



REACHING AND TEACHING

FALL, 2023



AN UPDATE FROM KAREN EWERTH
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In 1996, the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL) started West Nairobi School. The school was intended to provide a quality North American Christian education for children of missionaries, expatriates, and nationals. In 2002, the Network of International Christian Schools (NICS) began operating WNS.

As one of 15 Network Schools across the globe, WNS seeks to reach the world for Christ through international Christian education. The campus is located on 10 beautiful acres in Karen, Kenya, a suburb of the capital city of Nairobi. We have 370+ students from over 30 different countries. Our teaching staff comes from Canada, Kenya, Korea and the USA.

Nairobi has a population just over 5 million people. The port of Mombasa and the political stability make it an important city on the coast of East Africa. Many mission agencies, NGOs and International Businesses choose Nairobi as their home base. WNS considers it a privilege to partner with parents in the education of their children, sharing the gospel and discipling believers for the Glory of God and the expanse of His Kingdom!



LITTLE LEARNERS

Teaching 4 and 5 years olds is for legends. As the art teacher, the adventure abounds with glue and glitter and paint and permanent markers on Friday afternoons. Still their sense of awe and wonder in discovering the world through art remains one of my favorite things. Today Daniel watched paint swirl off a brush into the water, changing the color instantly. As he gazed into the water, I pray that one day he will gaze at the LIVING WATER and be transformed.



Pray with me!

PRaising the LORD FOR...

- His sustaining grace. This fall begins my 10th year at WNS.
- His abundant provision. The art department has received some additional funds to expand our program including an additional Middle School/ Digital Art classroom, a large job printer, and elementary art books for the art room library.
- His grace in providing a Full time High School Principal. Our Admin team will be complete in November.

PRaying FOR...

- The salvation of our students and their whole households. Many of our students come from families of other faiths. What an honor to read God's Word with them at school, to open class in prayer, to listen and be the hands and feet of Christ. Pray that we would do this faithfully!
- Our teaching contracts are 2 years long. Every fall a number of teachers are offered the opportunity to resign- extending their contracts. This can be a hard decision. Pray that the Lord would make HIS plans clear A favorite verse to pray is Psalm 31:3b. "For the sake of your name, lead me and guide me."

HIGH SCHOOL CERAMICS

Did you know that the Lord sent Jeremiah on a field trip to a Pottery Studio? Read Jeremiah 18!

The Lord Almighty, who made heaven and earth, revealed himself and his judgement for Israel through clay and the hands of a potter. I am so glad that HE STILL IS! God provided a kiln, pottery wheels and clay for us! over the past five years. This is the second year that I get to teach a full time High School Ceramics Class.

The processes of centering and pulling the clay on the pottery wheel, taking raw materials and making something beautiful is an incredible picture of God's hand in each of our lives. He isn't afraid of messy. He knows no failure. He still chooses jars of clay!



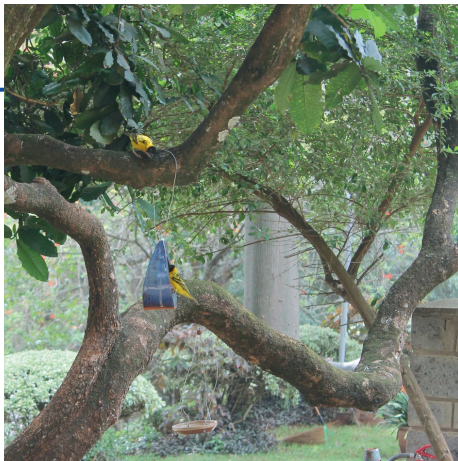
RECENT PROJECTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



"NAMES OF THE NATIONS" MURAL

Our Administration Office was relocated and a new lobby became the canvas for one of my favorite art teacher projects. Our director had a vision for the wooden map and asked if I could contribute to complete the piece.

As I sat in the parking lot drinking an extra large coffee and finishing some planning, the Lord gave me a new idea: paint the names of the nations. Text is hard to paint well. Will 192 names fit? Can I do it? A prayer of faith as I started- "Lord I trust that you who made all the nations, you who wants all the nations at your throne room, you can make a way. He did! He does. He is making a way for the Nations to know his name!



LOOK AT THE BIRDS- CERAMIC FEEDERS

Our campus is a really beautiful place. We have Avocado trees and Palm trees and Geranium plants that are four feet tall. The landscape provides a quiet beauty amidst the bustling sounds of the playground and students passing in the halls. The buildings are terraced into a steep hill that offers an exercise routine that rivals the gym.

And so sometimes we take our sketchbooks outside and draw the trunks of the Acacia trees and Jacaranda flowers before they fall. Jacaranda flowers are the prettiest shade of lavender and they fall in November.

Jesus used the things He made to reveal his goodness. He urges the crowd to "Look at the birds and not worry". "Look at the Birds" became the title of a collaborative ceramic piece. Last year's class created bird feeders in May and now those little feeders bring the birds and the reminder of God's generous provision. He gives us good things!



SENIOR MURAL "ONCE A RHINO"

The Class of 2023 wanted to give an artwork as their Senior Gift. The last week in May is ambitious, borderline unwise. However, shushing the laughter as 24 Seniors, already graduated, covered in paint, was well worth the crazy! Their artwork adorns the High School hallway between two buildings and represents the beauty in diversity and their permanent status of being a rhino- the WNS mascot. As is often said at graduation, "Once a Rhino, Always a Rhino".

INSTRUCTIONAL COACHING:

CHRIST CENTERED INSTRUCTION AND BIBLICAL INTEGRATION

One successful model of professional development is collegial instructional coaching. Peer teachers are extensively trained in a program or focus area and collaborate with other teachers to further develop their teaching skills.

Myself and two other teachers were offered the opportunity to train and serve our school as instructional coaches in Christ Centered Instruction and Biblical Worldview Integration.

We will continue throughout the year crafting our skills of revealing Biblical Principles in our content areas, (for me- that's ART) and implementing specific strategies for students to engage in Scripture analysis and worldview discussions.

It feels like I am in grad school again, submitting lesson plans and filming myself teaching. Still, it is an honor to participate in this essential task of learning how to share God's Word in an academic sphere, and to walk along other teachers as they do the same.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM: NOT QUITE COACHING



To quote a lovely Kenya friend, "I don't like to run, but I love to chase people." So you can find me running with our middle school girls cross country team a few days a week- as a regular volunteer inspirationalist!