

UGANDA NEWSLETTER 2026



EDUKID

Education for a brighter future

Dear Supporters,

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for your continued support and generosity towards our Uganda project. 2026 has been another exciting and inspiring year, and we have so much to share with you in this newsletter!

From forming new partnerships with schools in Uganda to support some of the most vulnerable children, to working alongside Rotary clubs in the UK to launch a new microfinance project, we continue to see children and communities empowered through education.

We are also delighted to celebrate the achievements of the Bonga Girls Project, including another cohort of graduates, alongside the development of new infrastructure that is helping to provide a safe, supportive, and inspiring learning environment for young women.

A special thank you goes to our incredible supporters. Whether you have run a marathon, organised a quiz night, climbed a mountain, sponsored a child, or donated to our work, your support makes everything we do possible. We simply could not do what we do without your continued love, trust, and support for Edukid.

As always, thank you for being part of the Edukid Family ❤️



Our Partnership with Rotary!

We are excited to officially launch a new partnership project with Rotary International, the Bideford Bridge Rotary Club, and the Rotary Club of Gulu City! Thanks to Rotary funding, we are now beginning a new, two-year Microfinance Project designed to help people across our projects in Uganda, build sustainable livelihoods and reduce cycles of poverty.

The project officially began on the 1st May! This programme will provide small loans to support income-generating activities such as farming, market trading, tailoring, and crafts. Alongside access to microcredit, community members will also receive structured financial literacy and business skills training to help them establish and grow sustainable businesses with confidence. Importantly, the need for this project came directly from the community themselves, as families spoke about the challenges they faced in creating stable livelihoods and the barriers preventing them from accessing opportunities.

We also wanted to create opportunities for our students and Bonga girls after graduation. Many young people leave education and vocational training with valuable skills, but without access to finance they are unable to put those skills into practice or start small businesses of their own. Exclusion from traditional forms of credit is also an issue. Because of vulnerable backgrounds, lack of collateral, or unstable incomes, many individuals are unable to access loans through traditional systems and can become trapped in cycles of poverty.

This project takes a different approach. The project is designed around empowerment and long-term sustainability. Interest rates are kept low, community members receive training and mentoring to develop strong business plans, and community support networks are built to provide ongoing encouragement and guidance. By integrating microfinance with entrepreneurship and financial literacy training, we hope to give participants the tools they need not only to start businesses, but to sustain and grow them successfully.

The project will also actively tackle gender inequality. Women are often disproportionately excluded from traditional lending systems and are more likely to rely on insecure informal borrowing arrangements. To help address this imbalance, 70% of the project's beneficiaries will be women!

Over the next two years, the project is expected to directly support 200 people through microfinance loans. We are hugely grateful to Rotary for partnering with us and we are excited to see the difference this project will make in the months and years ahead!



BONGA Girls Building!

A New Home for the Bonga Girls

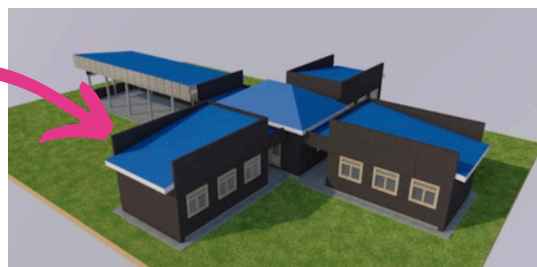
In last year's newsletter, we highlighted the amazing milestone of the Bonga Girls graduation. Since then, the programme has continued to grow, highlighting the urgent need for a safer and more suitable learning space for vulnerable girls within the community.

For the past few years, the Bonga Girls have been studying under a very small shelter made from nothing more than wooden poles and corrugated iron sheets. The structure provides little protection during the rainy season, has no secure storage for valuable vocational equipment such as sewing machines, and is no longer adequate for the expanding programme.

To help meet this need, and after liaising closely with the in-country team about the best long-term approach for the programme, construction has been completed for the first stage of a new dedicated Bonga Centre. The central section will provide office space and secure storage for vocational equipment such as sewing machines and hairdressing kits.

The girls themselves are also taking part in the construction process, gaining hands-on experience and learning valuable practical skills. For those interested in careers such as architecture, engineering, or construction, this is an exciting opportunity to build confidence and develop experience for future careers.

During May, Edukid was delighted to receive a significant grant to help complete the Bonga building project. We are excited to share the plans for the new shelter and look forward to updating you soon as development continues!



