

kivuli NEWS

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Kivuli Project Inc is proud to be a project partner for J606N with Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) www.globaldevelopment.org.au



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jambo friends,

Heri kwa sikukuu ya Pasaka! (Happy Easter)

April was another very busy month at Kivuli. Early in the month, Dan and Kate had a short visit from Carey, the Project Officer who oversees Kivuli for our partners, Global Development Group. Carey was able to see the project first hand and conduct her monitoring requirements.

The kids had their end of term exams at the beginning of the month and prepared to return to their relatives during the holiday period. However, our class 6, 7 and 8 students were notified that they were required to attend holiday tuition, yes, school during the school holidays – 6 days a week!

During some of this holiday time Dan and Kate were able to spend some time exploring the coast of Kenya, visiting Mombasa, Watamu and Malindi. Anne and Loise held

the fort at Kivuli in their absence. Over Easter, Anne and Loise spent some time away from the project, returning to their hometowns to see their families.

Back in Australia we had the pleasure of attending a 4-day short-term mission-training course called MIST, run by a mission agency called InterServe. It was a great reminder of the importance of actually being a part of the Kenyan culture, and getting involved with the local community, rather than just doing things our own way and trying to get others to follow the way of the west. It also gave us some practical ways of trying to deal with some of the challenges associated with cross-cultural work.

We hope the Easter break was a refreshing time for everyone.

Love Dan and Dee



committals

We are pleased to announce that all 40 kids are officially committed to the care and protection of the Kivuli Project! After last month's court case, the paperwork was at last officially signed by the magistrate and passed on to us here at Kivuli. This is a great step for everyone involved with Kivuli!



school closing day

On the last day of school for each term in Kenya, the students and parents together attend a special ceremony where the kids are given their recent exam marks and announcements are made to the parents. One-by-one the students' marks are read out and the students are expected to line up in the order of their grades. Understandably this can cause great stress for the kids, especially with their peers and parents watching. It was important for us to acknowledge the students' efforts no matter what

their grades were. We tried to stress the importance of trying their best and not being the best, and that each person has individual giftings. In true Kenyan style the ceremony began about 2 hours late and lasted for about 3 hours, in the hot sun! Being the only white people in attendance, we stood out like sore thumbs and were regularly called upon and acknowledged by the Head Teacher – much to our amusement. This became the kids last official day of term 1 and the start of school holidays for our younger kids.

country club

In keeping with Kivuli tradition, 4 kids were taken on a special treat to the Aberdare Country Club as a reward for their efforts during term 1. James and Miriam were taken because of the great improvements they had both shown in their term 1 marks. Elizabeth and Jimmy were taken because their great behaviour throughout the term. Elizabeth in particular has shown remarkable improvements in her attitude and in the decisions she makes. Elizabeth who is 13 years old came to Kivuli from very poor living conditions, having had a tough upbringing. In the past Elizabeth has been involved in stealing, lying and other behaviours, which were a reflection of the difficult upbringing she has had. Kivuli staffs, over the past year have been trying to teach Elizabeth



along with the other children what it means to believe in God and how our actions should reflect what we believe. Elizabeth has shown great improvement; helping other kids, helping in the kitchen and working hard to be responsible for her actions.

One day during the end of March, Anne lost 25 shillings out of her apron pocket, the money was gone and Anne thought that was the end of it. It provided us all with much

joy when Elizabeth found the money and returned it to Anne. Unfortunately, in the past, a lot of Kivuli kids in this situation have kept found money to buy themselves sweets. Elizabeth was duly rewarded for her actions and the remarkable improvements she has made.

All 4 kids, along with Dan, Kate and Njoki (casual weekend kitchen hand) visited the Country Club, for a short Safari walk, a 4-course lunch and a swim in the pool. The kids got

to walk among zebras, giraffe, warthog and many more African animals. They enjoyed eating (using a spoon, knife and fork), salad, soup, fish or beef, roasted vegetables and pastries for dessert. The highlight for the kids was swimming and relaxing on the banana lounges by the pool. All had a great day and it was a special experience that the kids will remember for a long time.



