



Buyamba News

Helping Uganda...one child at a time



Prepare The Way For The Students



The administration and staff at God Cares Schools have been busy working to prepare for the reopening of both schools this month. Many tasks must be done to prepare for the massive number of children who will descend on one of the two God Cares School campuses.



Students Returning to School

We are preparing physically and spiritually for the return of the students. Prayers continue for those families and children who are still making decisions for the children's education for the coming year. Some students will be boarded, especially at GCHS, where over 900 students live full time, but some GCPS students will need space if the students are far from home. Living away from home is a big family decision. Both the boys' and the girls' school dorms are ready to hold students in their new home when the school opens. Teachers, staff, house moms, cooks, and drivers will also pick up their roles and prayerfully plunge into the new school year.

The food for both schools has been purchased in preparation. Some staff members asked Worship Byakika, the CEO of Buyamba on the Uganda side, why she was buying the whole term food supply when there is a possibility of the President's

closing the schools again. During both lockdowns in 2020 and 2021 all of our previous food supplies, intended for those school terms, provided some of the resources needed for our Buyamba Food Outreach. The entire harvest of the Buyamba Farm in 2021 provided additional resources for the needy families in various communities. None of the purchased food went to waste! Therefore, in faith, financially responsible food purchases have been made for the students at both schools for this first term that will run through April 21st. (continued on page 2)

2022 Term Schedule

Term 1:

January 10 - April 21

Term 2:

May 9 - August 12

Term 3:

September 5 - December 7

Baby Class and Preschool Students

God Cares Nursery School, which shares the Primary School Campus, previously closed for two years. These young children were not allowed to go back to school in 2020 or 2021, and since they were so young, they were not part of the village school programs. However, some teachers and parents got children of similar age groups together in the villages, which helped socialize and advance those children in their development. We have a new crop of students ages 3-6 who have never been in a classroom and others not for two years. The class level placement that these non-schooled or little schooled children in this broad age group belong in becomes a challenge. (continued on page 2)



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The administration also purchased school supplies for the students. Even though the parents usually help with this aspect, most families can't afford those expenses this year. The school also bought material to sew new uniforms for many students who have outgrown their former wear. There was new curriculum purchased and other curricula copied. Worship said, ***"God Cares School is going forward no matter what through the grace of God!"***



God Cares is blessed to have retained most of the administration, teachers, staff members, and student families, primarily due to the Buyamba retention plan to keep our teachers on salary and the success of the village schools created to keep students on track with their studies. Worship reported that almost all students are advancing in grade level due to their diligence in their studies at home. Parents were a large part of the success story due to the value that they have placed on education. Some of the parents even joined the lessons to support their children.

Baby Class and Preschool Students

The administration met with the Preschool Director and the teachers and devised a plan. Each child over the 3-year-old level (baby class participants) were assessed to determine whether they are developmentally ready to start middle preschool, pre-kindergarten (top class), or Kindergarten. The team assessed each student's academic and emotional readiness. Students will begin their course at their developmentally appropriate class level.



Are ALL The Students Coming Back?

We sure hope so! Since we have had a LOT of communication with our students and families, we are sure that most of them are returning to God Cares School. However, there may be some changes with some older students who may begin trade schools or take jobs instead of continuing their education. We will see when all students are checked in and accounted for. If there are any changes with your sponsored child, we will let you know as soon as we know. We are grateful for your prayers for the new school year at God Cares Schools.