



MONTESSORI-STYLE
PAINTING TREES,
VERTICAL GARDENS



SERIOUS SWIMMING
2 COACHES PROVIDE
TRAINING



MONEY HONEY
EXPLORING IDEAS TO
GENERATE INCOME



DONATED ART
MORE PICS READY
FOR EBAY AUCTION

ABA NEWSLETTER



March 2014

The rainy season is right around the corner and we have started planting our seeds. Santa Clause stopped by with a huge water tank so storage is all set!

The kids have finished their first term and are now having a 3 week holiday of which parts will be spent with my family whom are coming to visit in mid-April so that means dance workshop, field trips and happy days!

As the project continues to grow with new ideas, more amazing people are joining us and our staff is growing. The increasing need for more income to pay for all of this has led us to some interesting field trips in our research on how to do exactly that.

Kids go green

Our compound is now planted with seeds that are starting to grow; Pojo (kind of a green pea), Mchicha (kind of a spinach), Mkunde (another kind of a spinach), more trees and grass. We are also keeping a little seed bank where we save seeds from the food we eat. We are also planning to plant; sweet potato, passion fruit, papaya, chilli, mango and watermelon.

We have made vertical gardens from plastic bottles and two of the boys actually showed up at school in their vacation just to water their plants! That was very surprising and very amazing.



Drying seeds in the sun and making vertical gardens on the walls of our school!



Montessori style

In art class we are getting wild and very colourful! We planted a dead tree and painted it, decorated our vertical gardens and we have made earrings from feathers the kids found in the area. Oh, and we painted the toilets.



Frankly, Mr. Shankly...we digg you!

Being the generous guy he is, my friend Franklin popped by ABA with loads of stuff from his family and toys his neighbour was not using anymore. After a request from me saying the kids needed underwear, i think they are now set until 2020 :) Also, an unused water tank on his compound was donated! His hair suspiciously resembles... a hero in disguise...could it be?!



More art up for auction!

The wonderful Mr. Watson is back from his trips exhibiting in Europe and has donated yet another print to ABA. Last time we auctioned two prints, we raised roughly 1300 dollars! The action will begin Sunday 6th and go for one week. Highest bidder gets this masterpiece and karma points long time :)

The eBay auction will be emailed to you once it's ready ...



The Picture

'One Small Step'

Handfinished 7 colour screenprint
on 300 gsm somerset paper

Artistproofed. 20

65x65 cm

The Artist

Martin Watson is an old friend of mine and I'm so happy to see him becoming successful with new exhibitions across the continents.

He creates unique stencil scenes, with a message signifying peace and love, and a very distinct female edge. Yet his work still appeals in a masculine way, packed with bold statements that say a lot about the world today (not my words, but a good description :)

His website:

<http://www.martinwatson.com/>



Serious swimming

A while back Ingvild invited the kids to visit her friend Safis backpacker place called "Tulia". The place is beautiful, it has a pool for the kids to swim in and after our visit they invited us to come back regularly and have offered to pay for our transport to get there! The world of awesomeness continues as we had another visitor, Ulrike, who heard about this and has now organised for the kids to have proper swimming lessons with professional swimming instructors! So from May the kids will learn how to swim once a month, from Kingori and Margret! Ulrika and her daughter Vidia stopped by to give some basic beginners lessons :)



Above: Ulrike and Vidia teaching the kids.



Left: Kingori and Margret whom stopped by to meet the kids, before they are ready in May

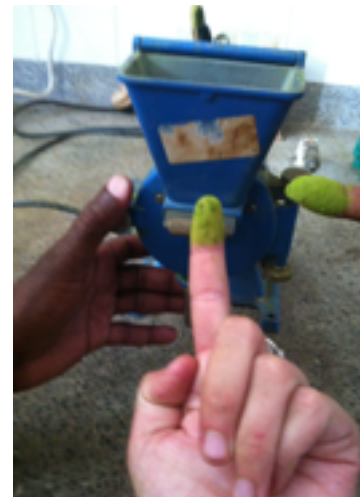


Serious business

For a while now, we have been doing research on how we can get enough income to run the school without relying completely on outside sponsorship. Considering our plans on building a new school on the 4 acre plot in Kilifi (that is still in its final steps with the last of paper work), we have looked into different aspects of farming. The people at Kenya Agriculture Research Institute have been of wonderful help guiding us to projects and more information.

