



David School Messenger

Another Successful Visit to the School

A group of six self-funded volunteers, with an average age of 71, have just returned from a working trip to the school. David, Michael, Janet, Catherine, Sylvia and Cynthia left the UK on Sunday 3rd November, returning from the 6000 mile round trip on Monday 18th to a freezing cold Heathrow. Having been in temperatures of more than thirty degrees, it was quite a shock!

Thanks to their efforts, much was achieved and developments at the school advanced.

PUPIL NEWS

There are now a total of 578 pupils in the school.

- Junior School (5-11 years) **316**
- Junior Secondary (11-14 years) **152**
- Senior Secondary (14 years up) **110**

The ages are only approximate as children can't move to the next stage unless they pass the exams. As some children don't start school at 5, there are pupils aged 18 in Senior Secondary.



55 pupils were entered for BECE (Basic Education Certificate Exams) last summer and they are to be congratulated on their hard work and progress. 50 pupils passed in all 8 subjects, and the other 5 passed in 7 subjects. The results in Science were especially good.

FUN DAY OUT

A day out was arranged for Year 6 pupils who passed their NPSE exam (equivalent to our old 11+). This was a reward for their efforts and to provide encouragement to others.

Thirty-six children and their teachers went by bus to a hotel fifteen miles away where they danced, swam, played games and enjoyed a meal with fish and chicken. They all received a new T shirt as a memento. The children said it was the best day of their lives.



MEETINGS WITH PARENTS AND STAFF

David met with parents and discussed payments for senior secondary pupils. Schooling for these pupils isn't free but costs £20 per year. He also explained that attendance and behaviour in the lower school is extremely important, and that as there are more children than places, only those who behave and attend regularly will keep their places.



David also held a meeting with school staff (see left), when the exam results were discussed. The teachers were thanked and congratulated on their hard work. Future developments were discussed, especially to improve pupil's English skills.

It was decided to introduce after school reading clubs to help with literacy.

More use will be made of the spoken word, and more checks made of children's understanding. The Trustees are trying to collect books for infant school children to help with this. (See Page 4)

The Head of English is being sponsored to take a degree in English, and improve his skills.

MUCH NEEDED MAINTENANCE



Broken **floor tiles** were replaced.



New school signs were erected at the entrance to replace old rusty ones.



Furniture, including a blackboard, was repaired.



New tables were installed in some classrooms.



The **electrical system** was repaired.

One of the **wells** has reached the end of its life, due to the build-up of silt and a faulty pump. The drilling of a new one was organised.

This has cost £3000.



OTHER TASKS



Uniforms were mended.

New **footballs** were given out.

Uniforms were distributed, and **play clothes** given out to the younger ones, as this helps their uniforms last longer.

Wounds were dressed and **medical issues** resolved.



Pupils were given **soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes**.

Sanitary wear was given to the older girls. Reusable period pants/pads are a great success, but *a new set is needed at the beginning of each school year as junior girls become seniors.*



A **sewing machine and fabrics** were presented to 7 of the surrounding villages, and was received by a nominated person/tailor.

In return for being able to earn some money sewing, each one has agreed to repair school uniforms for free.



EDUCATION REALLY DOES CHANGE LIVES – MEET ABDUL KANU



Abdul is a student teacher in the second year of a three-year course to qualify with a Higher Teacher's Certificate (Primary). His course fees are provided by a generous couple who live in Kent.

He lives in Rolal, a village adjacent to Mile 36 and was a pupil in class two at the school when it opened in 2008.

In addition to being a teacher, he is also a parent with his son in class one.



WITHOUT YOU WE CAN'T CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE SCHOOL

We need:

- ❖ **Knickers and pants** for primary children
- ❖ Bars of **soap** and tubes of **toothpaste**
- ❖ **Early years reading books** with lots of pictures and around thirty words per page. (Similar to Mr Men/Little Miss books.)



❖ **CASH DONATIONS**
to help orphans and feed the children.

BACS

Sort Code 20-43-63 Account
Number 33469395,
The David School Trust

The Trust are trying to feed the children every week, but do not always have the money to do this.



PLEASE

- ❖ recycle your empty printer cartridges through Recycle4Charity
- ❖ use Easy Fundraising when you shop online

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT

The staff, children and trustees all wish you a very



Happy Christmas and a very good 2025