

May Newsletter

Vol 11. Issue No. 5, 2026

Dear Partners, Supporters and Friends,

I was on holiday leave in Ireland for most of May. I see from the staff reports that the Departments continued their work and activities during my absence, thanks to the management team and the Heads of Department.

In Ireland, I connected with family and friends. I was invited to worship with my friends from Calary for their Rogation Day celebration on 3rd May. Their service was held outdoors in scenic castle grounds by a lake. It was beautiful, though a bit cold. The collection that day was for the rehabilitation of street boys in Mukuru, carried out in collaboration with Paula Cullen and her group. Thanks to Reverend Ross and the Congregation. I was generously hosted by Claire Chambers on Sunday night. I met Paula on Monday and Molly, one of the volunteer musicians.

I managed to get to Westport in Mayo to see my sister and some of her family. On the way back to Dublin, I also saw Sisters of Mercy who worked in Kenya and are now retired in Roscommon, as well as John and Moira Burns, their daughter Catherine, and Catherine's daughter, Maeve. It's wonderful to remember the parts of life in Mukuru we experienced together. I was very happy to meet Sr Louise Roche and the Sisters of Mercy in Cork.

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I also travelled to Northern Ireland, visiting Derry, where I met Sr Ann Doherty, Matrice and family, and Belfast, where I met Sr Barbara Dooley's sister, her niece and grandniece. I was hosted by Donna Murray. I attended the wedding of my nephew Paul and Sharon in Athy, where I met many relatives. It was very interesting and nostalgic, as the wedding reception was held at the former Athy Convent. What a beautiful building it is! I also attended a fundraiser in Carlow, organised by Catherine Nolan and supported by Vera Smith and family, the parishioners of Askea Parish, and others. What friendly and welcoming people they were. In Athy, I was hosted by Sr Collette King and Sr Catherine McGee. I was very happy to see them, as they had both worked in Kenya many years ago. All of these encounters renewed my spirit.

I arrived back in Kenya a few days sooner than I had anticipated, eager to meet a delegation from Action Against Hunger. This dedicated group included representatives who had journeyed all the way from the USA, each passionate about making a difference. Their focus is on addressing the critical challenges faced by Sancta Maria Kayaaba Primary School, particularly access to food, clean water, and solar energy. We are truly grateful for their willingness to support us in overcoming these obstacles.

GardaWorld Kenya Security Group assisted St Bakhita Primary School with wonderful science equipment. Thank you so much. Caroline Cullen and the Whistle Foundation Team also contributed by supporting various MPC Centres, particularly in Songa, where they sponsor the weekly transportation for children to the Centre and organised the popular Fun Days. At the Rehabilitation Centre, they constructed a chimney for the outdoor cooker. Additionally, at St Catherine's, they distributed food parcels and completed other essential tasks to keep the places running smoothly.

Your support helps us to move forward confidently every day. Thank you for helping us provide our services.

Sr Mary Killeen
Director

Archival Corner

One year ago, Mukuru Promotion Centre (MPC) proudly celebrated an extraordinary milestone: 40 years of transforming lives and supporting the Mukuru community. What began in 1985 as a compassionate response to the educational needs of children living in the Mukuru informal settlements has grown into one of Kenya's most respected community development organisations. For more than 4 decades, MPC has empowered thousands of children, young people, and families through education, healthcare, social services, vocational training, rehabilitation, and environmental programs, creating lasting opportunities and hope for generations.

The 40th Anniversary celebration on May 21, 2025, was a powerful tribute to this remarkable journey. More than 400 invited guests gathered in an atmosphere of gratitude, joy, and pride to celebrate not only an institution but also a legacy of transformation. The occasion brought together the very people who have shaped MPC's story, from its earliest pupils and parents, many of whom returned as proud grandparents with their children and grandchildren, to alumni who once sat in MPC classrooms and have since become teachers, professionals, entrepreneurs, and community leaders. Their presence served as living proof of the enduring impact of an education built on dignity, opportunity, and hope.

The celebration was further enriched by the presence of MPC's co-founders, Fr Manuel Gordejuela Eslava, who travelled from Spain with fellow Missionaries of Africa, and Sr Mary Killeen, who is also the current Director, to mark this historic occasion. The Sisters of Mercy, whose vision and unwavering commitment laid the foundation for MPC 4 decades ago, attended in large numbers, adding profound meaning to the event. Former staff, volunteers, board members, donors, partners, embassy representatives, and friends reunited to honour a shared mission that has touched countless lives across Kenya and beyond.

The day began with a joyful Thanksgiving Mass that reflected the faith and values upon which MPC was founded. Every department contributed wholeheartedly to the celebration, with staff and students participating through Scripture readings, singing, dancing, and an offertory procession. Primary school pupils delighted guests with vibrant cultural performances and inspiring skits, while students from the Vocational Training Centre proudly demonstrated their skills by preparing and serving an outstanding celebratory lunch. Every detail reflected the teamwork, excellence, and community spirit that have become hallmarks of MPC throughout its 40-year journey.



The celebration extended far beyond Mukuru itself. Through a live broadcast on the Capuchin TV YouTube Channel, more than 250 viewers joined the event in real time, with nearly 2,000 more watching the recordings afterwards. Messages of congratulations and appreciation poured in from supporters, Mercy communities, former volunteers, partners, and friends across the globe, affirming that MPC's impact reaches well beyond the communities it serves. To preserve the memories of this landmark occasion, MPC produced and distributed its colourful “Commemorative Book”, enabling friends and supporters around the world to share in the joy of the celebration.

Among the day's most moving reflections were those of Sr Mary Killeen, one of MPC's co-founders. Looking back over 40 years, she marvelled at the extraordinary transformation of children who once wandered the streets and now live as educated, confident, and productive members of society. Her words captured the essence of MPC's story, a remarkable tapestry woven together by dedicated staff, generous donors, committed volunteers, visionary leaders, loyal partners, and resilient community members who have never lost sight of the mission to restore dignity and opportunity to those most in need.

