

MASUKU CBCC CONSTRUCTION

Update April 2021



We are glad to see that the COVID-19 pandemic in Malawi has been calming down again. Since the second lockdown in January 2021, schools were opened again in February and have been running ever since.

Masuku Childcare Centre was officially opened on 30th March 2021 and the children are enjoying the new learning environment.



The school block with the two classrooms, an office and a store room, a toilet block with toilets for staff and children (boys/girls), a kitchen block and a wall has already been completed in September 2020.





The outside of the school has been decorated with educational messages for the community (encouraging good health and hygiene practises, NO to domestic violence, child spacing...)



Above united children around the globe with the following quote:

***"I can do things you cannot,
you can do things I cannot;
together we can do great things."***

Mother Teresa

The classrooms are spacious and well lighted. Each class contains a storage cupboard, a teacher's desk, a



teacher's blackboard, fours small children's blackboards (in the corners) and a blank area for displaying charts.

The remaining wall space is decorated with curriculum relevant pictures and teaching aids.





On the left the toilet block with a girl's, boy's and teacher's section and a hand washing facility.

The kitchen block contains a locally built rocket stove which uses less fire wood to cook.

Every day four parents are coming to prepare the daily meal for the children.



The staff office is well equipped with a meeting / working desk and shelves.

There is space to add further shelving if resources are growing or the community decides to also develop a library section for the general public.



The play ground has different playing equipment, such as a slide, swings, a seesaw, a sand pit and playing space.

Grass and hedges are planted during this rainy season.



Due to the pandemic and heavy rains during February, the official opening of the school was postponed to End of March 2021.

It was a successful ceremony with the local MP, representatives from the Social Welfare Department and Partner-NGOs, the community stakeholders, parents representatives as well as the Tiyende Pamodzi CBO and boNGO. The children and teachers of Masuku Childcare Centre presented example lessons providing an insight into how their teaching and caring differs from other community pre-schools around Malawi.



The schools are following the Maria Montessori Philosophy and are integrating aspects of its Methodology.

Farida Abdullah, boNGO Early Childhood Education Officer, and Justin Namizinga, boNGO Project Director, are working hand in hand, supervising the schools and providing continuous training for the teachers and school committee.

All participants appreciated the beautiful development. Speeches from the various representatives expressed how grateful they are for this school and what a great potential it is for the children and the community as a whole. Parents were encouraged to consistently send their children and help where needed, the community and local leaders pledged to support and look after this beautiful school.



Outstanding is the construction of the borehole: After the initial successful site survey, the drilling machine failed to reach the project site due to the difficult road. We agreed that the drilling and installation of the borehole will be postponed to August / September 2021, since it is recommended to drill during dry season ensuring that ground water levels are at their lowest.

Until then, the road will be maintained by the community and the initial contractor is securing another more appropriate drilling machine suitable for this rural area.



The participants of the opening ceremony in front of the school. Following a few quotes of thanks:

“Hardly any NGO is willing to support us, as we are very far from the main road. We are so grateful that now even our children can learn like children in town.” (parent)

“We are thanking boNGO and Tiyende Pamodzi for their great co-operation, they have been working hand in hand, involving us stakeholders when ever needed. We are here to support this development. ” (Village Headman)

“This school provides a beautiful environment for learning and will allow children to set a good foundation and advance in their educational opportunities. I am proud for this development to be in my constituency. ” (MP)

**We are thanking Symphasis for the sponsoring of this beautiful project
and are looking forward to witnessing the many benefits it holds
for the children and community of Kantimbanya village.**

boNGO - based on Need-driven Grassroots Ownership

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