

## Newsletter 2026 Jan / Feb

### New children

- At the beginning of this year, UN-CSO welcomed several new children into our community.

- Our mission is to support as many children as possible especially those facing significant challenges in education and difficult family circumstances. We are committed to helping them develop their full potential, complete their schooling successfully, and build a future grounded in independence, stability, and security.

- To ensure a careful and responsible selection process, UN-CSO works closely with local schools and maintains direct communication with parents and guardians. This allows us to identify those children who are most in need of support.

- The extent of assistance we can provide depends entirely on voluntary donations.

Every contribution is directed where it is most urgently needed, covering essential costs such as access to water, nutritious food, safe accommodation, and other basic necessities.

GRADE 1: Demeteria, Phillip

GRADE 2: Conerlous, Ekandjo, Paulina H.

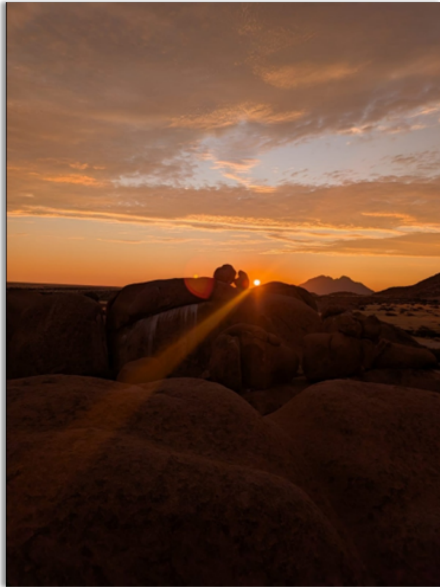
GRADE 3: Queen, Maria, Amon

GRADE 4: Mwengo, Lukas

GRADE 5: Marcelin, Kapande

GRADE 6: Emanuel

# Newsletter



Issue 1/2026

Many hands –  
one community



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## Greetings

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Welcome to our first newsletter of 2026!

We're excited to share a few highlights, stories, and moments from the past weeks with you.

A lot has been happening in our community, and we're happy to give you a little glimpse into our daily activities and projects. None of this would be possible without your support thank you for being part of what we do and for helping us make a difference.

We hope you enjoy reading and getting to know our work a bit better.

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## A Glimpse Into the Projects Daily Routine

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Each day in our after-school program begins with a warm nourishing meal, which for many children is an essential and sometimes the most important part of their day. Afterward, we support the children with their homework, encourage academic learning, and provide a stable structure that promotes concentration, security, and personal development.

Beyond academic support, we place strong emphasis on creative, social, and exercise activities to help children build self-confidence and experience positive community.

## Welcoming New Children to our Community

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## Welcoming New Children to our Community

### Grade 1

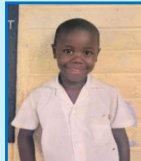


*Demeteria*



*Phillip*

### Grade 2



*Conerlous*



*Ekandjo*



*Paulina*

### Grade 3



*Amon*



*Maria*



*Queen*

### Grade 4



*Lukas*



*Mwengo*

### Grade 5



*Kapande*



*Marcelin*

### Grade 6



*Emmanuel*

## Distribution of New School Clothes

### Ready for the Year Ahead

In order to ensure that every child can begin the school year on equal footing, UN-CSO covers the annual cost of a complete set of school clothes. This includes black shoes with white or grey socks, a grey skirt for girls or trousers for boys, a white shirt, and—depending on availability—shorts for physical education. In addition, each child receives a school bag.

Providing these essentials helps ensure that all children are dressed appropriately and equally among their classmates. It supports a sense of belonging within the classroom and prevents children from feeling excluded or embarrassed due to their family's financial situation.

**Grade 1, 2 and 3**



**Grade 4**



**Grade 5**



The joy on their faces when they see themselves fully dressed for school speaks for itself. Standing tall in their new outfits, many carry themselves with a renewed sense of pride—feeling confident, respected, and ready to learn.