As we reflect on that unforgettable celebration, we do so with immense pride and deep gratitude. The 40th Anniversary was far more than a celebration of the past; it was a bold affirmation of the mission that continues to shape lives every day. It honoured 4 decades of courage, compassion, innovation, and unwavering service while inspiring a renewed commitment to the future.

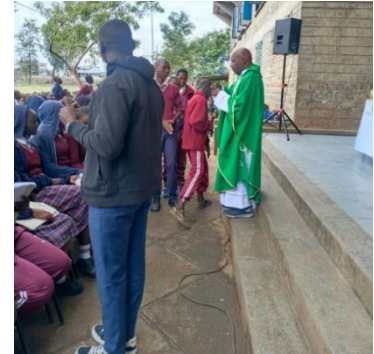
Happy 41st Year, Mukuru Promotion Centre! Your legacy is measured not simply in the years that have passed, but in the thousands of lives transformed, the dreams made possible, and the hope that continues to shine brightly across the Mukuru community. The journey continues—as many more can walk the steps of empowerment.

E_{ducation}

P_{primary} Schools

St Bakhita, St Catherine's, St Elizabeth and Sancta Maria Kayaba

Following the school holiday break, 6,440 pupils returned with enthusiasm to begin Term II, a new season of learning, growth, and opportunity. We are grateful for the safe return of our pupils and the dedication of our teachers and support staff, who welcomed them back with renewed commitment. As is our tradition, the term commenced with the celebration of Holy Mass, where the school community came together to seek God's guidance, wisdom, and blessings for a fruitful and successful academic term.



St Elizabeth's Opening Term Mass

We also extend our sincere appreciation to parents and guardians who participated in the termly parents' meetings. These forums strengthened the valuable partnership between home and school, providing an opportunity to discuss their children's progress, address emerging needs, and reaffirm our shared commitment to supporting every child's academic and personal development. We are equally grateful to the Board of Management (BOM) members for their continued leadership and stewardship during their meetings, where they reviewed school operations, discussed key development priorities, and provided strategic direction for the effective management and continued growth of the institution.

During the month, our head teachers participated in important meetings convened in preparation for the closure of the KNEC examination registration portal. These engagements ensured that schools met all examination requirements on time, enabling candidates to complete the necessary registration and documentation without disruption. Throughout the term, the school continued to place strong emphasis on discipline, punctuality, and academic excellence while ensuring the effective implementation of the Competency-Based Education (CBE) curriculum. We remain grateful for the dedication of our teachers and the positive attitude demonstrated by our pupils, whose commitment has contributed to steady progress in both academic and co-curricular programmes.

We are especially proud of the participation of pupils from the 4 MPC-sponsored schools in the Starehe Sub-County zonal co-curricular competitions during Term II. Through various ball games and athletics events, our learners demonstrated remarkable talent, teamwork, discipline, resilience, and sportsmanship. Beyond competition, these activities continue to play an important role in nurturing holistic development by strengthening learners' physical well-being, social skills, leadership abilities, confidence, and emotional growth while providing valuable opportunities to interact with peers from other schools.

We celebrate the outstanding achievements recorded during the zonal competitions. St. Bakhita Primary qualified for the regional level in netball, football, and basketball, reflecting exceptional performance across several disciplines. St. Catherine Primary earned qualification in basketball,



while Sancta Maria Kayaaba advanced in netball. St. Elizabeth Primary qualified in both basketball and short-distance athletics events, showcasing excellence in team sports and track competitions. Well done to all involved in these accomplishments.

Rugby game at Plainsview Primary School

MPC received guests from GardaWorld Kenya, a private security firm in Nairobi, led by Mr Rishi Ahluwalia, the Country Director, and his team. They attended the handover ceremony in recognition of their support for St. Bakhita Primary School. Their generous donation of science laboratory equipment, which has significantly strengthened our capacity to deliver quality practical science education. We also celebrated the successful completion and official handover of the renovated ECDE classrooms and science laboratory following comprehensive painting and refurbishment works. These improvements have greatly enhanced the school's learning environment by providing clean, attractive, safe, and child-friendly facilities where children can thrive.

The upgraded ECDE classrooms now offer a more welcoming environment that supports pupils' comfort, motivation, and school readiness. Likewise, the refurbished science laboratory, together with the newly donated equipment, has greatly enriched practical science instruction by enabling pupils to conduct hands-on experiments that deepen their understanding of scientific concepts and encourage curiosity, innovation, and critical thinking.



Rishi Ahluwalia, President of GardaWorld Security, demonstrates the microscope at handover

These valuable investments are already contributing positively to education outcomes. Access to improved learning facilities and modern laboratory equipment has enhanced the quality of teaching and learning by helping children translate theoretical knowledge into practical skills while strengthening problem-solving and analytical abilities. The refreshed classrooms have also fostered greater learner motivation, attendance, and participation. We sincerely appreciate Garda World Security for partnering with us to create lasting educational opportunities and invest in the future of our learners.



*GardaWorld
Kenya at St
Bakhita
Primary*



We are encouraged by the continued improvement in academic performance across both the Primary and Junior School sections. This progress reflects the hard work of our pupils and the ongoing investment in teacher professional development. Through regular retooling programs, teachers have strengthened their knowledge and skills in classroom management, effective lesson delivery, assessment practices, and the implementation of the Competency-Based Education curriculum. These capacity-building initiatives have equipped teachers with pupil-centred teaching approaches that promote creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and active participation. As a result, children continue to demonstrate stronger academic performance, greater confidence, improved competencies, and increased readiness for the next stages of their educational journey.



