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SCO 33311

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The first term of school ends

The sponsored children have returned to their villages and are now on school holidays for the month of June. The second term will begin on the 4th July by which time Louise and Alice will be in Tanzania. It is their intention to spend at least two weeks in Peramiho and while there will have an opportunity to discuss issues of the curriculum with Baraka and Sarah Mwakibinga, the teacher who has recently joined the school. A suitable report card has been designed for the children and on their return Alice and Louise will be able to send copies of the completed reports with new photographs to the sponsors.

We have received some photographs of the school taken in April showing the children working at their lessons. The classroom spaces look bright and we can see the blackboards, tables, chairs and library shelves we sent over in the container. The children seem happy to be at school and look well dressed and healthy. Their uniforms are in the process of being made and will be ready for the start of next term.



Baraka tells us that there is a clear preference expressed by local families for their children to board at the school and that means we need to build dormitories ready for an intake of new students in January 2012. The brick makers are due to start at the school and will produce enough bricks for the next stage.

We have good news for one little girl whose parents sent her to the school when she did not have a sponsor. We have now found a sponsor for her and so she will start school at the beginning of the new term. That will bring the number of sponsored children up to 21. While over there it is our intention to identify another small group of children and then find sponsors for them so that they can start next year in January 2012



Back in Dundee, the Chinese student Yuankai Wu has continued to development the website and we are planning more improvements. The sponsor page is now finished and he is working on an 'About us' page which will include some of the history of RUDA from the 1960's. Yuankai has used his graphic skills to create an excellent logo (shown on the left) and this will be used for all school documents and badges to be worn on the school uniform. Baraka is delighted with the design which combines an open book symbolising learning with the Uhuru torch, symbol of an independent Tanzania. The colour green represents the land and the yellow is a positive colour which stands for the most valuable resource - its children. We hope to have 100 embroidered badges designed by Yuankai made up to take with us and some large laminated maps of the world, Africa, Tanzania and Scotland.

The Art Auction

At a recent meeting with Ken Anderson of One Solution the 7th October was set as the date for the next Art Auction. It will be the task of Louise and Alice to find artists who are willing to help again this year by donating art works whose sale will secure the next stage of the school build. To date we have had over 20 artists promising us work and once we return from Africa we shall try and get another 30 or so on board. As with the successful auction in 2009 the costs of the event will be covered by One Solution which means that every penny raised will go to the school. Ken Anderson is committed to supporting this project and with his backing the future development looks very bright for the school and its future pupils.

Other Business

We are hoping to get a landline into the school very soon with internet access this will be powered by a generator and will make communication between RUDA UK and the school very much easier and with Skype our calls will be free.

We are also hoping to meet up with to discuss the possibility of setting up a small business making windmills. This development was talked about back in 2007 and it would clearly make sense for at least some of the energy for school to be supplied by windmills. We would hope that the first windmill produced would be for the school at Namanditi.

We shall try to progress the business of securing a local coal site and also spend some time with the Magima workers who need to increase their production of roof tiles for the next phase of the school.