



Mukuru Promotion Centre
Empowerment Step By Step
Sponsored by Sisters of Mercy
www.mercymukuru.co.ke

Newsletter

May 2021
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The New Facility at Songa Mbele na Masomo nearing completion.

Dear Partners, Supporters and Friends,

May was a month of heavy rain at times, with resulting floods. Our neighbouring secondary school in Mukuru slums, St Mary's Viwandani, closed down due to recurrent floods. The students transferred to other schools. In slums, if anywhere is left vacant for long, it will be vandalized and eventually be taken over by slum dwellers. We hope the Incarnate Word Sisters will use the site for services for the poor, before it is taken over by others for their personal gain.



A number of houses near the river were carried away by the floods. The residents and some of our students suffered great losses. Losses from fire and floods are the great risk of living in slums. We dread what will happen to the three and four storey buildings which are built near the river with very flimsy foundations. In previous years they have collapsed killing dozens.

Strathmore University has organised a mentorship program, called Macheo, for the top students in secondary schools in various informal settlements. The mentorship program has been immensely helpful to our top eight students and enabled them to perform well in their final secondary examination. We appreciate the support provided.

We were incredibly sad to see our catering graduates lose jobs due to the closure of hotels and restaurants during CoVid19 pandemic. We were astonished and delighted to see the resilience of some of them, as they cooked for delivery services and others cook meals for sale to those passing by in Mukuru. As the restaurants reopen, some of them are recalled to work.

For the past few years, we have been integrating youth with disabilities in our vocational training centre. We long for the Therapy classroom block to be finished so that they can have the space and help they require as they often cannot keep up with the other students and do need courses more tailored to their capacity.

We have suffered at our Head Office, Rehabilitation Centre and Clinic sites from abnormal power surges. Concern had been raised when the instability in provision of service was noticed and before the surges became so destructive. Although the Kenya Power and Lighting (KPLC) staff visited and noted the issues they did not prevent the surges and the destruction of some of our property. We were extremely fortunate that the buildings did not burn and that no one was hurt. There are many fires within slums caused by power surges as well as illegal tapping.

We thank you for your continuous support and remember you in prayer.

Sr Mary Killeen
Director

Education

The challenges continue with the adjusted school calendar. The long holiday break for schools, normally being October – December, commenced on 20th March 2021 until 9th May 2021. The third term will be 10th May 2021 – 16th July 2021. Various activities have taken place during May, notably the Grade 4 students will not resume school with the other students until first term of the next academic set to begin on 26th July 2021. Learners who are to report to their schools are those in Preprimary One and Preprimary Two, Grades 1 – 3 and Classes 5 – 7. The changes will take two years to recover from the CoVid19 pandemic with the school calendar returning to normal by 2024. Three more years to go!

The transition from one educational system to the other continues in Kenya. During May the opening term exams took place for the Classes 5, 6 and 7 (old system). The purpose of these exams is to assess the achieved learning outcomes, ensure that the learning needs are met and investigate the effects of the examination-oriented approaches on learning achievement.

The Grade 3 pupils sat for their Kenya Early Years Assessments (KEYA) (new system). The assessments provide feedback to the Ministry of Education on the learning outcomes. The two aspects are numeracy and literacy activities that do not include multiple choice questions. The assessments are not graded; thus, they do not affect the progression of pupils to the next level.

MPC has been committed to providing good health strategies to the pupils in the primary schools for a number of years. Through the MPC Clinic the pupils aged five and below can participate in the “deworming” program. Apart from improving the health of the children, it helps to reduce the transmission of infection in the community. The Community Health Volunteers conducted visits to St Elizabeth Primary School during May.

Children in Mukuru slums face various difficulties in learning such as poverty, family factors and lack of parent involvement to name a few. The parent / teacher meetings are critical for the teachers to plan, prepare and deliver a better learning environment for the children. The meetings provide teachers the opportunity to share their observations and experiences with the parents. The 4 Primary Schools held meetings in May. Officials from the Ministry of Education’s Quality Assurance Department from the Makadara Office visited St. Elizabeth Primary School to conduct a baseline survey FGDs- NACONEK (National Council for Nomadic Education in Kenya) for purposes of addressing the education needs of the school. We hope to receive some feedback to assist in the learning processes.

Unfortunately, during the month we experienced heavy rains which impacted on families in the Mukuru catchment area. The social workers were able to identify families whose children lost uniforms and shoes.