*Teachers' Professional
Development Workshop at
City Primary School
sponsored by the Ministry of
Education.*



During the term, the Ministry of Education implemented several teacher transfers across our 4 MPC-sponsored schools to balance staffing within the Junior School section. While we appreciate these adjustments by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC), the schools continue to experience a shortage of teachers required to adequately support the full implementation of the Competency-Based Education curriculum. We remain hopeful that additional staffing will be provided to strengthen

instructional delivery and ensure every child receives the quality education they deserve. The staffing adjustments undertaken by the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) are outlined below:

MPC Sponsored Schools	JS Teachers Transferred Out	JS Teachers Received
St Bakhita	0	0
St Catherine	2	3
St Elizabeth	4	3
Sancta Maria Kayaaba	2	2
Total	8	8

While the Ministry of Education has largely addressed staffing requirements in the Junior School section, the Teachers Service Commission (TSC) is yet to fully resolve the persistent teacher shortage in the Primary section. The shortage continues to place pressure on the available teaching staff, resulting in increased workloads and challenges in maintaining optimal teacher-pupil ratios. Addressing this staffing gap remains critical to sustaining quality teaching and learning, improving learner outcomes, and ensuring effective curriculum implementation across all levels in the 4 schools.

The Mercy Education Office organised a workshop for teachers from Mercy-associated schools at the Resurrection Garden. The workshop, facilitated by Fr. Zachary Kamau SDB, brought together educators from the participating schools for a day of professional development and reflection. The theme of the workshop was **"Teaching with Dignity,"** focusing on the importance of upholding professionalism, respect, and ethical values in the teaching profession. Ten teachers from each school attended the workshop and benefited from insightful discussions and practical sessions aimed at enhancing their effectiveness as educators and promoting a pupil-centred, values-based approach to teaching.



Teachers' workshop at Resurrection Garden sponsored by Mercy Education Office

St Michael's Secondary School

The Opening Term II School Mass was presided over by Fr. Paulinhos. In his homily, he emphasized the importance of obedience and love among students and staff. The message encouraged students to uphold discipline, respect authority, and show love and care for one another.



Form students led the school in prayer.

St. Michael took part in the Mater Heart Run 2026, which was held at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC). A total of eight students and one teacher represented the school during the event. The participants joined other schools and organisations to support vulnerable children with heart conditions who cannot afford the necessary medical procedures.



Students and Mr Harrison received certificates in recognition of their participation

The Makadara Sub-County Sports Competitions took place at Buruburu, Aquinas High School, and Huruma Girls High School. St. Michael's Secondary School entered teams in football, netball, and table tennis. The Girls' Netball Team performed exceptionally well and successfully qualified for the Regional Level Competitions. The netball students showcased their teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship during the events.



Girls Netball Team



Three boys, Evans Onyango, Christopher Otieno and Clinton Wasike, performed exceptionally well in the table tennis competitions and qualified for the County Table Tennis Competitions.

Boys Table Tennis

The school congratulates the teams and individual students for their commitment and excellent representation. One of the table tennis matches at Buruburu Girls contributed to St. Michael's successful participation in the Makadara Sub-County Sports Competitions.



A thrilling football match featuring St. Michael's Secondary School at the Makadara Sub-County Games.

In collaboration with SHOFCO, the school conducted a Mathematics and Chemistry assessment for Form Four students. The purpose of the assessment was to evaluate students' preparedness and identify areas for academic improvement. The results were released this month, and several students demonstrated outstanding academic performance, emerging as top achievers. Their success reflects their hard work, dedication, and commitment to academic excellence. The school congratulates the top-performing students and encourages all candidates to stay focused as they prepare for their national examinations. The students who excelled in the assessment were Gabriel Onyango, Iddah Achieng and Derrick Muigai.



A section of parents and guardians listening keenly during a follow-up session after the Academic Clinic.

The Form 4 Academic workshop was held to improve students' academic performance and prepare candidates for the forthcoming national examinations. The workshop brought together students, subject teachers, and school administrators to discuss academic progress, identify challenges, and develop strategies for improvement.



SkyFeast Event

A total of 109 girls attended the SkyFest at Kasarani in May. The event provided the girls with opportunities to interact, learn, and develop valuable life skills through a range of educational and motivational activities. They were accompanied by Ms Loise and Ms Shielder, who supervised and guided them throughout the event.

Mentorship sessions were organised by the Social Work Office in conjunction with St. Michael's Secondary School Alumni. The sessions aimed to guide and inspire students toward academic excellence, career development, personal growth, and responsible decision-making. Through interactive discussions and experience sharing, the alumni encouraged learners to remain focused on their studies, set achievable goals, and develop positive attitudes towards their future aspirations.



Students listening to a speaker at the session.

The month of May shone brightly with remarkable accomplishments in our spiritual growth, academic pursuits, and vibrant co-curricular activities. Our school is deeply dedicated to fostering well-rounded individuals, emphasising not only academic excellence but also discipline, teamwork, and strong moral values. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all stakeholders for their unwavering support and eagerly anticipate even greater successes as we move forward in the coming months.

