



———— THE DONKEY ————



When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born;

With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.

The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.

Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.

G. K. Chesterton





PRAYERS REQUESTED

For the repose of the soul of William de Klerk who passed away on 7th April 2017 in Cape Town, South Africa. William is a brother to Br Michael de Klerk.

EDMUND RICE SINON SECONDARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES THE 10TH FORM 6 GRADUATION



Graduands singing a song of farewell

The 7th of April 2017 was a remarkable day at Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School. The day was blessed with sunshine in the afternoon following upon heavy rains in morning. The morning rains were a threat since the function was to take place in an open space! God answered our prayers. The rains stopped and sunshine prevailed the whole day.



Parents having lunch with their children in the school lawns

The 254 graduands were all filled with noticeable excitement - cheers and ululations were heard all over the school grounds. The staff,





parents, students, community, and guests took part in the celebrations. The guest of honour was Fr. Benedicte Kashe, the Parish Priest of Njiro. (*Fr. Kashe was representing the Catholic Archbishop of Arusha who was unable to come due to other ministerial activities.*) Fr. Kashe spent the whole day at Edmund Rice. The function began with Holy Mass in which Fr. Kashe used the symbols of salt and light to address the graduands. He urged them to use their education to uplift the society just as salt uplifts the flavor of food thereby making it tasty. He also used the symbol of light to encourage graduands to use their education to illuminate wherever they find themselves, so as to give light to the whole world.



A good taekwondo kick!!!

Br. George Massay, a representative of the East Africa District Leader, was also present. In his speech, he thanked the parents, the graduands and the community, first for choosing Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School and also thanked the staff for cooperating with the Brothers in providing quality education to the graduands. He gave a brief history of the Brothers at Edmund Rice and their enormous contribution since then. He emphasized on the Christian Brothers commitment in serving the needy, because it is through them that we encounter the face of Christ.

Br. Simon Kaswahili

———— VISITORS TO BROTHER BEAUSANG ————

Last week the school played host to a number of visiting groups who travelled to the school from Ireland, Australia and Karen!





Donating sports tops to the Primary School

From Ireland: We welcomed a group of 12 students and three teachers from Colaiste Eamann Ris (CBS) located in Callan, Ireland. This was the first immersion group visit from this CBS school and the first school group to visit Beausang since 2014, due to security issues in Kenya. Callan (in County Kilkenny) is the birthplace of Edmund Rice so this fact added to the significance of the visit.

The group arrived on a Friday evening so had the advantage of having the weekend to acclimatize to their new environment. Five 2016 Form 4 students from Beausang acted as “tour guides” for the weekend, taking the visitors on walks through Embulbul and Ngong , as well as accompanying the group when they took the tourist trip to Bomas of Kenya and then KFC at The Hub!

At school the group spent most of their time in primary classes (the secondary classes were doing end of term exams); went on home visits; attended the weekly school Mass; assisted the primary dancers with their Irish dance for the national music festival; helped in the school kitchen and ran a rugby clinic for some aspiring secondary rugby players, as well as displaying their skills in the Irish game of hurling



Farewell time





The visitors bought with them donations from the school community, including a full set of football tops and socks, training tops, children's clothes, baby clothes and some sporting equipment--all of which will be put to very good use in the school and parish. These were presented at a special assembly.

The group also visited Ruben Centre ,which gave them another experience of what is happening here in East Africa. Their final few days were spent at Amboseli National Park looking for the "Big 5" before saying farewell to the Brothers in the Embulbul community who hosted the group in "Bernie's Bungalow".

From Australia: Also spending time in the school during the week was a group of teachers visiting from EREA schools in Australia, led by Brian Garrone. The group attended Mass; went on home visits; spent time in the primary classes and were entertained by the Primary Arts and Music artists which featured Irish, Scottish, Indian and Buganda dances and a performance by two talented rappers from Class 1!

From Karen: On Friday a third group of visitors made the much shorter travel to Embulbul: a group of some seventy pupils, parents and staff from LaSalle Primary School in Karen visited to make a presentation of food and clothing through our Pastoral Care to some fifty needy families in the primary school. A highlight was the different musical presentations from both schools, which showcased the talent of the children. The donations came from the LaSalle parents and pupils and the visit hopefully marks the beginning of a close relationship between the two schools. Planning is underway for our reciprocal visit in Term 2. "Carpe diem"!

**Mr Peter Shanahan
Principal**

———— MY TIME AS A VOLUNTEER IN NAIROBI, KENYA ————

As my time in Kenya comes to an end, I reflect back on my time over the past two months. I spent my first month at The Ruben Centre where I was amazed every day at how many different projects and initiatives are running through the one site. I spent my time helping in the occupational therapy department and assisting in the special needs classroom. I learnt so many new techniques from Juliet (Occupational Therapist) for providing therapy to small children and babies and I was glad to be able to share with her some exercise and rehabilitation techniques. I was amazed by the skills I witnessed in the gymnastics sessions and I thoroughly enjoyed exposing some of the special needs kids to simple activities like forwards summersaults.





