



# MPC

## Monthly Newsletter

January 2020

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

# Mukuru Promotion Centre NEWSLETTER

*Empowerment Step by Step*

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*From the Director*

Dear Friends,

What a busy month January 2020 was! The four primary schools opened on 6<sup>th</sup> January, followed by the secondary on 7<sup>th</sup> and by the vocational skills training on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Parents this year had big challenges returning their children to school due to hiking of fares from rural areas at the beginning of term and to loss of jobs in our area due to poor economy, traffic jams and relocation of business from Industrial Area to the new bypasses, too far away from Mukuru slums and too expensive for parents to commute. The shortage of income badly affected Form One admissions to secondary, as parents search for means of buying uniform, books, and paying fees. Some have great difficulty getting enough to eat for themselves and their children. It is a big challenge for us to keep feeding the 7,000 students each day with one meal (beans and maize).

It is a hard task to enable the former street boys to adjust to transition from the rehabilitation centre to their workstations or their secondary schools, or training or boarding primary schools. This has kept the staff busy as well as recruiting the new intake and settle boys from the streets into an organised life of sleeping, eating, class, behaviour change, play and prayer. Some of the new boys settle very easily while others take a long time. It is wonderful to see a mother visiting who has found her lost son! Some boys come one day from the street and disappear as soon as they wash and get new clothes. I congratulate the staff and all of their supporters on the successful transition of many of the lads.

We also had some children with handicaps moving on from Songa Mbele to other schools or specialist schools, as well as a number joining our vocational training centre. We do need more facilities for them as only some of them can adjust well to training with the other students. We urgently need therapy rooms, other skill training opportunities so that they can use their talents to earn their living and not feel a burden on others. We join with Cheshire Foundation and others to look for training for employment and employment opportunities for youth living with disabilities. This year we employed a primary teacher who is blind. She is a very efficient teacher but has to have an assistant to mark the work and to keep an eye on the fifty children. In Mukuru slums, as in all very poor societies, those living with disabilities often do not get opportunities, and languish in poverty especially after the death of the main carer. We do what we can with your help and thanks to all of you who support this program.

I am very grateful to see the successful youth leaving our vocational training program and proceeding on internship in various businesses. I am happy that seventeen of our secondary

students qualified for part government sponsored university education. It's great to see the very poor access basic health care.

Thank you all of you for your part in the success.

May you be blessed in 2020. We remember you frequently in prayer

*Sr Mary Killeen*



*Yeah!*



Back at school



Let's Go

## Education

The schools opened on 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2020. The enrolment of new pupils is still ongoing, and a few old pupils are yet to report back after the long Christmas holidays.

We expect the enrolment numbers to change as many people are still moving from up-country back to Nairobi and others are trying to find funds to pay for the admission fees.

School	Enrolled Pupils	Expected Enrolments
St Bakhita Primary	933	1,300
St Catherine Primary	1266	1,500
St Elizabeth Primary	1717	1,800
Sancta Maria Primary Mukuru	1,610	1,800
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,526</b>	<b>6,400</b>

While it is a good start to the year, we do expect at least another 1,000 pupils to experience their right as Kenyan citizens to free primary education. Our challenge of teacher /pupil ratio is still a major problem for our Head Teachers. We will continue to lobby the Ministry of Education and the Teachers Service Commission for a favourable outcome for the sake of the children.

At the start of the academic year two Head Teachers were transferred to other schools. The schools affected were St. Bakhita & Sancta Maria Mukuru. The two replacements have reported. For a variety of reasons there were other teachers (6) who did not report for duty and we are still down on those teachers: two teachers at St Bakhita, one at Sancta Maria Mukuru, three at St Catherine's. This makes the childrens' learning environment very difficult.

The current teacher enrolment in the four schools is as follows:

SCHOOL	TSC	COUNTY	MPC	PTA	Total No. of Teachers	No. of Teachers out of school due to ill health	Total Teachers Available in School
St. Bakhita	16	1	5	1	23	1	22
St. Elizabeth	27	1	6	0	33	0	33
Sancta Maria Mukuru	24	1	4	0	29	0	29
St. Catherine	20	1	4	3	27	2	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>109</b>

The new year brings lots of meetings for the schools. The teachers met with parents to set objectives on how best to support the children with the aim of improving discipline and performance.