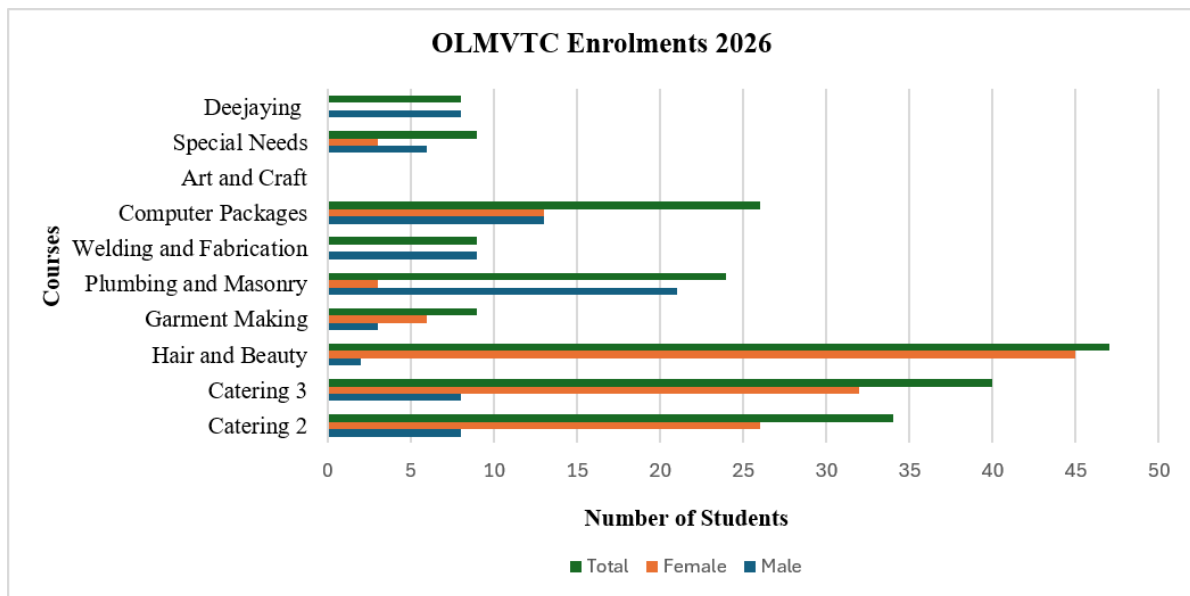


Mentorship for St Michael's students

Mentorship session at St. Michael with the girls in collaboration with Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Probation and Aftercare Service (PACS) on healthy relationships, Sexual health, and media influence on teenagers

Our Lady of Mercy Vocational Training Centre

In mid-May, students faced significant challenges stemming from security concerns as a result of widespread demonstrations protesting the soaring fuel prices. These demonstrations created an atmosphere of uncertainty and unrest that lingered for several days. Despite these challenges, OLMVTC saw a surge in enrolments, reaching a total of 206 by the end of the month.



Our partnership with the Tamarind Group ensures professionalism for our catering students. They assist MPC with recruitment and staff development. Recruitment for catering staff took place, with an oral interview conducted by MPC and a practical interview conducted by Tamarind-Carnivore Hotel, supervised by Tamarind chefs. Tamarind asked students from the catering cohort 1 to apply for the apprenticeship program after finishing their internship. KWAL also sponsors the catering students, helping ensure that learning runs smoothly and that the class is equipped with the skills required for their careers in the competitive hospitality industry. A big thank you to KWAL.

We congratulate the first cohort of the catering class that completed an upskilling program. The graduation took place at Kibondeni, the sponsor of the INUA program, and MPC. The graduates were awarded an internal certificate bearing the MPC/KWAL/Kibondeni Logos. The group will graduate from OLMVTC in July, along with the other classes at MPC, for 2024/2025. The 2023 welding class will also graduate, as they sat for the NITA exam in the July 2024 series after graduating in June 2024. This class was admitted in July 2023, and so they finished their academic year in July 2024.



Internal Graduation Graduates



The Special Needs Class



Plumbing and Masonry practicals



Dee Jay student



Hairdressing class practical



Catering students' theory and practical



*Welding
practical for
cylindrical lesson*



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated crew members of British Airways, whose generous donation of hairdressing and beauty products has made a significant impact. Their contributions have not only provided valuable resources but have also enriched our students' hands-on learning experience in practical classes, allowing them to refine their skills and gain confidence in their craft. This support helps shape the future of aspiring beauticians and hairstylists in our program.

A photography pilot class officially commenced enrollment, with a total of 7 participants: 4 staff members and 3 vocational training students. The training is scheduled to run for eight weeks and aims to strengthen internal capacity in visual documentation. This will enable staff to improve the quality of reporting and enhance donor reporting through more effective photographic evidence and storytelling. For the OLMVTC students, the program will provide practical photography skills that can be utilised for income-generating opportunities. In addition, one of the vocational instructors will cascade the training to other students, equipping them with the same skills upon program completion, thereby ensuring effective knowledge transfer and sustainability within the institution.



Photography class in session

Transformations

Songa Mbele na Masomo Children's Centre

In May 2026, Songa Mbele na Masomo Children Centre continued to implement programs focused on enhancing the well-being, inclusion, health, and education of children with disabilities from vulnerable families within the Mukuru community. Through partnerships, therapy services, training sessions, parental engagement, and community outreach activities, the centre made a positive impact on the lives of both children and their caregivers. By the end of the month, the Centre had an enrollment of 115 children, consisting of 72 boys and 43 girls. Additionally, there were 4 new admissions, reflecting the growing trust from the community and the increasing demand for specialised support services for children with disabilities.



Whistle Foundation Group

The children always enjoy the Whistle Foundation visit because it always means fun...fun...fun! The group organised a Fun Day of Activities. The activity provided children with an opportunity to socialise, play, and interact in an inclusive environment, contributing positively to their emotional wellbeing, confidence, and social development. The event also encouraged peer interaction and strengthened the children's sense of belonging.



Fun Day Bouncy Castle



Birthday cakes for the Songa children Fun Day



The Songa Children's Transporters

The Centre facilitated 13 medical referrals for children to access further assessment and specialised interventions. These referrals allowed children to receive additional medical and rehabilitation services essential for their growth and development.

Parental engagement remained a vital aspect of the Centre's programs. A meeting for the Foundation II class was attended by 22 parents, providing an opportunity for caregivers and teachers to discuss children's academic progress, behaviour, therapy needs, and strategies for at-home support. Additionally, another meeting for Foundation I parents had 12 attendees, reinforcing the collaboration between families and the Centre to support inclusive learning for all children.



Parents of Foundation I Class

Throughout the month, capacity-building activities were conducted to empower both parents and stakeholders. A training session focused on learning and intellectual disabilities engaged 40 participants and raised awareness about supporting children with developmental and learning challenges both at school and at home. Parents and caregivers acquired knowledge on appropriate care practices, inclusion, and early intervention strategies. This training on intellectual and learning challenges was led by Celine Omondi from Upskill Therapy.



Intellectual Disabilities Training



SHA Training for Parents

Training on SHA registration and activation was conducted for 56 parents. This activity improved parents' understanding of how to access healthcare services and enhanced their ability to seek medical support for their children through the health insurance system. Antony Simiyu, a program manager from SHA responsible for sensitisation in Nairobi, led the sessions on the registration and activation of the scheme.

