

Africa's memories

KenToledo Social Service Club Newsletter

Issue 04 – May 2021



THE INSIDE STORY

Greetings from KenToledo Social Service Club [KTSSC] and the Valter Baldaccini Foundation.

We are all grateful to God for protecting us during these trying times amid the Covid-19 Pandemic.

It has not been easy, but with one heart we are THANKFUL TO ALL OUR DONORS who, through the Valter Baldaccini Foundation, stood with us and our Mathare slum family. Thank you for the pandemic food relief and the Christmas package you provided to the children.

We would like to thank God for his care and protection throughout the years. Since our last magazine in April 2020, the Valter Baldaccini Foundation, working with Kentoledo Social Service Club has continued implementing its goal of helping the children from Mathare Slums with education and social welfare.

Under KTSSC, the Valter Baldaccini foundation has continued its support for 39 needy and vulnerable children from the Mathare slums for their primary and secondary Education. In addition to the 39 children, one youth; Mary Gaturu, is being supported for University Education. We are happy to report that John Wambua Miti who was being supported in a tertiary college completed his studies and he is working for a short time.



Photo 1: On the left is John Wambua Miti while on the Right is Mary Gaturu currently at the University

Seven children from the program will be completing their High School education this year in April waiting placement into higher institutes of learning. Three children out of the 41 beneficiaries will complete their Primary school education in April this year awaiting to join High schools in Early July 2021.



Photo 2: From the Right is Brian Macharia and Paul Iguru. They are excited to complete their high school education this April

COVID-19 UPDATES

It has now been one year since the first case of the Corona Virus was diagnosed in Kenya. Fortunately, the number of cases detected daily have declined drastically from September 2020 to early March 2021. We also see a light at the end of the tunnel after the Government received first doses of the Covid-19 vaccines. The vaccines will first be administered to frontline workers like health workers and teachers which will greatly help to reduce the spread of the virus in schools. Schools in Kenya resumed lessons in October last year after a drastic drop in the number of COVID-19 infection cases. In schools, children are still wearing masks and practicing hand washing with soap using running water. In mid-March this year, the government was worried about the 3rd wave of the Corona Virus outbreak after a surge in the daily reported cases. This has led to closure of schools, hotels and

churches, lockdown of some counties and increased covid-19 counter measures such as 8p.m to 4a.m curfew hours.

Despite the disruptions caused by the Corona virus pandemic, we are grateful that up to now, none of the children in the program nor any KTSSC staff have contracted the virus. The virus disrupted the academic calendar resulting in a complete change of the Kenyan Academic Calendars for the years 2020, 2021 and 2022. A noticeable change is like the beginning and the end of the academic year calendar for 2020, 2021 and 2022. For the new academic year calendar, we would like to inform you that Class 8 and Form 4 students will be taking their National Examinations in April hence completing primary level and secondary (high school) level education in April respectively, awaiting transition to new or higher levels of education in July.

This year we have four academic semesters as follows:

- 1) Semester 2 of 2020 academic calendar: **January – Mid March 2021 Semester.**
- 2) Semester 3 of 2020 academic calendar: **May – Mid July 2021 Semester.**
- 3) Semester 1 of 2021 academic calendar: **Mid July – October 2021 Semester.**
- 4) Semester 2 of 2021 academic calendar: **Mid October – December 2021 Semester.**

For the academic years 2020 and 2021, the new academic year will begin in July and end in April of the next year.

