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Quarterly Newsletter: January 2014

Witness Top of the Class

Witness Musa is in her sixth year of BTP support. She completed her Form Four exams at Sunrise Secondary School and is now working towards her primary school teaching qualification at a teaching college in Mwanza. As part of her studies she is completing academic courses and her end of year (2013) exam results are impressive. She gained 88% in Kiswahili and 79% in English, with strong performances in Civics and Science. Her Maths result is perhaps the most pleasing as her 63% breaks the 50% threshold that so few Tanzanian students break. The results add up to place Witness first in her cohort overall. She has one further year of study before sitting her final exams. Witness can then be placed at any government primary school in Tanzania!



The Results Are In

The secondary school end of year results are now in and the students are embarking on their next year of study. Steven Mautula deserves special recognition for his academic achievements. Steven earned 88% in Computers, 82% in Civics, 79% in Biology and 63% in History. These are impressive results in an education system that isn't generous with its marking! Sadicki, Ngusa and Julius produced solid results which puts them in good position to perform well in their Form IV exams in 2014. Sadicki gained 64% for History and 60% for Commerce while Ngusa top scored in Kiswahili. The boys attended special revision classes in the run up to the exams which saw them sleeping overnight in their classrooms and they will now receive some extra-tuition to help put the final pieces in place for the Form IV exams at the end of 2014.



New Fundraising Site Launched

The new BTP fundraising site is now up and working. We have taken advantage of British Telecom's "contribution to the community" which is a site allowing charities to raise funds and claim gift aid, with all donations and gift aid going straight to the charity. Other websites charge fees or claim a percentage of the gift aid, but the BTP will receive everything, supporting our commitment that no fees, wages or expenses are extracted from donations – every penny of donations and gift aid goes straight to funding school fees and resources for school. The fundraising site can be found at:



<https://mydonate.bt.com/charities/thebananatreeproject>

Thank you

Without all the donations and fundraising activities, the BTP children would not be able to go to school so, on their behalf, thank you very much for your continued support. Plymouth College Year 7s have worked hard to support Steven Mautula. Activities have included washing cars whilst dressed as crocodiles, selling hand-made mini-Christmas stockings with sweets (below),



selling excess toys on eBay, rowing to Tanzania (the embassy in London... on a rowing machine) and diverting three months of pocket money. Redbourn School has again been generous with collections while Kathryn & Cam in Australia have been extremely supportive. Thank you also to all those who make monthly contributions – it all quickly adds up so that the children can go to school.

Ed Beavington

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