

Education for Life

December 2009

Happy Christmas! Thank you for standing with us through this hugely challenging year. We really appreciate your faithful commitment, especially as the world's economy has become so unstable and many people are unemployed.

It is a great opportunity for people to stand together - being thankful for what we have; grateful for what God has enabled us to achieve and to plan positively and wisely for the future. We wish you all a happy Christmas, a peace filled step into 2010 and success in the year ahead!

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY This year brought difficult times for many people. In Kenya, we've had very little rain for the last couple of years and in some areas they hadn't seen a drop for 3 years. Famine is a scary thing as the scale of suffering is overwhelming; however there is always something we can do. We became aware of a small community, high in the hills; around 5 hours drive from Mombasa. People in that area were really hungry and were not able to grow food because of lack of rain. They had to go out during the night, walking for several hours just to bring back water for their family. Tumaini Family Church decided to have a special offering to send food for people from this area. We collected over Ksh 7,000 (£64) and someone brought a sack of maize. The church managed to buy 180 kilos of maize and 10 kilos of beans. Just as we'd had the offering, rain fell in the dry area and when they received the food we sent they'd already prepared the ground and were able to use some for seed.



Second Chance business investment! Vivian is from our children's home; she completed her high school education in 2008 and was unsure of what path to take for the future. Mary, the house mum, suggested they start a tuck shop in the school. This would give Vivian a small income, some beneficial work experience and time to consider her options. Second Chance, a charity in UK and Spain gave a donation to get this small shop/café running. It's doing great, and so is Vivian!



During August, we took some visitors on safari overnight and on the way, stopped for refreshments at a curio store we'd called at on several occasions. The owner, Mr Joseph Muthama and his wife Lucia Mutunga had established Engwata Curio's a few years ago; they've invested in their business and have made it a great and growing success. Chatting to Joseph and Lucia they spoke of their appreciation for the work of Education for Life in Timbani and asked us to pass by on our way back to Mombasa the following day. They gave us a great donation which helped us towards our feeding programme and installing our plastic water tanks for drinking water! We are excited because Joseph and Lucia have recently told us that they would like to give a donation to the school annually.



Child Sponsorship - Following our recent, annual financial review we have assessed the costs of running Tumaini Schools and have realised that we need to increase our sponsorship income. We will therefore be asking new sponsors to sign up at new rates. They are £16 per month Primary School and £32 per month High School. As with previous increases, we do not expect existing sponsors to increase, however, we would certainly appreciate it if anyone were able to help in this way.

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www.educationforlife.net

www.ed4lifemombasa.blogspot.com

UK Reg. Charity No: 1078088 - KENYA Reg. Society No: 20357

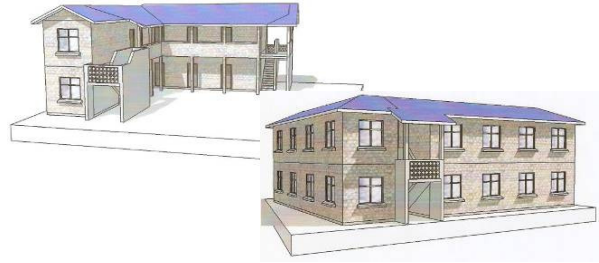
'Halfway House' to be called, Stepping Stone – in Kiswahili, Jiwe la kuvukia!

Within our new plot, fully walled and secured; we are ready to begin building our halfway house. This is primarily for children growing up from the children's home, as a stepping stone to independence, but it will be big enough to accommodate others too.

Originally, we planned just a few rooms but once the plot was secured we saw its size and potential. Making the most of the plot, we've designed a two-storey building with twenty four rooms (each 3m x 3.5m) and two toilet blocks.

We have submitted our plans to the Municipal Council to apply for planning permission and are awaiting approval. The models you see here were designed for us by Bill Sands, following his visit to Tumaini in September.

The building is planned to be built in four phases and we've had a provisional estimate done with the cost of materials, at this time, for the whole project, being around £37,000.



Computers! Amazing – it looks like it's already finished.



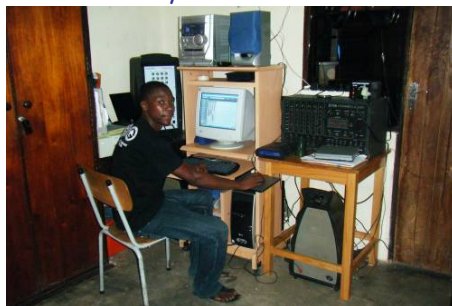
Thanks again to Second Chance and to Lighthouse Fellowship, we now have two very happy tailors at Tumaini. The machines the tailors have been using are ordinary domestic machines that are getting very tired. Peter, our head tailor told us that for around £450 each we could get good industrial machines. Now that we have Home Science classes in High School, we need sewing machines for use within the course; we now have two for them and as we are able to buy the other industrial machine we can pass down the final one to High School.

Kinyozi (Barbers) – Joel has set up a great little business. In our area there is only one other small salon; so he's getting lots of custom, from simple shaves for school children to the more complex, designer shaves required by cool young guys!



Tumaini Studios
This venture has made our young people very excited. Many youngsters here write their own songs, often

born out of their struggles through life and the solutions to their problems. Tumaini is now giving young people such as Angel C's, a local boy's rap group the opportunity to record their music, use it as an outreach to other youth and make some money for their future! Thank you!



RAINMAN FIRE FIGHTING!
Thank you! We now have a fantastic machine to assist in case of an emergency. The 'rainman' was delivered to the school at the beginning of October and we tested it by showering all the children - it was amazing! The high pressure shoots water out at 300 litres per minute (you can even shoot coconuts from the top of a tall palm tree with it!) On a more serious note though, it's also helping us to pump water from one storage tank to another in the school.



It really has been an amazing year; there's been some real gems. One member of staff, here at Tumaini has bought chairs for our computer room in High School and others really helped me when Glyn was in hospital in September. People are really standing together! Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year! Love Glyn, Jane & Maureen xxx