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Quarterly Newsletter: July 2011

With all the children working hard at school, the main effort since January has been the continued development of Mt Zion orphanage. The major part of this work has been funded through the BTP by *Kids Aid Tanzania*, a UK based charity working with orphanages in Mwanza. With the end of semester exams now successfully completed, the children have started their second semester assignments ready for the end of year exams in November and December – reports and grades to follow.

New developments at Mt Zion Orphanage

The first big addition to the orphanage is nine new bunk beds, creating accommodation for between 4 – 8 children in each room.

This will allow more children to live at the orphanage in the future should funding be in place. The beds are strong and “child-proof”, catering for both sleeping and trampolining! Storage could be provided in the future.



Each of the bedrooms is now fitted with a door to give added privacy and security. Wood is expensive in East Africa and doors would have been far beyond the scope of the orphanage to fit without help. The doors also prevent drafts from circulating through the building helping to keep the home warm during the cool rainy season.

The final big development is the installation of ceiling boards. These are important because they not only help to keep the orphanage warm and secure, but they also keep mosquitoes out. One of the biggest causes of illness and death in Tanzania and across East Africa is malaria and it is certainly a real concern for the orphanage staff looking after the children. The new ceiling boards will not only

make it less likely that the children will get bitten during the evenings and nights, but will also keep the medical bill down allowing for the limited funds to be spent on other essentials, such as food.



The 2011 story so far

This year, the BTP is sponsoring 23 children through secondary school at an average of £450 per student, including Ngussa pictured here. The children have their school lunches and breakfasts, and in some cases transport, paid for. In addition, school textbooks, exercise books, stationery, uniforms and shoes have been provided. The BTP has worked with KAT to help Mt Zion children and staff develop their home.



All the work completed by the BTP is the direct result of fundraising by hundreds of people in many countries, and those who run the BTP in the UK and Tanzania remain ever grateful for the many small and large donations.

Thank you

In particular, I would like to thank Christopher Mchuka for all his work over the last six months and the last five years. Christopher lives and works in Mwanza as a Site Manager and Builder and is behind all the renovation and development carried out at the orphanages and schools since 2006. His reliability, enthusiasm and ingenuity have made an enormous amount possible - very many thanks.



Ed Beavington