

WWD - Accra Diocese

NEWS LETTER Dec, 2015

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Building a New school - AM Children Home - AM School - Relief Work



www.lotuschildrencenter.yolasite.com



Our AM School at Lotus Children Center is becoming very popular in the neighborhood. Although Ghanaians are very dogmatic about yoga, vegetarianism and meditation, mistakenly taking these to be practices of black magic, the community now is accepting it as they see how our practices benefitted our students. Our students enjoy coming to school, are happy, calm and disciplined. Often visitors comment that they are the most well behaved children of all schools they visited.

We had an Education Training which included yoga training. The training was enthusiastically embraced by the teachers as they felt the benefits of the yoga practices in their lives. The teachers also got more acquainted with expressing themselves through art. It's sad to see how little the general public appreciates art in Ghana, so we had to work hard to awaken the artist in them and let them evaluate their art works by associating them with their own feelings. They learned how to express themselves with drawing, individual work on mandalas and a collective painting to close the day. They were able to progress in their personal development, which will certainly affect their performance in the classroom.

On Aug we have a pleasure to receive **Asha from Sweden**, who contributed with her nurse's knowledge in a meeting for teachers and parents clarifying how including more physical exercises on their life style would benefit their health. She instructed about 45 parents/family members of our Ananda Marga school at Lotus Children Center on the benefits of yoga for the students as most of the parents wonder if yoga really has any benefits.



In November **Paola Fornari** from Italia together with her colleges delighted the children with their visit. They came to see if it would be possible to sponsor a painting project in the whole facility. As their feedback about our school was very positive our project has been approved and we will start painting work soon.

In December **Lucia Witbooi** from South Africa came with her colleagues and organized a feeding program in Lotus to Celebrate the New Year. They cooked a generous Christmas lunch for 100 children, sharing their love and affection and Christmas gifts for all our students and community.

Pictured here Nuelgold, a bright student getting full scholar ship.

Many parents are enthusiastic about our unique system of education and are requesting the school to expand from KG to JSS and SHS, and insisting we would get another facility for that. Didi is considering their requests very

seriously. **"EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES"**





EXPANDING IN A NEW SCHOOL

BUILDING A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN GHANA

The work of WWD mission is to make sure that Ladies and Children have maximum opportunity to develop their potential fully, and use their capacity towards their own well being and welfare of the society.

Working with children and education in Ghana, we realize the urgent need of a more psychological approach of education. As we all know, handling a child is not easy, let alone a group of children. It takes someone with a lot of love, care and affection to take care of children without being hard on them since a child or two will definitely cause problems sometimes.

In most schools in Africa (including Ghana), teachers are very strict with children. A child will not be spared for the least mistake he/she commits. The child will be severely dealt with by the teacher in a very bad manner which shows no love, care or affection. To mention a few examples:

- a child will be caned roughly at even delicate parts of the body (head, back, palm)
- a child's food will be withheld and they will go hungry
- a child will be made to squat for a long time to the extent of becoming very weak
- use of harsh words on the child
- disgracing the child before his/her peers

This practice goes a long way to have negative effects on the children rather than correcting them for the mistakes he/she committed. The child becomes dull, less courageous and feels shy and not happy to be in school; therefore whatever will be taught at the end of day becomes wasted.

Our solution in Lotus was to train the teachers in praise good behavior instead and a reward system. One of our teachers didn't believe it could work at beginning but soon by practicing Neo Humanism, he realized how beneficial it was for the children. He writes: *"As a teacher in a Neohumanist Education School, we want to teach the children how to love, show affection and care for both living and non-living beings. My colleagues and I, along with our headmistress, Didi Gayatri, met to derive a way to help bring out the best behavior in the children. We came to the conclusion that a brightly colored sticker will be pasted on a chart before the name of the child who behaves very well each day. At the end of the week the child with the most stickers before his/her name in each class will be called before the whole school and presented a very beautiful gift to take home. As we all know children are attracted by brightly colored*



things so this came a long way to inspire each child to behave very well on a daily basis knowing that he/she is going to get something to take home at the end of the week. It also made teaching and learning easier since the children behave well now and are always happy to be in school."



Until now we have been able to provide early childhood education in Lotus. But now THANKS TO TAIWAN sympathizers whom helped us to START TO build a new building in another site gradually we are expanding to provide Primary education as well. We have already built a classroom and 2 offices and bathroom, what costs a lot as building material are expensive, like everything else in Ghana. It is getting started little by little only by His grace...

The main objective of the school is to develop its students in all aspects through an integral and psychological system of education and NH approach of teacher's training.



Our other goals are to raise issues on health awareness at the community and to help children who can't afford to have access to quality education. Our school is non-profit as all our other WWD projects. So we depend completely on the kindness and solidarity of DONORS.

TARGETS: We are starting educational activities on January (community library) and at same time will be doing fund raising to expand school. **HELP IS MUCH NEEDED TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING TARGETS:**



a. Open classes for Nursery and Day care on January 2016 and start building a classroom with divisor wall and 2 bathrooms for KG1, for KG2 and Class 1. This is to be concluded on April/2016. Admissions for KG1, for KG2 and Class 1 will then start on the second term of the school year.

b. Open classes for KG1 for KG2 and Class 1 on May, 2016. Start building one more classroom with divisor wall this time for Class 2, Class 3 and Class 4 and two more bathrooms. To be concluded on August, 2016. Open classes for Class 2, Class 3 and Class 4 in September, 2016.





We began in 2012 and since then look forward to continue the work. During that time, rain water filled the excavation and neighbors also directed their rain water to our plot as building.



there was no We found what to do: we made a drain



around the land and brought it to a main gutter.



Our donors

from Taiwan contributed with this first classroom.

And you, what can you

contribute to make it happen?

**contact:
email**



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Although it had been challenging sometimes, as there is needed of constant supervision on the local workers, we finally completed the replacement of the windows. Now children and staff of Lotus Children Center are protected from the threats of storms. Although in our project proposal we focused in the replace the 10 worse windows we have been able to replace 17 windows; being 14 Casement

windows and 3 louvers windows. **Thanks to NAWA , Emanuele Antola Foundation and DONATIONS of sympathizers .**



Here pictures of the windows replacement - Now children and staff of Lotus Children Center are protected

from the threats of storms.





We were able to open **a new School in a backwards area** of Volta Region of Ghana, to be run by our new unit at Mafi Zongo village. At the moment we are using an abandoned library temporarily. Our plans are to build a shelter at our own land (given by the local community). The children are 14 in number. Local schools run by the Government are overcrowded. Financial help is needed to make the shelter.

Medical camp AT CENTRAL



REGION: Vitamins were



distributed to more than 100 students of a poor school in the Akwakwaa..

Clothes distribution to poor villagers at



Accra and Volta Region.

Picture: Stove donation



Chidren are growing healthy.

A'patikii: Completed 6 years, very healthy, talkative and happy!



Shobha': Completed 6 years, exceptionally intelligent, caring and very delicate

Anumatii: Completing 11 years on January, Class 4. Teachers praise her disciplined conduct.

THANKS TO AMURT ITALY FOR SPONSORING THIS CHILDREN HOME!