



Beausang Bulletin

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School Motto: CARPE DIEM

From the Principal:

I am pleased to express my gratitude to the Christian Brothers Foundation Oceania Province and the Zimele Foundation's for providing us - Eva, Catherine and myself with an opportunity to share our stories and experience during the fund raising dinner at St. Kevin's College on the 25th June this year. Your generous invitation for the three of us to journey to Australia was a landmark. The invaluable assistance to BBCEC and the many projects run by the Christian Brothers in East Africa has bought a change to our world. It is through this type of support that gives hope for the future of our young women and men.

As one of the guest speakers during the dinner, I had the privilege to address 460 invited guests. I described the occasion as an evening of hope for the African child in East Africa, in particular BBCEC, Reuben Centre and the Kibera project. The passion of the talk was for all of us to understand that poverty comes in many forms and ways but can only be recognized if we are ready to listen and see the cry of those who are underprivileged in their basic education needs.

Our two weeks visit made a significant impact back to our school here in BBCEC and I believe it had the same impact on the many students, staff in the different colleges and primary schools we visited while in Australia. We visited St. Kevin's College and Junior School, St. Bernard's Essendon, Catholic Ladies College, St Joseph's Geelong, St. Teresa Junior School, Mt. Carmel Junior School, and Consolata Junior School (all in Melbourne Victoria) and St.



From left to right: Principal(Bro. Francis Otieno),Former Principal (Bro.Laurie Collins) Head teacher Primary(Eva Njagi), Head teacher Secondary(Catherine Gathogo)

Paul's College in Adelaide as well as meeting with the many parents and friends of Brother Beausang in Australia.

This evening was a fantastic event and delightful occasion which truly reflected the theme of hope for the African children. We were pleased with the funds that the foundation dinner raised, much of which has been put to the construction of our new construction building of 12 permanent classrooms and toilet block in the primary school. I always say we are privileged here in BBCEC to have such a wonderful support and people who have us close to their hearts.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to both Br. Bill Wilding and Tom Purcell as the key people in the organization of the night, together with all the members of the two foundations for providing us with air tickets, insurance, and all the necessary support whilst in Australia. Special thank you to the Headmaster, Mr. Stephen Russell and the staff and students of St. Kevin's College.

Internship Teachers: Thanks to the management of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa and the Marist International College and Tangaza College Institute of Education CTIE for giving a chance to Sr. Lucy Wanjiru (Kiswahili/CRE) Sr. Rita Ezekwem (English/Literature), Sr. Joyce Nguu. Sr. Joan J Okoth (English CRE), Mr. Elijah Kipsiren Tanui (Geography/History) and Mr. Benedict A. Kotonya (Mathematic/Computer), to be involved in BBCEC in their teaching attachment. Thank you for the services you have rendered to the life of many students in our school and the staff.

Staff Changes: Mr. Johnfisher Ondigo Moi has left us after almost five years of tireless contribution and support to BBCEC. Johnfisher was instrumental in the continued growth of the school in his role as Deputy Head Teacher in the secondary school. We want to thank Johnfisher for all his hard work and wish him and his family the very best. We are thrilled to have Mr. Henry Kimiywi who generously accepted to take on the role of Deputy Head Teacher as the replacement for Johnfisher. We also welcome in Term 3 Mr. Francis Kamau Kangethe who will be taking students in Mathematics and Physics. I am looking forward to seeing all staff and students in Term 3 as we enter the final lap for 2011. As we end this term I leave you with some food for thought.

“Success always starts with a dream that seems impossible, but when that dream is pursued and worked it gradually comes true over time. BBCEC is different!!!!!!! a dream of one person”.

May God bless Brother Beausang.

Br. Francis Otieno cfc (Principal)



A complete 10000 litres rain water harvest tank initiated by an Immersion group from St. David's Artane in BBCEC in 2010

In our efforts to provide a conducive environment for our students we are erecting a gate to ensure that the school is secure from intruders. New toilets will also be put in place. Once the on going construction of the primary building is complete. Plans are underway to have all the 12 classes furnished with modern equipment for the benefit of our students. Some containers will be converted and used as offices before the offices are constructed.

