

MIFUMI PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



2013: School registers zero Drop outs

Five years ago Mifumi Primary School lost up to 25 pupils each year with the majority being girls forced into early marriages. Other dropped outs resulted from lack of basic school requirements, change of schools, lack of support from parents and guardians and the need for child labour during sowing and harvesting seasons.

Five years in a row now, Mifumi Primary School has registered no school drop outs.

Deputy Head Teacher; Mr. Sagaya credits this to the efforts of teachers and support from MIFUMI in campaigns and sensitisation to parents, guardians and the community on the importance of education. He adds that pupils and parents have embraced the idea of teachers mentoring their children, offering guidance and counselling and pupils participating in popular clubs like the SureStart, football and debate clubs.

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School Farm supplements on meals.



Maize and beans garden

While many of the pupils thought the school demonstration farm is mainly a learning and practice ground, they learnt that their efforts not in vain.

The head teacher, Mr. Onyango Bernard confirmed to the pupils that everything grown in the garden will supplement on the pupils meals at school. He added that the school is already enjoying a good supply of vegetables served every at meal because of the recent favourable rainy season.

Examination Board experts meet with teachers, pupils



Pupils look through the new Vision Education magazine

On 28th of August 2013, four teachers with years of experience as examiners on the national Primary Leaving Examination board were on a two day visit to Mifumi Primary school.

The purpose of their visit was to share experiences and guide teachers on practical approaches for handling difficult topics for primary school pupils and preparing children in candidate classes for examinations.

The examiners; Okumu Dominic Solomon, Muwerezza Samuel, Olowo Godfrey and Owor S. Biko saved a couple of hours each to interact with the candidates and help them prepare for the primary leaving examinations. The pupils were also given the opportunity to ask questions and share challenges in answering examination questions.

Learning from the visit, Mifumi Primary School teachers are exhibiting team work to ensure that pupils compete favourably with candidates in the big cities.

Teachers are also using practical teaching with learning aids like charts, textbooks. Special exercises are also being given to pupils who need extra help besides homework. Remedial lessons are conducted on a daily basis.

Parents are being encouraged to attend and participate in all school in an effort to improve upon the school academic standard and maintain the good parent - school relationship.

Mary Clare Makes Mifumi Proud



Mary Clare carrying bag she received for excelling

Mifumi Primary School was one of the schools that participated and excelled at the July 2013 literacy campaign beating 21 other schools that entered the completion in Kirewa sub-county.

Each school sent four pupils to take part in the two week long activity packed event.

The children were assessed and awarded marks for skills and articulation in reading, writing and public speaking.

The competition categories included debate, essay writing and specified public speech writing and delivery.

Mifumi Primary School management sent four participant namely; Akuno Mary Clare, Nyafwono Anna Rose Oketcho, Odipo Jude and Makola John who excelled in all categories.

Mary Clare Akuna was pronounced the best overall pupil in the sub-country putting Mifumi Primary School in first Place.

The literacy campaign was organized by world Vision

Talent emerges at Music, Dance and Drama Festival



Pupils in their acting costumes

After weeks of rehearsals, the pupils of the primary school were ready to compete at the 2013 music festival.

The criteria for selecting the winners was based on how well competitors excelled in the performance of traditional folk songs, dances and drama, poetry, western set piece among others.

The two day event that concluded on Friday 12th September 2013 saw Mifumi Primary school emerge in 3rd place at sub-county. The school is now preparing for the district competitions scheduled for later this year.

Mifumi Primary school encourages Pupils to participate in all extracurricular activities to nurture their talents and interests.

MIFUMI NEW BOARD

Early this July, Mifumi Primary School Management Committee inaugurated new board members with MIFUMI Deputy Executive Director Mr. Patrick Ndira as the chairperson.

