



Below you will find a summary of our journey to Uganda in October 2015.



It was great to meet up with Phionah again. By now she is 20 years old and the oldest of “Joanne’s kids in Uganda”. Last summer she finished her professional training in “Early Childhood” and is now working as a class assistant in a middle nursery school. She is doing well there.

We have talked about her future: In January she will start an education as a primary school teacher. She will take this education in the evening hours since she will be continuing working at her school during the day.

We are really proud of her that she could finish her secondary school and her professional training with such great results.

We started our visit with a visit to Apollo & Innocent. We put big smiles on the kid’s faces when they saw the toys we had brought.

Together we talked about the past year and also made plans for the new one. It’s always great to work with both of them.



It was also great to see that eight kids from the neighbourhood were eating with us since they would not get a warm meal at home.

Today we bought a lot of nice children’s books for ‘Joanne’s library’. We also signed the contracts for the health insurance at ‘Save for Health Uganda’ for another year. And we signed new contracts for baby Daniel and Owen as well.





We went to see Jennifer and baby Daniel. Jennifer was really happy about the clothes we brought for Daniel. The little man looked great.



We went the village of Mateete to meet Jovia. With her income from her little shop she has bought some land where she wants to build a small house some day.

For now she is growing vegetables there, which she will be selling in her shop. This way she can earn money to help her pay for her new house.



After that we went to the “Little Star” school where we were warmly welcomed. The students danced and the director made a speech for us. He expressed his gratitude to all Dutch sponsors who helped renew his school: installing new floors, buying schooldesks, blackboards and installing their own water system.



Also some of the parents brought gifts to say thank you: they brought baskets full of eggs and even two (live) chickens. We felt uncomfortable about it but not accepting the presents would have been unkind. Later we gave the items to Jovia, Apollo and Henry.

For all kids they had a feast: matoke with goat meat. The director talked with us about his future plans and we were thrilled by his enthusiasm. All together it's been a great day.



We joined the visiting day at Hope School, where Brenda, Joanitah and Jireh are. It was great to see the three sisters again. It was also nice to be able to take part in this event this time.

The visiting day is for the boarding students. Parents come to visit the children and bring them tasty food.

We had enough time to talk to all the teachers.



For the three girls it was also great to see their little brother Daniel again.



We also spent a day at the community of Ndegeya and got to meet some interesting people. First Owen, the boy with Down Syndrome we told you about earlier. He is a gorgeous little man and we are so happy that he is now accepted and able to go to school.

We also met Godfrey, a nice 13 year old boy with a serious handicap. Both his lower legs are missing so he walks on his knees. He is from a very poor family, all together seven kids who all sleep on the floor since they do not have mattresses. We hope we can help Godfrey with a wheel chair and maybe buy mattresses for his family.



We were also very impressed by meeting Cecilia, a very old woman who has nobody to care for her. Her health is in a really bad condition. Some time ago Apollo was able to buy her a mattress and a blanket. He also visits her twice a week to bring her food and firewood. Apollo and his wife help her with cleaning the house and doing the laundry. Cecilia would need daily support and we hope we can find a solution for her too.

It's been an impressive day which we ended up with a balloon festival with the kids.





The day before we had to leave Uganda again we talked in detail with Apollo about all the plans and wishes for the upcoming year. We also checked all the finances. I'm always fascinated how exact and detailed Apollo is looking after the book-keeping.

On our way to the airport in Entebbe we stopped at our favourite shop to buy some souvenirs. We hope to sell them at home.

By now we are back home in our country and we are looking back on a great time we had in Uganda. We were glad to see that the kids are doing so well and that we were able to realise so many of the plans we had.

We will continue working enthusiastically on making our new dreams and wishes come true.

Thank you all so much for your support and your positive reactions to our reports.

For more information you can always contact us: send an e-mail to info@joannefoundation.nl