

50th Anniversary Special EIS PTA Newsletter



Nursery 2 teachers proudly wear the nation's colors: left to right— Miss Rita, Mrs. Rao, Mrs. Abolarin, Mr. Nicholas, Mrs. Ugwunna, Mrs. Ishakwu, Mrs. Uzoukwu, Miss Oyekanmi, Mrs. Nwanne

ESSENCE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, KADUNA, NIGERIA **Activities for 2010/2011**





The tricycle motorcade provided "security" for the miniature president and his wife during our 50th anniversary ceremony program presented by the students of Nursery 2.

Little ones grow up so fast. They represent the future of every nation, and this is why we felt that they should be featured prominently in the year-long observance of Nigeria's proud existence as a nation.

All around Africa, about 18 countries - all with youthful populations - have reached this remarkable milestone. This is a time for sober reflection on how to provide opportunities for the future generations.



From left to right: Muhibba Abdullahi, Pascal Umehea, Faruk Mohammed, Dorcas Asuku, Fatima Awaisu, Hannatu Gaiya, Unwana Ebong, Okiemute Ubogu, Ibrahim Abdullahi



Nursery 2 students wave the flag for unity and peace.



Written by: **Hadiza Tatari Ali**

Giving a Ray of Hope

Each of us has something different and valuable to contribute, and no matter how small or insignificant it may seem, it can be for the benefit of all. Having been lucky to have received such a solid, enlightening education from Essence International School, I was already familiar with the tradition of community service – giving back in one form or another to the less privileged members of our society.

We were taught in Essence to reach out to individuals by sharing knowledge and rewarding efforts. Most of us still carry on this worthy tradition with our own dear children now hoping to instill values in them that will make them worthy and productive members of our community.

The school's and the PTA's recent visits to orphanages and rehabilitation centres are monumental, in that they bring so much joy to not only those that receive but the blessed ones that give. The uncertainties of our present day should always give way to enchanted possibilities of helping the less unfortunate children of our future. With commendable programmes such as The Open Classroom – individuals previously with no hope of a basic education are being given the golden opportunity to learn. We are all proud to be associated with a school that cares and reaches out to some forgotten children and in some cases adults. My prayer is for all parents, teachers, students and other members of our community to join hands and continue the excellent work of Essence International School and The Open Classroom.

I would like to share these precious words close to my heart:

*“Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can”.*

- John Wesley

EIS PTA Executives Distribute Personal Welfare Packages to Residents of the Kaduna Rehabilitation Center: A 50th Independence Anniversary Outreach Activity



SS1 Students Donated Food and Clothing to Little Ones in the Orphanage



Supervised by Mrs. Osa-Afiana, students of SS1 visited an orphanage where the young residents played with their older “sisters and brothers.”



It is really necessary to show love and affection to young children so that they will grow up knowing that people care about them.

These experiences should be memorable, and they should radiate towards future programs where children, young adults, and the older generation meet and learn about living together harmoniously, sharing and caring for each other.



What Freedom Means to Me

(Hadiza Aminu - SS.2B)

The first question to ask yourself is, what is freedom? Freedom is the right to speech, the right to vote, the right to worship, press and assembly etc.

To me freedom is all those things and more. To me freedom is an idea, a dream and a fantasy. A person is free to be anything he wants to be in life and make choices and decisions for himself without being afraid to stand by them and bear the consequences for his action, be it good or bad is a free man. I dream of a world where people are not judged by their race, skin, colour, gender, and background. I dream of a world where everyone is accepted as an equal, I dream of a world where everyone stands for justice and truth, I dream of a world where each and everyone of us is united in brotherhood regardless of religion, I dream of a world where people can laugh out at good humour not just because everyone else is laughing. I dream of a world where the poor and the needy are taken care of by the rich and fortunate, I dream of a world where honour and loyalty are regarded highly.

