

MPC



Monthly Newsletter

October 2019

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 10

Mukuru Promotion Centre **NEWSLETTER**

Empowerment Step by Step

INSIDE:

Education	3
Social and Health Services	5
Clinic	9
Songa Mbele na Masomo	11
Rehab	14
Vocational Training	19
Happenings	21

From the Director

Dear Friends

October began with the welcome visit of Ines and Juan of Manos Unidas. They visited Likoni Road Head Office site and saw the integration of students with special needs into the vocational skills centre. The integration has done wonders for the students but we do not have enough space, skills or physical therapy assistance for some of them. Goril had previously visited Songa Mbele and was very interested in the development of the children and the Centre. The integration of the past pupils of Songa with the past pupils of primary and secondary was so beneficial for many of the special needs youth that we would like to improve the vocational training for them together with that of the other youth. Once some of the special needs children grow to be teenagers some of them are very strong, may be rough and a danger to very delicate younger children. It is very good to have them together with other youth who can manage them when they get upset or annoyed. They are delighted to be identified with a vocational training centre for youth of every type of ability.

We welcomed Angela and Stewart Sims who assisted in various ways over a few days. Their daughter, a BA crew member, had informed them of the work going on and they decided to visit and help. Gideon Kungu of Safaricom Foundation, a Charity founded by our biggest local mobile service provider, visited us with a view to assisting one or other of our programmes. We look forward to partnering with Safaricom Foundation. Cheshire Foundation, our partner in empowering the children living with disabilities, also visited us during the month. Our partnership has enhanced greatly the education and training of children from Mukuru slums. Maria Douglas, from Sisters of Mercy Mission Office, spent time with us and assisted the staff with her expertise on proposal writing for Misesan Cara. Misesan Cara also held a meeting in Nairobi to explain their vision for development for the next few years. Austrian journalists, accompanied by Maria and Christian of DKA, interviewed a number of people in order to publicize the impact of DKA Austria, who have supported MPC in various ways since the nineties.

The population of Mukuru slums has a great challenge in obtaining documentation. Without documentation such as identity card, birth certificate, exam certificates, one is not recognised as a Kenyan and cannot claim rights of a citizen. The Government demands that all school going children have their birth certificate so that they can be registered in a Government data

base called NEMIS (National Education Management Information System). Schools do not want to admit them without certification as funding for public schools is based on the number of children registered and only those with documents are registered. In some of our schools only one third are registered. The challenges are many, such as the parent does not have an identity card, or the registration officers charge bribes, or ask them to return day after day and make them queue for hours each day until they pay the bribe. Even after paying a bribe of 1,000khs (\$10US) the birth certificate they get, is not genuine and the system will not accept it.

Maria O hAodha, a very efficient volunteer community nurse from Ireland, spent three weeks in our Clinic. We appreciate her service very much and her expertise which was shared with our staff. We had 653 children who sat for their Primary Certificate Examination. Their families are trying to get secondary places for them in spite of the fact that many cannot pay for the admission fees, uniforms or textbooks. The Kenya Government has announced that all children can transit to secondary, but in our area there is only one day secondary school which can only admit 150, Form 1 students. There is no public day secondary school in the locality.

We had a very moving reunion in Fairview Hotel of former students of Mukuru Schools and Starehe Boys Centre, who have been sponsored, in memory of their son, Kerrigan, by the Savage Family. I was thrilled to meet former destitute students now working as professionals. Congratulations to Malcolm, Margaret and Jon for your wonderful work in opening opportunities for poor youth.

I close with a quotation from Saint John Henry Newman, when he set out on a serious journey to find the Will of God and to follow it in his life. Thanking you all for finding God in empowering the poor through education and training.

*"I sought to hear the voice of God
and climbed the topmost steeple
but God declared "Go down again
I dwell among the people."*



Mt. Kilimanjaro, Amboseli National Park.

