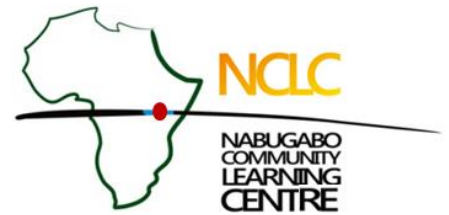


News from the Lakeshore

Bbale Village, Nabugabo, Uganda

August 27th, 2015



Greetings to all sponsors, visitors, supporters and friends,

Here at Nabugabo life remains positive, proactive, dynamic and, as always ... interesting and somewhat unpredictable! In common with all East African nations, the Uganda school year runs from February to December; our second term ended on August 7th and we are now busily carrying out a myriad of maintenance/construction projects around the school in readiness for the third term beginning on September 7th.



These new developments and, importantly, the school itself simply would not exist without your continuing support. Heartfelt thanks are extended to each and every one of you from all of us here 'on Nabugabo lakeshore', especially from the children, parent(s)/guardians and staff at NCLC.



Health Matters

With the end of the rains two months ago, we have been faced yet again with predictable and challenging health issues. Malaria and typhoid hit the school and community with force; almost every day we were ferrying at least two children to Ssunga Health Centre or Kitovu Hospital for treatment. This, at times, has been extremely frustrating for all as Ssunga clinic ran out of testing kits for typhoid and both the clinic and hospital were understaffed, exhausted and 'on their knees' in their efforts to serve their communities.



Despite shortages of staff and medical supplies, as we write, all NCLC children and their families are safe with only two children down with typhoid and one with malaria.

Following a three week internship at an Mbarara Health Centre, our good friend Michael Soutar, now a trainee doctor, recently returned with four Canadian colleagues and



Jaylene, a professor of gynaecology for a six day visit. They were all an enormous asset to both the school and community giving workshops to the VHT (Village Health Team) and carrying out a range of check-ups to all NCLC children which included much needed eye sight tests. Additionally, Michael assisted/led the repainting of the playground equipment he, Isaac and Michael created over 18 months ago. Mwebale nyo (thank you) Michael, once again!



Sadly, a test for malnutrition revealed that our newest student was suffering from malnutrition. A trip to the household also highlighted a younger sibling who was in a very poor state. Both children were admitted to Kitovu hospital for 10 days where they were treated for chronic severe malnutrition. We will be keeping a very close eye on the children and family in the coming weeks.



Water Security

In the coming term we are implementing a safe drinking water policy for all our students, to ensure that they are getting adequate clean water to drink at school. With the assistance of the HUGE Partnership, UK, and their supporters we have been incredibly 'lucky' and now are in the process of installing two 5,000 litre water harvesting storage tanks giving us now a 200,000 litre back-up for dry seasons.



This water also benefits 5 local families who have serious mobility/water access problems. What a great gift. Thank you!

Staffing

We are delighted to announce that we have employed three new teachers for the upcoming term. Moses will be heading up our P2 class and will take a



Oroni Moses



Nantongo Betty



Katabulawo Annet

leading position in Maths and sciences for the older pupils, whilst Annet will be responsible for our youngest pupils. Stella has now gone on maternity leave and will return later in the year; Moses' wife, Betty, will assume Stella's role and will certainly fill her shoes admirably. Thank you Basseleg School ... clearly you now have a second campus over here in Uganda. Thank you for the staff uniforms, they are worn with pride.

Ssembatya Isaac, the NCLC Community Development Officer, has enrolled in a MA in Educational Administration part-time course which will take up most of his weekends for the coming 3 years. Tremendous commitment Isaac! Many thanks to the HUGE Partnership for making this possible.

Thank You International School of Uganda

Most sincere thanks to all students, staff, parents and friends at ISU (The International School of Uganda, Kampala) for a most generous financial donation which will ensure that Charles will receive food on a weekly basis for many months to come. The first delivery of a 'mountain-load' of rice, sugar, tea, posho, mukene and oil has been made. Charles extends many, many thanks.



Furthermore, a small portion of ISU's kind donation will provide seed money to build the foundations of a new home for Ronald (an NCLC pupil) and his grandmother. As can be seen in the photograph, during the last rains the walls collapsed; swiftly, NCLC helped move the family to temporary rented accommodation in Bukumbula village. Ronald's home will be the fourth house NCLC has built over the past 18 months with the generous and hands-on building support of ISU, SIS and the HUGE Partnership. Wonderful!!



Maintenance

Thanks to a donation from Sotogrande International School, Spain (SIS), we have been able to make considerable improvements to our



storage area which will enable us to buy food in bulk and keep out unwanted rodents alongside other undesirable micro-visitors. Thanks to the HUGE Partnership, we are now also adding false ceilings to the library and IT room to minimise the on-going bat problem. A plea for help ... does anyone have a 'humane' solution to bat infestation?

Parent Meetings at NCLC

We are working very closely with local Chairpersons and our PTA to firstly promote greater commitment from guardians and parents towards their children's welfare and secondly to further enhance home-school interaction. In order to improve channels of communication, meetings will be held monthly with workshops on child welfare and education being offered, in addition to evening computer classes for interested parents/guardians.



A HUGE Cricket Match at Pangbourne, UK, Exceeds Expectations

The HUGE Charity Cricket Match held in July was clearly a resounding success. Incredibly, this event raised over £2,000 which will be well invested in the future education of children in Uganda.

