



Newsletter

"Planting Seeds for the Future"

Issue No 10
August 2022

Summer 2022

Well this is one very overdue newsletter and update after a challenging few years. Can we as trustees apologize for being so quiet, and adjusting to our new adventures with our new school building, new staff, and a total and complete shake up in The Gambia and in the UK.

School closed its doors at the end of July 2022, after completing a first year in our new school in the heart of Ebo Town.

This year has been totally amazing, our new head of school, has the same vision and mission as we do here in the UK.

The staff are driven and aim to get the best out of each child, wherever they are on their educational journey.

The staff have been equipped with a TV to assist learning, especially at the beginning of Term 1, where communication is a struggle with our young Caterpillar class.



The teaching environment is a clean and safe place to learn, with adequate facilities and clean running water, even showers have been provided.

Children have enough playground space to enjoy breaktimes, whether they need to shelter from the scorching sun, have a game of football or skipping.

Teachers have been given an opportunity for extra training from the ministry paid for by the Charity, and we aim at supporting them more over the coming year.

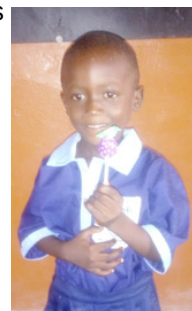
Children from the poorest families in Ebo Town have appreciated what we as a charity stand for, as we still endeavor to give a **FREE** high quality education to all of the children in all 3 classrooms. As times get harder with our own economy, we think of those less fortunate than ourselves living in hard conditions where the price of living escalating too.

The world we live in is being tested hard at present, but it is a total and utter pleasure to keep walking the walk, and pressing forward helping others the best we can.

People who really want to make a difference in the world usually do it, in one way or another. And we have noticed something about people who make a difference in the world; They hold the unshakable conviction that individuals are extremely important, that **EVERY LIFE MATTERS.**

They get excited over one smile. They are willing to feed one stomach, educate one mind, and treat one wound. They aren't determined to revolutionize the world all at once; they're satisfied with small changes. Over time, though, the small changes add up.

Sometimes they even transform cities, and nations, and yes the world.



THANK ALL FOR BEING A PART OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

Inside this Issue

Sponsorship Programme	2
UK Trustees	2
Staff News	3
Childrens Lessons & Exams	3
Fundraising	4
School Visits	4
Aid	4
Special Thanks	4
How it Began	5
A Word	5

Special points of Interest

Sponsorship Programme urgently needs your help

Fundraising

Special Thanks

Aid

A Word

Donations can be made directly via BACS - Acc 37946868. Sort Code 77-91-29

Sponsorship Programme

A CHILD AND FAMILY NEED YOUR HELP.



Firstly, can we just thank all of our current sponsors. Your support especially through the last 2 years has been invaluable and we wouldn't be able to have continued without you.

As you all know Nursery school education in The Gambia is private sector. The costs to parents and guardians is very expensive.

To sponsor a child : £30.00 per year or £2.50 per month, would allow you to share a child with another sponsor for a whole year. This is the most affordable way to help.



But due to covid and the economy at present our programme is suffering heavily and we do not have sufficient sponsors to cover all our children. This is resulting in a short fall financially. We find that we can not at this time put up our sponsorship fees, but would appreciate you all spreading our word & sharing our story in the hope new sponsors join us.

Education is the future, and an early start in life is key.

Here at Ebo Town Community Nursery School, we offer **ALL** our children a **FREE** education, thanks to the sponsorship programme.

£60.00 a year or £5.00 per month, would enable you to support a child on a sole sponsor basis for 1 year.

Each child will receive relevant uniforms, books and equipment.

Kaylee—who is such an amazing support to the charity.

Thank you for supporting the children, and giving them an opportunity of a FREE education.

We have various ways in which you can support us, from as little as £2.50 a month you could help provide a child a completely free education.

If you would like to sponsor a child for a year or have any questions, please get in touch with Kaylee—07875407211

UK Trustees

Since our new school building has opened its doors we have made the following changes:

AMY YEOMANS



Amy is now chair of the charity, and works day in day out, liaising with our Head teacher, ensuring everything is running to a very high standard on the ground.

Amy has implemented many new and exciting changes into teaching methods, sharing how UK nursery schools operate. Ebrima is very keen to adjust and adapt teaching methods to Gambian style and UK the results have been totally amazing.

Amy is a total credit to the charity and her drive and passion to help radiates from her.

KAYLEE NICHOLLS



Kaylee is still in touch with sponsors and works with Ebrima weekly, monitoring the childrens attendance and test results.

She has also created new student bio's to enable her to share more about the children and their families with their sponsors.

As we write this update, Kaylee is busy working with Ebrima to enroll all our new starters for the next School year.

Donations can be made to our PayPal Account (friends&family) - ebotowncommunitynurseryschool@outlook.com

Staff News

EBRIMA HEAD OF SCHOOL/TEACHER

Ebrima is a highly qualified primary school teacher, who has lived and worked in Ebo Town all his life. Ebrima has proven himself to be honest, trustworthy and committed to helping children and families in his community. He teaches in our Butterfly class.

FATOUMATTA CLEANER/NANNY

She also lives nearby. She cleans the school and looks after the younger children if they need assistance with the english style toilets!

