

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone is doing well, amidst the current global pandemic (Covid-19). It is not an easy fight for everyone around the world and tougher for a majority but the only way out is to keep hope and keep fighting. Fortunately, now the vaccine is available for a large number of groups with risks. I am to share with you some news and update all the KCP friends on what has been happening mainly these past 2 years. So, my life at KCP has been the best in my life not only due to the fact that it's where I started my academic life and all but it has gone way beyond that and became like a family to me.

Through KCP most doors were opened in my life, I got exposed to another different aspect of life that I would have never imagined I would ever have a glimpse of in my life. About 13 years ago, my academic life started in KCP, I did Primary, then after passing the Rwandan National examination I got a scholarship at Green Hills Academy where I did Cambridge IGCSE and International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. It was not a smooth journey but with the support of everyone, including my teachers and my mentor plus the tremendous support of Meg and Russell I went through it and graduated in June 2020. It was a memorable moment, though everything happened virtually due to covid-19 pandemic.

After the graduation, I waited for three months before I could join the University and during this time, I was helping out at KCP and some activities I helped in include: organising the library program for the secondary students at KCP and attending a series of webinars which were organised by some of the generous donors of KCP in Germany. In August I joined medical school to pursue my degree in Medicine and Surgery. I got admitted to University of Nairobi, which is located in Nairobi the Capital of Kenya and this is the mark of a whole new chapter.

Due to the covid-19 pandemic, most universities on the African continent shut down and a small number continued virtually. Our university was one of them. We started classes in September but in November we were allowed to go for physical learning with a priority given to the Practical lessons. This is when I got a chance to meet my classmates as I had to move from Rwanda and live in Nairobi. It was a happy time for me, time to spread my wings wide and explore more. Time for both learning and adventure. I have met a wide range of people from different parts of the world both in and out of my medical school, with very distinct ideas about life and every day is a day to learn something new.

Adjusting to the new way of life has not been so smooth, staying up late, or very little sleep sometimes, tight schedules and long hours in school is something I kind of found tough to deal with. In my first year, I am currently taking Human Anatomy, Medical Physiology, Medical Biochemistry and Behavioural science as parts of my course. Anatomy is the one I enjoy the most honestly, but it's also very bulky which means it is the one on which most time in school is spent. It's Interesting though! The fact that there are other students around who take the same course or even ahead of me gives some motivation as ideas are exchanged and learning is fun! In general school is going quite ok and so far I am coping and at the end of the day it is all for a good future.

Last Christmas I was lucky to spend time with a family friend in a part of Kenya where with them I got a chance to travel exploring different parts of Kenya, with them I also celebrated my birthday. It was such a great time of the year.

As I will always say, I am very humbled by Meg and Russell's support to my life plus the support of every KCP friend. Truly, words can barely explain my gratitude. I now look back and remember when I was just a little kid when I was starting Nursery school, never thought I could go this far and I am so grateful for the KCP community for the foundation laid towards making me who I am today and who I will be in the future. It has been a long journey but the foundation was laid very firm and with the support from KCP I am chasing my dream and I am sure, there many other students at KCP who have dreams and are inspired to chase them.

From all them at KCP, thank you so much to whoever keeps us in mind, the future is only going to be great because you have done something to change our lives. We are always thankful and part of the dream is to do double your work in the future and help others achieve their dreams too.

Finally, I hope the rest of the year goes well for you and your loved ones. Stay safe and healthy.

Thank you for everything,

Christian Ora

