

NKUNGA LAST QUARTER - 2007

Having come to the end of the year 2007, the children closed schools for their December vacation. The year ended on a very high note and with a lot of achievement and issues to thank God for. The Nkunga community field officer, parents, local leaders, church leaders worked hand in hand to meet the end of year targets to serve the over 250 children in the community.

Intellectually

Some students sat for their National examination at different levels. In comparison to last year where we only had 1 student who attained 300 marks and above, this year we had 3 students attaining 300 marks and above. The first student got 361 marks in comparison to the last year one that got 354 marks which is a great improvement. The community is very grateful for the contribution of the UK in helping achieve these grades. We also had 6 students graduate from technical college and one too from Secondary school.

Pupils from nursery to grade 7 also sat for a district exam has enabled them to be promoted them to the next grade this year 2008.

Physically

Good health is paramount to the physical development of the pupils. Therefore, the field staff educated all the school children on good hygiene in

the following topics using practical demonstration.

- Prevention of waterborne diseases
- Importance of De-worming
- Water purification methods including filtration and boiling
- Treatment of water borne diseases using Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT).

De-worming exercise was carried out where all the children in Nkunga community benefited. This was to prevent sickness arising from having worms. This move was highly appreciated by both the pupils and teachers. The common stomach ailments that cause frequent absenteeism from school have been greatly reduced.

Toilets construction



Three sets of toilets were constructed in Nkunga School during the last quarter. The community provided labour to dig the pits while FH provided the materials to erect the toilets. This has provided better sanitation and has reduced the time children have to

waste queuing to use the few toilets which were previously there. Also this has improved the esteem of the girls since they have some privacy while using the bathrooms unlike before.

Spiritually/emotionally

Camp



A total of 30 youth from secondary and technical school level had an opportunity of attending a 3 days youth camp organized by FH. The youth from the different Child Development Programme (CDP) centres attended the camp.

The theme of the camp was drawn from ***Ecc 12:1 'Remember your Creator in the days of your youth'***. Devotions were conducted before every session. Some of the topics learnt during the camp were as follows;

- Self esteem and awareness
- Human sexuality journey
- Risky Behaviour
- Abstinence and challenges
- Self reliance

The camp became a centre of exchanging ideas, challenges and experiences by the students. 30 children received Jesus as their

personal saviour. It was joyful moment for the students. A very well experienced counsellor, along with the field staff, facilitated the seminar sessions.

Christmas party



A very successful Christmas party was thrown for both the young and old in Nkunga community. Children decorated the Christmas tree with different colours of balloons and ribbons to mark the celebrations of the day. Christian songs were sung, the narration of Jesus' birth and acting marked the day.

Cluster trainings

Parents had a series of seminars on political and economical life. Kenya was to have general election therefore parents were expected to conduct them in a peaceful manner during and after election. They were also expected to pray for God fearing leaders.

Economically, parents were trained on the following;

- Land preparation
- Digging/ploughing
- Application of manure and fertilizer

- Choice of good seedling/seeds
- Application of insecticide
- Frequent weeding
- Storage of the harvest



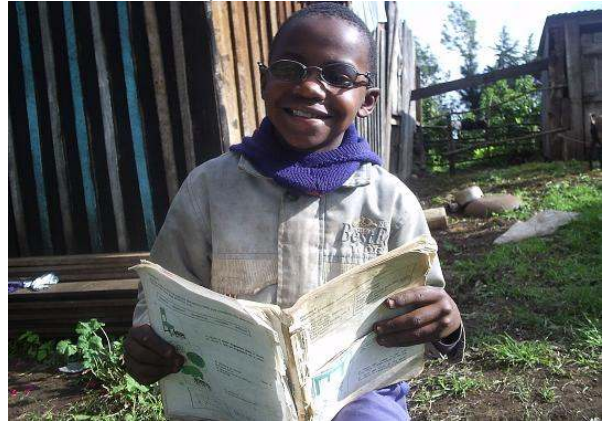
Along with the seminar, parents were supplied with maize seeds and some 600 assorted tree seedlings to plant in the school compound. The trees will beautify the school and improve the climatic conditions of the area. More harvest is expected because rains are enough. The parents and children are seen weeding and spraying their crops.

Church visit

Rosemary, the field staff, visited some churches that she works closely with after the departure of the work team. The churches have continued to express their great appreciation to the UK Highfield church for the great love and concern they have shown to the Nkunga community both materially and spiritually.

The church leaders have continued to meet together to plan future evangelical crusades and prayers for the community.

Success story - Ken Mutuma



Mutuma is a 10 year old boy who has had a very acute optical problem that almost kept him away from school completely. His parents could not get him a proper medical care due to lack of finances until FH came to their rescue. It was difficult for Mutuma to read from the chalk board even after he sat very near to the board. After a lot of examination by the District hospital optician, Ken was able to get a very strong pair of spectacles. Both his parents and teachers are very happy for the help that FH gave to Ken.

Prayer requests

- Pray for peace in Kenya.
- Pray for Rosemary, that God may continue to protect her and her family as she serves this community.
- Pray for children as they reopen school
- Continue praying for good harvest
- Pray for Kenya for peace

Compiled by Violet Ruria