

KOINONIA ACADEMY

December 2007

News Letter 6

This school term comes to an end on 30th. November 2007. At the time of writing, the whole school, children, teachers and other workers, were all in a carnival mood as rehearsals were going on for the end of the year Christmas concert to be held on 28th. November, 2007.

As one enters the school, one is greeted by excited little angels in shiny clothes, and almost wrestled to the ground by equally high spirited little shepherds, as in-keepers and wise men compete for a piece of the action, not to forget Joseph, Mary , Three Wise men and other characters in the well familiar Christmas story.



There is good cause for celebration. The year has been exceptionally good and as we come to the end of this academic year, the teachers in all classes are happy to report their satisfaction with the children's progress in all areas, including academic and extra-curriculum programmes. Discipline, which has been a problem in previous years, has been reasonably good this year.

We started the year with 60 children. 4of them have since left due to family reasons and at the end of the term we had 56.

Class Reports

Impala is the nursery (4-5years) class. We admitted 16 in January and 2 have left. At the end of their first year in school, these little ones have already adopted English as their preferred medium of communication. During an educational visit to a super market, as part of their term project, the children had occasion to impress the shop attendants with their communication skills



Eland the pre-primary class is also reporting good progress. The Children have acquired basic reading skills and they are all eager to progress to Primary Class 1 next year. A class visit to Wilson Airport left them with stories to tell others for a long time.



Bongo the Primary Class 1 also had a memorable tour of the city of Nairobi during the last term. Although all of the children live in the outskirts of the city, the majority of them had never been to the city before.

Kudu . This Primary 2 class, which was once "dreaded" because of being noisy, is happily reporting remarkable progress, with the children all showing a great sense of maturity. One of them, Ridge, brought fame to the class when he won a trophy for the school in Karate tournament at Parklands Sports Club, by beating a boy twice his own size!

Oryx. This primary 3 class has played its part very well. As the class of “seniors” they have displayed exceptional maturity, discipline and excellence in most things they have to do.

During the year, Teresa won the first prize in a story writing competition involving some of the best international schools in Nairobi, while Lillian and Humphrey won trophies in a Karate competition also involving well established Nairobi schools.

As the saying goes, every day in every way, we are getting better and better!



The Challenges

Our greatest challenge is class room space. Having put to use every available space (including the garage) in our rented residential premises, we have been searching without success so far, for a bigger facility which will accommodate our expansion programme both immediate and long-term. We have already interviewed parents for the new nursery class due to be admitted in January next year and we are hoping to have found a place to house them in the meantime.

Acknowledgements

As in previous years, we would not have been able to end the year on such a high note were it not for the support we got, throughout the year, from our good friends, neighbours and well wishers.

We therefore wish to thank all those who prayed for us, and those who donated various gifts in cash or in form of foodstuffs, books, clothes, shoes, toys, furniture and other learning materials. Our gratitude also goes to those who have continued to offer financial sponsorship to some of the children and to the owners and managers of the facilities visited by the children in the year.



And special thank you for volunteer teachers who dedicated their valuable time to teach the children in Computer and Art and Crafts.

As it is written in the Biblical Book of Proverbs 19: 17, “***He who is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward him for what he has done.***”



Our highest gratitude is to the Lord God Almighty who does not only give life but also sustains it.

We wish you all a merry Christmas and a most prosperous new year.