

Hopsy g! Hopsy g! Hopsy g! Hopsy g!

Hope Orphan Pre-School Youth Group (HOPSYG)

# DAFA School Rennovations Completed

January 2013



Above: DAFA-funded school renovations completed on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, less than three months after Vincent Maguire's visit. (Mombasa, Kenya)

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# Introduction

## **DAFA Visit**

Once again, thanks to the Maguire family for this, especially Mary and Kevin for introducing Vincent to Hope school!

After visiting our school (October 22, 2012) Vincent concluded and agreed that one of our main needs for support was renovation and maintenance. Having a beautiful school would allow the children to learn better and the teachers to teach better. We agreed and highlighted how difficult it is to get funding for maintenance and renovations when most wanted to directly sponsor the children so this support was very much appreciated.

## **Renovation/Construction Work Done:**

1. The floors badly needed to be replaced even after only 3.5 years, the lower quality Kenyan cement was wearing away. This **terazzo flooring work** to be done through-out the entire school and is badly needed as the old floor had gouging holes due to poor quality local cement. The new floor will be of high quality, durable Terrazzo floors (polished marble and cement composite).
2. We are also **erecting plastered stone wall partitions** (replacing the decrepit old wooden partitions). These foldable wooden partitions were built initially planning to hold open-room community meetings. Although this is a useful structure for school/parent meetings and school closing ceremonies/parties these old partitions prevented privacy in each class.
3. As the school had not been painted in 13 months Vincent also wanted the **school to be painted entirely.**
4. **Ceiling Reinforcement:** When discussing the building plans with the builder and noting how our ceiling was sagging he agreed to add in 25 ceiling supports for no extra charge.

We ambitiously aimed to have this work completed in the December Christmas holidays (whole month of December is a school holiday), and ready for the kids for new school year of January 2013. We were really excited as this will make our school so much nicer for teaching and learning.

## Fast Moving Building Project: Completed under 3 months

October 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2012	DAFA/Vincent <b>visited</b> Hope preschool and returned home to the UK a week later.
October 23 - 31	Alan and Fred meet with four different building companies and raised <b>quotations</b> for this renovation work (which was discussed with DAFA).
November 6	We emailed these quotations onto DAFA.
Mid-November	Vincent then met the Directors of DAFA and discussed this grant.
November 19	DAFA contacted us telling us our grant had been <b>approved</b> .
November 21	As we wanted this construction finished before Christmas, we raised the money ourselves for an initial deposit for the builder. We then drew-up a <b>contract</b> with the selected builder.
November 24	We gave the builder the <b>initial 50% down payment</b> .
November 25	The <b>builder started</b> the work (see below photos of progress).
December 2	We received the DAFA money of 2,000 Euro in bank a/c.
December 6	Second payment is made to builder
December 7	The builder had completed the removal of the old concrete floor by chipping it away manually. Then he laid metal strips in order to lay the terazzo around these.
December 10	<b>Erected partition walls</b> with lintels through the windows. Had also completed the ceiling re-inforcement which involved tacking the ceiling to the rafters and centre boards.
December 15	Had <b>plastered</b> the two interior partitions walls.
December 19	Had laid the terazzo composite and had completed the first smoothing.
December 22	Had completed window insertion including placing the glass louvres.
December 23	Had done <b>final smoothing of the terazzo floor</b> and completed the polishing. Interior walls were painted. Completed a construction inspection and ' <b>snag list</b> ' and made third payment to builder before Chrstitmas.
Dec 24 to Jan2	Christmas Holiday
January 3	Builder completed our 'snag list' and final touches.
January 8	Builder had completely finalized the work and final payment was made.

## Our School Before & After Renovations- School Repainted



**Above & Below:** Notice in the below photos (early 2012) how dirty the school and perimeter pillars were.



## Our School Before & After Renovations- KG1



DAFA visitors in KG1: The old floors were very worn away as the local Kenyan cement is of poor quality. (above photo taken October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012). Below photo taken in KG1 highlights the great difference with new floors and a new concrete partition. Alan is also pointing to the new partition windows to increase light and ventilation while also allowing teacher transparency between classes.



## Our School Before & After Renovations- The Veranda



**Above & Below:** The children having porridge during lunch break on old floor. Notice how the veranda floor is in poor condition with pieces chipped away, this photo was taken in 2011. See the difference in the floor quality in the below photo.



## Our School Before & After Renovations- The Veranda



**Above & Below:** Notice the difference between the dirty coloured concrete floor versus the high quality durable terazzo floor.



## Our School Before & After Renovations- Kitchen Sink



**Above:** Notice our kitchen sink behind our female teacher in green, it is chipped away also. The repair work done on this made a huge difference. See the newly surfaced sink below, although the construction work was not completed yet.