The extracurricular activities are a vital element in any child's development. There were a few major activities during the month.



St. Bakhita Primary School held a graduation ceremony for their Scouts.

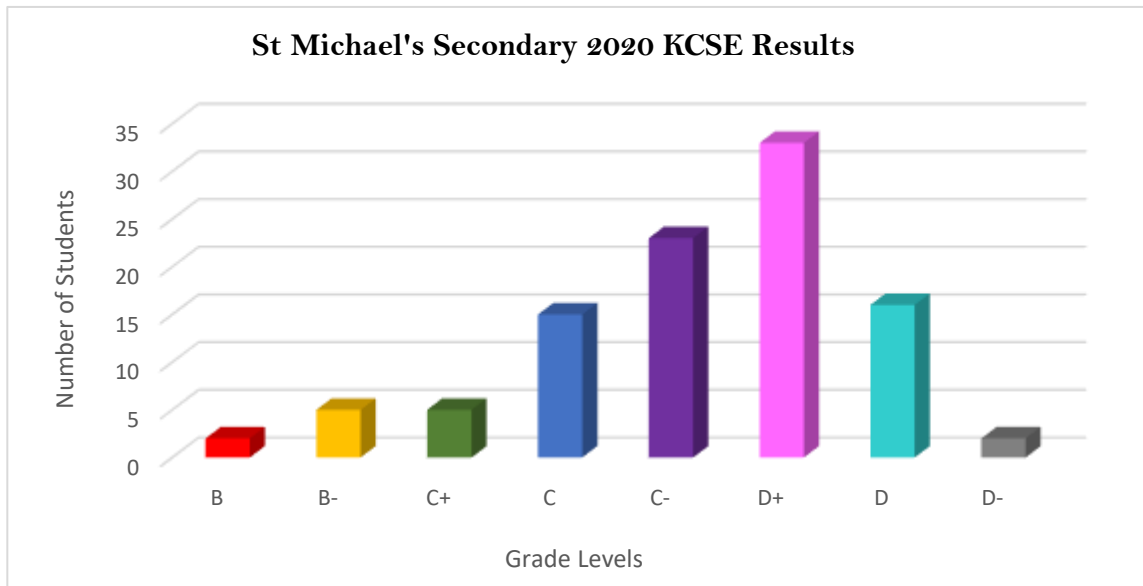


St Elizabeth Primary School held a tree planting event with the plants donated by Sisters of Mercy and the National Government of Kenya. The students were assisted by Kazi Kwa Vijana and the school's grounds men.

St Michael's Secondary School

After the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examination the secondary students began their long break from one academic year to the other. Due to CoVid19, the Ministry of Education developed a new schedule to address the time lost in 2020. The school calendar will return to pre-CoVid19 normal in 2024.

The 2020 KCSE results were released in May. There were 101 candidates who sat the national examination. Twelve students will be eligible for Government sponsored tertiary level course while a further 89 will be able to attend a vocational training course if they can secure sponsorship. Whilst we did not have any A students we are happy that we did not had any E students.



The School Mean improved marginally from the 2019 rank of 4.28 to 4.77 in 2020. St Michael's average in 2016 was 7.28 and the school needs to keep working towards that level again.

The Sisters of the Incarnate Word took over the management of St Mary's Viwandani in 2017 which provided 400+ students the opportunity to continue their secondary education. St Mary's was supported by Mukuru Promotion Centre for a number of years prior to 2017. Sadly, the Sisters closed the school due to flooding in May 2021 and the parents were given the chance to transfer their children to St. Michael's and three other surrounding schools. There were 20 available places at St Michael's and hope that the parents can find a school for their children to attend.

The Form 4 Macheo students completed their KCSE examinations in April and the results were released in May. The Macheo Program is sponsored by Strathmore University. After sitting exams for selection, the top ten students from Form 2 are mentored until they complete the KCSE exams. The commitment requires the students to attend a number of Saturdays throughout the years over the 3-year period to improve their potential and opportunity to gain entrance into a university. St Michael's and Strathmore have collaborated to provide this opportunity for the students since 2016. We congratulate the students on their commitment and dedication over the last 3 years.



Macheo Students 2020 KCSE Results

NAMES	Mean Grade	AGP	101 ENG	102 KISW	121 Math	231 Bio	232 Phys	233 Chem	311 His	312 Geo	313 CRE	443 Agr	565 Bus
Amou Athian	C+	50	B+	B-	D-	B-		D	B		B+		C+
Andrew Nemuel	C+	51	B-	B	B-	D+		D+	B+		B-		D
Anne Betty Mathuva	C	45	B	B-	D	C		D	B-		B		B-
Ashapenaz Oseko	B-	53	B	B-	C	C-		C-		B+	B+	B+	
Ian Wasike	C+	50	B	B-	C-		C	D		B+	B		B-
Peris Njeri	B-	57	B-	C+	B	C		C-		B+	B+	A	
Sophia Adhiambo	B-	59	B-	B	C+		C	B-		B	B-	A	
Stephene Mwendwa	C	41	C+	C-	D	C+		D	B		C+		C

The students were invited back to St Michael's to talk to the current students about life after school where they could engage themselves in knowing different skills, keeping themselves busy through exploring their talents and how to make good decisions while on campus.

Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre

The tertiary institutions reopened in May after the number of CoVid19 cases dropped. The two main areas of concentration for the Vocational Training Centre in May were: NITA examinations and admission of new students.

Exams in Kenya and the world over are a sure way of measuring success. When exams are rescheduled once or twice, it brings a lot of anxiety for the students. After twice scheduling the NITA exams, the examination body finally communicated a start date for the 2020 December series exams. The Catering, Hairdressing & Beauty and Dressmaking & Tailoring sat for their examinations in May. The candidates decreased from 114 in 2019 to 38 in 2020. The decrease was brought about by a large number of dropouts in 2020 as schools remained closed for almost one year. The Plumbing, Painter Decorator and Front Office students will do their exams in July (Front Office) and September 2021.

After analyzing the Catering questions, some weaknesses were noted. Each student was required to prepare a tea item for six guests and a main meal. Although there was a lot of improvement compared to last year, the tea item is done at diploma level. Students were tested for an item (tea item) outside the Grade III syllabus. Our Centre had taught the students how to make different tea items and so they did not any have problems even though the time allocation to prepare tea and lunch was very short. We have pointed out these anomalies to NITA and the examiners have given the necessary advice to NITA.



NITA (National Industrial Training Authority) examinations in progress

The Centre is admitting new students and the numbers are increasing particularly in the Catering, Computer Packages and Hairdressing courses. During May, we have admitted 162 students and hope to reach our target of 400 students.

Department	Male	Female	Total No. of Students Enrolled
Hairdressing & Beauty	0	26	26
Computer Packages	48	32	80
Food & Beverage (Catering)	4	10	14
Plumbing & Masonry	12	1	13
Dee Jaying	8	1	9
Dressmaking and Tailoring	1	6	7
Art and Craft	6	1	7
Front Office Management	1	5	6
Total	80	82	162



New enrolments for Hairdressing and Catering courses

The Arts and Craft course did not register any candidates for NITA exams in 2020. Ten students failed to resume classes after schools were re-opened in 2020. Fortunately, four Special Needs students returned and received extra preparation before their NITA exams. By the end of May the students had completed three topics: Elements and Principles of Art, Drawing and Painting. The students continued to show active participation. Each student was able to paint, draw, observe and show all elements and principles in their drawings.



Ian Waswa (Art instructor) teaches the Special Needs Students



Delighted with their achievements.

Vocational Training Therapy Block

Affectionately known as the Therapy Block, the “*Vocational Skills Education and Therapy Centre for Youths living with Disabilities*” has marked its 38th week in construction. There was a delicate balancing act to re-negotiate contracts since the original company closed its doors as a result of the CoVid19 pandemic. This automatically extended the number of weeks required to complete the building as phases of the construction needed to be approved by the various consultants. The major activities that proceeded during the month included the internal and external plastering, first floor ring beam, removal of formworks and ramp preparations.



External wall finishing



Internal wall plastering



The first floor ring beam concreting





First Floor Ring Beam



Removal of formworks to allow for curing.



External column plastering / finishing



External plinths – (back / courtyardside)



Key pointing on external walls.



Trusses sample preparation





Ramp area excavation in progress



Side view of the new building

Social Services

The Services and interventions increased during the month mainly due to the return of students from school holidays from 966 clients in April to over 2,000 in May. It demonstrates the enormous needs in Mukuru and when the students return we get a greater insight into just how difficult life is for people living in the slums. The education institutions provides a pathway to connect with the ordinary people living in our catchment area. We have always known the value and importance of social outreach and with a pandemic it has only confirmed our knowledge and commitment.

No.	Case type / Activities	Education						Health	Welfare		Total
		St Bakhita	Sancta Maria Kayaaba	St Elizabeth	St Catherine	St Michael's Secondary	Vocational Training Centre SKILLS	MPC Clinic	Songa Mbele na Masomo	MPC Rehabilitation Centre	
1	Abuse Cases	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
2	Amaranth Clients	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	100
3	Behavior and Discipline Cases	0	2	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	13
4	Counseling and Guidance sessions	1	4	1	4	3	9	0	0	4	26
5	CoVid19 Hygiene Material Resources	1	0	0	42	0	0	0	0	0	43
6	Donation Issued	4	33	0	0	3	0	0	7	0	47
7	Donation Received	0	2	1	6	0	0	0	7	12	28
8	Fire and Floods Disaster assistance	63	211	15	6	7	0	0	6	0	308
9	Food Distribution	0	7	0	112	0	0	0	7	0	126
10	Home Visits	3	14	8	1	2	1	2	4	2	37
11	Hospital Visits	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	5
12	Malnourished Babies	0	0	3	41	0	0	0	0	0	44
13	Medical Cases	4	18	4	17	7	4	0	4	7	65
14	Meetings and Trainings	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	7	1	16
15	Mentorship Sessions	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
16	Mobilization of Resources	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
17	Needy Families Support (Community)	0	3	4	2	1	1	0	0	0	11
18	Needy Students	0	4	6	2	32	0	0	0	0	44
19	Networking	1	4	6	11	1	0	1	5	2	31
20	New Admissions to MPC Institutions	0	1	12	0	35	0	0	0	0	48
21	New Teenage Pregnancies cases	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
22	Nutritional Support	1	7	1	76	1	0	0	0	0	86
23	Pregnancy Support Packages	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
24	Provision of Sanitary Towels	2	0	365	7	0	0	0	2	0	376
25	Referrals	2	8	3	18	1	0	0	4	0	36
26	Safeguarding Follow Ups	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
27	School Absenteeism/Tuancy	29	58	12	119	11	4	0	0	0	233
28	Schools Profiles	14	24	7	71	37	13	0	0	0	166
29	School Visits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Songa Mbele Therapy Sessions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	40
31	Sponsorship Follow-ups	0	0	7	9	0	6	0	34	11	67
32	Uniform Aid	0	9	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	13
	Totals	139	420	473	646	143	38	8	127	40	2,034

The floods affected hundreds of families during the month who were supported with some clothing, shoes, bedding and provisions. These families live close to the riverbank and when the river floods their houses and belongings are swept away. It becomes quite dangerous as the river carries many sharp objects from the mabati (iron sheets) shanties.



Flood victims receive essential items



Houses were swept away and hundreds left homeless

A home visit after the flood

The number of home visits and hospital visits had significantly increased. One young child, Steven Ndengu, had a CT scan to determine the cause of his swollen head. It was recommend that Steven, due to gross dilatation on the left ventricle, would need surgery for a shunt.



Steven Ndengu

St. Catherine's Social Office has had the malnourished babies' program for many years. In May, there were 44 babies provided with amaranth flour supplement parcels to boost their immune system. Out of the 44 babies, 13 are HIV positive, 4 have sickle cell, 4 have disabilities.

The absenteeism and truancy also increased significantly in May. Some of the absenteeism is a direct result of the topsy turvy academic year. Some students have not reported back from January as they relocated upcountry due to CoVid19 and trying to provide for their families while others have been impacted due to the floods. At St Bakhita there were 29 cases, Sancta Maria have 58 cases, St Catherine's had 119 cases and St Michael's had 6 cases. The social workers have been following up on the cases so that the children are not disadvantaged missing out on classes.

Over 160 profile cases were conducted to assist with sponsorships. The bulk of the cases were assessing the candidates for secondary school.

The 'Youth with Special Needs Mushroom Project' harvested 130 Punnets. They were delighted with their work and happy to sell their produce.