Thank you, all of you, for your prayers, support and good wishes,

Sr Mary Killeen

Education

The month of October is characterized by preparation for KCPE national examination. The school community from pre-primary to Class 7 closed school for the Christmas holidays on 24th October. This is a long break for the children and parents. For over a third of our children it's a time when the tummy will cry out for food. This group comes to school for that all important meal. The social workers have identified the destitute families who will receive some food parcels during the long holiday break.

1. KCPE Examination 2019

The following KCPE pupils this year:

Item	School	Boys	Girls	Total
1.	St. Catherine's	59	76	133
2.	St. Bakhita	44	67	111
3.	St. Elizabeth	100	113	213
4.	Mukuru Kayaba	93	104	197
Total Sitting for KCPE		296	360	654

The rehearsals for exams were done on 28th October. The rehearsals means that the exam rooms are set out to the Ministry's specifications on the number and spacing of desks. All desks have the pupils identification number and slip on the corner of the desks. The exams were done for three days from 29th to 31st October, 2019 and everything went on well. The KCPE results should be released before the end of November. There are over one million pupils sitting the national exams. Only 45 percentage will complete secondary school. The pressure is on for pupils to reach at least 350 marks to be called to national secondary schools.



KCPE rehearsal Session at St. Bakhita

Each school must send a vehicle to collect the exam papers from the Sub-County Ministry office and return them at the end of each day's examinations. For some places this means a very early rise to collect them and have the papers ready for an 8.00am start. MPC provided all the four primary schools with ksh. 5,000/= (\$50US) each for transport.

There is dire need to change the reading culture and to encourage the speaking of English language in MPC primary schools. All the primary schools have libraries but currently they are not fully utilized. Head teachers have been requested to put them to good use. St. Catherine's Primary through the effort of the new Deputy, has implemented the speaking of English language in the school from Mondays to Thursdays and Fridays for Kiswahili Sanifu.

There is a volunteer group who would like to help in promoting the reading culture in the schools. The objectives of the group are:

- To enrich vocabulary through readers.
- Enhance child oratory and comprehension capability.
- Improve reading speed as stipulated in the new syllabus.

The leader of the volunteer group is a member of the BOM at St Bakhita Primary School and has worked with vulnerable children in areas experiencing conflicts. She has lived in Mukuru informal settlement and understands the limitations that interfere with formal communication in English language by children. The second volunteer is an early childhood teacher and the third and fourth is speech pathologist and speech therapist respectively. Part of the team met on 20th October and the agreement was that the reading culture project be rolled out in January, 2020 with St. Bakhita as a pilot school before moving to the other schools.

The schools have received insufficient allocations on maintenance from the Government. St. Elizabeth and St Bakhita reported cracks in their walls. The cracks at St. Bakhita are due to the new building settling. St. Elizabeth already reported to the Ministry and they have done inspection of the building but after the inspection no other action has been taken by the Ministry.

The Sponsorship Interviews for Class 8 pupils from MPC primary schools went on well; however, the attendance of St. Bakhita pupils was low with only 50% of the proposed 20 needy pupils attending the interview. It was noted that the very needy pupils have a problem on performance and may not reach the threshold of 250 marks. We hope to assist them with vocational training.

St Elizabeth Primary School was visited by Education Directors from Teachers Service Commission and Education Officers from the Sub-County office. The team observed the school population and teacher / pupils ratio. A second Deputy Head teacher has been posted to the school with a promise of posting more teachers to the school. The school currently has a shortfall of 10 teachers.

Social and Health Services

October Activities

Case Type (Activity)	Number of Clients
Home Visits	89
Abuse Cases	8
Amaranth Client (Nutritional Supplements HIV/AIDS)	72
Nutritional Support	58
Malnourished Babies	15
Indiscipline Cases	8
Truancy	4
Absenteeism	97
Moral Formation Talks	726
Counselling	81
Sponsorship Profiling	46
Sponsorship Letters	314
Fire Outbreaks (Families)	2
Class Assessments	141
Medical Cases	83
Needy Family Assistance	29
Teenage Pregnancy	2
School Visits	12
Deworming	144
Admissions	8
Total Clients Served	1,939

The October activities were many and plentiful. October is a pivotal month for the social workers to do the necessary follow ups, especially those in the primary schools as its their last chance before the next academic year commences in January 2020.