To me, freedom is love, the ability to do something for the love of it, the ability to do your job not just because you want to earn money but because you love what you do and are motivated by it. The ability to enjoy the simple pleasures of life that money cannot buy is freedom, the ability to do what makes you happy regardless of what everyone thinks and be yourself wherever you are and with whomever you are with is indeed freedom. The act of saying what you mean and meaning what you say is freedom, the ability to act based on impulse rather than restraint once in a while is freedom. To feel confident and comfortable with your appearance is also freedom. The act of knowing what you want and going for it is freedom.

The ability to be one with your emotion is freedom, to know that to cry once in a while is not a sign of weakness but a sign of deep strength, is freedom. The ability to feel pain and fear is freedom. The ability to make mistakes and learn from them is freedom, the ability to do what you think is right is freedom.

To me, freedom is death, because it is only in death you find the true definition of freedom, it is only in death everyone is equal, the rich, the poor are buried in the ground when they die. There is no preferential treatment, death comes to all of us, you can't buy your way of it and it's the one thing we have in common.

Adesuwa Ebuehi (JS.3)

Freedom could mean the right or liberty to do or say whatever you want without being stopped. It could also refer to the state of not being a prisoner or slave. It must have meant both to Mandela.

It is a fact, however, that one cannot be said to be free when one is sick, hungry, unhappy, abused or addicted. Many people, therefore, can be said to be in bondage, from my perspective. These include drug addicts, victims of various forms of abuse, and the many stricken by hunger and poverty, worldwide.

To me now, though, freedom does not mean the right to do or say anything, I want to. I am still a child, under the care and guidance of my parents, teachers and elders in the society. Adults take responsibility for their actions, but children's bad conduct is traced back to their parents or teachers. I'm at an impressionable age, therefore, the things I say or do which are wrong should be corrected or stopped for my own good, to make me a refined and responsible adult in future.

My freedom, now is defined by the rights and privileges I enjoy as a child. These include proper health care, education, liberty from child abuse or maltreatment due to my vulnerability as a child. Freedom means the right to live and grow.

Freedom is something everyone wants, needs or ought to have. However, the world is filled with bound people, either physically, mentally or socially. I consider myself privileged to be one of those who are free. It is often said that where one's freedom ends, another's freedom begins. This means that we should not use our freedom to take advantage of others. I plan to use mine in a number of advantageous ways.

My priority as a student is my education. Many children are out of school for such unfortunate circumstances as poverty, natural disasters and illness. I plan, therefore, to make the most out of my studies. I can achieve this by obedience to my teachers and hard work.

Another good way, I plan to use my freedom is by helping in domestic chores. I recognize that many kids are abused and made to do much more than they possibly can. I can show appreciation for my freedom by helping my parents as much as I can.

Also, the freedom I have must be utilized to develop my character. This can happen when I read educative and moral literature and novels which build character in readers. I can also watch television programmes which can help mould my character and make me a better citizen of my country. I can also achieve this by choosing a good company of friends. I must also mention that my freedom allows me to worship God and develop my Christian life and character.

In conclusion, my freedom means a lot to me. Many have cried out and fought hard for freedom; many have lost their lives. They all knew, freedom is worth it!

WHAT FREEDOM MEANS TO ME Muhibba Abdullahi SS1B

Whoever is free has the ability to do whatever he/she wants. Freedom comes in different stages, freedom of speech, freedom of expression, freedom of worship.

From my own perspective, I see freedom as everything and hence everybody who is free should learn to appreciate it in a considerably good manner. As a student in a school, it is usually noticed that whenever students are out, maybe for lunch or after school hours, they'll be happier than when they are in school during classes. This is because students are having less freedom in class when they are under the control of teachers than when they are on their own. In class, students are under teachers who will give them rules that will govern them. This, beyond reasonable doubt gives another definition of freedom.

