



Scholar Update- First Term 2011

Dear Friends:

We have had some exciting events over the past few months Engeye Scholars Co-Director, Theresa Weinman, and Engeye Teen Connection Co-Founder, Sara Weinman, traveled to Uganda in February to meet with our Scholars and work on educational programming in Ddegeya Village. We encourage you to visit <http://engeyescholars.org/index.html> to read their blogs and visit <http://engeyescholars.jalbum.net/> to enjoy some photos from visit with the scholars.

We now have 22 scholars in our program; 15 scholars attend Sydney Paul primary school, 6 scholars attend Bishop Ddungu primary school and one scholar attends St. Bernard's secondary school. Theresa and Sara enjoyed visiting the scholars and they were excited to see the Scholars thriving and working hard at their school work. Here are some of Theresa's thoughts about visiting with the Scholars at both Bishop Ddungu and Sydney Paul.

Today is hard to put into words - it may take me several weeks to process all that happened today. Sara, Sarah, Elliott, John and I headed off to Bishop Ddungu to see our first group of Scholars. My heart was in my throat as we walked onto the beautiful grounds. Within a few minutes - there they were - Jeff, Flavia, Nabuuma Immaculate, Nassiwa Immaculate, Jessica, and Jude. They were very shy around the "Mzungus" until I brought out my three photo albums. Soon they were laughing and pointing at themselves and after letting them take pictures of us - they were decided we were all friends. Soon Jessica and Immaculate were brushing our hair and dancing with Sara and Sarah. It was hard to say good-bye to them after only a short visit. Then it was back into the car and off to Sydney Paul. While the grounds at Sydney Paul are far less impressive than Bishop - we learned that they were one of the highest performing schools in the region. Within just a few minutes all of our Scholars came running. This group was NOT shy and it was all hugs and giggles. Having John, Elliott and Sarah helped a lot. We saw Bena, Elias, Gyavira, Hamuza, Harriet, Josephine, Rose, Rehenna, Sadat, Siifa, Susan, Waswa, Wilber, William and Shakira. Of course seeing Susan was so emotional for both Sara and I. We took some photos and I wish I had taken more but I didn't want to lose the time visiting with them to pose for pictures. Instead they also wanted to look at the albums and hug us and then hug us again. Sara and I toured the school grounds with the head mistress and it was an eye opening experience touring the classrooms and dormitories. All of our Scholars are performing well and seemed very happy. What a blessing it is to visit them and get to know their personalities a little bit more. This visit confirmed for me yet again that we are making a profound difference in the lives of these children. Sincerely, Theresa Weinman

We also have other news to share with you, Bishop Ddungu school and Sydney Paul school recently had their family visiting day. It is always a special day for the scholars and their families. Pictures of the visiting day can be found through our Engeye Scholars website or directly on our photo website: <http://engeyescholars.jalbum.net/>

John Kalule reported that as always, family visiting day at both schools was a great day. The students performed for the families and friends and it was a special day for all. It was also special that such a large number of family members were able to participate this year. Every family of the scholars was able to have two or three family members visit the scholars, if they could. John has informed us that all the new scholars are adjusting well and for those who are struggling with their academics, arrangements are being made through our program to provide some tutoring services to help them. All the scholars desperately want to do well and succeed and they are willing to do extra work to make that happen.

Engeye Scholars would like to thank each of you for your continued support, interest and partnership in our education programs. We have many exciting projects on the horizon that we feel will improve the quality of education in this community for generations to come. Please visit our website to learn about additional ways you can contribute as we continue to advocate for the children of Uganda.

Thank You (Webale),
Elaine Hickey and Theresa Weinman
Engeye Scholars



Sara & Theresa Weinman with Scholars at Bishop Ddungu



Sara & Theresa Weinman with Union Fellows Sara and Elliot with
Scholars at Sydney Paul