



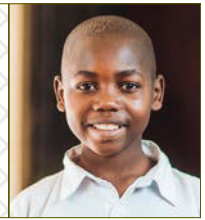
ANNUAL REPORT 2017

*"Little children, you are from God and
have overcome... he who is in you is
greater than he who is in the world."*

1 John 4:4 ESV

A Visit to the Museum

By Petro Musya - Class 5 Student.



It was a Friday morning that I woke up very excited. I put on my uniform and ran to school without even having breakfast. I found the Class 4 & 5 pupils waiting. Our class teacher told us to go and buy snacks. We all went and bought our snacks at the nearby shop.

At 9.00 AM, the bus arrived. We took 40 minutes to reach the Kenya National Museum. We reached the museum at 9:40 AM. At the entrance we found two security guards who inspected our bus and then allowed us to go in.

We were directed to the parking lot and the teacher asked us to pray before we got off the bus. A gentleman called Mr. Kariuki came to meet us. He told us that he was going to be our guide for the day and asked us to make a line. Then Ms. Wanjala told us about the Museum and the rules for the day as Mr. Onyango went to buy our tickets. We were not to run around, get on the elevator and we were only allowed to carry a notebook and a pen into the museum.

Mr. Onyango came back with our tickets and we were allowed to go in. There were many things to see in the entry hall. There was a large map of Kenya, different kinds of butterflies, and an old calabash used by the Luo people. Mr. Kariuki then took us to the Birds of Africa room. We saw hornbills, doves, vultures, flamingoes, eagles, hummingbirds, ostrich, hawks and owls. We saw an ostrich egg and learned that it takes 2 hours to boil an ostrich egg.

As we moved from room to room we saw different animals such as monkeys, lions, antelopes, impala, hippos,

gorillas, chimpanzees, elephants and zebras. After that we went to the humans hall. There we saw the skulls of early man, many which have been found in Kenya. We saw that people had hair on their bodies. We learnt that the early man ate bird eggs while some people ate antelopes.

After that we went to the hall of history of Kenya. There we saw traditional things from different Kenyan cultures from stools to weapons. We saw cowrie shells that were used as money to trade in the olden days. There were also baby carriers made of leather. We saw how the first Kenyan railway was constructed. We saw the real clothes of Dedan Kimathi, Kenya's fiercest freedom fighter. We also saw samples of the wooden guns that freedom fighters used during the colonial times. We saw the clothes of colonial soldiers and we also saw the chair that the 1st president Mzee Jomo Kenyatta sat on when he became president.

After lunch we went to the snake park. There were different types of snakes such as the green mamba, African rock python, black mamba, and red mamba. There was a pond where we saw an American alligator, crocodiles and giant snails. I learnt that the alligator is hunted to make purses and shoes. We saw some tortoises and were allowed to touch their shells. They looked like plastic when they were resting. We also saw some fish in an aquarium. After that we took a bus and went back to school. It was truly an exciting and interesting day. I wrote a letter to my cousins telling them about the trip.





A Rich Blessing

By Stella Ndiho, Kenya Director of Development



On June 16th 2017, at 9 am the Mawewa Primary students waited for students from four neighboring schools so they could start the Children4Peace Walk. It was a cloudy morning that threatened rain, but our students didn't care about the weather. Their excited chatter focused on the concert after the walk where they would see several popular Kenyan musicians perform.

As the eduKenya team planned the peace initiative, the aim was not only to create a memory of seeing a famous musician, but to help the students recognize the power of the collective voice of children in Mathare. Five years ago, Mawewa students had a similar peace walk just before the last Kenyan election, asking the community to remain peaceful during and after the elections. The result – in the community where the peace walk took place, there were no recorded incidents of violence after the general election in 2012. So, as Kenyans prepared to vote again in August 2017, we encouraged our Mawewa students to speak peace in their community through action and words.

