



The
ROTOM
School ★ ★ ★



Team Lead's Report

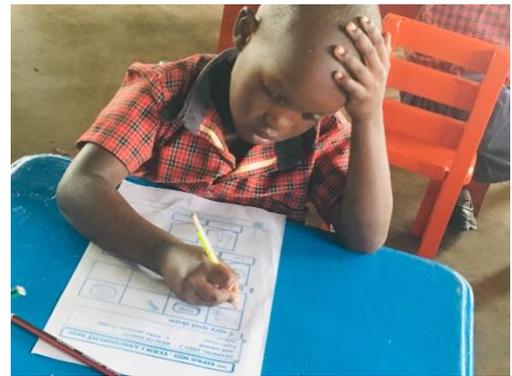
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“The ROTOM School exists to nurture children into responsible, creative, and dignified leaders through value-based education”

INTRODUCTION:

The 1st day of school will always be the day when the countdown to the last day of school begins. Monday 3rd February 2020 marked the beginning of an exciting year and a beginning of the 1st term of 2020 at The ROTOM School. Both the teachers and the students could not wait to meet and focus on what the year had in store for them.



“Great teachers empathise with children, respect them, and believe that each one has something special that can be built upon.” Ann Lieberman.

Focusing on our 1st core value “Character”, the team prepared to inculcate the different strategic objectives in everything we plan to do in the lives of the students, to continue nurturing them into responsible, creative and dignified leaders.

On Friday 20th March 2020, the school and its operations had to close due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ROTOM School team devised creative means to continue learning.

1. To educate and train learners into knowledgeable, skilled and innovative members of society

- 4 teachers were appraised. It was a first-time experience for all of them. It was helpful in the provision of useful and productive feedback that is going to be important in the career growth of the teachers. It will also help us to ensure that effective learning is being imparted on the students.
- 1 new teacher, Ms. Evan Musenero, joined the school in charge of Baby Class.
- 1 new security guard, Mr. Stephen Ochieng, was able to join the school to support us in protecting the Students, the teachers, support staff and the entire facility.
- 5 teachers received a mini-training on how to prepare schemes of work and lesson plans, and how to set a highly conducive classroom environment that suits today's learner
- 30 Students chairs and 5 student tables were refurbished and prepared for use
- 20 new student's desks, 3 student tables, 12 new student chairs, 5 new teacher's chairs and 5 new teacher's tables were donated to the school
- Scholastic materials for the 60 students and teaching aids for the 5 teachers were procured
- 2 Students in one family were blessed with groceries, scholastic materials and clothing to support their learning. These were Ugandan friends that support the ROTOM Ministry towards grandchildren.



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- 1 German friend that supports one of the students was able to bless the child and her family with groceries to support feeding and sanitation
 - The new classroom block was wired, plastered, cemented and prepared for a highly effective learning environment
- 5 teachers were able to submit their Schemes of work and lesson plans in time
- 15 new students were registered; 8 girls

and 7 boys.

- 60 students {15 new and 45 continuing} reported to school on the 1st day
- Friends from New Jersey, USA visited the school and offered some support in learning for both the students and the teachers
- 2 girls received a bed frame each, a mosquito net, a pillow, a towel and a set of hangers from friends in the US. Their sleeping conditions have further improved.
- The 15 new students were able to receive a set of school uniform each. This included a pair of shoes and a pair of socks. The Uniforms were a special gift from friends in Canada
- All the 28 boys were able to receive school belts. These belts were also a special gift from the friends in Canada
- 60 children were able to receive their daily morning tea with a snack, mid- morning porridge with a bun and afternoon fruit at the end of school
- 5 teachers and 2 support staff were able to have a meal every day
- 60 students were taught and able to learn and grasp concepts in mathematics, English, their environment, health habits, character traits and their new school motto



- 60 students were assessed in the middle of the term.
- 6 students in Primary 1 were able to access the School Library and borrow a book every Friday. The Students reading has greatly improved.
- 60 students have been able to receive Holiday Homework packages/assignments. The assignments are delivered to the school by the ROTOM Land Cruiser as it drops or

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picks the seniors that need medical attention. A volunteer picks the 60 different packages and delivers them to each child by boda-boda {Motor Cycle} or bicycle. The volunteers will then visit each child and support them where need be and later collect the completed assignments, which are then returned to the teachers in their homes for assessing.



➤ During the lockdown, the 5 teachers have continued to receive in-service training. This was a great opportunity to enhance the teacher’s professionalism so that they can ably contribute towards the school and organisation to achieve her goals. They have been able to do the following:

✓ Study different Bible passages and share learnings meant for the student and for the teacher. This has helped them grow spiritually.

- ✓ Discuss through phone text messages on how to engage the students more in learning and using the English language. Plans have been made to ensure that the Students are able to speak a few sentences in English and understand given commands by the end of the year
- ✓ Share lessons learnt for the students and teachers during the lockdown and the good things that we can pick and run with post COVID



2. To carry out extracurricular activities that enhance the learner’s talents and life skills.

- 6 students were able to communicate to their friends through letter writing. 1 was able to receive a letter from her friend.
- The 15 new students were able to receive a toothbrush and were able to learn how to clean their teeth to avoid tooth decay.



