

August Newsletter 2024

Dear Supporters,

Term Two finishes with a Flourish

It is exciting to write this newsletter as there is much to share and talk about.

Firstly, a HUGE thank you to our amazing team of teachers who have worked hard to ensure it has been a productive term. It has also been a long term of 14 weeks and I am sure all our friends who are teachers will want to congratulate them on surviving such a long stretch. We thank them for their dedication and commitment which continues to make a difference to our **141 student community**.



Secondly, well done to our students as we have had **excellent school attendance** throughout the term. Despite many of them having to shoulder responsibility at home or faced with periodic illnesses such as malaria, they have made every effort to come to school.

Nabugabo gets creative!



This term we have continued our theme of taking responsibility in the classroom to create a positive and productive learning environment. We have been incredibly fortunate to have had some **talented artists including Ollie Middleton and Mathilde Nielsen**, who have transformed the school, with educational resources for the walls, and inspiring artwork reflecting key messages so important in the school environment such as kindness, courage, and love. In addition, we have encouraged **our learners to get creative and take pride in their work** which are now beautifully displayed on the classroom walls – art does not appear in a strict Ugandan curriculum, but we always try to embrace it.

The library

The library has continued to be loved and nurtured. Following on from fellow trustee Marc's makeover, Amy took the batten and continued the transformation.

Making her own projector from a YouTube video, Amy painted a map of Uganda on the library wall with importantly all the geographical features so that it is a great learning tool. She also improved the signage of the colour coded system (put in place by **Anne Adamson one of our long-standing supporters**) making it easy for students to find age-appropriate books. We are also incredibly grateful to Pangbourne College who have donated a very generous supply of children's reference books with titles such as My First Atlas, Africa is a Continent not a Country, and the Story of Climate Change. Thank you Pangbourne.



Sports Success

We have had a thrilling term of sports, filled with matches and tournaments. At the beginning 35 children travelled to Masaka town, approximately 20k away to play in the El Cambio football tournament where some schools travelled up to 140 km to be there. Both our U12 boys and U14 boys took part with the U12s reaching the semi-finals. Next, we played against Kkingo Parents Primary school where our girls netball team won with a huge result of 43-3 and our U12 boys also won. Later in the term our U14 girls' football and U12 boys football played the Blessed Sacrament school in Masaka. Unfortunately, both teams lost but Blessed Sacrament has 1000 children! Finally, our pupils entered the big tournament, to potentially go to nationals in Soroti, North Uganda. We entered four teams, and all our football teams reached the regionals. Thereafter, **our U14 girls did what only girls can do, they reached the nationals** which is imminent.



St Kizito Secondary School

St Kizito is the preferred private secondary school in the area for Nabugabo children after leaving primary. As HUGE is always keen to advocate, access to secondary education is a vital step in **empowering the children of Nabugabo** to help them become responsible citizens within their communities. We currently have 62 children with 8 sitting O levels in November this year. We wish them all the best in the coming months. These children often have big responsibilities at home so having the freedom to study is unprecedented.

Pangbourne College Student trip

This summer we were very fortunate to have 12 students visiting from Pangbourne College, one of our partnership schools, together with three members of staff. The students wholeheartedly embraced the experience and worked hard on a number of school and community initiatives including phonics testing, weights and measures, art with the children, reading, sports, painting not to mention building a much-needed house for a vulnerable family in the community. We thank Pangbourne for their drive and commitment and a particular thank you to Richard Follett who led by example, and ensured it was a fantastic trip for all. As a prerequisite to the trip the Pangbourne team were exceptional in fund raising and again, we thank them for their efforts.



Wider Ugandan News - Kiteezi Landfill Landslide

On 9th August 2024, a significant landslide struck the Kiteezi rubbish dump in Kampala, the capital city of Uganda. The Kiteezi rubbish dump is large, being approximately 36 acres, and is the only landfill site for the whole of Kampala. On top of this, the site is surrounded by houses. The death toll has climbed to 35 people after ongoing rescue missions retrieved bodies from the rubbish. Whilst unusually heavy rainfall may have caused the landslide, it would not have happened if there was better practice in waste management. This is not only a problem in Uganda, and whilst waste management is a worldwide issue, poorer countries face significantly more challenges due to the lack of resources, infrastructure, and public awareness. Low-cost recycling initiatives such as local recycling centres and, importantly, education is essential to avoid situations like this happening.

Fundraising Thanks

We would like to say a **HUGE thank you** to all our supporters who have contributed during the year either through a fundraising event or as a donation – we are a small charity with a HUGE vision and fund raising is our biggest challenge. Special thanks to everyone who has contributed. In addition:

Sotogrande International School for their tremendous long-term support and the funds raised during the year through their **Education for All programme** and other creative fundraising initiatives. SIS also fund a female hygiene programme and this year we have ensured all our girls have AFRI pads, reusable sanitary pads, at home. Lack of sanitary products is one of the reasons why girls drop out of school.

Nick Bland of Nicholas James hair salon in Great Portland Street, London, and his amazing team – **Debbie, Ashley, Martika, Casper, John, Lauren, Linzi, Torin, and Emma**. They undertook an a gruelling 24-hour hair marathon all in aid of HUGE and raised a significant amount for which we are extremely grateful. **A salon committed to giving back, so please in future if you need a haircut go visit (02039153922).**

We are also extremely grateful to Kitchen Table Charities Trust for a grant to carry out much needed repairs to staff accommodation and the purchase of new classroom furniture made from recycled plastic. This grant not only helps nurture and inspire education and wellbeing but goes beyond the classroom, by fostering a culture of sustainability and care for the local community.

Amy Batten who spent a large part of her gap year working at the school and making a tremendous difference with both the students and the community. She is now back in the UK, better equipped through her experiences and knowledge, and we are excited to announce that she has accepted the position **of trustee to The HUGE Partnership. Welcome Amy!**

We would like to thank the following schools for uniform and trainer donations - **St Andrews, Berkshire, Pangbourne College, Oratory Prep School, Headington Prep and Senior School, and Cranford School.**



On the 14th November 2024 we will be hosting the HUGE drinks party in London at the offices of JLL. It will be a memorable evening for old friends to reconnect and make new ones, and importantly, help raise funds and awareness for the children and community of Nabugabo. If you have not already received an invite, please reach out and we can deliver!



With growing numbers at primary and secondary and the impact of rising costs, there is an ongoing need for future funding. All donations, large and small, are always very much appreciated - <https://www.justgiving.com/hugepartnership>.

Or scan the unique QR code below:

The HUGE Partnership

The HUGE Partnership is UK registered charity which has been set up to make a difference to children in Uganda. It specifically provides financial and resource support to the Nabugabo Community Learning Centre, a private

NGO set up originally by David and Judy Batten solely to provide free education and support to vulnerable and disadvantaged children, who would otherwise not be able to attend school. Now in its 13th year, NCLC provides umbrella support to the Nabugabo Community Primary School, the Secondary Education Fund and ongoing initiatives in the community relating to education, welfare, recycling, and female empowerment.



The governing principle of HUGE is to provide children, most at need, with a caring education, a confidence in their own abilities and genuine belief and ambition that they can contribute to the future success of their lives and those of the community.

If you have a specific query or would like to speak to one of the trustees, please email **Mel Brandon** at melanie.brandon@icloud.com.

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