## (I) Project - Friendship Bracelettes

As part of our community-building activities, we introduced Project “Bracelets of Friendship.” Each child received pearls and decorative elements to design a unique bracelet, shaped by creativity, patience, and care. With great focus and mutual support, colorful and individual pieces were created—each one reflecting personal effort and intention while strengthening fine motor skills, cooperation, and respect.

Once completed, all bracelets were placed together in a box. Each child then chose one for a friend, without knowing which bracelet they would receive in return. The beauty of the moment lay in this uncertainty: what mattered was the trust that everyone had invested time and dedication to create something meaningful.

*Created with heart — shared in trust*



Through this symbolic exchange, the children experienced a valuable lesson: friendship is not something to be taken for granted. It grows through shared time, sincere effort, and kindness. The bracelets now serve as vibrant reminders of connection, solidarity, and the strength of community.

## (II) Project – Community art



With the support of a local artist from Windhoek, the children discovered what it means to create art together.

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She provided acrylic paints and guided them step by step, encouraging the group to see the canvas not as an individual space, but as a collective one that could be shaped as a group.



In this shared process, two large paintings were created, both involving children from all grades. The older ones patiently helped the younger ones with brushes and colors, so that the act of painting itself became a moment of cooperation, learning, and mutual encouragement.



The first painting was based on a motif developed by the children. It offered space for imagination and personal expression, while also requiring discussion, compromise, and shared decision-making. The result reflects not only creativity, but the ability to find common ground within a group.

The second piece is an abstract composition. While the lines were prepared in advance, the colors and forms were brought to life by the children.

The artwork symbolizes the richness and diversity of community—different shapes and colors meeting directly at their borders.



### (III) Project – Valentines Day

Around Valentine’s Day, we designed handmade gift cards that the children could give to someone special in their lives. Depending on their grade, they created either a cheerful ladybug card or a heart-shaped rose design. Inside each card, the children wrote a personal message.

The idea behind this project was to encourage the children to express appreciation and affection in a thoughtful way. By creating something with their own hands and adding a personal note, they learned that small gestures can carry deep meaning—and that showing gratitude, kindness, and love strengthens the bonds we share with others.



*Selma, Grade 5*

*Meroney, Grade 5*

Where there  
is love ...

... there is life

#### (IV) Project – Many Hands One Community

To deepen the sense of belonging within UN-CSO, we created a special T-shirt that visibly expresses what our community stands for: individuality within unity. The goal was to design something meaningful that children could proudly wear and immediately associate with their shared identity.

For this project, white T-shirts were prepared in advance. On the front, they carry the central message: “Many Hands – One Community.” On the back, each child’s name was printed. To make every shirt truly personal, the back of each child’s hand was painted in their favorite color and pressed onto the fabric, creating a unique handprint.

On the front collar, the children added thumbprints of different friends in bright rainbow colors, forming a small, colorful flower pattern. This detail symbolizes friendship, connection, and the beauty of diversity within the group.



**How Our T-shirts Came to Life**



### Individuality Within Unity

Now, every child owns a T-shirt that reflects their personal preferences and creativity. At the same time, all shirts are united by the shared message and design. UN-CSO values the individuality, talents, and voices of each child—while also fostering cooperation, compromise, and mutual support. Together, they form a community that feels like a family: one that allows every individual to be seen, heard, and appreciated

## (V) Project – Digital Learning Corner

Thanks to two earlier volunteers, Celine and Anna, beginnt UNCSO eine digital learning corner zu etablieren. Die Idee ist den Kindern, unabhängig von deren Umständen Zuhause einen stabilen Zugang zum Internet zu ermöglichen. Auf diesem Wege wird es ihnen möglich sein Internetrecherchen für Schulprojekte zu betreiben.

Um mit den Herausforderungen der Heranziehung digitaler Quellen umgehen zu lernen werden die Kinder dabei von Voluntären und Marianne ge-coached. Mit diesem Projekt wird versucht den Kindern eine digitale Kompetenz zu vermitteln die für ihr zukünftiges Leben von großer Relevanz sein wird.

