

## Akuapem Hills Preparatory School (AHPS) News - October 2017

I take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all those who have helped us throughout the years and continue to support Akuapem Hills Preparatory School, Ghana financially and in diverse ways. To mention but a few, Chudleigh Parish Church, Chudleigh Primary School and many individuals within Chudleigh and surrounding areas.

I arrived in Ghana on 23<sup>rd</sup> July for the 99<sup>th</sup> birthday of my grandmother. Though I arrived very late she waited till midnight to welcome me and for me to wish her happy birthday.

The school had a week to go before summer break, so I was able to observe some lessons and also interviewed some of the pupils to hear their voices and opinions as to how we could make the school and their education better environmentally and experientially for them.



P6 Graduands of 2017



First time in the 6<sup>th</sup> March Independence Day match-past



Excursion in CCP donated kits

We had our usual end of year celebration with parents and pupils on the theme 'Praise and Thanksgiving' and 3<sup>rd</sup> Graduation. My speech focused on Peace, Love and Excellence, the school motto which are the pinnacles of a just community; we as a people of peace, peace must be taught and practised by both teachers and pupils. No physical violence of any form is permitted in our school.



Cultural recitals



The junior choir in action



Choreography by KG2 pupils



Nii Yaoboi giving his speech

We started and completed the building of three classroom blocks, three toilets, two urinals and construction of roads leading to both sites where the schools are located within the month of August.



As I waited at the airport to board my flight to the UK, tragedy was unfolding. The Multi-purpose hall which also contains a classroom was on fire. This was a human error of gigantic magnitude. We cut down some trees where we built the classrooms and as we always have to buy charcoal for cooking the school meals, we decided to make some charcoal. The charcoal had been burning for more than two weeks and one inexperienced fellow who knew nothing about the process collected some, bagged them and placed them in the hall where we had oil paints, plastic chairs, dining tables, classroom tables, benches, wood material, etc.



The damaged Multi-purpose hall and the classroom

None of our buildings are insured, as hardly any buildings in a small town such as Akropong are insured. We have to learn our lessons. We have not been able to replace our school bus which was written-off in an accident three years ago, and now this.

This second disaster has set us back, at a crucial time when our first cohort (our pioneers) are completing Junior High School 3 (JHS3) and sitting external examinations in May – June next year.

I will have to go back to Ghana this December to supervise the rebuilding of the multi-purpose hall and the classroom.

Our Fundraising Concert of Ghanaian Hymns, Gospel Anthems and Drumming in the aid of AHPS on **Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 4.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. at Chudleigh Parish Church** will be the moment for well-wishers and supporters to help us in the usual way.

Thank you and God Bless Us All!

Nii Yaoboi Tackie-Yaoboi