

MEG FOUNDATION
SCHOOL



The Kinamba Community Project & Meg Foundation, Welcomes you!

The School Holiday Program 2014 was brought to you by Vincent, Laura and Stephen, with the participation of over 100 lively, fun loving children.



Kigali, Rwanda, November 2014

www.kinambaproject.org.uk

A registered U.K. charity

The Kinamba Community Project and Meg Foundation were founded in 2007 with the aim of bringing education to local children from disadvantaged families and to work towards reducing poverty in the area. For full details please visit the website at www.kinambacommunityproject.org.uk

Meg Foundation currently sponsors 300 children in the nursery , primary homework club and in secondary school. More children will transfer to secondary school or vocational training in 2015.

School: Rwandan students must complete six years of primary education before sitting the national exam for entrance into a high school. Successful students are then allocated to a high school somewhere in Rwanda. For many families the extra expenses of transportation, accommodation and food is too much.

School Holidays: The school holidays run from the end of October to January.

School holiday programme: The weekly programme was similar to that of previous years. This year Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays were learning activity days with Thursdays dedicated to Rugby and Fridays became our movie day. Activities were chosen to practise and help improve the children's reading, writing, listening and communication skills. These activities included: drama, arts and crafts, watching movies, group activity work such as advertising workshops, writing songs and presenting them to the rest of the class.

Mirirwe! My name is Stephen and I have been at Meg Foundation for three months. I am a Maths teacher from the UK and I am visiting Rwandan schools. I have been teaching, assisting Meg Foundation and helping out during the holiday program. It has been a pleasure to get to know all the amazing staff, students and parents who are working so hard to improve local education. The holiday program has been a great opportunity for the children to maintain their knowledge and develop their creative sides, as well as visit new places in Kigali. Well done Vincent and the team for such a great job!



Laura is from Canada and here in Africa travelling with her family for 12 months. Whilst her husband Paul was working at a hospital in Kigali and her two children attended school, Laura come to Meg Foundation Tuesday and Thursday mornings. From Rwanda Laura and her family will be visiting Tanzania and Morocco before stopping in the south of France for 3 months.



We also had the six Secondary one students who will be going into Secondary two in 2015, helping with translating to the younger children, leading activities and singing songs. Here we are at the Egypt and Middle East Expo at the national stadium in Kigali. Unfortunately the Expo was a big shopping warehouse and not an Expo as such with artefacts but the students still had a great time on the outing.



The Meg foundation football team are still out there giving it their best. Training is hard when their coach Francois is away at secondary school but the kids still manage to get some practice in from time to time. Their first match saw us walking for over an hour to the field. Unfortunately it poured with rain soon after the game started not letting up at all. The boys were up 2 goals to 0 in the first half but the home team ended up winning the match 2 – 4.



The Meg Foundation dance troupe are going from strength to strength thanks to the great effort the children put in and especially from their teacher Eric. Well done to you all!



Click the link to view a short clip of the children practising:

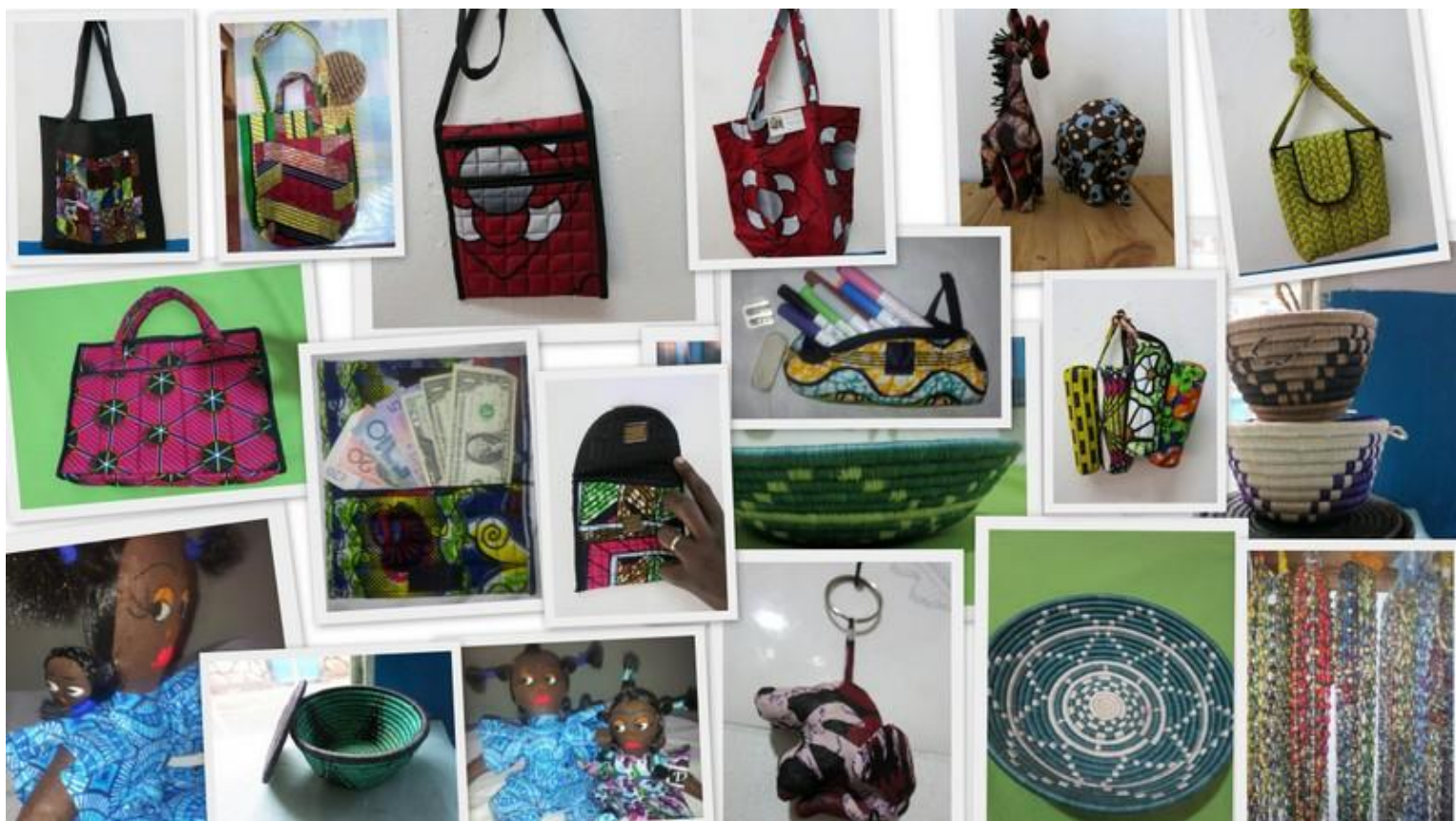
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQO5dpU24z0>

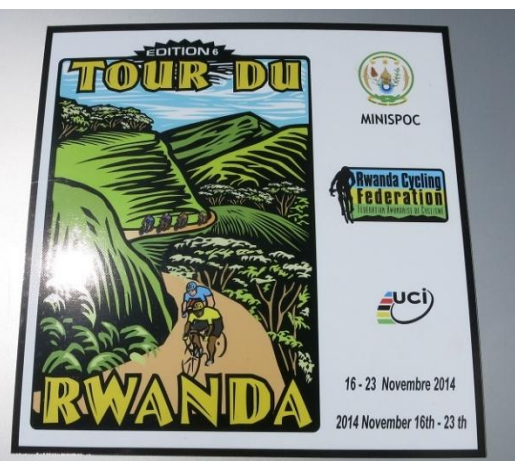


The Women's group



The foundation raises money through child sponsorship, individual donations and from the sales of items, hand-made by the women's craft group. Bags, cases, beads, bowls, aprons, and stuffed animals are among many different items made by these very talented women.





November in Rwanda is the time for the Tour du Rwanda. This years race was 911.6 kms long and ran from November 16th to 23rd. I split primary 5, 6 and the senior 1 children into two groups and took them to Amahoro National Stadium for the prologue and end of the race. At the prologue / invidual time trials, we met the teams (except the South African and Kenya teams) and had photos with them. Unfortunately the Australian, USA and Egyptian teams pulled out. The race made for a great Geography lesson with teams from Algeria, Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Eritrea, France, Germany, Kenya, Morocco, Rwanda, South Africa and Switerland participating.

Team Morocco



Team Switzerland



Team Cameroon



Rwandan support group



Team Burundi



Team France



Team members from Ethiopia and Eritrea



Ethiopia's 2nd team



Sunday 23rd saw us back at Amahoro stadium for the last day of racing which was 9 laps around the surrounding area, finishing outside the stadium. Here are some pictures capturing the day.