One new initiative is the “reading culture”. This pilot project will be launched at St Bakhita on 10<sup>th</sup> February. The Head Teachers are also working on the implementation of speaking English in the school compounds. The main purpose of introducing reading sessions and enforcing speaking in English is to improve on:

- Communication skills.
- Reading Culture of the schools.
- Performance in language.
- Oral skills of pupils.

The influence of speaking ‘sheng’ in Mukuru community has negatively influenced the learning of English in our schools. The performance in our schools will improve with the introduction of a reading culture and speaking English in the schools. All the examinations for primary and secondary school subjects are in English so we need to develop this new culture for the benefit of our pupils.

The Ministry of Education brought in a new software management system for all the schools in Kenya last year. This places our schools at a disadvantage. All pupils must be registered on-line with NEMIS (National Education Management System) database. Our schools are not provided with computers nor do they have internet. The writing of reports (including BOM reports), monthly returns, photocopying of important school documentation and letters have been done at the cybercafe. The services done at the cybercafe renders no confidentiality regarding their documentation as well as the additional expenses every month. St Elizabeth and Sancta Maria Mukuru have bigger enrolment numbers hence their costs are very high in comparison to St Bakhita and St Catherine. One school has a laptop and all schools don’t have printers. We are writing proposals for computers and printers.

We did report late last year the KCPE results for the primary schools. The table below depicts a comparison on the mean grade performance for the year 2018 and 2019.

School	Mean Grade 2018	Mean Grade 2019	Mean Diff
St Bakhita	251.71	243.36	-8.35
St Catherine	234.62	253.19	18.57
St. Elisabeth	236.98	231.58	-5.4
Sancta Maria Mukuru	245.44	236.43	-9.01
<b>Total Average</b>	<b>242.18</b>	<b>241.14</b>	

St. Catherine’s Primary school performed better than the other three MPC primary schools with a mean score of 253.9. However, looking at the enrolment numbers Sancta Maria Mukuru and St. Elisabeth had the highest enrolments for the year 2019 examination. St Bakhita had the best pupil who scored 410 marks out of a possible 500 marks.



The faith development programs in MPC schools already commenced with St. Elizabeth and St. Bakhita having celebrated their first Mass of the new academic year. The catechism schedule has also been drawn up and the sessions for all schools under Our Lady Queen of Peace (OLQP) parish will commence from the first week of February, 2020.

The crescendo of activities in the primary school reached its peak towards the end of the month and the schools have not received their allocated funds from the Government. This causes problems in the learning environment. MPC is trying to support the primary schools as much as possible but we are limited.

As mentioned earlier most of our pupils in our schools do not have birth certificates. This is mainly due to the frequent fires and floods in the slums. The lack of documentation makes it difficult for the schools to enrol pupils for the KCPE exams and the school's Government funds are based on the registered enrolments on the NEMIS system. Without receiving the funding from the Government, parents are placed in an even more difficult position to meet the gaps with water, electricity and maintenance bills. The bulk of the parents haven't paid their firewood money (\$9US) for the year. We will continue to voice our concerns to the appropriate authorities.



We received a visit from Liliane Fonds CEO, Jon Veron (UK) and Cheshire Disability Kenya, Cecilia Mutuava and George to discuss disability programs for students in our schools including the wheelchair friendly toilets.



*Sr Mary, John, George, Cecilia and Sr Kathy discuss the potential programs*

## Social and Health Services

The year started off well, with a planned sequence of events in each of the schools. The office has been attending to incoming clients in addition to home visits for assessments on presented cases, with case follow-ups. The MPC Clinic has been busy attending to patients while the more advanced issues were referred to other health institutions.

The social workers assisted the Sponsorship Officer on the profiling of the secondary school students who are joining Form One. The other activities that have taken place are: Counselling for pupils and students who are in need; life skills /career guidance classes; motivation talks in the five schools and skills training as well as nutritional support and food supplements for the malnourished babies and needy clients. The snapshot of categories is listed below:

Type of Intervention	Home & Community	Schools	Welfare	Nutrition	Other
Home Visits	26				
Abuses Cases	3				
Amaranth Clients				57	
Nutritional Support				30	
Malnourished Babies				21	
Back to school		9			
KCPE Transition Form 1		102			
Class Assessments		183			
Admissions		166			
Absenteeism		90			
Weekly Upkeep			3		
Moral Formation Talks		410			
Counselling			3		
Uniform Support		33			
Exit to Special schools		24			
Fire Disaster					13
Re-integrations		3			
Attachment placements					4
Referrals			12		
Career Guidance	1				
Medical Cases					92
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,020</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>109</b>

There were the usual staff and parents' meeting for both primary and secondary schools. There was a new initiate of the Government to address the increasing number of street children and street families. The Street Family Rehabilitation Trust Fund, (SFRTF) meeting was held in January to address the issue and to form new policies on how best to remove the families from the street. This will be an on-going involvement for the social and health services department at MPC.