As mentioned previously, when Africans were given their freedom through the help of Abraham Lincoln as we learnt in our JS1 class, the following lines of a song that I will never forget were sang:

Freedom oh Freedom
Freedom over me
And before I'd be a slave
I'd be buried in my grave
And go home to my lord and be free

People need to be free. To highlight my point with the interpretation of the above lines, they want to be free in such a way that they go back to their lord which highlights the importance of freedom.

As a girl, I feel very bad seeing my other mates of the same gender denied their rights. To me, freedom is also the act of treating the opposite sexes the same and giving them their rights to do positively what they feel like doing. In addition, given this right to express my thoughts is a freedom of expression of thoughts and what I feel.

However, I wish to use this medium to call on all the people of the world to remember that this is a free world after all and therefore nobody should be denied their rights to do what they feel like doing. Women in general, should not be denied their full rights. All human beings are equal and deep inside me, I feel the pains even though I might not show it. People are therefore encouraged to keep the faith and bond of freedom open and close all hazardous ways of denying people their full rights.

The 50th Anniversary Africa Quiz Winners



Eze Uche– Primary 5 Team Leader



Mrs. Akinwale, Primary 2 Team Leader



Hadiza Ali– PTA Vice President

The African Heritage Village Computer Club Visits The Kaduna International Airport



This picture shows when a plane was about to land. . Mrs. Amina Ibrahim and Mrs. Tina Orogade brought their students to have a close-up view of the airport.



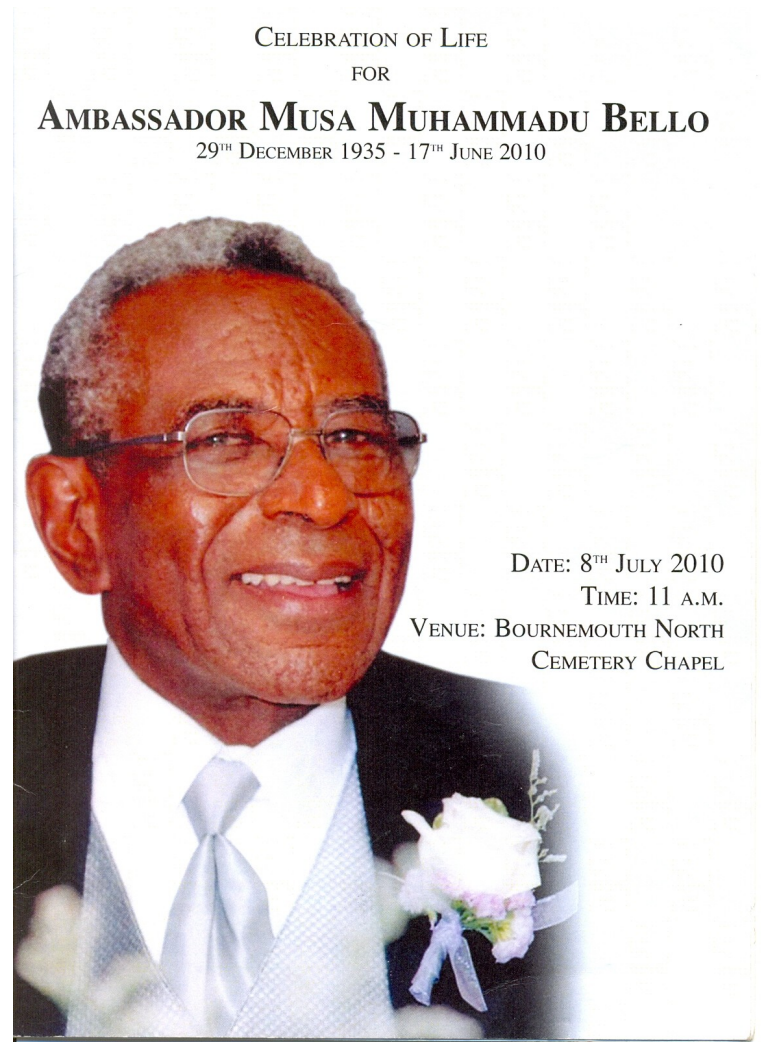
This a one of the chartered airplanes on the tarmac park.