Crowd entertainers



The winners of 2015's Tour du Rwanda is RWANDA taking in 1st + 2nd



On our last day, Meg Foundation welcomed Eric from Rwanda's cricket association who introduced cricket to the Primary 2 and 3 children. The children practised ball skills, bowling, fielding and batting. A fun time had by all.



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Workshops - An inspiring Rwandan artist *Manira Parker Saint Vincent* joined us at Meg Foundation and held music workshops for the older children. Parker Saint has limited English as he was taught French at school. He used a mixture of Kinyarwandan and his English during his workshops. His songs were in English. He has his own record label 'Black Empire'. It was great to see Parker Saint in action. He taught the children two songs that he wrote especially for them "I have dreams" and "God Bless Rwanda" He also helped the children write their own songs.

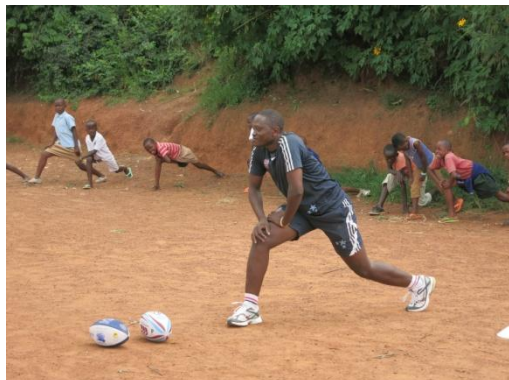


Click on the following link to see a short clip of the children singing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H5PBP8VBRg4> *God bless Rwanda written by Parker Saints

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rv-z6SBytGk> *Kids singing their songs that they wrote

Rugby Thursdays – Special thanks to Friends of Rwandan Rugby for coming to Meg Foundation and introducing touch rugby to the children. The first two sessions were all about ball handling, passing and learning the rules as well as the importance for doing warming up and cooling down exercises. The children had a great time from start to finish. On their third session they began playing short games.



Movie Fridays – Always a treat but even more exciting now with thanks to Laura for donating a projector. This was a vast improvement from gathering around the laptop to watch a movie. The children loved HR Pufnstuf, The Thunderbirds and Monkey Magic. We watched an episode before the main feature film. This years films included; How to train your dragon 1+2, Roar – a brilliant movie about big cats filmed in Kenya in 1981, Mr Peabody and Sherman, the classic Ferris Bueller's Day Off which the older kids really got into and Frozen.



Primary 2 going into Primary 3 in 2015



Primary 3 going into Primary 4 in 2015



Primary 4 going into Primary 5 in 2015



Primary 5 and 6 going into Primary 6 and Secondary 1 in 2015



With special thanks to the following people and organisations:

A BIG thank you to ACLE (www.acle.org), who helped with supplies, photo copied worksheets etc. To the ACLE office staff THANK YOU for your support and for purchasing many products over the years from the women's co-op and also to the many ACLE tutors who each year have purchase an elephant or giraffe as pictured here.



To all the people who have purchased an item from the Women's group. THANK YOU.

Laura from Canada and Stephen from The United Kingdom. Thank you both very much for your help in the mornings, it was great working with you.

Manira *Parker Saint* Vincent for travelling to Kigali twice and holding inspiring music workshops, teaching the children two of his songs and helping them write their own songs. We wish you all the best with your record launch next year. Follow Parker Saint by joining his Facebook group / record label 'Black Empire'

Kanamba from 'Friends of Rwandan Rugby' a U.K charity, for introducing rugby to the children and coaching them each Thursday. www.friendsofrwandanrugby.com

Eric from the Rwandan Cricket Association for coming to play cricket with the children.
<http://www.rcsf.org.uk>

To the Kinamba Community, Staff at Meg Foundation and especially the children who attend the holiday programme, thank you again for your hospitality!

Finally, without Meg none of us would be here. A very BIG thank you to Meg from all of us.

Once again, if you have any fundraising ideas, activities for the children, suggestions or contacts, please do pass them on.

If you're interested in sponsoring a child at Meg Foundation or making a donation please visit the website at www.kinambaproject.org.uk or contact Meg directly on info@kinambaproject.org.uk likewise if you are interested in volunteering at the Kinamba Project.

Please feel free to pass on the email address and contact information to any interested parties.

We welcome you to join the "Kinamba Community Project" group on Facebook.





Siblings



“God Bless Rwanda”

So many words to speak, so many things to say, but still the challenges are many,

God bless Rwanda

Are Many, God bless Rwanda!