



# David School Messenger

The David School

Education Changes Lives



In August 2011, David Wallwork visited the David School in Sierra Leone for a week with Marcus Horrell and his son, Michael.

## Very Good Results Again!

All 11 students entered for the NPSE exams passed with higher grades and maintained the school's 100% record. The highest score was 310, and the highest in the whole of Sierra Leone is 380.

## Awe inspiring weather!

For the first time David visited during the rainy season, and experienced the most amazing rain and electric storms. They were unlike anything he'd witnessed before. Luckily, it didn't rain all the time, but there were daily downpours of 15-20cms



Playing football in the rain

## The President Visits the School

The school's reputation is spreading rapidly. Whilst David was in Port Loko seeing the local education department, Ernest Bai Koroma, the President of Sierra Leone turned up unexpectedly at the school. He had heard about what was happening through one of his financial advisors, who had met David and been told of the project. He gave the community two million Leones (about £300)

## More Electrics

Thanks to the efforts of IMATT, part of the British Royal Engineers, in Freetown, David arrived in August to find all the electrics working well, AND another classroom wired for lighting and a socket. Our sincere thanks to all the soldiers involved in this!

## More Equipment on the High Seas

A consignment of school furniture, shoes, toothbrushes & toothpaste, and school equipment is on its way to Freetown. This will arrive before the volunteers going out



with David & Mike in November. The container also contains sewing machines and fabric,

which will be used to teach the community's women how to make basic clothes and items they can sell to generate some income. Many thanks to all those who have donated these items, and to [Robert Claire & Co Ltd](#) the shipping company, whose help is invaluable in getting everything safely to Sierra Leone.



## More Contacts with Local Rotarians

Whilst there, David visited the Rotary Club of Makeni, a town north of the school. The club was forced to close because of all the rebel activity in the area during the civil war. Thankfully, this is now history. The members are very keen to help with the project and have agreed to transport the large consignment of equipment due to arrive on 20 October.



## Becoming more Self-sufficient



Mohamed Conteh  
(Caretaker)

One of the aims of the David School Trust was to encourage and support the school's community to become more independent. Slowly the community is taking more part in managing the David School. A new member has been added to the School's Management Committee, and one of the villagers now has the responsibility of looking after the school buildings.



Umaru Kargbo

## The Secondary School

Some of the school's pupils will shortly start Year 2 of the Junior Secondary curriculum. The decision has therefore been made with the village chiefs to build a secondary school. The plans have been drawn up, and whilst David and Marcus were there, the site was marked out. It will be L-shaped with a communal space in the middle. It is hoped to be able to floodlight the area at the back of it in the future. A group of 14 volunteers is going out to Sierra Leone in November for 3 weeks and it is hoped to build the secondary classrooms then, as well as teach phonics to the children, and start some more community projects with the community, especially the women.



## Update on Isatu

Those of you who follow Isatu's progress, will be pleased to hear that although the orphaned blind girl was ill when David visited in April, he found that she was much better in August. Her English continues to improve, and she now has a lady in Freetown, Auntie Stella, who will help her when the need arises.

Isatu (top right) with her sisters

## The School loses a valuable member of staff, but gains two more.

After a long battle with infection, not helped by the very poor medical care available in Sierra Leone, Momoh Kamara sadly died just after David returned to England. He was a highly respected teacher and will be missed by everyone at the school. His funeral took place in Freetown and some pupils attended to represent The David School. Two new teachers, Alusine Jalloh and Mohamed S Conteh, have joined the school, Alusine has his wife and child with him, and she has thrown herself into the community, starting a very small basic shop.

## More Sponsors Needed - URGENTLY

In order to continue the excellent work that has been started at the David School, the Trust badly needs more people to sponsor pupils. This is especially important now that the secondary school is planned. It costs just £5 a month to keep a child in school. If you can help, please email David on [wallwork26@btinternet.com](mailto:wallwork26@btinternet.com)



## Another very big thank you from all the pupils and the community

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