There were 83 cases referred to Mary Immaculate Clinic for treatment and they are all doing well. Many of them are heartbreaking. There is a young boy who is HIV/AIDS and has throat cancer and has just completed his 6th course of chemotherapy. Ten year old Gideon has a problem with his eyesight which is causing him learning difficulties. He lives in a one room shelter with his mother and 3 siblings. He was referred to the Lions Institute for further treatment.



Another child, six year old Francis, who lives in the streets with his father. The father has a septic wound in his leg. He comes to Clinic to have it constantly dressed. With his leg problem he can't get any meaningful employment and so the family go hungry. Francis was referred to the St Catherine's social office for clothes, bedding and enrolment for 2020. The father and son also received food parcels from MPC.

One of the boys at the Rehabilitation Centre requires a reconstruction of his jaw bone. It was discovered that there were issues talking and eating. It is a major operation and the doctor has agreed to waive 40% of his fees. Denis is set to have the operation after the exams.

Lorna is 15 years of age and suffers from Sickle Cell and was diagnosed when she was 2 years of age. Her condition worsened and has been admitted 13 times to the hospital. There is very little improvement.

We have a 2 year old girl with albinism and has been disowned by the father. The mother, unemployed, does the odd casual job like washing clothes. The cost of caring for the child with the skin condition and her eyes as well is beyond the mother's yearly income never-mind what she will earn in a month. We were able to take her to an optometrist to have the eyesight corrected and she now attends Songa Mbele. The Centre is providing good support to the mother.

There are always complexities to serving the needs of the marginalised. The social workers are kept fully occupied with follow up the cases each month. For some of the cases, MPC can assist fairly quickly, but for others it gets more variegated. For the abuse cases there is a constant protracted process with the government offices which causes many children not to report incidents.

There was the steady occurrence of meetings throughout the month. Cheshire Disability were keen to learn more about the fire outbreaks in Mukuru slums; ADDA (Agency for Disability Development in Africa) are interested in partnering with MPC. A few staff members attended further training on Child Protection and we also met with the local authorities about security at Fuata Nyayo, Kisii Village and Masai Village.

One activity that was number one for the children was the Christmas Party at St Catherine's. Sr Barbara organised an event for the children who ate their way through a special meal that differed from the ordinary meals. The children enjoyed some juice and each of them received a gift from the many donations received throughout the year. The food was sponsored by our Austrian volunteer, Katharina who earlier did placement at the social office



Social Worker addresses the Pupils



Lollies for the Mukuru pupils



Donations for St Elizabeth pupils



After the fires

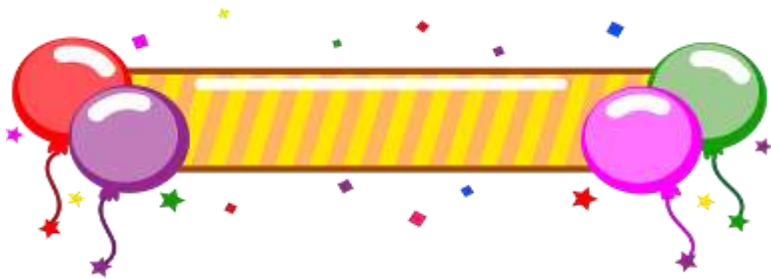


A "Social Innovation Lab Challenge" workshop



Disabilities Awareness Training for Parents

partners: MPC, CDSK, Tuleane Africa initiative and ADDA for youths with intellectual disability.



Party Time!!!!



Over 1,000 pupils received a gift which was individually wrapped by the staff members at St Catherine's Social Office. Well done!



