

News from the Lakeshore

Bbale Village, Nabugabo, Uganda



December 19th, 2017

Everyone here at NCLC extends boundless 'Season's Greetings' and very best wishes to all our friends around the world for a safe, happy and healthy New Year.

After wonderful end-of-year celebrations, we have now completed our fifth productive, safe and happy academic year and now look forward to the addition of a new class (P6) at the beginning of the new school year; this will bring NCLC enrolment up to 120 pupils. Our term dates for the 2018 academic year follow those prescribed by the Uganda Ministry of Education and Sports:

Term 1. Monday, February 5th - Friday, May 4th.

Term 2. Monday, May 28th - Friday, August 24th.

Term 3. Monday, September 17th - Friday, December 7th.



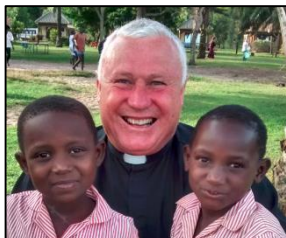
Team Pangbourne

We are extremely grateful to all staff and students at Pangbourne College for the most generous gifts which Pastor Andrew and Caroline Bond carried over on their visit in late October. The staff's 'Team Pangbourne' T. shirts are a brilliant gift; many thanks.

The children were delighted with the donated items of clothing and resources, all of which were put to immediate use. To all of you, thank you for your amazing generosity.

We would especially like to thank Caroline for her care, concern and kind work in the classrooms.

Pastor Andrew thank you for your pastoral work and compassion at Nabugabo during both difficult and happy times in the community.



The children's latrine at Ssunga Clinic, financed and built by Pangbourne College staff and students, is now totally completed and operational. Sister Magdalena and all staff at the clinic, including the communities served at Nabugabo, Bukumbula, Kayugi, Jumaga, Ssunga and Lluvule, extend their most sincere thanks for this practical, much needed asset.

Health and Hygiene at NCLC

Personal health and hygiene is a priority which we all recognise as being a prerequisite for a safe and productive life both within the family and the wider community.

Maintaining high standards of personal hygiene at Nabugabo is often problematic. Very few families have access to mains water. Boiling water for bathing requires a great deal of time and wood gathering from the forest. NCLC has attempted to address this problem and now has a fully functional sanitation block thanks to kind sponsors, especially the Kindred Project, SIS, Spain and the HUGE partnership, UK.



There are now separate boys and girls latrines, with 6 stalls each, both with dedicated hand washing facilities, a shower and, now, completing the block, a boys urinal. Thank you the Kindred Project, Sotogrande International School, Spain, for funding this vital addition.

Water Matters



We are all aware how life-threatening water-borne diseases are for all, especially here in Africa. Sincere thanks to all the students, staff, administrators and community at the Kindred Project, Sotogrande International School, Spain, for combatting this challenge head-on.

Eight 21 litre Purifyaas have been secured and distributed thanks to their most generous donations. Six Purifyaas (www.sprouts.org) have been donated to Ssunga Health Centre. Photo right: SIS Alumni/NCLC 'Founders' Chloe Lawrence and Caroline Bock alongside friends at the clinic.

Sister Magdalena, the Director of the Centre, and all staff extend thanks, love and mountains of appreciation.



As the photos above also show, Maria and the girls in The ARK are delighted and Muzee Charles is moved beyond words. "Webbale nyo, nyo, nyo." - 'Thank all you so, so much.'

Education as a Force for Good

Thanks to the amazing 'choreography', organisational skills, IT expertise, alongside willing WIFI at Sand Beach Resort close to the school, Chloe Lawrence and Caroline Bock succeeded in making the first Skype call to the Kindred Project with children and staff at SIS Spain.

Nabugabo went global! What a revelation and eye-opener for NCLC children who responded to this 'first in a lifetime' event with massive enthusiasm and joy. Despite living and working continents apart, this event demonstrated that in so many ways we truly are 'One Planet – One People'!

The scope for future interaction is limitless given appropriate technology, reliable internet and funding. We look forward to exploring ways forward during the SIS team's visit next Easter when they will also introduce training/teaching ebooks created by SIS staff for NCLC teachers. What a remarkable leap forward for NCLC; webbaale nyo!

Moreover, many thanks to Chloe and Caroline for their amazing work at NCLC during their six week stay at Nabugabo. Their dynamism, love of children, positivity, support for the community and boundless energy remains truly enviable!



<https://www.facebook.com/TheKindredProject/videos/1712481332104355/>

Mathematics In-Service Training

NCLC was extremely fortunate in having Margy Cockburn, an experienced maths teacher trainer (UK), visit the school for six weeks in October / November.

Beyond offering many enjoyable, insightful and productive professional development sessions, alongside hands-on work with all teachers and children in their classrooms, Margy generated a vast range of maths resources creatively made from readily available local materials.

We are all profoundly grateful for the mountains of resources Margy donated on her arrival and for the most generous gift of a pedal-driven sewing machine. Irene is currently mastering this in readiness for introducing tailoring workshops for all interested staff and children! Margy, thank you so much for your passion, contagious enthusiasm and support for all.



On another academic track, the standardised reading tests held school-wide earlier this term revealed some very encouraging results. Almost every child in P4 and P5 performed at their appropriate level with almost one third of all these children gaining scores reflecting reading ages equivalent to Form 4 in secondary school. Congratulations to all young readers *and their past and present teachers!*

The NCLC Water Purifier

Michael Pierce and Karen Spiers visited NCLC last March. Their legacy lives on as evidenced by the children's art work, growing creativity and willingness to experiment with new ideas. Karen, you would be impressed!

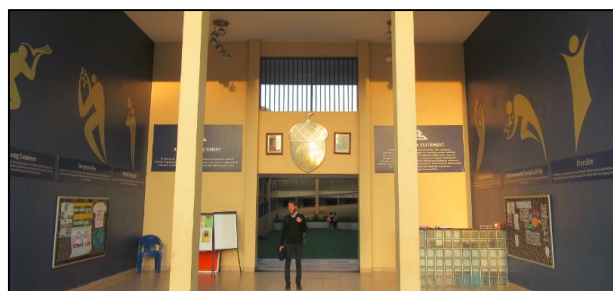
Meanwhile, with the help of older pupils, NCLC engineer 'Maestro Michael', recently constructed a second experimental water purifier using local materials which works perfectly. Another success story and a great construction experience for NCLC children. A truly formidable task - the 129 page construction manual lies at: https://www.sswm.info/sites/default/files/reference_attachments/CAWST%202009%20Biosand%20Filter%20Manual.pdf Thank you Simon for pushing this powerful project forward.



Congratulations Acorns International School, Kampala

Acorns International School (AIS) has worked very closely with NCLC since the first foundation stones were laid in the 'field of dreams' some six years ago.

We are truly indebted to the generosity of the AIS Board of Directors, the administration and all teachers who have invested time and funds to support the children, their families, NCLC infrastructure and the broader Nabugabo community. AIS's regular in-service sessions for NCLC staff continue to be truly invaluable in so many ways.



We send heartfelt congratulations to all at AIS for the inauguration of their new purpose built school premises. Your school will be the envy of many international schools worldwide! We wish you and your pupils all the very best with not only with your new campus in Kampala, but also your new school in Kigali, Rwanda.

Post NCLC options

Within less than two years, the Primary 7 class will have completed their national Primary Leaving Examinations. Clearly, post NCLC options must be considered by all concerned with P7 children's future plans. At PTO meetings, the Headmaster, PTO Chairperson and Village Chairperson consistently stress the need, especially for those parents / guardians considering secondary education for their children, to begin saving carefully for the future.

Regrettably, NCLC does not have the time or resources to manage a dedicated secondary school sponsorship programme. However, we are totally committed to supporting NCLC children in every way possible. We are considering this matter in depth and currently putting together a position paper, with input from all, which we hope will be of interest and practical use for all concerned in the very near future.



Nabugabo Community News

In 2014, the Jasani Foundation, Kampala, generously donated forty five Friesian-Ankole heifers to enable members of the Nabugabo Community Development Association to gain supplementary incomes from the sale of milk. The cows are kept in household zero-grazing stalls and are generally doing very well. New calves have been passed on to neighbours.

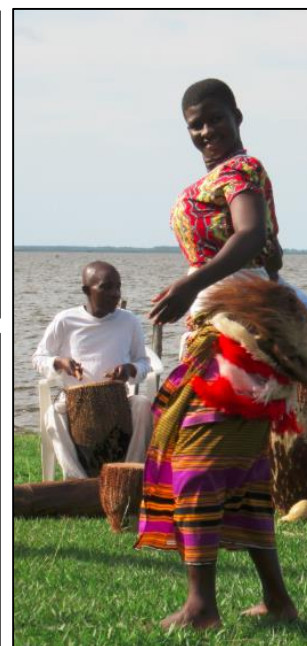
Today, there are 75 cows in the Nabugabo Dairy Cooperative herd with four calves expected early next year. The project is a success; all cow owners are passionately grateful. To the entire Jasani family, thank you so, so much for your foresight and remarkable generosity. Lives have been transformed!