Kate's Marathon!

Edukid employee Kate ran the London Marathon this year and, after months of training, crossed the finish line in an amazing 4 hours and 20 minutes! Alongside this fantastic achievement, Kate also raised over £3,200, which will help kit out the new Bonga Girls building with essential equipment including sewing machines, cooking supplies, hairdressing kits, room decorations, and furnishings. Kate's efforts will leave a lasting legacy for the girls who will use the centre for years to come, giving them opportunities to learn valuable life and vocational skills, build confidence, and work towards a brighter future together! Kate, thank you so much!

BONGA Girls

Fiona's Story



Fiona was among the very first girls to join the Bonga Girls programme when it first began.

She graduated last year, and since then has worked tirelessly, putting into practice the skills and knowledge she gained at Bonga. After completing the programme, Fiona went on to open her very own salon at Wilacic Market.

She is now able to meet her basic needs, including food and personal items, and also saves money through a village savings group.

Fiona has also invested her income into farming and she has planted half an acre of maize and is raising three chickens, helping towards a sustainable source of food and income. In addition, she supports her family by paying school fees for her younger brother, who previously was out of school due to the family being unable to afford for him to go to school.

Fiona has earned respect within her community, and shares, "The community now respects me and they refer to me as a role model for other girls to learn from. Many women and girls from the community have become my customers, which makes me very excited, and they speak positively about the results of my hairdressing."

She also talks about the importance of the support for girls who have previously been denied access to education, saying: "Without Edukid's support I was nothing, now people can see I am a respected, independent and a self-reliant lady."



**Find out more about the
Bonga Girls Programme
here!**



Providing a Safe Home for a Family in Poverty!

During our recent trip to Uganda, we met Joyce, a mother of seven children, who had made the brave decision to leave an abusive relationship in order to protect her children and build a safer future for them.

At the time we visited, the family were living in extremely difficult conditions and harsh levels of poverty. They had no permanent home and were borrowing a tiny shelter that had once been used as a cattle shed. With only a corrugated iron roof and very little space inside, the family lived with constant uncertainty, knowing they could be asked to leave at any moment.

Because of financial hardship, only one of Joyce's children, Ruth, was able to attend school. The others had missed out on education because the family could not afford the fees.

Meeting Joyce and her children deeply moved everyone on the trip. Together, we knew we wanted to help! After returning home, participants from the trip began raising awareness and fundraising to help Joyce and her family secure permanent land and a safe place to call home.

Today, we are delighted to share the incredible news that the family now have land of their own, providing them with long-term stability and security. They are raising goats, growing their own food, and Joyce is earning an income from the crops she cultivates to support her family. Most importantly, all seven children are now in school!

One particularly inspiring success story is Joyce's eldest daughter, Beyoncé, who has earned a basketball scholarship in the capital city of Kampala. She is now competing in national competitions and pursuing opportunities that once seemed impossible!



Gulu Primary: Blind Annex

In July 2025, Dr Jo Wade visited Uganda and was deeply moved by the students she met at the Gulu Primary Blind Annex. Following her return to the UK, she began supporting the school by raising funds to partner with Eye Health Africa in order to carry out comprehensive medical assessments for all students at the school. The aim of these assessments was to identify treatments, interventions, and support needed to improve vision and enable fuller participation in education.

The partnership between Eye Health Africa and Dr Jo Wade continues as the next phase of support is now underway. This includes providing the treatments identified during the assessments, such as medications, surgeries, and prescription glasses for the students.

The partnership also enabled the delivery of a large shipment of essential resources from the UK to Gulu Primary School to support the Blind Annex. These supplies included a braille machine, braille books for children, talking clocks and calendars, glasses, and many other valuable items.

This support will make a massive difference to the students in Gulu Primary blind annex, helping them to engage in school more and have a better quality of life. In fact, for some, the identified treatment will even improve their vision enough to the point that they can be moved out of the blind annex and back into the mainstream school programme.



Funding from Ulverscroft Foundation provided Gulu Primary Blind Annex with a braille embosser and laptop, transforming how braille materials are produced. Previously, teachers could spend up to five days creating a single braille exam paper. The new equipment now allows materials to be produced quickly and accurately, giving teachers more time to support pupils and enabling more regular learning and assessment opportunities. A huge thank you to the Ulverscroft Foundation for helping improve education for visually impaired students in Uganda.