The Mary Immaculate Rehabilitation Centre has developed networks with several groups such as the Mater Misericordiae Hospital Comprehensive Care unit (MCCC), Mwangaza New Life Rehabilitation Centre, Kamukunji Police station and Sub-County Childrens Office to further develop our rehabilitation program for street boys.

We still spend much time on trying to obtain children's birth certificates. Especially for the boys at rehabilitation centre, when trying to identify and track parents is very time consuming. Often it can take up to 8 months to establish. It is imperative that all children get birth certificates as their future depends on it.

As a department we end up referring many people for medical attention. Most of our clients would be referred to St Mary's Mission Hospital as it is affordable. Unfortunately, for us, this is no longer possible. We are trying to identify a few affordable hospitals for surgical referrals. It is proving a difficult task.



*Siblings who were supported with uniform to join school. The school charges were waved. Their story was in the newspaper and MPC responded.*



*Kayaba Home visit. She is a single mother of 2 children and expecting another one very soon. The first-born schools at Sancta Maria Mukuru Primary.*



*Parent from Sancta Maria Mukuru and St Bakhita are supported with food parcels.*



*Children from Sancta Maria Mukuru Primary*



*A home visit with UN researcher, Kirin Taylor.*



*Class 8 parent meeting at Sancta Maria Mukuru Primary*



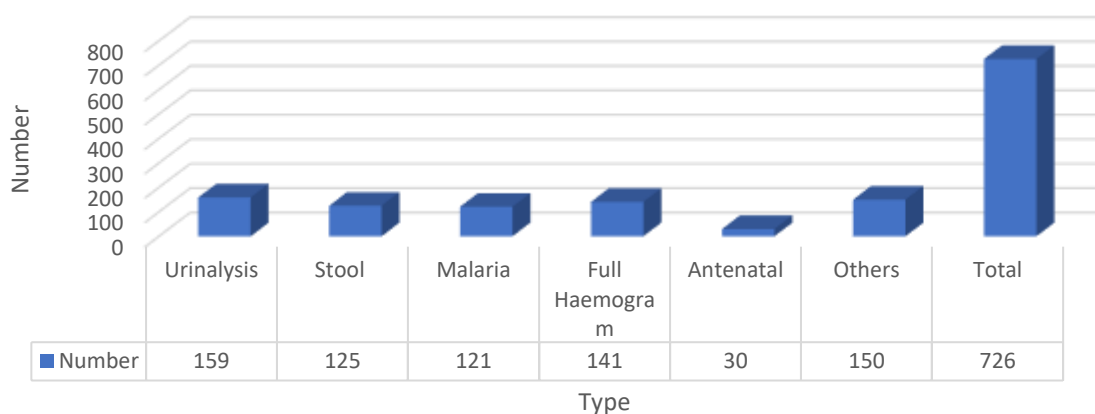
The start of the new year resulted in an increase of patients for the month at 1,333 which was 356 more than December. We were fortunate to have a new medical doctor from Slovakia, Dr Monika, to start her placement for the next 4 months. We also have two volunteer students on attachment from USIU (United States Institute University).

The services at the Clinic continued to be utilised by hundreds of people from Mukuru community. We followed up on the 5 Tuberculosis patients; 317 VCT (voluntary counselling tests) clients were seen; 72 children were fully immunized; 70 mothers received the antenatal care, with 35 of them being newly registered and the other half were revisits.

The Homebased Health Care program continued on Wednesdays. So far 14 families have been visited in their homes during the month. Two were referred for specialised treatment and the others were treated at the Clinic. Dr Nina continued with the cervical cancer screening tests with 5 women receiving treatment.