The Centre also hosted a stakeholder meeting focused on the Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) and Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID) models. Officials from the health and education departments of Starehe and Makadara Sub-Counties attended. This engagement strengthened collaboration between government departments and the Centre and promoted inclusive approaches to support children with disabilities in the community.



Representatives from Education and Health Ministries



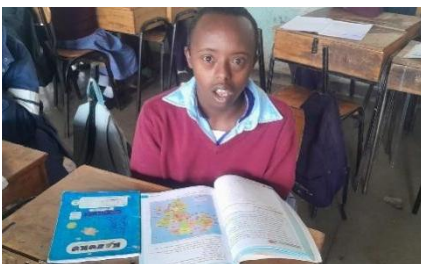
MPC Deputy Director Dinah Mwendwa addresses the meeting

Health and hygiene promotion remained a priority throughout the month. Colgate Company provided personal hygiene and oral care training to 60 children. This training equipped the children with essential knowledge and practical skills in maintaining proper oral hygiene and personal cleanliness. Additionally, Colgate Company donated toothbrushes and toothpaste, which helped improve hygiene practices among the children and reduced the risks associated with poor oral health. The Centre also held a virtual meeting with a well-wisher interested in donating assistive devices. This planned support is expected to significantly enhance the mobility, independence, and participation of children with physical disabilities in both school and home environments.



Colgate Kenya Workshop

Visits to the Mariakani, St. Catherine, and St. Bakhita schools, as well as partnerships, also took place. These visits enhanced networking, knowledge sharing, and collaboration to improve services for children with disabilities, including those previously transitioned from Songa to mainstream schools.



Malicha Wako from Mariankani and St Catherine's Josephat Mwanji and David Mbuthia

Community outreach included home-visit follow-ups to address absenteeism and promote admissions. These visits helped staff better understand families' challenges impacting school attendance and built stronger ties between the Centre and caregivers. The intervention aimed to promote regular attendance and improve child protection and follow-up systems. Patience, who had been missing school because of ongoing chest issues, resulting in chronic absenteeism. She received medication at Kenyatta National Hospital and ongoing follow-up at MIC.



Patience Mutheu with her mother

The Centre conducted 4 business follow-ups on established partnerships and support initiatives. These engagements helped maintain strong relationships with partners and mobilise ongoing support for the Centre's programmes. Mama Ezan, on the right, was previously supported by Identity 254 to pursue a short course in tailoring and dressmaking. Jayden Mutua with her mother at their small vegetable kiosk; both have applied the skills they learnt.



Jayden Mutua with her mother demonstrates her tailoring skills



Mama Ezan Mwangi

The Centre received generous donations and support from Engineering Supplies, BOC (Gas), Annuarita Jumia, Anja Faltisek, a former DKA volunteer, Caroline Cullen, British Airways crew members, and individual donors. The donations included food provisions, hygiene materials, and education resources, which significantly contributed towards supporting the children's daily needs and improving service delivery at the Centre.



Annuarita Jumia from OLQP Parish



*Donations
Anja Faltisek*



Spartan Engineering

A total of 102 children received physiotherapy, for a total of 536 sessions. The Kijabe Orthopedic Clinics also continued, with 13 children scheduled to attend. The Mary Immaculate Clinic sustained its strong impact and complemented therapy interventions. The Multi-Disciplinary Therapy (MDT) team remains committed to holistic care, providing tailored interventions to improve each child's physical, cognitive, and communication skills. In May, there were 308 physiotherapy sessions involving 52 children, 118 occupational therapy sessions for 29 children, and 110 Speech and Language Therapy sessions for 19 children.

Success Stories:

Arnold Makori, a 5-year-old with cerebral palsy, joined our program four months ago. Initially, he had poor balance and limited mobility. With consistent physiotherapy, Arnold has made impressive progress. He can now stand and hold onto a walker, and with support, he attempts a few steps.



His balance, muscle tone, and strength have improved in sitting and standing, providing him with more stability and confidence. Arnold's enthusiasm for exercises and his determination to walk have greatly contributed to his progress. His story shows how focused physiotherapy can boost mobility and independence, enhancing his quality of life and that of his caregivers.

Arnold during physio session

Stanley Ochieng has shown remarkable progress through consistent SLT (standard triangle language) intervention. His receptive and expressive language skills have greatly improved, allowing him to follow instructions, participate in conversations, and articulate his ideas clearly. He has effectively generalised communication across different settings, including the classroom, bedroom, and kitchen, demonstrating adaptability and confidence. His articulation skills are now well developed, with



accurate sound production. This clarity has boosted his social interactions and academic engagement. Furthermore, Stanley can describe simple diagrams by integrating vocabulary, grammar, and articulation to communicate meaningfully. His progress underscores the value of targeted SLT within the MDT framework and highlights the significance of collaborative intervention in fostering holistic child development.

Stanley Achieng with Tabitha Muindi, speech therapist

Mary Immaculate Rehabilitation Centre

The program activities have progressed successfully, leading to notable improvements in the children's living conditions, educational development, psychosocial well-being, community engagement, and environmental responsibility. The ongoing support from partners, visitors, staff, and volunteers has positively contributed to the overall development of the boys in our care.

The informal education program had a total of 17 learners, comprising 9 boys in Year One and 8 in Year Two. The educational activities continued steadily, and significant progress was observed among the boys. Regular classes and language-learning opportunities have helped many of them improve their communication skills. The program continues to provide a supportive learning environment where children can bridge educational gaps while developing the life skills necessary for successful reintegration into formal schooling and society.

In May, there were numerous co-curricular and recreational activities. The boys enjoyed rugby, soccer, music, spiritual formation, scooter games, board games, chess, pool, and some television, providing ample options for relaxation. It's encouraging to see their positive response to homework and increased engagement in learning activities. Their overall health and well-being are evident through personal growth, increased confidence, social interaction, and a stronger sense of responsibility. Overall, the boys showed promising progress in both academic and personal development, thanks to structured learning, extracurricular involvement, and recreational pursuits.



