



The pitter patters of... The Potter's Village

Potato Harvest Spells Joy to PVM

Gisorora garden smiled at the New Year with a good yield of potatoes (commonly known as Irish Potatoes, to distinguish them from sweet potatoes). The small plot of land, gave us a pleasant surprise harvest of six 100-kg bags of edible potatoes plus two bags of seed potatoes.

This was a double welcome experience: when the price of potatoes has shot up to 40,000/= a bag, we are enjoying the fruit of our garden. The harvest coincided with Jenny's coming and she participated by transporting the potatoes to the Village in heavy downpour of rain. It was also a pleasant experience for Amelia, who has come as a volunteer for two months with us.



The harvest means that for at least four weeks, Rose will not be going to purchase potatoes from the market.

The Gishyegera garden also yielded 100 kg of threshed dry beans in addition to the fresh beans the staff and children enjoyed in the month of December 2009.

This experience is going to be an annual event as we grow our own food to supplement on the diet for the children and a big saving during the time of scarcity. We thank God that in spite of not-so-good weather we were able to have a good harvest.

The Potter's Village newsletter

Issue 1: January, 2009



Welcome Home

It was all smiles and rejoicing as Board members and staff welcomed back Jenny over a cup of tea and home made cakes by Judith G.

After nearly seven months away on holiday in the UK (packed with speaking engagements and wide travelling) Jenny comes back to Kisoro, her second home. "I am glad to be back home to find the children happy and healthy," she says in her short speech that took at least 20 minutes.

She narrated her experience in the UK and said that although the global financial crisis is real and biting hard, many people are committed to support PVM and there is abundant good will. He cautioned staff to be good stewards of the funds and gifts that come out of sacrificial love.

NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN



Baby AI

My feet which were feeble a few months ago are now strong enough to support my weight and I make few steps without any help.

Baby EH

I make everyone wonder when I move because I am fast on my bottoms. Those who try to imitate me do not move an inch. I have started to put my feet down and walk with some assistance.

Baby FB

With 150ml of milk, I feel hungry as soon as I finish the cup. How I wish I would get 200ml. I enjoy good health and my smiles are contagious.

Baby HI

I am coming out my solitude and long to be in someone's arms no matter whom it is. When I am left on my own, I make high pitched cries to attract attention.

Baby IG

My appetite for food is quite sharp. I always want a little more after emptying my plate. In spite of many pleas, I do not convince my carer to give me more. She tells me that what I am given is enough. One day I will be able to pick my own food and eat as much as I can.

Baby JTum

Carrots taste great and I enjoy my meals. I still have a problem of sitting up and I am told that it will take time to move on my own because I may have had a brain damage at birth. I need prayers of healing.

Baby JI

Last month, I would hardly walk a step before falling down. Now I am making stiff steps but no falling down. Next month I believe I will walk faster or even run to escape those who want to keep me confined.

Baby JTuy

Cakes are my favourites. You should have seen me at the tea party. I wish cakes would be a daily thing! I love my dad's visits because whenever he comes to visit he brings with him honey or bread which for the children.
Thanks dad.

Baby JB

I feel bored without work at the Laundry. How I enjoyed getting muddy as I helped the workers at the construction site. I hope the painter will allow me to do the painting so that I colour myself white. Now we have some toys which I enjoy playing with but I wish I had ladders or building blocks to keep me occupied.

Baby MM

It seems my aggressiveness scares the little babies. I do not know why I have this urge of slapping the young children on the head. They cry and report me to my carer.
When I slap my head I do not feel hurt.

Baby MN

I am slender but very strong and able to defend myself when the other children want to bully me. I enjoyed the visit from my mum (foster mother) who sang nice songs for me that sent me to sleep in her loving arms. When she tried to lay me down, I woke up and I cried to say bye to her.

Baby MT

I enjoy listening to songs and I clap hands as they sing. I look forward to a time when I will speak so that I can join the singing.

Baby PM

How I love my teeth because they ably defend me when any child dares to take a toy from me. When I am really sad, I bite my left arm and hold my teeth there. I am known as the Biter so even when I am passing by, other children are cautious thinking I am going to bite them and I laugh at them.

Baby SN

I continue to enjoy being the boss in the family. When it comes to meal times, I first see that all the young children are eating then I eat last. Of course I am assured of my food because I watch others when my plate is very near to me. I help with clearing plates and cups after meals.

The Potter's Village - Helping Vulnerable Children

The Laundry construction is in its last stage. All factors being constant, the Laundry will be operational by March. The circular hut will host two industrial washing machines and the open rectangular structure will be the drying area. Once the laundry is functional, use of disposable nappies will be very minimal.



Help needed! PVM urgently need a volunteer to work as house parent to help the carers cope with the dynamic changes in the child growth. Thanks for your response.

Please pray...

Give thanks for:

- The safe arrival of Jenny and her family plus a volunteer, Amelia. We received lots of children's clothes and toys that have alleviated the challenges we were facing.
- The continual support from all lovers of PVM. We constantly receive encouraging news of prayer and financial support for the children.

Ask God for:

- Wisdom as some children will join their families or move to foster parents in the course of this year. Currently we are unable to take on more babies in vulnerable circumstances due to limited capacity and yet some of the children are clearly out of danger and can now lead fruitful lives outside PVM if they get good care.

Please keep in your prayers:

- Staff at PVM to keep in pace with the dynamic development of children and keep being professional in all the work they do.
- Jenny and her family as they re-adjust to the life in Kisoro in the midst of high inflation.