

The Banana Tree Project

Registered with the England & Wales Charity Commission (1116669)

Newsletter: February 2007

Lake Secondary School

The five children hoping to go to Secondary School last month (William Daud - below, Paul Matundo,



Esther Emmanuel, Donard Mussa & Maduhu Nindwa) are now attending Lake Secondary School. This is one of the better schools in Mwanza and has therefore worked out as more expensive than the

previous identified price (but is well worth the extra funding). The fee for each child for one academic year is 301 000 Tsh (about £137), plus costs such as registration, medicals, stationary and uniforms. They receive extra tuition on Sundays from Martin, one of the volunteers, to ensure they make the most of their opportunity. We have their tutor's phone number in order to get regular updates on their progress, and we hope to receive regular reports from the school. We have also bought them each a bicycle to ride to school. It would be a 3 hour walk or an expensive trip on public transport. The five bicycles cost a total of 520 000 Tsh (about £217).

Vocational Courses

Jamila Juma and Amine Ramathan, who struggled with Primary School, have now started their Tailoring course. This is a two year course



costing 150 000 Tsh (about £63) each year. We have also bought them a uniform and a bicycle each. Nearly all students who complete this course gain good jobs. Dotto Daudi, Matendo Msafiri and Yakobo Willison, who have each completed Primary School, have now started a Mechanics course that includes driving and welding. This is a one year course costing 172 000 Tsh each (about £72 each). We have bought them a uniform and a bicycle each.

Primary School

All the other children at Fonelesco orphanage have now started the new academic year at Primary School or Nursery. Those with tatty uniforms now have new clothes, along with exercise books, a school bag each and stationary. The total cost for 24 uniforms (4000 Tsh each), 29 pairs of school shoes (5000 Tsh each), 37 pairs of socks (600 Tsh each), 35 bags (3300 Tsh each) and 300 exercise books (200 Tsh each) was 438 200 Tsh (about £183). Some of the children were not allowed to start attending school until they had shoes to wear!



Donating to the Charity

The charity's bank account is now up and running. The details are as follows:

Account Name:	<i>The Banana Tree Project</i>
Account Number:	000 297 00
Sort Code:	30 95 37
Bank:	Lloyds TSB, 18 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, UK ME 14 1RW

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who has donated so far. All of the projects above have been directly funded by donations to *The Banana Tree Project*. Many children have gained a direct boost to their education and life as a result of the funding.

Ed Beavington
Project Coordinator