



ARLINGTON ACADEMY OF
HOPE

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Issue III

Mulembe Magazine

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A Note from the Headmistress



Dear readers,

It is my pleasure once again to share with you our exciting stories that have made a difference in the lives of our students at Arlington Academy of Hope. We are proud of our students and the stories they have written. Term one of the academic year is coming to a close but do hope that the stories will keep you very interested in the activities of AAH organization.

I am thankful to the USA and Uganda Board for giving me the opportunity to visit the USA. While in the states, I visited eight schools and saw how they teach their students. I was impressed by the quality of education they give their students. It is an all round education. Students are helped to explore their talents and potentials in different subjects and activities but also helped to develop better life skills.

On the side of infrastructure, all states have well developed buildings, running water and electricity. This goes hand in hand with their high sense of responsibility over the environment. People in the USA don't litter their environment. What a lesson we have to learn from them!

Sarah Sabano - Arlington Junior School Head Teacher

Secondary Student Photography Lesson

On January 26th, AJS welcomed visitors from the organization Fund a Field to scope out some potential government schools to receive a soccer field. They also

carried out a photography lesson for some of our secondary students. They quickly had a great time experimenting with angles, shadows, and perspective. Here are some of their photos.



Creative Corner

"By the kids, for the kids"

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The Wicked King

By: Wasibe Clavin P6

Once upon a time there lived a man...

And woman who lived very deep inside a village called Bweya. Those people had a child and her name was Nalule. The girl was the most beautiful in the village. One day a group of men carrying some spears and bows with arrows arrived in the village. They went straight to the village chief.

The village chief asked what they came for. They said that their king had sent them because he had heard that there was a very beautiful young lady in the village. The village chief said that he would look for the young lady and give her to the king.

In only a short time, the news moved around the village and the parents of the beautiful girl found out that the king was after their daughter. They knew they had to refuse to give their daughter to the king unless they were given some of the king's wealth. The father was happy about the potential but his daughter was very upset. Her mother was also very hesitant to give her daughter away to the king.

Not long after, the men with spears arrived at the family's house with some other royal women. They arrived to take the girl to the king. When they arrived at the house they had found that the mother had hidden the girl. She lied to the royal people by saying that her daughter has found a husband and has left for marriage.

The news was delivered to the king. Immediately, the king called his wise men and told them what had happened. After meeting with the wise men, he told his soldiers to prepare for battle. They marched right away to the village. The king was directed to the home of the girl and pleaded to the parents for a long time. He stood up with anger after many minutes and hit both of the parents.

The king commanded the soldiers to take the parents to the royal dungeon. But the soldiers refused. They had seen how mean he was to the parents and felt bad for the girl. They betrayed their king and instead took him to the dungeon to die. The father and mother of the girl were made the new king and queen. The daughter became a princess. She later married the love of her life and became a prince. They lived a happy life.

That is how the wicked king was killed.





Local News

“Timely and trustworthy”

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Cynthia Margeson Comes to Town

By: Wakimwayi Allan Abraham P7

Talking of Cynthia Margeson, “the first headmistress of Arlington Junior School,” is the best idea one could think of. It was in February 2017 when we received our first head mistress this year.

Twelve years down the road when Tr. Cynthia first came to Arlington, it was a nightmare in Bumwalukani. Reading was a big problem, but as she stayed, the idea of a “basin library” was commenced. This changed the lies of many students at Arlington and was carried on until a brand new library was built.

During her stay at Arlington this year, she again brought in new ideas to the school. At our morning assemblies she told us many stories about America’s history. She really is a doctor of books. She also gave the teachers new teaching skills through training workshops.

Before returning to the USA during her visit, every class received a full crate of books. This has really helped pupils to improve on their vocabulary, because while they have finished their class work, they can quickly pick a book or magazine to read.

At the end of her stay she witnessed the long awaited event, which had never happened before at our school. On the 2nd of March 2017 was the grand graduation of the pioneer students of AAH. This helped to encourage most students to continue their education.

