It is our intention as a school to produce newsletters and circulate them to our stakeholders with the aim of sharing the work we do at the school. These newsletters highlight events at the school and also convey essential details about the changes that have happened at School.

This period, we have the pleasure of sharing with you the highlights which include; renovation of the school, gardening and the library facility in aiding reading culture at the school.

THE SCHOOL EMBARKS ON MAJOR RENOVATIONS

Mifumi Primary School had burdened by the structures that visibly needed repairs until recently when a grant of GBP 3,500 was made by Mifumi Primary School-Jersey Charity and Standard Bank - Jersey towards this cause that saw a total overhaul of all the School’s buildings.

Following the selection of the bidder in May 2019, the Construction Engineer and Technical Management team did a site visit to Mifumi Primary School to ascertain the nature and magnitude of work that needed to be done. It was upon this assessment that the quotation for the renovation would be made.

The Builders started by painting the interior and exterior of all the 12 classrooms, library, staff room, school store and administration block; scrapping the floors and re-filling them, replacing old and adding new pictorial learning aids on the exterior walls.

The renovations have noticeably enhanced the overall aesthetics of the school’s buildings.  >>
The pupils, School Administration, District Education Office and community are pleased and grateful for these renovations. The District Education Office in particular has referenced this initiative as something other schools would emulate.

The colourful pictorial learning walls paintings motivate pupils to reflect on and practice what they learnt in class with their peers during class breaks. “I am happy to see the newly renovated school buildings with attractive paintings” said Fred Odoi, a primary 5 pupil at the School.

The rest of the pupils who watched the project process promised to maintain the walls paintings clean by not touching them with dirty hands or stepping on them with their feet.

Mr Silver Olweny (the head teacher), was thankful to the Donors and MIFUMI for the thoughtful support to improve the school facilities.

Below are some images that show The school structures before and after renovations

![The Verandah to main Administrative Block](image1)

![The Pictorial learning aids on the walls](image2)

![The School Library](image3)

Other renovations were done on the nursery and School Main Hall
There is a saying in this community that vegetables from your own garden are tastier and higher in nutrients than the ones from elsewhere. This is most likely attributed to the harsh or unhygienic conditions the other vegetables may have been exposed to as they make their way to the market.

The Gardening Master, Mr. Samson Onduri, an agriculturalist with vast knowledge in farming recently set up a demonstration site on the School property to avail pupils and communities to learn the hands-on skills of good and productive farming.

Vegetable growing is a venture that the School is embarking on in a bid to supplement the diet of the pupils and staff School meals. At the moment the garden has tomatoes, egg plants (aubergine or brinjal), among others.

According to Samson, pupils need a good diet in order to develop and grow well. During the gardening lessons, Mr. Onduri, works carefully with the pupils to teach them how to grow foods which are essential for their health and wellbeing. He encourages pupils to participate in the demonstration farm by challenging them to plant, take care, harvest and take home their crops. Samson enjoys lessons with the pupils because they are open to learning new ideas and skills.

Besides the vegetables, the school has started experimenting in growing maize for porridge.

The School is hopeful that if this agricultural venture picks up and expands, it would in the long run significantly cut down on costs allocated towards monthly purchase and supply of food to the school. This gardening might also be the sustainable feeding venture for the School in the future. Already the demonstration site has started to grow Maize with the intent of providing the daily school breakfast porridge meal. The demonstration site is also looking to adopt scientific methods like mixed cropping, bush fallowing among others.

Recently, the Management team toured the demo site. They were impressed with what they saw. ‘I noticed that the garden master was particular about how the crops were doing. He did that by thoroughly inspecting the crops one by one to ensure that they are not infected. I also noticed that careful considerations were taken whereby the maize was planted a distance away from the tomatoes because these two are prone to common fungal diseases that can easily be transferred hence affecting the yields. I also learnt that if one has maize, tomatoes and egg plants then they have a full meal because they complement each other for a simple African meal and therefore, one is assured of a hunger free day.’ noted Beatrice Atyang, The Project Coordinator.
Mifumi primary school is one of very few schools in Tororo District with a well-furnished and functional library. The Library has a sitting capacity of eighty users. It is stocked with books and other teaching and learning resources in various subjects for both Pupils and Teachers.

The library is spacious, with good ventilation and lighting that allows pupils to access it at scheduled or supervised times of the day. The official time for library use is between lunch break, after class time (from 4:00-5:00pm) and over the weekends on Saturday.

Reading desks are positioned in a way that allows room for one to move around with ease. For those not comfortable with the desks, synthetic mats have been placed at various points within the library, to allow them to sit while reading. Also within the Library are computers with internet connection for teachers to do research. There are 13 e-readers and other board games that are good for the children’s education.

Mr. Samson Onduri, who is in charge of the library stated that the Library had significantly enhanced the reading culture and improved on word spellings amongst the Pupils. Samson also noted that we’re now using many of the Library’s amenities to research and effectively prepare for lessons.

Teachers and Pupils are allowed to borrow a maximum of two books at a time for a period of one week. The teachers mainly borrow books to aid in lesson preparations and planning while the pupils do so mainly for study, revision and references.

Our utmost gratitude to all the donors, friends and well-wishers whose continued support has enabled this community School and its pupils

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