

Introduction to Creyan Chanda

Creyan Chanda

Date of birth: 14 April 1998

Sex: female

Languages: Bemba and English

Religion: Catholic

Community: Makululu

Status: single orphan

Creyan and her family

Creyan's father died in 2004 and her mother is currently running a shop at their house selling charcoal, kapenta (small fish), groundnuts, rice and beans. Creyan is the oldest in her family of 3 girls and 1 boy.

Their home is made of mud blocks with a corrugated tin roof. They use a pit latrine about 15 metres from the house and they draw water from a communal tap 300m away. They have to pay 100 Kwacha/5 containers of water (£0.013) to help maintain the tap.

Education

Creyan has been coming to Shitima since 2005 and is in Level 2 (grade 3/4). She is currently ranked 5th out of 19 in her class and her favourite subjects are English and religious education.

Health

Creyan had malaria three times in 2007 and does not have a mosquito net to sleep under at home. Other than a few headaches and stomach pains she has been healthy in 2007

A typical day for Creyan

Creyan usually wakes up at 5:30 and starts her 1 hour 20 minute walk to school at 5:45.

She joins the other students for breakfast of a bun and tea before school begins at 7:30.

Classes end at 12:30 with a 20-minute break mid-morning. The students eat lunch at school consisting of nshima (maize meal-a staple in Zambia), relish (usually fried cabbage or collards from the school garden) and a protein (soya pieces, beans or small dried fish called kapenta) for lunch at the school. Two or three times per month they eat chicken, beef or pork for lunch.

Afternoon activities at the school include prep work, reading, HIV/AIDs education, cleaning, gardening, sports and club activities such as girl guides/boy scouts, music, drama, sewing and environmental science. At home, Creyan does her homework and helps her mother in the store and with fetching water, sweeping the yard, washing clothes and cooking supper. They eat supper at 20:00 and Creyan goes to sleep at 21:00.

More about Creyan

Favourite sport: volleyball

Favourite colour: white

In her spare time she enjoys reading, working at her mothers store, helping her mother and going to church.

Ambition in life: To finish school and then become a sister and a teacher. She wants to help keep her family alive and healthy and she dreams of travelling to America.

Creyan is most happy when she is working with her mother. She also loves being part of Shitima School and going to church. She feels proud when her mother praises her work.