



News from Australia

AKT Newsletter #12 October 2020

Update on Covid-19

There has been no sign from governments or airlines when travel from Australia to Arusha will be possible. We have not been able to visit the children this year.

Fundraising

In May-June, we usually hold local fundraising events to raise funds to cover the costs for necessary items such as school shoes and uniform. This year we held a COVID-19 appeal instead. In the last Newsletter we reported that we had raised over \$4000. The final total was \$5205.94. Thank you so much to the many friends and sponsors here and overseas who donated so generously.

News from Tanzania

Update on Covid-19

All schools and tertiary institutions were closed for three months this year due to the pandemic. They were permitted to re-open at the beginning of July, the start of Semester 2. All students are required to wear masks and adhere to strict instructions to wash hands regularly and use sanitizer. The Government has mandated safe distance between desks, and in boarding a safe distance between the beds.

Haradali Primary

Finals

We have two students, Jesca and Rajabu, sitting for their PSLE, the Standard 7 National Primary School Leaving Examinations. Both are living in the primary school boarding facilities this year, so that they have extra time for studying and being mentored. This is common practice in all Tanzanian schools, particularly in the last few weeks before the exams. Examinations started on 29th September.

Jesca and Rajabu are looking forward to their formal graduation on 10th October. The school has held rehearsals, and had a gathering of parents and guardians to cheer them along. Our head girl, Jackline, who is in the class below, will have an important part to play in the event, which is also a farewell to the Standard 7 students.

We spoke by video call recently to Rajabu, Jesca and Jackline, an emotional moment given we normally would have been in Arusha to cheer them on.



Jesca (left, with mask) and Rajabu



Four of the girls we sponsor are in Standard 4

Agness S and Swaiba, Agness F and Dorcas. They are sitting the first primary school national exams, the Standard Four National Assessment (SFNA). They are three years behind Jesca and Rajabu.



Those all-important masks



Haradali did a great job of making masks (in different sizes) and fitting each child with the correct size on their first morning back at school. Everyone was issued with several masks.



A tale of new blue tracksuits

We were taken by surprise earlier in the year when Haradali Primary issued new tracksuits to our 14 sponsored students without checking that we were prepared to pay for them. This was not an expense we had budgeted for. Fortunately one of our staunchest supporters Alison stepped up and offered to pay for all of them. We were very grateful.

Inter-schools football stars

The School Sponsor Coordinator, Dominic, keeps us informed of activities at the school. Both Abdul (Standard 6) and Mukutwarine (Standard 5) are excellent footballers and are in the school football team; last game Abdul scored three goals!



Abdul in action



Mukutwarine (centre back) and Abdul (right)

Blue Sky Primary School

AKT now sponsors five SAO children to this school. We get regular reports from Elena, the school Principal. She has been extraordinarily helpful to all our students not only in her school, but at the children's home. She has provided extra food – sacks of the basics. She has helped individual children (e.g. not all had brought masks to school when it re-opened; one had no socks). The students are all doing well, we believe and are happy to be at this school.

Jafet and Nayphat



Same Primary School

Teacher Mary, with her daughter Angel, left the SAO late last year and moved to a village called Same near the large town of Moshi, 80km from Arusha. Angel now goes to Same Primary, still sponsored by Vandra and her family in Canada.



Haradali Winners Secondary School



Edwin has been battling ill health pretty much since he arrived at this secondary school three years ago. He was recently back in hospital for another round of surgery. Despite these on-going medical issues and absence due to illness he is doing remarkably well at school.

Godlisten is now in Form IV and will be sitting for his final Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations (CSEE) exams in November. Once he has graduated from Haradali Winners, he will be looking for a senior high school to qualify for university. He has told us he wants to be a doctor.



Successful underwear delivery



We are lucky to have friends in Arusha who can help us while we can't be there. Here Willi (at left, blue shirt) and Ema (sitting) deliver over 100 pairs of underwear to SAO on our behalf. It looks as if the popcorn treats have been well received too.

Website Our website documents our purpose, current programs, sponsorship, newsletters over the past four years and details of events coming up. Register your interest in school sponsorship or support for our other programs. The link is www.arushakidstrust.com

Facebook

To link with us on Facebook go to <https://www.facebook.com/arushakiddstrust/> We have posted news and photos of our visits to Arusha. Please like us on Facebook! A large selection of photos gathered over the past years is there for you to browse.

Email us at arushakidstrust@gmail.com