

NEWS BULLETIN

LORDS MEADE VOCATIONAL COLLEGE



REACH HIGH THROUGH HARD WORK

WORD FROM DIRECTOR

NEWSLETTER
DATE :23.05.16



I take this opportunity to write to all our sponsors, supporters and well wishers to thank you all for your invaluable support in Tofta's aim of educating the disadvantaged youth in Uganda and surrounding countries.

I start by welcoming Joseph Kawuki to the office of the Head-master. He comes with a wealth of experience after over 25 years of leading two of the top schools in Uganda. He is a very welcome member of the leadership team.

I am always grateful to attend the graduation from tertiary education of former beneficiaries of Tofta Education Trust. Bbosa John is an excellent example of a young man who has not let his

disability prevent him from achieving his dream of a degree. He is now teaching in a school in Kampala and providing much needed additional income to his family.

LMVC has moved forward during the December holidays with the arrival of the 40 seater TA-TA bus, courtesy of the PTA and a bank loan from Kenya Commercial Bank. We were able to obtain the loan through the efforts of a former student of mine at Starehe Boys Centre some 30 years ago!

In December and January we were able to rebuild the school kitchen to a more modern brick and concrete structure more in keeping with the school's standing. This modern building replaced the 13 year old wooden structure that the school started with in 2002. Many thanks to the Gore Court Trust for assisting us in this project.

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is a report on Rachael Dewis' visit and all the support she kindly brought with her. We greatly enjoyed her visit and we look forward to seeing her back in LMVC again.

My fellow director, Peter Kalibbala, is flying back to Uganda after 3 weeks in USA meeting with potential supporters of both students and projects. Many thanks to our great friend Dale Knight for organising this trip for Peter, and we look forward to reaping the benefits of Peter's efforts in the USA.

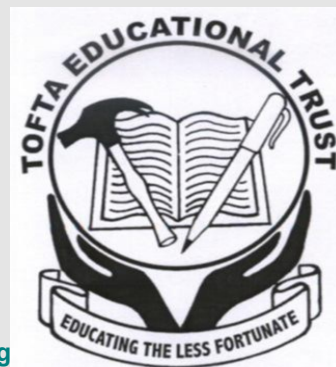
LMVC continues to make steady, if slow, progress in the education of needy students, who otherwise, would not obtain meaningful education. Again, many thanks for the part you are playing in this progress through either financial, spiritual or practical support.

With blessings and grateful thanks to you all.

John Kirkwood

TOFTA EDUCATIONAL TRUST

EDUCATING THE LESS FORTUNATE



Word from The Head Teacher LMVC

As a new member of Lords Meade Vocational College (LMVC) community, I have spent the first term of 2016 learning how things are done here. There has been a lot to learn and to appreciate.

I am extremely grateful to the Deputy Head teacher, Ms. Jennifer Angwech, the Director of Studies, Mr. David Martin Munobwa, the entire Top Administration team, the Personal Assistant, Mrs. Caroline Kayemba and the school Bursar and his assistant who have patiently helped me to adapt to the work culture of LMVC.



My induction into LMVC would not have been complete without the ingredients I have been privileged to receive from Directors John Kirkwood and Peter Kalibbala. I am extremely grateful to the duo.

I have not been the only newcomer at LMVC this term. Our senior one and some students from the other classes as well as a couple of staff have also been undergoing their initiation into this lovely community. I hope that their first impressions have been as reassuring as those of mine.

The anxiety that comes with change in administration should now be behind us. Both staff and students are ready to fully exert ourselves to produce the results that LMVC deserves.

The delivery of a brand new 40 seater Tata bus during the holidays was a very happy development. It happened at a time when our Directors were undertaking improvement of our infrastructure, sending a clear message that LMVC was not only alive but vibrant as well.

Our happiness was augmented by the visit to our school of Ms. Rachael Dewis from the United Kingdom. Rachael donated materials and equipment to our school and spent three weeks with us participating in various school activities. She is our latest inspiration.

Appreciation must also go to our Interactors, Educate Club members and key players of the various games for marketing LMVC as a school where talent is nurtured.

With support from our beneficiaries and all LMVC stakeholders, we have no choice but to Reach High through Hard Work.

