

Baobab Children Foundation Ghana | Westafrika



Socially and physically challenged - hand in hand

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2021

Dear Friends of Baobab,

I hope everyone is still well and healthy in these difficult times. Despite everything that is going bad in Germany at the moment, we must never forget how well we are doing in Germany. I am always grateful that we have social systems (with all the deductions), good health care and insurance.



Bright is recovering

Bright, one of our former students suffering from muscular dystrophy, who is now an employee and cares for his family, recently tilted his wheelchair backwards and injures himself badly.

This week I spend many hours in the emergency room and 3 days in the infirmary of the largest hospital in Cape Coast. How much suffering I saw there, I can't put into words. If Bright hadn't had us, who with the help of share1love have covered all coast without murmuring, I don't know what would have happened then.

A huge thank you to share1love.

Actually, I'm already ready for my departure, but I just decided to stay here longer instead, as all events are cancelled the year due to the lockdown and the high Corona numbers in Germany. In addition, we are preparing a new project on the sustainability of Baobab, where I can be of use instead of sitting in a lockdown in Freiburg. I will report on the project soon.

It revolves around a project that is being launched to ensure the sustainability of Baobab. Very exciting! I will report on this project shortly. It is to be officially opened at our 20th anniversary in November. I will announce the date in my next letter. Perhaps some of our long-time supporters would like to take part in it.

But now I want to give a glimpse of our life here in Ghana, accompanied by pictures.

The Baobab School

The school started with classes in January and the students were serious about making up for everything they had missed.

After completing their 6 months of service at Baobab, 6 students received their tools at the end of February and will come later in the year when more students have finished their service to celebrate their „graduation“, hopefully as part of our celebrations for the 20th anniversary of Baobab.



James are given his tools for für Cane & Bamboo.



Solomon are given his tools for carpentry.



Francis is being provided with batic utensils.



Dorcas is overwhelmed when presened with her own sewing machine

Thyphus Tests for all students and employees

Since January we have a new young nurse who has been sent to us by Kissi Health Center and is now really helping us. We didn't have that much luck with our former nurse. All students and staff were tested for thyphus on the initiative and in collaboration with the Kissis Health Center. Our of 120 students 90 were positive and needed treatment. **Again we need to thank share1love for their ever so helpful support.**

Unfortunately, we weren't able to vaccinate them before the holidays, because suddenly we weren't able to reach the person who was going to provide us with the vaccine. Ghana...



Before being tested everyone needs to wash their hands



waiting for their test



Thyphus test in collaboration with the Kissi Health Center

Reading contest with our visitors from Leipzig

Katharina, librarian, and her husband Andre together with their daughter Gerda revied out library together with our teacher Madam Evelyn and organised a reading contest. Thank you!



Reading contest in front of the whole school.



For a student in our Lower Class Stella is an excellent reader.



The students were very concentrated when reading.



The winners of one class.



Veronica wins.



Saying good bye to Katharina, Andre and Gerda. Medase papaapa!

Admitting new students

After admitting 20 new students to our school we now have a total of 88 students, of which 10 are doing their service at the moment and will therefore leave the school in July.



Admitting new students.

Visit of the director of Young State Theatre Bavaria.

Written by Vera Schweinstetter

Following the production „Menschenerde - ein anderer kleiner Prinz“ (“Human earth - Another Little Prince“), the „Menschenerde-Praxis-Projekt“ (“Human Earth Practice Project“) was created in 2018. It deals specifically with the processing of escape stories, the rethinking of integration and our dealings with each other and our planet. A visit to the home of the Little Prince (H. Zahidi from Ghana) was planned for a long time. Because of Covid, the project had to be postponed several times and was now carried out in a concentrated form appropriate to the situation. Ten days of the trip, we were a guest at the Baobab Children Foundation in Kissi, Ghana, which has been targeting street children, school dropouts and young people with physical handicaps from very poor backgrounds for 20 years.

The basic subject are traditional crafts, dance, drama and music, environmental projection, recycling of plastics, use of renewable energies, building with local materials, organic fruit, vegetables and medical plant cultivation - with clear aim of improving the lives of young Ghanaians in the Central Region Area. The products of the school village are also used in the Baobab Guesthouse with a vegetarian restaurant in the nearby town of Cape Coast and can be purchased in the shop.

A wonderful, through and through successful project, to be held in high esteem - an open and radiant oasis, supported and protected by the incredible energy of Edith de Vos and her team every day. In addition to visiting the individual departments and activities of the institution and experiencing the touching reception in the school village, it was a pleasure for us to offer a week of Jeremy-Krauss-Approach (JKA) & Feldenkreis in the newly established Therapy Centre of the school - to get to know each other and possible future integration of the holistic method into the learning and learning process, as well as the living community.

Thank you Vera and Matthias, you were wonderful and positive guests and we all had a lot of fun working with you.



Vera and Matthias our Special Needs students.



Vera shows Frederick how he can treat Daniel.