St Catherine's pupils celebrating early Christmas



It was a

noisy,

messy and

wonderful morning,

full of cheer and great joy!



MPC Clinic

The Clinic continued to treat many patients each week. October saw an increase of 110 patients compared to September. There were 3 new registered TB patients. Two previous TB patients completed their course of medication and were given the 'all clear' from the doctors. The nurses and clinicians continued with the deworming program at St Catherine's Primary school. Given the contagious environment we try and supply the children with the tablets at least once every three months. Another 144 pupils received the treatment.

We were delighted not to have any Malaria cases during the month even though 71 tests were carried out. The laboratory was very busy with over 630 tests conducted. The most common were Urinalysis at 155 tests and Stool analysis at 149 tests. Not far behind these numbers were the Antenatal profiles at 120 tests and Full haemogram at 115 tests.

Patients Treated in October

Category	Gender	Under 5	6-13yrs	Above 13	Total
New Cases	Male	86	40	165	291
	Female	71	26	218	315
Revisits	Male	119	31	197	347
	Female	123	26	284	433
Total September		399	123	864	1,386

Most Common Treated Diseases in October

Disease	No. of Patients
Acute Upper Respiratory Tract Infection	258
Respiratory Tract Infection	104
Urinary Tract Infection	240
Gastroenteritis	302
Skin Infection	73
Abdominal pregnancy	32
Hypertension / Diabetes	60
Fever	48
Gastritis / PUD	54
Injuries / Wounds	33
Other Diseases	337
Total	1,541

The diagnoses continued its similar pattern. At times patients come in for more than one ailment, hence the difference in the totals. The bulk of the ailments were the lungs and stomach. We are trying to develop awareness about the impact the environmental factors have

but unfortunately, there isn't much MPC can do to change the living conditions. The big changes must be facilitated by the Government.



We were fortunate to have Maria O'hAodha from Ireland at the Clinic volunteering for 3 weeks. Maria helped with some staff training on procedures for emergency care and infection control, assisted with the deworming and vitamins programs and participated in the home based health care outreach clinic.

Clinic staff carried out the deworming program at St Catherine's



Maria with a patient in need of her support.

The Clinic received two supervisions from the Sub-County Health Officer. One was for the overall Clinic management and the second one was for the Tuberculosis program. We are happy to report that all is well from the Ministry perspective. The Officials would like us to have a separate TB lab space, which we do have, but do not have the funds to employ a separate laboratory technician to carry out the testing. The laboratory that we do have would need a 'hood' which is very expensive and well beyond budget. There is a testing centre about 2 kilometres away at the Remand Centre which has a medical facility. We are able to refer suspected TB cases to them.



We received a computer donation from Cecilia Mutava, CEO Cheshire Disabilities (CDSK) to help with the reporting.

Cecilia presents Sr Mary and Irene with the new laptop.

Songa Mbele Na Masomo.

Both the Special Unit and Coaching Unit had a busy month with activities and visitors. The perimeter wall was completed, and we had our last Construction Committee meeting. We are thankful to ProVictimis for funding the wall and appreciative of our committee members who volunteered their time each fortnight to ensure that all bases were covered. A special thanks goes to Malinson Koech, the architect, who provided his services for free, and to Charles Kuria's building firm for producing the best looking wall in Nairobi.



Mission Accomplished



Construction Committee Members

The demand for the services at Songa Mbele continues to grow. There is a prospective donor who wishes to develop the site so that more children living with disabilities can be helped. We hope that the current number of 80 will become greater in 2020 as there has been an increase in enquiries for both units. Clearly, the word about Songa is spreading around the villages.

The children were thrilled to receive 2 Australians and 1 American professional performers. They introduced the children to classical music, snippets from well-known musicals such as Hansel and Gretta, along with some of their props.



Breanna, Kartini, Jennie perform for the Songa children.



Keeping up with hygiene, the children attended the ‘Global Handwashing Day’ held at RTI. This was a very interactive activity.

