



# David School Messenger

The David School

Education Changes Lives

## Greetings and News from The David School

After a very difficult two years for all of us, two of the school's supporters have made their first trip back to Sierra Leone since October 2019. **Catherine Thomas** and **Michael Houlden** spent two weeks there last month, assessing how best to get there, how the school was doing, and the work that needs to be done.

They tried out a new route, flying via Brussels, completing all the required testing successfully, and organising accommodation and transport to the school. Overall, the venture was very successful, and they intend to return with others in October.

The school is running very well, and there are now over 400 pupils. Luckily, there have been no cases of Covid 19, but a regular hand washing routine is now firmly established.



Girls wearing their new uniform

Primary children are once again being given a meal every day.

Former pupils are also providing classroom support.

Catherine and Michael were kept busy during their stay. As well as having lots of contact with the staff and pupils, they sorted shipments in the container some of which were two years old. They distributed uniforms, shoes, clothing, organised teaching materials and gave out classroom supplies.



A Washing Station

A lot of maintenance is needed. Some furniture repairs were made, and a list of the building repairs needed were made and some of the costings completed.



The teachers are also continuing to develop their skills.

The Junior Secondary Principal, **Morlai M Koroma**, (on the left) is studying part-time for a degree.

**Umaru Jalloh** (who was featured in the last edition of The Messenger for completing his Bar exams and becoming a qualified barrister) has been accepted to complete his pupillage year with a legal firm in Freetown, which is giving him a day off a week to teach in the school. He also

works some weekends which is very helpful for English tuition, especially for exam classes. He is seen on the right, wearing his barrister's gown and wig, with senior pupils.



# THANK YOU

**A very big thank you to everyone who has continued to support the school during the pandemic.**

**Special thanks to the Rotary Club of Maidstone Riverside in District 1120 and The Rotary Foundation**, for the money to replace the original batteries that store our solar energy, and to **Pete and Sonia Wright** for organising this. These batteries are essential as they provide lighting, operate audio-visual equipment and computers. These have been purchased locally and installed.



The batteries being unpacked and installed by Alfred



**Special thanks also to The Worshipful Company of Girdlers** for the money for 75 new classroom chairs which have now been shipped and are in use in the school.



**Thank you to everyone who donates through Amazon Smile and Easy Fundraising** as the last donations have raised enough to pay a teacher's salary for a month (£60)



## CAN YOU HELP?

**Do you do any of your shopping online?** If so, please sign up for Amazon Smile and or Easy Fundraising. It is easy and quick to do, and once you have registered, your donations automatically go to the charity. You even get a reminder with Easy Fundraising if the company you are using will make a donation. Many of the major companies like M&S, John Lewis, ebay and Apple support Easy Fundraising. Instructions as to how to join can be found on the school's website.

**Thank you**