

# SJK Mission Trip – Kenya 2017

Prayer Letter 3



Sunday evening and the team arrived at Muranga, a town in the foothills to the south of Mt Kenya, a mysterious mountain, despite being the highest in Kenya and the second highest in Kenya, is rarely seen during the day because of the mist and moisture laden atmosphere of the local area. A bright and early start on Monday brought the team to St Annas's centre where we met the Bishop John and his wife. We were welcomed with tea and digestive biscuits, this was followed with a tour of the centre and the nearby farm.



Top: The girls Dormitory

St Anna's centre is a humble school with very basic facilities, it accommodates the schooling of 260 pupils from the age of 4 all the way through to 15. Most pupils are day pupils however the school also has around 40 pupils who board for the whole term. The day starts at 7am, the curriculum consists of Maths, English, Science, Kiswahili and CRE (Christian religious education). Each morning at 10am there is a break for some porridge which the kids enjoyed until their play was interrupted by the chief bell ringer, who authoritatively signalled the return to class. Lunch break is a 1pm with a lunch typically consisting of beans, vegetables and rice. Lessons finish at 3:20 pm followed by some games, football being most popular. The day pupils leave at 4pm and the boarders usually wash their own clothes in the evening.

Most of the children at the centre are sponsored by overseas sponsors from the USA, Sweden, Slovakia, Canada, UK and France. The other pupils are sponsored by family relatives or guardians. A large number of the children are orphans in the care of a relative or other nominated guardian. School uniform is compulsory for all ages.

Tuesday was the first day when all the pupils were at the school, the team was received by the school at morning assembly (right) where we enjoyed each class as they sang songs and recited bible verses for us. We were joined by Bishop John who encouraged the whole school to sing a song about Jesus. The assembly was a great Christian witness where the saving love of Jesus was celebrated in joyful singing. Praising the Lord is at the centre of the schools heart and each teacher instils the greatness of God into each and every pupil.



The children love to play and as well as being involved in some classes the younger members of our team, namely Sarah and Myles, engaged with some of the younger ones with drawing and ribbon making (pictured left).

As well as attending some of the classes, the team got involved in other areas. Our medical team examined not only the children but some elderly folk as well, giving them valuable advice and exercises to help with back pain.

## Prayer Points

### Give thanks for:

The wonderful and hardworking staff at St Anna's centre, and the children for their enthusiasm and love of the Lord.

The faithful vision of Bishop John & his wife.

### Prayer for:

The staff and pupils at St Anna's Centre.

The travel of the team as they journey home.

Bishop John and his wife, the retired clergy of Kenya.

Continued support for St Anna's centre.