



A PROJECT OF THE
UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S
ASSOCIATION

University of Nigeria,
Nsukka, Nigeria

www.childrenscentreunn.org

*By reading we learn,
By knowledge we serve*

NEWSLETTER

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In This Issue

What an eventful year this has been! This newsletter reports a few highlights.

New Play Sculptures for the Centre

The playground now has two tortoise play sculptures constructed by students of the Department of Fine and Applied Arts, under the direction of Dr. Chijioke Onuora. Funds were provided by Lis Peri from the Sandor Peri Memorial Art Prize. Sandor Peri, university architect in the 1980s, developed and donated the blueprint for the Children's Centre building.



Best School Library Competition

The Children's Centre organized a Best School Library Competition for Nsukka Central Local Government Area in a bid to further spur school library development. Twenty-three schools, 14 of them with already established libraries and 9 just starting libraries, registered for the competition with N500. The culmination of the competition was a ceremony conducted on October 23, 2012.



Anthonia Ugwu of Nsukka Educ.
Authority advising teachers



Amaka Ejikeme presents certificate for 2nd place to
Agu Achara P.S. while Virginia Dike looks on



Grace Onyebuchi explaining
evaluation of project work

Award-Winning School Libraries



Agu Achara P.S. II



Community P.S. II, Nru



C.P.S. I, Nru



Agu Achara P.S. I

Comic Book Writing for Literacy Workshops

Prof. Obiajulu Emejulu, on sabbatical with the Department of Library & Information Science, led a series of workshops on how to use creation of comic books as a way of developing literacy and creative skills. The first was a trainers' workshop held in Feb.-March, 2013 for members of the Children's Centre Committee, lecturers, teachers from award-winning primary schools, and Nsukka prison warders. Skills learned were first applied in activities with children during the Long Vacation Programme. In October 2013, Prof. Emejulu and the trainees were joined by the originator of the comic book writing programme, Dr. Michael Bitz from Ramapo University in the United States, for a teachers' workshop preceding the Reading Association of Nigeria (RAN) Mid-term Conference hosted at the University of Nigeria.



Prof. Emejulu presenting visual literacy



Teacher creating her comic panels



Dr. Bitz discussing participants' work

Excursion to the National War Museum, Umuahia

On Sept. 11, 2013, the Cubs Football Team visited the National War Museum. Members levied themselves N1,000 and received donations of N10,000 from Prof Nkadi Onyegebgu and N1,000 from Dr. Goodhead Uchendu. Memories of this enjoyable and educative excursion will stay with the Cubs for a long time.



Long Vacation Programme 2013



Creative writing



Making biography pocket books with Mrs. Ngozi Osadebe & Prof. Obi Emejulu



A completed comic book

Holiday activities ran throughout the month of August, with Prof. Obi Emejulu playing a leadership role in introducing new creative writing exercises. The 214 children were divided into 4 groups from nursery to secondary school age. Among the activities were creative writing; expressive arts such as dance, music and drama; cookery, storytelling and puzzles; talks; excursions; and computer training in the MTN digital library. Here are some of the activities.



Learning ballet



Learning to play the piano



Making puzzles



Our youngest library user



Storytelling for juniors



Enjoying friends in the library



Sr. Forum with Dr. Goodhead Uchendu



Cookery with Mrs Ezinne Njoku



Making chin chin

Special thanks go to Prof. Obiajulu Emejulu, Mrs. Ngozi Osadebe, Mrs. Amaka Ejikeme, Mrs. Grace Onyebuchi, Dr. Meg Ngwuchukwu, Mrs. Elizabeth Babarinde, Mr. Tony Izuchukwu, Mr. Kingsley Ihejirika, Mrs. Rose Asogwa, members of AIESEC, Dr. Goodhead Uchendu, and Dr. Charles Omekwu, for providing the MTN digital library for ICT training. The children performed for parents and friends at the end of this very successful programme.