The other board members are;

- Munene Joseph- Vice chairperson
- Mr. Owor Moses-member
- Mr. Glyn Turner-member
- Sr. Gorretti Athieno- member
- Beatrice Atyang-Member
- Zachary-Odoi Ochieng- Local Government rep.
- Ms. Nyadoi Scovia Local Council Rep
- Mr. Oketcho Richard Tito- Sub county rep
- Mr. Omita Stephen-Parents Rep
- Mr. Sgaya valentine-staff rep
- Mr. owor Sebastian- sold students rep
- Mr. Onyango Bernard, school head teacher/ Ex-Officio member

Mrs. Atuki Turner, MIFUMI Executive Director continues as the school

Julie, Tom wow Pupils at Mifumi Primary School



Pupils join Juliet on stage

Acoustic jazz band mates Juliet Nasanga and Thomas Madooba were the best thing that happened to the pupils of Mifumi Primary school on Thursday 15th August 2013 when the cloudy afternoon denied them the opportunity to enjoy their extracurricular outdoor activities.

Julie and Tom visited Mifumi Primary school following an invite from MIFUMI Director Glyn Turner. The band mates shared a light moment with the pupils on their dreams and career paths. The band mates told them they could become anything they dreamed of becoming in life but for now staying in school was a good decision they had made.

The band surprised pupils with a live performance at the school hall. The pupils and staff joined in when their favourite tunes were sang.

'Please come again' was the children's farewell message to the band.



From the H/M's Desk

Dear Parents, board, friends and well-wishers,

On behalf of the school and staff of Mifumi Primary School, I would like to extend our utmost gratitude to you all for continually supporting purpose of existent which is to ensure all children enjoy the basic right to a good education.

Our term started on a good note with all our candidate pupils reporting within the first two days of school.

I would also like to mention at this point that all 624 pupils that we enrolled at the beginning of this year are still in school. For this, we are especially grateful to the parents who've taken heed of our communication to keep their children in school.

I wish to recognise the consorted effort by all stakeholders to put Mifumi Primary School in records as one of the best schools in Uganda. This leaves a lot to be desired; first of students to commit to work hard and be in school, of the parents to keep the children in school and support in their scholastic needs and finally of teachers to commit to ensuring the best education to their pupils.

Mifumi Primary School has become reputable for promoting girl child education. The numbers of pupils in lower primary classes have increased forcing school management to stream classes. The Primary 2, 3, 4 and 5 classes now have 2 streams each with about 90 pupils. At the beginning of each year the school receives about 45 requests for placement in each class.

The school is therefore faced with the need for more course books and readers for these children.

The school recently acquired computers as donations from MIFUMI and her partners. Computer lessons are an essential package in many secondary schools in Uganda. Mifumi Primary School wants to give her pupils a head start to computer literacy. Pupils and teachers are keen to have computer lessons conducted in their classes but are limited by the unavailability of electricity in the classroom blocks. Electrification of the classrooms will enable pupils from neighborhood and teachers to come in for evening preps.

While the rainy season was good for the vegetable gardens, it was not so good for the boys pit latrine that caved in due to the rains. There is an urgent need for 4 pit latrines.

Mifumi Primary School recognises initial efforts by the community and their leaders through contributions in kind towards repairing the access road to the school. Thank you again.

Indeed for us to be where we are now, a lot has been done by the various stakeholders and in that respect I wish to thank:-

- MIFUMI for the financial, material and the overall support to our school and community.
- Mr. John Carnegie for his continued interest and support

- Stanbic Bank Jersey
- Jersey Overseas Aid Commission
- One Foundation for paying teachers' salary top up
- John Roberts and the Winnie Binns trust for support towards the boarding section
- Various donors for their generosity to the school
- The Government of Uganda for the school grants.
- School management committee and PTA for steering school and their developmental programs.
- The teachers for their hard work since the year began.
- The local community leaders for their support for the school
- Parents/guardians for the tireless effort to meet the needs of the children at school and at home.

Best regards
Onyangyo Bernard
Headmaster
Mifumi Primarv School

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