We thank Tr. Cynthia for always coming to visit us in Uganda and for always bringing new ideas to AAH.

National Athletics Competition

By Watera Joy P6

It all started as a joke when Tr. Godfrey told us to go to the field every Wednesday and Friday to start training for athletics.

In the first competition, Arlington Junior School hosted all the other schools in the sub county. After a long day of running and jumping, we emerged the winners.

We continued onto the regional competition. When we arrived to the field we waited for many hours and we discovered that we had scared away the competition. We came back from Bumwalye as winders because they got scared to compete with us brave lions. Since we did not compete them we were automatically pushed for the next level.

After being feared, we went to Bukigai Primary School to participate in the district level competition. We emerged the winners of the competition with 116 points. All other schools followed far behind with little points. They day ended and we went back to our homes very happy.

Since we won the district level, we continued to practice to participate in the national competition. We combined with some other top runners and jumpers from other schools in Bududa. We took our practice very seriously. We practiced until May 7th.

Wow! The long awaited day finally reached on May 8th. We boarded two taxis with our friends from other schools and head to Tororo District. Many of us were intimidated because the other students looked like they would be tough competition. But we stayed confident so we could perform our best for Bududa District.

The first day at Tororo as very interesting.

We camped for the week at Rock View Primary School so we could stay for the entire competition. There were many big fields for us to compete on. We tried our level best to please our Bududa family.

While in Tororo we had a lot of fun meeting other students participating in the competition. We stayed with our teachers and always ate a good meal to keep our bodies strong.

At the end of the competition, we emerged the 42nd out of 116 districts! Next time, I think we will be among the first five. We came back with certificates for all the participants.

4th Grade Chats with USA

By: Kibone Sarah P4

It was a Friday in February when we talked with our new friends in America. Last year, we made pen pals with a class in the US. When it happened, I felt that I was really in the USA.

Tr. Danny set up her laptop and the projector and we saw them! They asked us questions about the book we all read, "The Big Friendly Giant." We were excited to talk to them on the laptop. We asked them about their favorite part of the book. They told us that their favorite part was when the BFG walked around the street in the beginning of the book.

Their teacher called a student to ask us a question. They asked us how old we were in 4th grade. We told them that we were 8, 9, 10, and 11 years old.

Lastly, we sang a song for them and they also sang a song for us. Then, the bell rang and we went home.

It was a good day.

The Joy of Welcoming a Visitor to Your Home

By: Kituyi Jamila P6

It was on a Saturday in 2016 when Tr. Elizabeth and Tr. Dani visited my home. I was happy and excited to welcome them to my house.

On that Saturday, I went to school at 1pm. When I reached school, I walked back with Tr. Elizabeth and Tr. Dani. As we were going, they took many photos of the houses, plants, and mountains that we passed.

When we reached my home, I welcomed Tr. Elizabeth and Tr. Dani into the sitting room and also my mother welcomed them. They were happy to see my home and meet my family members. As we were in the sitting room, Tr. Elizabeth asked, "Which subjects do you love the most?"

I said that I love math, Science, Social Studies, and English. She asked me, "What do you want to be in the future?"

I said that I want to be a doctor. She told me, "Work hard and you will fulfill your goal of being a doctor."

Then, my mother brought in a snack of milk tea and roasted groundnuts. After having the snack, I took Tr. Elizabeth and Tr. Dani to see the cows, goats, and the place where our animals sleep. They took many photos and again my mother called us to go and have the meal she prepared.

Tr. Elizabeth and Tr. Dani were excited to see the many types of food my mother had prepared. They thanked my mother for cooking that hot meal for them. Tr. Elizabeth gave me a solar lamp. I was happy to receive the solar lamp. I thanked her and all my family members thanked

her.

As they were about to leave, I also gave them some groundnuts and sweet bananas to take. They were happy. After they said goodbye to all my family members, I brought them back to the guesthouse. It was a good day to have visitors come to my home.