The teachers at the Mawewa School teach the value of living in peace despite ethnic, religious, or political differences. Through their efforts, we have witnessed Mawewa students growing in confidence as they learn that they have a voice. The children were encouraged by many community members throughout the Children4Peace Walk. This was a rich blessing in a community that usually has the attitude that “children are meant to be seen and not heard.” As we approached a matatu (a 24 seat mini-bus) terminal, there was a concern for the safety of our students walking through an area of great chaos with passengers looking for the right bus and matatu conductors trying to attract customers. On a typical day, other motorists are usually intimidated off the road to create a way for the matatus, and children are ignored. However on this day, we not only had encouragement to keep speaking peace to the community, but a few matatu conductors even joined us for a few minutes! By lunchtime, the students had recited poems and sang songs of peace and enjoyed many songs by the local artists who joined the peace initiative.

After the elections in August and October 2017, Mathare experienced high instances of vandalism, violence and police retaliation of the same. In the chaos surrounding the elections, our students and their families were safe. Through your support for eduKenya, you give the children of Mathare under our care opportunities to become catalysts for change in their community. The Children4Peace Walk had a positive impact in Mathare as many community members became aware of the role they play in spreading and maintaining peace in their community. Our children openly talked about how the election affected them and what they hoped to change when they grew up and had the chance to vote. We hope our students continue to spread the message of peace wherever they can, and that the children of the Mawewa School continue to be advocates of change wherever they are.

iContribute

By Njeri Gould

Growing up in Mathare, the teenage years are make or break for many. Teen pregnancy, drugs, single parent financially strapped homes, gang recruitment and violence are not just buzzwords describing life in the slum, but are the harsh reality surrounding a majority of our students. E. E. Cummings said, "It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are." It takes courage to dream about a better and brighter future for yourself when surrounded by a community that says there is no hope. It takes courage to be different in your words and actions, choosing the hard road of diligence and discipline when everyone around you chooses the easy road. It takes courage to care; to reject apathy and care about yourself, your family and those whom society has forgotten. It takes courage to give sacrificially when everything in society tells you, you should be looking out for number one. At Mawewa School, our Rites of Passage (ROPES®) program, which every Class 8 student takes part in, offers a path to harness our students courage and direct it to shape them into becoming who they really are.

As part of ROPES®, one of the lessons dubbed 'iContribute' saw the students challenged to give back. Despite their own personal financial challenges, our students plucked up their courage to ask friends and family or even do odd jobs to raise money over the August holiday. At the beginning of the term, they put together their contributions ranging from KES 50 – KES 200 (50¢ - \$2) raising a total of KES 1600 (\$16). With this money they were able to buy a bale of Maize meal, vegetables and other non-perishables to donate to the Missions of Charity home. Missions of Charity, located in nearby Huruma, cares for women and children with physical disabilities, many of whom have been abandoned by their families who do not have the knowledge, patience or resources to take care of them. Each day the



women and children are fed, cleaned, helped to move around, and prayed with. Volunteers work in catering, cleaning and caring for the flower, vegetable and fruit tree gardens.

Missions of Charity were excited to welcome our energetic, young Mawewa students who were so enthusiastic about serving. Our students joined in the children's morning prayer before they broke up into different service groups. Throughout their day, our students and accompanying teachers scrubbed the outdoor cleaning areas for both the children and women, and helped with laundry. They also helped feed some of the older children who are not able to feed themselves, restocked firewood, and cleaned the lunch dishes. After all the activities, the students presented their gift to the Sister-in-charge of Mission of Charity home, who in turn presented each student with a memento; a photo of Mother Teresa and a charm that would act as a reminder to pray for the needy in the world.

After their visit, Mawewa students reflected on their experience, expressing their appreciation for their own good health and challenged each other to be generous givers. The students also learned practical ways to make giving a lifestyle in the future as they discussed how to make and keep a budget. Above all, they learned that God has a good plan and purpose for each person. As our students continue to participate in our ROPES® program and as they continue to grow, we hope and pray that they have the courage to become who they really are: revolutionary, Christ-centered teens and young adults who will change their community.





Drama Festivals

By Kathie Friedel

The Kenya School Calendar is divided into three terms. The Ministry of Education designates specific co-curricular activities during the first two terms: Drama Festivals in the 1st term, and Music Festivals and Sports Competitions in the 2nd term. There are no nationally recognized competitive activities during the 3rd term, allowing the students to prepare for National Examinations.