The university students from Mt Kenya and United States International University continued with their placements during the month providing assistance in both the Special Unit and Coaching Unit. The counselling sessions have greatly improved the parent-child relationship at the Centre as well as at home.

DKA Austria brought 5 journalists to the Centre so that they could show their readers in Austria where the DKA funds are going and why it is important to continue funding DKA Austria. They interviewed a parent, beneficiary and Special Needs teacher and the Program Coordinator.



The Austrian Journalists, Christian, with Lucia, Songa Program Coordinator and Maria.

A number of parents benefitted from the various trainings that took place in October. There was the Disability awareness training and the therapy sessions. There were a number of referrals from other Centres to Songa such is the developing reputation of our Centre. The children will be with us until a detailed assessment and therapy program has been carried out and if need be, referred to a more appropriate place for this disability.

The Centre attended to a total of 42 clients and 19 were from the Day Care unit, 12 from Special Coaching and 11 from outside the Centre. The therapists assessed them and advised the parents accordingly. The improvements have been noted from 90% of the clients. This is so encouraging and motivating! Home programs have been successfully executed and results are noticeable.



The Star Kids volunteers have been coming to the Centre for a couple of years. They provide mentorship sessions and games for the able bodied children.

Towards the end of the month Daniel and Lucia from eRko Slovakia came to do a monitoring and evaluation visit at the Centre. It was an emotional time as it was the first M&E meeting we had without Danica, who tragically died in the Ethiopian Airlines crash in March 2019. eRko Slovakia has been a constant support of Songa Mbele from 2011. We appreciate the many challenges that they would have faced during their visit to the many projects it sponsors in East Africa. We look forward to continuing our partnership with eRko.

MPC Rehabilitation Centre

Most of the planned activities have been completed even though we had some delays with the home visits due to unpredictable circumstances. Parents and guardians are a big support in the

rehabilitation of the boys. Our office planned a parents' meeting with the boys to enlighten them on the process of recovery that is completed when integration happens. Our staff members addressed several issues related to this entire process based on their areas of expertise. Some of the topics discussed included:

- addiction as a family disease,
- need for effective communication in the family,
- love and affection, individual responsibility in the family,
- need for spiritual growth and
- the reintegration plan.

From the feedback we received from both the parents and the boys, the topics covered were suitable and relevant to their reunion with the boys and larger society. From the questions they asked, it was clear that our interactions with them had triggered a desire to know and learn more from us.



The Home Visit process has been successfully completed as most boys have had a chance to visit their families once again. As usual, the main theme during such home visits is to discuss individual reintegration plans that each family should have for their sons who would soon be completing the rehabilitation program. Our main discussion was geared towards helping parents make good choices of the schools for their sons.

During such visits, we also take the opportunity to seek parental consent for boys' who would soon be undergoing the circumcision rite of passage. This rite comes soon after their baptisms. For those we receive the consent to go ahead, we embark on the necessary preparations as cultures vary on this matter.

A few hitches were noted during this exercise. For instance, one boy during the visit found out that his father had passed on but his family had not informed him about it. It was such a sad scene since the boy had been looking forward to reuniting with his father after rehabilitation. Additionally, it was noted that a majority of the families are very needy and a good number of them are not ready to take back their boys due to the expenses involved in placing them in schools.



Home visit



Paul at his Father's grave site

As one of our main pillars in the empowerment and development of the boys, we continue to emphasise education. We do our best to enable those who choose to continue with their studies to catch up with mainstream students. There have been great improvements in exam performance this term when compared to the last two terms.

Boys taking Grade III carpentry continue preparing themselves for the NITA exams that will start in early December.



It has been a rainy season and we thank God for that! The gardens are covered in lush green, the kales and spinach are blooming in green, our tomatoes are heavy with fruits. We have been able to feed all the boys with fresh vegetables from our garden and we anticipate continuing for a while. The boys have taken up this initiative and now have small gardens to which they give a lot of care and attention. This shows a great sense of responsibility from the boys, and we are happy and supportive.