FATOUMATTA TEACHER

Fatoumatta is a qualified teacher and works in Rainbow class. She lives in Ebo Town, and is motivated in helping her community.

AWA TEACHING ASSISTANT

Awa works with each teacher assisting the slower learners in each class. She steps in when we have a teacher absent. Janet lives not far from the school in Ebo Town.

ABBA TEACHER

Abba is a qualified teacher, working in our Caterpillar class with the youngest of our children. Abba is the only staff member that travels to school daily. She loves her job and she believes that children are the future. She works hard to make a difference.

MUHAMMED CARETAKER

He lives right next to the school & ensures the building and children are kept safe. He also enjoys playing football with the children on their break.

Childrens Lessons, Exams & Enrolments

26 Children have left to go to Grade 1, Tallinding school at the end of July 2022. They were all presented with certificates and parents were invited to the school to see the award ceremony.

Children throughout our school did 3 exams each, so that staff could monitor how each child was performing. Each child has a report book, and all results are recorded and sent to the parents/guardians for observation.

Results are sent back to the trustees so we too can send information to you the sponsor supporter.



Children have been taught a varied educational programme and have flourished.

We have had the Educational Department do various inspections this past year to ensure we are working to high standards. The report back was extremely positive.



Fundraising Urgently Needed

More than ever, we feel the urge as a tiny charity, to work harder, to reach further but we can't do this on our own. If you feel you can help with an event, please, please come forward to help.

We eagerly want to move into new circles and reach out further, to make this dream come true.



Host a coffee/cake morning



Give the gift of sponsorship

Ways to help



Pub Quiz Event



Make & sell cards & crafts



Arrange a comedy/performance evening



Sponsored walk/run/swim or cycle

ANY IDEAS ANY HELP ANY SUPPORT WOULD BE AMAZING

School Visits

We welcome anybody to visit our school and meet our wonderful children. If you wish to attend, we ask that you complete a visitor application form, which can be downloaded from our web page, and forwarded to the Trustees for approval 8 weeks prior to your intended visit.

As we take safeguarding of our children seriously. **NO** visits are permitted unless prior approval has been authorized



Team April 2019

Aid

After our latest committee meeting, we have had to take a hard and long look at finances and look at what we are all about.

As a result we have taken the difficult decision to remove the option for our sponsors to pay extra towards aid appeals. We do not take this decision lightly but aid has always been an added bonus we have been lucky to provide regularly for the last few years but now with rising costs and fewer sponsors we have to ensure our income is used to cover the costs of our number 1 priority - Providing a free education.

Due to a new government pay scale our staff wages are due to increase significantly as well as the added extra costs associated with running and maintaining our own School.

This is not saying we will stop aid appeals altogether in the future, If we do decide to run an appeal, we will contact you all via email/facebook as we used to do.

Those sponsors that do pay monthly for aid at the moment will be contacted by Kaylee in the coming weeks.

Special Thanks

Julie Lewis & her Bonus ball Ladies.

This wonderful bunch have donated a whopping £1300.

This donation will go towards lots of new equipment for the school such as a laptop and printer as well as other items to allow the teachers to give these wonderful children the best possible education.

Thank you all so much.



Shop online via Give as you Live & raise funds as you shop
<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-nursery-school>

How it Started

Dave and Paula went to The Gambia in January 2014, with £200 in their pockets to make a difference and help. Since then, we have been led into opening a school, and running it fully. Doors open, and community work starts.

We can sit in a comfy warm home, with a full fridge, nice cars, running water, electric, but only 6.5 hours flight away, there is poverty, suffering, and hardship.

Our journey in The Gambia continues. We feel stronger than ever in our hearts that a school and school build, is the next step forward. It's a dream, but dreams do come true.

If you would like to help or join with us please get in touch.

FROM THIS



TO THIS



A word from our Founders



As I make up this news sheet, and look at the journey over the past 8 years, it has been an emotional roller coaster.

We are the real proud owners of a brand new school operating all 3 very large classrooms.

It is with a heavy heart that a team has not been out to witness the new school in action but hopefully in the coming year this will happen..

We have spoken an awful lot about finances and made some difficult decisions of late, but can I personally assure you we have a good buffer in our bank account and are being very careful with finances, as this amazing mission started will hopefully continue for many years ahead.

Saying that it we can only continue if we have your kind love, generosity and continued support.

Can Dave and I personally thank you all so much, to those who sponsor, to those who donate, to those who fund raise and give so much.

I would like to thank all trustees who continue to work so hard, but there are two especially that work day in and day out.



Amy and Kaylee, my family has had a very hard few years, but even more so this year, if it wasn't for these two remarkable ladies I could not have managed, they have taken over completely and have done a job far better than I ever could.



LET'S WORK TOGETHER AND KEEP THE VISION AND MISSION ALIVE.
God Bless, and thanks Dave and Paula



4 Chaffinch Way
Sundorne Road
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY1 4TR

web: www.ebotowncommunitynurseryschool.co.uk
email: ebotowncommunitynurseryschool@outlook.com
Phone: 01743 467426
Mobile: 07738 022397
Registered Charity in England and Wales: 1175808