



PRESS RELEASE
Lagos, 16th July 2015

**“WHAT IS ESSENTIAL CAN ONLY BE SEEN WITH AN OPEN HEART”
END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR CELEBRATION AT SS. PETER & PAUL SCHOOL**

On July 16th, Loving Gaze celebrated the 2015 End of the Year Party and Graduation Ceremony, with 360 students and families, at SS. Peter & Paul Crèche, Nursery & Primary School, Ikate Elegushi, Lekki, Lagos. Loving Gaze thanks the Italian Consul General to Nigeria, Andrea Pompermaier, for attending the event and inspiring the children with his experience.

The day was filled with excitement; children and family celebrated the completion of a long year of study and personal growth. It was an opportunity for our students to bring on stage the “Little Prince” written by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, play together and showcase their singing and dancing talents. The graduating class was the most excited, savouring a special day of farewells and new beginnings. The teaching body praised the twelve students who passed the admission exams to selective and prestigious secondary schools in Lagos states, such as: Day Waterman College, St Gregory College and Lagoon School.

SS Peter & Paul Crèche, Nursery & Primary School was opened in 1991, as a Catholic Private School, registered with the State Ministry of Education, under Eti-Osa Local Education District. Our students have an international exposure thanks to the support of Lucia Melchiori, the School Director, and eight (8) international volunteer teachers from France, Australia and Italy. The school strives to raise the quality of teaching and overall environment. It now has a renovated outdoor space for physical activities and sport competitions, a newly equipped computer lab and in 2015, we also initiated the afternoon classes to support the students in their homework and offer additional time dedicated to arts, music and sport.

Barbara Pepoli - Loving Gaze General Manager - says, *“The school was founded to provide quality primary education to all the children in the community, beyond the barriers of their social or economical backgrounds. Over 60% of our students have access to primary education thanks to 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: education shall be a right beyond socio-economical circumstances and the quality of education should not be compromised if we want 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 themselves and others”.*

Andrea Pompermaier – Italian Consul General to Nigeria – adds *“Italy firmly believes that education promotes peace, prosperity, progress, reciprocal understanding and tolerance. Each school on earth is more precious than a diamond mine, and the experience and the knowledge we gather in school are an inestimable endowment which accompany us through our life’s journey; in our minds and in our hearts”.*



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.

PRESS CONTACT

Barbara Pepoli, Loving Gaze General Manager, mob +234 0806 251 8907, e-mail Barbara.pepoli@lovinggaze.org