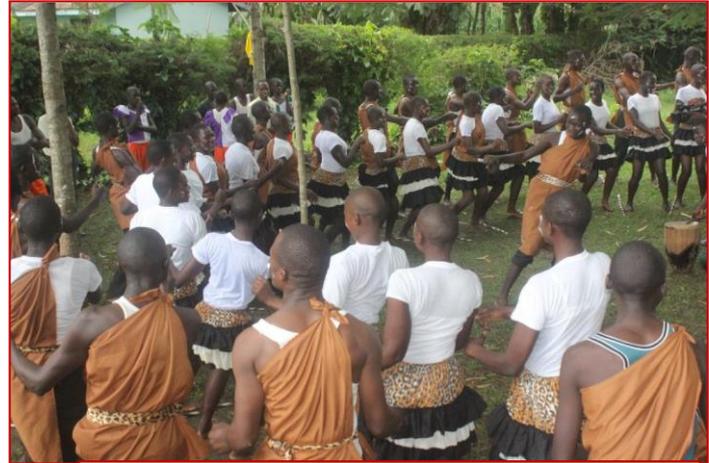


News From Imprezza

We had some wonderful news recently from Catherine. The school entered various competitions including choir, football and poetry. Unfortunately the football team had to withdraw as not all of the players had boots and were playing in bare feet. (They were progressing very well too!)

The topics covered by the choir were AIDS and FGM (female genital mutilation) extremely brave topics for the students to use. They should be very proud of themselves as they got through to the Nationals in Nairobi.



Top and left – FGM topic
Above - Aids Topic

Fund Raising

A big thank you to Lustleigh Scouts for holding a car wash at the Cleave in aid of Imprezza. Chris and Alison, trustees of Imprezza, went along to help out and for the bacon butties! An amazing £356.11 was raised from generous public. Thank you all once again.

An Unexpected Award!

We were delighted to hear that the school have been awarded the best private school in Busia County. This award was given in response to all that they have achieved not only within the school but also community. Our heartfelt congratulations to all the school community.

How You Can Help

- **Donate online** at 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 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.**



Lustleigh Scouts busy keeping up with the queue of cars.



Connecting Classrooms visit to Kenya 2015

Below is an extract from Adam, one of the visiting teachers on the connecting classrooms visit.

Kenya – Thursday – Mount Elgon National Park

An early start beckoned this morning, 6 o'clock early. Getting up at 5 wasn't a pleasant feeling but the drums started at 4 so I was awake anyhow. After a quick spot of breakfast, we headed off, in the dark, on our way to Mount Elgon National Park. There we hoped we would see some animals but definitely no snakes or spiders. The roads on the journey are only what I can describe as being like going in a ride at Alton Towers. I must have banged my head hundreds of times. After a long journey we arrived. Entering the park, I could see Zebra and water buck grazing; wow I thought, I can't wait to get going. We hired a guide (a sensible option I thought as I didn't want to become a leopard's dinner). As we drove through, we saw lots more zebra, baboons, monkeys, lizard, water buffalo and many others. The one animal we all wanted to see was the elephant. The park is spread into both Kenya and Uganda and unfortunately the elephants had crossed into Uganda in search of food. However, we were taken to a deep cave that is frequented by the elephants and saw evidence of their bowel movements and scrapings on the wall. Venturing deeper into the cave, bats squealed above our heads and the visibility was zero. Our torches had very little impact but at least I could see my feet and where to walk. This cave is used by many animals and in my mind all I could think about was, what if they decide to come home. The cave is over two million years old, the roof charred near the entrance by smoke from ancient tribes lighting fires to protect themselves from animals. Off we went on the rest of our tour, observing lots more animals and stopped for a photo. There in the grass was a bone from a water buffalo that had been taken by hyena. It was huge and weighed a tonne. Hyena, hmm, did they like humans. With that I thought it best to hop back in the car and off we went. Now I've been on some scary journeys but the journey back was the scariest of my life. Aside from the roads, we hurtled along, people, animals and motorcycles everywhere in the road. There seems to be no proper traffic system; you just go. As I looked down I could see the ditch and thought one wrong move and that's me. On the way back we stopped off at a remote village to collect a live chicken. There was a young girl there so I gave her a few sweets. She went straight to the fields where many children, children younger than my class, were working. She proceeded to share all she had. How unselfish she was. Would we all do that. I ended up giving her all we had and again off she went, a huge smile on her face and shared out her sweets. Day turned to night and we were told it's dangerous to drive at night. We had to lock the doors because we were prime targets for thieves and hijackers. I tried to shut my eyes but every bump startled me. I just hoped we would be back soon. After what seemed liked days, we got back to the hotels at 9. Wow today was a real experience.

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 for further details.

Student Stories David Wonder

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

I am David Wonder. Born in 1999 at Eldoret. Our family consists of five members. I have no sister and I am second born in our family. We started living in Kaimosi where I started baby class. My father was a pastor and did white collar jobs while my mother was a house wife.

We moved from Kaimosi to Kakamega and then to Busia. This is where I joined class four at Township Public Schools. From there I joined Deity Academy class five. It was sponsored by people from Norway, but the school fees were high for my parents. When I reached class six life was hard for us. We were sending school fees every now and then. There is a term that I stayed home for one month and that is when my aunt took me to live with her at Kitale. I joined Gutongorio Academy from class seven to eight. I was suffering until sometimes the paraffin was not there for me to study. My clothes were torn until every time other pupils kept laughing at me. I was about to leave school but as a Christian I kept on praying.

After completing my primary education I got 280 out of 500 marks. I stayed home for one week and then went back at the hands for my parents. That is when my mother started a small business for me together with my brothers to learn. I stayed home for two months and then that is when I joined Imprezza. My mother is now suffering, even sometimes they sleep hungry for us to learn. I am really praying hard for God to provide school fees for me to finish my studies.

My hobbies are reading novels, watching movies and swimming. In sports after my studies I would like to perform in either swimming or motor bike/car racing. I love looking at races. I would like to do medicine or business management after school. My aim after form four is getting a B+ and I also want to study in Europe. That is if God will provide fees for me to finish my secondary education. I would also want to invent something unique in my life. I want to be known in the whole world and don't want to die if I have not done something for the world. I want to save my family and all orphans from our country. I also want to educate my younger brother and break the curse of illiteracy for my family.

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.

