

Student Stories

Kevin Opiyo

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 Opiyo Kevin, born in 3rd October 1998, in the village called Ford Jesus. I am a Form One student here at Imprezza. I have both parents, but they are somehow poor. In the day we could just manage to eat twice. In the school I learnt in primary they were so strict about fee payment. Even those who had a balance of more than ksh200/= were sent home to bring the fee. I was among the people chased home. My parents didn't have permanent work like in an office, which they can earn money for our basic needs.

I used to remain at home so that they can get enough money for the fee. After they had paid the fee for me, I wouldn't want to waste any time sitting idle and yet I have sat home for a long time. Other students encouraged me just to work hard in my studies. I did my K.C.P.E and managed to score 319 out of 500.

For the first term for me to join a secondary school there was not enough money. I just remained sitting at home for the whole term. After I had sat at home for that long my mother was told that there was a school somewhere which the fee is paid, just like learning for free. So I decided to join it which was Imprezza. I thanked God for what he did for me about all my life. Now I am at Imprezza and I would like to work hard in my studies. When I will get my wants I will help all the people who cannot manage, their families and those who are orphans, youths, widows and others.

My hobby is to play football and to watch it. I am such an Arsenal big fan. I started loving football when I was still very young. My parents don't like football anymore. They are happy with you if you are serious with your studies. I would even say if you are not best in school work but you are talented you can just earn more money.

What I would like to be is an engineer. This is because I like those subjects which consist of mathematics. I like calculating those maths which look difficult. I just pray to God to guide me so that I can get my wants and help the poor ones.

A recent update on Kevin via Catherine. He is now in form 2 and is studying hard. He is a very polite boy and has just sat his exams.

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.

News From Imprezza

As reported in the last newsletter we have been instructed by the Education Authorities to erect secure fencing around the dormitory. It has to be made to a certain standard, which means that wooden posts and barbed wire are not a long term option. Currently we have an urgent appeal running to raise the funds to do this.

Work has commenced on clearing the area ready to build the fence. We do need funds to help us complete this work. If you are able to help towards this, please visit the website to donate.

A rise in the numbers of students at the school who, due to circumstances, need a place to stay, has meant that girls are having to sleep on the floor at the bungalow. This has pushed forward the need for a girl's dormitory. Not only for space but more importantly for security. We were recently made aware of an attempted break in at the bungalow. Thankfully no one was hurt and the thieves were scared off, but our concern is for the safety of the girls and those who care for them at the bungalow.

Building the second dormitory will also mean that fee paying students can be taken in, meaning much needed income for the school. Please help if you can by visiting our website.

You can also help in the short term by helping us raise funds to purchase new mattresses and bedding which will at least make the girls comfortable.



Girls sleeping on the floor at the bungalow.



As well as work on the new fence, the school are also building new toilets. All bricks are made in house and the schools quarry materials are used in much of the construction, which saves on material costs.



Top L – Sites for new fencing

Top R – New toilet construction

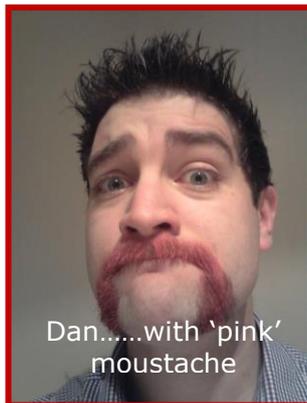
R – Stone from the quarry ready to use

Fund Raising Thanks

November!

Big thanks to Dan Cross for raising funds by participating in 'Movenber'

If you would like to take part next year, put a reminder on your calendar.



Dan.....with 'pink' moustache

Torquay Girls' Grammar School for their recent donation from their Children in Need fundraising and continued support.

The Whistlestop Café at Teignmouth Train Station (Melissa, Bill and Patrons) for regular fundraising from such events as Biker Night.



Getting Rid of Your Car?

We have now joined up with Giveacar, a non-profit social enterprise which collects unwanted and unused cars for charity. Regardless of their condition, cars are collected free-of-charge nationwide by Giveacar then sold through an online auction or disposed of at an authorised treatment facility. Profits from the sale are then donated to a charity of the car owner's choice. Even if the vehicle is scrapped, it still nets the selected good cause between £40 and £250. This enables car owners to get rid of their old Vehicle in a legal and environmentally friendly way!

To get more details or to donate a car, visit www.giveacar.co.uk or call the Giveacar Team on 020 7736 4242, quoting **Operation Imprezza as your chosen charity.**

Or - Alison Revell, alison@operation-imprezza.org

How You Can Help

- **Donate online** at www.operation-imprezza.org
- **Donate via Believe** at <https://believein.org.uk/operation-imprezza/>
- **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.

Fundraising Event

TGGS Christmas Bazaar 2014

- ✓ **Wednesday 17th December**
6-8:30pm in the dining hall
- ✓ **Tickets cost £1** with proceeds going to Imprezza and Action Duchenne (a muscular dystrophy charity)
- ✓ **You can pay on the door**
- ✓ **All your Christmas shopping needs** will be accommodated for with a variety of gorgeous stalls and a festive atmosphere!
(e.g. jewellery, home gifts, Christmas decorations and much, much more!)

Please bring cash and/or cheque books, as most stallholders do not have credit card readers!

The cost of beds and bedding

- Mattress £20
- Blanket £ 8
- Sheets £ 7
- Metal framed Bunk Bed £90

Please help if you can

For Sale

We have a few items we are selling to raise funds. These include lovely handmade bird boxes, bird tables and a selection of cards.

For further details visit our website www.operation-imprezza.org

APPEAL Help us complete the school fence!

The fence that provides security for the school is nearly finished, help us raise enough money to complete the work!

Donate Now