

Newsletter no 77 2017-02-13

The latest news from S:t Christine School i Kabondo

The computers have arrived to the school.

The computers, which were donated by Ludvig Nilsson have arrived. They were updated with programs adequate for the needs of the students and staff. Our sincere thanks to Roland Palm, who helped us with the transport and saw to it that the computers arrived safely. Thanks also to those of you, who listened to our appeal for extra money and thereby contributed to providing 30 very good work computers to pupils and staff.

A few news flashes from the school

On January 8th we were 8 of us, who left gray and dull winter weather with summer clothes in the luggage and landed in Nairobi on the 9th in 35 degrees. After spending the night in Nairobi we arrived at the village the following day. The purpose of the trip was to visit the school and meet with pupils, teachers, head master and other staff. In January as the new school year starts the main issues are always related to the economy. The school's budget, i.e. salaries, food, school material and buildings were discussed to find solutions that can contribute to maintaining a high quality level in the school. Margret, who is responsible for the meals, is very anxious to review all costs, so that we can avoid further reductions. She has good knowledge of the children and their custodians and knows that for many of the pupils the school lunch is the only "reliable" meal of the day. We already know that the food contributes to the students' good performance. Head master David and Albinus Odada offered to let the school use approximately 3 ha of land to grow i.a. corn. Charles, who already is responsible for the existing plantations will take on even the new project. If the rain comes and the weather is favourable this should help lower the food costs corresponding to one semester out of three. During our visit we had discussions concerning the school's library and two of the buildings. The books are very well used and quite worn, and new books are needed. Two of the buildings are infested by bees, which have built nests in the walls. These are buildings of simpler construction. The wall material is not the usual mortar but wooden frames with an outer layer of corrugated sheet metal and inner layer of plywood. One of the houses can probably be rescued through pesticide treatment, but the other one will require more extensive remedies. Part of the facade had to be torn down to remove a big nest and in the rear wall there is another big bee colony.

Meeting with the pupils

Meeting the pupils, walking around in the school and visiting the lessons is very rewarding. Today the children are used to seeing us from time to time, and the excitement is not as big as it used to be during the first years. I got several chances to talk with pupils and listen to their views of the school and what it will mean to them in their future lives. Among others we met a student, who finished his education at S:t Christine in November 2016 and who will now start in Secondary School. He wrote down his thoughts about the school's importance to him and his experience of being a student at the school. You can read his letter on our web page, www.kisumu.se

During our last day at the school the pupils performed two of the song and dance shows, which they have rehearsed together with some of the school's teachers and competed successfully with. Nice choreography and well performed shows. Hearty commendations to both teachers and children.

A few pictures from the school. More will be published on our web page.

Kind regards The board / Bitte Brask, chair person

The Association's web page

Information about the school can be found on the web page, www.kisumu.se.
The Kisumu Association is also present on Facebook.

The Association's accounts

Do you wish to give a celebration gift or a memorial gift? Make a deposit to one of our accounts below and send us a mail at gava@kisumu.se. State cause, the person in who's name the gift is given and the donors. We will then send a "Thank you"-card with the names of the donors.

Swish account: 1236 072 698

Bank giro account: 5734-8534

Plus giro account: 17 62 64 – 0

For IBAN-nummer and Handelsbanken account number, please contact our accountant per.kingfors@kisumu.se