

Rock Projects Uganda

May 2020 Newsletter



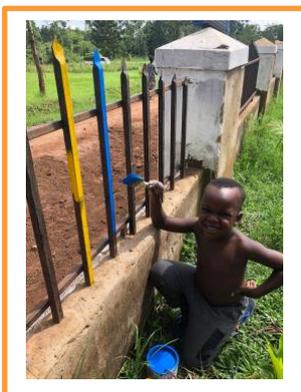
An update from Uganda

*Hello to our friends & supporters,
We hope you & your loved ones are well.
It's a very strange time we are all living in
just now as the covid-19 pandemic has bombarded all of
our lives in one way or another. We continue to pray
for those affected by covid, families of loved ones who
have passed, the doctors and nurses on the front lines
and those in positions of leadership all around the world.
Here in Uganda we have now reached 114 cases of the
corona virus, however we are grateful that no deaths
have occurred and we pray it stays that way. The
greatest issue that our country faces in these days is
extreme hunger. Uganda has now been in lockdown for
7 weeks, with no public or private transport allowed,
businesses, markets, schools, churches etc all closed.
The majority of the population here work each day just
to make enough to feed their family for that very day,
so with each day that goes by on lockdown things are
becoming harder and harder. Please pray for those
in desperate situations just now.*

*We were extremely sad to have to send all our
children who live in the dormitories at Sunbeams,
Kitetikka Primary School & the High School home.
What a joy it will be to welcome them back as soon
as possible!*



(Warm greetings from the Kasozi Family pictured here following social distancing measures!)



Jayden Kigozi pictured here painting the Sunbeams school fence during



Thank you so much!

We started our first term of school this year in a really exciting way! For a long time now, transporting the children to and from school has been extremely difficult, but due to the support of many we were able to purchase a brand new school van which now transports our children safely to and from school. As if that wasn't good enough, we have just heard the money that was raised ahead of this year's Kiltwalk (which was due to take place last month but was cancelled due to the corona virus) is enough to buy a new school van for Kitetikka Primary school! This is a huge blessing in a time where we wouldn't have believed we'd be able to celebrate! We like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated.



The Farm

We are so grateful to be able to grow our own food here at the farm. We are currently in the rainy season so there are many crops being planted. There is a lot of maize, matooke (bananas), beans, cassava, mangoes and sweet potato growing very well which will provide good wholesome meals for the children when they return to school. Pictured here is Uncle Stephen who is one of our key farmers, he takes such pride in his work and is known to want to work from as early as 5am until sun down at 7pm.



School life ...

Sunbeams & Kitetikka Primary School continue to thrive and be a blessing to so many families. Both schools now have almost 300 children in each, with many children living in the dormitories. We're so grateful for good teachers who love, care & educate the children in an interesting and interactive way. It's such an amazing thing to see very young children who come from illiterate families going home and teaching their mum or caregiver how to write their name, how to count or to spell – taking such joy & pride in their work. The children love being in class learning, however their favourite time is on a Friday afternoon when we have football & netball matches.

Kato & Wasswa's Story...

Our child sponsorship programme has changed and continues to change the lives of so many children. Recently on one of our journeys out to the community we visited twin boys who are pupils in P1 at Sunbeams. During the visit we were alarmed at how extremely rough and physically heavy handed the twin boys father was towards them. We made it a priority to investigate further into the situation, which very sadly revealed that the twins were receiving regular abuse at home, therefore putting them at the top of our child sponsorship list. We're so grateful to have found a sponsor for the boys, and they are now very safe living in our school dormitory. They no longer live in fear of what might happen when their Dad comes home drunk. Sponsoring a child costs £20/£25 per month. If you'd like more information please get in touch – we'd be delighted!



We've got news! ... Kibanga Medical Center is now open...

