

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2018 PROJECT UPDATE

The months of September and October started on a low key and ended on a high note. October was busier because of the arrival of visitors from Germany and Netherlands. During this time we also admitted new children who will join our Day Care class in January 2019. Below are some of the activities we carried out in the months of September and October.

a) Admission of new children

At the end of September we admitted 30 new children to our project (15 boys and 15 girls). This was after all of our project's children had been sponsored. These are children who will be beginning school in January 2019. They will be in our Day Care class. At the time of writing this report, 17 children are already sponsored.



Faith is one of the new children admitted in September. She still needs a sponsor

b) Harvesting Maize

At the beginning of this year we leased land for cultivating maize and beans. The maize harvest was very good this year, just like last year. But beans did not do well. We only harvested 3 bags of bean. Parents were called in to plant, weed and harvest maize and beans. They did a good job. They also helped in the drying and storing of maize. This year we harvested about 30 bags of maize. This will

take care of our feeding program for one year. It will save us the trouble of buying maize for Ugali. Our children love ugali with meat.



Parents in a leased farm harvesting maize



It was shelling time

c) Parents meetings

Parents, being an important stakeholder of our project, we involve them in all projects that we initiate. They help us in cooking for our children, farm work and any manual work that comes up at our school.

We invite them to meetings on a regular basis in order to update them on our project's progress. The latest meeting was on 13th October when they were briefed about coming of our visitors from Germany and Netherlands among other updates.



Parents meeting on 13th October 2018

d) Construction of a Dining Hall and Water Harvesting

Due to scarcity of funds, we have not completed the dining hall we started a couple of months ago. At the moment we have done the roofing. This construction has now stalled due to lack of funds. We are hoping that well-wishers will contribute towards its completion.



Our Dining hall/Multi-purpose hall.

In Nakuru we have a water shortage problem due to the unreliability of rainfall. We have heavy rains between March and August every year. We are targeting to harvest a large amount of water during this period. Through the efforts of Renate and Kay Angermann from Germany we managed to obtain funds for gutters and water tanks. They (Renate and Kay) have helped to fund both the kitchen and our classrooms with gutters and 3 water tanks of 10,000 liters capacity. We are very grateful for their efforts.



The photo above shows water harvesting with 2 water tanks.

e) Visitors

On 26th October, we received the largest ever group of visitors from Germany and Netherlands. Visitors are always a blessing. They stayed from 26th October to 4th November. While here, they participated in a number of activities (From singing to playing with children, visiting families to giving presents to children among many other activities). Below are some of the activities.

f) Visiting families

Visitors visited children homes to meet family members and see their living conditions. They also visited parents who have obtained micro-credits. They brought presents to these families especially those of sponsored children. Families were very happy and appreciative. Some visitors were surprised to see the living conditions of some families. Some could not hold their tears (especially when visiting a family with a roof of polythene paper). One sponsor had offered to construct a new house for this family.



Some of the visitors from Germany and Netherlands



Tivo visits Sarah with presents



Visitors while visiting one of the families in Kisumu.



When visitors visited one of the parents with a micro-credit

g) Playground Construction

Visitors, as mentioned above, are a blessing to our children. A group of visitors continued the construction of modern playground that they had begun last year. Through the efforts of Dr. Kay Angermann and his mother Renate, children are now able to play with great joy and safety during breaks. Some of the parts for these constructions came from Germany. Only timber and nails were bought here (The total cost of all these material was close to 1,800€ were a donation).

Parents and our youth were at hand to provide manual labor. The work took 5 days and the playground was ready to be opened for the children to use. They were very happy and appreciative.



Construction of the playground in progress



Children enjoying the fabulous playground

h) Presents

As always, visitors came with kilos of presents for children and staff. Children received clothes and shoes. Some of them also received food packages from their sponsors. Others received mattresses. In general both parents and children were filled with joy and happiness to receive all of these presents.



Children receiving presents from visitors

i) Official Opening of classrooms

During the year 2018, we constructed two classrooms, offices, washrooms and rain harvesting systems. All these were officially opened and dedicated during this visit. Although they were already in use, we had not officially opened them.



Renate Oberdiek officially opening a classroom constructed in memory of her late husband Heinz

j) Preschool graduation

We had our annual preschool graduation on 3rd November. This graduation was presided by Brique Zeiner, the LLK Chairperson. These children will be joining grade 1 in January 2019. All graduating children were presented with certificates of promotion.



Preschool graduates proudly posing with their certificates on graduation day.

In general the two months were very successful. We are hoping to receive a larger number of visitors in October next year. They all arrived back home safely.

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