



Destiny Garden School

"Destined for Academic Perfection"

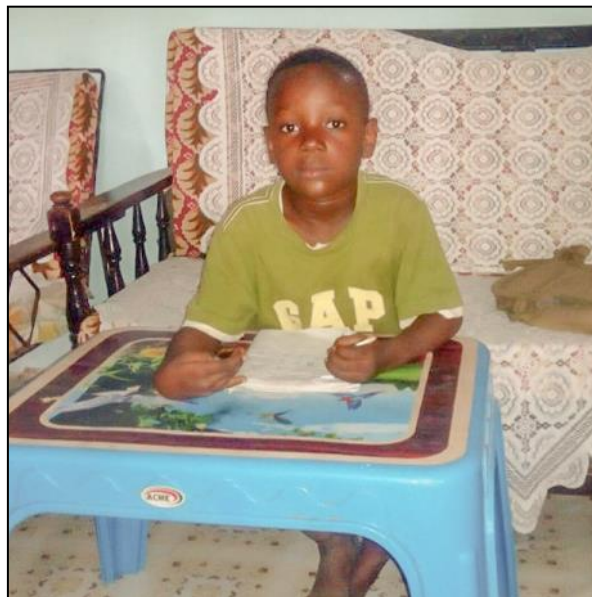
SPONSORS SECOND TERM REPORT 2020

THE
STAY at HOME
edition

(May - August)

THE
STAY at HOME
edition

When the COVID-19 pandemic began no one imagined the extent to which different global sectors would be impacted. Up to this moment there is still no clear picture of the aftermath of this crisis. Various sectors have seriously been affected globally and the effect is seen each day. At DGS we remain committed to the core mission of providing quality education to needy children. We have been able to support homes with food since the pandemic began ensuring their survival in the ongoing situation through any little help.



INSIDE:

More updates on student
online learning



ALSO INSIDE:

More food donation updates



The teaching staff and online classes



What children have been doing at home



Children's Welfare

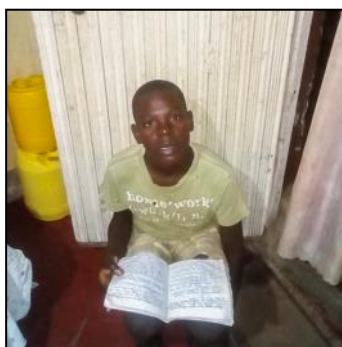
Prior to May, we went on a mission to contact as many parents and guardians as we could to join the rolling out of online classes. With the struggling economic status of our group of parents and guardians, we have got them to use their simple phones installed with WhatsApp as the main communication channel. We have ensured that we don't get to need sophisticated smartphones to operate the online classes which would instead have locked out more parents. A good number of parents lack even the cheapest smartphones in the market so we instead asked them to enrol for the program using any phone number with a smartphone closest to them. Most enrolled using phones belonging to neighbours or relatives staying close.

"Children completing their assignment while at home"



Phone contacts are organized into WhatsApp groups as classes. Students receive tasks and assignments as WhatsApp images. They make notes or complete assignments then send back their work also as images. The teacher concerned assesses the work and sends feedback using a phone call, text message or a WhatsApp message. There is a lot of back and forth communication involved.

"This is the NEW NORMAL in the Education Sector"



Here are thoughts from some of the children from a recent interview:



Suleiman, a student in Class 8: This COVID-19 pandemic has slowed down so many things. I am glad our family is together even if things do not look okay. What saddens me the most is we won't be able to sit for our KCPE exams later in the year. We hope things get better quickly.

Mwanamisi, a student also in Class 8: I miss school a lot, I can't wait for schools to reopen. I do a lot of school work while at home so am happy I won't forget anything when we go back to school. I am sad I won't be able to complete primary school this year. I was prepared to join high school in 2021.



New desks are currently being made in anticipation of schools reopening. When schools finally reopen, it is expected that all safety and health regulations will be applied in full. DGS is putting in place measures to ensure we won't be locked out by the restrictions. It is expected that when schools reopen one of the conditions set will be the observance of serious social distancing.