Looking Good

We received a lot of donations from the locals. They came out in large numbers. This is making a big difference in our Centre. In any institution food usually takes a big chunk of the funding and it is amazing how the locals are chipping in and putting a lot of love into their giving.



Preparing Chapatis



Footwear



Heart to Heart youth group prepared lunch with the boys.



Mary, brought tea and bathing soap.



KAFOKA group engaging in different activities with the boys

A long-time supporter of the Scouts, Kerrigan Cup and Eco Trips Malcolm, Margaret and Jon Savage from Waves Trust spent time with the boys during the month. Their last visit was in 2017. Since then the new Hekima House had been built and they were delighted to see the developments at the Rehabilitation Centre. The boys presented some scout drills and a skit on their life on the streets and how they find their way to the Centre.



Waves Trust will sponsor a Graduation Trip for all the boys in December. There will also be some new uniforms for next year's group. We are very grateful for all the support we have had over the years from Malcolm, Margaret and John. We know that the boys really appreciate their commitment to the Centre. Scouts provides great structure for discipline, skills, pride and good sense of camaraderie.

DKA Austria has supported MPC for over 25 years. Two DKA officers, Christian and Maria, came to Nairobi with four Austrian journalists to write about where the Austrian funding goes to. The journalists interviewed a few boys and staff members for their respective newspapers. The boys presented some items for them.



Boys perform a skit for the Journalists.

There were many highlights during October, but probably the most joyful highlight was when the boys visited their families for a second time. The boys felt differently, the families perceived the boys differently and for many of them it was an early Christmas present. As the program draws to a close for 2019, we hope that the remaining months for the boys will be more focused with the brighter future which is very possible with so many people helping them to make it a reality.

Skills Vocational Training

The month of October started with registration of 56 students with NITA at Jamhuri Showgrounds. Ninety percent of students who registered were from the Catering unit and the remaining 10 percent from other units. NITA gives an opportunity every year to register during the Nairobi International Trade Fair. Most of those who register in October are students who do not manage to register in July due to fees or other technical issues.

Our students benefitted from some expertise from Angela and Stewart Sims. Stewart had just retired from the corporate world and Angela a Human Resources Consultant has a few more month to go. The Front Office students in particular gained further insight into what a prospective employer is looking for in today's market. Stewart provided classes in commerce and finances, all skills that are very much sought after.

Principals, Teachers and Heads of Departments queue to register their students as they watch a performance at Jamhuri show grounds



Our students received donations of clothes, shoes etc. from Sr. Mary and friends. The clothes were so many such that all students got at least two or more clothes. Some clothes were so big and could not fit; we send the oversize ones to the social office. We thank all our donors for supporting/and clothing our students.



Skills students pick out donated clothes

Last month we reported the support of the British American Tobacco Co. This month M Kibet, the Sustainability Manager, returned to finalise on the tree planting exercise around the river. They have promised to donate 1000 bamboo trees and the labour. We are grateful to B.A.T for taking the initiative to rehabilitate that particular area: the bamboo trees will eventually reduce soil erosion in the area.

Our students are on their last stretch in their course work and so they are doing more revision on past papers especially the Front Office students who will be sitting for their KNEC exam this month. The Front Office timetable is out and they will be required to travel to St Joseph Vocational Training Centre on November 11th for rehearsal.

The students in the other courses carried out the various practicals.



Art and Craft students



Waiting at table



Chefs



Inua Graduation

The Inua Graduation was sponsored by the Kenya Wine Agency Ltd at the Kenya Utalii College. Our catering students covered 80 hours of training in food and beverage service both theory and practicals, bar techniques and an exam at Kenya Utalii College.



