

"To look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" James 1:27

# REDEEMED CHILDREN'S SCHOOL REPORT

The Redeemed Children's School (RCS) has been operating for the past 3 years. Within the past three years of operation, it has been a great blessing to the community children and our boys. We can't verbally explain how the RCS impacts children positively with quality Christian education. Our staff has been working hard to provide this quality Christian education with spiritual mentorship and discipleship.

This year, the school has the capacity to host 74 students that occupy five classes, namely classes 1B, 1C, and grades 2, 3, and 4. Grades 1B and 1C have 28 students; grades 2-4 have 17 students. The school has a total of 48 male and 26 female students. The school has three terms that are 12 weeks long and is currently in the second term of the year.

The activities of the school are overseen by the school administrator and a group of three teachers who do multi-tasking activities and take part in the school. We have classes run from Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We praise the Lord that we moved the school to the larger compound due to the increase in the number of students this year.

# INTEGRATION OF FAITH

We integrated the following activities into the Redeemed Children's School.

- 1. Each school day begins with 45 minutes of Bible class with the students.
- 2. The teaching material is integrated with Bible Scriptures that children have to memories.
- 3. Christian songs are taught to the children.
- 4. Each class ends with a prayer led by one of the students every day.

#### INVOLVEMENT OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

The students from a redeemed Christian school fellowship at a nearby church participate in most of its activities, and they are discipled by the church leaders.

## BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

- 1. RCS has instilled Christian values in children from the community.
- 2. The school fees at RCS are very low, which enables vulnerable kids to access education.
- 3. The curriculum has impacted the children in the community's ability to easily read and write.
- 4. Through community development programmes, we share the gospel with the community.

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#### STEPS TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY

The students are required to pay a certain amount of school fees, which helps with the running of school activities. The amount is 25,000 SSP, which is equivalent to about \$10 per child. That alone is not enough to run the school, but it covers some of the expenses.

#### CHALLENGES FACED.

- 1. Limited human resources
- 2. Limited space
- 3. Parents are not active in children's lives.
- 4. The new students were not familiar with the curriculum.
- 5. Language barrier, especially with the new students from the community.
- 6. Some students have been dealing with trauma due to their previous experiences in the streets or community.

# **SOLUTIONS**

- 1. Multi-tasking among teachers to cater for limited human resources.
- 2. The children are limited in their playing, and desks were made to deal with the limited space.
- 3. The teachers assume some of the roles played by parents.
- 4. The students were guided through the new curriculum by the teachers.
- 5. Interpreting information being delivered in Arabic for those who don't understand English.
- 6. Parents and teachers' meetings to address some of the challenges.
- 7. A trauma-informed approach is followed by the teachers when dealing with trauma cases.

### Recommendations

- 1. More funding is needed to bring on board more teachers and enrol more students.
- 2. Acquisition of bigger premises to increase playing space for children, classes, and desks.
- 3. Registration of students before the end of the school year for proper planning.
- 4. Professional development of teachers.
- 5. Integration of trauma healing into school activities.

# Prayer requests

- 1. Growth of the school
- 2. More funding to cater to school needs such as space and teachers.
- 3. God's guidance for the teachers running the school.
- 4. More involvement of parents in children's lives.
- 5. Successful establishment of school-based youth Bible studies.

#### PRAISES:

- 1. The school was successfully registered with the Ministry of Education.
- 2. There was an enrollment of new students from the community, leading to an increase in school size.
- 3. The academic performance of the students has generally improved.
- 4. Setting up of the new school compound.
- 5. Parent engagement through parents' teachers' meetings.
- 6. Two of the older students were taken to a new school to sit for national examination.
- 7. The students have grown in faith.
- 8. New teachers were brought on board.
- 9. Student's good health since there haven't been any serious health-related cases.
- 10. The school acquired school uniforms for the students.

# **TESTIMONIES**

"Most of the community students that came in at the beginning of the year and could not speak English can now speak good English," — says teacher Achuil Wol, the school administrator.

"The students lacked concentration, had difficulties expressing themselves in English, and were generally shy at the beginning of the first term in February. However, since then, their concentration and confidence have greatly improved as a result of what they have learned," — recalls teacher Flora Sobura of class 1B.

"My child Kupe is in Grade 2 and is doing well academically. However, he was not able to access education earlier because I could not afford the high school fees in the local schools," — a parent said at the parent-teacher meetings.







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