

UGANDA NEWSLETTER 2023



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REGULAR EMAIL UPDATES

 **EDUKID**
Education for a brighter future

Dear Supporters,

Thank you for the continued support you have shown us this year. It has been a busy, but very exciting year and we have so much to share with you. See enclosed in this newsletter a small sample that highlights the impact you are having on the most disadvantaged children and communities in Uganda, to help ensure they receive the quality education each and every one of them deserve.

Throughout this year we have had the privilege of watching our programmes flourish, as well as introducing new projects and enrolling new students. Additionally, within this newsletter you will hear some incredible stories from our 2023 graduates which are truly inspiring, and show first-hand the impact education can have on an individual.

As always, we thank you for your continued support, trust and kindness in making our goal of providing an education to children living in Uganda achievable. It is vital for us to continue our work and support children living in extreme poverty. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and hearing about the past year in Uganda as much as we have enjoyed reflecting on it!



In memory of Tony Atkinson

Sadly, earlier this year a great friend of Edukid passed away.

Tony Atkinson (alias - Sebastian) travelled with Edukid to Uganda to photograph and film our work. He will always be remembered with fondness and affection. He brought smiles to all of our faces and gave a voice to the children we help in Uganda.

Our loss is heavens gain.

You can view some of his films (Robinson and Kenneth) on the link below:
www.edukid.org.uk/countries/uganda/videos/

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

BONGA GIRLS



The Bonga Project (meaning "Let's Talk") is an empowerment programme for out-of-school girls and young women aged 11-19 in Uganda. The young girls enrolled have either never had access to, or dropped out of the formal education system, as a result of various cultural and life impediments - most commonly a lack of school fees, teenage pregnancy or early marriages. The programme is now in its second year and has helped over 120 girls and young women.



The Bonga project creates communities of support and reliable social networks for vulnerable girls and women. The project is a 1-year programme, which focuses on life skills and business skills training, as well as vocational training. After the programme, the girls and young women can access business start-up loans through Edukid's microfinance project.

Next year (May 2024) there is a trip to Uganda specifically focused on the BONGA Girls Project - for more information please email: office@edukid.org.uk

Akello Brenda

Akello Brenda is currently enrolled at the Bonga project, where she is training to become a hairdresser. Brenda didn't have an easy start to life. During the coronavirus lockdown, whilst she was still a primary school student, Brenda got pregnant. She could not return to school after, and the father of her child denied responsibility.

Brenda had previously told us that her dream was to become a doctor. She felt that she had lost all of her hope, self-worth, and dignity now that she was not able to continue with her education. She felt neglected and told us she regretted getting pregnant so young.

After hearing about the Bonga project, Brenda told us how excited she was and she immediately came to register. Beyond just the new knowledge and skills she gets from the centre, Brenda told us how much she values the friendships she has developed with other girls in similar situations to her. She feels comfort in sharing her problems with friends and benefiting from the help and advice they can offer. Keeping busy also helps her to manage her worries and stress. Since joining the centre, she has been inspired by one of the business salon owners that came to present to them. Brenda said that she now has gained hope and a new focus to become a hairdresser!



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



SEND PROJECT

Edukid's 'Inclusive Education Programme' focuses on enabling children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to be able to access school and education. In Uganda there are many misconceptions surrounding those with SEND, and so for a long time there has been a social barrier that the children have faced in accessing education. Edukid help to provide inclusive learning materials, assistive devices, and training for teachers to ensure that the barriers faced by students with SEND are removed and they can fulfil their right to an education!

Ivan and Francisco are two students who are enrolled at Gulu Disabled Peoples Union, as part of the Edukid's Inclusive Education Programme. They are currently studying for a Certificate in Craft and Design. During a recent visit to Uganda, Ivan and Francisco taught the group to make the most beautiful bracelets and necklaces!

THE GIRLS DORMITORY: A YEAR ON...

On the 7th of the July 2022 the Girls Dormitory was official opened at Koch Goma Primary School!

Since the opening, **182 girls** aged 13-17 years old have benefited from staying in the dormitory. The dormitory has provided a safe place for some of the most vulnerable young girls; a space where they can learn and thrive, free from risks of domestic violence, abuse and child marriage.

Aber Prisca is one of the many girls who has been living in the dormitory for the past year. Prisca used to walk to and from school everyday - a total of 14km per day - all whilst walking in the dark. This journey was extremely unsafe for Prisca.

Since joining the girls dormitory, Prisca's learning and level of concentration has improved, and she is so happy that she can now enjoy time with her friends. She no longer has the worry of waking up early and walking the long distance to school.



PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

R.I.S.E.

RIGHTS INCLUSIVE SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION

The RISE Programme (standing for rights, inclusivity, and sustainability in and through education) is an exciting programme that Edukid has implemented this year in Uganda with the supportive funding of the IPSOS Foundation.

The RISE programme was created by the community themselves, developed out of requests from community leaders following two previous projects Edukid worked on in Uganda.

RISE is establishing a network of safeguarding and support for the whole community, with additional support provided for girls and children with disabilities. It does this through many impactful activities that happen at the home, school, and community level, such as teacher training, boy/girl talk sessions for studies, counselling sessions, and community-based activities tackling key community issues.

Excitingly, the RISE project also enabled Edukid to hire 3 teachers across 3 schools in Uganda, who provide safeguarding support to students and ongoing training to teachers.

We are excited to see the continued impact of the RISE project as it moves into the new year!

TALKING POINTS AND LETTERBOXES IN SCHOOL



LEARNING MATERIALS AND ASSISTIVE DEVICES



HOME VISITS AND WELFARE CHECKS



PROJECT ACTIVITIES - TEACHERS



PROJECT ACTIVITIES - PARENTS



GRADUATE STORIES



Aber Sunday Margaret

Do you remember Sunday Margaret? Sunday Margaret is one of the many girls that Edukid have supported through primary and secondary education. She worked extremely hard in order to achieve the qualifications needed to access university. Sunday Margaret has always wanted to become a nurse; it has been her dream since a very young age!

Edukid are delighted that Aber Sunday Margaret has recently graduated with a certificate in nursing and her dream of becoming a nurse has finally come true! Her hard work and dedication have truly paid off. She had a beautiful graduation ceremony surrounded by her friends and family.

Angee Polisikira Prossy

Angee Polisikira Prossy has recently graduated and received her certificate in BA Education from Gulu University. Prossy has been teaching in a secondary school since graduating, and is currently teaching Geography and Religious Education.

Not only has Prossy completed her Bachelors course in Education and secured a professional secondary school teacher job role, she has also been appointed Deputy Headteacher at her school!

Prossy has worked so incredibly hard and it now shows that her hard work has truly paid off!



 Read on to hear some more incredible graduate stories!

GRADUATE STORIES



Ayat Gladys

Ayat Gladys is from Gulu, Northern Uganda and has been supported through Edukid to access higher education. Gladys was enrolled at the Law Development Centre where she trained to become a lawyer, as well as volunteering in a local law company. Ayat Gladys has recently graduated and is now a qualified lawyer!

Apiyo Vivian

Apiyo Vivian has recently graduated from the Sport Outreach Polytechnique School where she has been studying for a Certificate in Hairdressing.

Since graduating, Vivian has been working in a local salon, additional to training young girls in her community on how to cut and plait hair. She has inspired many young girls.



Anena Mercy

Anena Mercy has recently graduated from Gulu High School and is now an agriculturist. When talking to Mercy she said, 'I feel very happy after passing my final exams and getting my certificate. I have been practicing my farming skills with my grandmother to continue improving'.

Ayot Flavia

Hear from Ayot Flavia, who has recently completed her Certificate in Hairdressing at the Sport Outreach Polytechnique School:

"I have been working from home; people in my community come to me and I plait or do their hair. I am now famous in my village. I feel very good, I am now able to support myself, my child and my family from the earnings I get from my work".



2023 VISITS TO UGANDA

Edukid Partners with UK schools in order to run our Global Citizenship Programme which aims to...

