

Big celebration at our school "Tumaini"



Friday the 22nd of September 2017 was an amazing day for Torkild and I together with the school's employees.

We started the day by inaugurating the school that now consists of 10 new classrooms, an IT-room and a teacher's office.

Our school is now complete and paid for, and for that we are sending our gratitude towards our heavenly Father.

Torkild and I got the honor of declaring the school open by cutting the ribbon. It was a very moving moment for us to see the school standing there as a proof of God's determination.

We planted a tree in the school yard as a memory of this very special day.

We also held the Graduation for class seven. The party was held out at the football field where tents were lined up. The hall was simply too small to hold all the guests that arrived.

All of the 22 students have taking their exam and have therefore finished standard seven. They are now waiting to move on to standard eight at a secondary school for further education.



Here in Tanzania you make a big deal out of this kind of Graduation. Especially because this is the first one the school has ever held.

All the classes from nursery to standard 7 had practiced drama, song and dance which they performed for this occasion.

The highlight of the day was when a group from nursery performed. They walked in singing: *"Education is the way, education is the way."* They stood in a line and young girl wearing a laboratory coat and a stethoscope stepped forward and said: *"When I grow up I want to be a doctor to save lives and make the sick well again."* she then continued: *"Do I look like a doctor?"* to which the entire audience loudly replied: *"Yes!"*

The next in line was a young boy who was dressed as pilot. He said: *"When I complete my education I want to become a pilot so I can fly up in the sky and look down."* He then said the same phrase: *"Do I look like a pilot?"* Once again the audience almost screamed out: *"Yes!"*



All of the kids in the group switched turns to step forward and tell the audience what they wanted to be as adults. This bit was very sweet and well received by the audience and almost everyone cheered and clapped when the students once again walked out.

All of the students from class seven then received their diploma as well as a little cake they could bring home to their families 😊

We finished with a huge banquet for all of the guests. (We were around 500 people including the kids and their parents.) The day before a cow had been butchered so there was plenty of food for all.

It was all in all an unforgettable day which we will look back on with great joy and gratitude.

Our thoughts especially go to all of you that have supported the building of the school financially. We feel that "Thank you" is not nearly enough when we think about how great an impact your help has made.

Lots of love
Tabitha & Torkild





