

Annual Narrative report 2015



This year has had many ups and downs but the main focus is the ups and there have been many wonderful things that have happened. We were so very blessed to have had Berglind a volunteer from Iceland who stayed with us for six months. She made quite an impact in the community through home visits and a number of families benefitted from the stories she wrote and put out through the social media. In the School sponsorships programme she assisted with the taking of the photos and mainly keeping the sponsored children's computer records up to date. We were able to do the work in record time so we saved a lot of money by her offer to take the hard copies with her to the office in Iceland.

Also a second volunteer Ingar joined us for a short time of five weeks but helped a lot by interviewing former secondary students and also going to some of the homes. She with the help of the teachers was able to get many stories, poems and dreams from the children as per the request of the office in Iceland. These stories are interesting as they give a look into the culture from which the children come.

Straight Talk Club

We were also blessed to have had one of our students chosen to travel to the US to attend a conference in the UN. This was done through the Straight Talk club which operates in the secondary school. Straight Talk in Uganda is supported by a number of organizations and focuses on healthy relationships among the children and the youth in Uganda.

Girls Leadership (SEE REPORT ATTACHED)

Two of the secondary girls were selected from many others from other schools to attend a leadership conference especially for leadership training for secondary girls. These two will continue to attend these conferences and train others in the school also.

This year we have been busy reintroducing some activities which had fallen away such as the music club, art and drama. Reintroducing these has brought life and excitement back among the students who were feeling some frustration not having creative outlets. It is unfortunate in Uganda that the biggest focus is on passing exams and not balancing this with other activities.

Library and School Development



The development as far as buildings and renovations in the school has come to slow pace due to lack of funding. We have however been able to make some difference by extending the canteen adding new garden after doing a number of repairs. Also the library is coming along slowly after receiving a donation from N.Z. We would like to see this project finishes by the end of the year so the students have a proper reading area and hopefully if we can get funds to have it stocked with the

required books of which we do not have enough and the furniture needed.

ABC Kitetika Primary school underwent a lot of renovation earlier this year and in this term had the solar system repaired.

No Corruption Committees in the schools



We have formed a committee of students in the school who have undertaken to come up with the no corruption rules for the school. These students are keen to do this and we have scheduled to meet the again in the next few weeks to study their findings.

It has been so amazing the issues that have arisen since the no corruption in the schools has been declared. The posters are in all the class rooms, offices and outside the buildings.



Prefects Hand Over



In Ugandan schools there is a body of elected student leaders. This body is changed annually and then the current leaders learn to hand over their power to the newly elected leaders. This body of leaders has some teachers who mentor them and assist them in their leadership tasks. This year was a most wonderful and significant occasion. To have one group of leaders handing over power to a newly elected group is of high significance especially in the

African context. It is rare to see this in the political arena and a wonderful opportunity to teach the youth about the importance of peaceful transition of power.



Some of the comments from their reports

“I have managed to gain courage to stand and talk on behalf of the students. I have improved my talents and helped other students to do so. My confidence has increased and I was able to get closer to the teachers and the administrators.”

As the prefect for religious affairs I have been able to draw the students closer to God. Also my spiritual life due to seeking God more seriously. I have learnt how to present myself in public in other words I have gained confidence among multitudes of people.”

“As a leader I have been able to learn the characters of my fellow students. Have gained respect for many students and have learnt that it is important to be an example before others.

“Because of being a leader I have gained courage and now feel confident enough to be the next Women’s leader for parliament for my district. “Thanks to mama Trudy for the help she has given the school she is my role model, and the school is really developing because of her and I know this school will be among the top in Kampala..”

The entertainment prefect has learnt to” treat her fellow students with respect. She has gained confidence and is now able to guide students on the right things to do and correct their mistakes. She has gained leadership skills; maintaining order amongst the students’ body; assisting her teachers in the allocation of work to students.”

The Uniform head has learnt how to handle all the different kinds of students; speak their language and get through to them.

The treasurer of the student’s council said was greatly inspired and got a confidence boost from witnessing the swearing in of a former onto the student’s board of governors for the school.

The school time keeper said she has” learnt how to lead and not rule”.

These comments were randomly selected and there are so many more. Many said they had learnt to lead not rule and again in the African context this is an important lesson learnt. These young people will go out and become community leaders hopefully remembering lessons learnt.

They also faced many challenges and were honest in their evaluations of the shortcomings in the school which has helped the administration to make many corrections. In Uganda students are not always free to give their opinions especially when it is related to shortcomings in the school administration so we were happy for that change. We have now placed a suggestion box for the students and are getting some very good feedback from them.

Scripture Union Hand Over

This too was an amazing event and as already stated the handing over of a leadership office is of great importance among the youth and future leader in Uganda.



In the Ugandan Christian schools there is a ministry provided by Scripture Union. It has its origins in Britain and has been operating in Uganda for many years. One of our teachers was trained to establish it in the secondary school and it has been effective for the last ten years. Students are trained in the scriptures through bible studies, learn to lead in the chapel services and also attend annual conferences. The membership is optional and open to all who want to be part of it. To see the seriousness

of these young people in their walk and trust in God is very challenging and inspiring. There was lots of



fun, praise and worship. The incoming leaders were prayed for and the outgoing given certificates of participation. Finally the cake was cut and enjoyed



ART EXHIBITION

Comprehensive Art Exhibition was a fantastic day held on 1/8/2015. The students are being encouraged to see that they are creative and through creativity can be entrepreneurial and self-sustaining. There was such a variety on display and some unique pieces such as the snail shells displayed in yellow and green. Also the girl with traditional hat was out of the box! Then the more traditional art also





Next term we are having an open day for the parents, community and visitors during this time the students will be able to sell their goods for which they keep a percentage while some will go back to the art club. The students were served a good meal and lots of sodas so all in all it was a great day. On assembly the following day ten students were awarded prizes of 10.000 Ugandan shillings each and the art club received a donation of 200.000 Ugandan shillings from ABC Children's Aid to further their cause.

Sports Day



The students had a great day despite the fact that it rained for the first few hours. Girls enjoyed net ball volley ball and the boy's football and both enjoyed general sports games. The day ended with trophies for the winning house followed by a bull roast.

Senior 6 Leavers Party



This is normally done at the end of second term for the senior six students who begin final exams in early November and end their exam subjects at different times. It was a very colorful day as evidenced by the photos.



Agricultural show



The students went on a number of outings throughout the term and the agricultural show held in Jinja was an important one. It is unfortunate that most young people today do not wish to go for agric. Yet this is the future for them. We do encourage them as much as possible in concrete ways to demonstrate the potential earnings in this field by also allowing them to visit demonstration farms such as Valley Farm which is in Kasangati under the management of me (Trudy). Some have been inspired to follow farming.

Challenges

Among the many other issues which has had to be attended to were the Clinic in the secondary which is always contracted out to private health providers. Upon inspections by myself it was found to be in serious neglect so the health provider has been terminated and a new company is taking over.

Inspection was done also on the fire extinguishers and we discovered two missing and these have been replaced. Solar power also has been checked and it was found not to be working it has been rectified and will now be checked on regularly.

The students are more participatory and putting a suggestion box in place has helped to hear from them when their needs are not being met.

A monthly inspection team of relevant trades' people has been put in place so as to avoid such problems in the future.



Regardless of the challenges and disappointments we go forward with our task of educating and training up the children of today trying not to look down but like the sun flower turn our face to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly beyond our own expectations and from Him we draw our strength.

Compiled by Trudy Odida