Transition: Late Ambassador Bello

During his tenure, Late Ambassador Musa Bello led the affairs of the Essence International School PTA with ambassadorial diplomacy and skill. We remember his wise counsel and prudent decisions, as we pay homage to a career administrator, father and husband.

We were fortunate to have benefitted from his leadership.

May his soul rest in perfect peace.



Goodbye

If only I had the power to bring someone back
It will be you
But life's not promising
And nothing's gonna change
But shall never part forever
But for now, Goodbye.

Goodbye
I've never known
It's the last time
I will hold your hands,
and the day you said goodbye
broke my heart and made me cry.

Goodbye
I felt so alone
This is the sadness
I've never known
Never thought it will be
Why in the world did this happen to me

Goodbye
To me you're the greatest
friend of all, you take
my weakness and you
make it strong, I will
always pray for you
till the day we will meet again.
Goodbye.

By: Nabila Wali (SS.3C) class of 2010/2011

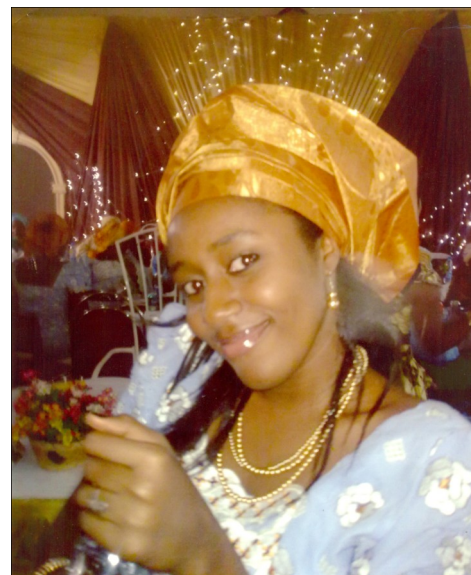
Parents of Zara Bamalli Donate Rolling Trophy

The Zara Bamalli Rolling Trophy

This trophy was donated by the parents of Zara Bamalli to the school in remembrance of their late daughter, who was one of our outstanding students. She passed away last year.

Zara loved school activities and was excellent in academic studies. Three trophies in all (for Primary, Jr. Secondary, and Sr. Secondary) were donated to honour and encourage scholastic achievement.

We are pleased to announce that at the time of this printing, the first rolling trophy has been presented to the best student in primary 6. The cup will serve as an inspiration to many high achievers.



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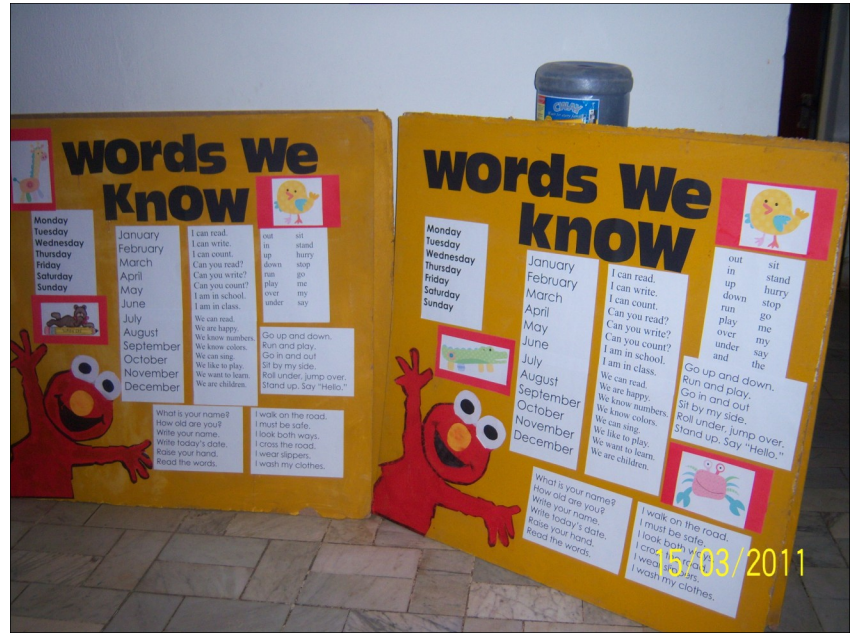
Tel: +2347030477037

