



## Happy New Year!

As the new year approaches and we reflect on all that we've accomplished, we want to thank you for your support, your generosity, and your encouragement.

In 2023, you provided complete care for 42 girls living with us at Hekima Place, you opened the doorway for 19 girls to attend a quality high school, and you provided incredible opportunities for 16 young women in higher education. Without you, none of this would be possible.

As we all prepare ourselves for 2024, we take stock in where we have been and where we will go. And with you as part of our family, we know the future will be bright.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you. You make this all happen. Together, we are building the future... one girl at a time. And together, it is time to ring in the new year!

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**Happy 85th Birthday  
Mum Kate!**

**We love you!**



There was so much to celebrate over the past few months at Hekima Place!

- We celebrated Kate and Margaret's safe return to Hekima place after spending several weeks providing wonderful updates and sharing our mission with US supporters! Part of this wonderful gathering was celebrating Mum Kate's 85th birthday! Please join us in sending her love for this joyous occasion!
- In November, we welcomed community health care workers from the Ministry of Health. This visit was provided critical health care support as the girls under 5 years of age received their immunization against Polio.
- The girls planted 20 tree seedlings, most of which comprised fruit trees, to celebrate the public holiday of Planting Day! This was a wonderful experience for the girls to get their hands dirty while they learned more about agriculture and learned to care of their planet. Not only will this be

a wonderful activity for the girls to continue to participate in but they will also be able to enjoy the rewards of their dedication once the trees are old enough to produce nutritious fruits!

- As the 2023 school term came to an end, we have wonderful updates on their progress throughout their educational journey! We are extremely proud of each student and their performance as they build a strong foundation for their future.
  - The primary school students (grade preschool through 5th grade) are either meeting or exceeding expectations in the new Competency Based Curriculum. This is fantastic news as they prepare for their next school term where some will sit for the 6th grade exams.
  - We had three 6th graders sit for their Kenya Primary School Education Assessment Exams (K.P.S.E.A). Though we are still awaiting the results, we are sure that each student did their very best and will receive great news soon enough!
  - Six 8th graders took the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (K.C.P.E.) exams. This exam determines the type of high school or technical school they would be eligible to attend. Four students passed with strong numbers and will transition into a high school best suited for their career path. Two students performed well and go on to attend a technical or vocational school where the learning will be more hands on.

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## And I'm off!

I will be visiting Hekima Place throughout the month of January! If you don't already, be sure to follow up on social media for live updates directly from Kenya!

Interested in learning more about something specific, send us a direct message on Facebook or Instagram and we will do our best to share it!



Traveling to  
Hekima Place!





And that is a wrap for the 2023 school year!

- At the end of the 2023 school term, Hekima Hills Learning Centre said farewell to 259 students (157 girls and 102 boys) as they went home for the holidays! We are excited for the new year to start but please join us in congratulating them on their success!
  - We shared a little about the Kenya Primary School Education Assessment Exams (K.P.S.E.A) as an update about our home but wanted to ensure we also mentioned that an additional 23 students also sat for this exam. We are awaiting their results but are so proud of each student's hard work and dedication.
  - We love to share the success of each student learning with us and the difference it makes in their lives, especially for the young girls, but lets switch it up and talk about the fantastic staff we have! At the end of this school term, we have a complete staff of 33 that is made up of 21 females and 12 males. This includes our administration office, the head teacher or principal, and educators. We are so thankful to have such a fantastic team who are truly helping young minds thrive!
  - Hekima Hills Learning Centre has identified a needed project of installing solar panels at the school in order to offset the cost of fuel and high electricity bills as the cost continues to rise. With the help of a wonderful supporter in the US, we have raised the necessary funds and will be installing these panels at the beginning of 2024. Thank you to your friend for your generosity and commitment to the education of each and every student at HHLC!
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