Students at Mawewa School have taken part in the Kenya Music Festival for several years,

but in 2017, Mawewa students also participated in the Kenya Drama Festival. Each Drama production required costumes, props, and backdrops, which can get expensive, but the Mawewa School is blessed to have an in-house carpenter to make the props and the eduKenya Community Sustainability Sewing Program designs and makes all costumes.

Easing into the competition, students entered three out of six categories: Swahili Narrative, Dramatized Solo Verse, and Play. The Swahili Narrative “Mbilikimo Mkora,” performed by Class 4 student, Esther, placed 2nd in the Kasarani (local) competition and 8th at the County level.

Ryan in Class 7, performed and won 1st place with a solo verse, “Nightmares of Direction,” at the Kasarani and County competitions, earning him a spot at the Regional competitions. Ryan is no stranger to representing Mawewa School with his artistic skills. In 2016, Ryan won 5th place in Public Speaking at the National level of the Kenya Music Festival.

The play, “At the Zoo,” was written and directed by Ochieng B. Ochieng, a drama expert

hired by Mawewa School to train students and staff in the art and skill of acting and stagecraft. The play addressed environmental issues surrounding the fate of animals in a game reserve. The entire 6th Grade class performed the play at the Kasarani and County levels, winning a 1st and 2nd place, respectively. They also moved on to Regionals. The casting of “At the Zoo” surprised students and teachers alike, as a few of the more reticent students found their artistic voices and landed main roles.

Mawewa School’s participation in the drama and music festivals introduces our students to performing arts education and helps develop their confidence, creativity, perseverance, focus, collaboration, and accountability. Additionally, participation in events outside Mathare exposes the students to other Kenyan traditions and promotes the preservation of Kenya’s rich cultural heritage. eduKenya is proud to see our students advance to higher levels in the drama competition, but we are prouder still of the transformation of their minds and character as they navigate and embrace new and challenging opportunities.





Hope for the Future

By Njeri Gould



Trizah Njoki has big dreams. She is passionate about helping the sick. Her dream is that one day she would become a neurosurgeon. Trizah is only 11 years old, but her fascination with the human brain, how it works and what makes things go wrong has started early.

A year ago, Trizah would often be found at the center of her many friends, laughing and playing, full of energy. She has always loved her life at school, and is usually at the top of her class, as she does well in all subjects. Unfortunately, Trizah began to suffer from frequent headaches and she would feel like her heart was racing. Eventually, her episodes became worse, and after a number of trips to the hospital, Trizah was diagnosed with epilepsy. Trizah now had to learn how to manage different situations that trigger her condition, like being surprised by her very playful friends. She continues to suffer from severe headaches that are sometimes accompanied by uncontrollable shivering and an increased heart rate. Though she is still a joyful, positive girl at heart, Trizah now understandably cries often, not always knowing how to cope.

2017 saw Trizah visit various hospitals with her parents. She

has undergone numerous scans as doctors have attempted to determine the best course of action for her treatment. Her parents have struggled to provide for her medical care and do not have the money to buy the expensive drugs she needs to manage her epilepsy effectively. Her mother prays for her fervently everyday, and Trizah says that God seems to be answering her mother's prayers, as she rarely has attacks.

Trizah remains undeterred by her challenging health. Her courage is admirable. She says, "Being epileptic isn't the end of the road. I don't feel pity for myself because I know God will heal me. I want my life to make a difference, that's why I would like to be a neurosurgeon. I also want to help the needy people around me, especially orphans. I want to visit them, pray with them and encourage them."

We thank God that Trizah is surrounded by a loving and supportive family. She is thankful for her understanding and supportive teachers. She says their passion in helping her whenever she feels sick gives her strength and courage. She is optimistic that she will be free of the disease one day because nothing works like fervent prayer.

At eduKenya we are thankful for all of our students, many of whom face a myriad of challenges just like Trizah. We are encouraged by their perseverance and motivated by their spirit. When you support eduKenya through prayer, volunteering, visiting and giving financially, your support enables us to create more and more opportunities that empower our students and their families to grow and become catalysts for change in Mathare.

