

AMAZING LOVE SCHOOL PROJECT

www.amazinglovedevelopment.org

We are making progress!

- We ended the school year in December with a bash, celebrating the success of our students with the parents.
- Although the celebrations were disrupted by heavy rains, there was a lot of fun and joy from the school community when various categories of students received certificates of accomplishments.
- The children and staff also enjoyed a grand meal donated by Rachele Dabraio and Mahmood Nanji. Parents were deeply moved by such an act of kindness.
- As a Christmas gift, Michelle and Renukar (MOF) purchased school supplies and balls for the kids.
- In January 2014, we were honoured by a two week visit by Sheilagh McDonald from the Ontario Ministry of Children & Youth Services. Sheilagh saw Phoebe's post on the OPS intranet and expressed interest in coming to offer the much needed help to the Amazing Love School.
- On arrival, she met with members from the two school boards: The PTA and the School Management Committee where she introduced the three bags of donations she brought for the school. This was a historical day for the school and the community.
- Not only did Sheilagh teach, she spent the after school hours painting the partitioning walls of the nursery school.
- Her presence drew so many local kids who were interested in speaking to a "Mzungu" - a white person, though they could not understand the language. Sheilagh's classroom was not only at the school site, but even at home.
- Thank you Sheilagh for the balls, stationery, dresses and addressing students in an assembly to help them make good choices in life, and avoid pitfalls of wrong choices that could lead to a life of crime, imprisonment and a wasted life. Sheilagh, we look forward to your next visit.
- We also received a refreshing visit from Rosa Mushega, Catherine Blair, Mukunde Mushega and Siime Mushega from our church family at Oshawa Community Church. The gifts, letters, postcards and all the encouragement we received were much appreciated.
- They all shared their love and talents with the children. Rosa introduced the love of reading. To date, all teachers ask for books to read aloud to their classes. The grade one teacher shared that the kids are now opening up and using more English phrases, e.g. I saw a man digging mu muwogo (in the tapioca garden)!
- Catherine and Mukunde taught the children some songs. As for Siime, he was a star. He just blended in with the kids! He taught them soccer rules and played with them.



Meal donated by Rachele & Mahmood



Donated by Michelle Lewis and Renukar



Joint Teacher, PTA and SMC training

“Education is a powerful “vaccine” against the pandemics of poverty, disease and ignorance”.

Accomplishments so far

November 2013 to March 2014:

- Installed window and door panes
- Painted the primary school buildings inside and outside
- Installed notice boards in all classrooms
- Constructed a temporary classrooms for grade one as we prepare for the next phase
- Made 30 desks with benches to cater for 100 pupils
- Built a kitchen with oven, store, & food preparation area
- Purchased a large water tank to harvest the rain water
- Recruited four qualified teachers
- Held a school concert for children to show case their successes and talents
- Held a joint Teacher - PTA and SMC training session
- Hosted school guests from Ontario, Canada
- Added grade five class
- Increased school enrolment from 185 to 340

Next phase

- Paint the nursery school walls – inside and outside
- Construct classrooms for Grades 5, 6, and 7
- Construct and furnish a reading room / library
- Fence and landscape the school grounds
- Build a hall and administrative offices
- Construct play grounds for primary and nursery
- Install solar system for electricity



Planting Pass palam grass in the school grounds



Local oven built by Dorothy and Chris



Temporary classroom for use by Grade one



Children showing off clothes delivered by Sheilagh



Sheilagh addressing a school assembly



Some of Sheilagh's paintings in the nursery section

**“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”
Henry Adams**

Amazing Love School Project

Educate a child - build a community.

With the help of friends like you, we have accomplished much. Thank you so much for the support.

This month the exam results for the primary leaving students and secondary school students were released. We were surprised that Namutumba District (where Amazing Love School is) was the worst performing district in all exams! This has been the case for the past three years.

These were days of hopelessness as parents wondered how their children can be helped. Parents are looking to Amazing Love School to make a difference. Without advertising, we received a lot of applications for enrollment. Many of the new students lack the basic skills like how to hold a pencil or write their names compared to our kids who by the time they leave nursery, they can write and read some basic words.

We would like to make progress with the construction of grades 5 to 7 and the administrative block. At the moment, we are in need of funding. We have so far opened up the ground and purchased some materials to start on the laying of the foundation.

We have attached the quotations we received from our builder. We are requesting all who are able to or know some people or organizations that can help to assist us. We also invite as many as would love to come and volunteer to get in touch with us. It is hard work but also fulfilling to see lives changed and hope revived.

Sorry we have not yet updated the website due to network problems and costs involved. Please check out our website for alternate ways to get involved at www.amazinglovedevelopment.org.

To donate, please make cheques to the Uganda Relief and Development Organization or cash deposited at the Toronto Dominion Bank, Transit # 1029, Account # 639. For the benefit of Amazing Love school.

**Get a receipt and advise - jpgonahasa@gmail.com or text us on any of the following numbers:
011 (256) 772 727 424 / 757 665 820 / 783 134 820**

Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army.
Edward Everett



Sheilagh teaching grade fives



Sheilagh at the Kalagala Falls



Catherine, Siime, Rosa and Mukunde just arriving



Siime training in Soccer



Left: Rosa's read aloud with grade ones in the temporary classroom



Right: The Mushegas, Catherine and staff



Left: Catherine and Mukunde teaching a song to grade twos



Right: Sheilagh pausing with school staff

Amazing Love School

A School where children attend regularly, learn effectively and complete successfully.

Vision:

Excellence through Education, Training and Leadership

Mission:

Inspire students to excel in their academics, social and spiritual development



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