

March 28th 2012

Bags are all packed and I am ready to fly home tomorrow after a very hectic but very satisfying three months here in Kinamba.

We started the term with six classes – four nursery classes and two new classes now called Pre-Primary. So we have 176 children registered with us and we are helping 80 Primary children to attend school locally. They come to us to eat at lunchtime and after school – Rwandan children only attend school for half days.

We have requests from 89 families for 60 places for 2013 which will be a challenge.

We have had a couple of changes of staff – Tamar has left us and she is replaced by Marthe and Felicie who both succeeded in their examinations and are now employed as teachers. Their experience as class assistants has given them a head start – so congratulations to them and thank you to the kind people who have sponsored them through their studies. Sandra has joined us as an assistant, and Bea as a part-time teacher.

Here we are with our official photographs at the start of the year.



Marthe with her very new children in Nursery 1a and Feza (class assistant) with Nursery 1b and Michal who has been volunteering with us this term.



Claire and Judith with Nursery 2a and Epiphanie with Sandra and Nursery 2b



Clare with PP1 – they come in the afternoon from 1 p.m. until 5 and Felicie with PP2

And then we have one of the two groups of Primary children who come on alternate days in the afternoon for help with homework and extra lessons in English, Kinyarwanda and Social studies and a recent photograph of some of our older children preparing for their end of term examinations.



Our other major work has been to construct another classroom, making our adaptations almost complete, given the space we have. Felicie and her class moved in yesterday, just at the very end of term, but I know they think it is worth it – they are very happy. Thank you very much to the Mourne Challenge Group who funded this for us.



Some of you will remember the photographs of Françoise on her wedding day last year. I now introduce you to IGIRANEZA Megan who was born in December - an ever – growing family!



First in January, then in March – growing up and taking notice!

Lastly I am sorry to say that I will miss Epiphanie's graduation which is on Friday. She has studied at night after work for 5 years and the ceremony will be held at the university – more pictures later but yesterday we had a sneak preview



And so, a happy term all round, with lots of success to report – thank you so much for your support – as I have said many times we cannot do it without you.

Happy Easter holidays, may you find love and peace in your lives.

Meg