Eco Moyo newsletter
November and December 2017

Summary

Dear Reader - Happy 2018!

The holidays are over and our school reopened on January 4th. This newsletter covers everything that happened in November and December - then a new one for all that is going on in January will come soon :)

The school was closed for more than 2 months - seems like an eternity! But at least we got loads of things done; Built a classroom, a staffroom, bought so much inventory and did some other maintenance around the site. Two volunteers came to visit us and organised "fun days" for our students - success !

The school is really taking shape and it´s all thanks to loads of generous individuals like you coming together.

Thanks so much to all the people who fundraised for us during Christmas - you are all so amazing!

- Big hugs from all of us at Eco Moyo

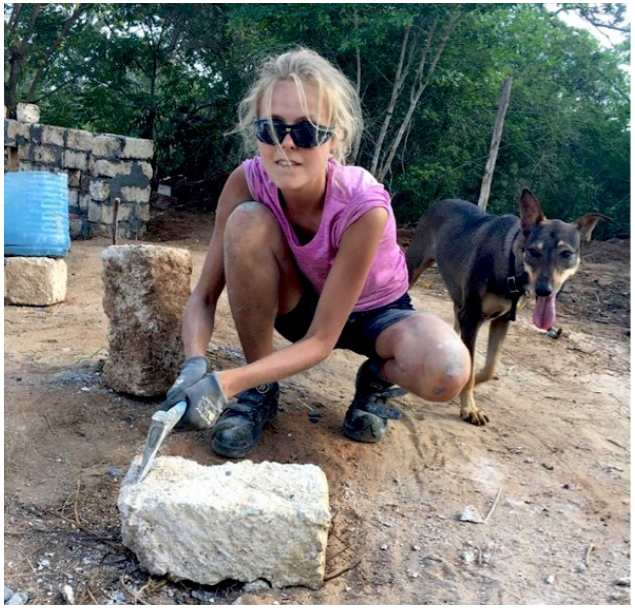
NeW clasSroom

In November *The Scarcity and Creativity Studio* from Oslo school of Architecture and Design returned to Kenya to build a third classroom (!!!) This time, the design was a much more open structure with a butterfly roof and a courtyard separating the classroom from a reading area.

The concept for this studio is that the students themselves design the space and build it as well.

Most of them have never worked on a building site and its truely impressive to see how fast people learn.

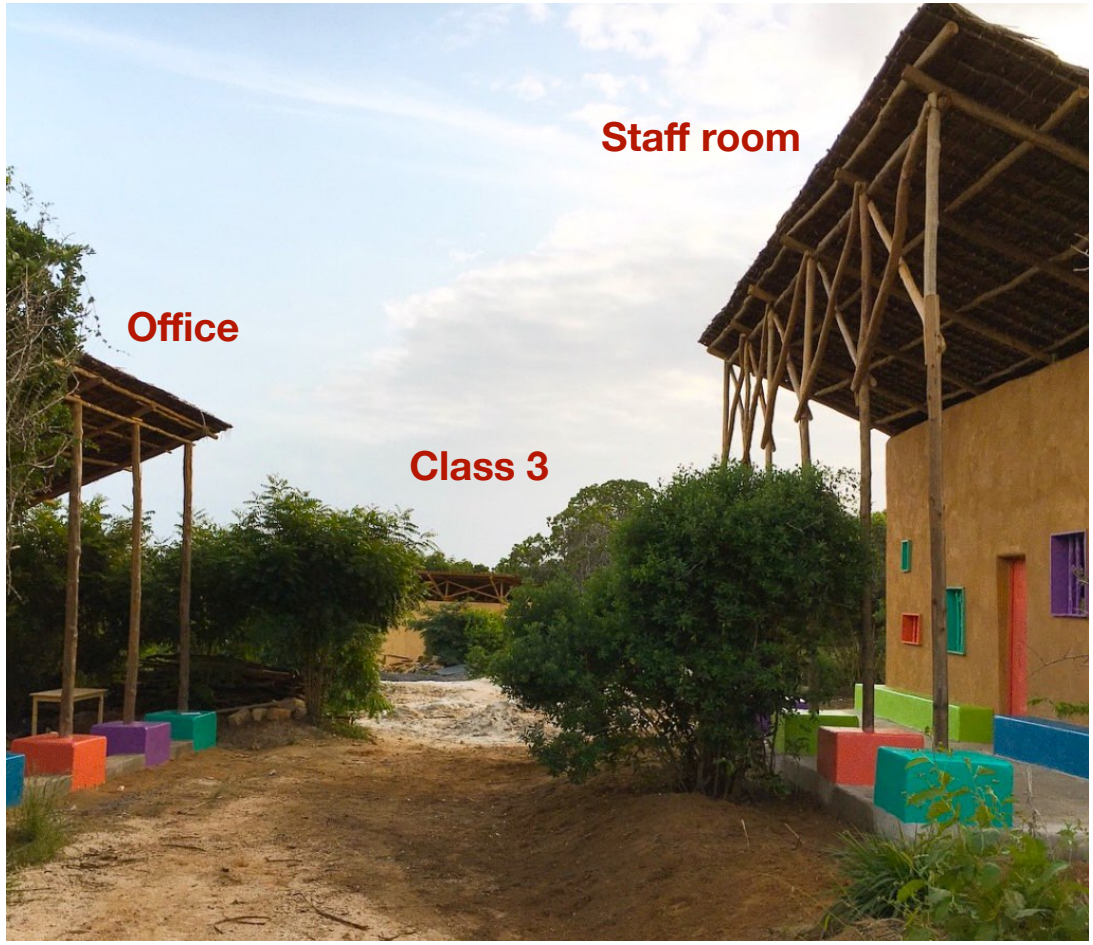
Students from many countries joined the one semester course.



