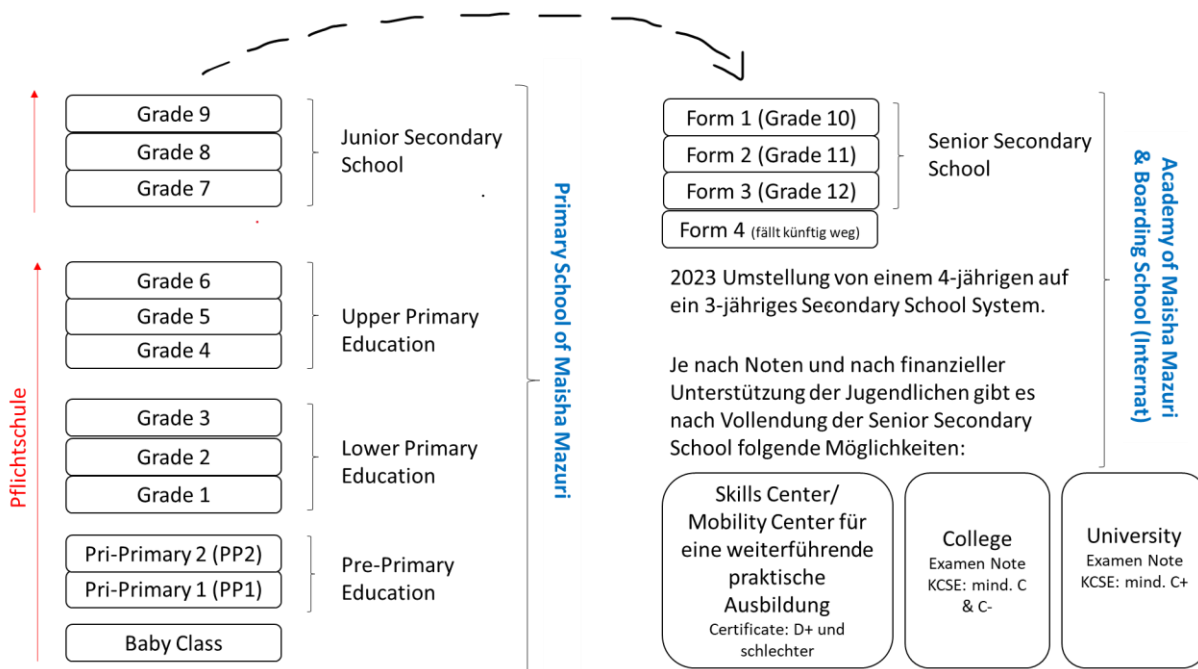


Oktober 16, 2023

Dear friends and supporters of Hand in Hand for Kenya,

In Kenya, the school holidays are over, and the third and final term of the school year started on August 28th. In November, all students will be taking exams, with a particular focus on Form 4 students, as they have their graduation exams, which will determine their future career paths. But what does the Kenyan education system look like after recent changes? The following diagram illustrates that it now consists of mandatory 2 years of Pre-Primary (equivalent to our kindergarten), 6 years of Primary Education (elementary school), and 6 years of Secondary School – the latter divided into 3 years of Junior and 3 years of Senior Secondary School. To provide further education opportunities for students, the **Academy of Maisha Mazuri & Boarding School (boarding school)** was built and launched – the key construction project of recent years, made possible by Sternstunden e.V. and many other private donors.



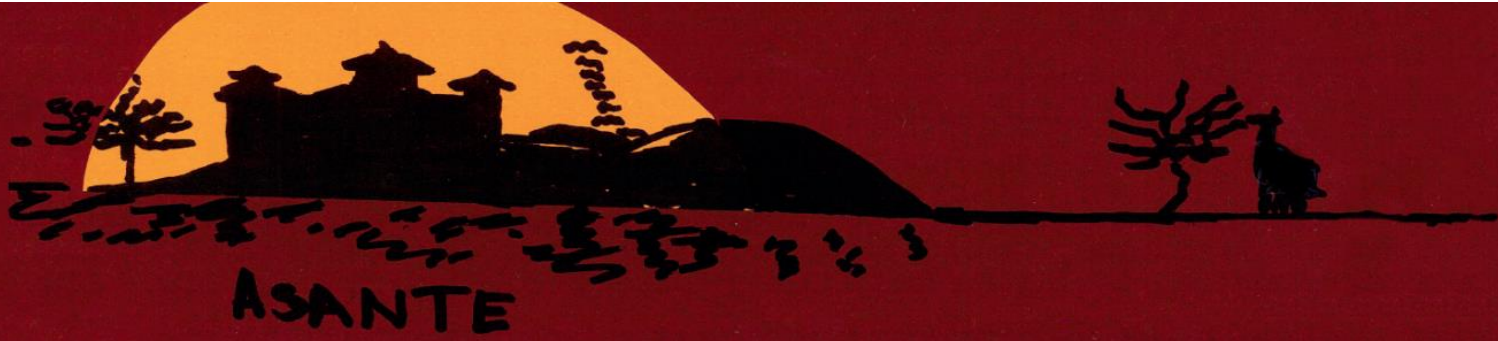
Whether students can go to university after Form 3 (currently Form 4) depends on their grades: an 'A' is equivalent to a German '1,' all the way to an 'F,' which corresponds to a German '6.'

