

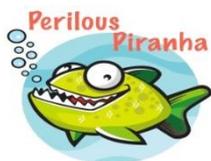


David School Messenger

The David School

Education Changes Lives

Taking a Mototaxi across Peru to raise money for the school



On 12th October, **Neil Thomas and Nick Shuttleworth**, otherwise known as *Team Perilous Piranha*, will be attempting to travel from Cuzco in the south of Peru to Piura in the north, covering over 3000 km of mountains, jungle and desert in just 2 weeks in a Peruvian Mototaxi – the mighty Lifan 125, without any support! Their transport

is a bit like a motor cycle that has been cut in half, and then welded to a sofa. (See the picture on the right.)

They are hoping to raise as much money as possible for the David School. **Please support Neil and Nick on their adventure by visiting <http://www.theadventurists.com/perilous-piranha>, and following the *Donate* links.**

You can also track their progress from this same website page.



English Teachers work at the school

David has just returned from visiting the school with three English education students, Marie Hodgson, Florence Thomas and Vikki Simmons (see the picture on the right), who spent 10 days working in the David School. They are all studying at University of Hertfordshire, and their trip was partly funded by the University's Diamond Fund.

They worked with all the classes and their teachers in both the primary and the secondary school, using very different methods of teaching and learning to the very didactic rote learning that is the norm in Sierra Leonian schools.

The students demonstrated new ways of gaining and keeping pupils' attention by using signs instead of shouting. Arithmetic was done using playing cards. The pupils learnt to cooperate through working in groups and playing circle games. Social Skills and PE were taught using a parachute, and children learnt to take turns in discussions with a stone, as they could only speak when they were holding it. Some of the school's teachers have started to use the techniques themselves.



Group Work



Hand Painting



Story Telling



On their last day, each class performed something they had rehearsed to the rest of the school. Some sang, some recited and some danced. At the end, Marie, Florence and Vikki sang *"You are going to miss me when I'm gone"*, and presented David with a big thank you card signed by

all the pupils as well as themselves.

The Paramount Chief's 40th Anniversary

A highlight of the visit was attending a party in Masiaka to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Chief Alhaji Bai Kampa Bomboli II becoming Paramount Chief, David presented him with a blazer from Stanground College (See right). He liked it so much he put it on straight away over his traditional clothes. This gave Marie, Florence and Vikki the opportunity to sample African hospitality.



Teachers and visitors celebrate

Another highlight was a party for all the teachers and the school's Management Committee that was held at the Companero Hotel, where the English visitors were staying. They shared African and European food, and celebrated a very successful ten days of working together.

Fantastic Breaking News

Thanks to a generous donation of £10,000 from the Equitable Charitable Trust, the David School Trust can now complete the building of the secondary school, and along with other money raised, can furnish and equip it. Plans are now being made for a group to visit Sierra Leone in Spring 2014 to supervise and assist with building four classrooms and an outdoor teaching area.

Bring a rock to school

The present pupils are being involved in helping build the new classrooms. Each Friday they will be asked to bring a rock when they go to school, and these will be added to a very large pile which will be broken up to form the foundations.



A very big thank you from all the children and staff at the David School

Please contact David on wallwork26@btinternet.com or visit www.thedavidschool.co.uk