



**DREAM BIG**  
MONTESSORI SCHOOL



## NEWSLETTER - Winter 2015

It's been a very busy year full of growth and challenges at the Dream Big Montessori School in Fumagila Village in Tanzania, East Africa – located close to Lake Victoria and the amazing Serengeti National Park!

As our school enters its third year of operation more classrooms are needed to accommodate our promoted students and growing school population of children eager to continue their learning.

**tugo** is our 2015 new **Platinum Level sponsor!** And together with all our wonderful supporters, donors and sponsors we are so grateful to share our biggest news - the completion of our brand new wing of classrooms! Thank you, thank you everyone for your amazing generosity and help!! Sponsor dedication stars are being handpainted with the names of all those who helped to make this school expansion a reality for these children – now so proud to be reading and writing! These stars will join stars from our previous campaign and travel half way around the world to become a permanent part of the new classroom walls. This tremendous achievement was accomplished with generous help and donations from both sides of the Atlantic both Canada and England.

In other news three experienced teachers have rotated in to teach our students from the Mwanza city Montessori School, trained by Sister Denise Mattle from Switzerland who keeps the Dream Big Montessori School navigating through its challenges and moving forward – no easy feat!

Two generous local businessmen have donated lovely tiles for our new classroom floors as well as fencing to surround our now 5 acre campus – a necessary part of every school here. Two iron gates complete our new fencing.

Looking forward...our immediate focus now is on finally acquiring a much needed 45 seater school bus, with some of our students walking hours each day back and forth to attend school. An Indiegogo campaign this year succeeded in raising \$5,000 towards the \$20,000 needed – so it's not too late to contribute to help reach this next goal. It's easy! Go to [www.afretch.org](http://www.afretch.org), click on CanadaHelps and Tujifunze Project if you would like to chip in.

On the horizon our longterm goal is to add five more classrooms to complete our Elementary school from Nursery intake level through Grade Seven so our students can study with us uninterrupted right through to High School in this idyllic rural school set in this picturesque African valley. We need to keep growing to keep in step as our students grow – so plenty more work to be done! Stay tuned for Skoolaid 2016 and be sure to visit and LIKE us on FACEBOOK! Thanks to Donn and Bonnie at Afretch Aid Society, our BC partnering registered charity for your continuing help and financial and tax accounting. Now look what your donations have helped to create....

### Before...

here is the Dream Big Montessori School classroom extension in 2014...





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**After...** and here it is by August 2015 with floors, roof, doors, windows and interior completed and class in session.



Exterior of new finished classrooms



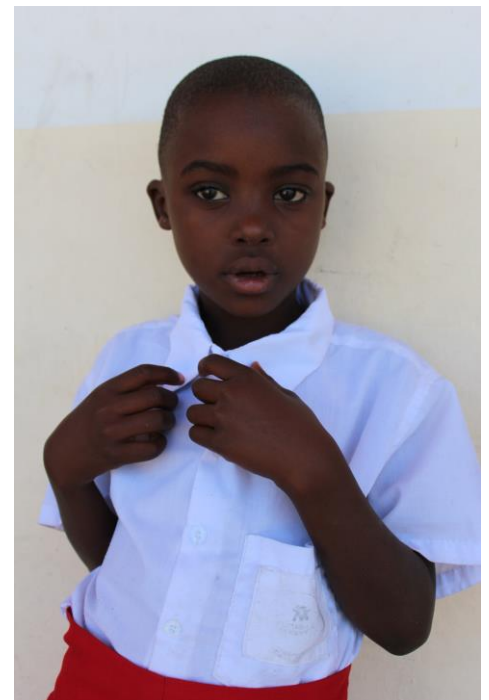
Year 3 students in new classrooms

Tugo's social responsibility team voted unanimously to get behind this project to ensure these new classrooms were completed!  
Thanks Tugo!



Reading and writing at school

Cool kid power!  
Ethan McNamara of Vancouver, Canada raised funds through his Bar Mitzvah to help pay for student desks and chairs.



Meet some of the Dream Big Montessori students proudly wearing their red and white Canada inspired school uniforms



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Most of this year's funding came from generous support made by you at the 7th annual music and silent auction



Featuring:

*Still Living at Home*



**A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**



Platinum Level



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Silver Level



Bronze Level



Many thanks to all our sponsors and everyone who attended our annual Skoolaid music event from Sister Denise Mattle, Susan Bibbings, the teachers and most of all from the children learning at the Dream Big Montessori School!

That's 'Asante sana' in Swahili