The Centre welcomed 36 visitors and received generous support from the Whistle Foundation Group, which donated mosquito nets and curtains for the dormitories. These contributions have significantly enhanced the living conditions at the Centre by improving cleanliness, providing privacy, increasing comfort, and offering protection against mosquito-borne diseases.

Mosquito Nets

Additionally, the Whistle Foundation, Ireland supported the renovation of the outdoor kitchen. These ongoing improvements are creating a safer, more efficient food-preparation area, reducing health risks associated with inadequate cooking facilities, and fostering a better environment for meal preparation and service.



Whistle Foundation Renovations





Besides offering material aid, the group prioritised nurturing the children's emotional and educational growth through mentorship, encouragement, and ongoing engagement. One boy received a bicycle, which significantly boosted his mobility, independence, and confidence. This considerate act addressed a practical need and became a powerful motivator, demonstrating to the child that his efforts and progress are acknowledged and appreciated.

Whistle Foundation's Caroline Cullen with the Boys



British Airways crew member Simon Lees donated books, clothes, scooters and meat.



A Team from Diamond Trust Bank visited the Centre and brought some food provisions.

The children have increasingly embraced environmental conservation activities and are taking greater responsibility for maintaining a clean and healthy environment within the Centre. Through participation in cleaning activities, waste management practices, and environmental awareness initiatives, the boys are developing a sense of ownership and responsibility for their surroundings. These activities are fostering discipline, teamwork, and an appreciation for environmental stewardship. The positive attitude demonstrated by the children reflects growing awareness of the importance of environmental conservation and personal responsibility in community development.



Children brush their shoes



Boaz, Abdul, Mwangi, Irungu and Jayden dressed for Church.



Coach Benter and the boys who went to watch the Harambee Starlets soccer game at Nyayo Stadium



Boys carrying oranges donated by Mary Ndeto

The Social Office continued to provide child protection, family reintegration, documentation assistance, medical case management, and follow-up actions to enhance the well-being and future prospects of children in the Centre's care. Their efforts concentrated on strengthening family bonds, ensuring access to healthcare, supporting ongoing education, and equipping children for smooth reintegration into their communities.

In May, 3 boys were admitted to the Centre: 2 were readmitted, and one was new. The readmissions allowed for re-engaging some boys in rehabilitation and providing ongoing psychosocial support. Although two boys left the program voluntarily shortly after admission, their cases emphasised the importance of tailoring rehabilitation approaches and maintaining engagement strategies for children who find it difficult to adapt to a structured care environment. The Centre remained committed to children's rights by respecting their voluntary decisions and ensuring they received proper counselling and support before leaving.



Kevin Musyoka was successfully reintegrated with his biological mother in LungaLunga after a structured preparation process that included counselling for both him and his mother. The reunification was well received by Kevin and family members.

Several follow-up activities were undertaken to secure Jairus' birth certificate. These included visits to Lang'ata Women's Prison, communication with their biological family members, and inquiries at former schools and community institutions. Significant progress was made in Jairus' medical case with successful registration with the Social Health Authority (SHA) and the commencement of chemotherapy treatment on May 22, 2026. A home tracing was conducted for Brivanovic Ogada to facilitate the acquisition of the documentation required for SHA registration and access to medical treatment. The Social Office continued to advocate for access to healthcare while coordinating with medical institutions and partner organisations. Ongoing case management ensured uninterrupted treatment and monitoring of the child's health condition.

The collective efforts of donors, visitors, staff, volunteers, and the boys themselves have led to significant progress in May. The renovations improved living conditions, enhanced educational outcomes, strengthened psychosocial support systems, and increased environmental responsibility, all of which have contributed to the holistic rehabilitation and development of the children. This month has shown that strategic partnerships, community involvement, and consistent program implementation are crucial in transforming the lives of vulnerable children and preparing them for a brighter future.

Sponsorship Office

The month of May focused primarily on donor reporting, sponsorship follow-up, partnership engagement, and the processing of school fees for sponsored and vulnerable children. With the completion of the first academic term, the Sponsorship Office prioritised the preparation and sharing of student progress updates to sponsors and donors. This involved collecting school report forms, facilitating the writing of thank-you letters, and compiling comprehensive progress reports that highlighted the academic, social, and personal development of sponsored students. The Office also continued to strengthen relationships with existing donors through regular communication and follow-up on sponsorship commitments. A major activity during the month was preparing Term One 2026 progress updates for sponsored students. The Sponsorship Office coordinated the collection of report forms from various schools, reviewed students' academic performance, and compiled individualised progress reports for sponsors and donors. Students were also guided in writing thank-you letters to express their appreciation to the individuals and organisations supporting their education. In addition to report forms and letters, detailed progress summaries were prepared that highlighted each student's academic achievements, participation in co-curricular activities, personal growth, and any challenges affecting their learning.

A notable highlight of the month was the visit by the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) team of the telecommunications company Airtel Networks Kenya to St. Michael's Secondary School, which provided an opportunity to discuss the future of the sponsorship partnership and explore avenues for continued support. Airtel Networks has been sponsoring students at St Michael's for over 10 years.



St. Michael's Secondary girls during mentorship by the Airtel Networks team and receiving the sanitary towels donations

During the visit, the team conducted a sanitary towels drive to support girls and promote menstrual hygiene management. The donation addressed an important need among vulnerable students and helped enhance their comfort, dignity, and school attendance.

