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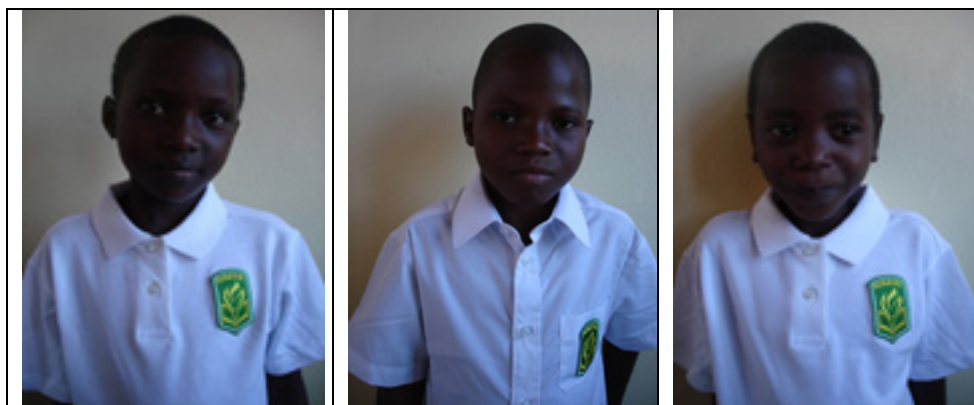
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School Update

Louise and Alice returned from Tanzania four weeks ago after three weeks at the school project. The school was on holiday during the month of June but there was a week and an half towards the end of their visit in July, when they were able to see the school in action and Louise spent a few days in the classroom teaching the children. The children are looking really fit and well and they have learned a lot in a relatively short time. There is quite a spread of ability as you would expect when the ages range from 4 to 6 with a few of the children having had a little education at their local nursery school and most none at all. The children are being taught their letters and numbers and can also sing a variety of songs in English. Alice had a new video camera with her and we hope to put some short clips of the children on the site soon.



We took individual photographs of the children wearing their new shirts with the school badge sewn on to send to their sponsors. The children were delighted to be given brand new clothes when the norm is for them to wear second hand clothes bought from local markets. The children are very careful of their school uniform especially some of the girls who give the boys a row when they get their uniform dirty.

The school day begins at eight when the children arrive having been escorted through Namanditi village by the matron. They have breakfast at the hostel and then are fed again with a mug of hot porridge at the morning break at 11.00 am. After porridge they have a playtime before returning to class for more lessons. Later about 1.00pm the matron serves up lunch, which she has cooked of ugali and beans. At 2.00pm classes are over for the day and the children return with the matron to the hostel where they like to play in the large inner courtyard.

The children are fed four times a day and stocks of maize, rice and beans have been bought and put in store while prices are lower now, just after the harvest. Any possible health needs have been planned for by buying health insurance for each child.

School Development

The brick makers are busy making the bricks needed for the next double classroom that will be fitted out as a dormitory with beds for the new intake in January. This will all be dependant on the school registration being complete. We are waiting for the documents to be processed in Dar es Salaam and hope it won't take too long. The administration block is also being roofed and there are modifications being done to the existing roofs where some tiles have been leaking slightly during the rainy season. We have researched a different type of clay and are now accessing clay from a new site to address this problem for all future tile production.

Sponsorship

Information has been collected on eight more children four boys and four girls, who need sponsors and Louise is already busy trying to find sponsors for them. Two new sponsorships have already been finalised and the two brothers have started school and a third one is in the process of being completed. This leaves three girls and a boy looking for sponsors. Two existing sponsors have agreed to take on a different child as their original one has moved to Dar es Salaam. So anyone who thinks they might like to become a sponsor just needs to contact Louise at rudatanzania@hotmail.co.uk.

Fundraising

A colleague and friend from Duncan of Jordanstone, Kim McGillivray, cycled a stage of the Tour de France and has raised between £400 and £600 for the school. This is impressive on several levels - it is hard enough cycling on the level but going up mountains in the heat can't have been easy – our congratulations and thanks to Kim. If you would like to support Kim's fundraiser you can still send a donation to the treasurer Gill Thomson at the address on the front.



A meeting will be set up soon with Ken Anderson of One Solution to plan the forthcoming Contemporary Art Auction in October. To date Louise has 40 artists signed up who are willing to help and will be contacting others soon to try and reach her 50 target. There are also a number of students and recent graduates who have offered to donate small works on paper.