

Karuri School Project

Supporting Sacred Heart School, Naivasha, Kenya

"A Dream for Something Better" - Wangari Cecilia



News Update - March 2017

Words from Wangari

Dear friends,

Receive my greetings and gratitude for your support and love. I cherish your effort to fundraise to sustain the orphans and destitute children in Sacred Heart School. **Thank you** for sharing and giving us your time with us to create awareness we are grateful for your donations. **Thank you** for your generosity.

Thanks to the one cow you gave in 2011, today we have 4 dairy cows that we milk, 2 bulls and 4 calves. The children get plenty to drink.

Thank you to all that knit jumpers and make quilts for the children. We appreciate.

Thank you for transforming the lives of the children by giving them hope in life and a second chance.

Thank you Patricia for your visit, you are a good bridge that keeps us connected vividly. Please, you are all welcome to visit us.

God bless you all, Wangari



News from the school - pupils

There are approximately 100 pupils, 60 boarders and 40 day students. About 50 of the pupils are orphans, many others have only one parent or are destitute. Paying pupils pay according to their circumstances.

The boarders have a very long day, starting at 5am and finishing with recreation for an hour before bedtime at 9pm. The dormitories are clean, attractive and well-organised. It is lovely to see the quilts sent from England being used as bed covers.



The School Day

For the day pupils, school starts from 7am - 7.30am, and finishes between 4pm - 5pm, depending on age. Although the school day is long and the National Curriculum is followed, the day is well balanced and I saw modelling with clay, woodwork and PE lessons, as well as a sports afternoon and choir practice.

James

James is an orphan who has been living in desperate circumstances. I was fortunate enough to see him before he started school, and during his first day - the beginning of a whole new life for him, encompassed by the loving community of Sacred Heart School.



The staff

There is a headteacher and 8 teachers, one for each grade. The National Curriculum is followed and the standard of teaching is excellent, shown by the exam results. They came 1st out of 109 schools in their area, and 5th out of 209 in the region.

The teaching staff live in the the school compound in specially built homes.

There are three non-teaching staff who ensure that the grounds and animals are well cared for. Their jobs include gardening, cooking and general repairs around the school.



School grounds and animals

The school has now been open for 6 years and has gone from strength to strength. The grounds are welcoming with trees, shrubs and flowers. The cows, chickens and geese spend their days in harmony, the sheep graze contentedly on the other side of the road and return to an enclosure at night. The children are able to eat an egg at least once a week.

Specialised equipment has been bought to grind maize, oats and hay for the cattle. Cattle stalls have been made and the cows are taken three times a day to feed. They are milked twice daily and surplus milk is sold.

The bore hole is used to replace water in the tanks during dry periods, although rain water continues to be used when possible.

There is a secure gate to the school compound and fencing all the way round. It is planned to increase this security by planting high bushes.



News from England

There was great excitement in school when three large parcels arrived from England. The children were so excited as they took turns to unwrap them. They were full of an amazing mixture of red hats, cardigans, wonderful quilts and teddies in bags, all made with love and care. Many thanks to Jill Wadsworth, WI members and friends for their generous gifts.

