



The Kisoro Trust

Newsletter December 2023

Dear Supporter

Another year has passed and you will be pleased to hear that Kisoro Demonstration School is going from strength to strength. It is now around 22 years since we helped establish the first primary school class for Deaf children in Kisoro with an intake of just 15 children. Over the years the number of pupils and classes increased and the unit was eventually integrated into Kisoro Demonstration School. The entire school currently has 145 children within which there are various categories of special needs. These include children with visual impairment, hearing impairment, physical impairment, epilepsy, autism, dyslexia, health problems and those who are living under difficult circumstances. Of those, the biggest group are the fifty one Deaf children supported by the Kisoro Trust.

Despite the increase in numbers since those early days we are still committed to helping those Deaf children who, without education, would have a bleak future. We would therefore like to thank you all for sticking with us. Many of you have been supporting and donating towards the children's education since the very beginning and have seen them go from those first primary classes to actually help run the school as adults. You should be very proud!

This year Term 1 began on 5th February 2023 and thankfully Kisoro Demonstration School is now operating normally following all the disruption caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. During the year the Deaf pupils have continued to benefit from:

- access to education and communication through separate classes where the medium of instruction is Sign Language.
- a good intake of nutritional food while at school. This includes meat, nuts, rice, bananas, sweet potatoes as well as milk that is obtained from the heifer which is kept by the school. Maintaining a balanced diet for the children has been more of a challenge during this academic year owing to the worldwide increase in food prices, but vegetables grown on the school premises significantly help to supplement the children's diet.
- a safe, healthy and hygienic environment thanks to the work of the matrons and night watchmen who provide school security and take care of the Deaf children in their accommodation.

- acquisition of wide-ranging extra-curricular and vocational skills, which will help the Deaf children to integrate increasingly with their peers and equip them to earn a living independently in the future.

Extra Curricular Activities

Alongside sport, music, dance and drama, the Deaf children are currently enjoying additional classes in computer skills, tailoring and knitting. Following her completion of a two year tailoring course, a Deaf instructor is now teaching the girls how to make school uniforms and they also enjoy extra arts and crafts lessons in making items such as table mats.



Craft lesson and completed table mats



The Deaf pupils receive lessons in agriculture, both theory and practice. The children are taken to the gardens to practise what they learn in class. Here they help to grow vegetables such as spinach, cabbage, sweet potatoes, maize and beans, and learn how to care for and eventually harvest these crops - and then enjoy eating them!



Vegetable garden

National Athletics Competition

Once again a number of Deaf pupils from Kisoro Demonstration School had the opportunity to compete in the National Athletics Competitions which this year were held in Luwero district. All the children received certificates to celebrate their participation and everyone was delighted when one of the pupils received a gold medal for their victory in the 200m.



Getting ready to run the 200m



Presentation of certificates

Thank You!

We are very grateful to all of our donors who help to make these things possible. We wish you a happy festive season and best wishes for 2024.

The Kisoro Trust, Recognised Scottish Charity SC 029384
91 Restalrig Avenue, Edinburgh EH7 6PN www.kisoro.org

To make a donation to support the work of the Kisoro Trust, please go to www.kisoro.org. Thank you!