Steadfast Faith

By Njeri Gould

Jackson Ndambuki's mother was excited. As she waited eagerly for Mr. Maingi, our Mawewa School Principal, she couldn't seem to curb her enthusiasm. Even though it was a little earlier than most families, Mama Jackson wanted to see Mr. Maingi so she could get the list of all the school supplies that Jackson would need for his new boarding school experience in high school. Mama Jackson couldn't stop smiling, she had a special testimony of God's faithfulness. God had proven Himself to her, as a God who heard her prayers and answered them.

It all began early in 2017, when Jackson's grandmother paid them a visit. As she was leaving she mentioned to Jackson's parents that they should keep their expectations low when it came to Jackson. Jackson's grandmother did not believe that Jackson would get good enough grades to make it into high school. As soon as she left, Mama Jackson turned to her husband and asked if he had heard what his mother had said. She then went on to tell him that the God she believed in, this God she worshipped, whose word she listened to faithfully, who she praised every Sunday in church with other believers, and to whom she paid a tithe, would not put her to shame. Due to a previously undiagnosed case of severe dyslexia, Jackson had struggled academically for many years. Despite his challenges, Mama Jackson believed in her son, she believed in the power of prayer, she believed Jackson's teachers' words of encouragement, and she just knew that at the end of 2017, Jackson's exam results would be a testimony of God's faithfulness and ever present help in her son's life. Yes, Mama Jackson knew Jackson was not as academically strong as some of his other classmates, but her first born was quiet, disciplined, hard-working and obedient. She trusted God would see him through.

Through 2017, Mama Jackson saw her son struggle, but slowly he began to acquire the skills necessary to overcome his reading challenges, and his grades began to steadily improve. Through it all Jackson's teachers at Mawewa School gave him all the support he needed to succeed. Mama Jackson also noticed that Jackson was maturing and becoming much more confident. He had begun to benefit from the ROPES® classes that his class had throughout the year. Jackson's father had also begun to experience transformation. As he participated in the ROPES® parents classes, he had developed a greater sense of responsibility as a father, provider and caregiver, showing more concern for Jackson, his family, and



the all-round education of his children. The overnight visit to the ROPES® camp in November 2017 had such a huge impact on Jackson's father that he came back a changed man. Now Mama and Baba Jackson were working together to see their son succeed in his education.

At the end of the year, all the hard work paid off, and Jackson surpassed all the expectations by scoring right around the national average for private schools. When asked what she thought about Jackson's performance, Mama Jackson simply said "I am not very surprised."

After a short wait, filled with conversations with passing Mawewa School staff offering her congratulations on her son's exam performance, Mama Jackson finally got to see Mr. Maingi and received Jackson's list of school supplies. Baba Jackson had just purchased Jackson's metal suitcase in which he would put all his school things when he would travel to the boarding high school in 2018. Now Mama Jackson could get a head start on shopping for her son so that they would have everything they needed on time for the new school year. And the icing on the cake; Jackson's grandparents were amazed at his growth and have committed to supporting his parents in providing for Jackson throughout his four years of high school.

Financial Snapshot

Fiscal Year 2017

eduKenya is dedicated to the highest standards of financial stewardship and accountability to both our donors and the people we serve. We are committed to efficiently and transparently utilizing the resources entrusted to us.

We regularly monitor program budgets and costs to ensure that resources are maximized and used for their intended purposes. Annual audits and reviews are conducted by Certified Public Accountants.

Here is the unaudited statement of our financial position for the year ending December 31, 2017.

REVENUE

Individual/Private	\$310,960
Business/Corporate	\$122,010
Churches	\$52,964
Nonprofits	\$36,183
Rental Income	\$11,815
School Fees	\$29,874
Skills Training	\$75

TOTAL \$ 563,881

ASSETS

US	KENYA
\$79,800 Current	\$57,125 Current
\$10,359 Fixed	\$290,656 Fixed
\$90,159 TOTAL	\$347,781 TOTAL

LIABILITIES

\$3,261 US
\$10,511 Kenya

EXPENSES

\$319,034	School, Skills Training, Community Support
\$91,444	US Administrative
\$60,838	Fundraising
\$16,025	Kenya Administrative
\$487,343	TOTAL

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