



www.bananatreeproject.org

Quarterly Newsletter: October 2011

I have just returned from a week in Mwanza visiting children, schools and orphanages. I am delighted to report that all is going very well with lots of happy students and impressed teachers. It is inevitably possible only to give a brief overview of developments in a newsletter, but I was very pleased with students' efforts and the progress many of them are making with their studies.

Exam Results

The 7 children sponsored through their Form 4 courses (similar to GCSEs) have now sat their external exams – their results will be published in February. They all passed their mock exams earlier this year with Marco Mathias earning a high Division Two result which bodes well for the real thing. Students earning a Division Three or higher may well have the opportunity to study for their A-levels at Lake Secondary in Mwanza. The Form 3

exams in August also produced some pleasing results. In particular, Mazera Justine (right) finished 3rd out of 124 students while Witness Musa and Aziza Hassan also performed strongly. The Form 3 end of year exams start on 8th November. At Lake Secondary, Donard Mussa continues to achieve high results, placed 9th in his year in the latest Form 5 exams. He sits



his end of year exams in February and is expected to earn a place on the Form 6 course. Yuseph Jumanne has produced some excellent results in the internal exams at Lake leaving him well-placed for a strong performance in the national Form 2 exams starting in November. The results are published in February and I would expect Yuseph to earn a place on the Form 3 course at Lake. Sadicki Petro is progressing well in Form One at Lake, although Kulwa Enos, Martine Richard and Yuseph Bartholomayo have struggled, largely with the English element of their studies. They will receive extra-tuition in December and we can decide on the best course for them when the December results are available. The Headmaster and Deputy Headmaster have taken a keen interest in their progress and the boys are in very good hands. Yakobo, who struggled with his academic studies, has now completed his mechanics apprenticeship and has gained a job at one of the main garages in town giving him job security and independence – excellent news.

Recent fundraising

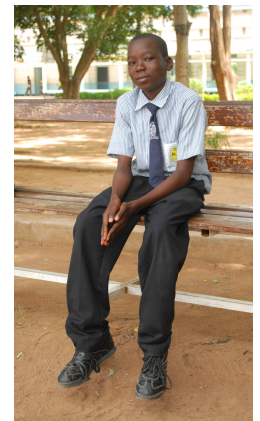
UK schools continue to prove the main source of BTP funding. The St Albans School community gave their Founders' Day collection to the BTP which will secure a number of children through their education next year and allow school meals and transport to be provided. Children at Beaudesert School have held a series of fundraising activities over the last year, recently filling Smarties tubes with £1 coins and having a Tanzan-eat (right). These have



turned themselves into stationery, books and uniforms in Mwanza. Plymouth College students have again committed themselves to sponsoring a child and will set their sights on beating last year's efforts. Children at Redbourn Infants School have raised funds to help others receive the same chances that they are getting.

A few words from... Yuseph Bartholomayo

My name is Yuseph and I am 13 years old. My parents died when I was very small. I have been sponsored by the BTP this year through my Form One studies at Lake Secondary School. I have found the course difficult because they teach in English, but when they explain it in Kiswahili I understand and do well. My Kiswahili exam was my best result earlier this year. At weekends I do odd jobs to get money to buy extra food, but sometimes I feel sick and do not have enough money to buy medicine. One day I would like to be a doctor because I like science, especially Biology. I like to draw and talk with my friends. I'm not good at sports, but I like watching football.



Thank you

Every penny donated to The BTP goes straight into funding stationery, uniforms, school meals, tuition fees and other essential school expenses. On behalf of the children, thank you very much for giving them the opportunity to receive an education.

Ed Beavington