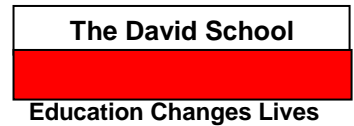




# David School Messenger



## THE MESSENGER IS BACK WITH ITS 50<sup>th</sup> EDITION!

It was first published in November 2009 when it featured the school's first anniversary of opening. It is now active again, following a quiet spell due problems with visits to the school following the pandemic. A big thank you to all the contributors and the editors.



### HE WAS A GREAT CHIEF WHO ALWAYS LED FROM THE FRONT

Sadly, the school has recently lost one of its greatest supporters, when PA ARUNA, the local Temne chief, passed away.

David first met him when he went to Freetown in Sierra Leone in 2006, and went 'up country' to very primitive subsistence community at a place only referred to as 'the farm at mile 36' in the Koya Chiefdom. Pa Aruna was very keen for the children to get education, and supported David in setting up the school.



Pa Aruna at school opening



Pa Aruna helping move the container

At the Primary School opening in November 2008, Pa Aruna presented David with a pineapple and a goat as a thank you. The pineapple was easy to deal with; the goat less so. David kept it at his hotel for 3 days, then bought a female and gave them back as a breeding pair.

Pa Aruna continued to support the school until his death, and will be greatly missed.



## MOSQUITO NETS DONATION

A massive thank you to the UK supporter who has donated these mosquito nets to the school.

The pupils will use them when they have to go to mosquito infested areas to sit exams, which happens annually. The nets will then be packed and stored until needed again.

## LUNCH IS SERVED



### The Biggest Fund-Raiser In 2022

On 21<sup>st</sup> August, one of the hottest days of the year, the current President of the Rotary Club of Peterborough, Marcus Horrell, organised a special fund-raising garden party at his home for over 100 guests.

A lovely lunch was provided along with a raffle and the money raised was divided between The David School and Macmillan Cancer Care in Peterborough. £1500 was raised for the school.

Many thanks to Marcus and everybody else involved.

### EXCELLENT STAFF PROVIDING EXCELLENT LEARNING FOR OVER 400 CHILDREN

All the school's teachers are recruited locally and some are former pupils, which is a great bonus in knowledge of, and relationships with the villagers. The David School has the best trained group of teachers in our area and all teachers are qualified, some up to graduate level.

Although some teachers have funded themselves, most of the training has been done on a part time basis funded by our Norwegian colleagues and supporters.

Thanks to them we have two graduate teachers, both with additional teaching qualifications.

There are six primary teachers, 4 with Teacher's Certificate (TC) and 2 with Higher Teacher's Certificate (HTC). In the secondary school, all the teachers are HTC qualified.

In addition, 7 classroom helpers are employed.

The school is very successful and this has been recognised by the Ministry of Education in Sierra Leone which has provided more support recently.

### FINANCE

After two difficult years the Trustees are pleased to see an increase in donated income. This was almost £16,000 in 2022 against £11,000 in 2021.

The Gift Aid reclaim will add another £4,000 to the 2022 figure. Thanks to all our generous supporters.

Easy Fundraising and Amazon Smile raised £400.

Accounts from the Charity Commission website will be available online in the next months.

This year for the first time the Trustees are planning to hold an online meeting to share information and to answer questions.

All our regular supporters will be invited to join.

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS  
CONTRIBUTED IN WHATEVER WAY**

## SCHOOL WINS INTERNET ACCESS

The school was successful in a competition to find ten successful schools, and has won internet provision from the Sierra Leone Government.



As the pictures show, the infrastructure has been installed, and the school now awaits connection.

### VISITS

As there are no longer travel restrictions, visits from trustees and volunteers can resume, and several are planned.

All that is needed is a passport, visa and Yellow Fever certificate, and the journey is more straightforward and shorter than it has been in the past.

There are direct flights to Freetown from Brussels, which takes 5 hours. The return leg is slightly longer as there is a one-hour stopover in Monrovia.

### CAN YOU HELP?

- ✓ Bars of soap
- ✓ Toothpaste
- ✓ Toothbrushes
- ✓ Girls' sanitary pads
- ✓ Shoes and trainers
- ✓ Red Gingham school uniform
- ✓ Red polo shirts
- ✓ Money raised through
  - sponsorship
  - online shopping with Easy Fundraising
  - recycling printer cartridges through Recycle4Charity

### WE CURRENTLY NEED



Please email [wallwork26@btinternet](mailto:wallwork26@btinternet) for more information and advice on collection. Sponsorship information and forms can be downloaded from [www.thedavidschool.co.uk](http://www.thedavidschool.co.uk)

Click on Get Involved and then Child Sponsorship.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT