



## Wakadogo Annual Review 2018/19 July 2019

Dear friends of Wakadogo,

This year marks **10 years of Wakadogo** being open! We celebrated this incredible milestone with our school community and a number of our friends in April 2019.

These last 10 years would not have been possible without our dedicated Wakadogo team in Gulu, the school administration, the community around our school which includes parents, caregivers, the School Management Committee, the Parent Teacher Association, our generous donors, our Board, our students and all our partners and friends who continue to work hard together for the continued development of the school. Thank you to each and every one of you for your incredible support and for making sure Wakadogo School keeps growing.



Wakadogo 10 year anniversary celebrations

### About Wakadogo

Wakadogo School is a nursery and primary school in a village called Acoyo, 8 kilometres outside of Gulu town in northern Uganda, which was heavily impacted by the atrocities committed by the rebel group, the [Lord's Resistance Army](#) until 2006. Wakadogo opened in 2009 and in the 2018 academic year, Wakadogo school served and provided quality education to 452 children (237 girls and 215 boys) and employed 35 people from the local community. Our school drop-out rate in 2018 was only 1.1% (5 children), compared to the national average of 42.8%. We continued to provide quality daily school meals which can mean not only better nutrition and health, but also increased achievement in education. It is also a strong driver of consistent school attendance.



Wakadogo is a safe, fun and child-friendly learning environment – we enable this by ensuring our teachers are regularly trained on the latest and best teaching methodologies. We work in partnership with the local community, the sub-county and District leadership, Parent Teacher Association and the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Ministry of Health to ensure sustainable and continued support for the project.

## **Academic performance 2018**

**Wakadogo School came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 92 schools** in Omoro District in the national Primary Leaving Examinations results! Wakadogo School registered 30 students to take the exams set by the Uganda National Examinations Board and all 30 students passed and have transitioned to secondary schools in 2019. Wakadogo's academic performance has continued to improve year-on-year since our students first sat the Primary Leaving Exams in 2016. In 2016, Wakadogo came 5<sup>th</sup> of 92 schools in the District, in 2017 Wakadogo came 4<sup>th</sup> out of 92 schools and in 2018, Wakadogo came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 92 schools in Omoro District. This shows the steady progress in our performance. 95 students (42 girls and 53 boys) have now graduated from Wakadogo School and are all enrolled in various secondary schools in Uganda.



Primary 7 students of 2018 together with the headteacher and their teacher in 2018

## **Teachers' Performance**

Wakadogo School has 17 (8 female, 9 male) fully qualified teachers who are competently teaching students from Kindergarten 1 to Primary 7. They are passionate about teaching children, caring for the students and motivating them to learn well. Learning is a lifelong journey and we remain committed to ensuring that our teachers continue to develop professionally through ongoing training and development.



Wakadogo teachers

## **Sporting Achievements**

Wakadogo School continued to perform well in the Sub County Sports Competition. In 2018, three Wakadogo teams entered: **Under-12s came 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 15, Under-14s came 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 15 and Under-16s came 1<sup>st</sup> out of 15 schools.** In overall results, Wakadogo School came **2<sup>nd</sup> out of 15 schools** that competed in Koro Sub County. 8 students from Wakadogo School were selected to represent Koro Sub County in the Omoro District Kids Athletics Championship 2018 which took place from 27th to 29th April 2018 at Koro Abili Primary School grounds. We are so proud of our students for these amazing sporting achievements!



Wakadogo students came 2nd place in the Athletics Competition in 2018

## **Music, Dance and Drama**

Wakadogo School also came 1st place in the 2018 Sub County Music Competition which took place in Opit Primary School from 28th - 29th July 2018. Wakadogo School came 6<sup>th</sup> place out of 7 of the best schools in the District. We won a trophy for performing well at music!

### **Class Days**

We had Class Days for parents and caregivers every term and during those days, parents came to school in large numbers to learn about the school curriculum and how to support their children with homework. Class Days have been very helpful in increasing parents' commitment in supporting their children's education. Involving parents and families in the process of learning helps to encourage active participation and commitment at home.



Parents in the class to support students at school and at home for better learning opportunities

### **School Sewing Project**

We established a sewing project together with a volunteer Estelle Imbert from France and a seamstress from Gulu, Susan, and together they trained 10 girls from the community and 20 students from the school from the 1-18 August 2018. The participants learnt basic sewing skills and knowledge through this project and the 10 out-of-school girls from the village got more experience and they are now self-employed doing sewing in Gulu. The students have since made 170 tote bags which are going to be sold internationally with the help of one of our supporters in order to raise funds for Wakadogo's sewing project. We hope to expand this initiative with the participation of local community members to create a new sustainable income stream for the school.



Students learning how to make tote bags through the sewing project

### **Annual School Trip**

The annual school trip is one of the highlights of the school calendar. This year our school trip took place on November 30, 2018. Our students visited Fun City in Gulu Town, Gulu University, Gulu Regional Referral Hospital and Gulu Airport. The students enjoyed the trip, learnt about important and inspiring places in the District and had lots of fun at Fun City in Gulu.



