



KAKUNYU SCHOOL

united for the good of the children

Newsletter December 2014

Welcome to the latest newsletter from Kakunyu School. I have just returned from Kakunyu as our pupils are preparing to go on their long "summer" holiday having completed their end of year exams. There's just enough time to update you about.....

The wonderful new water tank

I raved about the new underground water tank last newsletter as it neared completion, but I need to tell you a little about how this wonderful structure has started to transform life at Kakunyu. You will remember that the tank was funded by Chris Lang who is a singer with a group called "More than Music" based in the USA.

The only trouble with an underground tank is that it is impossible to take a picture of it that will do it justice! The tank catches rain water from the roof of the school and stores it safely until we need it. It has a capacity of 120,000 litres and we are now piping water down to the dormitory site to allow easy access for washing and cooking. How clever we were to build the school on the top of a hill!



The arrival of plentiful water means that we can start to grow more vegetables without having to trail down to the well and carry water up to the garden. We can grow vegetables to eat and to sell. Here is our first crop of pumpkins, being put into store by our pupils.

Claire & Ruth's visit to Kakunyu

In July, Claire and Ruth, 2 students from UK, spent 10 days visiting Kakunyu and seeing the school for themselves. They said:

"it was a wonderful experience - we arrived on a beautiful Thursday morning into the school and were instantly impressed by the new buildings, tanks and playground. However it was the attitudes of both teachers and children at the school that really captivated us. The positive and innovating attitudes of Mary and her team of staff as well as the joy and hope for the future in the children were wonderful. We were welcomed with beautiful songs and dancing and were honoured to be part of the school for a short while. During our time there taught some Geography, Music and Dance lessons which were a great place to share ideas and interests with the children".



“Mary, Madam Ritah and the team are constantly thinking of new ways to improve the lives of the Kakunyu children as well as others with disabilities in Uganda. Mary had invited a lady from Southern Uganda to bring her granddaughter with cystic fibrosis to the school in order for the Grandmother to learn how to help her granddaughter best in her development. Similarly, we met various local teenagers, some with disabilities, who’s work at the school provides them with an education, practical skills and an income. The benefits of Kakunyu School therefore reach a lot further than its boundaries”.



Another amazing gift.

We have received an AMAZING gift which will help us in so many ways. See if you can make out the Kakunyu School branding on the back of this wonderful vehicle....



This beautiful three wheeled motorbike truck was given to us by Anne, who visited us this year from UK. We will be able to use this vehicle to transport our vegetables to market, our pupils to clinic, and also to ensure that the children who find it hard to walk will not miss out on school activities.

In fact the very day I arrived in Kakunyu, one of the children needed to be treated in Masaka hospital – a distance of some 7 miles (and considerable expense) away. The child would not have been able to sit on a normal motorbike so Amir, Mary and the child headed off to hospital in our wonderful school “minibus”.

Tailoring at Kakunyu

During my recent visit, I was lucky to meet our resident tailor, Monge Jamada, who uses our sewing machines (treadle operated) in return for teaching our older pupils the basics of tailoring. I sat in on a lesson and was embarrassed to find that treadle sewing machines are really difficult to get going. You have to flick the hand-wheel backwards at the same time as starting to treadle – if you don’t flick hard enough the machine pushes the fabric out the wrong way. Here is the expert Fred, under the eagle eye of Monge.



Special message from Mary Kabiito

The School Director, Mary Kabiito says:

Thank you for joining us in the struggle of transforming the lives of the less advantaged children. Special thanks go to those ones who have supported us in various ways. Please join us!!! Together we can do more. Wishing you a fruitful 2015.

Like to know more?

If you would like to know more about Kakunyu School, just contact Jan Lowe (01494 890675) (jan@friendsofkakunyuyschool.co.uk) if you are in UK or, if you are in Uganda, Mary Kabiito (0701 489834) (director@kakunyuchildren.org)

Or visit our websites: www.kakunyuchildren.org for school information and, for information regarding our growing band of supporters world-wide, visit www.friendsofkakunyuyschool.co.uk