Emmanuel Home Newsletter
July 2022

(formerly ***Kanyawegi Children's Home****)*

And then there were 10…!

After another 6 months of activity we can now update you on the young people we are currently supporting. Basically there are now 10 school age children we continue to support. Nelly, Catherine and Kelly are the only ones still at primary school. Ian Alex and Michael (more about them later!) have just had their first term at new secondary schools and the other secondary pupils are Maurice, Idah, Beryl, Alex and John Lloyd.

Of the older young people we are still supporting Lilian this year as she completes her Diploma in Nutrition and Dietetics, and she will do her professional exams next year, hopefully after getting employment. Ibrahim has finished his degree and no longer receives monthly upkeep money from us, and Kevin4 has completed the Laboratory Technician qualification we supported him through. Mercy, who had a baby last year, made a success of the 3 months 'apprenticeship' training we funded and when that was over we supplied what she needed to set up as a self-employed hairdresser. She is no longer supported by us – but we hope to have more news of how her business is going in due course.

For those reading this section who don't know the background, you may think that we could be concerned that our number of school children has diminished down to just 10. However, this was fully anticipated by us because we made the decision a few years ago not to take on any new orphans but to fully commit to those already in our care and do the best we can for each one.



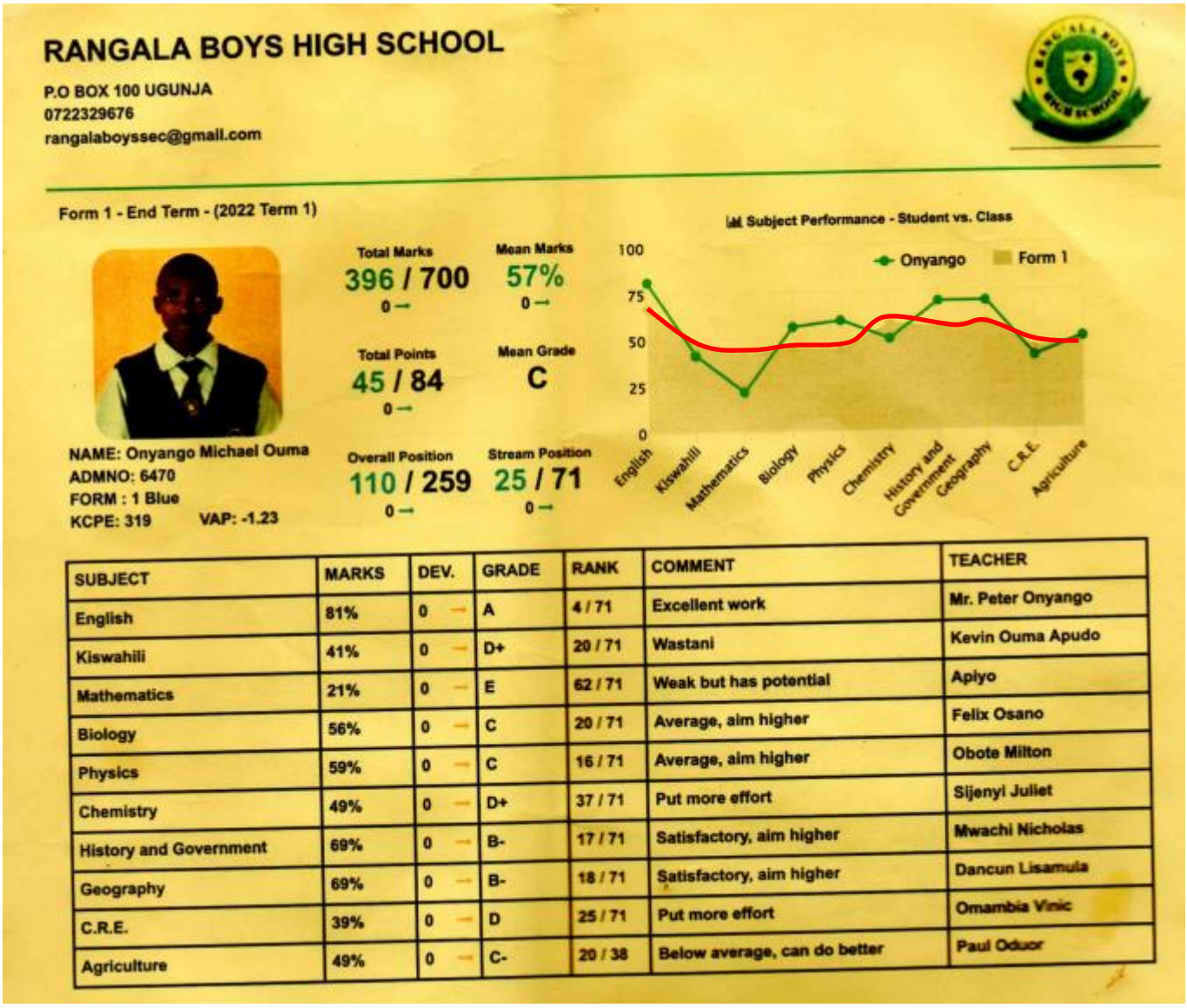




Start at New Schools

Ian Alex (with Linda) in his new secondary school uniform, and Michael (right) ready with all his kit to start his secondary school experience. Linda, our Manager, ensured they had everything they needed for the start of term.

