

# Nambale Magnet School

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

July, 2013

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FEATURED STUDENT



T.N. joined our Baby Class as a 4-year-old this year. Her teacher is Josephine Nerima, and her favorite subject is maths.

Out of the classroom, she loves skipping rope, the color pink and eating ugali and fish.

Her hobby is singing and she is in the Drama Club - one day she hopes to be a teacher (or a musical comedy star?)

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# A Visit to Nambale Magnet School

(A group from Noroton Presbyterian Church in Connecticut visited the School June 26 and 27 - here are some reflections)

#### Karibu -

"Welcome" We came to Nambale Magnet School, greeted by familiar and new faces to observe, learn, and participate in the community. We stayed two days one traditional day of classes and



the second preparing for Sports Day.

#### Karibu

That community of learners, teachers, support staff and leaders. Ninety of the learners were residents with little or no family support. These learners, ages three through ten, had experienced many hardships before coming to the School - more than we could imagine.

Imagine how we felt to see their smiling faces and joy when they greeted us. We could not distinguish the scholarship students from the self-sponsored commuters, a sign of the School's success in removing the stigma that impoverished children often experience.

A few shy children smiled easily when we gave them attention.

We observed them in classes and at play. They were earnest attentive, eager, to demonstrate what they knew. They supported each other in play and in class. The teaching staff displayed dedication and most of all love and affection for the children.

#### Karibu

We toured the remainder of the facility. We saw 160 chickens, four cows (one ready to calve), 20 "Babe"-like pigs, the greenhouses, the fishery, and outdoor gardens. We heard of the hopes and plans for a self- sustaining community - including the addition of land to accommodate a growing student body. We toured the dormitories and witnessed the building of new bathroom facilities.



The children looked healthy and full of energy. They ate snacks of "porridge" made from maize, millet and soy. Lunch was rice, a cabbage dish, and flavorful beans. The meals were vegetarian

Magnet School:

WIKS-USA, Inc. PO Box #200413 New Haven, CT 06520

Donations can also safely be made <u>online</u> at our website, www.nambalemagnet.org

As you can see in this month's article, there is much progress at the School, and always need for your support. We appreciate your generosity!



during our visit and always nutritious.

## Karibu

My favorite memories:

- the smiles
- children walking arm-in-arm
- children eagerly raising their hands to share
- girls singing and dancing "Welcome"
- boys improvising percussion and dancing
- the joy of sharing a book
- the comfort and help given to a child in need

• the smiles shared with their teachers and support staff My wishes for Nambale Magnet School:

- continued growth and outreach to children in need
- continued high standards of academic excellence
- continued professional development so that Nambale Magnet may continue to set standards for care and excellence.

#### Asante Sana - "Thank you very much!"

to Rev. Evalyn and children of Nambale Magnet School. When we started this mission trip, we sang the song "Lord, Listen to the

children praying."

The children of Nambale Magnet do pray, and will continue to pray as they progress



222 fine learners in front of our new building!

in a

faith-filled school and community. It is our turn to be touched by Nambale Magnet School and hope to have a long relationship with them.

#### Karibu Tena - "Welcome back!"

*Carol Edley* Westminster Presbytery, Ft. Worth, TX formerly a member of Noroton Presbyterian Church

## **Blessings!**

The WIKS-USA Team