



# David School Messenger

The David School teachers, pupils and trustees wish you a

# Happy Christmas and a Healthy 2024

David visited the school from 7<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November, with Janet Wallwork, Catherine Thomas, Sylvia Abblitt and Michael Houlden.

## MUCH-NEEDED MAINTENANCE

Whilst the group were there, roofs were repaired (on left), some classrooms were painted, and broken furniture was fixed (on right). Damaged school uniform was also mended. As usual, work was done with the pupils about caring for school property.



## FEEDING THE CHILDREN

Due to the economic situation in Sierra Leone, food is extremely expensive, so the children were given extra food whilst the group were there (on left).



On the flight out, Michael met a lady named Josephine Garnem who is Executive Director of the non-profit Healey International Relief Foundation (Link <https://hirf.net/> who offered to donate vitamin supplements. This was discussed at a meeting with the parents and the chief who agreed to pupils getting a daily multi-vitamin tablet.

Many thanks for this kind donation.

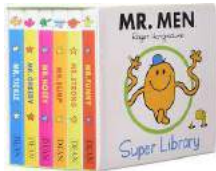


Parents meeting with chief -  
the man with the beard

## WRITING & READING



Children in the infant classes often learn to form their letters by drawing in the sand (on left). However, pupils in Classes 1 to 5 have been given pencils, thanks to a very generous donation from the Rotary Club of Workington, which is much appreciated.



Many thanks to everyone in the UK who collected MR MEN and LITTLE MISS books. These are used for reading practice in small groups.

## MATHS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

David did some practical science lessons with Junior Secondary pupils about how heavier than air objects can fly. They made and tried aeroplanes and looked at forces involved. He also included some history about the Wright Brothers in 1903.



## HEALTH EDUCATION

### USE OF THE TOILET BLOCK

The David School pupils are very lucky to have a toilet block with flush toilets, and whilst the group were there, the younger pupils were taught how to use and operate flush toilets, and the older pupils were reminded of their responsibility to take care of the facility.

### PERIOD POVERTY

Girls often have to miss a week of schooling a month, due to their periods. To help with this, one class of 14/15 year old girls are trialling the use of reusable period pads, funded by the lady members of Ramsey Rotary. They can be used, washed out, dried and used again.



### SHOWERS IN THE RAIN

The rainy season is normally over by the end of November in Sierra Leone, but this year it finished later, and the group experienced several torrential storms. When this happens, the children often strip off and shower.



## WiFi AT THE SCHOOL

David is trying to set up an internet connection at the school. Hopefully, in future, it will be possible to use a modem and he is currently exploring a contract with Africell.

**THANK YOU for your continuing support.**

**If you could recycle your empty printer cartridges through Recycle4Charity, collect bars of soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and use Easy Fundraising when you shop online, it will help support the school's work next year. THANK YOU**