Joseph Kawuki

Educate a girl and you educate a nation.

An educated child is an asset to not only its family but also its community.

ACADEMIC REVIEW 2015

2016 has started with all stake holders of the College exhibiting high spirits; Directors, Administrators, teachers, students and parents have shown great passion for the College and have focused their energies to excellent results in all that we touch.

As I write this article, celebrations were in order for two special things; Improvement in U.C.E UNEB Performance 2015 and excellent DIT results 2015.

BEST UCE 'O' LEVEL CANDIDATES 2015	BEST UACE 'A' LEVEL CANDIDATES 2015
Mbadwe Francisco Alindiri Moses Ahabwe Narath	Wabuyaka Theresa Nsamaka Ismail Kamya Joseph Kayemba



Top is the best UCE student; Mbadwe Francisco

Below: is the best UACE student Theresa Wabuyaka



Congratulations to both the O and A level students who did the school proud by putting in their best effort generating results that uplift the name of the school and help them move a step closer to the achievement of their goals and ambitions.

Most of our best UCE candidates are already back to Lords Meade pursuing their A – levels as we strive to have a high student retention programme as it generally leads to overall improvement in student performance.

A good percentage of our UACE candidates qualify to join university and other tertiary institutions which is worth a mention considering the number of students.

Most profound event of this first term is the reporting on brand new S.1s and S.5s. It's very interesting watching these youngsters as they experience a very new environment which comes with lots of changes.

All arms are directed to the target of having "A quality abundant harvest" at the end of the year as our theme of the year suggests.

A College degree and teaching certificate defines the academic requirements of a teacher, but it takes hard work and commitment to be a real teacher. Fortunately the LMVC staff members are really dedicated teachers, for which we are all very grateful.

As Lords Meade family, we are forever grateful to our directors, parents, partners overseas, sponsors of students and well-wishers for making us proud.

Just like a butterfly which knows not the beauty of its wings but the artist knows its beauty, you may not comprehend how much you touch our lives but to some degree we are better because you are there kindly supporting us.

We strive to be better at what we do and shall be better, promising better and more rewarding results to the future generations of LMVC.

Right. The new kitchen building constructed during the January / February holidays. This replaced the original wooden kitchen which had served for 13 years. Many thanks to the donors who financed this development.



PARENTS AND TEACHERS A.G.M.

The Annual General Meeting of the Parent's Teachers Association of Lords Meade Vocational College took place on the 9th April 2016 at the school's general main hall.

Those invited included members of the Foundation Body, chairman and members of the board of governors, chairman and members of the P.T.A executive, parents, guardians and benefactors.

All who were invited were warmly greeted and thanked for choosing LMVC as the education destination for their children and relatives.

The meeting was started on a sad note with the members being informed of the passing of one of the students at the beginning of the term. He was a senior five student. May he rest in eternal peace.

Members were informed on the changes being under taken at LMVC in order to get a better understanding of the future plans for the school.

Members were informed that the school enables a student to complete O level with two certificates after equipping him/her with an occupational subject. These certificates being the UNEB certificate and the DIT certificate gotten after successful completion of their exams in S.3 and S.4 respectively.

Members scrutinized the strategies in place and particular areas of focus so as to concentrate on those therefore giving the school a leap in performance. Several performance indicators were put in place to make sure that strategies approved are strictly adhered to so as achieve the necessary goals and targets of the school and the organization as a whole.

Several topics were tackled including to mention but a few, staff, co-curricular activities, worship, health, discipline and so much more all that are aimed at the betterment of the school and the general community at large.

The contributions of Tofta Educational Trust to the success of LMVC was also mentioned the most important being the construction of the kitchen which can be seen from the picture. The organization has boosted the computer department, Catering department and school library which have been restocked and up graded to the necessary standard hence uplifting the college and helping in improve upon its education standards.

The members intimated their thanks to all those who have taken the school and organization to heart and are partnering with it every single time leading up to its success. Appreciation and thanks were given to the benefactors and donors for helping the school during its growth process.

Please remember that for £1, or \$2, a day, you can offer a needy teenager a chance of meaningful education to up lift their lives, access to medical care and three meals a day.