stanley tools

This month Kivuli received a very special gift! Dan and Kate were excited to find two big, heavy boxes waiting for collection at the local Ndaragwa post-office. Although we knew it was coming, after just under three weeks in transit, we were surprised and excited to be unpacking a 51-piece-tool-kit, care of Stanley Tools in Australia. It was like Christmas Day, unpacking piece by piece of good quality, helpful tools. The kids were amazed to see such an exciting gift. One of the children made a comment about how "things from Australia are very beautiful" and the kids would pick up a random tool and ask "Uncle, and this is for...?" They all wanted to try out the new toys and find out what they were used for. We are very much looking forward to making use of the tools for future projects here at Kivuli. Thank you very much to Mike and Kirsten Kirkman, for providing this gift and allowing it to make its way to Kenya.

clean teeth

We send our thanks once again to Mouf for the kind donation of 40 mini toothpastes and 40 toothbrushes for our kids to use! As well as this, thanks to Dan's Mum, Elizabeth Hickingbotham and others at North Ringwood Uniting Church for raising over \$600 by selling toothbrushes for a fundraiser. The kids' teeth are sparkling!



TRIVIA NIGHT

If you're in Melbourne, and want a fantastic night out, join us at the Kivuli Trivia Night! All proceeds will go towards the work of Kivuli Project.

Date: Saturday 4th June

Place: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Hall
14 Bedford Road, Ringwood

Time: 7.30pm

Cost: \$15 per head

Contact Dee to book your table on 0425 901 804 or email dee@kivuliproject.org

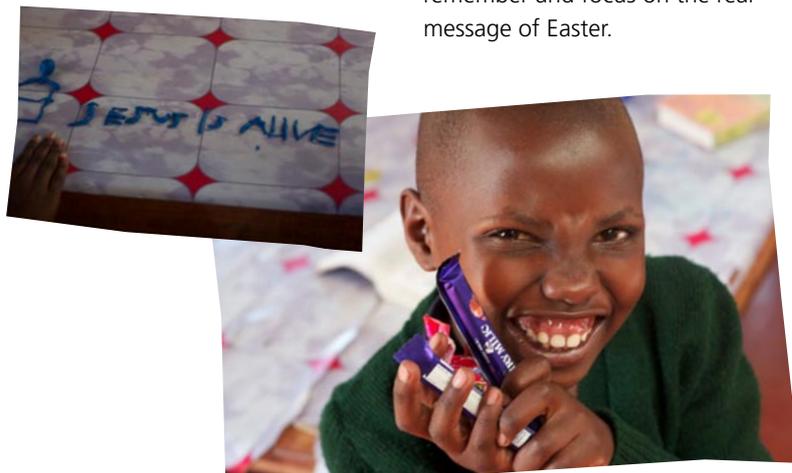
Be quick because places are limited!



easter

In the lead up to Easter, the kids all spent time decorating and writing an Easter card to send to their sponsors in Australia. Prior to beginning making their cards, we discussed some ideas about what they could draw and what 'Easter related' images they could include on their cards. If you asked these questions of Australian kids, some of the answers would no doubt be "Easter Eggs, Easter Bunnies" and so forth. It was interesting to note that such images do not exist for kids here in Kenya. Not one child drew a shiny Easter egg,

a hot cross bun or an Easter bunny. Instead they drew flowers, people and biblical images related to the Easter story. Easter Eggs are nowhere to be found in Kenya and the idea of eating chocolate eggs is very foreign to anyone here. The Easter weekend was a quiet one here at Kivuli, with the majority of the kids home with their guardians for the weekend, only 7 kids remained. We shared Good Friday and Easter Sunday church services, a chocolate/lolly hunt and some other fun games. It was a special time here at Kivuli to remember and focus on the real message of Easter.



for those that pray

Praise Points

- Praise God for the provision of so many people, in their kind donations towards Kivuli.
- Thanks to God for the completed committals process.
- For various large donations received for the building project!

Prayer Points

- Pray for all Kivuli kids during their home-stays over the holidays, as some of them return to rough circumstances. Pray also for their safe return to Kivuli.
- Pray for the relationship between all Kivuli kids. Pray that the children can get along like brothers and sisters and resolve any differences in a sensible manner.

to donate

Donations to this Global Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993) approved aid and development project J606N Kivuli Project are tax deductible.

ANZ Bank
Account Name: Kivuli Project Inc.
BSB: 013 403
Account Number: 3692 81295

Please email rachel@kivuliproject with your name, address and amount deposited to claim your tax deductible receipt, or for additional payment options.

