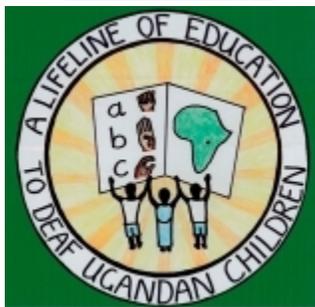


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Jinja DEAF Newsletter

November 2017

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Welcome to our second newsletter of 2017!

This past year has been a time for transition and taking stock for Jinja DEAF. We are sorry to be losing two of our Trustees, Ursula Yates and Mark Austin, who are retiring. They have brought energy and wise guidance to Jinja DEAF. We will miss their contributions, but will be continually grateful to them both for what they have given to us and to the children we support. We are now in the process of recruiting two Trustees to fill the vacancies left by Ursula and Mark. If you are interested in becoming a trustee, please contact us.

On behalf of the deaf children and their families in Jinja we want to express our deep gratitude to you, our supporters, who make it possible for our programmes to exist. It is not only your financial assistance which is important, but equally valued is your interest and encouragement, your spreading the word about the needs of deaf children in Uganda and what is being achieved to bring opportunity and improvement into the lives of these children. At the beginning of the year we sponsored a new interpreter, Lydia Nakitende, to work alongside Juliet Wabukawo, instructor in Uganda Sign Language in Kyomya Primary School. At the end of the year we will review how successful all of our sponsored work has been.

We are very happy to inform you that Nawedde Yaziidi was married this year. He has worked as an interpreter in Walukuba West Primary School for a number of years. We sent him our congratulations and best wishes for a long, happy and healthy marriage.

How to donate

We are grateful for all donations received. Jinja DEAF is a small volunteer-run charity. It does not have an office and is able to keep expenses to a minimum and so ensure that as much as possible is spent on the vital work of providing access to education and support for deaf Ugandan children.

Various ways to donate can be found on our [website](#), or email contact@jinjadeaf.org.uk.



How you can help

We are always looking for volunteers to help us administer the charity and/or run events and so we are compiling a register of volunteers we can call upon. If you are interested in being on our register, please contact us on contact@jinjadeaf.org.uk, and tell us what sort of things you can help with.



FINANCE SUMMARY

Although it is too early to be able to tell the final figures, we expect that Jinja DEAF will make a small operating loss this year, donations during the year having been somewhat lower than in 2016. Whilst this is disappointing, we are fortunate to have reserves that should be sufficient to enable us to absorb this loss, although a continuation of losses in the longer term would inevitably mean that we would have to reconsider the scope and/or extent of our work. The continuing generosity of our supporters is therefore vital to enable us to maintain the current level of assistance we are able to provide to deaf children in Jinja.



IMPROVING THE TEACHING OF DEAF CHILDREN

In our Spring Newsletter we referred to a workshop to bring together the teachers of special needs children from the 3 schools which make provision for these children. The purpose of the workshop was to share experiences about what worked well and what were obstacles in



EDUCATIONAL VISIT TO KAMPALA

In September, we funded a school outing to the capital city of Uganda, Kampala. Deaf children from three schools in Jinja (Kyomya, Walukuba West and Busoga) had a day out by bus. They drove through the Nile Mabira forest, and then had two very exciting destinations in Kampala. Much of the day was spent at the zoo, where the children saw elephants and giraffes, and especially enjoyed camel rides. Then they visited the airport, and could observe planes landing and departing, which was very exciting. The outing was a wonderful opportunity for deaf children to make friends with children from other schools, and to be able to experience stimulating events in Kampala, supported by signing interpreters. No doubt animals and planes will be the themes of classroom learning for a while.



ORGANISATION OF PARENTS WITH DEAF CHILDREN

This year we gave sponsorship to OPDC with a remit to

- raise the profile of deaf children and deaf community by
 - o strengthening the network of parents of deaf children
 - o supporting parents in lobbying schools to improve the experience of deaf children
- consider ways in which deaf children can be self

teaching deaf children and if possible to come up with some practical suggestions about what could be done better. Jinja DEAF sponsored the workshop for the teachers who all attended in their own time.