To ensure that these young individuals receive good vocational training after their school years and to support them along the way, we, as the association *Hand in Hand for Kenya*, work closely with *Youth Support Kenya* – a Kenyan non-profit organization led by Jimmy Kilonzi. The Maisha Mazuri Children Center currently serves as the home for 32 children, and the Academy of Maisha Mazuri is attended by more than 100 students. In total, our loyal MMP partners support 120 children from the MCC and the extended community on a monthly basis. Thank you very much for your support!

Another project by Youth Support Kenya (in collaboration with the German association *Promoting Africa e.V.*) is the **Skills Center**, a vocational training center. It provides an essential alternative for many of our youth who do not have top academic grades, as we do not want these young individuals to end up with

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"nothing." They can receive training here, even without college or university, and we aim to support them until they are firmly established in a profession or workplace, able to shape their own lives, and ideally remain loyal to the MCC and the Academy as alumni, maintaining a friendship network that can be developed and expanded in the future.

We wanted to briefly address in this newsletter how we work with *Youth Support Kenya* to provide the best possible support for underprivileged children from the Machakos region on their journey into the future. The more opportunities children have after finishing school, and especially with every grade they achieve, the better their chances of succeeding in life and being able to support themselves and their families. With the support of all of you, this is possible, and we want to express our heartfelt thanks – Asante Sana!

**There are also some recent updates from the MCC and the Academy of Maisha Mazuri to share:**

A wonderful new playground for the children in the MCC was built a few months ago, providing opportunities for climbing, swinging, sliding, and hanging. The children also painted tires with the help of volunteer Britta, which now serve as balancing and hopping platforms. In the small Shamba (garden) near the house, children are regularly planting and harvesting, and everyone is relieved about the successful harvest from the large Shamba after a dry and harvest-poor year.

Because water is becoming an increasingly valuable resource, we are currently constructing a bio-sewage treatment plant for the project overall. Existing facilities are being expanded and interconnected to improve functionality and effectiveness. The goal is to recycle all water from the washrooms, toilet flushing, and kitchen for reuse. This is a project that has been successfully implemented in many places worldwide and hopefully soon with us. Special thanks go to the Rotary Club Munich-Hofgarten for their financial support. We would greatly appreciate further sponsors who are particularly concerned about the water issue.

Now, moving on to some news from the Academy: a school bakery is currently being established as the first campus-specific practical project. Our home economics students and all other baking enthusiasts will not only learn how to bake but also gain knowledge about economic shopping, proper calculation, and the best selling methods. The initiators are considering the whole village community as potential customers. We would like to express our sincere thanks for the financial support of school-specific practical projects to the Stefan Krause Foundation/PMK Foundation.

Last but not least, thanks to the support of Sternstunden e.V., additional buildings for boys and girls and the large outdoor kitchen with a dining area have been completed in the Academy's boarding school. This provides enough space for the new school year. At this point, we would like to extend a huge thank you to all our private and individual donors. Without you, regular operations and many smaller projects would not be possible!

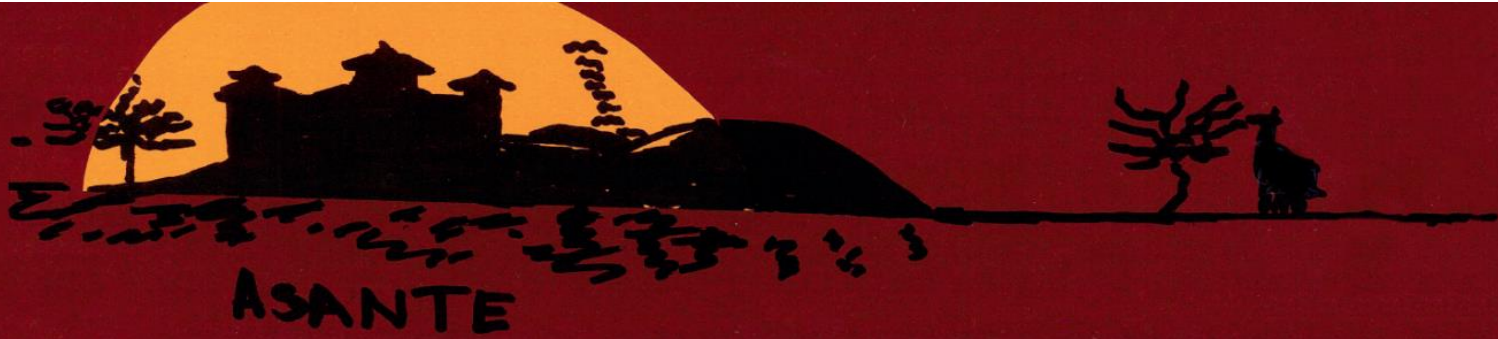
**Announcements:**

**MMP Letters:**

We kindly ask all sponsors to send their letters to Helen Milkau by **October 18th** at the latest to:

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mmp@4kenya.info

**Invitation to the General Assembly**

We have another members' general assembly coming up, and we would like to cordially invite you to the Gasthof Neuwirt in Hallbergmoos on Saturday, October 21st.

The meeting is scheduled from 4 PM to 6:30 PM, and there will be time for conversations with all active members during the subsequent dinner.

Please register by October 3, 2023, at the latest, preferably by email to [stefan@walk-family.com](mailto:stefan@walk-family.com).

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