

A brief update from one of our students Margaret Awino

How are you? I would like to thank you and the Imprezza community in England for the effort that you do to make sure that we gain knowledge. All of the students at Imprezza have benefited.

The last two terms have been very interesting. Both boys and girls have had the opportunity to participate in games. Even though students from other schools were mocking us we disappointed them by doing well. The skirts donated by Torquay Girls' Grammar School helped us to shine.

Our supporters who visited us from England were so loving and caring and showed us so many interesting things. We had a chance to participate in playing guitars and learning to knit. The school has given students the chance to see that they are better than they thought they were.

At the moment the school is helping us to prepare as much as we can for exams.

Supporters have provided textbooks and workbooks. The laboratory is almost completed and the small hut within the compound has been cemented. There are also improvements in agriculture as the students have planted cow peas, which is a vegetable. With the help of Madam Rose we have planted flowers around the fence to give protection and to make it more beautiful.

I Academically teachers are making use of remedial and free lessons

to help us as much as possible. I would like to thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Margaret Awino

note that since this letter was written the labs have been completed.



Margaret Awino

Operation Imprezza's New Number!

From 1st September 2012, as well as being registered with the Charity Commission, Operation Imprezza has become a Private Limited Company. This makes no difference to what we do but is a better way to run the charity. It does mean that we now have a new Charity Commission number (01200449) so everyone who generously support Imprezza and has filled out a Gift Aid Declaration will be invited to complete a new form to reflect this change. We do hope that you will not mind doing this so that we can continue to collect the Gift Aid from HMRC. It adds over £3000 each year to the money raised for the school.

If you would like a Gift Aid Declaration form and haven't had one before please phone or email us and one will be sent straight away. Anyone who pays tax can do this – it makes a real difference and costs you nothing!

Many thanks

Sue Roberts

Trustee

The Imprezza School garden

Operation Imprezza

Self-sustaining, equal-access education in rural Western Kenya

Company No: 8090833

Registered Charity No: 01200449



Operation Imprezza

Self-sustaining, equal-access education in rural
Western Kenya

Our Mission is to enable students, both boys and girls, who would not otherwise have any access to secondary or decent primary education to succeed.

Adult Education

Many of you will have heard me talk about our adult education programme, I have asked Richard and Posy who are leading this project based at Imprezza to explain a bit about it. They have already donated money for our site to have running water so now both the school and the crop growing area can benefit from this asset. Thanks for that generous gift are said at Imprezza every time someone turns on a tap rather than walking for quarter of an hour to the well! We look forward to exciting times ahead, not only as the school continues to grow but thanks to Posy and Richard we can help the community, as well as rolling the programme out in the wider area.

Richard and Posy Stockman have been awarded modest independent funding with which they intend to set up training in Conservation Agriculture and rural skills such as bee keeping, which has the potential for earning a small income, employing a trained trainer, targeting small-scale farmers and working through secondary schools. Conservation Agriculture is based on three basic principles; employing minimum or no tillage, covering the soil and/or using cover crops and rotating crops. This is to minimise the effects of climatic extremes leading to the loss of top soil through wind and rain erosion. The eventual increase in organic matter and micro organism activity improves the structure of the soil and its ability to absorb rainfall and retain it. The adoption stage cannot be hurried and may take several years to become properly established but eventually both large intensive farmers and small holder producers in parts of the world with challenging weather conditions, such as Australia and Brazil, have found yields improve even in times of drought and input costs such as fertiliser to be considerably reduced.

Chris Hulme

Chair of Trustees

Catherines response to the arrival of water at the school site

It saves a lot of time looking into a number of times students have to go to fetch water from the well to fill the tank for the cook! They have been so clean too. Washing hands every time they come from the field gardening or playing and from toilets! We have saved a lot of money from habitual disease break down that used to happen and also using the water filters our student are among the few in the community who get clean water. The community also benefit a lot as they sneak in without interfering with lessons to fetch water from Imprezza! That's why most of them will do anything to support including tree planting that happened two weeks ago! We are trying all sorts of things to beef up the fence!

We miss and love you all xxxxxxxxxxxx

Catherine

Check out the website for news and fundraising events

www.operation-imprezza.org

Connecting Classrooms

Connecting Classrooms is a global education programme for schools, designed to help young people learn about global issues and become responsible global citizens as well as giving them the skills they need for a global economy. It offers school partnerships, professional development for educators, school accreditation and discussion between policy makers in different countries. Imprezza Academy is in the fortunate position to build on recent past experience of a global curriculum project with Stokeinteignhead Primary School under the auspices of the British Council and the Department for International Development by taking its work forward through the new programme called Connecting Classrooms.

The main difference this time is that Imprezza Academy will be collaborating on a shared project not only with Stokeinteignhead Primary School but also Torquay Girls' Grammar School and Manor Primary School in Ivybridge. In addition to the 3 UK schools Imprezza Academy will also be collaborating with 2 other schools in Western Province, Kenya namely Lung'a Primary School and Nang'oma Secondary School.

The opportunity for Imprezza Academy to network with more schools in the UK and Kenya provides for a wonderful opportunity for staff and students to exchange knowledge and ideas, to share teaching and learning experiences and to extend professional development beyond their own school gate. The teachers from the 3 Kenyan schools are due to come to the UK in February 2013 and the 3 UK teachers are due to visit Kenya in May 2013. There will be further updates of this project as it develops. There is also the chance the project could be extended into 2014 which would provide even more opportunities for teacher exchange. As they say, watch this space!!

Bob Cross

Co-ordinator of Connecting Classrooms Project /
former Headteacher of Stokeinteignhead
Primary School



Stokeinteignhead
Primary School,



Torquay Girls'
Grammar School



Manor Primary
School