

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

CRA Charitable Registration N° 800640062 RR001



KUWALA
Christian Girls School



10 ↗

Major donation funds new classroom block.

A recent follower is sponsoring our second classroom.

02 ↗



International Day of Women & Girls in Science.

Feb. 11th was celebrated by Kuwala students and teachers running science experiments.

03 ↗

African parent testimonial.

Issac M., parent of student Ireen, shares some thoughts about his daughter receiving an education.

04 ↗

Climate and environmental impact during storm Ana.

Learn how Kuwala is mitigating and working to prepare for impacts due to climate change.

05 ↗

Teacher and student profiles.

This month we feature three students profiles and one teacher bio by Shira Bongera.



■ Student demonstrating a procedure for an experiment in Chemistry, Kuwala_2022.

Did you know...

Women and girls represent half of the world's

population and, therefore, also 50% of its potential.

Gender equality, a fundamental human right, is essential to achieve peaceful societies with full human potential and sustainable development. Women accounted for one in three (33%) researchers in 2018. In some cases, they have achieved parity (in numbers) in life sciences in many countries and even dominate this field. However, women remain a minority in digital information technology, computing, physics, mathematics and engineering. These are the fields that are driving the digital revolution and so, many of the jobs of tomorrow.

At Kuwala, the teachers follow the Malawi curriculum for chemistry, biology, and physics. With the donation of computers from Canada and the ARES learning system, the girls at Kuwala enrich their learning with computer applications and navigation. In 2022, your future letter



■ Students using Canadian donated laptops with ARES, Kuwala_2022.

from the girls just may come as a document that they have formatted, typed and uploaded themselves! When you read the girls' bios in the newsletters, they are passionate about science and learning to appreciate the environment and master English.

Source: www.un.org/en/observances/women-and-girls-in-science-day/



Testimonial

I am Issac M. parent of Ireen, who is in Form 1 at Kuwala Christian Girls School. In his own words...



■ Ireen, Form 1, Kuwala_2022

The aim of the **evaluation day** was for the parents to see how the children are behaving academically, socially and spiritually. The teachers welcomed us and were at different tables according to their subjects. As a result, most of the students are doing better according to the results of the mid-term exams. At Kuwala, teachers are doing their job to transform girls into reliable citizens when they graduate. Not only academically, but also the children learn to respect the elders and help the needy around the school villages.

■ Testimonial by parent of Ireen.

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■ Parents are invited to the campus to understand how their daughter is progressing. Kuwala_2022.



■ When the rainy season comes it pours, storm Ana damaged the country's power grid. Kuwala is wet, but good drainage is helping divert water away from critical infrastructure. Kuwala_2022.

Climate and environmental impact during storm Ana.

Tropical Storm Ana had a devastating impact in Malawi. The country lost 30% of its electricity from the National Grid.

During the power outages, the girls miss their study time in the evenings because there is no electricity for lights. Students and staff have to manually fetch water in buckets from the school's water supply to prepare meals, clean and bathe. Teachers had challenges preparing for mid-term exams. Although the storm did not cause physical damage at the school, Kuwala felt the impact. Continuing rains have washed away roads just outside the campus, making travel difficult.

Kuwala has been working to prepare for impacts due to climate change and actively increasing its resilience. The school has accumulated and can store enough maize for a sustainable period. The greenhouse, outdoor garden and orchard provide a sustainable source of nutritious food for the school, fertilized with on-site composting. The seasonal planting of tree and shrubs provide surface cover to the land and shelter from the heat and wind. The grading of the land improves drainage. A committee has been formed to assess the practical steps to increase resiliency to climate change events like storm Ana.



■ Floodwaters sliced through a road in Malawi near the Kuwala Campus during the powerful storm Ana. (Gerald Nthala/Reuters)

Resources and extra reading on Tropical Storm Ana on Malawi.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/01/28/storm-ana-deaths-malawi-madagascar-mozambique/>



Teacher, Shira Bongera lending her green thumb to plant trees in the community as part of Kuwala's Outreach Program. Kuwala_2022.

Meet the teacher

Shira Bongera, in her own words...

I am a Christian who teaches Agriculture, Chemistry, Physics and Lifeskills. In addition, I teach Netball. Growing up in Lilongwe, I attended secondary school and obtained my bachelor's degree in fisheries and aquatic sciences at Mzuzu University. I am happy to work at Kuwala because students and teachers interact well. The working conditions are good. Many of the students have potential and have adapted to Kuwala's discipline. They have talent and are focused on achieving their desired goals. The students indeed have a hard-working spirit, spiritual background and willingness to change for a better future. Yes, I see most students making it here to achieve their goals and positively impact their community.



Teacher, Shira Bongera in her happy place. Subject: Climate Change. Kuwala_2022.

Mid-terms are around the corner



■ Students in the library studying for mid-terms, Kuwala_2022.

Studying is hard

This month the students were writing mid-term exams in all 13 subjects. These exams gauge how they are performing and prepare them for what they need to do for final exams at the end of the term. The subject teachers prepare the exams following the national standard, and an examination officer checks them before production and administration. The exam has a maximum grade of 100 marks, and the passing grade is 60%. Parents, guardians, and students were invited to review their results and discuss student performance on evaluation day.

