



KAKUNYU SCHOOL

united for the good of the children

Newsletter July 2015

Welcome to the latest newsletter from Kakunyu School. The children and staff are part way through the second term of the academic year (running from Feb to December in Uganda) and there are so many things going on.....

Update on staff and students

The school currently has 142 students, with 37 of these students staying in the school boarding section. All the boarders have disabilities of one sort or another and generally they live too far away for daily travel to the school. Some students go home in the school holidays and some live at the school on a semi-permanent basis. We also have 7 students who are too unwell to travel to school and we visit these children on a weekly basis to carry out physiotherapy treatment and to encourage them and their families.



Richard is our security guard and our posho mingler. By night, he makes sure that the school and the children are safe and we have had reason to be grateful for his alertness on more than one occasion. By day he has the important job of making sure that our main meal of posho (a mixture of maize flour and water) is mixed properly (or "mingled") and has the right consistency.



More exotic crops at Kakunyu

In the last newsletter we wrote that the arrival of plentiful water through our underground water tank 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 pumpkins and tomatoes as well as the more traditional vegetables to eat and to sell. As our expertise increases, we are keen to try and grow more exotic (and profitable) crops. Can you guess what the crop is that is shown on the next page? It's being grown in plastic bags containing spent coffee husks and has to be kept in the dark until it starts to grow.....

We have 13 wonderful members of staff, led by our Director, Mary Kabiito, our Head teacher Nalugemwa Rita and our Director of Studies Nayiga Hadijjah. We will meet other members of staff in future newsletters but one of the key members of our staff team is Ssempijja Richard, pictured here.



Yes! Hard to believe but these are exotic mushrooms. There's a market for them in the nearby town of Masaka and we are trying them out to see how hard they are to grow.

Another building nearly completed....



With help from our friends at Douglas College in Canada we have been able to construct a semi-permanent building to house two extra classrooms. In addition, our multi-purpose centre is nearly completed. This light and airy room will allow the children to relax, to read and to carry out craft work in the shade from the Ugandan sunshine. Picture soon!

Special message from Mary Kabiito

The School Director, Mary Kabiito says:

"Together we can do more; with joint effort of both technical and financial assistance joined together"

with kindness, the services at Kakunyu School are improving. We are very grateful for any contribution, whether small or big it makes a difference. Why don't you visit us and witness? Looking forward to seeing and hearing from you."

Rachel runs the "Edinburgh Half"

One of our Trustees, Rachel Skett (nee Wetherall) recently ran the Edinburgh Half Marathon to raise funds for us. She says:

"It was a rainy start to the 2015 Edinburgh Half Marathon but the rain soon cleared up as we headed out on to the streets of Edinburgh and ran 13.1 miles to Musselburgh along the fabulous coast. It was tough going but the atmosphere was fantastic and I trotted over the line in little over two hours. Thanks to the support of friends and family we raised £262.50 for Kakunyu School, a brilliant amount. Now bring on the next one!"



Like to know more?

If you would like to know more about Kakunyu School, just contact Jan Lowe (01494 890675) (jan@friendsofkakunyaschool.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.friendsofkakunyaschool.co.uk