**Lightning strikes school, kills 1 pupil (Zimbabwe)**

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A LIGHTNING bolt on Wednesday afternoon struck eight Jekwa Primary School pupils in Murewa, who were sheltered under a tree, killing one and injuring others.

**BY Jairos Saunyama**

Esnath Musodza (13) was pronounced dead upon arrival at Jekwa Clinic, while the injured were transferred to Nhowe Mission Hospital, where they were admitted.

Efforts to get a comment from the police in Mashonaland East province were fruitless yesterday.

According to a reliable source, Musodza and seven other pupils were sweeping the school yard, when light showers fell resulting in them seeking shelter under a tree at the school.

It is reported that, while under the tree, a lightning bolt struck the pupils, who were then rushed to a nearby clinic by the school headmaster, Daniel Mudzamiri, where Musodza was pronounced dead upon arrival.

One of the injured pupils is reportedly in a critical condition, while six others are stable.

In January this year, two teenage students died and 83 others were injured after a lightning bolt struck Chinatsa Secondary School in Marondera East constituency.

So bad was the incident that the school closed for weeks, as students were too traumatised to return to the learning institution.
Government, through the Primary and Secondary Education ministry and other stakeholders, had to despatch counsellors to assist the students and parents.