

# ABA Newsletter



## Highlights

1. Toilets, outdoor class room and water storage
2. Visitors with goodies
3. New chef and watchman
4. Rain, but no busses
5. Field trip to Haller Park
6. Fundraisers for ABA



Hello again!

As you are reading this, we are well into the month of May. I (Lindsay) am in Norway surveying the land in horrible weather (until mid June) and even in Mombasa the rain is apparently full on (where it is badly needed).

Our kids have returned from their first term break, getting back into routines. We have had German and Norwegian visitors, had a trip to an animal park, we have a new chef and a new watchman.

Trizah has gone from part time to full time teacher together with Beth and Cecilia who are almost halfway into their Montessori training. Annet has switched from chef to research assistant.

Sincerely from the one and only,

ABA Crew



## Toilets, class room and gutters

Walking the talk! We finally finished the toilets so the kids can do their business without fear of falling into a big, black, never ending hole! The kids did all the interior painting (are still not done). I thought I had better pics of the outside, but down to the right, you can see the coloured doors in the background and the stairs have been cemented. And the roof! - Before and after below.



First picture here is from the basic structure of the outdoors classroom. To the top right is our neighbour who made the roof for us and on the low right is the roof almost covered. Amazing to finally have extra space with air and shade!



We also had to move the water tank (which was full with water), so we filled up our containers and told the neighbours to collect the rest for free. So they did...



Watertank



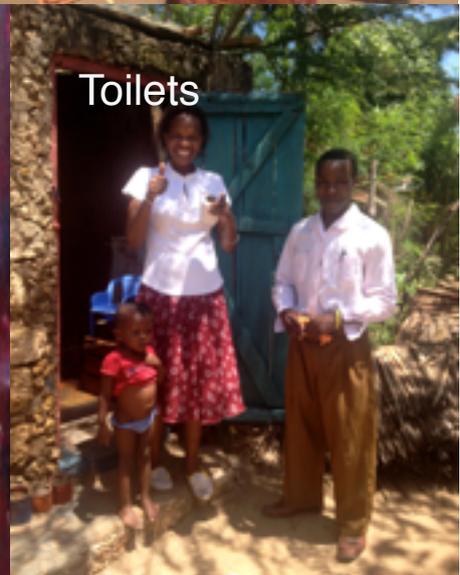
Toilets



Toilets



Outdoor class room



Toilets

## More visitors

Early April, Olaf and his German friends came to visit ABA. The adult students were given T-shirts and glasses - they all looked very intellectual all of a sudden...



The Sanner family (my brother, sister, father, step mother) came towards the middle of the month together with friends from Norway. Both staff and the kids got printed ABA T-shirts (2 for each child), bags, school supplies and toys. ABA school has never been more colourful!!



My sister Camilla and her two friends Rikke and Marthe taught the kids some dance moves and some of the adult students made sure to come by and greet them all.



Our new Chef had offered to make chicken stew and while the kids are used to seeing chickens being slaughtered, this was a bit too much for some of the wazungus...



Specially the old ones... my dad fled the scene :)



## Introducing.....

As our school keeps having white visitors who bring things and we have been fixing up a lot of both the interior and exterior, this little run down swahili-house-school is attracting attention in the village.

So we needed a watchman to look after our stuff. His name is Ezra Nardlays, he is a Kisi, from Kisi and studies IT. Wants to teach! Great guy, smiles a lot!



As Annet is now doing assistant reaserch work for our project, we had to get a new chef and caretaker.

This wonderful lady is Asumptur Katunge. She is a Kamba from Ukambani (same tribe as Beth) and lives close to the school.

In fact, Asumptur is a trained Montessori teacher and (ECDE Diploma) but she could not afford to pay for her last exam (138 USD). For now, she will feed our kids with food, but hopefully in not too long, she can be payed to feed them with knowledge...



## Tons of rain but no busses!

For the last 2 months busses in Mombasa have not been running as usual. The government wants them to get organised and have seat belts and speed governors. As most of these busses are not certified, they get fined if caught driving. Very many people are completely ruined by this and most can't afford other means of transport to work, markets etc. And then the rain sets in.....



The pics here from a rainy day where many didn't even come to school because of the extreme conditions....

So we took our lunch inside and the kids started a rap-battle-whatever it's called-thing. I have video of this and it's hilarious how sharp they are!!!

# Haller Park

Haller Park is a fairly large area of human made forest and ponds with animals like giraffes, crocodiles, hippos and so much more. The park is owned by a cement factory which pollutes and ruins the same area as the park is based (close to our school) and this is their way of “giving back”. - Anyway, ethics aside, we loved it :)



As we were ready to take our lunch, an opossum and a very crazy monkey arrived and freaked everyone out! But not Annet. Like good ol' Attenborough she kept her cool and dealt with those babies like she has never done anything else her whole life... we were left in awe...even Bridget!



Then Trizah got a call concerning her results from the final exams she had at teachers training...

Those are tears of joy :)



# Fundraisers

Several awesome people have raised money for ABA this month and I wanted to thank them here. People have asked me how they can help our project , here are some ideas;

## ***Tom Dyer - Part of event***



Tom arranges regular flair competitions in the UK and has been eager to get a fundraising for ABA integrated in the event. So he did! Twice! (400 USD)

## ***Martin Whatson - Donated art***

This is the 4th print he has donated for our project. The previous 3 were auctioned on eBay. This time around (370 USD)



## ***Marte Grønberg - Garage sale***



Marthe has had money saved from a garage sale that she wanted to give to charity, but could not decided to who. And then she met us! (680 USD)

## ***Andrea Vestøl - Waffle sale***

Together with some friends, she had a waffle sale on the island where she lives! (100 USD)



Thanks to all of you, a total amount of 1.550 USD/ 8.800 NOK/ 100.280 KES !!!!

This is enough to cover our monthly budget for 2 1/2 months! Thank you awesome people, things are moving and you are a part of it :)

Sincerely,  
ABA Crew