

Operation Imprezza

HELPING THE EDUCATION OF AFRICA'S FUTURE

www.operation-imprezza.org

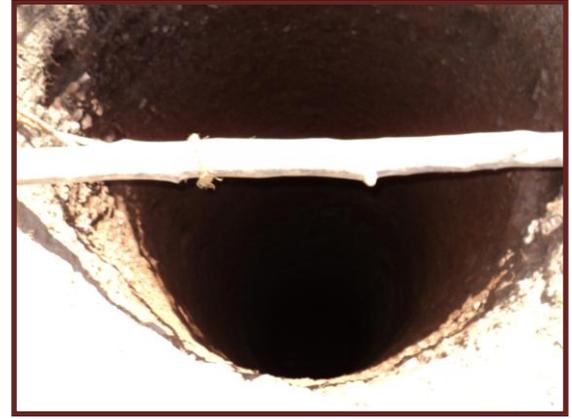
Registered Charity Number: 1113535

News From Kenya and Home

Where do we start? There has been so much happening, and especially in the last few weeks.

Once again, with thanks to Jane Tinworth, we have a Christmas Appeal. You can find details on the website and in this update. The appeal this year is for sports equipment, which is quite a change from fruit trees and poultry! But it is a sign that we are very close to opening the school. As the photos in this newsletter show, our first block of four classrooms is complete. Two of the rooms will be used by secondary students, one by primary pupils and the fourth one will be a temporary shower room with an office area partitioned off for the time being. In addition the male and female long drop toilets are completed as is the temporary kitchen. The borehole, at the time of going to press, is almost complete (it probably will be by time you read this) so much-needed clean water will be provided. The science laboratory is progressing well and will be nail-bitingly close to meeting the January deadline.

Catherine has appointed five teachers, from over one hundred applicants! The money for text books has been sent over, tables and chairs for teachers have been purchased and desks and chairs for students are on order. We still have to fund the purchase of laboratory equipment.



Bore Hole nearing completion

The whole process has been a Kenyan operation throughout; with everyone (apart from the borehole people) coming from the local area.

Even the architect was from a town close by. This has helped to put some money back into the local economy.

We are very proud of what has been achieved and thankful for all of the generous donations and fundraising from you all. We still have a long way to go before the school is completed when we will have around six hundred and fifty pupils. Final completion and the rate of building is simply down to the availability of finance. Catherine, as usual, has been amazing, not only a School Principal and dress designer but now a project manager!

The whole process we went through to get planning permission and build the school is very similar to how it would be in the UK. Plans were submitted for approval and an environmental impact study was carried out. The plans were then signed off and away we went. The long drop toilets have doors fitted which should lessen the flies due to lack of light. There is also a stench pipe from the pit to above the roof, which works in the same principle in UK. The waste goes into a septic tank that has to be pumped out therefore no effluent will contaminate the soil or river water. The showers also drain into the septic tank. We will be investigating composting the waste from the toilets at a later date, but currently time and funds prevent this happening. These are all positive steps being demanded to improve standards.



Completed first block of Classrooms

Operation Imprezza

14 Elm Grove
Teignmouth
Devon
TQ14 8SA

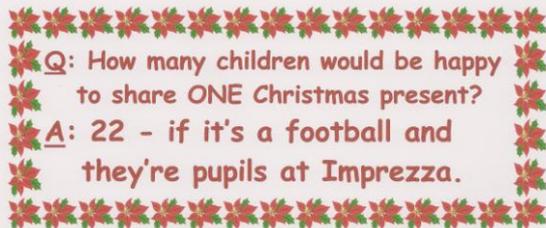
Phone: 01626 777419

E-mail: info@operation-imprezza.org

'even those without hope
can excel given the
opportunity.'

**Check out the NEW website for
news and fundraising events
www.operation-imprezza.org**

THIS YEARS Christmas Appeal!



Q: How many children would be happy to share ONE Christmas present?

A: 22 - if it's a football and they're pupils at Imprezza.

Like kids the world over, the children at the Imprezza school in Kenya are football mad. Real footballs are rare though and games are usually played with plastic bags stuffed with straw. Without equipment, team identity is another problem, sometimes solved by half the players agreeing to wear hats.

Q: How can I help?

A: Just make a donation today and remember, a football is not just for Christmas!

£2 or £3 goes a long way to buying equipment for football, basketball, cricket and other sports, including material to make team shirts & shorts or wristbands that will also enable the children to take part in inter-school matches. You can donate via collection box, to one of our approved collectors or on line by Paypal or card or by mail to the address below.



Imprezza is a locally-run charity here in Devon that is making a huge difference to hundreds of orphans and other disadvantaged children by giving them a decent education, regular meals, healthcare and emotional support. Have a look at their website: www.operation-imprezza.org to learn about their inspirational story or write to 14 Elm Grove, Teignmouth TQ14 8SA, tel: 01626-777419 for more information. Every penny you donate goes to the children.

*Thank you -
and have a Happy Christmas!*

Charity reg. no. 1113535.

Starter For 10!

On 13th November, eight local schools took part in an exciting University Challenge Quiz at the Shaftsbury Theatre, Dawlish. Winners of the close run quiz were Stoke-in-teign-head Primary. The day was nicely rounded off by a very successful Variety Show in the evening. Topping the bill was Edinburgh Fringe Award Winner, El Loco, also taking the stage was Faye Roberts, The High C's, Footlights Dance Academy and Merlin. Over £800 was raised on the day.

A big thank you to all who gave their time and support.

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.

Some Urgent Needs

- We urgently need to raise the money to enable us to complete and equip the science lab.
- The primary school has grown to 150; food costs over £70 per week for one meal a day. With more funding for this we could provide 2 meals per day.
- Until the school has established and is able to be more self-sufficient, we will always need regular donations for the general running of school.
- If you feel you would like to get involved, maybe by organizing an event such as a coffee morning, then please get in touch. Every penny raised is important and all funds go towards Imprezza.

News from Kenya and home cont....

The exclusive use of local labour is seen by most grant-making bodies as very positive. Checks are carried out by the trustees, of course, to meet grant conditions and all projects now have to demonstrate sustainability to qualify for funding. We have always strived to plan with this in mind. From the start when the school was in Nairobi, there was partial self-funding and the school was working towards independence. Our early projects with fruit trees, goats and poultry were initial steps in this direction. We are now linked with the Eden Project's "Gardens for Life" project which will give us access to improved knowledge and possibly some suitable crops. On my next visit I will be going to see the "Gardens for Life" project in action in the Rift Valley together with some of the staff to gain some experience so we can make the best use of this opportunity.

On the high seas at the present time are six sewing machines and all the library books needed to start a school library. We have shared a container with another charity which wanted to ship goods to Kisumu (about 3 hours from the school).

The sewing machines will enable us to start a small workshop, from which the profits will go towards helping to support the school. When the school is eventually independent what happens then you might ask? Easy! We start again! Sadly there is no shortage of children or students needing a school, just a dire shortage of places for them.

As this is the last letter before Christmas, thank you again for your support and interest; we would achieve nothing without your generosity and hard work. All the fundraising events and donations, no matter how big or small, whether from individuals, RAG weeks, fundraising events or sponsored events (to name a few) have enabled the school to be built. The next few weeks are now crucial to raise the funds needed to complete the last few jobs for the opening in January 2011!

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year

Chris, Catherine and team.

Inside one of the new classrooms which is the temporary shower room and office