Letters and packages from Germany

The students are incredibly happy about the post that they received from their german sponsors.



excitement about the letters



Judith is happily reading a letter from her german auntie.

A partnering school has decided to support one of our girls. They send her a videos with questions for their digital school newspaper. Stella answered their questions.

http://www.josefine-online.de/artikel/maerz_2021/stella-interview2.html

Remembering the fire 10 years ago

On March 11th 2021 we held a memorial in front of the burned down and rebuild roundhouses. Witnesses told the current students and staff what happend then and how terrible it was for them. Five houses burned down.



March 11th 2021

Awards for students, who were back at school the first day after the holidays

Since it is still not a matter of course to return to school on time after the holidays, 2 years ago I started to give an award to the students who arrive in time for the new term. This year they were newly printed Baobab T-Shirts. The others have to pay for the t-shirts. Now you have the opportunity to come on time after the holidays.



Award for punctuality

The Presentation - as always the highlight at the end of workshop week (last week of the month)

At the end of workshop week the students present what they were able to make in their workshops during the last week.



Catering Students



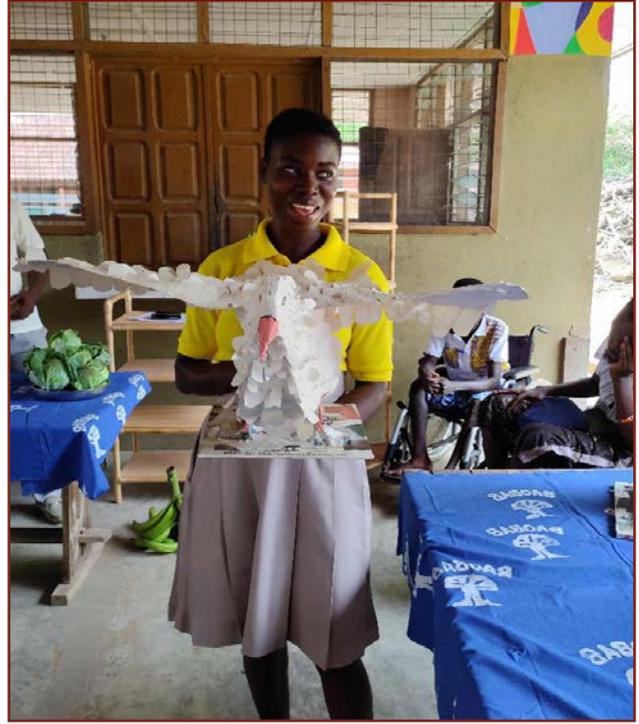
Farm Students



The sewing students have made new school uniforms and outing dresses. The fabric was dyed by the batic department.



Little Edith is now learning how to weave Kente and is very pleased with her work.



Agnes made a beautiful bird out of junk during the art class.



Seyboweis proudly presenting his self-made butterfly



Ema shows us the eagle, which was made by the group.

Products for selling



Fabrics from our batic department



Kente strips from the workshop.



Order for carpentry: A table with fitting chairs



A new table



Order for Cane & Bamboo: Table with chairs.

The Moringa Production

Nelson, a former student, is in charge of the production. A group of students is supporting him.



Sorting the Moringa



Preparation and Cleaning



Nelson closes the dryer and now the leaves can dry in the slat dryer for a few hours.



Drying the Moringa.

We just received a new volunteer

Nele was supposed to come in September 2020 with Weltwärts, now after a long time of waiting she came to Ghana on her own terms and will stay with us for 6 months. Nele hätte schon im September 2020 über Weltwärts kommen sollen, ist aber nun nach langem Warten auf eigene Faust für 6 Monate bei uns. Nele is a trained chef.

AKWAABA NELE

Already on her second day Nele is standing in the kitchen of the Baobab Restaurant.



Ankunft des lange erwarteten Containers

After 5 months our container has finally managed to enter Ghana. **Many thanks to bicycles for Africa.** there was also a converter for our solar system, which will hopefully work now to save electricity costs. **A huge thank you to Marc from Enteria**



Opening the container.



Agnes is helping.



Tailor Isaac protects the sewing machine



Joshua has found a fitting bike for himself and is very happy about it.

WE HELP – THANKS TO YOUR DONATIONS

DONATION ACCOUNT

Good news: The Zukunftsstiftung will be doubling all collective donations this year, drawing a limit at 10.000,- €. Thank you to Dr Massmann and her colleges.

Important: The Zukunftsstiftung has to be informed about the origin of the donation. Beate.Oladeji@gls-treuhand.de

**Zukunftsstiftung Entwicklung
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Please enter the code and your address for the donation receipt!

Thank you to all sponsors and donors, people who are supporting us in the background with advertising our events and projects, who upload the newsletter to our website, translate, order and fill containers and help with all so many things that Baobab needs. We will stay active and are looking optimistic into the future. Medase Papaapa from all students and staff, without you baobab wouldn't be what it is today.

Greetingd from Ghana, Edith de Vos and the Baobab Team



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