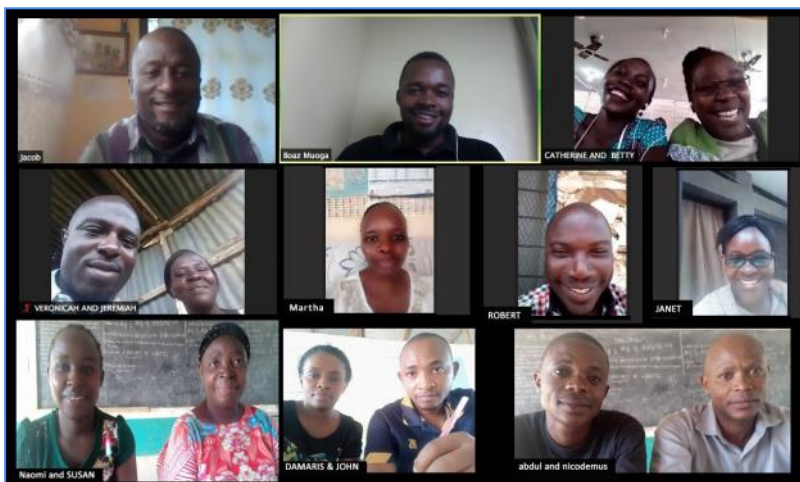


"Thank you all who responded to the desks appeal"



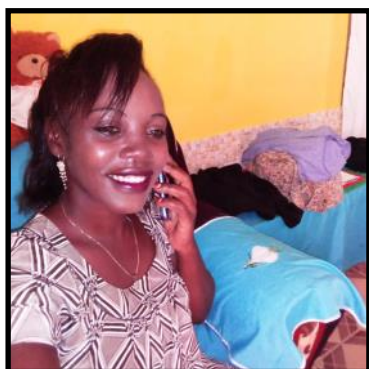
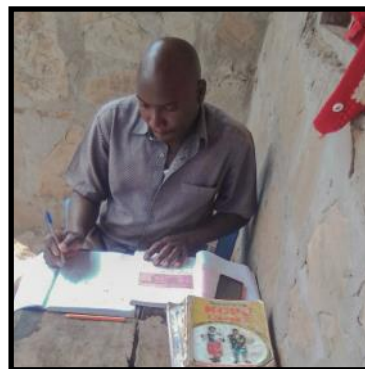
Staff News

The DGS staff team has been busy stepping up operations to cope with the interruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Learning has now shifted to online classes and our staff are adapting well.



"A staff meeting on ZOOM conferencing"

The online classes adaptation has caused a huge shift in operations. Teachers' living rooms have instantly turned into makeshift libraries, photoboosts and call centres all at once to ensure DGS children are updated on a daily basis every Monday to Saturday .



Children News

The fourth food parcels donation took place in the month of July where families received food supply to last them up to two weeks. A big thank you to Alana Hanks, her supporters and friends from Microsoft who made it happen.



In the month of August we had the next food parcels donation which was the fifth one. We thank all our partners who responded to the appeal. We keep receiving gratitude messages from parents and guardians for your kind gesture. Thank you for touching lives during this difficult time.



A few of the older students are allowed by their parents and guardians to come to school to pick the food parcels by themselves. During the fifth food donations drive, the few students who came were very grateful for the help they have been receiving.

“DGS students together with Brenda, the Sponsorship Director”



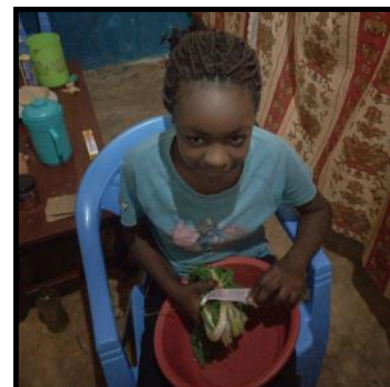
When the children are not engaged in the online class work, they are either busy playing or helping with domestic chores at home. We asked a number of the children to send us photos of what they do while not in their online classes.



Mopping the floor



Fetching water from the borehole



Preparing vegetables for mummy to cook



Sweeping



Preparing onions and other cooking ingredients



Doing laundry

Post-Primary School News

All of our project sponsored students are safe. We can confirm that all these students are in perfect health and non is at any health risk. They await the reopening of learning institutions from their various locations.



The security team has been very vigilant through out this period to ensure DGS property is safe at all times. They get to see many faces during the food donations drive. The security team and the cleaners have maintained a physical presence in DGS everyday.



Boaz, the Sponsorship Manager, working from home

All of us in Mombasa are grateful for the continued support. Our staff continues to work hard because of your unwavering support as the pandemic continues to affect the global economy. We will definitely come out of this in one piece. All our children, parents, guardians and staff members are marked safe at the moment.

Thank you to all the sponsors, DCC (Destiny Children Charity) trustees & committee members for their continued hard work and support of Destiny Garden School.

Keep safe until we meet again.

**THE
STAY at HOME
edition**

Report by Boaz Muoga, DGS Sponsorship Manager