We have received a report from the event with two main recommendations. The first being to provide basic reading, writing and learning materials for the deaf children. The second being to provide practical training in craft work. We have discussed these recommendations and Trustees have agreed to provide finance to support both recommendations, subject to there being a well planned programme with accountable financial controls.

Our Chairman, David Johnstone, will meet with representatives of the teachers and the Head Teacher of each school to develop plans to take these recommendations forward during his next trip to Jinja in November and December.

We were encouraged by the commitment and enthusiasm of the teachers to organise the workshop and to collaborate so positively.

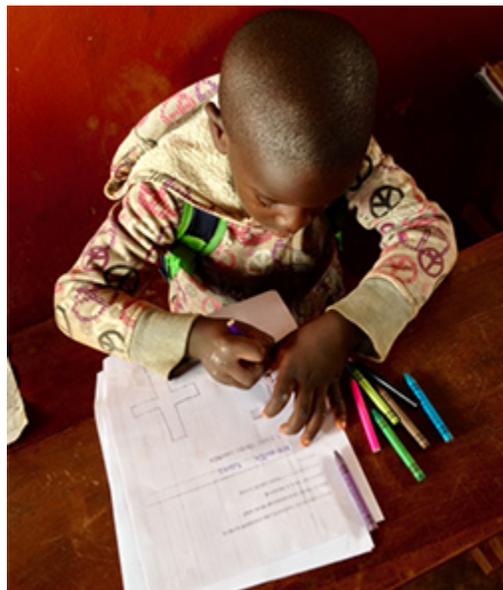


SATURDAY SCHOOL

Our sponsored workers at Kyomya Primary School have been running Saturday school for the deaf children in terms 2 and 3. Most deaf children in Kyomya, being boarders, attend the Saturday classes. The purpose of the Saturday classes is to recap the most important learning points from the previous week. It is difficult for deaf children to follow lessons delivered by a hearing teacher to 60 or more hearing children in the class. We will evaluate the impact of Saturday classes for the Kyomya children and compare to progress for the deaf children in Walukuba West which does not provide Saturday classes.

sufficient and earn income when they leave school.

We have been encouraged to see that OPDC has been working closely with Uganda National Association of the Deaf (UNAD) to bring together groups of parents of deaf children to discuss how to raise the profile of deaf children in schools. We look forward to receiving their final report in early 2018. This will be taken into consideration by the Trustees as we consider our future plans and how best to achieve our aims.

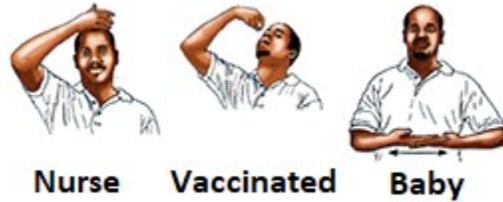


RECAP ON 2017

In summary we are pleased with our progress this year. Our sponsored staff continue to make a valued contribution to the education of the deaf children in the schools where they are placed. They are stretched very thin, having to work across 7 year groups, supporting a handful of deaf children in classes of 60 or more hearing children. Their commitment to the children cannot be faulted. They are motivated to improve the educational experience and opportunities of the deaf children. The collaboration of the special needs teachers across three schools has potential to be a catalyst for real improvement. We have seen parents of deaf children becoming more confident in pressing for better resources in school. This has come in part from the confidence they have gained from attending Jinja DEAF sponsored Sign Language Courses, and the support they have found in membership of

Saturday school is an additional cost to our sponsorship programme, so we must be sure it is effective and worth continuing or expanding.

the Organisation of Parents with Deaf Children, also sponsored by Jinja DEAF.



LEARNING USL: YOUR TURN

The Charity Deaf Child Worldwide (DCW) have produced two books to support the teachers, parents and carers of deaf children who want to learn USL. A few more phrases from the DCW book are shown above.

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