- EDUCATE pupils about global issues faced by children their own age around the world.
- INSPIRE pupils to become passionate leaders and independent thinkers
- EMPOWER pupils to be advocates for the change they want to see in the world

In 2023, a total of 110 students from partner schools across the UK embarked on life-changing trips to Uganda with Edukid. During the trips, students travelled to Gulu, Northern Uganda, to visit local schools and children within the Edukid projects. Students created cross-continent friendships with children from Wilacic, Koch Goma and Kirombe Primary School.



SOLAR 4 STUDENTS

During the trips, students donated solar panels to children supported by Edukid and their families! Solar panels provide a safe source of light that allows children to study at night, improving the quality of their education and their educational outcomes!



- **Huge thank you to Nat and friends who have fundraised to provide hundreds of solar panels to children and families in rural Uganda!**

EDUKID LAND PROJECT

Students visited the Edukid land to learn about the project and plant some banana trees!

The land project empowers our in-country partners to become self-sustainable, and trains the local community on modern farming methods!



MAKING THE CONNECTION

MEET OUR IN-COUNTRY TEAM

Our team in Uganda work tirelessly to manage our community programmes, support over 500 children through their education and constantly strive for a brighter future for all. Since our last newsletter, there have been 2 new additions and we are so happy to welcome them to the team - meet them below!



Darwinton

Executive Director in Uganda



Alice

Operations Manager



Gloria

Administrator



Amos

RISE Project Manager



Morris

Financial Skills Trainer



Charles

Accountant



SHOUT OUT!

FUNDRAISING STORIES



In June Freddie completed a 'drumathon', raising money for Edukid! We are so pleased to announce that Freddie raised an outstanding total of £600! He completed his fundraiser in order to support a young girl called Mercy, to attend school in Uganda.



Jess completed a 15,000 ft sky dive to raise money for her trip to Uganda in July 2023. Congratulations, and it was a pleasure taking you to Uganda!



Huge congratulations to Orla, Ruben and May! These 3 amazing students raised £1200 from walking 1 mile every day throughout April. Orla started walking and then May and Ruben wanted to do the same, so they all completed the miles together! What an amazing achievement!



This academic year, Edukid launched their new volunteering programme as part of the Duke Of Edinburgh Awards. We already have over 50 students enrolled! One particular student has finished his Bronze award and hosted a bingo night, raising £450 for Edukid! AMAZING!



Edukid staff members - Chloe, Kara and Kate will be running London Landmarks Half Marathon in April 2024.

Having never taken part in any running events before, this event will be a challenge for all three of them. The training is well underway!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?

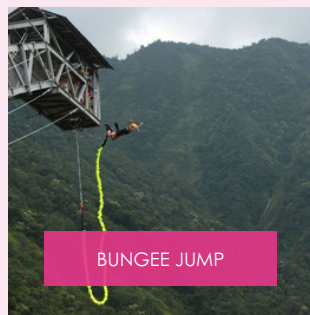
FUNDRAISING



RIDE TO BREAK THE CYCLE



SKY DIVE



BUNGEE JUMP



THE INFLATABLE 5K

FUTURE TRIPS TO UGANDA



May 2024 - BONGA Girls



Uganda July 2024

SOLD OUT



Uganda October 2024

SCAN HERE TO FIND
OUT MORE
ABOUT 2024 TRIPS



THANK YOU!

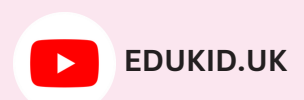
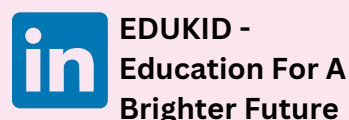
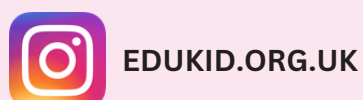
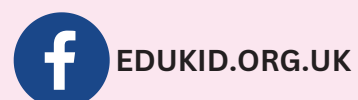
Without the support and trust from our generous UK and international supporters, all of these projects simply wouldn't exist in the same capacity. Your support enables us to work towards our goal of removing the barriers to education faced by children living in poverty in Uganda. Children have the right to access quality education, and you are helping them to get this!

Your continued support ensures that over 500 children in Northern Uganda receive the education that each and every one of them deserves.

From the whole Edukid team, we would like to say a massive THANK YOU!

With love,

The Edukid Team x





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