Wakadogo students at Fun City for the annual school trip

### **Kindergarten 3's Graduation Ceremony**

We successfully completed our 9<sup>th</sup> K3 Graduation on December 6, 2018 and 45 students graduated to primary school. Our Guest of Honour was the Secretary for Education Koro Sub County and local councillors from Acoyo Parish. It was well attended by parents, all our students, alumni and staff of Wakadogo School. The Secretary for Education commended Wakadogo School for providing holistic quality education which is being demonstrated through participation of students in sports, music and strong academic performance. Students presented their drama pieces, songs, poems and dances which educated parents on children's rights and responsibilities and the roles of parents in education.



K3 graduates procession at Wakadogo School

### **Musgrave Health Centre**

The Musgrave Health Centre, which opened in March 2017, is addressing the barriers to accessing basic and affordable healthcare in the community and is also providing an income stream to run the school, in order to fill the existing funding gap to serve and educate

452 marginalized boys and girls in order to eventually become a sustainable project. The Musgrave Health Centre is also providing access to basic healthcare to all the students and staff of Wakadogo School.

The Musgrave Health Centre, located on the school site is for students, staff and the local community to ensure that children don't miss school because of common health problems. Illnesses such as malaria, cough, flu, skin infections, stomach aches, fever, diarrhoea and cuts and burns are treated. More complex cases are referred to Gulu Hospital.

The Musgrave Health Centre is vital because it is the first facility of its kind in this rural, marginalized community comprising of five villages of over 5,000 people and nine neighbouring villages. In the past residents in this community had to walk or travel up to 12km to access the nearest health centre and many could not afford the transport to get there or were too sick to walk.



The health teams from Reproductive Health Uganda and Musgrave Health Centre carrying out health education to the community during a Health Day event

Since the Musgrave Health Centre opened, it has completed 8,073 patient visits including 6,213 visits from children. In 2018/19 the Musgrave Health Centre has also hosted six health days at Wakadogo in partnership with [Reproductive Health Uganda](#), Omoro District Local Government, Village Health Teams and Lapainat Health Centre III. Members of the community were invited to attend these events and Reproductive Health Uganda offered free family planning advice, free cervical cancer screening and free HIV counselling and testing. 761 community members attended these outreach health days in 2018/19 which help raise awareness of health concerns that impact the community, attract patients and provide a free service to the community.

### **Global Financial Accounts 2017/18**

We have published our global **2017/18 financial accounts**. Our income for the year was CAD \$183,212. The parents and caregivers contributed an amazing CAD \$33,545. Our expenditure was CAD \$178,696.

We are also pleased to welcome new Trustees/Board Members Ashley Messick and Nino and Shirley Virga and very much look forward to working together. We would like to thank Catherine Nadeau for her 13 years of service and support to Wakadogo! Catherine has been with us since Wakadogo began.

### **Thank you so much for your support**

We couldn't do this without you and thanks to you, 452 children in a beautiful village in northern Uganda get access to quality education in a fun and positive learning environment. Thank you to each and every one of you for your amazing support and for making sure Wakadogo School has continued its work for the last 10 years!

A special thank you to our youngest supporters Faiz, Faye and Ayah for sharing their skills in playing football, making slime and dancing with their friends at Wakadogo School and the Trimark Family and Ashley Wade for joining us for our 10-year birthday in April 2019.

With our very best wishes,  
**The Wakadogo family**



Faiz and Faye teaching students how to make slime

**We want to say a special thank you to our most generous supporters:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Anonymous donors (7)</li><li>● Peter &amp; Christine Baltussen</li><li>● Community Initiatives Program, Alberta Culture &amp; Tourism</li><li>● Sam Dennis</li><li>● The Mohamed S. Farsi Foundation</li><li>● Katie George and Mark Cann</li><li>● Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Kampala, Uganda</li><li>● Colin Hamilton</li><li>● Harvard Business School, Class of 2018, Section E</li><li>● Estelle Imbert</li><li>● Madatali &amp; Dolatkhanu Keshwani &amp; Family</li><li>● Nina Hirji Kheraj and Naguib Kheraj</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Kings' Dubai School</li><li>● Hafiz &amp; Neeta Lalani</li><li>● In memory of Robert Louis</li><li>● Javier Ruiz and Myriam Hokayem</li><li>● Catherine Matson</li><li>● The Musgrave Family</li><li>● Catherine Nadeau</li><li>● Tasneem &amp; Naveed Osman</li><li>● Herta Park</li><li>● John Cumming Ross Limited</li><li>● The Still Family</li><li>● The Tsampalieros Family</li><li>● Nino &amp; Shirley Virga</li><li>● Naznin Virani &amp; Family</li><li>● The Wade Family</li></ul>
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**Message from our Headteacher, Odong Charles Kigundi**

Dear all our supporters,

We are very happy for your support to our school. We would like to thank you for all the donations and support you gave us over ten years of our operations. Please, continue supporting us so that we can develop our school to help the most marginalized community in northern Uganda to recover and realize their full potential. We are grateful for incredible donations given to Wakadogo School within the ten years of our operations. May God bless you all.

With all the best wishes,

Odong Charles Kigundi, (Headteacher)



*Headteacher Charles and Co-Founder Andrea speaking at our 10 year anniversary*