

FRIENDS OF THE KAREN STREET CHILDREN

www.karenstreetchildren.org

Summer Newsletter 2013

There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children.

Nelson Mandela

Congratulations to our 5 school leavers this year for achieving credible results in your KCSE exams: Roseann Njoki B, Sharon Muthoni B-, Samuel Kinyajui B-, Joseph Onyach B, Mary Nyawira C+. Well done!

A WORD FROM ONE OF OUR SUPPORTERS

Musiara Ltd is proud to be a supporter of Karen Street Children's Trust. We have nine young men and women who have come through KSCT's ranks employed in various positions including mechanics, one IT technician, accountants, a revenue auditor and one credit controller. Most recently, one of KSCT's first graduates, Mike Kirungi, (who also holds a professional ACCA accounting qualification), has been appointed Operations Manager of Governors' Balloon Safaris Ltd in the Masai Mara. Without exception these young Kenyans are guided by KSCT and emerge from the desperate situations they start life in as mature and rounded people with a very strong set of core values, an enviable moral compass, and a great start in life. KSCT as an organisation really does transform the lives of very bright young Kenyans who would not otherwise get a start in life. Karen Country Club's very generous support of KSCT is also a vital part of KSCT's finances, without which the Trust would not be able to offer the opportunities it does. I would like to take this opportunity to thank both KSCT and Karen Country Club for the work they do in making life better for such worthy young Kenyans.

Dominic Grammaticas, MD, Musiara Ltd/Governors' Camp

If you think you could offer an apprenticeship or employment to one of our amazing alumni, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We are very happy to guide you and introduce you to a wonderful selection of young adults who would do you proud and be extremely grateful for such an opportunity.

FOCUS ON JOSEPH ODUOR ONYACH



My name is Joseph Oduor Onyach. I was sponsored by the Karen Street Children from 2009 to date. I have completed my secondary education and managed to score a mean grade of B-.

After completing my secondary education I started teaching primary pupils in the neighbourhood school. I also have an extra eight pupils whom I teach at our house (which I share with my unemployed sister) after school every evening. Through these teaching activities I have been able to realise my dream. I want to help young children to get through their education by setting up my own school for impoverished children. When I was in High School I was given different leadership roles which I performed very well, but if I were properly trained I could have done better than what I did.

I want to do Diploma in Business Administration to realise my dream of being a leader and also managing a school."

Joseph came to KSC, as he says, in 2009 and completed his education. His final report from his Headmaster reads "bright and promising ... very intelligent but a natural team player and leader".

Is there anyone out there who may be able to sponsor Joseph to further his education and realise this dream? It could be extremely beneficial to all our children if they were placed in an education establishment whereby the Head Teacher understands and helps the impoverished pupils.

ALUMNI NEWS





Sarah, who has been employed by Que Pasa restaurant in Karen for the last 3 years, has now been promoted to Pizza chef. Congratulations Sarah!

We are moving quite fast, with Wilfred Kariuki now having started his diploma in Media Studies. Dee Huth, one of our Trustees, also organised a stint for him with a Hollywood producer! Johanna Mulinga has also just started his diploma in Hotel and Catering, and David Mulinga is hoping for an apprenticeship in a bronze foundry.

Joseph Kimani and Eliud Macharia have been set up in their own apartment beyond Rosslyn since both are doing internships in Muthaiga, Joseph in architecture and Eliud in Quantity Surveying. Governors' kindly provided most of the furniture they needed.

works with an Fitzgerald NGO called (www.buildanest.org) which promotes artisans in Third World countries. She invited 4 boys to go to their jewellery workshop with the possibility of becoming apprentices. The photo includes David Mulinga, Joseph Oduor and Paul Karugu watching intensely! David has since gone on to start an apprenticeship at the foundry.



THE WELL-DESERVED PATS ON THE BACK

The Nairobi Polo Club have once again voted KSCT as their beneficiary charity this year, so please go along and support their tournaments in Nairobi 19-21 July, 26-28 July and International weekends on 13-15 Sept and 20-22 Sept and will again be using the services of a team of helpers from KSC for their forthcoming tournaments

THE KAREN STREET CHILDREN'S TRUST

For the past 18 years the Karen Street Children's Trust has been working to build a brighter future for impoverished and disadvantaged children from the slums surrounding the Karen suburb of Nairobi. To date we have helped 142 young people building worthwhile lives through education, training and employment opportunities and currently we are working with 48 bright sponsored students. Each has been selected on the basis of hardship at home and the potential to benefit from a good education. We are proud that so many have grasped the opportunity and worked hard to achieve top grades. It is our policy to educate each sponsored student to the level from which each will benefit and then to equip them with skills which will help them to earn in an increasingly difficult employment environment. We have also been working with the Dynamic Business Start-Up Programme which assists young people with self-employment business skills.

So many bright children in Kenya have no hope of education beyond the state-subsidised primary schooling. All secondary schooling has to be paid for and this is beyond the realms of possibility for so many.

All our students are in boarding schools and colleges across the country where they are getting an education in a safe environment with food provided and a bed to sleep in at night. Many of our students are not assured of even these basics at home. We are proud to be able to provide for a small group of bright children what so many elsewhere take for granted.

CURRENT SPONSORSHIP FEES FOR 2013

Despite rising costs in Kenya for education both in primary and secondary schools we are endeavouring to keep our sponsor fees the same aware that many of you are also feeling the credit crunch. It does mean we will probably have to find cuts somewhere along the line, but assure our sponsors that none of our children will suffer as a result. The sad news is that this puts education even further out of the reach of the majority of the population of Kenya.

PRIMARY SCHOOL BOARDING FEES KSH 63,250/£550 pa SECONDARY SCHOOL BOARDING FEES KSH 92,000/£800 pa

This is based on actual costs and includes school fees, food and accommodation for boarding pupils, text books and stationery, all uniform, shoes, transport, tuck, pocket money, holiday tuition and activities, cover for medical emergencies and the pastoral care and support of our qualified counsellor, Catherine Gachui, our one and only paid employee.

DONATE WHILST YOU SHOP!

For UK based supporters - you can now donate to KSC whilst you costing you online without it www.Easyfundraising.org.uk provides a FREE fundraising service where you can raise funds for KSC when you shop online with shops like M&S, Amazon, Argos, Tesco's, Sainsbury's, Boden amongst many others! Join and fundraise for free for KSC.

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