Mercilinus Ounde; Development Officer

One of our deep secrets of life is that all that is really worth doing, is what we do for others - Lewis Carol

Melbourne Visit

Our visit to Melbourne was an eye-opener for us. We had a chance to visit St. Bernand's College, St. Joseph's Geelong, Catholic Ladies College and St. Paul's Adelaide (Peter Shanahan's former school) We realized that their contribution and love for Br. Beausang and other Christian Brothers projects all over the world does not come from the fact that they have a lot to give but their determination to change the lives of others.

The best part was the students getting first hand information from us and it was clear that this interaction made them see things from another perspective and opened their eyes to the fact that what they see and hear from others is real. The students in Australia are very lucky to have what they have in their schools; a system of education that is wholesome and covers all aspects of a student's life. I believe this is what drives them to share what they have with the less fortunate. They have developed a virtuous and hardworking staff and student community who are always ready to explore the world beyond the corners of the schools through their various activities. To all the families we visited, interacted with and spent our nights we salute you all.

Catherine Gathogo (Secondary Head teacher)

This year has seen student development and success in sport reach new heights. The school has been involved in sports since its existence, but this year was successful compared to other years. At Enomatasian where the zonal games were held, the boys football team was the only team that qualified for the finals and went ahead to make history at the Zonal Champions 2011. History was also made at the District level, where the football players for the first time also qualified to play in the Semi-finals where we were eliminated. We played three matches scoring 11 goals. These achievements are not our making, but God's

(Alex Maina)

Bringing everything to the light

This year there has been a more active sporting activity, dominated by football, which was accompanied by great progress. Due to this, the Journalism club has been actively involved. The club has ensured that in every game played, the results and the details have reached the ears of Beausang. Our club have also been recording the matches and getting best snap shots to keep the memory alive. This kind of spirit is keeping our fire burning!

Isaac Ochieng



The School Girls football team with their coaches, The girls reached the semi-Finals of the Zonals. It was the football Boys that stole the limelight as they were the Zonal champions, but were knocked out at the Semi-Final of the District ball games by a team they had beaten twice at Zonal stage



Kitchen staff prepares lunch. BBCEC was among the few institutions that kept its students on the same diet and without reducing rations despite the rise in the cost of foodstuffs.

PASTORAL CARE DEPARTMENT

It has been a good time for the last term in the Brother Beausang community and more especially for the pastoral care department and our involvement was in different areas; We looked for the best "recipe" and planned for the benefit of the students. In the course of the term we were able to reach out to more than 51 students in their homes and also got the opportunity to meet their parents and talk on different issues regarding the students well being. In the course of the term we were able to help three students who had family problems get to different children homes and also two got into a special school, All this has worked out of the combined efforts between the administration and our department, Also the department helped different students in guidance and counselling and this has helped them increase their self-esteem and self discovery. Our department wish to thanks everybody for their cooperation in the course of the term which helped us reach our set targets.

Pastoral care.

Sr. Fransisca and Br. Paul.

Volunteers Desk

On behalf of our organization the ICYE (International Cultural Youth Exchange), Aileen and I want to thank all the staff of Brother Beausang and all the students for wonderful opportunity they provided us. It was not easy with the culture shock, but the BBCEC community gave us a warm welcome and helped us to get used to everything. During our time, we have been working in different departments within the secondary school. We contributed our knowledge and skills in history, German, arts, computer, nursery and sports classes. Within this time we interacted with the students, we were able to learn many things from them as well, and we appreciate that. Now that we are going after the expiration of our time we wish to say good bye and thank all for the amazing experience we got every single day in the last three terms.

Ronny Klawunn & Aileen Scharrenberg

TERM 2 REPORTS – SECONDARY SCHOOL

Parents, guardians and students are take note of the following dates for the collection of Term 2 reports:

Form 4: **Friday August 19** – this includes an interview with a teacher as outlined in the letter given to all Form 4 students.

Form 1-3: **Monday August 22 – Friday September 2** – all reports must be collected prior to school opening for Term 3 on Monday September 5.