Contact: Mrs BH Garba

A New Look for Community Outreach School in LEA Ungwan Rimi



The newly renovated School



Posters made by The Open Classroom for the LEA Ungwan Rimi Primary school, with donations from the Essence Old Students Association



Workshop Activities

Reviewing the basic principles of teaching:

Do no harm!

Make learning a life-long quest.

Build your personal learning library

Introduce practical science activities

Document the students' work by using individual portfolios.

Introduce confidence-building exercises such as reading aloud, and the Spelling Bee

Make your classroom attractive by displaying the alphabet, numbers, shapes and colors.

Provide incentives by displaying the children's best work.



The Open Classroom Pursues its Goal



Open Classroom members (front row from the left) Malam Nasiru Musa and Mrs. D. L. Mohammed, with members of LEA Ungwan Rimi Primary school.



The Open Classroom is the name of our school-based NGO (non-governmental organization). We have a mission to educate Africa's children, and we are always seeking to increase our reach. This means that we must work with teachers, administrators and policy makers, as we struggle to learn more about the teaching profession and the children whom we meet every day.

Mrs. Okoye, HOD Science, explains how to plan practical science lessons.

SS2 School Activities: Students Develop their Interests and Hobbies



Swimming



Cooking

Storybook characters at the AHV

Primary school students of the AHV stand near depictions of Storybook characters from a book entitled “Zomo The Rabbit,” read by students in Primary 2.



Zomo The Rabbit

Wild Cow
Angry
Leopard

Big Fish



SS3 Students pack up donations they brought for students at HDFN.



Corruption Kills Initiative, Harms Democracy

by Fatima Mohammed



Fatima Mohammed is the Headgirl of the 2010/2011 SS3 class. She is pictured here holding her "school tools."

CORRUPTION

Corruption means dishonest or illegal behavior especially of people in authority. Corruption is the lack of integrity or honesty (especially susceptibility to bribery); use of a portion of trust for dishonest gain.

Corruption has made life so hard for people and even destroyed the nation. Corruption is an odd thing. Sometimes it cuts through all the red tape and gets things done – and done quickly. On the other hand its catching, and in the end like a dirty snow ball, it gets bigger and dirties the more it rolls, and in the end does great damage.

With corruption, a country can never be developed. It will only cause lots of problems. For example, high crime rate, lack of employment and high pollution.

Firstly, due to corruption, the older generation tend to avoid retirement, thereby preventing job opportunities for the younger generation. Due to lack of work, the youth stay idle and there is a saying that goes – *'the idle mind is the devil's playground'*. In a nation, corruption starts from the head which is the government and is then transferred to the body. When there is no work to be done, people will not have the means of earning salaries which they will use to satisfy their needs. So this will lead to a high crime rate in the society.

Secondly, the corruption level leads to high pollution, because companies can easily bribe government officials so as to increase the amount of pollution they are allowed to release into the atmosphere, which will lead to death.

For corruption to be abolished from a nation, it must first be eradicated from the source, which is usually the government. With this, corruption will kill national development and so we should fight it.

Students should read their books and not engage in buying exam questions from social deviants, who are corrupt and want to make dirty money. Individual businessmen should not compromise standards and import fake drugs and consumables to cheat the public and enrich themselves.