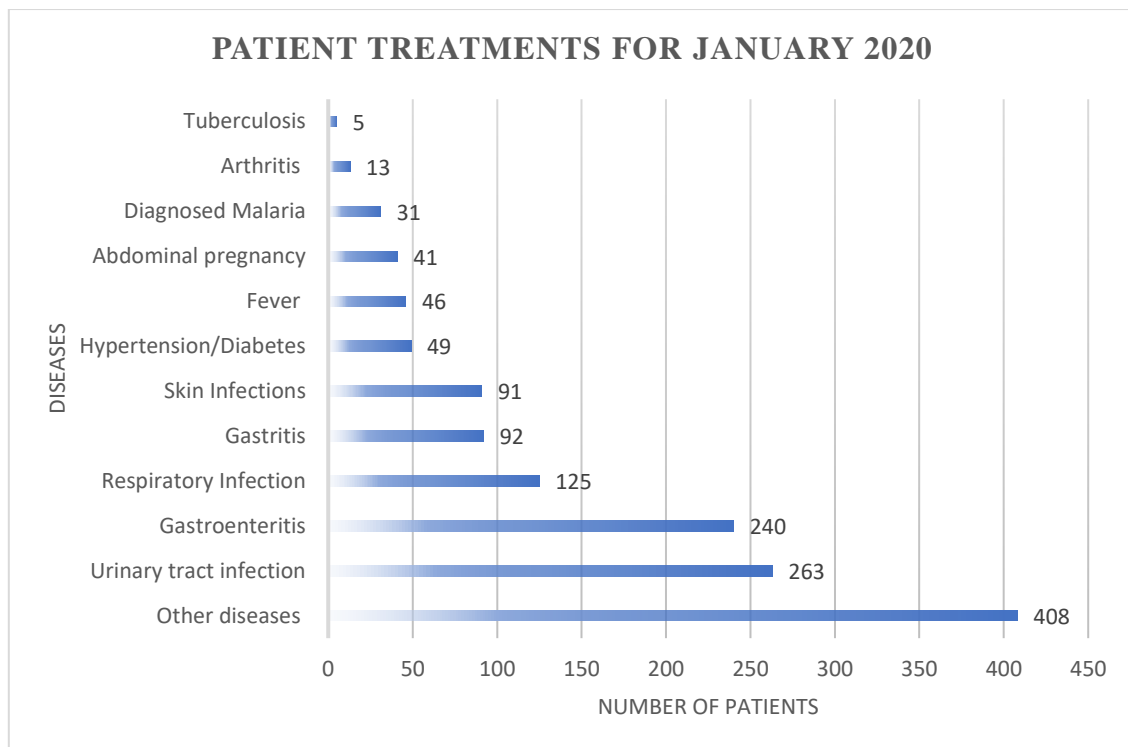
The laboratory services at the Clinic averaged over 30 tests per day. The higher than usual numbers could be attributed to the unusually wet weather we have experienced since November. We have had heavy rain for months.

Top Five Laboratory Test January 2020



Patients Treated in January 2020

Cases	Gender	Under 5	6yrs – 13yrs	Above 13yrs	Total
New	Male	54	32	152	238
	Female	70	29	244	343
	Subtotal	124	61	396	581
Revisits	Male	133	40	177	350
	Female	106	33	263	402
	Subtotal	239	73	440	752
Total		363	134	836	1,333



The top diseases at the Clinic continue to be respiratory, gastroenteritis and urinary tract infections. Many of these can be attributed to the environment. We will continue with our education program that involves simple hygiene steps.



Two of the Mater Misericordiae Hospital Directors, Medical Services, Dr Martine and Operations, Dr Gachie, presented our Clinic, Clinician Duncan and Pharmacist Mark, with some extra medications that were left over from a recent medical camp. We are very grateful as it doesn't make a difference to our costs.

*Songa  
Mbele na  
Masomo*

The year 2020 started with the usual planned activities and of course the unexpected ones. The Centre opened officially on 6<sup>th</sup> Jan after a two week break. The break prepared the staff physically and psychologically for the activities of 2020 as we prepare for the new facility. The children have come back refreshed and in the learning mood. Our volunteers from the various universities commenced their community placements at the Centre.

There were 22 pupils who appeared for the Daycare; 8 for Special Coaching; and 19 for the Coaching units. There were 46 children who received therapy during the month. The Caregivers Christmas program worked well, as the efforts of the home therapy exercises were evident. We could see a great improvement in the children's mobility when they returned from the break.



