

ABCD: Art Building Children's Dreams (UK)



ABCD (UK) Newsletter No. 9

This 1st quarter, 2015 in Tanzania has proved to be busier than ever for ABCD (UK). I began the quarter with an evaluation and recommendation from all 3 primary schools of their support partnership with ABCD (UK). Mwowe school became a starting point this year as last year Lya-mungo Sinda Primary received much of my attention. I discussed with the principal his food programme and how his expenses were distributed. I also learned about the family contribution requirement and how the money was spent. This was very helpful when I visited both ARI and L.S. as the principals' English here is not so good. So thank you to Mwowe School! In ARI and L.S. Primaries as well I gathered information about their new vulnerable standard 1 pupils and those students on last year's list who qualified for secondary following their standard 7 exams. Here in Tanzania standard 7 pupils in primary have



a final exam which, if they fail, excludes them from being invited to join a secondary. Thankfully, this policy is now being abolished!

And the outcome? While last year I supported 65 vulnerable children and their families, this year my list reached 81 with 7 from last year headed for secondary school! The village is now fully aware of our programme and are keen to spread the net a little wider! My feeling is that if the funds support it, I will do it! The village remains grateful and appreciative. I believe I will now also adopt the approach used by ABCD Canada in Marangu West and leave a family application form with the new pastor.

So, a very demanding start to the year! As an additional boost I met up in Arusha with Suzy and Nick Vincent whom I met last year at our coffee morning. They donated a further £20 during their visit! Lots more to do!



Observers at the official opening of the toilets as we listen to two children presenting a thank you letter for Martha.



A thank you to the children from ABCD (UK).



Presentation and thank you from the new pastor for contributions by Martha, her family and friends.

ABCDreams (UK) Objectives: 2015 Q2

MARTHA'S GIRLS

Meanwhile Martha's girls, as they were to become known in all schools, received this quarter's consignment of sanitary pads thanks to the donations from Martha, her friends and family in Australia.

This quarter we have 13 new girls. The scheme is working well with liaison established in each school through the teacher responsible for health. The girls are briefed and taught how to use the pads.

MARTHA'S TOILETS

Martha's toilets at L.S. Primary continue to be a real success. We organised our official opening yesterday, 6 May! A little late but it proved difficult to find a date when everyone was available. The new pastor kindly organised the proceedings as well as ensuring all the finishing touches were in place for the event.

Q1 ART PROJECTS

With a new art work programme now underway at ARI and L.S. Primaries I hope to return to the

UK in April with a new collection of paintings and introductory pieces from all the children. I have made the arrangements with the ARI head teacher and will finish with L.S. Primary.



SCHOOL UNIFORMS

A new idea, hatched last year but without the impetus of supporting funds is the school uniform project. Each day we visit a school we can see many of the children with torn and dirty jumpers, shirts and shorts. Many probably only have one set of each. We may now have enough supporting funds thanks to the help of a long-time village emigrant, Ndenny Meakins, now living near Saskatoon(!) as well as with a pledge from my colleagues in the Morden Rotary Club, London thanks to a motion by our president, Tony Hunn. onwards and upwards!

1. Pictures and paintings from ARI and L.S. Primary
2. Organise fundraising events at home
3. Begin school uniform programmes
4. Seek opps and apply for fundraising
5. Helping Morden Rotary with FunDay 2015
6. Prepare development programme for village vocational training
7. Assess needs for new toilet block at ARI
8. Prepare schools' art works for sale at UK event venues
9. Implement export opportunities

OUR NEWSLETTER

Welcome to this, my 8th ABCD (UK) newsletter. This quarterly update keeps you in touch with our work, our donors and our children in Tanzania. My time in Tanzania will, in the next quarter, hopefully prove as successful as the last. I'm looking forward to meeting the new challenges that our increased funding base affords...

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