

CHINK JANUARY 2020

The new school year has started once again. 25 new poor and needy children for the Baby class, PP1 and PP2, was the first item on our agenda. All were excited and waiting for their new school uniform. The uniforms were supposed to be delivered at the start of the new term for the children, not just for the new intake but all 214, but the uniforms and the Games T Shirts were a week late. Some of the uniforms had to be altered as the girls had grown so much since measured in October 2019.

Whilst the school was on Summer Break, the old school block, outside wall and toilet block was repainted, it looks like new again. As there has been so much rain, the walkway which joins the 2 blocks has a problem with flooding. Mohammed, from Renbow Marquees was contacted to see if they could put a canvass shelter over the walkway to keep out the rain. Hopefully this will help and be completed before Rachel and Philip arrive in February.



The children who have finished their education at Chink Academy and gone on to secondary school

education has been sorted, some to Mombasa, some to Malindi and some to the local schools in Mtwapa. By assisting these students' means our finances have been badly stretched and continuing their education may not be possible for students who do not perform well in their exams.

The charity now needs to consolidate and concentrate on the main aims, which are to provide basic education from Baby class to class 8 at Chink Academy and only the very brightest and gifted children will get help in 2021 to extend their studies. All the children that started at Karibuni Baptist School have now gone to High school and one is going to University.

More books and equipment are needed for the school and this must be the charities priority. The purchase of a new computer for the office to make things easier with the original computers upgraded to Windows 10.

A few house checks were done on the 25 new children took place, this is not an easy task as riding on the back of a motor cycle around Mtwapa is not very comfortable when there is no tarmac roads.

A further 28 children were treated to some late Christmas shopping with the money sent by their Sponsors.

It has been an exceedingly difficult year for us all, the trustees did not get out to Kenya in May and so arrangements were made to start a feeding program for the children. The pupils come to the school once a month to pick up food to take back home. In Kenya, a lot of people lost their jobs, but unlike the UK, there was no government help.



The feeding programme on the visit in August with Trustee Rachel

Trustees managed to travel to Kenya for 2 weeks in October. There was plenty of work to be done. The schools were reopening in October for classes 4 and 8, these classes will be taking exams in March 2021. Unfortunately, this year there will be no exams, so consequently there will be no school reports from the children, but there will be some photos and letters from the children, as about 65 children brought the letters in to school.

The Health Ministry made a visit to the school to ensure the rules and regulations, in respect to Covid 19, were all in order for the children to return back to school. The school passed the inspection with flying colours and the certificate taken to the education department. The school had to be fumigated ready for the school re-opening.

During the feeding program, we managed to take all but 17 of the children's photograph. We are sorry we didn't manage to get all the children photographed, but some children were sent up country to stay with relatives, as the ones they lived with could not afford to keep them. That is the trouble with orphaned or extremely poor children we have in CHink Academy, if we are not there to help, they get passed on to someone else. Hopefully in January, all the children will be back in school and be able to take the rest of the photos. On this year's photos, the children are not in uniform, so your sponsored child may look a little different and many may not be as neat and as clean as usual.

Georgina went on a walkabout with Felister our administrator, to distribute a lot of bras that were donated to the charity shop, the older ladies who were desperately in need, were so grateful, and we had a good rewarding time.



Trying on the underwear over their clothing.

After almost 2 years we have eventually signed documents for the purchase of 2 new plots of land adjacent to the school. Hopefully, this will be used for a playground area and construct a shower block when we get back to normal. The sails that were erected over the dining area for shade were damaged beyond repair due to the high winds and rain and needed to be renewed. A much stronger frames was made with new sails on, it looks a lot better now.



**The new
Stronger
Sails for
shade**

Class 4 and 8, teachers and staff would like to thank everyone who helps and supports CHink academy, for raising funds to keep them at school, and are proud of all the sponsors, donors and volunteers. I have now passed this message on to you all.

We hope everyone can understand the difficulties the charity has had since March, but have tried to do our best to keep the teachers, cooks and cleaners on half pay and the guards and administrator on full pay, but as CHink charity shop was closed for 4 months, there was no additional income, only the sponsorship money and donations from some very kind people.

The trustees would also like to do the same as without sponsors, volunteers, customers and donations received, it would not have happened. I am just sorry some sponsors will not get their child's photo or letter this extraordinary year. Hopefully this will be done after our next visit in February.

Thank you Georgina, Roy, Christine, Rachel and Graham.

The charity relies on the children being sponsored at CHink Academy, with Covid 19, we have been unable to attend Talks, Shows, Quiz nights, Yard sales etc. There are 30 children that need sponsoring at the school. If anybody could help with a small donation of £10.00 per month, even for 1 year, this would be most wonderful.