Es sei an diesem Punkt gesagt das das Projekt noch in den Kinderschuhen steckt, sodass die Organisation und der Bau eines geschlossenen Raumes / abgetrennten Bereiches pro Laptop pro Kind noch ausgearbeitet werden wird.

### A first start – Setting Up a Digital Learning Corner



## *House Visits*



### **House Visits**

As part of our ongoing work, we conducted several house visits to gain a deeper understanding of the living conditions of the children and their families. These visits allow us to see beyond the daily program and better understand the challenges many families are facing.

By speaking directly with parents and caregivers, we are able to identify where support is most urgently needed whether it is access to basic necessities, educational support, or a more stable environment for the children.

These personal encounters are essential for our work. They help us respond in a more thoughtful and responsible way, ensuring that our support reaches those who need it most and creates a meaningful, lasting impact.



## Vision and Acknowledgement

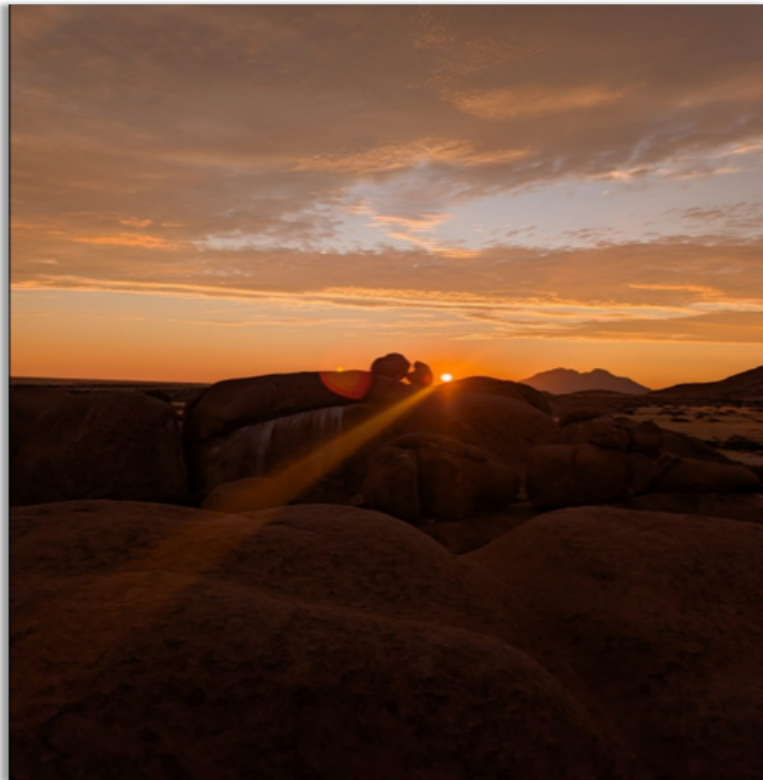
### Vision and Acknowledgement

Our vision is to create a supportive and empowering environment where every child has the opportunity to grow, learn, and build a stable future. We believe in the strength of community, in equal opportunities, and in the importance of guiding children with care, respect, and consistency.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who contributes to this work. A special thank you goes to our host parents, Marianne and Sakki, whose dedication, warmth, and daily commitment make this project possible.

We are equally thankful to the children, whose energy, creativity, and openness bring life to every activity and project. Their enthusiasm and willingness to learn are a constant source of inspiration.

Finally, we thank all supporters and contributors who stand behind this initiative. Together, we are building more than a project we are building a community.



## ***Contact Information***

### **Contact & Volunteering**

If you would like to learn more about our work or get in touch, we warmly invite you to visit our website:

[www.uncso.org](http://www.uncso.org)

There you will find further information about our project, our daily activities, and ways to connect with us directly.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit the website for full details on the application process and requirements.

We are always happy to welcome new people who would like to support and become part of our community.