*A home visit to one of our parents from St Elizabeth Primary School
Who gave birth to triplets.*



*St Elizabeth Primary
pupil enjoying his lunch.*



*St Elizabeth Primary School girls receive sanitary towels
to help boost school attendance.*

The Child Protection and Safeguarding Office pursued a variety of cases and provided counselling at the schools. The training opportunities continued for staff. Four staff attended the Case Management in Child Care Institutions sponsored by (The Association of Sisterhoods Kenya- Catholic care for children in Kenya). The function of the Child Protection Office was conveyed to a number of parent meetings at the primary schools and secondary school. The parents of class 5 and class 7 pupils and St Michael's Form 3 students. The purpose of the meetings was to introduce the functions of the office, create awareness on Child Protection, the different types of abuse and the significant role of the parent in safeguarding issues.



Parent Meeting



Christiano, Emmanuel and their dad receive assistance. A short time later the father passed on.



Emmanuel receives books and other items prior to returning to school.

Health Services

May has been a month of both new initiatives and challenges at the Clinic. The patient numbers have remained steady. Over 50 children from the different MPC schools were referred to the Clinic during the month.

Dr Monica, Slovakian volunteer doctor, has almost completed her research on treatment of UTI's (urinary tract infections) in the Mukuru catchment area. With the assistance of the new microbiology laboratory equipment, it has now become easier to identify resistance to certain antibiotics commonly used for UTI's. This new data will give the patients from Mukuru the most appropriate and up to date medical treatments available in a timely manner. The research will be presented to the Clinic staff. The Clinic staff continues to have training opportunities with the Ministry of Health and official visits from the Starehe Sub-County office as a basis of support.



Safaricom Foundation provided the Clinic with an ultrasound machine and fetal doppler which will assist the clinicians on the assessment of the pregnant mothers. Currently the Clinic has engaged an outside sonographer to put the ultrasound machine to optimal use.

Safaricom Foundation presented the Clinic with medical equipment.

Unfortunately, in April and May the Clinic have experienced horrendous power surges that destroyed a number of our computers and medical equipments. We have tried to repair some of them but its only a temporary measure as we need to rely on the equipment. Power surges in Kenya are frequent and even though we have protectors sometimes the surges are very powerful and just “fry” the equipment. From past experience we know that we will not receive any compensation from Kenya Power Ltd regardless of the submission.

Beta Healthcare provided the Clinic with a Betasil Cough machine which will help in the treatment of patients presenting with cough and colds coming into the colder wet months. Staff have been using the new equipment both for assessing and treating Mukuru residents, giving a more accurate clinical picture for each patient.



Beta HealthCare Representatives

The statistics for the month increased slightly from the previous month.

May Patient Summary

Patients	Male	Female
New patients	339	218
Revisits	352	245
Subtotal	691	463
Total Number of Patients	1,154	

Common Ailments Treated in May

	Diagnosis	Female	Male	Total Cases
1.	Upper respiratory tract infections	68	40	108
2.	Lower respiratory tract infections	34	26	60
3.	Tuberculosis	01	09	10
4.	Febrile illness	37	28	65
5.	Candidiasis	18	03	21
6.	Other fungal infections	27	16	43
7.	Diarrhoea	35	28	63
8.	Gastritis	41	46	87
9.	Helminthiasis	21	18	39
10.	Myalgia	31	16	47
11.	Pregnancy	84	0	84
12.	Urinary tract infections	49	25	74
13.	Wounds	25	31	56
14.	Diabetes and Hypertension	35	32	67
15.	Immunisation	63	51	114
16.	Other diseases	122	94	216
		691	463	1,154

Welfare Services

Songa Mbele na Masomo

May began well with high expectations of the opening of the new educational facility, but it has been delayed until June. Hopefully by then everything will be completed and the compound will be safe for the children to play. The final touches of various parts inside and outside of the facility were going on such as the levelling of the sensory garden, the car parking area, and the pathways. The new facility is scheduled to be handed over on 3rd June 2021. The staff have been busy putting the furniture in place in the different rooms.

During the month the teachers and other workers were present and carried out different activities in preparation for the children's return. The teachers and care givers were able to give home work to those children who were coming for therapy sessions those who are able to do under the supervision of their parents. They also advised parents on how to keep the children busy while at home and continue the therapy exercises.

The Centre received donations during the month which were distributed to the needy families and flood victims by the staff.

A new initiative that commenced in May was the phyiotherapy clinic sponsored by Team Pankaj. Each Thursday and Sunday at the multipurpose hall at the MPC Head Office, the team provide extra physio and occupational therapy sessions. The sessions focus on the fine motor skills for the children to stretch, grasp and release. Over twenty clients attended the first round of sessions.



