



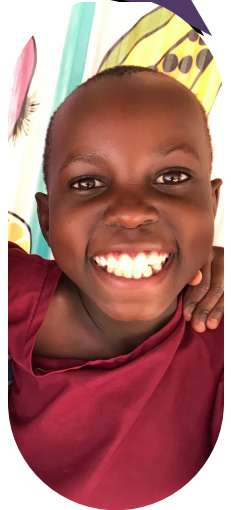
Buyamba News

Helping Uganda...one child at a time

The Joys of Sponsoring A Child

One thing that has continued strong throughout these changing times is Child Sponsorship. The relationship between sponsor and child is a strong one, for there are lives connected from the United States to Uganda. That bond starts at that level of support where a child is told that he or she is chosen by someone who lives across the sea; chosen to be educated, chosen to be fed, chosen to be offered hope from far away. This often means more than we could explain for many of our orphaned students, or those who are living with a guardian rather than their biological parents. The idea of a kind support person far away is a comfort beyond words.

Some sponsors have been waiting for a letter or a photo or some information about their child who has returned to school. Others are still waiting for that communication from a nursery school, Kindergarten or 1st-3rd grade child, or even a child in S1 (freshman class of high school). Why? ...because a word from our sponsored child matters to us. *(Continued on page 2)*



Educating Nursery to University Students Can Be Challenging

We rejoice that many of the children are back at school, but it won't be complete at God Cares School until our nursery through university students are ALL back on track in their education and discipleship programs. The university and trade school students are all plugged in and working hard at the various institutions of higher-level learning. The current S6 class (end of high school), who just finished their testing, are on the fast track to starting university in August. Most of our students, from 4th grade to the last year of high school, are in classes, but on the other end of the spectrum, it has been a long time for the PRESCHOOL students to be at home and out of school, waiting for their school entry date to arrive.



Parents, caregivers, teachers, and the little ones themselves are just having a hard time waiting. The parents and educators know that school is significant for their children's development in many ways. In school, the students are fed and educated each day. We prayed about their concerns, and now there is a solution in place!

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The Joys of Sponsoring A Child

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There have been a few sponsors that we have had to call to tell them their student is not coming back to school. There are a few of our older students who had significant changes in their lives. Some students had to go to work during the year they were off school because they needed to help provide for their younger siblings. A couple of older students got married or moved out of the program, because their families are now dependent on them, so they were unable to return to boarding school. Whatever the reason, there were some older students who didn't return to school. Sponsors who heard the news



were impacted, but agreed to continue to pray for that child whose photo had been on their refrigerator or shelf for years. These sponsors know the impact sponsorship has, so they chose other children to sponsor. They believe sponsorship does make all the difference.

Sponsor a child today for \$35 a month and become part of the God Cares School Family.

Educating Nursery to University Students Can Be Challenging

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The head teachers of the preschool got together with Worship and devised a plan that may help them out while waiting! There are preschool group meeting times at various teachers' homes, church basements, or other meeting places. This way, the kids can have some time to play developmentally and learn, and parents or guardians can have a break to take care of business. These activities will also help the students and teachers get them back into school mode before returning officially.

They are now meeting in designated groups of 12-15 kids each day of the week until their official school year begins. A preschool or kindergarten staff teacher leads each group from God Cares School to conduct educational play and developmental activities for 3-4 hours to keep the preschool children "school ready" and accustomed to being together, instructed by teachers.

"Kids can have some time to play developmentally and learn..."

The location of the five groups is spread out to accommodate as many of our children as possible. There is a preschool group center at the original site of God Cares School in the church basement of the Dongo family's KPC Church (Kabalagala Pentecostal Church). There are other centers at different homes of parents in Bukasa, Nabutiti, and two in Kansanga. These preschool groups have been a happy reconnection for these little ones with their teachers and other friends that they may not have seen during the lockdown. The parents and children are eager and ready to get in the groove of things to prepare these little ones for reentry into school as soon as we are able.

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