## TUWAPENDE WATOTO

### **Orphanage**

- All of our children and employees are doing well!
- Our volunteer, Jo Zahner started a program for the children grades 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> to teach them how to play chess. His chess lessons were extremely popular with all of the students and even many of the teachers. He later organized a meeting with Geoffrey Mwanyika, the chairman of the Tanzania Chess Association and was invited by Geoffrey to visit a national chess tournament in Dar es Salaam where he met important people. We would like to thank him for his commitment to the children and students and for teaching them a new and important skill.
- In September, Francis and Emmanuel completed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade state examination, an important exam as they would not be able to continue to secondary school without a passing score. Like Jackson, they are hoping to attend the "Hope and Joy" secondary school.
- Gloria celebrated her graduation from Montessori seminar on November 15. She will now take the state examination, which she previously missed at the end of the fourth year of secondary school. The class to review material from the 3rd and the 4th grade of secondary school at the "True Success Academy" and prepare for the exam starts on December 1. Passing the exams will ensure that she's able to have access to better quality of job opportunities available.
- Kelvina, Savadi, Julius and the twins, Martha and Maria are now in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and have a lot of challenging work this year as they recently had to take their first state exam. Our school has organized classes on Saturdays and during holidays for the students to help students prepare for these important tests. As always, the teachers are doing a great job preparing the children for the exams.
- Cecilia, Nevius and Jackson who attend secondary school also did the state exam in November. We are all eagerly awaiting their results!
- Prisca brings great joy to us with her fantastic achievements at the Baobab College. She is, as always, a good role model for her younger brothers and sisters. In all the exams during the past year, Prisca was the best student in class!
- We are immensely grateful to all our volunteers who help our children doing their homework.
- Emanuel, our youngest member of the Tuwapende Watoto family is developing well. To the delight of everyone he took his first steps in October!
- In October, we started the construction works of the chicken house.
- The newly enlarged kitchen is ideal for our everyday use. The stable stainless steel kitchen offers plenty of space and is easy to clean. Thanks to the direct access via ramp from the kitchen to the dining area, transporting things from the kitchen is much easier and safer. The extended lounge is also great for the older children to do their homework in quiet.
- A revision of the solar panel system was conducted in November. We were also able to provide training for all of our employees in handling the system by the technician from Luxembourg. We are grateful to our volunteer Jo Zahner and his family and friends who generously supported this revision and training.
- In June, we picked up our new Toyota Noah minibus. We ordered the bus directly from Japan via the Internet to save money and sold the old bus to a local taxi company.

### **School**

- Our school has gained a reputable name for itself in the villages in the surrounding area. We would like
  to express our sincerest thank you to our headmistress Emmaculate for her relentless dedication. Already
  for weeks, there have been parents enrolling their children for the new school year, which starts in January. We are confident that the number of students is going to increase again and expect about 80 new
  students for the 2015 school year. We also plan to provide three kindergarten classes and two grade one
  and two grade two classes.
- In July, we put our new school bus into service. Stanley, our new bus driver, is a very reliable employee.
- At the end of June, we had to part with our kindergarten teacher Aika Ephraim. Her substitution, Judith Samson, will take over the pre-unit class in January 2015. In September, we hired the Montessori

# FUWAPENDE WATOTO

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Jo Zahner at a chess lesson with the big boys.



Chantal Detta is talking to two students in front of the school kitchen.



Prosper is happy to have a school bag.



Our administrator is preparing the documents for the sale of our property in Bunju A.



Our four school buses are ready the bring the children home.



The 8th grade and their teachers from Lindlar.



Mama Selina with our little Emmanuel.



The children appreciate the help of our volunteer Liz Freimann.

kindergarten teacher Triza Maleko who will start in January 2015. Another new teachers, Barnabas Siwingwa, started on October 1, 2014.

- The new school building with its three classrooms will be ready to open as planned in the end of this year. We want to cordially thank our sponsors, the Addax & Oryx Foundation, the Tibetania Foundation and the children's aid Foundation of the Swissair personnel.
- Thanks to the much-appreciated support of the Kiwanis Club Interlaken we can afford the furnishings for three new classrooms.
- We plan to build our next new school building in 2015. To make best use of the available space, we want to build a twostory building with six classrooms. These extra rooms will make it possible for us to provide our first vocational college class in 2016. More details about the construction of the vocational college will be published in the newsletter in May 2015.

### **New plot**

- The water quality of the borehole that was drilled in March 2014 was of low quantity and quality. The second attempt at the same location however was a success. We're happy to report that the flow and quality are now at a high standard!
- The borehole pump is connected to the public power supply system and pumps the water from the 90-meter-deep borehole.
- By Christmas, the watchman house will be finished and the new watchman, Edmund, will move in with his family. This allows us to start the vegetable and fruit garden that we will grow on the grounds.

## Property in Bunju A

 Some time ago we decided to sell our plot in the neighboring village Bunju A. We want to focus on our properties in Bunju B. Land prices have risen massively in recent years and the gains of selling the plot will be used for our next construction project.

### **New ambassador**

• The Foundation Board elected Chantal Detta, a teacher at the middle school in Oberhofen, as the new ambassador. She worked as a volunteer at the orphanage in 2013 and became very important in our nursery and primary school. She supports us in all our events in Switzerland and evaluates and creates new learning resources for our children in the orphanage and school.

### **Schoolbags for Africa**

• The parent's council Hilterfingen / Oberhofen launched the campaign, Schoolbags for Africa'. We would like to thank for all the nice schoolbags, bags, pencil cases and writing materials. Many children will benefit from this and are happy and proud.

On behalf of the children and the Foundation Board, we thank you very much for your generous support.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





Our students at roll call on Friday morning.



Baba Ema is excited about our new minivan Toyota Noah.



The guard house on the new property is ready to move in soon.



The construction of the chicken house goes fast forward.



Francis and Emmanuel our graduates of the state examination.



Our fourth graders Kelly, Nancy, Zawadi, Julius, Martha and Mary.



The new school building with three classrooms will be ready for occupation as planned end of the year.



We wish all our donors and friends of Tuwapende Watoto Merry Christmas and a happy new year.