

# EBO TOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EBO SCHOOL

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## SUMMER NEWS 2018

Recently I had the pleasure of a relaxing all inclusive holiday to Egypt for 1 week. I am sure as the holiday season is upon us all, many families are getting ready to take time out and enjoy quality, well deserved moments together. Sitting in Egypt, where many nationalities come together on a resort complex, I witnessed over indulgence, and a me me mentality.

It draws me back to an occasion in The Gambia in April 2018. The team walked into a compound, in the one house we found an elderly lady riddled in pain lying on a cushioned bench with severe arthritis. Her bedroom was dark and the smell of mould was stifling from all the damp water damage left over from the rain

rainy monsoon season. We gave this lady some bedding and a large 50kg bag of rice, which she humbly and gratefully accepted. We left her with a big hug and massive handshake.

We were about to leave the compound when our attention was drawn to another room, where a small boy lay alone asleep, his parents were out trying to earn enough money to feed their children. I personally did not want to go inside and disturb the sleeping boy, but Siaka egged me to go and take a look. On entering a little girl aged about 7 came in from behind us and showed us where she slept with her 4 siblings. It was a piece of cardboard on the dirt floor in a damp, dark mouldy room. Another room was shown to us where the parents slept with only 2 suitcases of clothes sitting on top of the bed. This is all the family owned. I opened

my backpack and gave out a knitted blanket (donated and handmade by League of Friends Shrewsbury). I had a few t.shirts and shorts, plus I gave the little girl a voucher for 50kg rice. The little girls manners where impeccable, we chatted outside, but something made me want to go back inside. I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw the blanket on the cardboard, so neatly laid out with a teddy on top. She had made her bed. A tear rolled down my cheek as I walked away. So as we get ready for the school holiday season, let us not take anything for granted and lets spare a thought to families that live in poverty in The Gambia. The monsoon season is upon them now, homes will be flooded, cholera and malaria are rife. Its hard. Lets spare a thought to those living in poverty and hardship.

LETS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



### NEW HEAD OF SCHOOL

In June our head of School resigned from his position. Siaka Kalley has made this school what it is today.

He has left us, to start a new life in Germany. We would like to thank him so much and wish him well on his ven-

tures. Martina Nzally has taken over as Head of school, and will teach in Butterfly Class. She has experience as an assistant manager in a nursery school already, and will bring lots of new ideas to the table. Martina will support us with the build to move



The project forward. Welcome Martina.

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### Special points of interest:

- Word of thanks to all sponsors.
- Safe guarding
- School build funds
- Rice and Mosquito nets.



## SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME



Can you help take little ones off the streets and educate them?

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

From as little as £25.00 A YEAR, you can sponsor a child. You will be allocat-

ed a little boy or girl, whom you can support as much or as little as you like. This fee goes towards the child's two uniforms, all teachers salaries, and all school equipment. Some sponsors like to send additional money for the child's family to buy Rice or mosquito nets. Some sponsors like to send a small gift out at Christmas.

Paula Howells the Found-

er does try to keep ALL Sponsors and contributors up to date on what is happening at the school by sending quarterly news letters, and holding a yearly presentation evening in Shrewsbury, Shropshire.

If you would like to sponsor a child for a year, please get in touch .

THANK YOU FOR CARING.

***“We pray that a new school can be built to enable us to have a 3rd classroom”***

On Friday 13th July, we say goodbye to 11 of our children, who will be leaving us for Grade 1, education. All our children have just sat some small tests/exams, to see improvements over the past year. The staff are busy marking papers, and hopefully I will get a set of

results so that I can inform all sponsors how well their child is doing. Its such a proud moment when you see these 7 year olds leaving, speaking great English and filled with confidence. We wave them off having given each child an amazing start in life. We say hello

to some very shy, timid 4 year olds joining us in September 2018, but it will not take long to see them smiling and learning and growing in confidence.



## CONTINUED COMMUNITY WORK



**Love never fails**

1 Corinthians 13:8

The gathering of aid has been amazing this past collection. Over 20 boxes of aid, made up of bedding, clothing, first aid equipment, desk top computer, printer and ink, stationery etc, plus 2 wheel chairs and 3 sewing machines, it is fantastic to see how kind so many people are and the beautiful top quality aid that has been donated. When we box it all up, its very humbling, to know, that this is going to help so many people, who sleep rough, that do not

have a proper bed, just cardboard. We are looking for any old suitcases, large or small, to put aid in, as it is easier to store, lock away, and keep safe from the vermin, so if you do have any old suitcases that are redundant, please send them our way, for packing aid into for our next container shipment which will be January 2019.

It does cost us £30,00 for a large box to send over, our last bill was £470.00 to send over the aid. Our community work

will take on a new dimension now that Siaka Kalley has left the school. We will be using some parents to escort us round the community, and guide us to the poorer families that are in need of help and support. Its fantastic that we have built such great relationships with the parents of our children and have their full support. Hopefully our new Head of School, Martina, will learn her way around Ebo Town Community, and settle into her role quickly.