The Nabugabo Drummers and Dancers have now built up a great reputation and repertoire performing regularly for visitors at the 'Sand Beach' and 'The Holiday Centre' resorts on the lakeshore.

The Nabugabo Runners, ably led by Hamid at Sand Beach, meet regularly and participate in local events whenever possible. 'Hats off' to the 10 Nabugabo children who excelled in the Masaka Uganda International Marathon.

Balikuddembe 2 continues to take tourists out onto the lake. Many thanks to all visitors who helped with fibre-glassing to make this possible! Recently enforced sustainable fishing methods are making an impact with fish stocks hopefully making a good recovery. The introduction of three new experimental tilapia fish farming cages may well prove to offer a more time-efficient, economic and environmentally-friendly way forward.



Visitors to NCLC in 2018

HUGE partnership trustees Richard and Mel Batten, will make their annual visit to NCLC to greet staff and young friends in February, followed by the 5th visit by staff and students from Sotogrande International School, Spain, for working adventures at NCLC in late March/early April. A team of 46 staff and students from Pangbourne College (PC) will visit NCLC, Nabugabo and Gayaza in July to work on a formidable range of school and community projects. Karen Teal and Simon Pierce will possibly/probably re-visit in August. *Wonderful!*

A note from the Headmaster

Greetings to all sponsors and supporters wherever you may be. First of all, on behalf of all NCLC staff, children, parents/guardians and the community, please permit me to convey our most everlasting thanks to each and every one of you. Without you, there would be no children, no staff and no school here on the Nabugabo lakeshore.

Your child sponsorship, care, concern, visits, training and encouragement throughout the years has kept us strong. Life here sometimes is not easy but we truly love our work and we strive to maintain our drive to become an informed community-oriented, globally-minded school. Thanks to all of you, we have now met virtually our requirements for full registration by the Department of Education and Sports.



You have truly made a positive difference, in so many ways, to so many lives here over the years. Collectively, you have made dreams become reality; especially for all the remarkable NCLC children who, without your support, simply would never have been able to attend school. In return, trust us, we are doing our sincere best to make you proud of your school here at Nabugabo. We sincerely wish you the very best of 'Seasons Greetings' and pray that the New Year brings peace and happiness across the world.

With warmest regards from all of us here at Nabugabo,
Moses Oroni, Headmaster, Nabugabo Community Learning Centre.

Finally, once again, a MASSIVE thank you to everybody

Heartfelt thanks to all sponsors, visitors and supporters who continue to make such positive impacts both within the school and across the community. The time, energy, passion, advice, commitment, resources and/or hands-on support on the ground each of you have invested in NCLC recently, or since the beginning of the project, is recognised and sincerely appreciated by all at Nabugabo. It is simply impossible to thank every individual sponsor and supporter but, rest assured, wherever you may be (Canada, USA, UK, Spain, Switzerland, France, Qatar, etc.), your kindness and generosity has given many children a very real hand-up and enabled the community to move forward.

It would be remiss not mention the tremendous support of Iain Roache, the Jasani Foundation, the Kindred Project at Sotogrande International School, The International School of London, Qatar, Pangbourne College, Dulwich Preparatory School, Acorns International School, Kampala and the International School of Uganda, Kampala, alongside the enormous support of the HUGE Partnership.

Mr. Herman Kasozi, the owner and manager of Sand Beach Resort and Chairman of the Nabugabo Community Development Association deserves special mention. His concern for the community, commitment to balanced development and enthusiastic support for NCLC has been unwavering since the first shared discussions regarding the creation of the school. Today, NCLC still has free access to all the facilities at Sand Beach, including clear water from the borehole. Thank you Herman, your family and all the staff at Sand Beach for your advice, kindness and open hearts, webbale nyo, nyo, nyo!

With the addition of 15 more children to P1 in February, we still seek sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring a child or helping the school in some way, please visit the HUGE website for details: www.thehugepartnership.org Many thanks. We close with our opening; 'To each of you, Season's Greetings and very best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy New Year'.

With warmest regards,
David & Judy Batten, NCLC staff and all pupils & parents/guardians.