Below is the complete breakdown of the Kenyan Calendar

Table 1: Kenyan School Year Calendar For 2020 - 2023

KENYAN SCHOOL CALENDER 2021 TO 2023			
2020 TERM 2 AND 3 REVISED SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR CONTINUING LEARNERS			
Here are the new term dates for the PPI and 2; Grade 1, 2 and 3; Class 5, 6 and 7 and 7; and Form 1, 2 and 3 learners.			
Activity	Opening Dates	Closing Dates	Duration
Term 2	04/01/2021	19/03/2021	11 weeks
Holiday	20/03/2021	09/05/2021	7 weeks
Term 3	10/05/2021	16/07/2021	10 weeks
Halfterm Break	03/06/2021	07/06/2021	3 Days
Holiday	17/07/2021	25/07/2021	1 week
2021 TERM DATES FOR ALL LEARNERS			
Activity	Opening Dates	Closing Dates	Duration
Term 1	26/07/2021	01/10/2021	10 weeks
Halfterm Break	26/08/2021	29/08/2021	3 days
Holiday	02/10/2021	10/10/2021	1 week
Term 2	11/10/2021	23/12/2021	11 weeks
Christmas/Holiday	24/12/2021	02/01/2022	10 days
Term 3	03/01/2022	04/03/2022	9 weeks
KCPE	07/03/2022	10/03/2022	4 days
KCSE	11/03/2022	01/04/2022	3 weeks 1 day
KCSE MARKING	04/04/2022	22/04/2022	3 weeks
2022 TERM DATES FOR ALL LEARNERS			
Activity	Opening Dates	Closing Dates	Duration
Term 1	25/04/2022	01/07/2022	10 weeks
Halfterm Break	26/05/2022	29/05/2022	3 Days
Holiday	02/07/2022	10/07/2022	1 week
Term 2	11/07/2022	16/09/2022	10 weeks
Halfterm Break	11/08/2022	14/08/2022	3 Days
Holiday	17/09/2022	25/09/2022	1 week
Term 3	26/09/2022	25/11/2022	9 weeks
KCPE	28/11/2022	01/12/2022	4 Days
KCSE	01/12/2022	23/12/2022	3 Weeks, 1 Day
KCSE MARKING	02/01/2023	20/01/2023	3 Weeks
2023 TERM DATES FOR ALL LEARNERS			
Activity	Opening Dates	Closing Dates	Duration
Term 1	23/01/2023	21/04/2023	13 weeks
Halfterm Break	23/03/2023	26/03/2023	3 days
Holiday	22/04/2023	07/05/2023	2 weeks
Term 2	08/05/2023	11/08/2023	13 weeks
Halfterm Break	29/06/2023	02/07/2023	3 days
Holiday	12/08/2023	27/08/2023	2 weeks
Term 3	28/08/2023	03/11/2023	10 weeks
KCPE	06/11/2023	09/11/2023	4 days
KCSE	10/11/2023	01/12/2023	3 weeks 1 day
KCSE MARKING	04/12/2023	22/12/2023	3 weeks

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the Valter Baldaccini Foundation for your continued support of the children from the Mathare slums. The children are so grateful because the program has changed their lives in many ways. They say Thank You as we pray that God continues blessing you abundantly so that you can keep being a light in the dark valley of the Mathare Slums.