A great day was had by all with sun shining, outstanding talent demonstrated by folk of all ages on the field supported by a goodly supply of refreshments. Many thanks also to Pangbourne College for the use of the cricket pitches.



A Special Thank You to Cranford House

The most generous donations of uniforms for HUGE and children here in Uganda children will offer NCLC children a real sense of pride and identity.

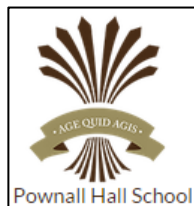


Yes, most certainly, each and every piece of clothing will be treasured. To all who made time in this endeavour to work across cultures and continents, thank you so, so much. If only you could be here to receive thanks from the children and their parent(s)/guardians! Mwebale nyo.



Thank you Pownall Hall Preparatory School

It is with enormous delight that I learned that Pownall Hall Preparatory School, Wilmslow, has adopted NCLC as their charity of the year. Moreover, special thanks to the Headmaster, Mr. David Goulbourn, staff, PTA and pupils for making David Batten's visit in July such a welcoming, inclusive, memorable and inspiring visit. You truly have a most remarkable school!



Inflation Strikes Uganda

With the impending elections due in March 2016 and the strong dollar we have been shocked at the rise in prices. In the last few months, the cost of posho (maize flour), our staple food item, has risen by 50%, a staggering rise and we are told to expect more in the coming months. This is having a significant impact throughout the country.

A Precautionary Note

The presidential elections here in Uganda have been tentatively set for March 16th. Thinking ahead of the FCO, CIA, etc. advisory services, it might be best to possibly avoid travel to Uganda around this time. International schools in Kampala and local schools are curtailing movements between January and early April. Detentions have already been made of some opposing party officials according to national news ... local wisdom suggests there might/will be some disruptions in major towns.



We are safe but please be aware that you must be very safety savvy if you plan to visit Nabugabo/Uganda over Easter. Here, at Nabugabo the doors are always open and here in the bush, the politics of the outer world are, in general, of very little consequence.

Community News

Nabugabo Community Development Group Credit and Savings Bank



The Nabugabo Bank is currently in the start-up stage but its influence on the economic condition of the community is growing. The vision is to help create, “A dynamic and responsible group of people that are economically self-reliant by ensuring sustainable livelihoods for all”. Within a month of opening, 48 community members had opened up saving accounts and micro-finance loans were extended to the value of Shs. 8,500,000 (approximately £2,000) ... a most considerable sum by local standards.

The Bank’s Chairperson, Kasozi Jack, and Manager, Ndwula Alex, are exploring ways to work and partner with NGOs, and other interested parties, on feasible projects such as fish farming, etc. that would create the ability for the bank to sustain long term loans which will be re-invested to further finance agriculture and education within the local area. The bank has proved to be a truly dynamic initiative which has already made a positive impact upon local community members.

NCLC Hosts Introduction Ceremony



NCLC was proud to host the Introduction (Engagement) Ceremony of a happy couple from Bukumbula village as the photographs testify. The twelve hour event was enjoyed by over 350 people entertained by the drummers and dancers who offered both gravitas and joy to the event. It is good to have a community centre to be enjoyed by all.

Nabugabo Landing Site Transformed



The fishermen's landing site close to the school was once an almost barren wasteland where water is collected by most of the local community. Up to 6 months ago there were no sanitary facilities so the water by the shore was inevitably polluted. Today, there are two food stalls, fish sales tables, one 'pop-up' restaurant, a weekly clothes market and, importantly, a pit latrine close by following a truly joint community mobilisation effort.

Nabugabo Runners Gather Awards



Massive congratulations to the Nabugabo Runners who were presented with the Fastest Team Award and the Corporate Challenge Award at the Uganda Marathon ... most remarkable achievements considering that there had been less than two months of training sessions prior to the event. The team's sights are now set on the 13th Annual MTN Marathon which will take place in Kampala in November.

Nabugabo Drummers and Dancers Leap into Action



The Nabugabo Drummers and Dancers are moving from strength to strength having been invited to perform at three events last month including the Introduction Ceremony. Funds gained from these events have been re-invested in new drums and costumes. Congratulations to all the group especially the children, many of whom walk over 7 kms three times a week to train at school.

The Insane Project Continues

Almost one year ago NCLC became the proud owner of a derelict 15 foot motor boat. The boat has now finally been totally gutted with the intention of transforming it into



the first sailing boat on lake Nabugabo by October 22nd. This self-imposed deadline might prove to be somewhat over-ambitious. Nevertheless, nothing ventured ... nothing gained?! Local teenagers will crew the craft for visiting tourists offering personal incomes with a monthly rental re-invested in NCLC.

Finally

To all schools who have just begun the 2015-2016 academic year we wish you all a safe, healthy and productive school year ahead. Here at Nabugabo we look forward to re-opening our doors on September 7th for the last term of the year.



To each and every sponsor, supporter, visitor and friend (notably, The Jasani Foundation; The International School of London, Qatar; Sotogrande International School, Spain; Basseleg School, UK; Pangbourne College; Headington School; Pownall Hall School; International School of Uganda; Acorns International School,

Kampala; Marbella Rotary Club, Spain; the HUGE Partnership and every corporate/individual supporter) on behalf of the entire NCLC community thank you all so, so much for your continuing support. *Mwebale nyo, nyo, nyo.*

The doors here at Nabugabo are always open and we guarantee all visitors, of all ages, an exceptionally warm welcome. Please visit us soon!