The ideas are many and they take time to investigate. Therefor, Annet who has been working as our chef and caretaker, will now be busy collecting data for this. As she used to work as a rose farm supervisor in Uganda and is familiar with masonry work, she is perfect for the job!

Bee keeping, Moringa tree plantation, fish farm and modern irrigation systems such as aeroponics are some of the areas we are looking into. Partick my swahili teacher is also involved.



With Annet taking care of this, we needed to hire a new chef at the school. And with everything we have done with renovating the school, building an outdoor class room, new toilets, supplying new furniture, water tanks, more books etc, we needed to hire a watchman. For some of you this may sound luxurious for such a small and primitive place, but I can assure you, it is a necessity here.

In addition to buying land, we have to fence it in a manner that requires cementing poles to the ground, we have to pay for a single permit business licence, teachers training education for Beth and Ceciliah.

These new expenses have led to some financial cuts in our budget like the variety we had in our food menu, transport money for Beth and Ceciliah to teachers training, our music and movement teacher Kache is off the pay list to mention some things.

From May our monthly budget will be 50.000 sh (577 dollars) and for the time being we have sponsors who donate on a monthly basis enough to cover 30.000 sh. (346 dollars). This covers; 3 teachers, 1 watchman, 1 chef, breakfast and lunch for 20 kids, rent, charcoal, gass, school materials.

Monthly budget for ABA School per 01.04.2014			
Expenche	KES	USD (approx.)	Sponsor (initials)
Salary Beth	8,000	80	C. v. M.
Salary Ceciliah	8,000	45	P. F.
Salary Trisa	8,000	45	M. L.
Salary Chef	4,000	46	
Salary Askari	3,000	35	
Rent	3,000	35	M. O.
Food	13,100	150	
Gass	900	10	M.O.
Charchoal	750	10	Need sponsor
Extra	1,250	26	Need sponsor
Total	50,000	482	

Single expenses

Expense	KES	NOK	USD (approx.)	Sponsor/Status
Montessori training for Beth (7 months)	35,000	2400	400	Need sponsor (Project started February 2014)
Montessori training for Cecilliah (7 months)	35,000	2400	400	Need sponsor Project started February 2014)
Fixing toilets	4,000	280	46	Need sponsor (Project started March 2014)
Second set of uniforms(20 kids)	10,000	780	130	Need sponsor (Project not started)
Outdoor classrom	10,000	780	130	Need sponsor (Project started February 2014)
Buss to swimming lessons (once a month for 6 months)	12,000	820	140	I.F.
Single permit fee	30,000	2,100	346	Need sponsor
Total	136,000	21000	1592	

Budget for menu week/month per 01.03.2014

Item	Amount	Price per quantity	Total item price
Porridge	2 kg	100,00/kg	200,00
Sugar	3 kg	90,00/ kg	360,00
Sima	4 kg	100,00/2kg	200,00
Rice	2 kg	70,00	140,00
Flour	1 kg	130,00	130,00
Pojo	1 kg	100,00/kg	100,00
Maize	1 +1/2kg	70,00/ kg	105,00
Beans	3 kg	70,00/ kg	210,00
Eggs	25 pc	12 per pc	300,00
Cooking oil	1 litre	100,00/ litre	100,00
Total from shop per month: 7,380			Per week: 1,845
Cabbage	1 pc	30 per pc (big)	30,00
Sukuma			100,00
Tomato	4 kg	50/ kg	200,00
Carrot	5 kg	40/ kg	200,00
Potato	10 kg	38/ kg	380,00
Onion	2 kg	60/ kg	120,00
Food transport	400		400,00
Total vegetables + transport per month: 5,720			Per week: 1430
			Food total per week: 3,275
Food total per month	13,100 (KES)	.(USD)	(NOK)

I hate asking for donations, I hate getting emails from other projects asking for donations....
- but a womans gotta do what a womans gotta do...

Can you help us with a donation? :) If so please visit:

<http://abaschoolkenya.wix.com/aba-school#!donate/c1ghi>

So there than that, I am now the mother of twins, meet Zeitun and Wetu.



Sincerely,
ABA Crew