Kenya Wine Agency Limited is celebrating 50 years of operation and they decided to lend a helping hand. The ceremony was colourful, well organized and meaningful. The students received Kenya Utalii College certificates and the best two students were awarded special prizes. Melisa scored the highest marks was given a potato chipper machine and a deep fryer. She also gave a very moving vote of thanks after the ceremony. Naomi, the second best student secured an internship at Kenya Utalii College for three months. We thank all those who journeyed together with our students especially Sr Mary Killeen, Evalyne Kithaka their teacher, Sharon from KWAL and Kenya Utalii lecturers.



Inua Graduation at Kenya Utalii College

Happenings

...

There were other happenings around MPC during the month. Ines and Juan from Manos Unidas visited us briefly to look at extending the catering building.

A cultural delight was experienced by the St Elizabeth's Choir, students from St Michael's, St Bakhita, Rehabilitation Centre and Songa Mbele children as opera singer Breanna Stilman, and musicians Kartini Suharto-Martin and actress Jennie d'Legary gave us plenty of their time to perform and teach the students about drama, musicals and classical music.

The three were visiting family in Kenya and wanted to spend some time giving an opportunity to children from the slums to enjoy a cultural feast. Some of the items were from Hansel and Gretel, and Madam Butterfly. The guests were impressed when our students performed for them with singing and dancing.



St Elizabeth Choir were mesmerized



The students getting into the ACT.



The two Australians and American had just completed shows in London. The students were absolutely thrilled with their visit. We really need to do something more about the Arts at MPC!

Breanna, Sr Kathy, Kartini and Jennie

MPC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CitiesRise, whose services involve mental illness. They will be helping our Social and Health Services section to provide greater services to the community.

Coming to a close in the academic year means preparing for the sponsorship interviews. We have 653 Standard 8 pupils sitting for the national exams. Out of the 653 pupils about 50 will score highly, over 350 in the exams and try for sponsorship to national schools which is paid for by the Government. Others will try for corporate sponsorship to boarding secondary schools. Another 250 pupils will not make any type of sponsorship due to low marks. We hope to have 150 positions for the students to attend St Michael's. The series of interviews and assessments is a long process. After interviewing pupils from the 4 primary schools, we will be in a better position to offer places.

Maria Douglas, the Sisters of Mercy Ireland Congregation, Mission and Development Officer, came to Kenya to look at the ministries and spend a few days with our Heads of Departments. There have been changes to the Misesan Cara, Irish Government Aid funding. We hope that with the changes we will be successful in our funding applications next year.

DKA Austria has supported MPC for many years. They provide funding for salaries, activities and resources. They are a great partner. The major activity for DKA is the carol singing program in Austria. Each year hundreds of people go door to door singing Christmas carols around the country. The money raised from this project goes to fund the many partners they have around the world. They brought four journalists to Nairobi to write about the projects that are funded by DKA. In the lead up to the Christmas carol singing there will be various articles appearing in the Austrian media, giving accounts of the people whose lives have been impacted by their support.



At an Australian barbeque, the Austrians sang a few carols for us. We were no match for them.

When in Nairobi many visitors want to see some of the Big 5. On a visit to the National Park with the Journalists we got more than we bargained for...stuck in the mud, not once, not twice but three times. Eventually after pushing and shoving and having someone on the look out for dangerous wild animals...we got moving!



Who's watching the animals?



On the way to the airport, one last chant of "keep going!".

While the St Michael's students were counting the days to the end of term, especially the Form 4s, much of the term was spent on revision for the exams. There were lighter moments for them as they participated in the musical session with Breanna, Kartini and Jennie. Some of the students participated in the tree planting exercises along with the RTI.

Traditionally, at the end of the year the Form 4s have a Mass and blessing in preparation for the KCSE exams. Fr Simon, from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish, gave the students a very inspiring homily and blessing.



We pray for all 108 Form 4 students as they prepare for the national examinations and wish them very success.

Mukuru Promotion Centre

Empowerment Step by Step

Sponsored by Sisters of Mercy

www.mercymukuru.co.ke

Email: info@mercymukuru.co.ke

Thank you for your support to improve the quality of life for thousands of children, youth and seniors each day.