

# Karuri School Project

Supporting Sacred Heart School, Naivasha, Kenya

"A Dream for Something Better" - Wangari Cecilia



## News Update - October 2017

### Words from Wangari

Dear friends,

Many greetings from Sacred Heart, we are doing very well and everything is rolling fine. Thank you for the funds, we really appreciate your support. You have become parents and bread winners for the unfortunate children in Sacred Heart. We have seen the fruits of your effort and sweat. It's very touching to know that it is love and mercy that moves you to fundraising though it has been very tough. You have empowered these children to the height that is unimaginable.

God bless you all, Wangari



### Visit from Staysure Insurance Staff

We are pleased to report that three members of staff from Staysure Insurance visited the school as part of the company's charity commitment. They chose Karuri as one of their supported charities for 2017 and have assisted Wangari in her attempts to improve the four basic classrooms. The staff found their experience both enriching and educational.

### News from The Lions

We were delighted to hear from The Lions Club Nairobi Greater, and we thank the members for their continued support. Following a visit to Sacred Heart School, Lion Shah wrote to Wangari - 'My trip to your excellent institution together with Mr Onesmus was an eye opener but at the same time gave great joy, happiness and pride moments. The children... are not only very disciplined, but very well behaved and down to earth. I was impressed by the great behaviour and the warm welcome we were accorded not only by the students, teachers but you also and this remains a landmark visitation.' His ideas for helping the school include:

- Usage of cow dung for energy saving
- Animal feed
- Providing additional water storage tank
- Irrigation through 'The Amiran Farmer's Kit'
- Greenhouse and furniture for classrooms
- Uniforms and learning materials for students
- Reconstruction of the four depleted classrooms



Feeding trough



Irrigation from the underground tank

Already the Lions Club has sent 200 bags of cattle feed. This arrived just as the last of the feed at the school had run out. The rains were late coming and the situation was desperate. We send our grateful thanks for this help and look forward to a continued relationship.

Construction should have started on the new classrooms, but it's raining very heavily and this could affect the foundations of the building. However the construction will start any time the rain decreases. The photos show the temporary classrooms and materials for the new classrooms.



## News from the WI

Over the years since Wangari had the wonderful idea of building a school for vulnerable and deprived children in her area of Naivasha our WI has been kept up to date with her progress. This circle of friends has grown, not only to local WI's but to many friends and groups. It has been a pleasure to send newsletters to anyone who has agreed to donate a regular amount of cash each month, or to swap Christmas money instead of gifts as donations to the school. Our circle of friends willing to help has included more and more ladies who love to knit and are more than happy to have their knitted items sent to Naivasha. When Patricia Moore was visiting earlier in the year she was able to take photos of the boxes of gifts arriving at the school.

We now have another large amount of goodies such as scarves, leggings, mittens and hats ready for posting to help keep the school children warmer in the evenings and early mornings. Several knit and natter groups have made more blankets and a lot of ladies are keen to knit more red sweaters for school uniform. This consignment will contain a large number of knitted toys as the idea of small children not owning a toy of their own seems so sad to our mum and grandmother donors.

I will be submitting another article to the WI Magazine to make sure I thank all those amazing members who have contributed so willingly over the life of the school.

As always, Wangari is so grateful to everyone who is kind enough to contribute to help her dream come true.

My sincere thanks,

Jill Wadsworth, Wistow WI and their many friends across the country



## School life

The school is very busy as it prepares for the end of year school exams and year 8 National exams, and we are hopeful of performing even better than in other years. Some children remain at school during the holidays, and help with caring for the crops and animals. They have planted maize, carrots, cabbages, potatoes and onions. Fortunately the rains arrived in time to ensure they are growing well. Potatoes have been harvested and stored for later in the year. Some cows have been sold and the money has been used to buy additional construction materials.

## The Giving Machine

A reminder to all our supporters, and especially the extended families of supporters who regularly make on line purchases, please register with The Giving Machine as most online retailers give a percentage of every purchase to a charity of your choice. We already have several people who do just that and this gave us over £140! You just have to remember to go to the The Giving Machine's website every time you make a purchase and you can then go to Amazon or wherever you wish to buy from. All those pennies add up....

## Winter fuel allowance

For our supporters of a certain age, the Government allows a claim of £200 winter fuel allowance. We know that many do not claim this as they feel they don't really need it. If this is you please consider claiming and giving the money, as a donation to Karuri via our Virginmoneygiving page on the website. Many National charities now raise large amounts like this but if 3 others (as well as me) do this then we would raise enough for the school's fuel for a year. It is like the Government extending the foreign aid budget for winter fuel! It would be really helpful if you could consider doing this for our dwindling funds - John Sleet



Storing fuel