

This report is a short summary of the activities of Rainbows4Children in the year 2012. More details on any specific issue are available by contacting, Max & Kathryn Robinson at info@rainbows4children.org

Project Progress - Nicolas Robinson School

1. Building and equipment.

During 2012 the following buildings were completed at the Primary School:- Library, Music Room and Eating Room.



Primary school library



Primary school library



Primary music and eating room

In addition, during 2012 the following buildings were added to the Secondary School:- A classroom block for grades 9 and 10 (total of 8 classrooms) and the laboratory block (4 laboratories - one each for Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Information Technology).



Secondary school classroom block



Lab buildings

Equipment for the science laboratories consisting of workbenches, storage cupboards and a fume cupboard was ordered and shipped during 2012 and then installed in January 2013.

A 100 cubic metre water tank was installed underground in the primary school to collect water from the music room roof and to be used for hand washing and cleaning and watering plants. Plans for 2013 include the completion of the student eco-toilets in the secondary school, the building of the staff building for the Secondary School and the sports facilities for the primary and secondary schools.

2. Students

In the school year 2012-3, the student registration was 240 students in the kindergarten, 750 students in the primary school (grades 1-8) and 90 students in the Secondary School (so far grade 9 only). Approximately 75% of the students come from the families where the parents have disabilities (war veterans). The male:female ratio is approximately 50:50, and there is no discrimination on gender, politics, religion or race. In 2012, 100% of the grade 8 students passed the national exams and the Nicolas Robinson School was ranked no.1 in Mekele out of more than 30 primary schools based on its exam results.



Grade 10 in class

KG learning by play

IT classes start at grade 1

3. Sponsorship programme

In 2012, 240 students were sponsored to go to school (thus giving them a chance that their families could not otherwise afford).

4. Supplementary food programme

Started in 2011 the supplementary food programme continued for all students at the school. Every day the students are given extra food to give them access to better nutrition (protein, vitamins) in the form of eggs, banana, milk, orange or other seasonal fruit.



KG children enjoying their milk in the eating room

5. Volunteers

During 2012 we had volunteers from Europe who taught English, sport and music at the school, as well as assisting the Kindergarten teachers with educational toys and learning games.

Fund raising activities in 2012

Our Swiss annual fundraiser raised about CHF 60,000

Supporters in Southern France raised about EUR 1,000 through various functions and provided 5 new child sponsors.

The charity shop in Stade, Germany (sales of second hand clothes and household items) provided funds of about EUR 10,000 in 2012 but announced that they will close in 2013 when the shop lease expires.

Other major donors: Australian Foundation, 2 US foundations, 3 company donations, many private individuals. (Details can be provided on request)

Legal and accounting

The statements of accounts for the UK Foundation and Swiss registered foundation have been submitted to the appropriate governing authorities

The trustees of both foundations have remained unchanged in 2012:

Switzerland: Richard Max Robinson, Kathryn Robinson, Niklas Meintrup

UK: Richard Max Robinson, Kathryn Robinson, Kenvyn Rees, Lynne Rees, John Bateson, Lynn Petersen