We are so delighted to share with you Kibanga Medical Center sitting right at the centre of the project here (which includes Sunbeams nursery & primary, the high school and the farm.) This medical center was born out of a dream of one of our very faithful and dedicated supporters Paul Adams who went to be with the Lord in November 2018. Paul visited Uganda many times, and had a real love and passion for the children and families of Kibanga, Busiika. During his own battle with illness, he had a goal of being able to provide the community of

Kibanga with much needed affordable medical care. When Paul sadly passed away, his family made sure that his dream would still come to pass... and so here today we present to you the health center. It includes a pharmacy, a dentist surgery, doctors surgery, nurses station, 2 bathrooms/showers, laboratory, a girls/ladies ward, a boys/men's ward and a reception. We believe this clinic is going to make a huge difference to the whole village as well as our school children. Life is extremely fragile here and it is our hope that this health center will be a light in the community where people will come, be treated & be cared for in a loving and dignified way. While we didn't expect to open the clinic during corona virus lock down, we realised it would be a wasted resource not to! So we are currently operating with just one nurse (with a fully stocked pharmacy!) and cleaner, and after lockdown is over we will start functioning properly by adding a doctor and dentist to the team. **We are so glad to have made the decision to open as in just this first week 3 malaria patients have been treated, an extremely young married woman has been given medical care & counselling, 2 pregnancy & HIV tests have been carried out, and a very old women with jiggers in her feet has been relieved of the pain.**



Our nurse Elizabeth



Reception Area



Positive malaria test

We are so grateful for the provision that has been available to build this health center. However, we realise that there is an ongoing cost which needs to be covered every month in order to make this center an effective resource for the whole community. Our monthly budget:

- * A doctors monthly salary - £100
(This is on the basis of one day a week/ 4 days per month)
- *A dentists monthly salary - £100
(This is on the basis of one day a week/4 days per month)
- * 2 Full time Nurses salaries a month - each £80
- * A cleaners monthly salary - £45
- * A security guards monthly salary - £45
- * Daily running costs such as water, electricity, medicines, cleaning products - £100 a month.

If you feel that you'd like to be part of supporting the cost of running Kibanga Medical Center we'd be absolutely delighted. Please get in touch.

We'd like to say a huge THANK YOU to COM Church in Dunstable England who through Scott Carr, a friend of the Kasozi family and faithful supporter have decided to donate an AMBULANCE to Kibanga Medical Center! Words cannot express how grateful we are!



In other news...

Around January time we put out a request for medical equipment & school resources for the container that was being sent out from Glasgow to Busiika, Uganda! We're so grateful for all that was donated, what a difference it will make to have our health center fully equipped and the school full of exciting new things for the children! *Prayer request:* The container has finally reached Kampala however it has already been a very lengthy process trying to get it through customs and clearance – please pray that the container would soon be released into our hands.



Josephine's Story



In 2016, we asked you to pray for one of our Kitetikka Primary school students who had gone down hill very fast health wise. Josephine who was in P6 at the time was suffering from cancer, she was extremely underweight and unable to walk. Unfortunately, the health care system here was unable to provide her with the necessary treatment and so we were left with nothing else but prayer. We are SO happy to tell you that Josephine is now back to school (P7), she has been receiving physiotherapy sessions (thanks to a RPU sponsor) and while she is still using a walking stick her legs are becoming stronger and stronger everyday that passes! Praise God!



We're really sad some of the teams and visitors that we were hoping would be here to visit will no longer be able to come due to the corona virus pandemic. We were expecting a big team of friends and family from Glasgow over during the Easter break to attend the official opening of the health center, however this will be delayed until further notice. We were also very excited to have a team coming from WayPoint Church, England in June however this has also had to be cancelled but we hope that the team will come sometime later this year or next year. We'd like to say a very big thank you to Way Point Church for sending a donation of £2000 which will be used to buy or build brand new playground equipment for Sunbeams.

We'd like to say a huge thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all the love, interest, support financially through sponsoring a child or by a one off gift or donation, and for keeping us in your prayers. Without you, all of the above wouldn't have been possible. We aim to send out a newsletter around 4 times a year, however we'd like to encourage you to follow [Rock Projects Uganda on Facebook](#) for more regular up-dates as well as on our website www.rockprojectsuganda.org. Please keep in touch through our facebook page, the website or by emailing us on info@rockprojectsuganda.org

With love,
The Kasozi Family
Rock Projects Uganda