➤ The 2020 Discipleship Program was successfully introduced. The teachers were able to teach the following according to the set program:

- ✓ 3 memory verses
- ✓ 2 Hymns
- ✓ 12 Bible lessons
- ✓ 6 Bible songs
- ✓ 3 Prayers

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- All the 65 students are now able to sing 6 Bible Songs, 2 Hymns in their local language, recite 3 memory verses, say the school morning prayer, the prayer before meals and a prayer at the end of the school day.
- 60 children were involved in Physical Fitness exercises once a week every Wednesday
- The 15 new students were able to receive Sports Uniform and a pair of sports shoes

- 60 Children were able to receive some training in 2 cultural dances: Buganda Cultural Dance and the Acholi Cultural Dance
- 16 children and 1 teacher were able to access proper medical treatment at The ROTOM Health centre in Mukono. 7 were treated for Malaria, 6 for respiratory infections, 1 for Urinary Tract Infection and 1 for Typhoid fever. 8 were in patients and 8 were out patients.
- 60 students were able to receive 2 bars of washing soap each. One was at the onset of the pandemic, and the 2nd in the month of April.
- 60 students received training in how to wash their hands well to avoid the spread of the Corona Virus.
- We have had enough supply of water to maintain our hygiene and sanitation at school. 1 student was able to receive a bath 1st thing in the morning, and also have her school uniform washed. Her Jajja was not able to make sure that she was clean at that time.
- 2 volunteers equipped with masks and hand sanitizers have been able to visit the 60 children during the lockdown to ensure that the students are staying home and that they have enough food to eat, enough soap to sanitize and enough water to support both activities.



3. To enhance community engagement for increased participation and ownership

- 50% of the caregivers were able to contribute towards the support of one teacher.
- 15 students were able to contribute exercise books and pencils to support their learning.
- 60% of the Students were able to contribute cooking fuel {firewood} to support the children and teachers feeding
- 30% of the students were able to contribute food, fruits and vegetables for the students and teacher meals at school. Good cooperation from the caregivers.

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4. To enhance the resource mobilization capacity and sustainability and enhance the institutional capacity of the School

- 12 students are now being supported by friends from Uganda, Canada, Germany and USA
- 6 students had their updates worked on and have been sent to their friends.
- The 6 students supported by their Canadian friends have received support for warm clothing
- Friends from Canada have been able to bless the school by electrical cables the new classroom building.
- Friends from Canada were able to bless the students with toothbrushes and toothpaste in support of maintaining oral hygiene
- 1 Student was able to join the school as a paying student. This will enable us to learn ways in which paying students can be accommodated to contribute to the sustainability of the school
- Eucalyptus tree have been planted on the school land that is yet to be used
- The teachers were able to receive teacher support from friends from Australia and USA. This has encouraged 2 teachers to apply for in-service courses in Early Child Development. They will be able to start as soon as the lockdown is lifted. They will study during the holidays when children are home.
- Support Funds for this quarter from friends in Uganda, Canada, USA, Germany towards the running of the school, meeting the student's needs, equipping the classrooms and completion of the school building have been received.
- The School Management Committee has held 2 meetings, one held online using UberConference. They have been able to monitor the working of the school especially during the lockdown. They have been able to recommend some of the schools' development plans. They have come up with some solutions that can support the learners and the teachers to stay safe, motivated and encouraged, and well informed during the lockdown season.



Lessons learnt from the current lockdown

1. Students can learn from home with support from their siblings and village volunteers
2. Teachers can remain effective by preparing assignments and grading them
3. Teachers are able to find time to read and become more equipped for service

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4. Students get enough time to play, rest and to learn other skills from their caregivers that will lead them into more responsible and creative leaders
5. The students have an opportunity to share the lessons learnt at schools
6. The students receive more and effective home visits
7. Stronger relations are built between the caregivers and the students
8. Home-schooling is less stressful and more cost effective

Challenges:

1. The rainy weather has continued to have negative effects on the students. Each morning it rained, the children arrived totally soaked and very late.
2. On rainy days, it is difficult for the volunteers to deliver the assignments/packages because of the slippery and muddy roads
3. The teachers are sending reports through text messages due to lack of computers and internet..
4. The lockdown is causing some stress among the caregivers and the students. This has led to some levels of emotional and physical abuse.
5. It is difficult to follow up on abuse cases because the students are not in contact with their teachers that can easily tell if a child is not happy.

2nd Quarter 2020 Goals

1. Pray that the crisis comes to an end
2. Work on the windows and painting new classroom block
3. Prepare, send and receive assignments to and from the students
4. Support the teachers in their learning and reporting
5. Support the village volunteers acquire some knowledge on how to identify child abuse cases
6. Complete and submit Child Profiles
7. Support the volunteer to carry out effective home visits to ensure that effective learning and development is taking place
8. Prepare the 2nd Term Discipleship Program
9. Plan for a Sports Event (if COVID-subsides and allowed to congregate).
10. Prepare Student assessments

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