Claire taking her turn to cook ugali

The second month of my stay, I spent assisting at Mary Rice Centre working closely with Ester (Occupational Therapist) providing therapy to children on a daily basis and learning about special needs education. I feel so privileged to have been at Mary Rice for the launch of the Strategic Plan. It was wonderful to be a part of such a special day and I was glad to be able assist in the preparation. Mary Rice was like a big family and I will especially miss seeing the smiling faces of the children at Mary Rice. They are truly some of the happiest kids I have ever met.

The Christian Brothers in Kenya have been beyond hospitable and I am so grateful for being welcomed to social gatherings of the brothers. In particular, I am grateful for the experience of living in the Otiende community. I keep saying to everyone I will be back. **I really do mean it.** I have loved every minute and hope I do return. Until next time, Kenya!!

Ms Claire Samanna

EDMUND RICE KARIBU CAMPS

It looked so dull that morning that we feared for the success of the day. Seeing the first leaders streaming in, followed by the first group of children, fired us up for the day. We ended up with 75 children and 28 leaders, all of whom defied the bad weather to come and share the fun of the day.



Camp leaders and children

At 9 am the business for the day was officially started and the whole day was ablaze. Children were seen to jump, run up and down and they couldn't resist the laughter that came so naturally. In the afternoon, there were group interaction sessions between leaders and children and an





opportunity to prepare for presentations that would be performed for the other groups. Thanks to the camp coach of the day, Denis Ochieng, for the good theme selected for the day - Community Inclusivity. During the presentations it was observed that children have different gifts that, if tapped, can lead to a career.

By way of summary: when the children were asked to comment on their experience of the day, one said,

It was so nice. I wish to come again. I also want to thank the leaders for their guidance and commitment to seeing us play games easily. We enjoyed all games.

It was a really nice way to usher in Palm Sunday. The spirit of Edmund was truly alive.

Mr John Muisyo
ERKG- Camp Coordinator.

———— FAREWELL CEREMONY FOR BR. SILVERIO ————



Br Silverio cutting a cake with his father

Monday 4th of April 2017 is a day that will remain in the hearts of the EFL family who all gathered to say farewell to Br. Silverio who had worked in the programme for the past three years. The day began with ululations, dance and song as each member waited eagerly for his arrival. It was evident that all had come to terms with his departure and all they wanted was to give him a warm colorful send off. The event started with Mass, which was Silverio's wish as his way of bidding EFL Family good-bye. What was amazing was the way inter denominational choir sang the catholic songs comfortably and all danced to the tune.

Then followed the cutting of the cake which had been beautifully labeled with red ribbons signifying the work of HIV/AIDS that Silverio did in EFL. The beneficiaries shouted "kata kata; (cut, cut) as Silverio assisted by his father cut the cake and fed the crowd as a sign of togetherness. Thereafter the choir sang entertainment songs as members awarded him with various gifts.

The affirmation messages from various speakers show cased the impact that Silverio had made in EFL. In his parting remarks Silverio





expressed how he enjoyed his time in EFL, and how the ministry had transformed his life promising to keep in touch and always remember the EFL family in prayer.

We, in EFL thank Br. Silverio for his input and time in EFL and wish him all the best in his new ministry.

Ms JUDY AKAMA

———— **BROTHER BEAUSANG CATHOLIC EDUCATION CENTRE-
FEAST OF BLESSED EDMUND RICE MASS AND**

“BUS HARAMBEE” ————

Brother Beausang school will be celebrating the feast of Blessed Edmund Rice on Friday May 5th with a special Mass at 9.00 a.m. at Embulbul Catholic Church. Bishop John Oballa the Bishop of Ngong Diocese will be the celebrant.

Following Mass there will be a blessing of “Eddie’s Workshop”, the school’s recently completed trade building.

A Harambee to raise funds towards the school acquiring its own bus will then commence at 11.00 a.m.

All members of the wider Edmund Rice family are invited to attend all or part of the day. Lunch and entertainment will be part of the Harambee.

RSVP to Br. Sunday Constantine – 0700 447 844

Mr Peter Shanahan

Principal

———— **RE-MATCH WITH ERKG** ————

Another football match between “the Brothers” and the ERKG youth is planned for the afternoon of MONDAY, APRIL 17 – i.e. immediately after the assembly concludes.

VENUE - the old Regina Pacis field in Otiende;

KICK-OFF at 3 pm.

All Brothers are invited to participate in the game – either by playing or cheering the team.

BIRTHDAYS

APRIL	11	NICHOLAS MUTISO (Senanga, Zambia)
	15	ALPHAS ODOYO (Second year Novice – Lusaka)





- 17 DOMINIC MWANIA (Limulunga, Zambia)
18 JULIAS OLUOCH (Shams)

CALENDAR

April 13-17	District Assembly – Mary Ward
April 18	Community Leaders Meeting
April 20	Departure of OP group to India
May 2-7	Mission Capacity Support Team Meeting
May 15-16	Formation Committee Meeting
May 15-19	PLT Meeting
May 27	Br Pascal Kituku's death anniversary
May 31 – June 6	AP Long Workshop
June 26-30	Accompaniment In-services training

Many blessings

George

