

THE ADELANTE AFRICA NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2014

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

The school is developing in a very positive way. The children work hard and get the best grades in the area. The teachers form an enthusiastic and motivated team. Part of this success comes from knowing that Adelante Africa supports the school and the children have the chance of continuing into good secondary schools.



Some of the teachers of St Joseph's with the flags of Brazil, Spain and all the African countries that played in the World Cup

The teachers were delighted that Adelante Africa Spain has agreed to buy a teacher's desk for each classroom. Now they will have somewhere to put their books and the chalk!

They were also happy that two of the members of the governing body who visited in August offered to donate some extra money towards the budget for the new dormitory building. This had initially been planned just for girls but with the extra money the building will be able to house two rooms with separate entrances, one for girls and the other for boys.

Previous funding for this has come from individual donations and money raised by the children at the El Burgo de las Rozas secondary school in Madrid. Building will start in November.



St Joseph children cheering on their Spanish international!

SECONDARY SCHOOL PROJECT

Adelante Africa now supports 106 children with all or half the fees for their secondary or further education. Some of these children go to schools in the village. Those with higher grades board at schools further afield.



Secondary school children, home for their holidays, dancing at the inauguration of the Omwaana Tugende Children's Home.

Many of the secondary school children attended a meeting with Kato Paul, President of Adelante Africa Uganda and the member responsible for the secondary school programme. The meeting was in the Omwaana Tugende Community Hall. He urged the children to work hard at school and to “give something back” by helping on the Omwaana Tugende farm in their holidays.



OMWAANA TUGENDE CHILDREN'S HOME



The inauguration of the Home



The building of the children's home is complete and in August there was an official opening ceremony. Local officials as well as representatives of the Boards of Adelante Africa Spain and Uganda attended this. Most importantly, many members of the local community came to enjoy the day.

Every group supported by Adelante Africa, from the nursery school to the Elderly Poultry Group did a performance and the ceremony was followed by a lunch prepared by the Owmaana Tugende Children's Home workers and the women of the FAL groups.

There are now 48 children in the Home. They opened and closed the ceremony with singing and dancing and two children from the Home were the Guests of Honour.

It was truly their day and greatly enjoyed by all.



From left to right, Manolo Tenas (member of the Board of Adelante Africa, Spain), José Luis Sanchez (Vice-President) and Jesus Lezcano (President) with some of the children of Omwaaana Tugende Children's Home.

Resettlement: Home visits programme

This summer we started up a new programme in which families from the neighbourhood volunteer to take in one or two children from the Omwaaana Tugende Children's Home, initially for one day each weekend. However happy and friendly Omwaaana Tugende is, it is nevertheless an institution and the aim is to give children the experience of living in a nuclear family. This is especially important for the children who have little or no family of their own. Hopefully it will mean that they make lasting and meaningful relationships outside the Home.

The number of families willing to take part in the programme overwhelmed us!

The warden and the social worker visited each family individually and many of the children now spend part of the weekends outside the Home. The families they visit are from all walks of life: shopkeepers, peasant farmers, businessmen and women, teachers and even a motorbike taxi driver and his wife.



The home of a local carpenter and his wife who offered to take in two children.



The carpenter picking up the children for one of their weekly visits.

The children love these excursions and we are very happy with how it is working out!

HEALTH AND AGRICULTURE PROJECTS

There is a move supported by the World Health Organisation, Central Government and the District authorities to improve the health of the people, especially the children living in Kibaale through introducing more variety and more protein in their diet. At the moment the diet of all but the most well off is made up almost entirely of carbohydrates, particularly maize flour. Adelante Africa is taking part in this drive in the following ways:

Vegetables

We are developing part of the Omwaana Tugende land as a model vegetable garden, some of it with traditional vegetables that have fallen into disuse (like young pumpkin leaves which are really delicious!) and some with newly imported vegetables like leek, spinach and cauliflower. The idea is that co-operative groups can come and choose some vegetables they would like to grow themselves and Adelante Africa will provide the seeds.

Animal Husbandry

We have built a model piggery and chicken run on land adjoining Omwaana Tugende Children's Home. World Vision is intending to use these with their co-operative groups of farmers to demonstrate good practices.

We are also going to work in conjunction with the Birembo Technical College to incubate eggs of the Kuroiler breed of chickens to distribute in the area. We are already rearing 200 birds of this breed to show local farmers the benefits.



The piggery



The chicken run



Kuroiler chicks

Chicken Vaccination Programme

Finally, in August we vaccinated nearly 5,000 chickens against the prevalent Newcastle disease. Twenty two members of the F.A.L. (Functional Adult Literacy Group) from eleven villages were trained by the government (NAADS) vet on basic chicken rearing and how to administer the vaccine and went on to vaccinate the chickens in their villages.



Training session with the government vet

The sum of the whole programme was a little more than 300 euros proving that it often doesn't need large quantities of money to make a difference. What it does need is a bit of economic backing for local people who have vision and the willingness to dedicate time for the improvement of health in their communities.

Each FAL volunteer received just Ug Shs 20,000 (less than 6 euros) for giving up an afternoon for training and two whole days from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. of vaccinating. They are all keen to repeat the process next February.

The aim of this programme is that every child in the area of Igayaza eats at least 3 eggs a week.



F.A.L. members
vaccinating a chicken

SUNFLOWER SEED AND SOYA BEAN OIL PRESS PROJECT

This summer the first steps were taken to start a cottage oil pressing industry. The hope is that this will help to make the Omwaana Tugende Children's Home more sustainable and at the same time offering an alternative and more lucrative cash crop to farmers in the area.

The local authorities and community as a whole have very warmly welcomed the project. Everyone is hoping it will make a real difference to the economy of the area!



We are grateful to José Luis Sanchez for his very generous donation of both the oil press and the packing machine, which means that the project can be put in motion this season!

Adelante Africa bought 20 kilos of Sunflora seeds which will be planted on the Omwaana Tugende farm and given to

farmers who want to join in the experiment. The first oil should be produced around Christmas!

THE F.A.L (Functional Adult Literacy Group)

The Igayaza F.A.L. hosted the annual District F.A.L. celebrations, with the theme of health and diet. The Guest of Honour was the Prime Minister of the Bunyoro Kingdom and FAL groups from all over the District attended



News of the success of the current Igayaza F.A.L. group has inspired the formation of 3 new F.A.L. groups in the area. One of these, the Burumagi F.A.L. is already being sponsored by Adelante Africa. If the other groups prove to be active and lasting we will sponsor them as well.



Members of the new Burumagi F.A.L. group.

Special thanks to our new Adelante Africa Uganda volunteers

As Adelante Africa grows and the work in Uganda increases, more and more people from the community are involved. There are four new volunteers who joined Adelante Africa officially this summer:

Maria (with special responsibility for women's group affairs).

Thomas and **Augustine** (with special responsibility for agricultural affairs).

Lad (with special responsibility for construction).

As always our thanks go to all the people in Uganda who help their community through Adelante Africa and to our donors in Spain, Ireland and other countries who make what we do possible.

Together we can take the small steps that we know will lead to great changes!

Jane Cadwallader (secretary, Adelante Africa Spain)

Joachim Kisakyamaria (secretary, Adelante Africa Uganda)