

EBO TOWN COMMUNITY SCHOOL

EBO SCHOOL

Issue no 4
May 2019

SPRING 2019

Well firstly we would like to apologise for missing a winter edition of our newsletter, and for not being in touch with all the sponsors and contributors as we should have.

So much amazing work is happening in The Gambia right now, so much so, that we do not know where to start. Two trips have been over to the school, one in November 2018, and another team have recently returned. The school is running better than it ever has, since we started our journey back in 2015. Our new head of school, who has been on probation until the end of April 2019, has been offered a permanent position, as she has brought new and fresh ideas to the table, and has a passion to drive the school into being one of the best Nursery schools in The Gambia. We have a new teacher

Working in our Butterfly class. Martina Nzally, whom is in her final year at Teacher Training college, and will be sitting her final exams shortly. We have 78 very confident and happy children being educated at this very minute. FREE OF CHARGE. We have a build underway, and the foundations have been completed. We have been re-united with old friends whom were at the very start of this journey, and now the family are working with us and supporting us in Ebo Town. It is quite a story, of how Badou Ceeseey, made the introductions back in January 2014, but left on the boats for a better life, going to Libya, Italy, and after hardship and seeing loss of lives on the boats, has made it safely to Germany. We are back in touch with this man, who has a story to tell of why he fled Gambia, for a better life. His brother Pa Ceeseey, whom we have supported over all the years, has introduced us once again to his Ebo Family, and a wonderful man who has been contracted to build our school, using local labourers, local mate-

rials. We trustees have now got open communication with all our staff members, the tailor, the builder, and the Ceeseey family, we have a special relationship with each other but ultimately a special bond has been developed as everyone appreciates all the input from all people involved. We are on a journey right now, its so exciting, its challenging, its sometimes a little tough, but we have a dream, together, that we need to help another 40-50 children have a FREE education, we need that extra classroom, to be able to support an extra 40-50 families in Ebo Town. We have been given some mind blowing donations so far this year, which has given us the drive to push harder and work smarter to make our wildest dreams come true.

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Special points of interest:

- Build Project.
- How it began
- Sponsorship programme
- Teaching staff and children.

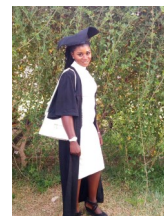
CONGRATULATION TO LENNA OUR HEAD TEACHER SHE HAS GRADUATED THANKS TO OUR SUPPORT.

Lenna Jammeh, joined our school in September 2015 as an unqualified teacher, teaching in our Rainbow class. The trustees saw the potential in Lenna, and a sponsor came forward offering support and paid for her education. Lenna has completed 3 hard years at Teacher Training college,

and has successfully graduated. Her graduation ceremony was on 2nd May 2019. We are all so proud of this young lady, whom has become our Head of School.

Lenna runs the school, with trust, honesty, love and puts her heart and soul into every situation that gets put

in front of her. Recently Lenna lost her home to a fire, and lost absolutely everything she owned, even her salary. This did not stop her, she was back at work Monday morning, teaching the children she loves.



SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME



Some children are now having a meal supplied by Lower Basic school for 12p / meal. Some parents can afford some can't. Thank you for supporting the children, and giving them an opportunity of a FREE education.

We trustees have had to take a long hard look at our fees to educate a child in education within our school. Nursery School education in The Gambia is private sector, and is very expensive, therefore children would only be able to go to a government run school from the age of 7. We can give a free education to all our children. We are having to make adjustments to our fees and are pleased to announce the options available to sponsor a child at our school.

Option 1. BASIC SPONSORSHIP. Suggested minimum £30.00 per annum as a one off payment. A child may be double sponsored. No aid included in this fee.

Option 2. BASIC SPONSORSHIP same rules as above but suggested minimum of £2.50 per month via standing order.

Option 3. FULL SPONSORSHIP. Suggested minimum £5.00 per month via standing order. The sponsor will be covering the child's education in FULL and will be the child's only sponsor. No aid included.

