

Bridging the Gap

Dear Friends

Welcome to the first Newsletter for 2016. We are so thankful for the many ways you support BOHCM. You are changing and saving lives and we hope you enjoy receiving this latest news.

Focus on Education

January was a very exciting time as we prepared to open our new Primary 4 class at the start of the school year in February. Desks and books were ordered, teachers appointed, staff meetings held and children registered in their appropriate class. The Nursery places were full within a few days including many new children into the Baby Class, thus requiring us to take on a trainee nursery teacher to assist the class teacher with settling and supporting these precious children.

Due to the Ugandan presidential elections, schools were asked to delay their opening date. This gave us the opportunity to meet with our builder and arrange to level the ground where the final phase of the Primary School will be constructed. Two days later a digger and three tipper trucks arrived on site and set about removing 120 loads of soil, much of which we used to construct a play area on an uneven piece



of our land. The site is now ready for us to plan the completion of the Primary school.

We are blessed that we are able to continue giving school bursaries to the poorest children and free meals to all who attend the BOHCM School. Without this support many parents would be forced to end their children's education as they simply cannot pay for the fees, uniforms and books. The dropout rate at other schools is staggering as many children cannot afford to continue their education through the required grades. Given the strong association between educational attainment and income earning potential, children who are unable to attend school are likely to remain economically disadvantaged.



Before and after:
new latrines have
improved sanitation
and health



Community Projects

It is wonderful to report that ten families have received a new latrine in the last year which has greatly improved their sanitation and comfort. Five homes have been built, several others re-roofed and a further three families now have a kitchen.

Furthermore, BOHCM recently purchased a small plot of land in order to build a rural style home that will accommodate two homeless families. This work will commence in the next few weeks.

BOHCM Children’s Village

Due to ill health, we sadly had to say goodbye to one of our wonderful House Mothers, as she needed to return

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 17th April: Epiphany-Music for Harp, Flute and Viola 3.30^{pm} at St. John’s Church Clay Hill. Tickets on the door £10 with tea

Saturday 7th May: Coffee Morning, Bring & Buy & Clothing Collection, 10-12 noon at Enfield Baptist Church

Prayer points

- Pray for peace to continue following the recent Presidential elections
- Pray that BOHCM is able to complete the final phase of the Primary School
- Give thanks for the resources to provide Vocational Courses
- Give thanks for the new staff at the School and Children’s Village

home to be cared for by her family. Our House Aunt who has known the children since 2011 has now taken on this role and we also appointed a lady to become an Aunt. All twenty-four children are doing well and we pray that the new Aunt will enjoy being with them and give them the love and care they deserve.

News

Secondary education – let’s celebrate!! Fourteen of the sponsored children are now attending secondary schools. This would have been completely impossible without your support as secondary school fees are expensive and totally unmanageable for poor families to attain.

Vocational training offers a secure future – we are delighted to report that several of the sponsored children have completed school and are being registered for a Vocational Course. Most courses are for two years. We now have three trainee tailors, two teachers and one driver/mechanic. This is a new era for BOHCM and these young people have completed school and now have the opportunity to secure a brighter future.

The youth sport project – a local tournament was held in February and the project continues to encourage local children to come along and have fun whilst learning a variety of skills.

Clean water – amazingly we are currently constructing the twenty sixth Protected Spring which will provide water to another two hundred people each day.

Psalm 113:3
From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised.

