



Buyamba News

Helping Uganda...one child at a time

How Did God Cares School Come to Be?

One thing I enjoy about traveling with Florence Dongo, as she shares Buyamba with various churches, small groups, and donors, is how I get to learn new details about stories that have been told of the history of this ministry. Each time the story gets told, there are pieces carefully added by Florence who affectionately tells the story with fond remembrance. All of these hold a testimony of God's grace and his victory over challenges that seem insurmountable. - Julie Dimas



Most people who have been journeying with Buyamba for some time know that the first God Cares School opened up in 1998 in the basement of the Dongo's church, Kabalagala Pentecostal Church (KPC), with 94 children. But the story goes back further than that. Since the late Pastor Bethuel Dongo and his wife Florence were in ministry from a young age, they made a decision to open their hearts to whatever God would have them do to help Uganda, and they knew caring for orphans would be part of that plan. Although they were very poor and had the challenges of growing a church and raising their own biological kids, they were determined to tend to the needs of the fatherless. The "collection" of children actually started with the Dongo children who had been given the heart of God early in their attempts to help orphaned and abandoned children. Florence recounts that it was not unusual for one of her own kids to arrive home with a little friend who had no parents and needed help. The little food they had for themselves would now be shared with another. Whether it was Worship, Ezra, Glory or Thanks, the orphaned child would have been promised a home and a mom and dad who would take care of them. Each situation was dire, and by the end, 22 orphans would be calling them mom and dad for they had certainly found a home in the Dongo household. These were children left behind and in desperate situations that are now married or self-sustaining in various careers and some with children of their own.

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The Education System in

The education system in Uganda consists of primary school (elementary) followed by lower secondary and upper secondary school (high school). Primary grades begin in P1 and end in P7. Secondary school starts with lower secondary (S1 to S4) and ends in upper secondary (S5 and S6). In order to transition from P7 to S1, students must pass a National Leaving Exam. Once a student reaches their final year of lower secondary education (S4), a student must pass their O-level (ordinary) exams before proceeding further. The students who reach the final year of their upper secondary education have the opportunity to take the A-level (advanced) exams which opens up the possibility of a college education for the hard-working students who made it this far.

In Uganda the school year consists of three terms. The exact dates listed slightly vary each year, but the beginning of the school year starts in February. The terms for 2018 are as follows:

Term 1: February 5 – May 4 Term 2: May 28 – August 24

Term 3: September 17 – December 7

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Student Report Cards

In the next two months, our sponsors will receive their student's report card from the final term of 2017. Report cards are sent out at least once a year, so sponsors can follow the progress of their student's education as well as come alongside them in prayer over their studies. To give you a greater understanding of how everything works, we thought we would go over the big picture.

Uganda's grading system is like the U.S.'s letter grading "A – F", but instead of letters it uses numbers, and the scale is greater. Primary school students have four subjects which include Math, Science, English and Social Studies. Lower secondary students have eight compulsory subjects which include: English, Math, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, History and Literature and the student can take up to seven elective classes. To best understand your student's report card, review the grading scale below.



90 - 100 = D1	65 - 69 = C4	45 - 49 = P7
80 - 89 = D2	60 - 64 = C5	35 - 44 = P8
70 - 79 = C3	50 - 59 = C6	00 - 34 = F9

GOD CARES NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL.
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 School Mission: To provide quality education to the children of the nation.

END OF YEAR REPORT 11/7/17

Name: KIZZA ESTHER NYETEE
 Sex: F Age: 10 Class: P.4 Term: 1st Year: 2017
 Attendance: 86.66% Stream Position: Out of

SUBJECTS	OUT OF 100	INT. EXAM	AGG. EXAM	AVERAGE MARK	AGG. MARK	COMMENTS
ENGLISH	100	95	80	93	93	Good
MATH	100	53	48	66	65	Good
SCIENCE	100	46	40	43	41	Good
SST&RE	100	87	90	89	89	Good
TOTAL AGG		11	12			
DIVISION		I	II			

PROGRESSIVE PERFORMANCE

EXAMINATION	ENGLISH	AGG.	MATH	AGG.	SCIENCE	AGG.	SST & RE	AGG.	TOTAL AGG.	DIVISION
BOY	95	93	66	65	66	65	66	65	18	IT
MID TERM	82	64	66	65	83	64	76	64	15	IT

Pupils Conduct: Good
 Class Teacher's Comment: Praised by P.S.
 Headteacher's Comment: A good attempt to improve the school.
 Next term begin on: 21/2/18 And Ends on: 11/5/18
 REQUIREMENTS: School Fees: Toilet Papers: 8 Brooms: 2 Books: 24 Pens: 15 Pencils: 13 Rulers: 1 Crayons: 12 Coloured pencils: 12
 N.B: This Report is not Valid without Headteacher's Stamp and Signature

If you see that your sponsored student isn't doing so well in school, please keep him or her in your prayers for they have many challenges. Please consider sending a note of encouragement to your student. You can visit our website and write an email or send a hand-written letter to the Buyamba California office.

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The first five story building was completed in 2005 by generous donors. The rooms of the school quickly filled up and it has been bursting at the seams ever since. Then the land was purchased for the high school (about an hour away) and the construction began on another five-story building that now houses God Cares High School and educates over 800 children. With the help of a few strategic churches and many individual donors, the school was dedicated to the Lord in 2016. This school year, the two schools will collectively educate and disciple 1700 children. There are also 70 students, who have been a part of the Buyamba sponsorship program for years, who are now attending various universities. From nursery to university, Buyamba is training up these students to impact Uganda for Christ.

"The Dongo Family has truly followed their mandate to be a father to the fatherless... as it says in Isaiah 1:17 "Learn to do good; seek justice; defend the orphan."

We Need Your Help!



To better help us serve and communicate with you, Buyamba has created a survey that you may have already filled out on line, but if you didn't please fill out and return the survey which you will find in place of our usual donation card. This survey should only take you about three minutes to complete, and your response is very valuable to us. Thank you!

