

kivuli NEWS

EDITION 19 – November 2011 GDG Project J606N Update



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,

November was another jam-packed month with plenty of things keeping both the staff and children busy. These included end of year exams for all students, a community education day, search for land, a games day at another children's home and lastly, Kivuli Christmas. We hope you enjoy reading the November edition of Kivuli News and be able to see how God is using it to give hope to the marginalised in this community.

Dan and Dee Rutherford



kivuli christmas

Given that the school year has come to a close and the majority of children will be heading off to spend time with their extended families over the holidays, we once again decided to celebrate Christmas early. It was a wonderful day together and we celebrated by eating a special lunch of fried rice (with sausage), birthday cake (for Carol and Jesus) and opening presents. The children loved receiving a torch and watch each, amongst a few other smaller things. It was wonderful to see the excitement on their faces at receiving a few small material things. Despite the rain (and mud) we decided to go on a walk in the afternoon to give the kids their extremely large gift – the 5 acre block of land. The children were so excited and immediately started talking about the 'new Kivuli'.

Thank you to all of the sponsors who are contributing to these Christmas gifts for the kids!



court users open day

On Friday the 18th, Kivuli Project was asked to host a stall at the Court Users Open Day in the nearby town of Nyahururu. This day was designed to educate the local community and give them an opportunity to question and challenge different government departments and private community organisations. Other stalls were held by the police, private law firms, the Nyahururu law court, the Children's Department, prisons and of course 2 Children's homes. Kivuli Project was there to educate the public on the effects of sexual abuse on a child which stemmed from the Social Worker's Conference we ran in September. In addition, we were able to specifically assist people who were seeking help for a child they believed to be 'in need'.

Although a tiring day it was enjoyable and fruitful, including offers from people to volunteer at the project.



land

About a month ago the Ndaragwa community held a meeting to discuss ideas around community development. We felt this was an answer to prayer as it is one of the areas where Kivuli Project would like to be involved. From the meeting we met with the local Chief, expressing our desire to assist where we could, but conveying the uncertainty of our current rental situation. As a result he has been searching for land in the local area and we are so excited to announce that land has been found. This

piece is 5 acres, has a small creek running through it, is green with established trees and already has a house built. We were pleased to hear its owner has the title in order and as a result have officially entered into a contract to buy the land. We already have the keys to the house on the property and should have the title finalised by early December. Praise be to our faithful Lord!! We look forward to sharing the progress of our developments with you over the coming months.



exams

At the end of every term, primary school students undertake exams to test their knowledge of the syllabus that is being taught. At the beginning of each year the students start learning from page one of their text book, and by the end of the year they should have concluded it. The exams are marked out of 600 for grades three and below, and 500 for grades four to eight. The students are judged on two things, firstly their score and secondly how they compare with others in their year. On 'closing day' students are lined up in their order for everyone else to judge.

At the end of class eight, the students' score determines their eligibility and

placement into a secondary school. Secondary schools are grouped depending on their facilities, teaching, prestige etc. and the better the student's score, the better the school they can enter. This is similar to the University course placement in Australia.

So, we are at that time again where we wait to see how the students perform, and in particular, to see which secondary schools our class eights can go. We have the usual mix of abilities but know that all have tried very hard throughout the whole year and should be pleased with whatever score they receive. Well done to all!



online christmas catalogue

Are you struggling for gift ideas this Christmas? Do you have to buy for someone who seems to have everything already? If the answer is yes then we have the solution for you! Perhaps you might like to buy a goat or water tank for Kivuli? Or perhaps a solar lighting system or cow for a local Kenyan family with a child in school?

Check out the Kivuli Online Christmas Catalogue at www.kivuliproject.org and buy a gift of a different kind this year, one that makes a difference in the lives of the needy.

saint martin variety day

On Monday the 28th we were invited to a Variety Day being run by another local Charitable Children's Institution called Saint Martin. We took the 9 children left at Kivuli for the holidays to spend the day playing competition games with the children at Saint Martin. There were tomato and spoon races (it seems they don't use eggs here), sack races, three-legged races, tug of war and many more. The children had a great time mingling with the other children. It was nice to do something special for them as they often feel very low when the other children have family members to come and collect them for the holidays and they have no one.



home-based care

We briefly shared with you last month that we are implementing a home-based care program at Kivuli. This program is for the children who do have a family member who loves them however cannot provide for their needs due to poverty. We are pleased to share that we have at least three children who will be living with their Grandparents next year. The responses from both the families and children have been extremely positive and we are working with the families to develop long-term strategies to combat their financial problems. We aim to assist these families not only to provide education for their children but to also empower the carers to generate income so they will not need financial assistance from Kivuli in the future. In fact, several items in our Online Christmas Catalogue are specifically for these families.

new loo

Dee's parents are visiting the project next month and her father was extremely concerned about tackling the pit or 'squat' toilet. Being the good son-in-law he is, Dan decided to design and construct a toilet seat over the existing hole (with the assistance of the local welder). The staff are very happy as now everyone can benefit from a much more comfortable visit to the loo, and Dee's Dad doesn't have to worry now either. Thanks Dan!!



for those that pray

Praise Points

- For the provision of land! What a wonderful answer to prayer.
- For increased community connections.
- For the health and safety of all the children and staff at Kivuli this year.

Prayer Points

- For the safety of the children at home over the holidays.
- For two new children who will join Kivuli in the next week. They have never been to school and are aged 7 and 10. Please pray they will feel welcome and that we can assist them to catch up in their education before starting school in January.
- That we can find the right local church to call home.

to donate

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

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