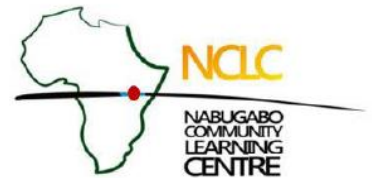


News from the Lakeshore

Bbale Village, Nabugabo, Uganda

May 4th, 2018



Greetings from all at NCLC and the community on Nabugabo lakeshore. Today we are celebrating the end of term one and looking forward to three week's holiday and the beginning of term two on May 28th. Unlike many schools worldwide, East African schools only have two school days off for the Easter break, so, we are now busy 'catching up'!

We have had an outstanding term in many ways with several official visits, School Inspectors will formally visit NCLC in term three to determine whether we may be fully registered; a formidable but welcome and surmountable task.



We are sincerely proud of what we - you, NCLC staff and students, sponsors, supporters, CBOs/NGOs, schools, individuals and the local community - have collectively contributed and built upon over the past five years in so, so many ways. The future is positively very bright.

Sotogrande International School (SIS) revisits NCLC. SIS spent a whirlwind two weeks on the ground at Nabugabo, Gayaza and Jinja over the 'Easter Break'. This was SIS' fifth visit so, naturally, they had to hit the ground running. Last year they built the final classroom. This year the team gave workshops, worked in classrooms, created/painted a new arts/crafts/multi-function room and built a perimeter fence, a shaded dining area and a new 'jungle gym' which functions impressively well – *see the group photo above.*



The 350+ kilos of gifts from SIS students of all ages, teachers, parents and the wider community simply defy description. The shoes, clothing and scope of resources overwhelmed all who helped to store them. All clothes and shoes have now been distributed.

The photo to the right is probably one of the most dynamic photographs shared in any of our newsletters; a true celebration of the joy of life regardless of age, place or background. Simply wonderful! Beyond having great fun, the most essential ingredient for productivity, the SIS team demonstrated deep commitment with most arising and departing before local work teams. Engineer Manswet was very impressed!

Again, the photos to the right barely touch upon the surface of SIS' endeavours. Marta and Constanza, your passionate, inclusive and most enjoyable phonics workshops, alongside hands-on work with teachers and children in classrooms, opened hearts and minds in truly lasting ways. The gift of an iPad was simply a revelation - life changing – we are now connected; power, networks and internet permitting. Jade your work here is important and lasting, Pete, your commitment to the school and P6, after five dedicated years, is well recognised and sincerely appreciated by all.

Without question, all SIS students contributed heart, soul, passion, blood, sweat and tears during their visit. However, it would be remiss not to recognize the quiet modesty and significant impact of one young man.

Last year, Maxmillian Guererro initiated a project to donate 100 'Little Suns' (solar lights) to the community. This year the Kindred Project supported this project and donated a further 100 'Little Suns'. Max, you have provided light for the community, changed lives and given all of us 'elders' a most powerful reminder of the power of youth. Moreover, you enjoyed the journey, worked relentlessly and played a 'few' chords. In truth ... inspirational for all! Muchas gracias Señor; webbaale nyo, nyo, nyo Sebo.

To all at the Kindred Project and SIS, the gift of a further ten water 'Purifyaas' to deserving community members needs few words - Sister Magdalena at Ssunga Clinic eloquently expressed the sincere and deep gratitude of the entire broader community.



A message from the HUGE Partnership, U.K.

“Richard and Mel Batten, trustees of the HUGE Partnership, visited Nabugabo in early February for five days with Amy and Ed Batten and two of their school friends, Lily Pearce and Freddy Waldon. They had a brilliant trip and particularly enjoyed meeting old friends and making new ones.

Their week was busy and particular areas of work included refreshing the playground equipment, weighing and measuring children, helping to sort and tidy the storeroom with Irene, numerous trips to Masaka for provisions and playing netball and football. They particularly enjoyed interacting with the new young children in P1 and were impressed by their spirit and confidence. One of the highlights of the week was meeting a number of the sponsored children at their homes with Irene on behalf of Dulwich Preparatory School and Magdalen College School.



On behalf of HUGE, Richard and Mel would like to say a HUGE thank you to Headmaster Moses and his wonderful team for their inspirational, outstanding work and for making us so welcome. They would also like to thank the children for their endless enthusiasm and their commitment to their studies and play. On the July 21st, 11 members of the Batten family will take on the ‘Three Peaks Challenge’ (<https://www.threepeakschallenge.uk/national-three-peaks-challenge/>) for HUGE.

With warmest regards to all friends of NCLC from all of us here at HUGE.”

Health Matters. Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are the most common infections of those living in developing countries. NTDs are both the cause and the result of poverty exacerbated by remote locations, weak medical services, poor living conditions and inadequate hygiene. NTDs potentially lead to chronic ill-health such as disability, deformity, blindness, and retarded physical or mental growth; if untreated, they could result in untimely death.

Historically, inadequate resources have been allocated towards their treatment, control and elimination; hence the term ‘Neglected Tropical Diseases’. Approximately one in four Ugandans are inflicted by NTDs to some degree.



The Uganda Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Programme (supported by USAID, the Carter Foundation and many other NGOs/agencies) is now making serious inroads in rural Uganda. The programme specifically addresses five NTDs: lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis (river blindness), bilharzia, internal worms and trachoma.

Two weeks ago, NCLC and other community groups were visited by the Uganda Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) Programme and work is underway to register all staff and children while also beginning medication programmes. Irene and Maria are capably managing this programme and the children seem to be enjoying the experience, as the photo above demonstrates. Annual vitamin A supplements, immunisations and deworming programmes continue thanks to Sister Magdalena and all the staff at Ssunga clinic.

