**Reunion is fun**

Morphius drums with students of the Comprehensive School Emsland for a relief project in **Ghana**

Morphius Eurapson-Quaye is no longer an unfamiliar guest for the students of the Comprehensive School Emsland. The music professor regularly comes to Lingen in order to beat the drums together with them for his relief project in Winneba. On Friday it was time again.

Lingen

Some breakups are only temporary, the students at the Comprehensive School Emsland know that for sure. Hence at least one a year the school headmaster Martin Weber, his teacher colleagues and his students have so say goodbye. But when the time has come the pain of separation is limited because everybody knows: “He will be back soon”.

He, that is Morphius Eurapson-Quaye, whom they all at the Comprehensive School Emsland only call by his first name. Among friends this is customary, says headmaster Weber modestly. And what the professor and the institution have been cultivating for years is probably what many would call the epitome of intimate friendship.

For over 18 years now he Ghanaian has been coming to the Emsland area regularly to offer drumming workshops at the schools. The commitment of the music professor has a quite serious background: In 2006 he founded the CTE school, the “Centre for Talent Expression”, which wants to provide to the poorest people in Ghana with a vocational training so that they can make a living. The institution is not supported by the state, it has to be fully funded by donations and even pay taxes. This is the reason why Morphius has been coming to Germany regularly since 1999, to raise funds for his school.

One of the schools which Morphius regularly visits is namely the the Comprehensive School Emsland – and with each exchange, the mutual connection grew stronger. The alliance tentatively culminated in a visit last year as part of the school's tenth anniversary, when a delegation from the Emsland traveled to Ghana to inaugurate a home for the students funded by donations from the Emsland. Following this, they decided in Lingen to found a support association. It’s first success: Starting in summer there is regular electric power supply for the school – a photovoltaic system could be installed.

In the past three weeks, Morphius was traveling again through the Emsland area, and of course also made a stopover at the Comprehensive School Emsland. In doing so he drummed with students of grades five and seven and rehearsed various choreographies. The results were presentend on Friday night in a performance that was also intended to draw attention to the CTE project and to collect further funds for a water supply project. And that finally worked: 4,000 € were required for the project, in the Emsland area alone, Morphius, who visited four different schools, was able to collect 8,000 €. The lion’s share was contributed by the Comprehensive School Emsland in Lingen, where the students were diligent even before the visitor from Ghana. They worked selflessly for an obolus in their neighbors’ garden or did babysitting, only to donate the money later on. Thus the Comprehensive School Emsland contributed more than half of the total of the funds raised.

After three months in Germany Morphius has returned to Ghana. For the Comprehensive School Emsland this breakup is again probably only temporary – there is still a lot to do at the CTE (in Ghana). “For instance, a permanent bus service is required”, says headmaster Weber.