

Newsletter Issue: 44
December 2017

Dear Supporters,

Welcome to our festive final update of 2017, which we'll start by wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas! In this newsletter we've got a round up of Catherine's recent visit to the UK and an update on progress at the school. It was lovely to meet so many of you at events during Catherine's trip and we know how much she enjoyed meeting both old and new supporters.

Catherine and Daron's visit



Catherine and Daron arrived at the start of November and Daron quickly regretted his boasting to Catherine that he would “be totally fine” in UK weather after a childhood in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He decided that 4 years in Kenya had acclimatised him too much and at the start he could be found wearing 2 coats – inside! Catherine's more seasoned experience of the UK climate found her coping well with a mere 4 layers... Fortunately they were kept warm with the extent of their activities. Catherine was thrilled to spend time with pupils of all ages at Torquay Girls' Grammar School. She delivered assemblies, met with teachers and met with the Head Girls team who donated £600 towards kitting out the second girls' dormitory with bunk beds, mattresses and mosquito nets. Catherine was amazed by the range of questions she received from pupils at the Sands School, in Ashburton, and at Ermington Primary. However she remarked that this was the first visit where she'd had no questions about animals!

A visit to Dartmoor Vale Rotary Club saw Catherine receive the first cheque for £2,500 towards building the boys bathrooms and toilets – the bricks for this building had been ordered within one week of their arrival back in Kenya! They thoroughly enjoyed the chance to meet individual supporters



at the Hi de Hi evening – which raised £563 – and at two ‘open afternoons’ during their visit. They were able to visit many local churches who have been long standing supporters including Teignmouth Baptist Church and St James’ Church, and met with local MP Anne-Marie Morris.

Daron was very pleased to have the chance to attend not one but two Torquay United matches during their visit. Donated kits from the club mean that the Imprezza football team is now known as ‘Torquay’ and not Imprezza in Kenya! Catherine was asked to address business leaders at a Torquay United Football Club breakfast and made some exciting contacts there.



Finally there was also a little bit of time to squeeze in some R&R during their stay, with trips to go horse riding, to local towns and to a spa for some much needed warmth! Overall the trip was a big success and we know that the memories of it will encourage and sustain Catherine and Daron as they return to some tough conditions in Kenya.

Current progress at Imprezza

There are currently 351 secondary pupils at Imprezza Academy and building is progressing apace. In the picture you can see an overview of the site and the current status of the buildings. Please note that whilst this overview is broadly accurate, in order to accommodate the descriptive text, buildings are not necessarily to scale. Green buildings are complete. Orange buildings are currently in progress – some are built but not yet internally furnished, others have foundations laid, others are paused whilst waiting for additional funding. Red ‘buildings’ are not yet begun but their land area has been set aside until funding has been raised.

Fundraising priorities

As you can see we are moving ever closer to our goal of completing the school site. Our 5 fundraising priorities for Christmas 2017 and 2018 are:

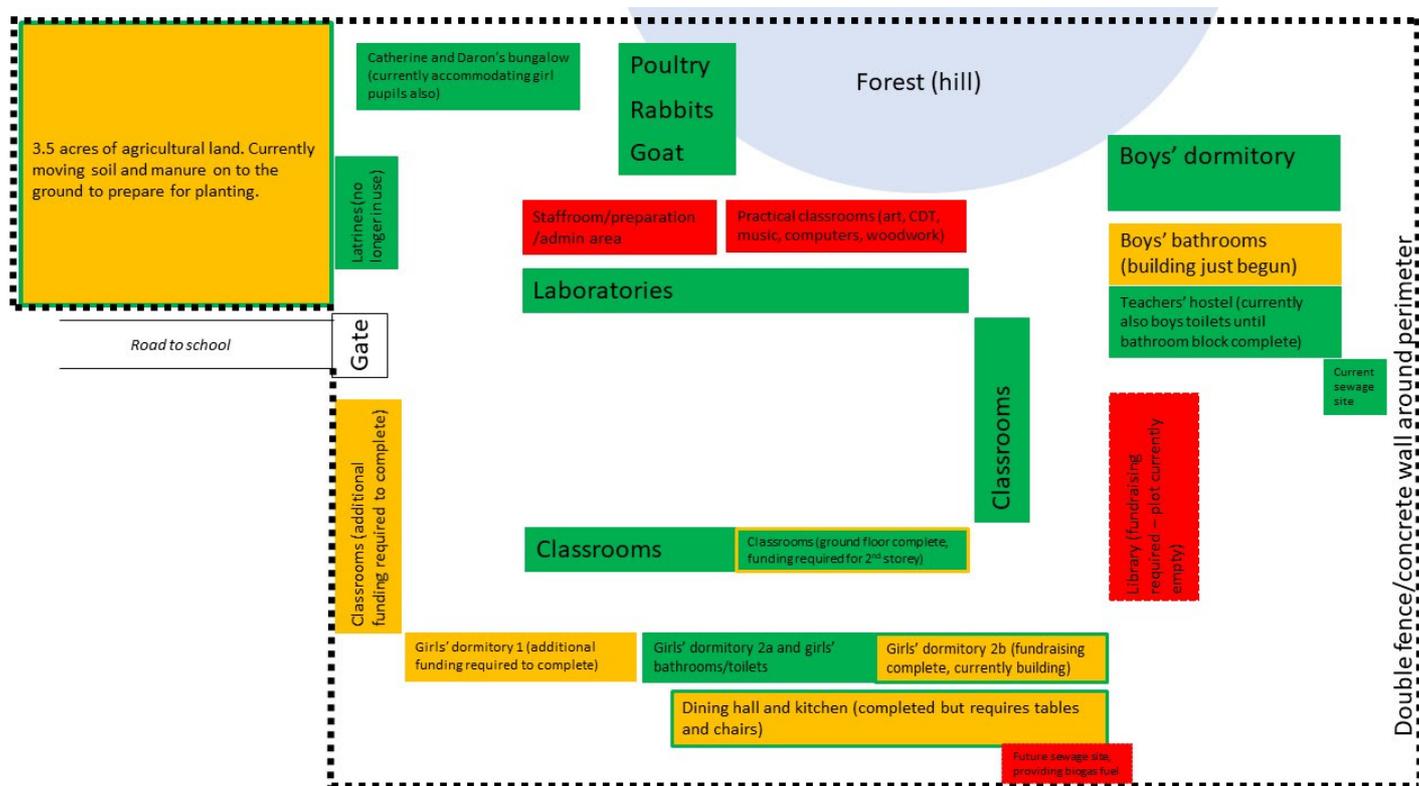
1 = a new printer! Our existing one has died after years of faithful service printing out absolutely everything for the school.

2 = purchase additional land for a sports field. This is a legal requirement and Catherine is coming under increasing pressure from school inspectors to complete this. Currently pupils must walk to a nearby school and use their sports field. Not only has she been told that this is unsatisfactory, but in the long run it would save the school money to have their own field.

3 = complete the classroom block on the left-hand side of the picture (next to the gate)

- 4 = complete girls' dormitory 1
- 5 = equip girls' dormitory 3 with beds and mattresses

If you would like to donate or raise money for any of these priorities, please get in touch!



Thank you!

Operation Imprezza
14, Elm Grove, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8SA

How You Can Help

Did you know you can help raise money for Imprezza when you shop online? Or when you want to get rid of your car? To read more about these easy ways to support Imprezza, please visit www.operation-imprezza.org/donate.html and scroll down to 'Other ways to donate'

- Online: We have several ways to donate online, including PayPal and Virgin Giving. Visit our website at www.operation-imprezza.org and click on the 'donate' button for more information.
- Cash Donation: Make a cash donation to one of the Trustees or Operation Imprezza collection boxes around South Devon. Please do not send any cash in the post. If you know an establishment that would be willing to have a collection box on display, please get in touch.
- Standing Order: To set up a standing order please contact info@operation-imprezza.org
- Cheque: Send a cheque payable to Operation Imprezza to 14 Elm Grove, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8SA
- Legacy: If you would like to leave a gift in your will, please visit our website and click on 'donate' to read more about your options, or get in touch via email or post.

We are also open to any fundraising idea or event, please visit our website at www.operation-imprezza.org and click on the 'donate' button for more information, or contact info@operation-imprezza.org.