Executive Director Visits AAH

By: Mutsongo Morris P7

Our head teacher told us about the ED's visit to our school during the first term holiday. All the pupils who were participating in the athletics competition were sad because they would miss her visit because they would be in Tororo District.

The Executive Director enjoyed a visit meeting the secondary students and seeing their holiday program.

Happy were we at the athletics competition when Tr. Kefa told us that the ED decided to pay us a visit despite her busy meetings. Believe me on the promised day the Executive Director, AAH Director, and other teachers visited us and watched us compete. It was indeed a happy moment because they had come with placards reading "Bududa, Beasts of the East" and "Timma Mangu Bududa!" Bududa team was the only team, which was visited by a white lady.

All in all, we were extremely happy with such a big visit. Long live our Executive Director. Thank for that big heart, we will miss you.

Celebrating Peninah Kituyi – An AAH Story:

By: Co-founder John Wanda

When Peninah Kituyi first came to AAH in 2004, she had lost hope in education. She had already attended three schools, leaving each one as hostile students taunted her and called her names because she was an albino. In class, she couldn't see what her teachers wrote on the blackboard. She could not write, and she had difficulty identifying objects in a room. School for her was torture, and she was ready to give it all up. There seemed no future for her in education."

In the 13 years that Peninah has spent at AAH, she has been a model student. She was an avid reader, topping her class in books read each year. She also sang in the primary School Choir, and was one of the students who represented the school and the region in the National Music Competitions. While her eyes continued to bother her, she never let that interfere with her education. There were occasions she misplaced or lost her glasses, but she still managed to figure out how to read and remember what her teachers taught.

She continued onto secondary school where she remained the top of her class in academics and behavior. After receiving 19 out of 20 points on the National Exams for her A'level education, Peninah was one of the few Ugandan students who received a government scholarship to continue on University. In the fall she will be attending Makerere University to study Education and Literature.

Without AAH, Peninah would have dropped out of school long ago. She persevered because she believed in herself and gave it her all. But also because she had supportive teachers and a community around her, and because she had some of the best friends and supporters that AAH could find – Linda Rogers Watkins, her sponsor, and AAH friend and partner Susan Leslie DuBois and



her group, Asante Mariamu, who are now helping albino children like Peninah all over Bududa, Manafwa, and other parts of Uganda with resources, scholarships, and materials. Peninah, in her achievement, is the embodiment of what the AAH dream is.

Student Spotlight



Nafungo Gloria

Grade: 1st

School: Arlington Junior School

Age: 6 years

Favorite subject: English

Favorite sport: Netball

Favorite thing about Arlington: Meeting the new friends in my class

What do you want to be when you grow up: A pilot

To become Gloria's sponsor, visit

<http://www.aahuganda.org/donate-sponsor> to start supporting her education!

A Note from our Program Director

The transformation process is a journey with ups and downs. The Joy and jubilations that rocked Bumwalukani community on the 24th of February will always remain a historical moment in the lives of our surrounding communities. This was when the AAH dream became a reality; we watched our university students graduate. Our pioneer students are now ready to enter the job market. We could not have reached this point without the tremendous help from our founders, Uganda & US Boards, sponsors, donors, partners, management, staff, community, and most of all our students.



“The chance that we would like to see in the world starts with the chance of the mind set.

Kamoti Milton Apollo Wasunguyi
AAH Program Director –Uganda

A Note from the Editor

I hope you all enjoy this new issue of Mulembe Magazine! It was a busy month with a lot of news to cover, but our students chose to cover the most important events.

To keep up to date on all things Arlington, make sure you check out our website (www.aahuganda.org). Aside from being recently re-designed, we have been regularly posting articles, updates, and blog posts from our volunteers. There is a lot that happens here in Uganda as well as the US so keep in touch!

I am happy to announce we have a new International Coordinator. Emma MacKenzie will be taking over editing the newsletter. We are happy to see this outlet for student ideas continue into the future.

As always, thanks for your support of the Arlington Academy of Hope.

Danielle Fortin
AAH International Coordinator



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