**YOU CAN HELP EASE A LIFE BY DONATING.  
THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELP AND SUPPORT.**

Can you help us to be the bridge between Europe and Africa.

**RICE: Costs**

**£22.50** 50kg bag

**£13.00** per 25kg bag

**A 50kg bag lasts a family one month.**

**MOSQUITO**

**NETS : £5.00**

**CLEANING PRODUCTS:**

**FOR 4 ITEMS COSTS £2.00. (Soap, bleach, washing liquid, washing powder.**

**Container going**

**Our next container load will be leaving in January 2019**



**THE BIG BUILD. EXTRA CLASSROOM NEEDED TO CATER FOR 40 MORE CHILDREN.**

In April 2018, we were shown a piece of land, 36m x 24m in the heart of Ebo Town. The team did not go on this trip expecting to buy a piece of land, but after an amazing donation from Concord College, in February 2018, we found ourselves in the position to move the build forward. After some hard negotiation we purchased the land. The land got transferred into the schools name by the time the team left. To-date, from build money raised, we have secured the land, with a high concrete wall, which has been rendered and painted, plus security wire placed on top for added protection, metal gates which were donated from a kind sponsor, have

been put in place, plus another amazing donation from a Trustee allowed us to put in the septic tank, before the monsoon season hits, and the water levels rise. The latest news is that all building plans have been passed.

We have plans for a 3 classroom school, which will accommodate approximately another 40—60 children. We will have a security room, office, toilets with a shower in each, plus a room for our aid and community work.

The land has 4 wells located on it, so we have free water. We now need to raise £10,000 to £12,000 to put in the foundations. So we are stepping up our fund rais-

ing efforts to try our best to raise this money. To date we have approximately £1500, so have a bit to go.

***“Can we approach all businesses we know and ask for a £100 donation. 250 donations will enable this to happen”***

**DREAMS DO COME TRUE PLEASE HELP .**




## EBO SCHOOL

4 Chaffinch Way  
Sundorne Grove  
Shrewsbury  
Shropshire, SY1 4TR

Phone: 01743 467426  
Mobile: 07738022397

Email:  
[ebotowncommunitynurseryschool@outlook.com](mailto:ebotowncommunitynurseryschool@outlook.com)

  
EBO TOWN COMMUNITY  
NURSERY SCHOOL.

[www.ebotowncommunitynurseryschool.com](http://www.ebotowncommunitynurseryschool.com)

[www.justgiving.com/ebotowncommunitynurseryschool](http://www.justgiving.com/ebotowncommunitynurseryschool)

[www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-)

Registered charity in England and Wales: 1175808

## FUNDRAISING EVENTS.

Paula Howells, The Founder and a Trustee Nicole Owen, are about to embark on a 20 mile hike to raise funds for the school build on 28th July 2018. Paula and Nicole will be escorted by an ultra marathon runner, the route will start with a sharp ascent from Cardingmill valley, to the top of the Longmynd, returning back down to the Bridges pub, with a sharp ascent up onto the Shropshire way, back to Shrewsbury, via Lyth Hill, to the Quarry. So far we have raised an amazing £300, but our aim is to raise £500. Can I take this opportunity in asking if you would kindly sponsor me please. I am being told by our escort, that this

will hurt, but my passion to help more and reach out more, drives me to continue in whatever way possible.

Every single penny goes directly to the school, we are all volunteers who want to make a difference.

Maybe: you would like to hold an event and assist us with fundraising. Please get in touch if you can help us. Paula and the team would try to attend and support any events being held, and appreciate any support to make this dream a reality.

*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/ community centre build, is the next step forward.*

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

**DONATIONS CAN BE MADE VIA JUST GIVING OR BACS: SORT CODE: 77-91-29, ACC 37946868.**

*Every single penny goes directly to the project.*

**ON LINE SHOPPERS PLEASE SIGN UP TO**  
[www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-nursery-school](http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-nursery-school)

*Its so easy: go via the give as you live page, which is free and easy to sign up to. Go via the link to over 4200 stores, energy suppliers, airlines, car insurance, and for every penny you spend on line, a small percentage comes directly back to Ebo School. Its so easy.*

### **TEACHERS STARTING TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE**

We are proud to say that we are supporting two members of our staff, through teacher college this coming year. Christine our teaching assistant will start her first year on Monday 16th July, and Martina our Head of school will be in her final year. It costs £114.75 to educate a teacher **for 1 year.**



**GOODBYE:** To both these fantastic gentlemen. Ebo Town will miss them both so much, but all Trustees would like to wish them both well, in there ventures.



**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO CONTINUALLY KEEP FINANCIALLY HELPING.**

**YOU ARE THE HIDDEN GIVERS, AND MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.**