New School Partnerships

PIDA Nursery and Primary School

Over the last couple of months, Edukid has been working closely with a local community school to explore how we could support some of the children most in need. We're now delighted to announce a new partnership with PIDA community school in rural, Northern Uganda!

PIDA Nursery and Primary School was founded by local families and community leaders in 2023, driven by a shared passion to give children a better education. For years, parents had been concerned about the quality of learning available in local schools, with poor academic results and limited progress for pupils.

One of the biggest challenges facing the school is the inability of many families to pay school fees. Many children are being raised by grandparents caring for orphaned grandchildren, while others have parents living with disabilities or facing significant hardships. As a result, many vulnerable children have been at risk of missing out on education altogether.

This is where Edukid is stepping in to help. We have begun supporting 30 children at PIDA, all identified by our in-country team as being among the most vulnerable in the community and most in need of support. These children include those who have already dropped out of school, orphans, children living in extreme poverty, and children affected by difficult family circumstances such as domestic violence, parental separation, substance abuse or chronic illness. We are also supporting a child with low vision to ensure they can access the education they deserve.

This new partnership is a huge step forward for the community. Together, we're helping vulnerable children return to the classroom, continue their education, and create brighter futures for themselves and their families!

A big thank you to the groups that travelled with us to Uganda recently, some of your very kind donations have been given to the new PIDA community school.

Here are the children enjoying their new footballs and football boots!



Fundraising Stories!

Clean Water for 2,000 people

A big thank you to Rebecca, Kerrell and Sandford Orchards for a fun and impactful music fundraiser!

Rebecca travelled to Uganda last year and, after seeing children in one of the local communities drinking dirty water, she wanted to help make a difference. Together with Sandford Orchards, she organised a music fundraising event, raising the money needed for a borehole to provide clean, safe water for local communities.

What a great night, enjoying cider at Sandford Orchards while raising money to provide clean drinking water for 2,000 people in Uganda. Thank you, Rebecca and Barny!



One World Charity Challenge



Students Ava, Lily, Matthew and Izzy represented Edukid at the One World Charity Challenge, and what an incredible job they did!

The One World Charity Challenge brings young people together to raise awareness, campaign, and fundraise for global causes while developing leadership and teamwork skills. From fundraising and advocating, to proudly supporting Edukid, the team showed outstanding commitment every step of the way.

They finished as runners-up in the challenge, winning a fantastic £500 donation for Edukid! Thank you all so much for your amazing effort!

Fundraising Stories!

Thank you Harvey

A huge thank you to Harvey, CEO of The Wulfruna Partnership, who supports our projects in Uganda. Harvey recently travelled to Uganda to visit the children her school has been supporting. During the trip, we visited a new partner school, Goma Central, where the teachers kindly gave us a tour of the school and boarding facilities. During the visit, we learned that many of the boarding students were sleeping on the floor, with two girls sharing a single mattress. Moved by what she saw, Harvey went on to raise funds to provide bunk beds and mattresses for both the girls' and boys' dormitories. We are delighted to share the updates, and the children at Goma Central will now have a safer, more comfortable place to sleep. What an incredible difference one visit can make!



Pen y Fan Hike!

Courtney recently completed climbing Pen Y Fan, and explained why:

"Pen Y Fan is 886m high! I will be climbing this with my mum and dad, raising funds for the charity Edukid! Every child deserves the chance to learn, yet many children in Uganda face the harsh reality of poverty that robs them of this fundamental right. I am raising money for Edukid - a charity that supports these children, providing them with access to education and a brighter future".

Thank you so much, and what an amazing achievement, not only completing the climb but also raising an amazing £545!



Thank You So Much!

Thank you for being part of the Edukid family and for your continued support throughout another incredible year. Every donation, fundraising event, and act of generosity helps create opportunities for children and communities across Uganda.

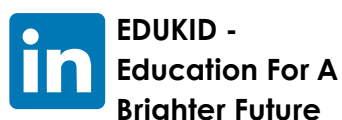
The achievements celebrated in this newsletter, from vulnerable students being enrolled and supported in school, to young women graduating from the Bonga Girls Project, are only possible because of supporters like you. Together, you are helping children access their right to an education, build brighter futures, and realise their potential.

These stories represent just a small glimpse of the impact your support is making. We look forward to reaching even more children, families, and communities in the years ahead.

With love and best wishes,

The Edukid Team X

If you would like to get more involved with Edukid through events, fundraising or visiting Uganda and meeting the communities you are helping, please email office@edukid.org.uk





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