February is "I Love to Read Month," and all the girls at Kuwala enjoy reading. The school library contains books that can help them practice their English language skills, grammar, and conversation. The more they read and participate in debate and drama club, the more advanced they are in English. As a result, English comprehension will be the highest weighted test subject on the National Exam.



Lucy



Meet Lucy, a Form 4 in her last year at Kuwala. In her own words...

I have two sisters, and I am the first girl to attend secondary school. I wanted to go to secondary school because I have a goal of going to University and achieving my dream of being a doctor and owning a clinic. I was so glad to be accepted at Kuwala. My family was excited and proud because they knew I wanted a girl's boarding school. I help my siblings to speak English. My favourite subject is science, especially understanding chemical reactions and electrical current connections in Physics. I also enjoy computer skills. Apart from learning, I also like study circles because it helps me gather information from my friends, have better knowledge and confidence, and express my views. Furthermore, I enjoy reading novels, which allow me to have a good vocabulary and think deeper as some stories are puzzling.

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■ Lucy, Kuwala Form 4.



Elize

Meet Elize, a Form 4 in her last year at Kuwala. In her own words...

I have three sisters, and I am the first in my family and my village to go to a girls' school. I want to go to University, and in the future, I would like to be an accountant and own a small business. I enjoy Math and English, and computer practicals. In addition, I enjoy reading books, telling stories, playing football and dancing. I am motivating my siblings to be like me.

 Elize, Kuwala Form 4.

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Tadala

In her own words... I have a brother and three sisters. I want to go to University to become a nurse, which will make my future bright.

I was so excited to go to Kuwala because I know that Kuwala is an excellent school, and my family is also happy because they believed I would change my family. I helped my family with my education, and they did not pay for a school uniform as I received it for free. I enjoy science projects, delicious food, using flush toilets and showers for the first time, and sleeping on a good bed. I enjoy storytelling because it helps me improve my vocabulary and helps improve listening skills as it gives moral lessons. Study circles help me gain more knowledge as we discuss in groups and share about school. I also enjoy singing, dancing, reading novels, playing football, watching movies and praying.

■ Tadala, Kuwala Form 4.

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Building Futures Construction progress

■ This is the brick construction of the vestibule. First classroom block built with steel window frames and commercial grade construction. Kuwala_2021

A generous donor gifted funds to build Kuwala's second classroom block.

A recent follower of our Kuwala program has committed to sponsoring one of our next critical components / our second classroom. With the growing student body currently using both the first classroom building and temporarily using the St. Peter's Assembly Hall for classes, this second classroom block with three new classrooms will be a tremendous support for ongoing education. We expect the construction to be completed in six months.

Excitement for the classroom construction is even at the local level where there will be added employment opportunities for the surrounding villages. **The images on this page show the first classroom block** that was built a few years ago. The funded second classroom block will be the same quality of construction as the first. These buildings are built to last, and have metal roofs to shed water during the rainy season. A vestibule runs the length of the building providing shade and protection from the elements keeping the classroom cool and dry. Large windows provide ample diffused light during class time.

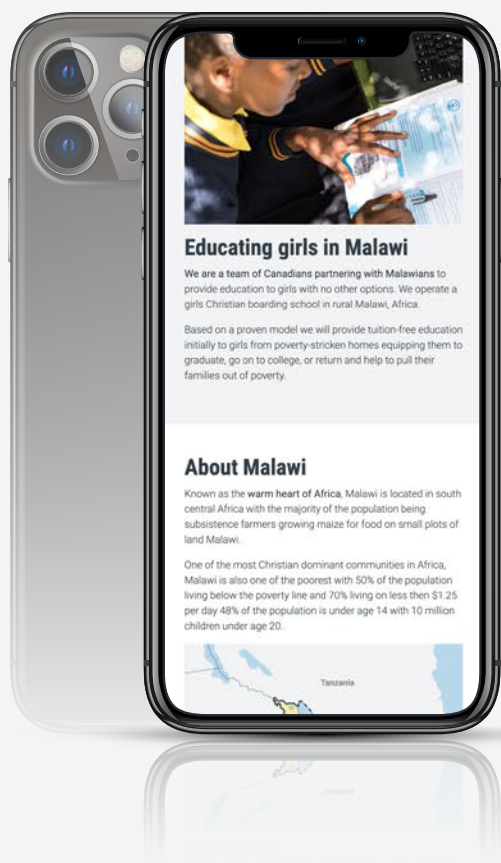


■ Classroom block N°1. Kuwala_2021.



■ One of three classrooms in the first Classroom block. Kuwala_2021

Would you consider adopting **Kuwala** as your **international outreach** charity?



Are you a member of a sports team or a church youth group?

Are you planning a golf tournament, or are you a Church congregation looking for an International Mission? Please consider Kuwala if you are planning an event. Becoming a partner in fundraising to support an all girl's school in Africa makes a measurable difference in the students' lives when there is no other option for education.

We would be happy to have a discussion.

Check out our website at Kuwala.org or connect with us at info@kuwala.org

To help with our fundraising Kuwala has a website with a call to action for donations using Canada Helps.



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