



# Partners' Progress

## Mustard Seed Academy Reopens

Seventh-graders in primary and seniors in secondary finished their government exams at the end of March. We are awaiting their results, which are expected in July. We anticipate history to repeat itself, with MSA students being at the top in the district.

Currently, secondary 1, 2, and 3 are back in school and excited to be boarding. Staying on campus affords opportunities for extra help from teachers and small study groups. Plus, living conditions at school are much better than in the typical family home.

Primary students in grades 4, 5, and 6 returned to school in April. They were joined by the younger students from grades 1, 2, and 3, plus preschoolers recently.

The new school year will begin on August ninth, with all classes returning to campus. The Ugandan government's three-



Secondary-1 boys socialize after the long school hiatus

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## Greetings

*From Subayiha, Class of 2017 to her sponsor*

Dear Judith and family, I greet you in the name of the Almighty. I just hope you are all doing great. It has been a while since we last communicated, but I was so happy to receive



your lovely letter. It was really very amazing. I just hope we can keep up like this.

Currently, am so grateful to inform you that I am now working with Mustard Seed Secondary School. I am so blessed working with the people who taught me since my childhood. Am really so so happy 😊.

Judith, I really treasure you so much, and I love you from the entire bottom of

### Thanks!

All MSA grads from 2018 and 2019 in the COP program made it back to college. Most students from the class of 2018 are finishing up exams and internships. They will graduate soon.

### Thanks!

Our outstanding faculty was in place and ready to begin in-person teaching. Keeping the staff employed during the Covid school closure has given stability and benefitted the students.

### Thanks!

Three classes of students are boarding on campus. It's easier to concentrate and succeed while feeling safe, well-fed, and sleeping in comfort.

year school calendar has all terms and school breaks shortened, getting things back on track in 2024.

**What's next for MSA's grads?** While MSA Secondary School grads are waiting for their exam results, groundwork is being done to help determine what pathway they will pursue in August. In partnership with our Ugandan team, we developed Career Opportunity Pathways (COP) for our first grads in 2016. A Mustard Seed education plus two years in the COP program leads to big dreams coming true! It also fights the youth unemployment crisis in Uganda.

### Covid update

A new wave of infection hit Uganda at the end of May. The average of 23 cases per day in April went up to over 300 at the end of May. With over 47 million Ugandans, and 45 thousand people diagnosed, the infection rate is less than 0.1%. So, it's hardly a rampant infection. However, the worry is that if the trend continues, the medical facilities will be overwhelmed very quickly. Mostly, this last wave has hit the 20 to 39-year-old group, which makes us hopeful that schools will not close again. Most of our Ugandan team has been vaccinated.

my heart. You're the most precious person that has ever happened in my life. I send my warmest love to you dear Judith, Greg, Nicholas and beautiful Isabella. Love you lots. May the Almighty continue answering your deepest desires. Yours at heart ❤️ Subayija

### Poultry-hens a laying

Soon, the eggs will be in the standard size range, and with 50,000 eggs to sell each month, there will be significant income for MSA— over \$4000/ mo. Chicken manure is sold as fertilizer for another source of income.

Equally important are the learning opportunities for students, staff, and the community.



1800 eggs on the way to market



**'Mum & Dad'**  
**'Father & Mother'**  
**'Taata & Maama'**

Teachers play all these roles and more.

Top: Primary School teachers laughing with P-7 students; left: Norah with nursery student; above: Denis, Director of Studies; below: some of the key Secondary School teachers

