



Föreningen Kisumu

Newsletter 109, March 2023, in English

Latest news from the school – a direct report from Ulla Sturæus about changes in the school system in Kenya and how it affects and develops S:t Christine.

The school system in Kenya has now changed radically. Today all Primary schools have two pre primary classes and standards 1 – 6. Standards 7-9 have changed to Junior Secondary School, which means a prolonging of the basic education with one year. All government Primary schools must extend the number of classrooms for Junior Secondary and also set up a laboratory.

St Christine, being a private school, has not applied for starting up a Junior Secondary. We want to wait and see the development. St Christine is now a Primary school with two pre primary classes and standards 1-6. Therefore the students in standard 6 will sit their final exams in our school this autumn. We still have a standard 8 left, that studies according to the old curriculum and also will sit their exams in the autumn.

The students that left standard 6 in December have all chosen a Junior Secondary school nearby. Most of them have chosen our nearest school, Anyona Primary, but a handful chose Pala or Othoro Primary schools. We have contributed to the cost of some of the students' uniforms, because they otherwise risked staying at home.

The new curriculum has meant that the students have more subjects in all years. That puts a higher demand on the teachers and seven of them took part in extra training days last autumn, in order to get the right qualifications.

The school, as in before the pandemic, takes part in the festivals of music, dance and drama that take place in all parts of Kenya, in various rounds. The first round was a success for our students, that in all age categories managed to continue to the next level. The next round will be on March 14. We wish them all Best of Luck.

At last the rains have started och everybody hopes that the long draught now will be over. It is time to sow and plant maize on the patch of land that we have leased from Homa Bay County. The yearly contributions of maize from the guardians and the harvests have meant a decreased need for the school to buy expensive maize on the market.

The renovation of the computer classroom is finished, the security has been enforced, and the school, with a better shell protection, has now started the purchase of new student computers.



A group of learners practising for a coming competition. Faiza, one of the teachers, is ironing one of the dresses for the younger groups.



As we are writing this, we received a joyful message that St Christine got a trophy for best group in the singing competition. Congratulations to both students and the staff, that through their commitment and work effort help and support the students to develop and achieve good results in all parts of the school work.



News from föreningen Kisumu

The school has now been in operation for 20 years, and the association a little bit longer. It is worth celebrating, but how and when is not yet clear. We are looking for a suitable venue, place and time, and will return when we know more. We hope that as many as possible of our friends, members, contributors and sponsors will take part in the celebration. We are thinking of having a gathering with food, a sale, and possibly some entertainment. Do you know of some/someone that can contribute to the entertainment please let us know.

The website of föreningen Kisumu

On our website you find all newsletters, current information, and pictures from the school. The staff of the school almost daily sends us information and pictures of what goes on in St Christine. We can't keep up with that, but put out some of it on the website, every now and then.

We will update our web market and add some new items. First out will be some very cute childrens' hats that are suitable now when spring is coming. All hats are knitted from yarn that has been given us by a member. This means that all earnings from the sale go unabridged to the school.

You find more information on the website, kisumu.se.

Annual meeting 19th of April 2023

Time flies and it is soon time for our annual meeting. Since not everyone has the opportunity to attend in person, it will also this year be possible to partake online. The proceedings and information about time and place, and how to attend online, will be sent out at the latest on the 4th of April.

The board/Bitte Brask, chair person