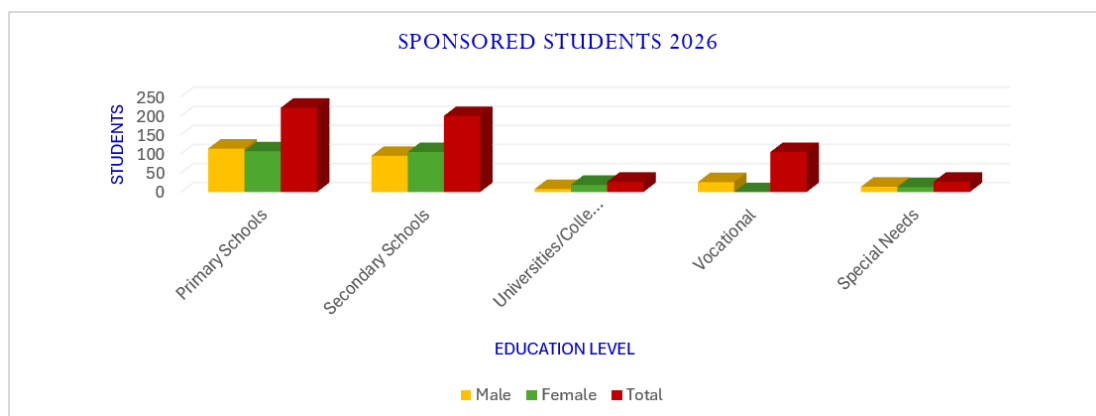
The Airtel team also facilitated a mentorship session for the girls, sharing valuable insights on personal development, education, life skills, and career aspirations. The session provided students with an opportunity to interact with professionals, gain motivation, and receive guidance that can positively influence their academic and personal growth. Beyond the student-focused activities, the visit created an important platform for discussions on the future of the sponsorship partnership. Conversations centred on the sponsorship proposal previously submitted to seek continued support for students beyond the current sponsorship cycle. Following these discussions, Airtel shared a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for review and feedback. The continued collaboration with Airtel remains promising and has the potential to provide long-term educational opportunities for deserving students.



Airtel Team with St Michael's Principal.

Throughout the month, the Sponsorship Office maintained regular communication with donors who had pledged support for sponsored students. Follow-up efforts were undertaken to ensure that committed funds were received and processed promptly to facilitate payment of school fees and other educational expenses. These engagements played a crucial role in preventing disruptions to students' education arising from outstanding fee balances and helped ensure that sponsored learners remained in school throughout the term. Communication with donors also provided an opportunity to share student progress updates, address concerns, and strengthen relationships with existing sponsors.

Another significant activity undertaken during the month was processing sponsorship support and paying school fees for vulnerable primary school learners, funded by an anonymous donor from Ireland, her Friends Sponsorship Fund. A total of 120 needy primary school children benefited from this support. The Sponsorship Office coordinated the verification of beneficiary lists, processed payments, and communicated with the respective schools to ensure that fees were received and accurately recorded. This support provided much-needed relief to vulnerable families struggling to meet educational expenses. Timely payment of school fees enabled the children to remain in school without interruption and participate fully in learning activities. The intervention continues to play a vital role in promoting school retention and ensuring that children from disadvantaged backgrounds have access to quality education.



Social & Health Services

Social Services

The Social and Health Services Department continued its commitment to supporting vulnerable families in the Mukuru community through interventions to improve health, nutrition, and overall well-being. The Department maintained regular community assessments and follow-up visits to identify households facing challenges and provide appropriate support.

In May, nutrition support continued for malnourished children, infants, and adults, including those living with chronic illnesses. Through ongoing nutrition interventions, vulnerable beneficiaries received amaranth flour, a highly nutritious food supplement rich in proteins, vitamins, minerals, and dietary fibre. This support was crucial in improving the nutritional status of individuals at risk of malnutrition and provided much-needed relief to families struggling to access balanced meals due to economic hardships. This initiative was particularly significant thanks to the generous support from the Whistle Foundation Team, led by Caroline Cullen. Their contributions facilitated the distribution of food supplies and hygiene materials to 200 families affected by the devastating April floods in the Mukuru catchment area. The floods destroyed personal belongings and disrupted livelihoods, leaving these families in urgent need of assistance.



Mukuru residents and Flood victims with Whistle Foundation Team

Each family received food and essential hygiene items designed to support them for approximately three weeks. The food packages helped address immediate nutritional needs, while the hygiene materials helped maintain proper sanitation and reduce health risks associated with flood-related conditions. The intervention brought hope and relief to affected families as they continued to recover from the floods and rebuild their lives.



St Catherine's food parcels to needy parents.



Parents of sick children receive a food package courtesy of Pablo Hortsmann Foundation.

Beyond providing material support, the Department has maintained engagement with community members through regular visits, assessments, and referrals. These interactions have allowed the team to better understand the changing needs of vulnerable households and to identify sustainable ways to assist them. The department remains dedicated to walking alongside the people of Mukuru, helping them navigate daily challenges while fostering resilience, dignity, and self-reliance. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Team Caroline Cullen, the Whistle Foundation, and all our partners and supporters whose generosity has made these interventions possible. Their ongoing support enables us to reach vulnerable families and strengthens our efforts to build a healthier, more resilient community in Mukuru.



Home visits of pupils from St Bakhita and Sancta Maria Kayaaba



Students receive new uniforms and food parcels



A bright young girl from Sancta Maria Kayaaba Primary School has been diagnosed with rheumatic heart disease, a condition that affects the heart's valves and function. Her days are filled with the challenges of her illness, but she continues to pursue her education with determination and a hopeful spirit. Meanwhile, a young man grappling with a chronic kidney condition is actively participating in the Amaranth Nutrition Program, which is generously sponsored by the Pablo Hoarstmann Foundation. Each week, he receives a supply of nutritious flour, which plays a crucial role in managing his health and ensuring he has access to essential nutrients.



A homeless man visited St. Catherine's social office seeking help and asked for a food parcel to ease his hunger. A street mother, accompanied by a former street mother now in a more stable situation, gratefully received clothing and shoes that provided her with essential warmth and comfort.