Physiotherapy sessions at the MPC multipurpose hall.





Team Pankaj distribute food parcels to the needy Songa families



Some parents receive food parcels from Mr William Macharia

Other donations of vegetables from MPC Office

Children with cerebral palsy is the highest number of disabilities enrolled at the Centre. The Centre continues to provide training for the parents who have children living with the disability to improve their capacity on managing challenges faced each day.



Parents meeting Needs Assessment Training

The number of children with hearing disabilities is also on the rise in Mukuru. Each year the Centre raises the awareness through the “Ring-a-Bell” campaign sponsored by Cheshire Disabilities Kenya. We are also pleased to be partnered with The 3 Musketeers Childrens Fund who have donated hearing aids to the children.



Teachers and pupils from Sancta Maria Primary School raising awareness.

The Kenyan Child Foundation New Facility

After 55 weeks of construction work the new educational facility is nearing completion with the various final touches the main activity. We hope the handover will occur on 3rd June with the children returning on 10th June. The week in between will give the staff time to put the furniture in place for the children's learning. The kitchen is the major work that will take a few extra weeks to complete. The temporary kitchen will be demolished once the new one is operational. The external works on the pathways and sensory garden will also take a few more weeks to complete; however, it won't hinder the classes commencing.



Main sliding gate



Pedestrian gate



Back pathway



Classroom blackboards



Current state of the kitchen



Almost Ready

MPC Rehabilitation Centre

May was full of various activities ranging from normal classes to examinations and outdoor interests. The comings and goings kept everyone at the Centre fully engaged. The majority of the boys look forward to joining the mainstream schools now that they have come to the end of their longest journey in the Centre courtesy of the CoVid19 pandemic. The reintegration programs continued with a number of them reunited with their families. There are 44 boys at the Centre at different levels along the rehabilitation journey and all receive the necessary academic, social, psychological and physical supports to help them reach their goals.

Year Ones are now comfortable with reading and writing simple sentences. They can now read short stories and answer oral and written questions. These boys are also improving in Maths and Kiswahili. Grade Three boys have been preparing for their KNEC assessment which will end on 3rd June 2021. They have been taking preparatory lessons at St Catherine's where they are registered for the assessments.



St Catherine's Primary Grade 3 pupils showcasing their projects.

The majority of the Year Twos are responding very well in all the academic areas. Their work output is greatly improved along with their attitude towards learning. Most are able to work independently. The ones who need extra support are offered remedial lessons to help catch up on the others.



Profuturo lesson in progress

Grade Sevens are showing tremendous improvement and are excited as they will become KCPE candidates in a month's time. Sponsored by the Calary Church and the parishioners, Co. Wicklow, the Profuturo tablets program continues to be a great tool for learning in different subject areas. These tablets have created a great interest among the boys as they are all eager to finish assignments in time.

The Carpentry students sat for the Grade II and III Trade test exams at NITA headquarters. Four students sat the Grade III while one did Grade II. The students had acquired good skills that were demonstrated in several projects at the Centre before the exams. We are hopeful that these skills will result in excellent marks in the exams.



Anthony at his Grade II Examination

The Carpentry students took part in setting up the greenhouse that was sponsored by Dr Monica, a volunteer at the MPC Clinic. The job, as you can see was well done. The students have gained further skills in greenhouse construction and doing their bit for the environment.



Early Stage



Completed Stage



Celebration Stage

The library has become a favourite place for many of the boys as they expand their knowledge and creativity through reading.

Library lesson



Like many teenage boys, they love being actively involved in arts, acrobats and sports. They find such activities engaging and show a lot of interest in them. Many have discovered their talents in these activities and also value in socializing as they perform. We are grateful to Paula Cullen and Friends who continue to provide monthly supplies of art materials as well as an allowance for the art instructor, Samuel, a former pupil, who has great rapport with the boys. One of Samuel's prodigy, Glen shows much promise.



Samples of Glen's Art



Acrobatics



Board games



Arts



Rugby



Basketball



Catechism Lesson

We have a volunteer basketball coach with 10 years' experience of coaching children in London who is spending time with the boys at the Centre. Not to forget the importance of spirituality, the Catechism classes have been going on as usual. The classes help the boys to get in-touch with their own spirituality and nourishment to strengthen their faith in God, as they prepare for baptism and other sacraments.

