



HIPS - Charity Organisation

Weija, Ghana

Information letter No. 9

July 2006



Dear friends and sponsors of HIPS

Unfortunately I could not take up my trip to Ghana as scheduled in March this year. A broken leg kept me at home. This led on the other hand to the possibility to personally join the beneficiary concert at the Benedictine Abby at Meschede/ Germany, sponsored by the local Rotary Club.

3100 € were collected for our organisation. The Rotaract Group joint in and brought another 700 € through a raffle held at their annual summer party.

Middle of May I than started my trip to Ghana. Naturally I visited the Weija location the next day welcoming everybody.

Much to my delight I found all of the children happy, proudly presenting their new school-uniforms and attending the lessons – which are held in English at the kindergarten and school - with great interest.

For the regular sport – classes I bought 20 pair of sport shoes, which made the recipients very happy and leaves the others with expectations for my next visit.



When I visited Mrs. Dr. Alla, she told me that the last medical check up of all the children, which had been carried out some weeks ago, showed a very satisfactory result.

Aside the regular taking of vitamins 3 times a week, this time a special treatment against worms was also carried out.

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I naturally also attended the regular PTA meetings, where I could experience that slowly but steady the contact between parents and teachers is improving. This trip I also could, for the first time after quite some month since the old chief died, meet with the new chief of Weija, who especially promised his personal involvement in the needs of HIPS. He positively reacted to my ongoing request to motivate the parents to intensify their own every day engagement at the kindergarten and school.

In the meantime he has personally attended a PTA meeting together with Dr. Daniel Sackey, chairman of the board of HIPS Organisation and Mr. Ben Ashi, member of our board, and urged everybody to invest more personal help into the school and kindergarten. The chief also expressed his appreciation of the engagement of our sponsors in the development of the education of the children of Weija.

During my visit I, for the first time, had a visit of Birgit Strehler whose family is supporting HIPS from the first days on. I think she had a very comprehensive view inside HIPS in Ghana. Here is her first reaction:



“ I am very happy that I finally followed the cheering up of Brigitte Honsel to come and see HIPS on side in Ghana. The country presented itself in a charming splendour of flowers and a strong and intensive green all over, since it was rainy season. The fond of life and proud people in their colourful dresses, the laughing, happy eyes of the children and a lot of remarkable meetings and events deeply impressed me. Especially the visit at Weija-village, where the HIPS children live under very simple conditions, without flowing water and canalisation at home, deeply moved me. When I then entered with great astonishment the kindergarten and school of HIPS, and saw the clean and colourful surrounding and laughing and happy children, I knew, that any help, given to HIPS is very wise and good invested. I joined the children at their lessons and was astonished of the quality of their education. I could play and sing with the kindergarten kids and attend the great summer party. I felt, that also the children and not only I grow very fond of each other. There is a saying: Where people live you love and feel closely obliged to, there is home. I found a piece of home at HIPS in Weija/ Ghana.”



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Together with Birgit and Kim – the very friendly and helpful Dutch lady which supports us at HIPS – we held a big summer party.



We had cakes, pops and the very much longed for popcorn for everybody and a lot of unknown more European children games were intensively enjoyed by all of the children – and the teachers too.

Everybody was very happy and at the end of the day, completely exhausted.
Dear reader, this is all for this time.

Thank you very much for your support.
Don't forget HIPS

Yours

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