



«Always laugh when you can.
It is cheap medicine.»

Lord Byron

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- 1 Some of the people at Kids of Africa

 - 2 Sports at Kids of Africa

 - 3 Volunteers welcome!

Dear Friends

This Newsletter is about some of the people who have been with Kids of Africa for a long time. Many children and adults have all left a distinctive mark on our culture, heritage and impact in our community. I will also write about our continued success in sports and why sport has become a central pillar of our pedagogic approach. And thirdly, this newsletter is an invitation to new volunteers! We would be delighted to welcome experienced and mature volunteers from many different walks of life.

While, clearly, teaching will always be a natural opportunity for volunteers, we also look for volunteers in practical fields such as agriculture, carpentry, construction, engineering and others.

With very best regards
Yours sincerely

Burkhard Varnholt





Kalungi

Kalungi has always brought sunshine to our little village. That's not necessarily because he's always had it easy. To the contrary – the circumstances of his joining our village were dire, to put it mildly. But somehow, Kalungi just manages to do and say a lot of things with a smile. And of course, a disarmingly charming smile is the deceptively simple secret behind many confident and successful people!

Henrietta

Henrietta joined us as when she was quiet, thin and malnourished. During her first year, she refused to speak much, refused to be pictured, let alone smile much if at all. Can you see how she has changed? Can you see her smile? Beaming with confidence?

She was even a princess for a day – and she enjoyed every single moment of that day! What a change! What a worthwhile investment all the effort and resources which we raise with the invaluable help from good friends and supporters every year.



Moses

Moses enjoys living up to his name: he likes to bring rules to the people! He also walks his talk and has developed an increasingly strong charisma. He follows his own rules and he is a good sport with a strong feeling for team-play and fair-play. He is practically gifted and every other month he seems to become more confident. His friends enjoy his company and his own, creative ideas. He enjoys practical work. His latest achievements were helping produce a new mosquito-window in our workshop and repainting his bedroom (helped by his friend Elijah) choosing the colours and the painting of the room himself.





Gordon

Gordon heads our kitchen. Over the years, he has managed to produce a tasty and healthy daily lunch for an ever growing group of hungry stomachs.

Once every working day, the Kids of Africa community-kitchen provides lunch to all our children and staff members. On any regular day, Gordon and his team produce food for at least 150 people. That's a lot of cooking and a lot of logistics. It somehow illustrates the long way Kids of Africa has come. It also illustrates the resources required every day to maintain this operation.

Elijah

Just look how he has grown up! Watch his excitement when painting his own room with his friend Moses. Not too long ago he featured in a previous newsletter with this picture! Seeing children develop so well is the greatest reward for what Kids of Africa and its many friends can do for them.



2009



2011



Sam

Every child at Kids of Africa knows Sam. He was one of the first people to join Kids of Africa over six years ago. Back then, he worked as a builder but over time he has become much more active in the estate. Among is many talents, Sam is very good at repairing mechanical and other equipment.

He's also like an elder brother or friend to many children – and it shows that he has a big heart for kids! It is telling that his biography somehow mirrors that of many of our children. Originally from Kenya, he was displaced and later migrated towards the Bwerenga area.

But Sam is not only an important person for many of our children to look up to. He also engages in sports and community work in our neighbourhood.

Florence and Dorte

Florence joined Kids of Africa in its first days. She oversees all our many administrative tasks and collaborates closely with Dorte, who oversees all educational activities at Kids of Africa. Without their good work, Kids of Africa could not fulfil its mission as well as it does. As key members of our management-team, they oversee some of our most important daily activities. Planning ahead, supervising implementation or just lending a hand or time to kids or staff members are just a few of their strengths. As leaders, colleagues or just gentle personalities with big hearts, they have both raised many bars for Kids of Africa in their inimitable ways!

Tage

I always marvel at the many good works Tage and his wife Dorte have done at Kids of Africa! And judging by the picture, I now know that Tage can carry the whole world on his hand – at least when he morphs into a Kindergarten teacher...

The Budolfsen's have laid many important foundations for the upbringing of the kids at Kids of Africa. They have also inspired our children and staff to extend their own frontiers and achieve things which they previously considered out of reach.





2 Sports at Kids of Africa

Sports have really moved centre-stage at Kids of Africa! When at school and when in the village, most of our children increasingly enjoy playful games or athletic exercise. On weekends, our sports-days have become something of a well known tradition. Just look at the programme of a recent sports-day and you can imagine the fun we had!

David, one of our young farm-workers, recently won a 10 km-Marathon in only 35 Minutes. That's only six minutes above the current world-record of 29 minutes!

But possibly more important than the medals are the secondary benefits, which our children gain from this. Through the game of their choice our children grow confident. They feel the power to shift frontiers within them. They appreciate the lasting impact of concentration, team-play and fair-play. And they develop a sense of maturity and responsibility which is so central for every young person's upbringing.

With this in mind, we are very grateful for any support – material or through voluntary work - to foster children's sports activities!

«To succeed, you only need one chance»

Jesse Owen, 12.09.1913 – 31.03.1980, US athlete



«You don't help other people by doing something for them, which they might be able to do themselves.»

Abraham Lincoln, 12.02.1809 – 15.04.1865, 16th President of the United States

3 Volunteers welcome!

Could you imagine spending six months or longer as a volunteer with Kids of Africa? It's great fun and very rewarding. BUT: it's also quite a lot of work! It requires discipline, professional skills, confidence and an ability to get things done.

We are looking for volunteers working in pedagogic fields and volunteers working in craft-oriented fields. Teaching-volunteers should be experienced and well-organized. Specifically, we would be delighted to welcome teachers with a speciality in fields such as

- Music (Choir, Rhythm, Instruments)
- Art (Drawing, Handcraft)
- Sport
- Vocational training

In addition, we have several openings in more practical, applied crafts such as

- Organic, tropical agriculture
- Construction, engineering, carpentry, cooking
- Commercial administration and managerial assistance



THANK YOU!

If any of this interests you, then please do contact us at info@kids-of-africa.com

Thank for your continued support. Raising funds to help our children grow up well remains a permanent challenge. We are enormously dependent on regular support and equally grateful for it!

Cordially yours



Burkhard Varnholt

«Yes, let's love and say it with our life.»

Frère Roger, Taizé

