



Education is our Future

April 2015

As we look back over the past 6 months, much has been happening in the two schools in Uganda where our sponsored children are placed. The end of 2014 brought the national primary exam for the Year 7 students. Results for the 35 children who sat from St Kizito were good, all achieving grade 1 or 2 and all those who sat from St Matia Mulumba passed. This was an exceptional and unexpected result for the school as it was only during last year that serious study was able to begin there.



Also at the end of 2014 the Kindergarten children held their graduation to Primary 1. Eva, in the forefront of this picture, is one of the children who has been receiving your help. She came from a situation where she was sleeping outside in one of the villages, as her father is a drug addict. Now she is happy and doing well in school.

Both schools place a heavy emphasis on extra-curricular activities, music and dance playing a large part in school life. In February, events were held by both schools to launch CDs of their music and, towards the end of 2014, some of the EVC children took part in a welcome for the Prime Minister of the Buganda Kingdom who was visiting the area.



During the past year we have been very encouraged to see the number of children being sponsored rise substantially. At present 52 sponsors are supporting a total of 73 children. This is a large increase from the three children, Allen, Ben and Steven, who were the first to receive help when Father Boniface visited Bedford in 2007.



Allen



Ben

Allen and Ben are orphans, but time, and the loving care they receive in school are helping them to overcome their grief at the loss of their parents. They are now happily settled and enjoying school.



For many children being in the boarding houses, attending school regularly and knowing they will have enough to eat is a far cry from the other experiences they have encountered in their short lives. Father Boniface writes that Prossy and her brother Fred are still ‘full of admiration for their new situation, as they came from a home where there were many children living in two rooms, sleeping on the ground with no bed sheets and many times going to sleep on an empty stomach’.

The increase in the number of children sponsored means there is an increasing demand for space in the boarding houses. In 2014 a new girls’ dormitory was completed at St Kizito and land has been prepared at St Matia Mulumba ready for building work on a new girls’ dormitory to begin, when there are funds available.

We would value your prayers as we begin to approach Trusts and Foundations for help in this area and as we seek to broaden the support base for the children who need our help.

Thank you again for all you are doing to help give these children a better future and the prospect of a longer and more fulfilling life.

Yours sincerely,

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Empowering Vulnerable Children (EVC) Uganda

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