



PRESS RELEASE
Lagos, 21st December 2016

SS PETER & PAUL and ST JOHN SCHOOLS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES WITH VODACOM

Lagos, Dec 21, 2016 – SS Peter & Paul Crèche, Nursery and Primary School Ikate Elegushi and St John Nursery & Primary School Ikorodu, Lagos, on the occasion of their Christmas festivity, celebrated the generous donation made by Vodacom Business Nigeria.

SS Peter & Paul School's students welcomed and thanked Mr Lanre Kolade, Managing Director Vodacom Business Nigeria and his team who made the celebration a special one, by donating not only Vodacom branded backpacks and water bottles to each child, but also a fully-equipped library to the school.

The two schools together enrol over 700 students with 300 students in SS Peter & Paul School, Ikate Elegushi and 400 in St John School, Ikorodu, Lagos. Both schools focus their efforts in accompanying their students in the discovery of every aspect of their reality, by encouraging them to experience first hand, through educational activity, how positive reality is. The schools were established to provide quality primary education to all the children in the community, irrespective of their socio-economic backgrounds. Over 60% of the students have access to primary education, through the support of local and international donors who generously contribute to their needs. This is a fundamental educational choice made by Loving Gaze since its inception. The not-for profit organization upholds that education shall be a right beyond socio-economical circumstance and the quality of education will not be compromised to raise adults who can "see with an open heart", understand the value of each person, the love for beauty, the respect and care for one's self and others".

In both schools, students are engaged in the story reading activity, led by their teachers. This year the schools focused on the well-known children's book "Pinocchio" written by Carlo Collodi. The main purpose of this activity is to stimulate the children's imagination, a vivid talent at their age, which needs to be exercised and engaged. This is why Loving Gaze is particularly grateful to Vodacom Business Nigeria, for donating this library to SS Peter & Paul Crèche, Nursery and Primary School

Ms Barbara Pepoli, General Manager of Loving Gaze said "We are really excited about the new library donated to the school by Vodacom. The library is now a child-friendly area, with bookshelves, reading tables, LCD Television and a wide range of books for all our students, from nursery 1 to primary 6.

Speaking at the event was Mr Lanre Kolade, Managing Director, Vodacom Business Nigeria who said, "As Vodacom we strongly believe children need the best encouragement to nurture their talents. We are really excited to see the enthusiasm of SS Peter & Paul students today, as they walk into their new library". He encouraged the students to use the library to learn about other countries, cultures, music and science. "By reading books you become more knowledgeable and that makes you a greater person in the future," he said.

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ABOUT LOVING GAZE

Loving Gaze is an independent not-for-profit organization, with 25 years of experience in Nigeria. We serve the unprivileged community in Lagos and Taraba State, through educational activities, basic health care service, women empowerment and vocational training. Run by a multi-cultural team of 150 Nigerian professionals, Italian expatriates and international volunteers. We recognize and respect each individual life and dignity without gender, religious or ethnic boundaries. We believe there is a desire for joy, hope and positive change in each of us. Our purpose is to serve with care, joy and professionalism people in need, to ignite hope and seeds for growth. For more info, visit our website: www.lovinggaze.org.

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