*Manos Unidas and Cadena 100 with Sr Mary and Baby Griffin*

We were delighted with our Spanish visitors, Manos Unidas and Cadena (Radio), who spent the day with us, interviewing the staff and interacting with the children. The Coaching class entertained them with a few songs and dances.

The fine motor skills materials were delivered and are being used to improve on the function of fine muscles of the children. The physiotherapist and occupational therapist have been busy as you would expect at the beginning of the year.



*Centre therapist helping children to stand with the standing aid*



*Daycare Children*



*Coaching class*



*Special Coaching class*





*Cadena Spanish visitors interacting with Special Coaching class*

With the unusually heavy rains during the month it has caused maintenance issues at the Centre such as leaking sewage. Our iron sheets have corroded with time and there are big holes. Looks like February will be the maintenance month.

## Sponsorship

The sponsorship program has been fully engaging as it is the start of the new academic year. Everyone needed to be at school in the first week of January. There were admissions of Form One students as well as the welcome and preparation of the new beneficiaries who qualified for sponsorship.

We managed to register 114 secondary students. Most of these students were enrolled at our secondary school St Michael's and others went to boarding schools for various reasons.

Class	Number of Students
Form 1	21
Form 2	21
Form 3	34
Form 4	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>

The seven former Rehabilitation boys completed their primary education and performed very well. They received "calling letters" to three different high schools. Four of them were admitted to Mbaikini High School in Machakos County; two have been admitted to two different schools in Kiambu County namely Mururia and Ituru high school. One was admitted at a day school namely Peter Kibukosya Secondary in Umoja area, Nairobi County. We hope that they continue with their good efforts and perform well in secondary school.



Two other students from St. Marian's Childrens Home have been admitted to various schools with the assistance of the Starehe Children's Welfare Office, Nairobi. Mary Mutheu has joined Grand Mark School in Class 5 while Samson Kyalo has joined Form One at Masii High School in Mang'u.

*The four boys admitted at Mbaikini High school.*

At the end of the assessment program for Standard Eight pupils from the four MPC Primary Schools that involved 654 pupils, we interviewed 80 students for a chance of sponsorship to St Michael's Secondary School. A small percentage of the 654 were granted National Schools admissions which meant that the Government would assist with the tuition fees however, most of them are expensive and the parents will struggle to pay the other fees and unfortunately many will drop out because of a lack of funds. These will be the students who will fall through the cracks and miss out altogether even though they are bright. A large proportion of the 654 did not meet the criteria for secondary school entrance and we hope to guide these students into a vocational training course.

The Cabinet Secretary's (Education Minister) directive of 100% transition is not a reality for our children from the slums. The capacity of St Michael's is 150 students in Form One. Mukuru slums needs another high school to give the academic students a chance to complete their secondary schooling. The area Chief brings dozens of students whose parents don't have the funds. It is a very sad situation for the families. The social workers are out everyday making sure that we help the students to have that opportunity. Our biggest problem is that there are no day places for the students. St Michael's is the only day secondary school in the area that is affordable for some parents. There are many needy students who gained a Government position but can't pay for the non-tuition fees. We will keep lobbying the National Government for assistance on behalf of the parents.

We really appreciate our sponsors whose efforts have maintained all the students under the sponsorship program at school. Nearly 70% of school fees have been processed across all schools and students have settled in school and are learning. We were grateful for the timely donations of pens, pencils, and exercise books. These have been issued to all Form One students at St. Michael's as well as all the other sponsored students attending other high schools. The coloured crayons were issued to the Skills Centre for the art course.

## Skills Vocational Training

In education, every new academic year brings new hopes, new goals and the chance for a new beginning. The Skills Centre opened its offices on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 fully renewed to start again with a new group of young adults. On the same day parents started tripling in for enquiries and on 8<sup>th</sup> January, classes commenced. Below is a table showing our statistics so far for January intake.

### Statistics 2020

Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre			
Course Title	Course Duration	2019 Enrolments	Examining Body
Computer Studies	3 months	34	Internal
Catering	1 Year	21	NITA
Garment Making	1 Year	8	NITA
Hairdressing & Beauty	1 Year	24	NITA
Plumbing & Masonry	1 Year	10	NITA
Art & Craft	1 Year	6	NITA
Dee-Jaying	5 Months	7	Internal
Front Office	1 Year	4	KNEC
Housekeeping/Laundry			
<b>Total</b>		<b>114</b>	

The orientation for new students took place on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 that included information on the services from the Social Office, Counselling, Performance, Guidance, Regulations, Child Protection and Safeguarding. Students were given the opportunity to introduce themselves and share their expectations as they begin their courses.

