to tap water because of her mental illness. A kind woman, Mauda, successfully snatched away the nearly 4-months' baby from her mother and brought her to PVM. Now Baby Gi gives you a welcome smile and is safe from all danger. Only God knows what was stuffed into her during those months she was roaming into town with her mentally-ill mother.

Baby Gr lost her mother in hospital after birth. Her father, a soldier, was away on duty and there was no relative to take care of her. Bishop Cranmer, on his pastoral visit to the hospital, called Jenny and said, "Unless you do not intervene tonight, this baby will die." Jenny took Baby Gr to her home as there was no room at PVM at the time.

As we were trying to cope with that another call came from hospital. A premature baby had lost his mother after unsuccessful caesarean operation. His 19-year old father was visibly shaking and could not cope with looking after such a baby in addition to another toddler at home. He joined Baby Gr and they had to share a bed in a baby's cot at Jenny's home.

When we thought we would have a break, another delegation came to seek help. Baby Ab too lost his mother through a caesarean operation and the helpless (and callous too) relatives were conspiring to starve him to death because no one would ably look after him. He became no. 3 at Jenny's.

For nearly 3 weeks, Jenny had sleepless nights looking after those 3 babies. Thankfully, Sophie (a volunteer from Sweden) and Mollen (a volunteer joining PVM) came to relieve her. All the babies are now at PVM happy and thriving. This made us to move the old toddlers to the Medical Centre as a temporary measure to reduce congestion at the Infants' Residence and recruit more baby carers to cope with this baby boom.

The Potter's
Village newsletter

Issue 3: March, 2009



Bathing Time is Fun



There was a time when these children dreaded bathing. But now, on a sunny day, every one of the toddlers enjoys bathing in the outside. One day when electricity was off, the water was lukewarm and Jonah said, "This water is wet." Carers still have to help the children bathe otherwise when children try to play with toys and want to bathe them too then the cleaning exercise ends up as a wet mess of everybody and everything.

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN



Left: Jenny welcomes Herbert who had come to visit his son. Will he find a carer after 4 months?

Right: Peace receives a baby from Mauda who had rescued her when she was subjected to feeding on tap water.



A I: Finally my once-thought weak feet are firm on the ground. I join the others for the morning walk before our nap and I look forward to being swift.

E H: I am about to say farewell to crawl on my bottoms. With the help of my carer, I make a few steps on my two feet which once feared to touch the ground.

F B: The first time I tasted a sweet banana I felt great. Mine is still mashed but soon I will start biting on it when my teeth emerge.

HI: My size and weight remain constant though months seem to be moving on. I have improved on my speech skills because I am able to say, "Mama", "dada" and "no". My no is always firm.

I G: Gradually, I am crawling and able to reach places. This is exciting for me because it gives me opportunity to snatch some objects which fall from the other young babies. This includes milk bottles which I gladly taste.

J Tum

My two teeth have shot up and I will start biting my food. My movements are still limited and I can only sit upright with supports on either side. I look forward to a time when I can sit up without support.

J I

Those who thought I would reduce weight because my share was revised downwards are puzzled. I am still the big boy in the house and my appetite still beats everyone. I suppose my size is natural.

J Tuy

I thank God my tempers are on the decline. When I am asked to stop something, I obey and no longer make a fuss. My carer continues to show me special attention so I do not feel I am left alone.

J B

These morning walks are really a wonderful thing. The only thing I do not like is that other children get tired before we have gone far and I always hear people calling me to come back. One day I will persuade uncle Benja to take me farther and we leave the little ones alone. I would rather miss the juice than miss my walk.

M M

I am joyful, playful and sometimes aggressive when I want a toy from younger children. Those who play with me do so cautiously because they do not know when I will turn the play into a fight.

M N

I visited my "mum" on my baptism anniversary. It was a great thing to be back at my home for a weekend. When I come back I missed the love and attention my mum gives.

M T

During our morning walks, I compete with Jonah and I always beat him at reaching back home. I feel strong and energetic but not to the level of Junior.

P M

I always go mad when I am given 2 bananas when I have room and appetite for 4. One day when I am tall enough I will reach where they are kept and satisfy my need.

S N

Daily I am turning into a responsible child. I imitate all that my carers do. I help in cleaning our dining tables, fold nappies for other children and when we have our walks, I lead the way and help the weak ones. I have made it clear that I should not be put to bed at the same time with the little ones. Sometimes I win but other times I am compelled to oblige and join the rest to s.

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Helping Vulnerable Children

Visit our website with its new look!



The Laundry is nearly ready for use. Two washing machines are already bought and awaiting installation. When in use, the laundry will alleviate the challenges the laundry staff have been facing.

Help needed! PVM urgently need a volunteer to work as house parent to help the carers cope with the dynamic changes in the child growth. For more information please contact us on phone, e-mail or postal address indicated above. Thanks for your response.

Please pray...

Give thanks for:

- Positive response for the appeal of a house parent. We are in touch with an interested person. We shall communicate details at an appropriate time.
- New partnerships emerging. Soon we shall have a volunteer to work as a social worker/ health worker. More details when arrangements are finalized.

Ask God for:

- Positive responses from families to foster 5 of our toddlers who are turning to two years in the next few months.

Please keep in your prayers:

- Staff at PVM. With increased number of babies, we recruited new members of staff from different backgrounds. Pray that the new staff adjust quickly and the old staff help the new staff adjust to the work smoothly and quickly.