TERM 3 DATES / EVENTS

Monday September 5: school opens for Term 3

Wednesday September 7: Form 3 interviews

Thursday September 8: Form 1 and 2 interviews

Monday October 10: Form 1-3 CAT Week

Wednesday October 12: Farewell Mass and celebration for Form 4

Thursday October 20: Mashujaa Day

Friday October 21: KCSE exams commence

Wednesday November 2: Farewell Mass and celebration for Class 8

Thursday November 3: Form 3 exams commence (to November 22)

Monday November 7: KCPE exams commence

Monday November 14: Form 1-2 exams; Primary exams commence

Wednesday November 23: End of year Mass / close of school

Monday December 12: Jamuhuri Day

Sunday December 25: Christmas

THE NAKURU NATIONAL PARK TRIP

The group that made the trip to Lake Nakuru was made up of 45 students mostly from Form 3, 5 teachers, other staff of Br Beausang and our visitors from St. Bernard's Essendon (Australia) and from Ireland. When we arrived at Lake Nakuru National Park, we were welcomed by the chatters of monkeys as they jumped from one branch to another.

Our first drive was to Lake Nakuru which is on an altitude of about 1756M above sea level with 10.5 pH scale. It's an alkaline lake that originally covered about 40km but it has reduced to 20km due to adverse effects of climate



change and environmental degradation of the Mau escarpment. We learnt that the lake is the biggest bird sanctuary in East Africa. It has two types of flamingos: the lesser and the greater flamingos. The former have a pink colour while the latter are white in colour. The ratio of lesser to the greater is 2:1. Other birds found in the lake are pelicans, seagulls and marabou storks.

Our second drive saw us to the top of the baboon cliff where we were able to see the entire lake, in the shape of the African map. Wow! How beautiful it was! During the drive we saw animals such as zebras, antelopes, waterbucks, giraffes, the "hideous" leopard, rhinos and buffaloes. We surely can't forget the breathtaking Makali Falls. The wonderful waterfall comes from Mau River which has its origin from the Mau escarpment and is about 100 meters in height. It was a fantastic trip both educationally and socially for the students and our visitors. We thank the school administration and our parents who contributed to the success of this day. We hope the visitors did enjoy the trip as much as we did. This day will ever remain memorable in our lives!

By Kennedy Ltodowa, Mohammed Omar, Ann Mumbua and Jedida Mukui- Form 3 Class-2011)

The Parliament and Meteorological Department trip.

On the 26 May Class Eight pupils got a rare opportunity to visit the Metrological Department headquarters and parliament. It was an excursion planned by their teachers as it was an important part of their learning and indeed proved to be. The pupils were so impressed in the weather station where all weather instruments they had only learnt about or seen in picture or drawing were displayed. They were taken through the three major parts: Aerial weather, weather analysis and data presentation. The peak of the day was in the afternoon where the pupils could not hide their joy, being in the parliament and witnessing how sittings are conducted and debated.

We also wish to thank the parents for the cooperation and support and we hope that will continue to the future.

Mr. Bernard Bett

Anger falls one letter short of Danger. Revenge is like biting a dog because the dog has bitten you.

I have missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I have lost almost 300 games. 26 times I have been trusted to take the game-winning shot, and missed. I have failed over and over and over again in my life, And that is why I succeeded.

(Michael Jordan generally considered best basket player of all times).

The Head Teacher (Primary School)

Life is full of dreams; sometimes they are realized and sometimes they are not. In my culture, there is an African proverb that says "he who does not visit other people or places feels that the mother is the best cook in the whole world." This aroused my feelings especially when I visited Australia (Melbourne) in June this year whereby it proved the proverb right. We were rendered a warm welcome at the airport by wonderful friends who spared time to meet us despite their busy schedule and a chilly night.

My visit enhanced personal growth which will help me handle my own issues and administration work. I made many friends who will be in touch with our school for the sake of the African child. I was fortunate to meet our former principal, Br.Laurie Collins and his family members who had accompanied him for the dinner. Former Deputy Br. John Corbett was also in attendance. It is difficult to mention all who welcomed us during our time in Australia, but a big thank you to all.

