



David School Messenger

The David School

Education Changes Lives

Mission Accomplished!

The David School Has Two New Classrooms.

Between 10th March and 4th April 2010 a total of 11 people joined Rotarians David Wallwork, the school's founder, and Mike Houlden in Sierra Leone. With the help of some local workers, the team built 2 new classrooms. These will be used during the day by the youngest pupils and by adults in the evening.



The Teams

The fantastic people who (with David & Mike) gave their time and energy to accomplish this, and all the other completed tasks, were:



Team 1 – Ready to start

Stuart & Dee Cartlidge
Cynthia Carter
Pat O'Keefe
Jennie Richards
Maureen McKenna
Di Tickell
Martine Pidwell
Helen Smith
Moira Hogg
Helen Wosahlo.



Team 2 – In front of the finished building

Sincere thanks to all of them from the pupils, the community's parents and elders, and all the school's supporters. Without them it wouldn't have been possible.

Equipping the Pupils

Thanks to lots of fantastic donations the pupils are now much better equipped.



- More uniforms have been provided. Girls have red & white checked dresses, and boys wear red shirts and grey shorts.
- Thanks to Alistair and Evis Ritchie, nearly all the pupils have been given a pair of shoes and two pairs of socks. (Some smaller size shoes are still needed.)
- All children have a school badge to wear, thanks to Michael Vincent.
- Thanks to a collection by pupils at the Becket School in Nottingham, over 125 pencil cases containing, a ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener, pencils, pens and crayons were distributed to the older pupils.
- Pupils were also given a school bag to carry their books and pencil cases in.
- Further supplies of toothpaste and soap were distributed.



MANY THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO DONATED THESE ITEMS!

This project is being supported by Rotary clubs in Britain, Norway and Sierra Leone



Other Targets Met

In the first issue of the David School messenger other projects were listed for this trip, and thanks to the team members and many supporters at home, progress has been made with all of them.



painted in the colours of the Sierra Leone flag.



dressings have been taken out. There is a tiled floor, so it is much cleaner and practical, and a new well has been added.

- The school has latrines.
- The well is completed and is being used, and the water has been checked for purity.
- The existing school has been totally repainted, and the large container (which provides secure storage) has been
- The school office has been furnished and organised. The teachers have been provided with pupil record cards and taught how to use them.
- The children have all been given a basic health check, and a database of pupils' details produced.
- The clinic has been refurbished, and basic equipment and



A Goat called DW!

One afternoon, as the team were packing up to leave the school for the day, they were approached by the community's chief, some of the elders and their wives. They wanted to thank David and the others for what they were doing, and presented them with some pineapples and a black BILLY GOAT, from then referred to as DW (although what the resemblance was remains a mystery!). Getting it back to Freetown caused some discussion as it was very smelly and there was a reluctance to share a vehicle with it, but this was eventually solved, by it getting a ride in the back of Alfred's taxi. With the help of friends in Freetown, and the staff at the hotel, DW was looked after until the team left, when he was presented back to the community with a nanny goat, and it is hoped that the villagers will start to breed them.



The School's Second Sports Day

To celebrate the end of term and the team's presence, the school held its second Sports Day, which was a big event which lasted two days and a night, and was attended by all the community and other visitors.

The four houses were named after local rivers: Rokel for Red House, Sewa for Green House, Jong for Yellow House, and Ribi for Blue House.

After a lot of competition and cheering, the overall winner was Jong House.

As part of the Sports Day celebration, the school held an Africa Queen competition. Girls and their two attendants dress up and parade, the prettiest being chosen as the reigning queen.



Update on Isatu Bangura

Isatu is a blind girl from the community, for whom David got a place at a the school for the blind in Freetown, last October. She has settled down well and is making real progress. She returned to the community for her Easter holiday just before the team left, and was much more confident and happy. She greeted *Mr David* with great affection, and presented him with a letter of thanks.

What's next?

The David School Messenger 3 will be out shortly will information about what is now needed at the school, and plans for future development.

WATCH THIS SPACE!

A very big thank you from all the pupils

If you think you can help in any other way, please contact David on wallwork26@btinternet.com
For more information about the David School in Sierra Leone, visit www.thedavidschool.co.uk