So how have they got on? Well, Michael has done pretty well. Here's a copy of his report form after the first term of 2022 (that ended in June):



RANGALA BOYS HIGH SCHOOL

P.O BOX 100 UGUNJA
0722329676
rangalaboyssec@gmail.com

Form 1 - End Term - (2022 Term 1)

NAME: Onyango Michael Ouma
ADMNO: 6470
FORM : 1 Blue
KCPE: 319 VAP: -1.23

Total Marks: 396 / 700 — 0 —
Mean Marks: 57% — 0 —
Total Points: 45 / 84 — 0 —
Mean Grade: C
Overall Position: 110 / 259 — 0 —
Stream Position: 25 / 71 — 0 —

Subject Performance - Student vs. Class

SUBJECT	MARKS	DEV.	GRADE	RANK	COMMENT	TEACHER
English	81%	0 —	A	4 / 71	Excellent work	Mr. Peter Onyango
Kiswahili	41%	0 —	D+	20 / 71	Wastani	Kevin Ouma Apudo
Mathematics	21%	0 —	E	62 / 71	Weak but has potential	Apiyo
Biology	56%	0 —	C	20 / 71	Average, aim higher	Felix Osano
Physics	59%	0 —	C	16 / 71	Average, aim higher	Obote Milton
Chemistry	49%	0 —	D+	37 / 71	Put more effort	Sijenyi Juliet
History and Government	69%	0 —	B-	17 / 71	Satisfactory, aim higher	Mwachi Nicholas
Geography	69%	0 —	B-	18 / 71	Satisfactory, aim higher	Dancun Lisamula
C.R.E.	39%	0 —	D	25 / 71	Put more effort	Omambia Vinic
Agriculture	49%	0 —	C-	20 / 38	Below average, can do better	Paul Oduor

Overall Michael's performance is about 'average', but the green wavy line on the right of his report identifies some subjects where he is above average – the red line being the average for the group. Sadly, the style of teacher comments on reports in Kenya is far from 'developmental' (highlighting how improvements can be made) and more judgemental. The purpose of including this particular report for you is to celebrate just how well Michael has done in English. His percentage mark is 81% and his 'rank' in the group is 4th out of 71 pupils! This is excellent, and the Chairman has written a letter of encouragement to Michael, congratulating him on this achievement.

Packages tailored to the individual

School education doesn't always work out as it has for Michael, and in Ian Alex's case he has not done well at all in his first term at secondary school – he has struggled for a while with academic work. Also, John Lloyd and Alex (who are in their final year of secondary school) have not been doing at all well either. Lydia (our education expert) and Linda have looked at

the options and are proposing a new way forward that hopefully will suit each individual. We already have experience of providing 'vocational training' after pupils finish secondary school, but these have often been courses that incorporate a fair amount of academic study along with practical training. Lydia and Linda are proposing 'Artisan' courses that focus on practical skills that can lead an individual into work. They are particularly suitable for secondary school finishers who haven't done well (so will be offered to John Lloyd and Alex) but can also be offered as an alternative to secondary school – and thus will be considered for Ian Alex too. It will be interesting to see what comes from this and whether it enables these young men to demonstrate skills in a vocational area of interest to them.
Lydia and Linda are also proposing 'motivations' for some of the other children. These are simply incentives/targets for them to work towards over the final 2 terms of 2022 to encourage them to improve by a few marks in several of their subjects. If they rise to the challenge and achieve the target improvements in at least 50% of their subjects, they will be rewarded. It's not an approach that would be universally recommended, but Lydia and Linda felt it would be worth trying. We'll see how it goes!

Progress apology from Idah!

Idah is a hard-working student and a lovely girl. After the exams at the end of last term she wrote to Peter Skinner (the Chairman) a lovely letter of apology for her poor results! Here are some extracts:

Dear Peter Skinner,
I want to take this opportunity to apologise of the results I have this term. May you find it in your heart to forgive me for failing.
I want to promise that next time I will carry home results that can truly define who I am and my seriousness in my education. I would like to inform you that, during the exam period, I was very ill and could not postpone the exams. I had to carry on with the exams even though I was sick. Until now I am not well yet but I have faith that I will be well soon.
…(she went on to promise she will do better)…
I would like to say thank you as an appreciation to you. May god Bless you. Yours faithfully, Daisy ***Idah***

Having suffered a heavy cold himself recently and knowing how hard it was at that time to focus on anything, the Chairman wrote a response straight back to Idah explaining that we understood the difficulties she had faced and reassuring her of our ongoing support and confidence in her as a person and her capabilities. We are sure that she will return to her previous level of performance.

Christmas Treat

Last year's treat at Christmas was a meal out at KFC. Here are the children enjoying their time together.



Rising Costs:

Folk in Kenya are also experiencing an increase in the cost of living. We are doing what we can to respond to this in the support we offer our staff and the children's families.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about the work of the Charity: Please contact Pete or Gill Skinner, Carino, Old Gore Lane, Emborough, Radstock, Somerset. BA3 4SJ. Telephone: 01761 232337. Email: peteskinner123@gmail.com

KANYAWEGI UK
Registered Charity No. 1106296
UK Committee (The Trustees)**:**
Chairman: Peter Skinner (01761 232337) or peteskinner123@gmail.com
Treasurer & Secretary: Sally Petit
Sarah Moxham Hendra
(The Committee is also supported by Elizabeth Maggs & Gill Skinner)

New Prayer Pointers

We saw several specific answers to prayer from the prayer pointers in the last newsletter. Here are some new topics for prayer:

Please pray...

- For Idah and other children trying their best to do better at school.
- For the best 'Artisan' course options to be found for Ian Alex, John Lloyd and Alex.
- For each child and young person to have opportunities to grow a faith in Jesus.
- For Linda and Lydia as they continue to deliver the charities work in Kenya.
- That the UK Committee will continue to use the donated funds wisely.

Thank you to all our supporters for enabling this work to continue!