This term has been a busy one in the Primary school with many activities and events. A feature has been the continuing strong pastoral support for all our students; the trips many of the students have enjoyed and the recent visit from the groups from Australia and Ireland. May God hold you all in the palm of his hands. AMEN.

Eva Njagi. Head Teacher - Primary.

REFLECTIONS

It has been a privilege to be a student at BBCEC. The long journey started when I was admitted in pre-school. I studied in BBCEC for a short while then and had to transfer because of matters beyond my control. By Class Four in that other school I realised



Sr. Catherine leads primary pupils as they offer petitions to God.

that my performance was going down, I decided to come back to BBCEC. It was very challenging because I had to catch up with the set standard at BBCEC. I worked hard; my teachers helped me. I know with what I have here I will do well at the end of the year. I will always uphold the good name of the school and my vision for the school is to make it a school

every mother will want to bring her child. The best thing I have learnt is that I cannot always change other people but I can change myself. **Mary Nyawira Class 8**

We thank our teachers, parents and staff members for what they have done for this term. We thank the visitors for the gifts they gave us; they are now like relatives to us through the work of sponsorship. BBCEC has enabled us to see people from different parts of the world that come to visit and volunteer. We thank God for the blessings he keeps showering on us for this wonderful school.

Joyce Kariah and Sarah Wagio

Dale Carnegie wrote "An old man was asked what had robbed him of Joy in his life. His reply was the things that never happened. Almost 99% of things that we worry about never happen. Fear is a poor chisel to carve out our tomorrows.

Brother Beausang from little things

July 2011 has seen the birth of an immersion program for year 11 students from St. Bernard's College in Essendon, Victoria, Australia. The College has had links with Brother Beausang Catholic Education Centre in Embul-bul, Nairobi, Kenya for the past five years and each year students raise funds to assist with the establishment of buildings and programs at the school in Nairobi. This year the boys made the decision to take the journey to Kenya to strengthen links with the community of Br. Beausang School and immerse themselves in the culture and traditions of the Kenyan people. It is our hope that these young men will learn much from their experience and will be instrumental in advocating and acting for the students from Br. Beausang School. Below are some thoughts from the boys.

Meeting the students and teachers at Br Beausang is a testament to the fact that it doesn't take material possessions to make a person's life. The students from the lowest to the highest grade have shown us nothing but great kindness and friendship despite the fact we were total strangers. The other boys and I could not help but be moved by such positive attitudes.

Daniel FitzGerald

During my time in Kenya and particularly in Br. Beausang School, I have constantly been met with the word "Karibu". Unlike many other places, however, I see that it is not just a word for the people of Kenya. Everywhere I have been, be it in classrooms at Br. Beausang or the airtight confines of a matutu, I have felt truly welcome. The students of Br. Beausang have shown a level of warmth and friendship unlike that of any other school or group I have encountered in Australia. I extend my sincere thanks to all the students who made our trip to Kenya unforgettable feel truly welcome.

Joshua Monaghan

As the departure date for our trip approached, the idea of going to Kenya really didn't 'hit' us until we touched down. We became instantly aware of the massive transition in lifestyle and culture and were able to see so much difference from what we are used to. Although there is so much poverty and so many incredible struggles that the people of Kenya have to go through, they have definitely taught me so much. I was expecting to be teaching these people, which was incredibly ignorant of me but they have been the teachers. The majority of people are so nice, happy and loving although in comparison to us they have far less material possessions and luxuries. The way they grab any opportunity they are offered and give it all they have, because they are mature enough to know the importance of everything, is an amazing virtue and something I will take back to Australia. **Weston Howell**

As we are just over the half way mark of our Kenyan immersion, I have learnt so much more than I had expected. The people of Kenya are very inspiring and uplifting, to the point where I feel incredibly welcome no matter where we are. Brother Beausang primary and secondary schools are where we spent most of our time, and are the places where I feel most embraced. All the students are so kind and loving that we immediately bond and have a special connection. One thing that has stood out for me so far is that even though most of the people here are materially poor, they will always find something inside to give. Through my time here I have made some unique friendships that I will never forget, because after all, they have had a bigger influence on my life than I would have had on theirs. **Michael Dillon**