Option 4. FULL SPONSORSHIP suggested minimum £7.50 per month via standing order. Same rules as option 3, but aid included twice per year, 2 x 25kg rice, 2 x clean packs.

Paula The Founder, would like to get back to bringing a personal touch with the sponsors, and will keep you posted frequently on your child's progress so sponsors can have a special bond with their families.

We encourage sponsors to interact with their families, by giving photos

and a letter or card to the families, and in return the team will work with your child, and will encourage them to draw a picture and write a thank you back to you.

The new structure starts from June 1st 2019.

NOTE: To all the fantastic sponsors that are currently set up to pay via SO, you will not have to change to this new structure until you are due to run out based on your start dates, but Kaylee will be in touch when your renewal is due.

Please help support us in :

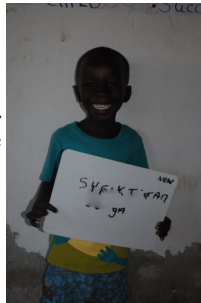
PLANTING SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE. Thank you.

NEW ENROLMENTS



A team has just returned from the school all self funded. Their mission was to enroll 23 new children for the start of our September 2019 school year. They have done a great job, and we have targeted the poorest families in Ebo Town, that need the help and support. We will be saying goodbye to 23 children in July who leave our Butterfly class to move onto grade 1.

These children need your support, can you help in anyway please.



We say hello to these two little 4 year olds, by say Good bye to our lovely intelligent Amie, who now speaks perfect English and has blossomed in our school. We are sure she will

come and visit us and will inform us of how she and her family are doing.



AID APPEALS.



Love never fails

1 Corinthians 13:8

Twice a year we ask sponsors if they would like to go over and above and support their families even more. (This is not compulsory or required). At the beginning of October and the beginning of March each year, we put out appeals. Rice bags can be purchased along with life saving mosquito nets, or the essential cleaning packs, containing, wash powder, bleach, soap etc. Rice comes in 25kg or 50kg sacks, costing £13.00 or £25 a sack, mosquito nets are £5.00 and cleaning packs £2.00. The joy

on the faces when the families are called to the school to collect aid is amazing, the families are so appreciative. Paula The Founder, would like to personally thank everybody that continues to help their families, you are the silent givers, you are the people making the difference and easing lives. Thank you so much.

We take so much for granted in our own lives, a small gesture means such a lot.



Ebrima, receiving rice aid of Yvonne his sponsor. Special moments.

EXCITING BUILD PROJECT UPDATE:

In November 2018, we were introduced to a gentleman, that built the huge ferry terminal in Banjul, he took a look at our plans, he visited the land to observe and take measurements, he went away after several meetings, to work out a quotation to build the school in full.

Phase 1. - Foundations.
£8150.00 all inclusive.

Phase 2. -Wall, electrics, plumbing, plastering, - £14,800

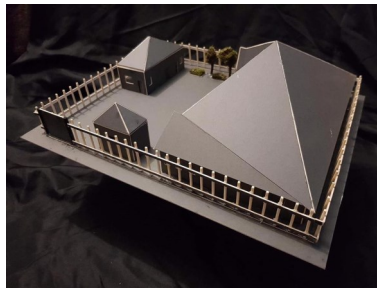
Phase 3—Roof, painting, windows, doors, and all final fix—
£8050,00