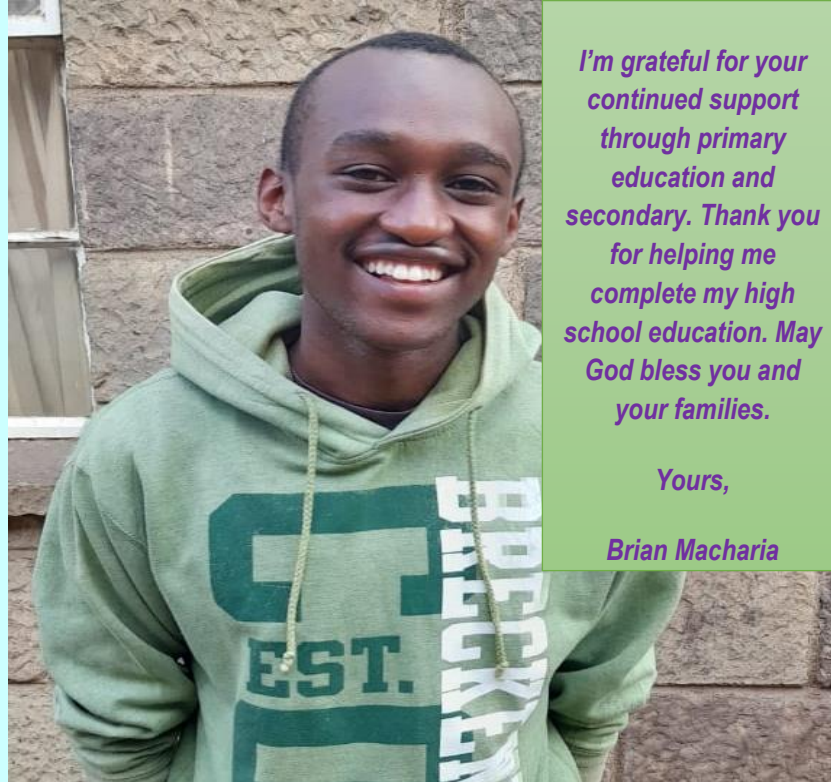


Photo 3: Brian Macharia, beneficiary

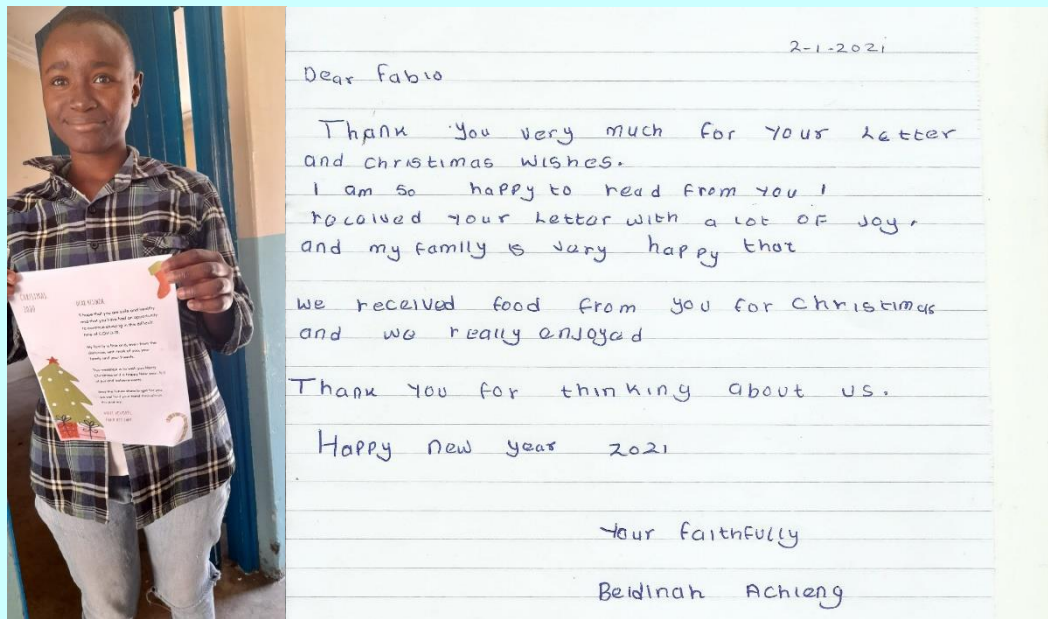


Photo 1: Beldina Achieng holding a letter from her sponsor



I am thankful to my sponsor for paying my school fees and for covid – 19 relief support. God bless you and your family.

Yours Faithfully,

Photo 5: Monica Akinyi

NEWS AND UPDATES

Here at KTSSC it saddens us to inform you that in January and February, Joy Wangare of Mathaithi Girls High School lost her parents. Joy is in Form One and now an orphan living with her elder sister in a rental house for which the Foundation helps support the rent. Joy's parents were ill before they passed away.



Photo 6: Joy Wangare that lost her parents this year

We are also glad to inform all our donors that last year, under the KTSSC Urban to Rural Integration Program, with the aid from other sponsors, we relocated Miriam Mugure's family to the countryside in their native village in Murang'a County after constructing a permanent house on their village land. The grandmother of Miriam is now happily enjoying the village's fresh air. She is so excited to live in the countryside.

See the pictures below:



Photo 7: Miriam Mugure's Grandmother at her new house in the countryside



Photo 8: Miriam Mugure's new residence in the village constructed by KTSSC partners 2020



Photo 9: In Blue track suite is Miriam Mugure's and her family



Photo 10: KTSSC staff together with Miriam Mugure's family during the house handover day in Murang'a county

In 2019, John Wambua Miti's family was relocated to their native Kitui County after KTSSC, with the help of its donors, built them a permanent house.

See the photos below.



Photo 11: John Wambua's family house in Kitui constructed by KTSSC partners in 2019



Photo 12: On right is John's mother receiving a title deed to the house from one of KTSSC donor partners

The Valter Baldaccini Foundation helped KTSSC provide every child in Foundation's sponsorship program with a Christmas package that consisted of sugar, rice, cooking oil, baking flour, maize flour, salt, tea leaves, beans and bar soap and some money for the greens. The children and their parents/Guardians were overjoyed and deeply expressed their gratitude to Valter Baldaccini Foundation.



Photo 13: Christmas package offered to Valter Baldaccini Foundation beneficiaries



Photo 14: Beneficiaries after receiving the Christmas packages



Photo 15: Some of the beneficiaries with their packages



Photo 16: Beneficiaries awaiting to receive their Christmas packages



Photo 17: At the Centre in blue track top is Miriam Mugure awaiting her Christmas package

We are also glad to inform you that under KTSSC's Mathare Women Empowerment program, due to hard times and empowerment of our mothers, John Wambua's mother, Winfred Miti, received a dairy cow from a well-wisher.



Photo 18: Winfred Miti attending to her cow

We are always thankful and grateful to our Donor who have helped us reach these milestones

THANK YOU



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