

## Student Stories Sarah Taaka

*I have collated a collection of students' stories from the school which will feature in newsletters. They are typed as they are written.*

My name is Sarah Taaka, I was born on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 1996 at Busia District Hospital, where I was given the first vaccine. I came from Busia District, Mayenje sub-location, at Nangwe Village. My primary education took place at Bulamani Primary in Mayenje sub-location. I am now at Imprezza Academy, Busia.

My life history, I passed many situation that had brought about to lose hope. I had fee problems that led to my education not being improved. At home I was told that girls are not to go to school, but I prayed to God. I only went to school for two weeks due to hardship of school fees in one term. It took me thirteen years in primary level and took a lot of my courage. When I reached in Standard Four my father passed away. I sat home for two terms without going to school. My mother struggled with me until I sat for my examination. I got an A, but had no one who could support me with my education.

I sat home for two years struggling with the life and I went to work as a house helper. When I came home after two years, I had already lost hope. When I was walking, I met Madam Catherine and I told her about my life and how I lived in some days before Madam told me that she will support me.

She supported me with a scholarship and now I am in Form One at Imprezza. In studying at Imprezza, I like maths, English, History and Biology. My career is reading story books and teaching. My hobbies are singing, dancing and smiling. I would like to be a musician and what I hate is going to clubs and misbehaving.

When I entered here, Madam liked me and encouraged me and gave hope not to struggle about my life again. She is supporting Imprezza community and giving me more advice about my life

## News From Imprezza

While Catherine was in the UK on a recent visit work was progressing at Imprezza Academy. Some of the building will be a temporary measure, but has been requested as immediate actions by the Quality Assurance Inspectors.



From top – Temporary Girls Dormitory  
Septic Tank  
Temporary Girls bathroom  
Toilets



## A Big Thank You to Dentaid

Dentaid is a British charity dedicated to improving the Worlds' Oral Health. Operation Imprezza was lucky enough to benefit from fund raising by local dentists, members of the Exeter Dental Society. Fundraising that lead to a wheelie bin style box of dental equipment being shipped to Kenya.

The Dentaid Box finally arrived at Imprezza after a rather frantic three week spell negotiating its release from Customs. The Kenyan Authorities have recently tightened their stringent requirements for importing medical aid goods into the country. Finally we had the approval of Customs and a Shipping Agent and the Pharmacy Board and the Nursing Council and a Doctor and we could take it away. "Hallelyua" said Catherine! But she spoke too soon, the box was too large to fit into a regular vehicle! It was finally transferred to Matayos by a delivery company and is now in use for the benefit of the community.

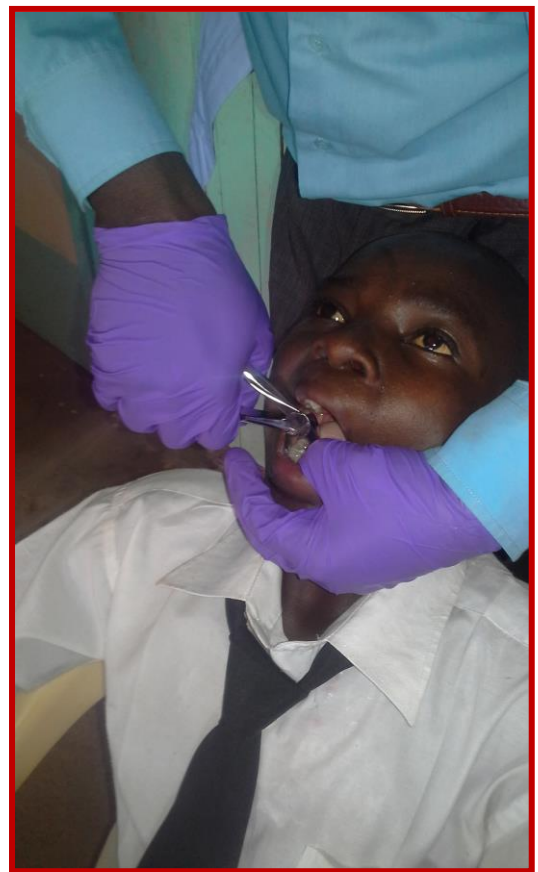
The contents include a robust but portable folding chair, a flexi light, a portable suction unit powered by solar panel, pressure cooker for sterilising and a full kit of dental instruments. Also in the box are materials, local anaesthetic, gloves, overalls and some fabulous Oral Health Education posters drawn on to heavy duty plastic sacks.

The dentists from the nearest town Busia have visited for a community day of healthcare and were inundated by willing (and some not so willing) patients. Local people who have struggled with toothache for months, if not years, can be pain free because of the easier access to treatment. The selection of Oral Health Education resources will be very useful in teaching the students and wider community about tooth care.

Many, many thanks to the Exeter Dental Society and Dentaid who made this possible.

Alison Revell

Trustee



Dentaid Box in good use

### COFFEE MORNING?

We would like to challenge our supporters to host a coffee morning in aid of Imprezza.

We are looking for 12 hosts, one for each month over the next 12 months. All you need to do is invite your friends for coffee and a chat and charge a small fee or ask for a donation for coffee and a biscuit. Maybe you could run a small cake stall, book stall or plant stall alongside. Raise some money for Imprezza and catch up with friends at the same time!

If you are interested in pledging to hold a Coffee Morning at some time over the next 12 months please let us know and we will support you with leaflets and other promotional material.

Contact [alison@operation-imprezza.org](mailto:alison@operation-imprezza.org) for further details.

### How You Can Help

- **Donate online** at [www.operation-imprezza.org](http://www.operation-imprezza.org)
- **Make a cash donation** to one of the Trustees or Operation Imprezza collection boxes around South Devon, (if you know an establishment that would be willing to have a box on display, please get in touch)
- **Set up a standing order** – contact our treasurer Lesley Smith [lesley@operation-imprezza.org](mailto:lesley@operation-imprezza.org) for details
- **Send a cheque** payable to Operation Imprezza to 14 Elm Grove, Teignmouth, Devon TQ14 8SA.
- **You can now donate via Virgin Money Giving. Follow the link on our website.**

***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.***