High temperatures and loads of physical labour every day for many weeks - these students worked so incredibly hard from early morning to late evenings. Joined by our Kenyan team of local workers (some have their kids in our school) together they managed to finish just in time! The result is breathtaking and our school is now like a showcase for innovative learning spaces! Special thanks to Christian Hermansen and Solveig Sandness.

New staffroom

Thanks to the donations that came through the Eco Moyo Auction we built a staff room for our teachers. This room is built using a local "stick and mud" building technique - with some modifications to make the structure more durable and long lasting. The roof is made from palm leaves and the plaster is a mix of cement and soil. The earth plaster with bright coloured windows and inventory has become the style of our school - its pretty cool, eh!?



In the picture above you can see what our school entrance looks like. Left is the office and storage room, in the middle you can barely see class 3 and on the right hand side is now the new staff room.

In the picture to the top right is what the staff room looks like from the inside (still painting new furniture, etc).

Picture low right is of our Kenyan crew who built it: Omari, Kahindi, Juma and Michael.

Volunteers from Norway

In November we had the pleasure of hosting Henriette and Merete from Norway at our school. They have a tradition of visiting charity projects once per year and helping out for a couple of weeks with whatever may be needed.

We decided to host some "fun days" for the students during the school holidays and the girls raised funds from their family and friends back home to buy sports equipment, games and arts and crafts articles.

Henriette (left) and Merete are in fact old school mates of mine from primary and secondary school (!)

Eco Moyo brought us back together after all these years of not staying in touch - love it!

Picture to the right shows a fraction of all the stuff they brought. Their suitcases were packed to the brim! Even a fancy mobile speaker so we can get some music happening! - That definitely came in handy for the activities we did with the kids later on :)

We divided the kids so that we would have one day with each class (then only three classes) - to avoid for things to get crowded and chaotic.
Pics above loads showing the students drawing their families and introducing them to the group. Practicing to present and talk in front of a group.

Above left pic shows class 5 learning how to play the "chair game". They were taught how to play "Jenga" as well as other board games. In our area, the kids have almost no toys or games so this is a party like no other - great to see how much they enjoyed it - parents came later to say thanks as well!

Above: Playing Volley ball - Great to see how some of the kids who struggle academically preform so well in other activities!
Below: Playing Canon ball - This was a true winner! Now PE lessons will have great variety and loads of equipment to use - Thanks to all who donated!

Eco Moyos Venner

Thanks to amazing efforts by the incredible island ladies (a group of women at Sandøya) in Norway, so many people living on the island have gotten involved with supporting our school. This Christmas they initiated three projects; A bazaar, a calendar in the form of a lottery and they made a calendar to sell. People baked, knitted, made all kinds of home-made gifts for the prizes and other donated directly to the school. - More than 40,000 norwegian kroner were raised!!! Simply incredible!!!

It takes alot of organising to make this all happen and we can´t thank them enough!
The school is growing as classes are expanding and the donation will be used for running costs (salaries, food and learning materials).

A big thanks to these beautiful ladies; Anne Berit Condrup (the new group leader), Elisabeth Rokstad (who made the calendar for sale), Elin Bjelde, Rine Lenette H. Dalstad, Liv Eileen Lundheim (who made the lottery calendar), Anne K. Løken, Kari Ellefsen, Kirsten Ellefsen og Elin Furuseth and Laurie Vestøl.

New inventory

Thanks to the Eco Moyo Auction, Hanne Therese Erdal and Pia Walker, we have bought so much new stuff! Notice boards, lockable metal cupboards for class rooms and storage room and staff room, loads of new desks and chairs. The paint alone is a massive expense! At least now we found a good carpenter :)

New books

We have so many books now, it´s insane….
Here is Asumptor´s daughter helping out organising it all for the different classes.

Books are sooooooooo expensive and we make sure to look after them with care and covers!

Eco Moyo Auction has again come to the rescue to ensure we can get all this stuff needed for the different classes :)

A Special Thanks to some Crazy cats across the globe….

Giancarlo Petrucci, Martin Whatson, Sandra Chervier, Nelson Seo, Fredrik Bornø Haukebøe, Christopher Simon Marriott, Loc Nguyen, Panu Lukkaa, Neil McIlroy, Fredrik Gromsrud - you are all angels and we are so humbled and shocked and full of joy and tears for what you have done to support us. LOVE, LOVE, LOVE and more LOVE

Other info

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