

Newsletter

December 2013

Edition 6

Welcome to our sixth Newsletter.

EducAid Africa has now been supporting schools and pupils in Kenya for 21 years. The story below illustrates the work we do in Kenya.

The Star Fish Story

There had been a very high tide and hundreds of starfish had been washed up high onto the sand. Now stranded they prepared to die under the strong rays of the sun. A man was walking along the beach and seeing the starfish he bent down and picked up some of the them and put them back into the sea. A second man walked passed by and told him that what he was doing was a waste of time as there were so many starfish he could not possibly help them all. To this comment the man replied "To those that he had helped it really mattered"

There are thousands of young people in Kenya who need help but like the starfish we can only help a few but to those few the help we give them really matters and in many cases it changes their lives



The quotations from grateful pupils also illustrates the value of the work of EducAid Africa.

"Your dedication and passion in improving people's lives through education in this land" "EducAid has changed my life"

" You are the God given angels in my life. When I think of big hearts, love for the lowly in society and compassion , I think of EducAid"

Since our visit to Kenya in February as Trustees we have been very keen to raise money to support the pupils and schools we visited.

Many Solihull schools have taken on the challenge.

Meriden Church of England Primary School.

This small one form entry Primary School had chosen to support EducAid by holding a charity day in June 2013. However it had to be cancelled due to bad weather. The school then decided to give all the proceeds from the end of year production to EducAid. They also had a no uniform day. We are delighted to report that the school raised £824.11 . A wonderful effort by the whole school. The cheque was presented to one of the trustees in an assembly recently.

This money will be used to buy much needed books and equipment for the primary schools that we support.

Langley School

Africa Day helps raise awareness and cash. Langley School pupils held an Africa Day in July to learn about the vast differences between daily life in Britain and Africa. Throughout the day the pupils raised money for those less fortunate than themselves through activities including dancing and music, outdoor cooking African food and creating African artefacts and much more. The school were hoping to raise £ 1300 to sponsor a Kenyan student for four years of education and boarding. In actual fact they raised the fantastic total of £3128 so they will now be sponsoring 2 students . Some of the trustees visited the school during the day to see the different activities and it was great to see pupils and staff having such fun and raising money at the same time.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Davie who masterminded the whole day and a small group of Year 7 pupils who with Mrs Davie organised several cake sales throughout the year.

Such was the success of the day it is to take place again next year and EducAid will benefit again so a MASSIVE THANK YOU TO LANGLEY

African
Masks



African Art



Dance and drumming workshops



Lyndon Secondary School

Once again Lyndon School pupils have risen to the challenge of fund raising. Year seven pupils as part of their curriculum work organised an Africa Day. Like Langley School an exciting day of art work, dance and bring and buy sales took place and they raised £2713.89.



Well done Lyndon School

Pupils' bring and buy sales



FUND RAISING IS FUN



Thank you Lyndon School

Coppice Junior School

Trustee Linda visited Coppice to take Assembly in October. It was then to be followed by a walk and talk around the school. Unfortunately it was a wet morning so the children all had a session in the school hall taking part in a fun circuit.

Coppice have been involved with raising money for EducAid for many years providing equipment for primary and nursery pupils.

The Trustees would like to thank three year three pupils who held a table top sale in July and raised a fantastic £57.42.

Well done Coppice and thank

Greswold Primary School

The sun shone as Greswold headed to the school field in the name of charity. Greswold has been supporting EducAid Africa, a small Solihull charity, for a number of years. It sponsors children in Kenya who would not be able to go to school without financial support. The enthusiasm from children, parents and staff has been amazing and everyone did a great job raising money, the total by the end of the day had reached over £2000 and continued to rise over the following few days, other money raised this year made a grand total of £3,500 Wow!

A big thank you to everyone who took part and to all families

Valley Infants School

Valley Infant School is one of our new sponsors. Trustee Linda introduced the school to the work of EducAid through one of her inspirational assemblies and as a result the children baked cakes and sold them in school raising a fantastic £86.00

Well done Valley



The money raised from the two Coppice events will provide the second year of schooling for Richard



Greswold pupils taking part in a sponsored walk

Special Relief Fund

A poor harvest in Kenya... Please can you help this Christmas?

This is Joel and this is his Mum. Joel is one of our sponsored pupils in year 2 at St George's School. This year their maize crop has failed so there will be little food on the table for the family this Christmas. She may look cheerful, but that is what surprises us about the people we meet in the rural areas, they always put on a brave face in spite of their poor conditions. How would we cope in such circumstances? The women particularly work hard physically to provide for their families, but when the rain is not enough the crops are poor.



Two years ago we started a special relief fund so that Stephen Arome, our man in Kenya can use his judgement and help families of our sponsored pupils when times are tough and especially at Christmas. These Christian families want to celebrate too, but often have barely enough to survive.

Please can you help with a special donation, however small, to add to this fund, which is not used for education, but to help to nourish our pupils and their families in hard times.

All donations can be sent to Jenni Kitson, Treasurer, 36 Hampton Lane, Solihull, B91 2PZ. If you have completed a Gift Aid form this will still apply. Please mark your donation "Special relief fund".

Thank you!





Happy Christmas to all our sponsors from the nursery pupils.



Happy Christmas from all our secondary pupils.



Happy Christmas from all our former students whose lives we have changed

Message from the Trustees

The Trustees would like to thank the following organisations for their generosity:-

Oak Cottage Primary School
Streetsbrook Infant School
Lady Katherine Leveson Primary School
Greswold Primary School
Coppice Junior School
Damson Wood Infant School
Lyndon School
Langley School
St Helen's Church
St Mary's Church, Temple Balsall
Solihull U3A
Shirley Baptist Church
Solihull Scout Fellowship
Cole District Beavers
Blythe District Beavers
Knowle United reform Church
St Margaret's Church
Olton United Reformed Church
Solihull Methodist Church
Solihull Trefoil Guild
Soft Cat
Coleshill Probus
Meriden Primary School
In addition to many individuals

The Trustees of Educaid Africa, Harry Mills, Ian Carnell, Jenni Kitson, Angela Robson, Linda Maxfield and Lorraine Armstrong would like to wish all our sponsors the compliments of the season

HAPPY CHRISTMAS