September 2012 UPDATE

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## A brief update from one of our students Barasa Wycliff

I send all my greetings to you, we are fine and healthy. We are very happy at what Imprezza is doing in our lives.

The school is advancing very well with its educational facilities. The school has brought books for reading and revising which has improved my studies and helped towards my goal.

I thank all the teachers because they are the ones who are working to empower knowledge and new understanding to the students.

I had my end of term exam and was pleased with my grade, but I am still working hard as I want to achieve an A in the final exam. I am really fighting to achieve my goal in the future.

I really appreciate Madam Rose as she is working hard to help me to improve my life now and my future by providing all of my basic needs, which has improved my general health and also my studies.

I also thank Madam Kate for her faith. She has introduced me to many who have encouraged me to think I am somebody who has a future.

Lastly I thank all the sponsors and supporters in the U.K. who are working to improve our lives, by enabling education to be available to us.

Yours faithfully Barasa Wycliffe



Barasa Wycliffe



Check out the website for news and fundraising events

www.operation-imprezza.org

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Registered Charity Number: 1113535

### South Dartmoor Academy visit to Imprezza 2013

It was really great meeting with the young people and their parents recently at South Dartmoor setting out on an adventure which hopefully will help us to see that within a "shrinking world" we can all make a difference to the lives of others.

In the 19th Century expeditions to Africa used to take months to travel to places like Western Kenya – now if we want we can be there in 12 hours!! News used to have to travel back in the same timescales whereas today we can have almost instant communication with Imprezza.

I hope the young people who came to the meeting, are as excited about our visit as I am. There are **only 398 days** before we fly out and just like we thought the Olympics would never come they were over all too soon!!

Due to the loan to start the dormitory it is already taking shape and the walls are going up. I will try to get some pictures. Now to raise the funds both to help the young people offset their travel costs and more importantly to ensure Imprezza youngsters have their books for Form 4 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education year.(equivalent to Year 13).

Hope those reading this can help!!

Brian Hodge

You can read further details of the visit on the school website.

http://www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk/node/5227

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

#### Small Steps can make a BIG difference!

During a recent visit to Imprezza in March, an appeal was launched for funds to purchase desks and chairs for the students as they were having to carry out their exams in difficult surroundings, such as sitting on a small nursery chair and using another chair as a desk, or having nothing to use as a desk.

The response was swift thanks to a blog written by Brian while at Imprezza, and enough was raised to order desks and chairs for all the secondary students. Any amount donated, no matter how much, plays an important part in enabling the school to make progress and have a future.



Using planks of wood against the wall as seating and a chair as a desk.



Using a nursery chair as a seat and another chair as a desk while sitting exams.

#### News from Chairman, Chris Hulme

Imprezza's influence not only on its own staff and pupils but the wider community continues to grow. The British Council's new initiative linking schools is called Connecting Classrooms, and schools that had achieved their goals under the old teacher exchange scheme were allowed to apply to join. I am delighted to say we have been accepted. Imprezza and two other schools in Kenya will each send a teacher over here and 3 schools from Devon will make a return visit. Thanks to Bob Cross for his work in securing this opportunity for the schools. Continuing on the community front, we are anxiously waiting to see whether Gardens for Life have been successful with a funding application. If so Imprezza's link and role will expand significantly as we help and encourage other schools in Western Province of Kenya to join and take part in the scheme.

Continuing with the good news, as well as South Dartmoor Academy visiting in October 2013, there is already planned a visit of Torquay Girls' Grammar School with World Challenge in July 2013. A busy year.

In addition South Dartmoor Academy have agreed to fund a dormitory: they have advanced the money to us, and we are already at roof level in its construction. We already have funding for a second dorm which will be built after the completion of this one. This will then allow us to take students from further away, expanding the area we cover. Currently we have students from up to just over two hours walk away and it is not practical to walk further.

Thank you for your continued support.

Chris Hulme

Chair of Trustees