



Report of the year 2021

The year 2021 started in a very humble beginning with a lot of uncertainty and fear. Reopening of schools was entering the second and final phase where the second group of learners who had stayed at home for 9 months due to the nationwide total lockdowns orchestrated by the Covid-19 Pandemic were resuming learning for their second term, (that is Kindergarten to class 7 in the primary school and form one to form three in the secondary school section) Health experts and the interfaith council had predicted that there would be no smooth learning in schools as wave after wave of the pandemic was ravaging humankind, the economy and the education system.

They also had predicted that learning centres would be Corona virus spreading zones and this brought a lot of panic everywhere. We therefore had to equip ourselves very well, hoping for the best but also preparing for the worst. We bought enough sanitizers, masks and also increased the hand-washing stations. All dormitories, classrooms, dining hall, teachers and staff houses plus the kitchen were thoroughly sprayed with chemicals to eliminate any possible available viruses. However we thank God, learning went on unhindered and we did not have any single case of the Corona virus in our school.



Many of our children reported back to school without school uniforms and other essential personal items such as Bathing soaps, Toothpaste, shoe polish, body oil etc and the management had to buy everything for them since their parents could not afford to buy them because majority had lost their jobs. It was the first year since the initiation of the academic calendar in Kenya where the National examinations for both the primary and secondary schools were done in March.



The opening day was a very special moment of re-union for teachers, parents and students as our school was among the few schools which had managed to mitigate the effects of Covid-19 and re-opened. Many other schools did not manage to open as the government had imposed strict measures for re-opening schools and since these schools did not comply with the new measures, they had to close down and send their students to other schools. Many of such children came to ask for admission in our school but unfortunately we could not absorb them because we were already full.

The National examinations, Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) and Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) were done in March and our students as usual performed very well. Our Secondary school was no 2 out of 40 Schools in the Voi Subcounty and our Primary was no 5 in the whole county with over 80 schools. Our best candidate in the Secondary school Kennedy Chengo is pursuing Clinical Medicine course in the Kenya Medical Training College. He has a special passion for medicine and in future he wants to come and work in our medical clinic here at our school.



One of the challenges was to convince teachers and non-teaching staff to accept taking the vaccine against Covid-19 because there were many divided opinion about the originality and the effectiveness of the vaccines. The mythical part of it was the worst. People believed that it would render them impotent or maybe die prematurely but our beloved mama Annedore had nothing to fear, she took a very bold step, she led from the front and became the first one to take the vaccine. Many others followed soon after that though vaccines were inadequate in Kenya and others are yet to be vaccinated.

Regardless of the many financial challenges witnessed in the republic of Kenya and the whole world at large, we were still operational. This would not have been possible had it not been KENYAN CHILDREN HELP and our sponsors, donors and well-wishers. We would wish to extend our sincere gratitude from the bottom of our hearts to all of them for

not relenting in offering financial support to our schools, a big thank you.

Special thanks goes to the board members of KENYAN CHILDREN HELP who tirelessly organised various events together with many of her friends to raise money for our school, and last year also for the construction of our very own medical clinic which is fully operational within the school compound, providing great inpatient and outpatient health services to all our children, staff and teachers. This facility will promote better health standards in our schools which will result in smooth learning and better performance.



The completion of the facility was a dream come true for Mama Annedore Biberstein who was sick and tired of the constant and huge medical bills arising from sending children to the hospital for treatment, sometimes even during the night. This building will also act as a recreation centre as plans are in place to bring health experts who will train students and teachers who wish to become doctors or health workers in future.

Unfortunately the year 2021 ended on a sad note. A big, loving, generous and caring heart stopped beating. Mama Annedore Biberstein, the founder and former president of the Kenyan children help association, Director of the New White House Schools and the Mama of everybody just fell in a deep sleep and that was the end, she was no more, her smile still on her face as though she was just in an ordinary sleep. The date was 17th November 2021. Acute appendicitis was the cause of her death.



Gone too soon but her spirit is watching over us from another level as we carry on with her vision. Her first borne son Klement Biberstein is now the new director of the New White House Academy and president of the Kenyan Children Help Association. Klement is a very nice gentleman and the spirit of her mother rests in him. He is full of fresh energy and carries a wealth of experience and expertise to our institution. He is married to Claudia Biberstein and together they were blessed with two children, Kimi and Liv who are now young adults. They have been visiting the school regularly and all have demonstrated a great love for children all the years. They have been sponsoring two children until now and have always been supporting the school and their mother in the great vision of giving quality education to the poor and less fortunate children from the community. Everything is just back to normal and life goes on as though mama is still with us. She left behind this very strong team of her close friends, family, sponsors, donors and staff that understood her vision and together we are strong and together we can make it.

Dickson Yaah
Manager
New White House Academy

“Jambo Klement we are very very sad that our dear mama has passed on this afternoon!”

This was the Whatsapp message I received on November 17th. It's understandable that I was shocked and couldn't believe it. But it also shows very nicely; it was not only my mother, but also the mother of the 48 employees and the 364 students of the New White House Academy! The fact that, in addition to their beloved mother, they where also afraid they might lose their job, their education, their school, made it even more difficult for them. I hope I was able to show them with my trip to the school and with various conversations on site, that my mother's life's work should, indeed must, live on!

The pain of losing our mother together remains...

I would like to thank you for your support and commitment and I hope that you will continue to support us so that we can continue our mama's life's work and her spirit lives on forever in the school!



Klement Biberstein
President
KENYAN CHILDREN HELP