



KAKUNYU SCHOOL

united for the good of the children

Welcome to the latest edition of the Friends of Kakunyu School newsletter. It has been an unprecedented year for everyone, including those at Kakunyu, but the great work that the school and community does has continued.

2020 in brief!

The school closed on 20 March 2020 on orders from the Ugandan government due to Covid precautions and it was not until the 15th October that students were allowed back, starting with the P7 class to allow them to prepare for the national exams. The exams were postponed from December until the end of March this year. We wish all our P7 candidates this year the best of luck after a challenging year of schooling.



Writing mock exams

Throughout the school closure the teachers at Kakunyu continued to be paid half of their salary. There have also been extensive requirements to be met so that the school could comply with Covid precautions and be allowed to reopen.

Work has also continued toward making improvements at the school site. Bricks have been made that will be used for the construction of a dormitory on the Up site which the Management Committee plan to construct in the future. Additionally, a new kitchen has been completed and the new fuel saving stove is installed, with the in-built chulli system that boils water while the stove is being used and stores it to form a drinking water supply (see later for more details)

Meet our new head teacher

Whilst the school was closed for most of the academic year, a new headteacher needed to be found to lead the school through challenging times. Headteacher Reagan has worked at Kakunyu for 3 years already, as the P7 class teacher and maths specialist. He is a qualified teacher and we look forward to seeing the school move forward with his guidance.



Our new Headteacher Reagan

What is a chulli system?



Photograph 1. Chulli system components

Source: Islam and Johnston (2008)

The new kitchen on the 'up' site has had a stove built which will purify water for the students and staff to drink, a first for the school site, as previously water had to be boiled at the down site and carried up the hill. The system works by passing the water through a heat resistant tube, and using the fire of the stove to heat it to at least 70°C, killing all of the harmful bacteria it may contain. Having safe drinking water will make a huge difference to the health of everyone at the school, reducing the impact that illness has on staffing levels and to the children's education.

Brick Making

Last year the school started to work towards one of its biggest building projects for a while, a dormitory based at the 'up' site. Building this dormitory would particularly benefit those students with physical difficulties, as it will mean that they no longer need to make the difficult climb up to the school from the current dormitories. As anyone who has visited Kakunyu will tell you, this climb is no easy feat, particularly after the rains!

In order to try and save some money, the school management committee decided to make their own bricks. 50,000 of them!



Building the kiln



The bricks being fired

Get in touch

If you would like to know more about Kakunyu school, please get in touch with Jan Lowe (01494 890675 or jan@friendsofkakunyuschool.co.uk)

Or visit the website:

www.friendsofkakunyuschool.co.uk.