## Our School Before & After Renovations- Wooden Partitions replaced with concrete walls



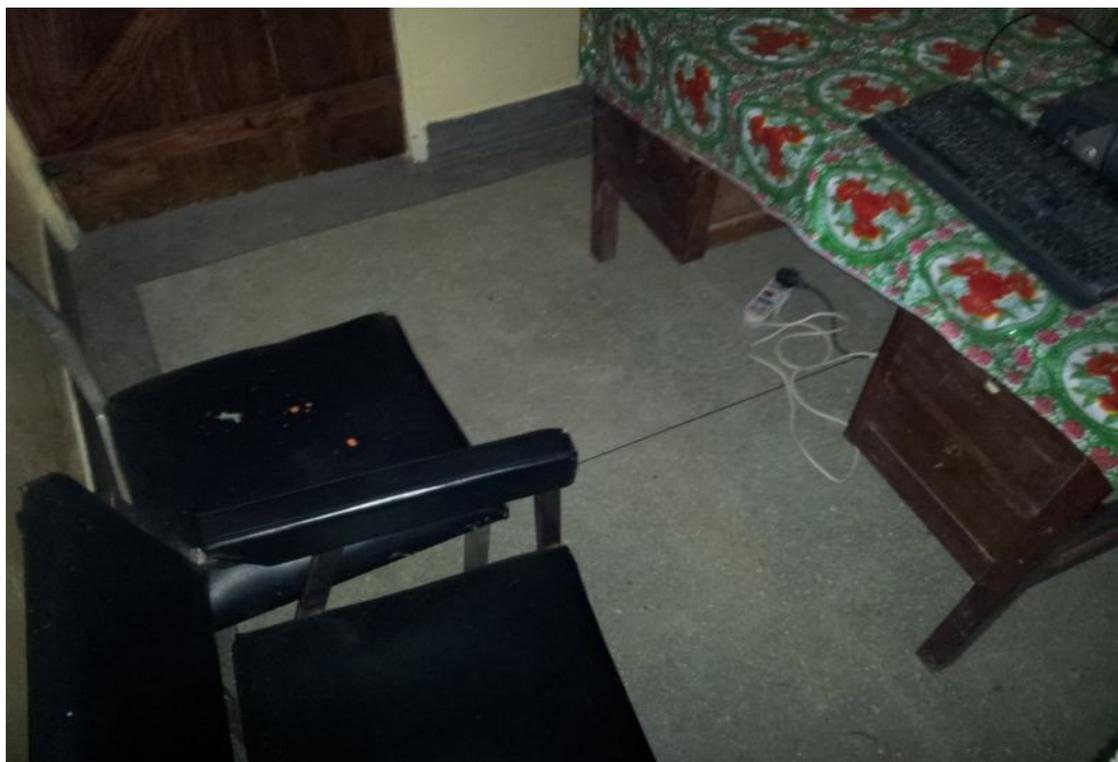
**Above:** Note how unsecure the wooden partitions are in the background. We really needed to change these to provide some sound proof and lack of distraction between the different classes. Initially we went for wooden partitions because we thought there would be a market for renting out our facility for community events. The market is not there unfortunately, the area is too poor to engage in such recreation activities. See completed concrete partition below.



## Our School After Renovations- KG2



## Our School After Renovations- Office



## Our School After Renovations- KG3



**Above:** Note the blue mattress in the background. This is where our security guard sleeps at night.

## Our School After Renovations- Storeroom Floor



## Our School After Renovations- Toilets



**Note:** In these toilet photos the metal doors had not been painted yet.

# December 2012 Construction- New Concrete Walls/ Partitions

We are erecting plastered stone wall partitions, replacing the decrepit old wooden partitions. This will allow each of the KG classes to be seperated so they will not be distracted from eachother.



## DAFA School Renovations- New Terrazzo Floors



**Above:** These two photos show the construction work on the new Terrazzo floor on November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Above, the old cement floor, top level has been chipped away. Steel strips have been set into the ground. The next stage was pouring the composite, compressing it, plastering it and polishing it.

## DAFA School Renovations- Repainting Entire School

As seen in the above photos our school had not been painted in over one year.

Due to lack of maintenance funds we could not prioritize this over the direct education. However, having a nice, well painted, bright environment is very important to encourage the child's learning. DAFA identified this re-painting work as necessary.

Below: Photos taken of the fence pillar painting work completed on November 29<sup>th</sup>.



**Note:** in below photo the metal entrance gates had not been painted.



## School Renovations- Construction up close!



**Above:** Here you can see the materials the builder was using in supporting the wall during building and in supporting our ceiling. The builder put in some ceiling supports as our ceiling was sagging. Also note our old partitions sitting outside on the veranda.



**Above:** The contractor (Mr Mugo), in cream shirt with Alan, Fred and the foreman.

## School Renovations- Construction up close!



**Above:** the construction workers screed/smooth the terazzo composite floor in KG3 with the big machine while the others apply water and sweep away any surface stones