



Nambale Magnet School

A home, a school and a future for children made destitute by the AIDS crisis

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is a time to focus our
energies on children.

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Nambale Magnet
School. Your gift will
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help bring light
into the world.

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**FEATURED
STUDENT**



D.O. is 8 years old, and
has been at the School
since it started in 2009.
He is in Primary 1, and
his teacher is Dorcas
Manaali.

He loves math and
science, and his favorite
game is rounders. He is
partial to the color red,
and enjoys chips and
sausage when they're
served.

One of his hobbies is
dancing, and he is part
of the scouting club.
He looks forward to
being a driver one day.

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December, 2012

NAMBALE MAGNET SCHOOL YEAR-END REPORT

[December 1, 2011 - December 1, 2012](#)

Friday 16th November was the last day of the school year at the Nambale Magnet School. It marked the completion of four years since school began in January 2009. The closing ceremony celebrated 29 learners graduating from Preschool to elementary level in the New Year 2013. During presentations the class recited a poem about their first day experience at the school: they recalled how they had cried so much and wanted to go back to their familiar settings. Now, years past, they love the school. They thanked their teachers, parents and all who have made it possible to be for them to be in school.

The Middle class of almost 6-year-olds sang a song narrating how they had lost their two front teeth while in school. With Christmas approaching, all they wanted back were their two front teeth to enjoy Christmas. They concluded the poem by wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The children have continued to grow and blossom - they look very healthy and happy to be in school. The healthier, vibrant and contented look in the learners has been achieved largely through the unfailing support of WIKS-USA for both the operational costs and capital expenses. We register our gratitude to them together with all those behind scenes whose gifts have made the school come to four years of age.

We closed the school year with 185 learners. However, in September we had a tragic loss when one of our learners aged 6 years succumbed to sickle cell anemia. It was a blow to the school's fraternity but we slowly accepted it as part of life. The school participated very actively in the burial plans of Mitchelle. May God rest her soul in eternal peace.

Our academic performance has been encouraging. Continuous assessment tests have shown marked improvement throughout the year. We see good work being accomplished in the classroom and this is what we hoped to achieve. The



grade four- our pioneer class particularly, has made us proud. They sat for the Nambale district exams with grade four learners in other 50 schools and emerged the third overall. There

were a total of 2,843 candidates and Magnet has a class size of 29. Among the top ten girls, two came from our school featuring at position 7 and 8. In the boy's category, we had four boys in the top ten at positions 1, 3, 7 and 10. Top ten overall in class four, our school had three learners featuring at positions 2, 5 and 9.

This was our first entrance exams and the Ministry of Education officers are very pleased with the school's performance. It has set a good pace for us to sharpen the learners to compete with learners from top schools within the Western region and also at national level. We believe that the sky is the limit and are carefully selecting teachers to join our winning team next year.

On the school farm, we began in January with optimism; however, right at the onset we lost two dairy animals in milk. The heavy loss was made lighter when the school received a gift from Noroton Presbyterian Church women to restock our herd. The cows we bought were in calf and by May both had calved down. Since then the school has enjoyed milk produced on the farm. With the same gift, we also constructed a chicken coop and brought in laying birds, whose eggs are consumed in the school. Our green house has done very well with tomatoes and thus provided enough for the school kitchen as well as some extra for sale. The vegetable garden has continued to subsidize the vegetable needs for the school.



We ran out of built space this year and have been blessed with funds from Cornerstone and the North Congregational Church, Woodbury, which are being used to build a two classroom storey building. On completion, the building will ease pressure on classroom space. We further have received funds from the North Congregational Church to build a pig sty, whose plans are underway. This is part of the sustainability program that seeks to subsidize the cost of maintaining orphaned and vulnerable children at the school. We are so grateful for this invaluable support from friends of Nambale Magnet School.

At four years of age we have diverse needs: among them dormitory space because our current facility is limited and can hold only a maximum of 96 learners. The majority of our learners are day scholars and the demand for boarding space has been small in lower grades. However, as we go higher (grade five onwards), we are faced with demand for boarding facilities. This happens in many boarding schools in Kenya. Parents tend to release their children into boarding facilities so that they can have maximum attention from the teachers. We foresee a situation where demand for our facilities will be far more than we can supply. Any assistance to mitigate this problem will be most appreciated. An additional reason for more space is to enable the school sufficiently separate boys from girl's dormitories. With some of our learners reaching adolescence, we intend to provide guidance and proper boundaries even as they live and study together.



Our other immediate need is to have extra washing facilities separate for boys and girls. Again, with growing numbers in the learner population, we are faced with shortage of toilet facilities. We hope that this will be a challenge we can address early next.

Nothing moves a heart like the sparkle in a child's eyes. Your support brings hope beyond imagination in the lives of once dejected children. Thank you so much. I wish you a most blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*The Rev. Evalyn Wakhusama
Founder and Director, Nambale Magnet School*

Blessings!

The WIKS-USA Team