SS2 STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN DANGOTE COOKING CONTEST



SS2 students participated in a cooking contest at the Kaduna International Trade Fair. They were given all the necessary ingredients and challenged to make tasty and nutritious dishes using Dangote noodles. But that was not all. They had to talk about the dishes they prepared and explain why they are healthy meals that would also appeal to the appetite.

At the stove: Miracle Kastly Godfrey, Mrs. Okoye (HOD Science), Jawahir Bello

Reading Club Visits Fire Fighters' Station



The EIS Reading Club went on an excursion to the Kaduna State Emergency Fire Station. Here they are pictured in front of one of the new fire engines. The Fire Station Master give a tour and a detailed explanation of the services provided by the station. Reading Club staff members include Mrs. Rosalind D. Ede, Mrs. Julianna Showunmi, Mrs. Ajijola Oluwa, and Mrs. Nagella.



In December, 2010, SS3 Students made aprons and baked holiday treats with the Principal. At left, the students are displaying their peach pies. At right, they have baked pineapple upside down cakes.

These American traditional sweets were mentioned in a literature book, COPPER SUN which was read by the SS3 class.

EIS SS2 Students Prepare a Meal for HDFN Students



Students of SS2, under the supervision of Mrs. Chinwe Okoye, prepared a delicious meal for the students of The Human Development Foundation Model School for children in Difficult Circumstances at #4 Kwato Road, Kaduna.

After cooking the meal in the EIS school kitchen, they served it to the students at HDFN.

The graduating students of JS3, 2011, under the guidance of Mr. Geoffrey Nwadike, Team 6 leader, also served a meal for students of HDFN and donated prizes for the primary 6 graduating class.

All students of Essence International School are encouraged to take part in Community Development projects, especially those that are educationally productive and child centered. This is an expression of our child to child, or peer to peer community collaboration.

JS2B Students Pledge to Improve the Environment



M. Sani Roufai demonstrates how to make the “tuwo.”

Placing an emphasis on deforestation, the students have pledged to plant more trees in their immediate environment.

Many residents are cutting down trees indiscriminately, thereby exposing the land to erosion, floods, and eventually desertification.

Several members of the class brought in photographs which will be featured in a poster on Kaduna’s beautiful trees.

The baobab tree, famous all over Africa, produces leaves, seeds, and fruits that are used in cooking. M. Sani Roufai (pictured at left) invited some of the JS2 students to cook a soup called “Miyan Kuka,” which uses baobab leaves as one of the ingredients.



JS2 students making the tuwo



JS2 students eating “tuw” and “miyan kuka.”

Winners Emerge at the 2011 PTA Novelty Soccer Match



ESSOSA (Old Students’ Association Of EIS) clinched the Winning Cup presented by the PTA President, Malam Ali Joda, to the captain of the ESSOSA Team Abdulahi Bayi on Saturday July 9, 2011.



The Parents’ Team (PTA) came in 2nd place. Alh. Sadiq Mamman Lagos receives the cup from Hadiza Ali, PTA Vice-President.



ESSOSA TEAM



PARENTS’ TEAM

Essence Teachers Visit Dubai



from left to right: Mr. Justen Komolafe, Mrs. Maria-Elena Akinwale, Mr. Roe, Malam Sambo Saleh (EIS Vice Principal).

Teachers of World History and Global Studies were given the opportunity to see the world's tallest building. This was an educational trip to an international setting. While in Dubai, they visited the Nigerian Embassy, educational institutions and other attractions. Now they have unique experiences that we hope will enrich their lesson plans and classroom discussions.



For the first time, we had a "Fairyland" at FUN DAY. Mrs. Akinwale (center) is the Fairy godmother, surrounded by three fairies and a "forest man". left to right: Miss Seyi Akinyokun, Miss Vera Theophilos, Mrs. Akinwale, Mrs. Adewale Akinlabi, Miss Martha Martins



Plants in our greenhouse