

Dear Friends,

From the bottom of our hearts we would like to wish you a:

A festive season and a fantastic 2015!

With the new year approaching this is a great opportunity to reflect on an incredible year for our 600 orphans and needy children in Kimilili. Thank you for being part of it!

Pictures say more than words:

Please enjoy our new 4 minutes video CBSM History 2011-2014!

<http://youtu.be/FDKqkN7OC1E>

Opening of our Secondary School (in addition to our primary school) with 200 new students

In December 2013 we had for the first time a graduating class (grade 8) taking part in the National Examination for primary education. CBSM managed to be ranked number 4 out of 64 schools within the district. Considering these kids didn't have a single book 3 years ago, this is an incredible achievement!



In order to get the addition of the Secondary School up and running we:

- constructed 5 additional permanent and 5 semi-permanent classroom
- hired 8 new secondary school teachers

- connected the school to electricity
- established a computer lab with currently 20 computers and a science lab
- bought Secondary School books and learning materials



CBSM Merryn Children's Home

Merryn was a wonderful woman who had a big heart and loved children. Tragically, she died in a car accident a few years ago. Before going to University Merryn had spent time volunteering in an orphanage in Morocco, so in her memory, friends of Merryn decided to adopt the CBSM Children's Home. Thanks to this support the children's home has now grown to accommodate 20 children! In addition to building 3 new mud huts to provide further accommodation we now have 4 permanent staff members taking care of the children 24 hours a day. This financial support has also enabled the home to be fitted with electricity and urgently needed goods for the household such as mosquito nets.



A magical CBSM wedding in Zurich

Agnes and Will, who shortly after meeting volunteered at CBSM, got married this September in Zurich. While walking out of the church in a beautiful white dress the bride and groom were met by their wedding guests lined up holding each a picture of a CBSM child in their hands. Friends also surprised the happy couple with an “Ellis Computer Room” to honour their wedding. We are all very excited to celebrate a second Kenyan wedding with our local Kenyan family in January. This had never happened before in Kimilili: Two white people getting married with 600 school children as their witnesses!

A big thank you to all of you!

All these “dreams-come-true” would not have been possible without the continuous support we are receiving for:

- School sponsorships for 600 children
- Salaries for 33 staff members
- Provision of over 500.000 free school lunches over the last 3 years

We’d also like to thank you for your continued support in replacing the mud huts with a proper school building and the many infrastructure improvements that have been turned reality due to all of you! **ASANTE SANA!**

A big thank you goes to our wonderful wonderful 2014 volunteers onside in Kimilili: **Carolin Reichmann, Andrea Becke, Freddy Cruz, Nina Wojtas, Nicole Leftwick, Norbert Benker, Wolf und Elena Kühne** and **Andreas Timpert**. **Carmen and Emile Dupont** will spend Christmas with our 20 orphans this year and **Deborah Abbonizio** will join our children in January 2015. Thank you so much for spending your free time to support the school and our children!

A special thanks goes to all our helping hands for our Swiss activities as well to our local team in Kimilili, making sure that our children are well taken care of and the school runs smoothly. Asante sana for your great work!

If you feel inspired and would like to help us, please find further information here: <http://www.cbsm-kimilili.org/index.php/en/14-11-2013-secondary-school> or contact us on info@cbsm-kimilili.org.

We would like to invite you to come and visit our school in Kimilili! The children would love to meet you!

Enjoy a festive season. With best wishes for 2015 from

Alex, Agnes & Astrid