In the days leading up to our departure date, I became nervous, unsure what to expect of my immersion trip to Kenya. Driving from the airport on that first day in Nairobi was a big shock to me. I realised had been living in my own little world in Melbourne, having no knowledge of the living conditions of people in other countries. When attending mass on the first Sunday and the Brother Beausang school on the first Monday my school mates and I were welcomed with open arms into the community. What I realised was, although these people have very little in material goods, they are so happy! It really put everything in to perspective for me. The trip so far has given me a greater knowledge of the world we live in as well as influencing my choice of career after secondary school. I have decided to become a primary school teacher and hopefully one day return to Brother Beausang, maybe even to teach. I will never forget my experiences during this trip and hope to return home a better person than when I departed Australia some days ago

.Christopher James

Stepping off the plane in Nairobi was an instant culture shock, compared with the protection of our Melbourne lifestyle. The culture and lifestyle of the Kenyan people are completely different from the people in Melbourne. I was nervous and anxious, I knew that the trip would open my eyes in different ways, but I didn't know how much knowledge I would take out of the trip. I realized that living in my own house that is completely safe and secure, isn't the same for the Kenyan people. I have learnt so much from the Kenyan people, many who have to live on a day-to-day basis but yet they are happy with what they have. We have much to learn from them about being happy with fewer material possessions. It is amazing how much the Kenyan people have taught me about other people in this world. My Dad has always said, "The world is bigger than the end of your finger tips, when your arms are stretched out." This trip has changed the way I will be and it is my hope that it has had the same effect on the group of boys who have participated in this Kenyan immersion.

Kevin McCarry



Coming from my comfortable home in Melbourne I didn't know what to expect from the country I was visiting. The people here have a journey in every part of their life - they never have a boring part. From the raging matutus, to the excitement at mass and the extreme poverty, the community of Kenya is so loving and greatly appreciative of each other. The poorest of people give donations in mass and the atmosphere in church of singing and dancing runs shivers down my spine and it brings all tribes together. However, even in the wider community all religions respect each other in living side by side. What I have learnt is that this community supports each other in a pyramid that will never collapse. They are so welcoming and giving to people like myself whom they hardly know. I have made great friendships that I will never forget and shared experiences with a group of my mates. What I know is that I will come home a much better person because the things people have taught me here are beyond explanation and I will return to this community one day to experience it even more. This trip has changed my life for the better and I hope it does for others who visit here as well.

Frazer Gatens

In late 2010, I received a note offering an emersion experience to witness how the fundraising of my classmates and I has made a contribution to the Brother Beausang school in Kenya. At first, I saw the trip as an opportunity to change the world and give something back to a world that has been very good to me. However, as my time in Kenya has elapsed, I have learnt more from the culture and people of Kenya than I could ever have hoped to have taught. The welcoming nature and pride of the place that I have experienced while here, has been overwhelming. In returning to my family and friends in Australia, I will bring with me not only a greater understanding of life away from my own, but lessons that will remain with me for the rest of my life.

Francis Tait

We have no doubt that after reading the thoughts of our young men we will agree that they have not only surpassed their own goals and hopes of their immersion experience, but also ours as well. The boys have proudly represented both St Bernard's community and the values of their families by the high level of maturity and respect they have demonstrated during their time in Kenya. These young men will indeed take away valuable lessons and a skill set that will enable them to advocate on behalf of the Kenyan people and to continue the good work of those who have already contributed to the Br. Beausang community.

Chanette Glynn

From little things Big things grow

Gather round people let me tell you a story, A 11 year long story of education and pride St Bernards Melbourne and Brother Beausang, Were both united from opposite sides

From little things big things grow,

From little things big things grow.....(to be continued)

Thanks to [St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace](#), Australia and [St. Fintan's CBS Ireland](#) who are hosting our WebPages and this edition of the Beausang Bulletin can be viewed under the following links: -

<http://smeagol.terrace.qld.edu.au/beausang/Pages/mission.html> or

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