



# NEWS FROM TANZANIA!

## Crumbs!! Where HAS the time gone...?!!

It HAS been a long time since we wrote...we're so busy all the time...sorry...no excuse...

In April we finished the 2018-2019 season of Nord Anglia Education (NAE) expeditions to Tanzania...and it was time for a rest and a catch up...it seems the rest and catch up never actually happened, as we then opened our Special Needs Unit at our nursery school!

Here are the highlights from the past few months:



- Not a highlight, but more of a “lowlight” - we said “Goodbye” to Sarah (*left with her son, plastering on the building site in 2018*), who has left Tanzania with her family to return to Germany. We are very sad to see her go - she has been with SWTz for several years and was instrumental in setting up the NAE Community Projects, and has also contributed in so many ways to all aspects of SWTz programmes. We wish her and her family well as they establish their new life in Germany, and we also say “Tutaonana! Karibu tena!” (We’ll see you again! Welcome again!).

- We also said “Goodbye” to amazing volunteer Natasha (*right*) from the UK, who spent two months with us. Natasha spent her time at SWTz Daycare and made a huge impact there, as well as at the residential centre. We miss her smile and easy going attitude, and wish her well in her next adventures.



- Last “Goodbye” was to Riziki (*left*), as she had completed her A levels. Next step for her is university (she wants to study law) but in the meantime while waiting for results, she is living with another ex-SWTz resident, Rebecca, and is working to support herself and save towards her next step in life. Riziki is a level-headed determined young lady, and we are so proud of her and the decisions she has made in life, and she is such a great mentor to our younger children. She will be hugely missed.

- We said “Hello” to new residents Jasmini, Sarah, and Ayubu (*all 3 right with Zainabu*), who have settled in well. Jasmini came to us via The Foundation For Tomorrow (TFFT), who sponsor her education; Sarah came via Nkoaranga Hospital where she had been receiving treatment, and needed a safe place to live and continue her education; and Ayubu is the youngest brother of two other SWTz residents Veronica and Baraka - prior to SWTz he lived at Cradle of Love Baby Home for several months as he was very under-nourished. Thanks to their loving care and good diet, Ayubu is now healthy.



- Together with the ever hard-working NAE students, teachers and expedition leaders, we built 6 classrooms at Imbaseni Government Primary School (*right*), and repaired student toilets which were built several years ago but had



never been used as the plumbing didn't work. We also worked with 79 vulnerable families in 4 different villages, building goat sheds and giving female milking goats; installing solar systems; and building fuel-efficient stoves. We worked with 721 students and teachers, and 13 different expedition leaders. We also held small fundraisers along

the way and been able to support several families and individuals with

donations ranging from a wheelchair for a paralysed young man, to sponsoring a young girl through two years of bakery college, to helping a vulnerable family with food, medical help, and school supplies.

Thanks to the generosity of Nord Anglia students we have also distributed schoolbags, solar slights, stationery, clothes, toys, and so much more. What an amazing and fruitful 6 months!



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• The big exciting news since our last newsletter is that the new daycare facility was finally finished, and we moved from our old small facility into the beautiful big colourful new school in January. So exciting, and very well received by our local community. Within a few weeks the reception class was full, and we now have 75 students attending Monday-Friday! It is a beautiful spacious facility, and students and teachers are loving the joyful atmosphere!

• And ground-breaking news: our Special Needs Unit (SNU) within the daycare centre opened in April! We have two classrooms, each with its own attached quiet room. We have purposely started on a small scale with just 8 students predominately with mental challenges, as this is the greatest need. The SNU is overseen by volunteer Martina, and though the first few days were exhausting and unpredictable, she has seen change already in our students as they adapt to having a daily routine in their lives and educational exercises. We're also taking children to hospital for diagnosis and medical care - also making a difference to their daily lives, and that of their caretakers. There aren't any other organisations in our area doing this, and it is exciting, scary, and



challenging all at once, and so very much needed.

• Finally - it has been lovely to catch up with some alumni over the past few months: Kanuti is finishing his law degree this year; Fatuma is in Dar es Salaam and has a small food business she has started with a friend; Hamis completed his Certificate in Law and is now 1/3 of the way through a 2-year diploma; Anderson (*below, right*) is working in catering; Eliza came to visit us with her daughter Glory (*left*); and Elibariki and Rebecca (*top right*) visited us in December (working as a primary school teacher and business person, respectively)!



Thank you for making a difference in Tanzania!