Professional development at NCLC. We are sincerely grateful to Karen Teal and Simon Pierce, alongside their families and friends, for their generosity and drive for NCLC professional development at NCLC. Thanks to their work, and support from the HUGE Partnership, Okello Patrick will begin his Diploma in Education programme at Masaka University in just a few days. This is a wonderful new opportunity and a tremendous commitment on Patrick's part requiring course work, every holiday, over the next two years.



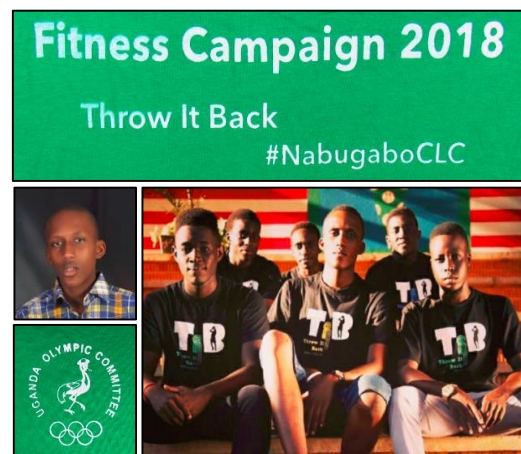
Termly two day in-service workshops for all NCLC staff will continue thanks to the continuing support of the administration and enthusiasm of staff at Acorns International School, Kampala. These workshops have always proved invaluable; staff consistently return to Nabugabo revitalised and 'armed' with dynamic new approaches for teaching and learning. Thank you AIS!

Having grown up at Nabugabo, Nabwanika Irene understands the community intimately. Over the past four years, Irene has proved to be a caring and responsible school-community liaison officer. Irene covers many miles through the bush to meet families and makes frequent Ssunga Clinic visits every week. Thanks to financial support from the HUGE Partnership Irene will begin driving lessons within the next few days to become the third female driver within Ssunga Parish - a community of around 13,000 people.



TIB and NCLC. "In case you were wondering, TIB stands for 'Throw It Back'; an initiative by a couple of young men and ladies, who know the power of the oval ball, and are working tirelessly to nurture young talent, promote the game and also to create a positive impact in the lives of others through donations and handouts to the less privileged.

Three years ago, a small team of young people set out to put this platform on its feet. They started with basketball, but soon migrated to rugby, arguably for its higher intensity and appeal - or at least that's what we think. Turn up has grown



over the years and with the fourth season, Mark Kasozi, the leader of the programme, notes that things will be turned up a notch higher.”

All at NCLC are indebted to Mark and Team TIB for the recent amazing contribution of thirty T shirts and more than 500 school exercise books. We wish all at TIB every success in all endeavors and their 2018 Fitness Campaign projects. Moreover, we look forward to watching team members representing Uganda in the Rugby World Cup in the not too distant future. ‘Throw It Back’!



NCLC has participated, and won awards, in the Uganda Marathon since the inaugural race in May 2015. The Uganda Marathon is now the largest public fundraiser in Ugandan history. The Uganda Marathon won ‘Best International Event’ at the 2016 Running Awards, ‘Best Marathon in Africa’ from RAD Magazine, voted one of the ten ‘Best Marathons around the World’ by Red Bull and recently nominated for ‘Best for Poverty Reduction’ at the World Responsible Tourism Awards.

Many thanks to the SIS runners who, during their recent visit, trained with NCLC students every morning before school. Tomorrow, ten NCLC student runners and the adult ‘Nabugabo Runners’ team, participate in the 2018 Uganda Marathon leaving Nabugabo at 6:00am for the start of the 10 km race in Masaka at 7:30am. Travel safe, make new friends and enjoy a great event!

Monkey Business. With the continuing loss of their forest habitat, vervet monkeys are now a common sight at school and across the community as they search for food.

Sadly, monkey-human conflict along the lakeshore is on the rise with monkeys scavenging and ‘plundering’ the crops which all community members grow in their gardens and depend upon to feed their families. At present, cassava is the only crop which can be grown close to the forest with a relatively high survival rate.



NCLC will soon be working with staff from Makerere, Toronto and Mc Gill universities at the Nabugabo Research Centre to attempt to help find a solution to this dilemma. As Kasozi Herman pointed out, ' We must offer a high degree of respect to our monkeys; after all, they were here far before us'. However, other community members have rather extreme alternative views. More news soon!

Introducing our new friends at Gayaza Government Primary School, Masaka

We have linked up with Madame Nantume Olivia, the Headmistress, staff and 350 children at Gayaza for some joint projects beginning with a two-week visit, alternating between Nabugabo and Gayaza, by 46 staff and students from Pangbourne College in early July. A concurrent Gayaza project will be the construction of a new home for an elderly lady living on the fringes of the village.



Many thanks to Colin Hearn, the Pangbourne team leader, the College administration, staff, students and parents and friends for enabling some amazing, life-changing projects. Busy, productive times lie ahead!

In closing, we wish to extend 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 (Uganda, 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.

In equal measure, we must give massive respect to all the staff at NCLC who have consistently ensured the safety, welfare, education and happiness of more than one hundred children over the past five years. The respect and love demonstrated by the children for the staff, and the staff's love and respect for children is self-evident. Their work, in the classrooms and community, sometimes under somewhat difficult conditions, is remarkable by any measure. Webbale nyo, nyo, nyo!



With warmest regards,

David & Judy Batten and all at Nabugabo.

