



Okapi Dorm (2018-2019)



Jewells in Africa

Kwaheri and Karibu!



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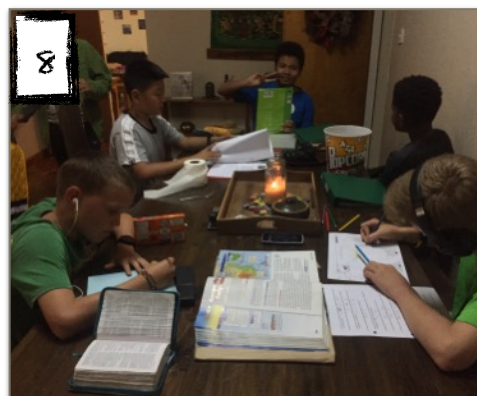
2019 was a time of goodbye (kwaheri) and welcome (karibu) for us in Okapi Dorm. After living with us for the last two years, our second group of dorm boys moved on to high school this past August (but we still get to see them and interact with them around campus), and we were blessed with a new group of 7th grade boys - our third since coming to RVA - who will now be with us until they move on to high school in two years!



Although our primary role at Rift Valley Academy continues to be dorm parents for junior high boys, we are also involved in many other areas at the school. Along with continuing to teach and lead the learning skills team for accreditation, David took on the junior high coordinator position in August, which involves many different things related to overseeing grades 7 and 8 at the school. Ashley stays busy not only with our own two children, but also with many things related to our boys in the dorm, such as making snacks, monitoring room cleanliness, and corresponding with the boys' parents. Beau started kindergarten this year, and he loves it. He also really enjoys the bit of independence this has brought, such as walking back and forth to school. Everleigh likes to stay busy and climb, and she loves watching the monkeys!

OKAPI DORM OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS

1. One of our favorite hiking places off-campus, with a great view of the valley; 2. Jr. High Swim Day in Nairobi, with all 7th and 8th grade RVA students (as Jr. High coordinator, David was in charge of organizing it this year); 3. Celebrating Multi-Cultural Day (which recognizes RVA's many different cultures and involves various activities); 4. Table games are always popular in Okapi; 5. Dorm Christmas party; 6. Dressing up for Carnival (which is a campus activity with games and candy prizes); 7. Working on cars for Pinewood Derby 2019 (most of our dorm boys made cars and raced them in the derby); 8. Study time in the dorm; 9. Dorm Christmas party; 10. Evi with one of her "big brothers"; 11. Beau and all his "dorm brothers"; 12. Foosball fun



PRAISES

1. Our first group of dorm boys are now juniors, and two of them have been coming once a week to lead dorm devotions with our current group of 7th graders. This has been such a blessing for us!
2. The first few months with our new group of dorm boys has started off very well! They have been easy to get to know, and they have gotten along fairly well with each other.



PRAYER REQUESTS

1. Over the past two years, RVA has been going through quite a bit of transition. Please pray for wisdom for those involved in making decisions and leading this work.
2. Please pray for the hearts of our dorm boys - and all RVA students - to be constantly desiring God. They face many of the same challenges and distractions that their peers around the world do.