The students heard several speakers including Sr. Lilian who presented the Child Protection session and where to seek help when the need arises. The program ended with a short tour of the facilities. We are certain that, students who participated in this year's orientation will be more prepared, will encounter fewer problems and will generally have a positive experience at Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre.



*S. Lilian Misaro speaks to the students*



*Students listen attentively to the guest speakers*



The Front Office students (14) who sat for KNEC exams in November 2019, all except for one performed exemplarily well. The fourteen students did not disappoint us, and we were encouraged to register our Centre with KNEC so that our students can do their exams in an environment familiar to them. The 2019 Front Office students were really dedicated, and their hard work produced good results.

### Analysis of KNEC exams for Front Office Students

#### Office Procedures

Distinction	5 students
Credit	8 students
Pass	1

#### Communication Skills

Credit	7
Pass	6
Fail	1



*2019 Front Office class after their KNEC exams*

The other NITA exam results were released on 30<sup>th</sup> January earlier than expected. All our students have performed well.

### 2019 Exam Results (NITA and KNEC)

Item	Department	Male	Female	No. students who passed	No. students who failed
1	Hairdressing	2	32	32	0
	Beauty	3	21	24	1
2	Food & Beverage	10	34	42	1
3	Plumbing	11	0	11	0
	Masonry	11	0	11	2
4	Dressmaking	4	16	17	1
5	Art	14	3	9	0
6	Front Office	2	18	14	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>6</b>

## Cadena 100 Visit

A six-member delegation from Spain (Cadena 100 a radio station based in Madrid, Spain) visited Mukuru Promotion Centre, particularly to the Vocational Training Centre. The visitors on arrival were received by Sr Mary, Sr Kathy and Boaz Keango our DeeJay Instructor among others.

The visitors headed to the 'Pride Restaurant' for lunch and our catering students did not disappoint. The visitors filmed scenes in the vocational centre, specifically the catering area. They also interacted with our Dee-Jaying and Hairdressing students. These images will be screened at their annual Cadena 100 concert, in order to raise funds to expand the catering building. They also visited the poor neighbourhood of Mukuru Nairobi, Songa Mbele and a slum area where the Sisters of Mercy have had a presence for many years.



*Manos Unidas and Cadena 100 having lunch at Skills Restaurant*

Technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is the most practical avenue for acquiring employable skills for the workplace. In line with TVET and the Kenyan Government's agenda for the youth, our centre continues to train young workers and ensure that they receive quality training. In this regard, our hairdressers without wasting time have made great strides in their practicals. The students so far are able to perform several hairdressing techniques like braiding, styling, barbering and plaiting. More than 75 million of young adults are out of work globally and many underemployed. It is our hope that we will empower our students to build thriving and sustainable careers in order to secure a prosperous future for themselves.

Below are some pictures of our new hairdressers in action:



*Different hairstyles*



*St Bakhita Pupils waiting to be shaved*



*Ready to go back to class*

At the end of each year we plan for the following year. We have learnt much during 2019 and we are ready to start 2020 with a lot of energy. We are committed to providing the best for our students so that they can have a sustainable future. Our students recorded impressive results in both the NITA and KNEC exams and we hope to improve on those results this year.



## **MPC Rehabilitation Centre**

The year began on a very high note with a number of achievements all round and marked by the different activities, ranging from good performances, admission of boys to schools and the arrival of a new group of boys. The new group is eager to learn and get help, which we believe will be delivered by your help and our team at the Rehab Centre.

The 2019 group performed well in their exams and they have joined different secondary schools thanks to the generosity of a donor. Ten of the boys attended St Catherine's Primary school which is on the same site as the Rehab Centre making getting to school much easier.

The newly recruited boys are aged between 10 and 15 years and have been placed on an accelerated learning program from Grade 1 to Grade 7.

The carpentry instructor, Charles, with the help of the social worker, Amy, went to Industrial Area to seek for places of attachment for the boys who were doing Carpentry and Joinery course, Grade III. Four of the boys were placed at Exotic Timber Limited Company and we wish them well as they embark on a new journey of independence.