If you can find it in yourself to assist a needy boy or girl, please contact the Tofta Trust Secretary at susi.kirkwood@btinternet.com

BLIND BOY GRADUATES

Bbosa John who has been sponsored through his secondary education by Tofta Educational Trust, finally completed his education from Makerere University with Bachelors of Arts in education with majors in Economics and History.

John is an inspiration to many youths in his community now, that despite his disability, he has managed to succeed. He was taken on by Tofta Educational Trust in 2006 when he had completed his primary education from Spire Road Primary School for the Blind, he joined St Francis School for the Blind in Madera, Soroti. He passed well and was admitted to University on government sponsorship.

Through a memorandum of understanding with the Rotary Club of Jinja, he was able to get a scholarship from TET, who have helped him financially until he has completed his studies. He graduated on the 29th January 2016.

John acknowledges his success to the beloved sponsors who continue supporting the Trust with donations to make sure the less fortunate get education.



John Bbosa on the left on his graduation day

APPRECIATION TO RACHAEL DEWIS

Rachael Dewis, from England, visited Lords Meade Vocational College in March, to volunteer. During her stay, she was involved with the catering department, the English and Literature departments. She kindly donated books for the English and Literature departments, purchased utensils for the Home Economics and Catering department. We greatly appreciate Rachael for the donations and we wish her prosperity in her work.

Also during her stay, while she was interacting with students, she identified a needy girl, Catherine, and offered to pay her school fees. Catherine comes from a slum area in

Jinja and has a single mother who struggles to raise money through selling charcoal. Catherine can now concentrate on her studies since she is assured of her stay in school.

Catherine is one of many girls whose future in education hangs in the balance due to the amount of school her mother can afford.

Please recall the idiom that when you educate a girl you educate a nation.

Many thanks to Rachael and her supporters for their kind and generous support to Lords Meade Vocational College and Tofta Education Trust.



Rachael on her visit to Catherine's home, Catherine on the right in blue Tshirt.

LMVC'S NEW TATA BUS ARRIVES



During the December holidays LMVC took delivery of a new 40 seater TATA bus. This will facilitate the movement of up to 40 students and staff around the Jinja area and also field trips around Uganda.

This has been made possible by the PTA taking the initiative and Kenya Commercial Bank providing a bank loan to finance the purchase of the bus.

LMVC EMERGES 6TH AT NATIONAL CRICKET WEEK

Congratulations to the Girls' Cricket Team who represented LMVC at the National Cricket Week where they became 6th in the country. Not many schools in Uganda take part in cricket and we are fortunate that LMVC were selected from the Jinja schools to represent the District at the National Cricket Week. The girls involved were able to sharpen their crick-eting skills against the teams they were able to play against.

PHILIP GRAY RETIRES FROM BEING SECRETARY TO THE TRUST

Philip Gray has retired from being the Hon Secretary to the Tofta Educational Trust. We are most grateful for all the work that he has done over the years since the start of the Tofta Educational Trust, and how he helped develop it into what it is today. We are very fortunate that one of the trustees, Susi Kirkwood, has very kindly taken over the running of the secretary role. We are most grateful to Susi, and her husband Rob, for taking over this valuable role in the Trust. Her email is susi.kirkwood@btinternet.com

CAN YOU HELP? Please donate any amount so that the Trust's work can continue to help vulnerable youth to obtain education, accommodation and health services so they may have a better future. A full sponsorship for one year costs £360 or US\$720. **£1 (US\$2) a day educates a child!**

STERLING DONATIONS: Please make out cheques to "Tofta Educational Trust" and forward to:

The Hon. Secretary, Tofta Educational Trust, 41 Goldsmith Avenue, London W3 6HR

Email: susikirkwood@btinternet.com

ON LINE DONATIONS:

If you prefer an on line option, please donate on line via the Torrey Pines Rotary Club Foundation at:

www.lordsmeade.org You will receive a 501(c) 3 receipt.

Email: toftatrust@gmail.com

Phone: +256 772 412345/ +256 774 225355

Please state if you would prefer to support a boy or a girl.

Tofta Educational Trust, P.O. Box 1200, Jinja, Uganda

TET is registered with the Charity Commissioners in UK, and as an N.G.O. in Uganda