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Edition 6, Spring 2011

Welcome to the Spring 2011 edition of the StareheFuture Newsletter!

If you would like more information about the work that we do please don't hesitate to contact Ashleigh:

Tel: 0207 934 6930
Email: admin@starehe.org

Aiming High



Great news from the Starehe Centres! 2010 was the third year that Starehe Girls' Centre presented candidates for the Kenyan Certificate of Secondary Education and although the Government no longer officially publishes league tables, the Girls' Centre was informally ranked 9th overall nationwide with 100% of the pupils' grades meeting the entry requirement for admittance to public university in Kenya.

Starehe Boys' Centre also performed well and was ranked 10th nationwide, with 95% of the boys' grades meeting entry requirement for admittance to University. Congratulations to all students and their teachers! Natulenge Juu!

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'To whom much is given, much is required' – The Voluntary Service Scheme

The Starehe Boys' Centre Voluntary Service Scheme (VSS) was born out of a suggestion by a student at 'baraza' (the weekly school parliament) in 1966.

It has since grown from strength to strength and, on the 10th December 2010, the scheme was awarded recognition of exemplary service to the community at the 'Volunteer of the Year' Awards in Kenya, hosted by the Ufadhili Trust and VSO Jitolee. By December 2010 through VSS, Starehe students had completed 44 consecutive years of Voluntary service given to communities across Kenya. The Voluntary service is carried out in hospitals, clinics, health centers/dispensaries, government offices, libraries and children's' homes and can be anything including cleaning, filing and data entry.

The Starehe Voluntary scheme is a compelling example of 'giving back' at an early age and helps students understand that care for others is vital.

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Foundations of the Future

Thanks to donations from a number of supporters and benefactors, work is now well under way on the brand new kitchen, dining room and laundry facility at Starehe Girls' Centre. In a few months, the girls will move into their new dining hall, that will also be used as a focal point for the school, for assemblies, meetings and extracurricular activities, as well as for meals.

Once this facility is complete, the former dining hall will be freed up for vital teaching space. This new facility also means that there will be increased

capacity at the Girls' Centre, enabling them to offer a life-changing education for an extra 120 girls to be enrolled over the next 3 years.

We are also delighted to announce that, thanks to donations from the Daily Telegraph Appeal in 2009, several solar panels for lighting of five buildings have now been successfully installed at Starehe Boys' Centre. This will go a long way to helping the school to become more self sufficient and to secure a low cost and uninterrupted power supply for generations to come.

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Playing a new tune

Music plays a vital role in school life at the Starehe Centres. It breaks down ethnic and social barriers and helps students to interact. In March 2011, both schools received a donation of brand new musical instruments thanks to the generous support of the Umbrella Tree Trust in the UK and the German Embassy Nairobi.

The new instruments included a selection of brass, wind and percussion instruments. Starehe boys and girls consistently perform at exceptionally high levels at the national music festivals and now they can look forward to even more trophies and success on the Kenyan (and maybe even international) music scene!

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StareheFuture Dinner with HRH The Princess Royal at Barclays Wealth

Mr John Varley, of Barclays Plc, kindly hosted a private dinner for current and potential supporters of the StareheFuture Appeal. HRH The Princess Royal attended the dinner as our guest of honour and engaged guests with her Starehe experiences.

Michael Kiprop, a Starehe alumnus who now works for Barclays Capital in the UK, spoke about the positive impact Starehe made on his life. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Varley and Barclays Wealth for their generosity.

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On your marks, get set!

We would like to thank William Webb, who works at Shell Centre in London, for running the 2011 Reading Half Marathon to raise funds for the StareheFuture Appeal. William completed his half marathon in an impressive 1 hour 56 minutes, and has raised just over £400 to date.

We may be half-way into 2011, but there is still time to realise your New Year's resolutions – whether it is to run a half-Marathon, 10km or 5km run, or maybe even a triathlon! We have runners taking part in the Big Fun Run 2011 and the Run to Beat 2011 later this year to raise money for Starehe.

Could you follow in their footsteps and raise money for some of Kenya's brightest but most disadvantaged boys and girls by entering a challenge event in 2011? If so, please contact Ashleigh for further details.

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'Flowers for Futures'

In July 2011, the StareheFuture Appeal will benefit from the Next flowers' charity bouquet of the month. So if you have an occasion to send flowers, or just fancy brightening someone's day, please pick our beautiful bouquet and plant a future. 10% of the retail price of each bouquet sold will go to StareheFuture Appeal. For further details, please contact Ashleigh

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Our special thanks go to the following companies, Trusts and individuals for their support during the last three months:

Citi Foundation
HSBC Plc (for their continued support)
Palacina The Residence & The Suites, Nairobi
Rotary Club of Westminster West
St Mary's Parish, Linton, Cambridge
The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators
Macksoud Family
Raguz Family
Fusillo Family
Swedish Travel Industry Children's Foundation (for their continued support)

We would also like to thank those other private donors and Trusts who have chosen to remain anonymous.

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On behalf of Starehe Boys' and Girls' Centres, StareheFuture would like to thank you for your support during the last three months of the Appeal. Please do get in touch if you would like one of our general or schools fundraising packs!
Registered Charity No: 1035323

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'Investing in the next generation of African leaders...'

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