

# KENYA CONNECTION



## **SCHOOL UPDATES**

We are happy to share that each day new improvements are being made to continue to improve the lives of the students and teachers at Mountain Park Academy. The structure of the school administration has recently changed. We now have one principal in charge of both the primary and secondary sections. There are also two assistants in the primary section and two in the secondary section. This new set up has allowed them to work well together as a whole school. We have seen a great response from the children to the new leadership. The discipline and overall cleanliness of the school has improved since this change as well.

Exams will begin this month. The national exams will be completed in late November for 8th grade and early December for 12th grade. Please keep the students and teachers in your prayers during this time.

Last Christmas we raised money for new shoes for the students. Each student received their new pair of shoes in June. You can see some very happy students in the picture after receiving their new shoes! We are currently in the process of working on getting new desks and chairs for the classrooms. The cost of 1 desk and chair is \$45. This will be an ongoing project.

#### **CURRENT NEEDS**

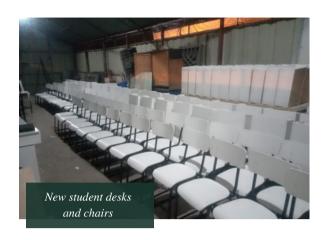
Sponsorship: Our greatest current need is student sponsorship. We have seen a big decline in sponsorship since Covid. We have 850 students and only around 350 are currently sponsored, which leaves 500 unsponsored children. It is \$30 a month to sponsor a child. This \$30 covers school tuition, school supplies, and the school uniform. You can choose to be assigned to a specific child, or donate funds that will be put towards children most in need. Our annual Christmas drive this year will be focusing on getting children sponsored. Please consider sponsoring a child or sharing this information with anyone you know that might be interested.

**Mission Trips**: We are open for mission trips for the 23-24 calendar year. Please reach out if you would like more information on joining a trip or leading a trip of your own.



Use this QR code if you would like to sponsor a child





**Medical / Admin / Construction Team:** The medical / admin / construction team traveled to MPA in June. The medical team was able to see each student and give them a physical. They also saw any staff members that needed to be seen and every student from the trade school. The admin team met with each child to update student bios and take a current picture. The construction team spent a lot time walking around the grounds and evaluating current needs of the school. This team covered the cost of the new dining hall floors. This team also designed the new desks that students will be getting.

**Lifeshape team:** The Lifeshape team traveled to MPA in August. They had an electrician on the trip and they were able to update a lot of lighting in the dining hall, classrooms, children's homes, and throughout the compound. The team paid for all the new light fixtures. They spent a lot of time with the trade school students and had an open house for the trade school. They had over 80 people interested, and we had 25 sign up as new students! The team had a food distribution and fed around 550 families. They continued their work with the students that are part of the Leader Academy as well.

We are so grateful for the continuous support from both of these teams year after year.

Ongoing Projects	Completed Projects
<ul> <li>Christmas Campaign: Student sponsorship</li> <li>New flooring in dining hall</li> <li>Kitchen sinks</li> <li>New student desks and chairs</li> <li>Replacing old drainage system with a new one</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Christmas Shoe Project: All students received their new pair of shoes!</li> <li>Medical team gave each student a physical</li> <li>New dorm for girls completed</li> <li>Student bios updated</li> <li>Kitchen ventilation fixed</li> <li>Updated lighting</li> </ul>

### A NOTE FROM GIDEON

Hello friends and family,

Greetings are how we start a conversation and most communication. "How are You?" I guess the answer would be fine, doing well, can't complain and on and on. I want to answer your greeting to me by saying, "I am Grateful." Regardless of what we are going through even with the tough economical time, there is something we can be grateful for. I am grateful for each one of you who have supported the Kenya Project for as long as you have. I do not want you to ever think that you are taken for granted. THANK YOU! One of Leo Rosten's famous quotes is, "The purpose of life is not to be happy at all. It is to be useful, to be honorable. It is to be compassionate. It is to matter, to have it make some difference that you lived." I can reference each of you our partners, sponsors, and supporters as such since you have been all that and more as we start to see the light and wiggle ourselves out of the pandemic and it effect. Your hands have been useful, honorable, and compassionate and yes, the future generation will know you lived. THANK YOU. I am hopeful that we will continue to cultivate and build a grateful community all over the world because we have lived.

As we draw to the end of the year and the weather changes and we start to think about Christmas, I can hear the song "All I want to Christmas". We at the Kenya Project are asking that you consider sponsoring a child as a Christmas gift to you and to us. Please visit our website <a href="https://www.thekenyaproject.org">www.thekenyaproject.org</a> or use the QR code from above to join in on this campaign.

With a grateful heart Gideon Robi ED The Kenya Project



#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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