Appreciating the Centre means that we need to tend and care for our environment. During the month more trees were planted, and bushes slashed. Thanks to Team Pankaj we have weeded the garden and planted some seedlings. The chickens and rabbits are well cared for with regularly feeding and cleaning of the coop and the hutch. The rabbits have multiplied to 12 and the chickens have continued laying eggs.



Preparing and planting

The reintegration program continues to gather pace. One boy recently completed his KCPE exams and will return to his family so that he can finish his secondary education. Another boy who was rescued earlier was reunited with his family as well. The rest of the boys have settled down well and are embracing all the opportunities at the Centre. When the time comes to return to their families they will be in a more secure position.

We remain grateful to all our local and international well-wishers for their continued support. The donations received during the month included:

- Mr Pankaj porridge flour, carrots, baby spinach, broccoli, chickpeas, cabbages and seedlings.
- Devkan bread
- Action in Focus green peas, onions, avocados, pumpkins, baby spinach, French beans, corrugates, kales, carrots and eggplants.
- Ms Emmah tomatoes
- Mr Waweru ripe bananas
- Peris Thuku meat and sodas
- Kenya Rugby Union rugby balls and t-shirts
- Dr Monica greenhouse materials and pizza
- Paula Cullen and Friends art materials and pizza
- Our Lady Queen of Peace bamboo trees.



Vegetables



T-shirts

At the end of May one of the long-term employees of MPC said farewell. Peris held several positions at MPC over 15 years, but she was happiest at the Centre. For the last two and a half years Peris provided great assistance to the donors who visited the Rehabilitation Centre. Many of the boys looked upon her as their ‘mum’ away from home. We wish her well in her future endeavours.



Farewell

Sponsorship

The Ministry of Health is still trying to manage the CoVid19 pandemic and now many people are able to receive the Astra Zeneca vaccine at centres across the country. Since most MPC staff spend time with patients, students and the community all MPC staff have been offered the vaccine. The protocols are still in place - wearing of masks and maintaining social distance.

The term resumed in May, with some students completing their academic year while others continue with 2021.

We are happy to communicate that the student's reports were sent to respective donors inclusive of appreciation letters, report forms and result slips. Through the feedback received from some donors, like Selma Sahin, wish to continue sponsoring students. A St Michael's Form 4 secondary student, Sharon, will be sponsored to university by her sponsor because of her brilliant and steady performance in high school.

Sharon Sambura received a congratulatory message from her donor Selma.



The Sponsorship Office in conjunction with the Social Office continued to enable the distribution of food parcels to various sponsored students facing challenges since their guardians or parents were not able to provide for them.



Felix Ouma who is a Form 4 student received exercise books from the Sponsorship Office and a laptop that was donated by Catherine Nolan. Felix has shown musical promise and wants to pursue a Diploma course in music at Melody House in Nairobi. Catherine was glad to enable Felix to achieve his dream career.

Dinah presents Felix with the laptop from Catherine.

Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education Results

There was a total of 13 sponsored students who sat for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) this year. The results were released on the 10th of May 2021, with the highest sponsored student scoring B plain.

Overall KCSE Performance of MPC Form Four Sponsored Students

2020 Academic Year

Grades	B	B -	C +	C	C -	D +	D	Total
Number of Students	1	1	1	3	1	2	4	13

The release of the KCSE results enabled us to send out reports to the donors to show the students performances in the national exams. The students are now preparing to join different universities and technical colleges. Other students have transitioned to vocational centres such as Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre to complete a technical course. One of the students, Joseph Baraza has already begun his course in Plumbing and Masonry being sponsored by Bob Paterson’s Group.

The 2020 academic year’s third term for Form One to Form Three students commenced in May. Students were busy organizing themselves submitting their fee structure to the Sponsorship Office for payment.



Parent receives the School Fees cheque from the Sponsorship Office.

The Class 8 student interviews were conducted to determine sponsored places in Form One at St Michael’s Secondary School. The students were chosen and shortlisted according to need, background and marks attained. The shortlisted students had profiles processed by the social workers in the four primary schools in readiness for the new academic year in July 2021.

Announcements

As the MPC departments were conducting the many activities and meetings during the month, there were other works keeping MPC on track.

- ✚ Preparation and dissemination of the 2020 Annual Report.
- ✚ Development of the 2021 – 2026 Strategic Plan
- ✚ Development of the Sponsorship Database
- ✚ Meetings galore
- ✚ Zooms and more Zooms



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