In May, the Clinic faced a sustained and complex clinical workload, which reflected the increasing healthcare needs of the informal settlement communities it serves. Strong patient attendance indicated continued confidence in the facility, as services reached mothers, children, adolescents, individuals with disabilities, and street-connected children. The burden of infectious diseases, malnutrition risks, and illnesses driven by environmental factors remained significant. Meanwhile, maternal, diagnostic, and pediatric services continued to provide timely and essential care. In May, the Clinic treated a total of 2,364 patients, with a gender ratio of 60% male and 40% female. Notably, 53% of cases were pediatric, totalling 1,233 children. The laboratory conducted 1,148 tests, of which 694 were for pediatric patients. The Antenatal Care (ANC) clinic received 162 cases, and postnatal care was provided to 27 mothers. Additionally, the Clinic performed 110 ultrasounds and administered 96 immunisations.

The 110 free ultrasound scans significantly improved early detection of pregnancy risks and strengthened mothers' confidence in antenatal care. This shifted care from uncertainty to informed clinical monitoring. The 27 postnatal visits ensured mothers and newborns were actively followed during the most vulnerable post-delivery phase, reducing missed complications and strengthening recovery support.



The Pablo Hortsman Foundation sponsored a dermatologist to hold a clinic and training at MIC in Nairobi. Dr Omar reviewed 119 patients, including 93 children. The results showed a high prevalence of untreated skin conditions linked to overcrowding, sanitation challenges, and environmental exposure. The initiative also enhanced MIC staff capacity in dermatological diagnosis and management. The observed skin conditions indicated that many were caused by environmental factors.

Dr Omar and his team assess patients



Dr Omar in CME training on Tinea Capitis, Atopic and Severe Dermatitis and Pityriasis versicolor

The CME sessions included pain management, outpatient care for sickle cell disease, treatment of severe acute malnutrition, dermatological conditions, bronchitis, fundamentals of clinical ultrasound, and family planning methods.



Nurse Eve conducting CME Training at MIC



Severe Acute Malnutrition in children

Through our school health intervention, over 5,000 children were dewormed, and some received Vitamin A supplementation, significantly reducing the burden of intestinal parasites and strengthening immunity among children in high-risk informal settlement communities. By addressing infections that contribute to malnutrition, poor growth, fatigue, and school absenteeism, the program improved children's ability to absorb nutrients, stay healthy, and participate effectively in learning. Beyond individual benefits, deworming helps reduce parasite transmission within households and the wider community, making it a cost-effective investment in healthier, more productive futures for vulnerable children.



Deworming at St Bakita



OLMVTC



St. Catherine's

In May, there was a noticeable increase in teenage pregnancies. This underscores significant gaps in education related to adolescent reproductive health, access to youth-friendly services, and early prevention systems. There is an urgent need for reproductive health training, community awareness campaigns, and improved health education in schools to address early pregnancies and reduce the risks of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.



Additionally, the introduction of a semi-automated biochemistry analyser will enhance diagnostic speed and accuracy for patients with renal, liver, and hypertensive conditions. We extend our gratitude to the Pablo Hortsman Foundation for supporting MIC in acquiring this important equipment for our laboratory.

Semi-automated biochemistry analyser

Support from the Sub-County TB Coordinator and CIHEB Kenya program officers has enhanced systems for following up on tuberculosis (TB) cases, improving adherence to TB preventive therapy (TPT), ensuring accurate documentation, and tracking patients lost to follow-up. However, if these details are not actively monitored, they can easily fall through the cracks of the system. MIC is dedicated to ensuring that all patients receive the necessary follow-up care.

A donation of 156 mg Amoxicillin/Clavulanic from Phillips Pharmaceuticals will enhance ongoing treatment for childhood infections. We sincerely appreciate this donation.



Anna Eichlberger, a volunteer nurse from Austria, concluded her service at MIC. During her time, she contributed significantly to Patient triage and flow management, Observation room support, Wound dressing and care, and strengthening clinical efficiency during high workload periods. Her presence eased pressure on an overstretched nursing team and enhanced service delivery quality through hands-on collaboration and shared learning. We sincerely bid her farewell and appreciate her dedication, professionalism, and compassion. This collaboration reflects the importance of global partnerships and volunteer engagement in strengthening frontline healthcare systems in underserved communities.



Anna shares a cake with MIC staff as they listen to her farewell speech.

Announcements

The newsletter includes sections dedicated to each Department that summarise the events that occurred throughout the month. The Head Office supports these Departments in reaching their goals. Additionally, there are often other activities and events that take place that are not specifically listed under any Department.

- MPC received a team of visitors from Action Against Hunger (Action Contre la Faim-ACF) for a courtesy visit. The purpose of the visit was to familiarise themselves with MPC for future assistance. They met with MPC Deputy Director, Dinah Mwendwa, who provided an overview of MPC's work, mission, and the impact of its initiatives on the community. The main delegation comprised of Jan Hiver, Kastriot Shatri and Lynn Frailey.



Meeting in progress with visitors from ACF

- MPC welcomed the Whistle Foundation Team, Ireland, to the Head Office, where they distributed food supplies and household items to vulnerable residents and families affected by the floods that occurred in March. The support provided much-needed relief to beneficiaries who had experienced significant losses and hardships due to the flooding, helping them meet their immediate needs and begin their recovery.



Whistle Foundation Team distribute food packages at the Head Office

- A training session sponsored by Cheshire Disability Services Kenya (CDSK), led by Program Officer Angela Maloba at the Head Office, gathered key stakeholders to enhance their understanding of individuals with special needs and foster inclusive practices in programs and services. Participants explored core concepts of disability inclusion, support strategies, and best practices for working respectfully and empowering persons with special needs. The session also offered a platform for knowledge exchange, engaging discussions, and practical guidance on improving accessibility and inclusion within organisational activities.



Participants

- The MPC bus donated by Mandurah Catholic College in 2016 needed a facelift after several years of exposure to the harsh sun. It was even given a new colour. Certainly, can't miss it!



Old



The New MPC Bus

- The MPC Board Meeting met to review the organisation's ongoing operations, performance, and strategic direction.



MPC Board meeting

Mukuru Promotion Centre

Empowerment Step by Step

Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy

Journeying over 40 Years with the Mukuru Community



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