



Report 20 December 2011

This report covers the work that has been done in the Vanessa Grant School, the Rongai Vocational Training School, Gogar Primary School and St Michael's Nursery School. A separate report has been circulated about the Vanessa Grant Girls' School.

Vanessa Grant School

Gerard Holden Playground: the new fence is now complete and has made a significant impact on the sense of space in the school and making it feel more welcoming.



Website: please have a look at this new website as it is far more comprehensive. www.vanessagrantschool.org Suggestions for improving it will be welcome. Please send these to jeonslow@fishingfliesandlures.com.

Sponsorship: at the recent budgeting exercise, the Board of Governors came to the reluctant conclusion that the fees charged for boarding will have to increase to Ksh6000 per term in 2012. The cost of maize is three times what it used to be a year ago. This means that we need to ask those of you who generously sponsor a child to increase your sponsorship next year to GBP100.00 for the year. If it is possible to pay for the year in advance it makes it very much simpler for our accounting. You should receive a report on the child you are sponsoring and an invoice before you make a payment. If you would like to sponsor a child and have not done so before then please contact me, jeonslow@fishingfliesandlures.com, and I will put you in touch with Naomi.

Development: thanks to Emily there is a small dhobi area under construction where bed-sheets and clothes can be more easily washed and where a washing machine will be installed to help the house parents with the endless job of washing which should also help clothes to last longer. Mr. Jeffs very kindly donated a large

flat screen TV to make it easier for the children to see.



At play



The dhobi for the washing machine

Volunteers: Helen Sutherland and Anna Heydon gave up a week of their time to come and work with the staff and children at the VGS. They are both professional speech therapists in the UK and did a wonderful job bringing staff up to date with some of the latest ideas. Victoria Smith and Emily Jeffs have been working in all the schools. Emily unleashed some exceptional talent at the VGS and they both organized an Art Exhibition to raise money to go towards the fees of the artists.



Kelsey, Victoria and Emily, organisers of the exhibition with David and Nicholas.



Girls from the VGGS admire beadwork from the Vocational School.

Vocational Training School

Work is continuing to complete the new teaching areas and develop the skills of the children. The highlight of the term was the combined Art Exhibition with the VGS, showing all the work that the school is undertaking.



Helping with fees.



Patchwork rug.



Knitting



Beadwork



The Vocational Training School with new classrooms approaching completion.

Gogar Primary School

Since Cheltenham left in July, the focus here has been on developing the cow and rabbit project. Thanks to Victoria, Emily and her family, who have added to money from Cheltenham, there is now a milking shed and trough and, in the next day or two, a cow. The rabbits are multiplying rapidly and the number of hutches needs to be increased. There is also a plan for geese, partly as night watchmen, and partly to vary the menu. The protein intake of the boarders is going to increase significantly.



The cow shed for milking and feeding.



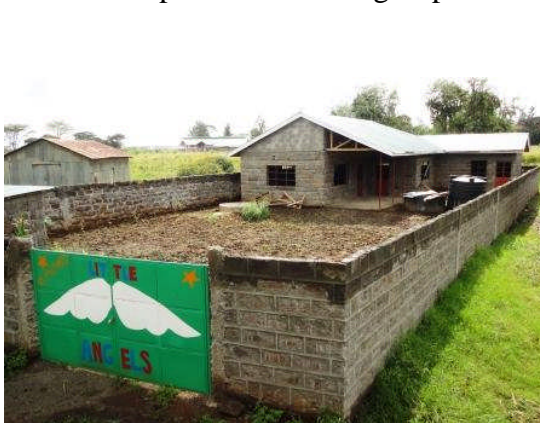
The rabbit hutches and manure preparation.



Pond for ducks and geese.

St Michael's Nursery School.

The final touches are being put to the nursery school to prepare it for January. The floor is being completed and the whole inside of building painted. The rainwater tank is being plumbed in and pipes connected to the basins by the latrines. The piping from the river water supply is being extended to reach the tank so that there will be water available during the dry weather. Paths are being laid so that it will be easier to keep the classes clean. Agnes is organizing tables and desks and some simple partitions to enable the big room to be split for different groups.



www.vanessagrattrust.org

www.vggs.org

J E O December 2011.