The Social Office worked towards creating awareness with the street families on the impact of drugs and the importance of positive change in their lives. We visited different areas or bases where some boys knew about the Centre through friends. We plan to make several visits to the bases so that we can ascertain the suitability of the boys for rehabilitation. The recruitment will continue until February.



*Visit to Sinai Dumpsite*

As a result, we have had fewer boys drop out. The Sub-County Children's Officer also referred boys to our Centre and another referral came from Call Africa.



As soon as the boys came into the Centre, the work began. The counsellor had a group session with them to hear the boys' expectations and to see if they really understand the meaning of change. Since the boys have been on the streets for a long time, change for them would just mean getting food and shelter. Therefore, the counsellor has much work to do with them to help them with transformation and how to adjust to 'normal' life. The sessions give the boys a chance to clearly define their goals while at the Rehab Centre.



*Boys sharing their expectations from MIRC*

A meeting was attended on 23rd January at Kariokor social Hall, which had been organized by SFRTF (Street Family Rehabilitation Trust Fund).

We attended the SFRTF (Street Family Rehabilitation Trust Fund) program, a Government initiative to remove families from the street. One of the outcomes of the day was to form appropriate policies with the stakeholders. SFRTF promised to visit the Rehab for a first-hand experience.

During the holiday break we were fortunate to have Owen Cullen and Louise Lynn spend some time at the Centre with the boys. Louise provided some arts and crafts sessions, even getting the British Airways crew members involved and Owen gave tips on the finer strategies in playing rugby.



*Reading in the library*



*Making Christmas decorations*



*Warm up exercises*



*Computer lessons*

## St Michael's Secondary

The Form Ones started reporting form Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January with an enrolment of 47. As the month progresses this will increase.

The overall enrolments so far are listed but these numbers will increase as the term progresses:

Class	Stream	Female	Male	Total
Form 1		26	21	47
Form 2	North	13	25	38
	South	16	26	42
Form 3	North	18	24	42
	South	19	26	45
	East	21	25	46
Form 4	North	15	36	51
	South	21	30	51
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>149</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>362</b>

The Heads of various departments in the school were appointed and now the school is set for the term. They are:

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Senior Teacher and Head of Guidance and Counselling: | Josepinine Gathungu |
| 2. Dean of Studies and Technical:                       | David Gachagua      |
| 3. Head of Humanities:                                  | Kidavi Wilberforce  |
| 4. Languages:   | Francis Namusonge   |
| 5. Sciences:  | Ezna Kemunto        |
| 6. Games and Sports:                                    | Kevin Mwanza        |
|   | Raphael Kituyi      |
|   | David Gachagua      |
|   | Rose Nyangweso      |
| 7. Mentorship Program:                                  |                     |
| 8. Clubs and Societies:                                 |                     |
| Young Christian Students (YCS)                          | Rose Nyangweso      |
| CU Christian Union (CU)                                 | Shauline Muraya     |
| Journalism  | Danford Maindi      |
| Drama and Music   | Francis Namusonge   |
|   | Wilberforce Kidavi  |
| Maths Club  | Edwin Tanui         |
| Science   | Ezna Kemunto        |
|   | Caleb Kwendo        |
| Scouting  | Joseph Ojiambo      |
| Environment Club  | Peter Ondiek        |

Like all schools we have the different committees that assist the principal to conduct the business of the school so that all students have the best possible opportunity to achieve and

succeed. Our class attendance this year is much higher than 2019 and we trust that 2020 will be a good year for St Michael's.

The parent / teachers meeting was conducted and the plan for the year was delivered to the parents by our new principal, Mr Jasper Obiri. The Form 4 parents have a special focus as it will be the last year for their son / daughter. We want to do our best for them. There are many administrative duties to do to get the Form 4's registered so they can sit the KCSE exams at the end of the year.

We were grateful to the generosity of a donor who has provided some textbooks for Form One, Two and Three. The new publications of the textbooks place an enormous challenge for us as the majority of the students can't afford to buy the books. The latest editions of the different subjects are now being used by the students.

We have noted with a lot of concern that most students can't communicate properly with the official language that is both in Kiswahili and English. We have embarked on programs to help them improve on their spoken and written English and Kiswahili languages.

Until the next edition. Thank you for your support and making so many opportunities possible for the marginalised and underprivileged.

Mukuru Promotion Centre

Empowerment Step by Step

*Sponsored by Sisters of Mercy*

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