TOTAL PRICE £31,000

When the charity was formed, building a school was never a need or concern, but as we start helping children and families the need to help more became a priority. We are in a position that we want to reach out more and a third classroom is a priority. It seems a huge ask £31,000, but broken down into small bite size pieces it is manageable, and slowly we move forward and aim towards the goal and dream. After some amazing fund raising drives , and support Concord College and the library students, we are working towards getting the finances together for phase 2, but our concern is our lease expires in April 2020 at Tallinding Lower Basic School, and we pray some way some how, we can be getting close to phase 2, being completed, and pray that we can have an extension on our lease for another year. The foundations put in are to a very high standard and have been reinforced. We are using local labour and local materials, which is supporting and aiding The Gambian people. The monsoon season will be starting in a few months time, and Ebo Town will become flooded once again, work on the build will

draw to a halt, which will allow us time to fund raise as hard as possible. We need your help. If you can help with a fundraising event, whether a tea party, garden party, musical, sponsored event, or a donation to move us closer to our vision, we need to reach out into different circles, and spread the good news of the work we are doing. Please contact Paula The Founder, she and a member of the team would love to come and support and share with you all. Thank you.

Since the news letter together: We are really happy to announce, that the constructor, is able to work with a sum of money that has been raised, we can proudly say, that we are about to send over the finances to allow the walls to ALL the buildings to be erected to roof height, before the monsoon season starts.How exciting. Thanks everyone.



“Please can you assist in making our dreams and vision come true, to help more children.”

A LITTLE ABOUT EBO TOWN COMMUNITY IT SELF.

How it all happened:

January 2014, Dave and Paula Howells The Founders, visited The Gambia with a mission to help others less fortunate. They found a tiny school with 105 children being educated with mud floors , no windows, broken blackboard. With £200 in their pockets they wanted to make a difference.

The start of Ebo School

The little school got closed down leaving these children without education, Immediately Paula contacted the Education department. This conversation formed the concept of Ebo Town Community Nursery school, which opened its doors to 80 children in September 2015.

Ebo Town



Ebo Town Community is situated along the Brikama—Banjul highway dividing communities of Tallinding and Jeshwang. Terrible floods expose the community to diseases like Cholera and Malaria with unhygienic living conditions. Ebo Town Community is one of the poorest communities in The Gambia. Here families worry that they will loose valuable items, as heavy rainwater flows through the community to the river affecting their environment adversely.



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 down loaded from our web page, and forward 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.**

4 Chaffinch Way
Sundorne Grove
Shrewsbury
Shropshire, SY1 4TR

Phone: 01743 467426
Mobile: 07738022397

Email:
ebotowncommunitynurseryschool@outlook.com


EBO TOWN COMMUNITY
NURSERY SCHOOL.

www.ebotowncommunitynurseryschool.com.

www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-nursery-school

Registered charity in England and Wales: 1175808

A message from Paula Howells—Founder.

As I am putting together this newsletter, it gives me a chance to see how far we have come over such a small amount of time. I was going through the photos, and reflecting on all the children, and all the families we are reached and touched. It makes my heart smile and beat with joy that I personally feel so proud of what has been achieved. But none of this would be possible without you the supporters, who have stood by me personally, and driven me forward. Now the passion is to continue with the Lords help, the work we are doing, but to improve and reach out more. I believe that I am being used to reach out to a community in a special way, the build is a crazy thought, that I personally never thought would ever happen. I did not intend to start what has started, I never intended to even set up a charity, but here I am 5 years on, walking stronger than ever, with an amazing team of Trustees guiding the journey. It a blessing to reach out and share some love into the deepest areas of Africa. I give you all the praise and thanks. Thank you for believing in me to deliver.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE: BACS: SORT CODE: 77-91-29, ACC 37946868. Or a card payment can be made over the telephone.

Every single penny goes directly to the project.

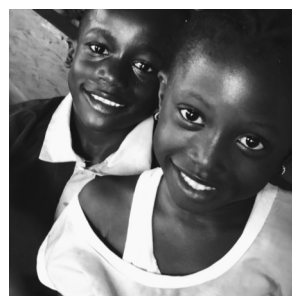
ON LINE SHOPPERS PLEASE SIGN UP TO
www.giveasyoulive.com/join/ebo-nursery-school

THANK YOU'S

1. Trustees.—We are 8 trustees in total and 1 member. We meet every 3 months to discuss all aspects on running the school. Each trustee gives of their time voluntarily. Thank you to you all.
2. Concord College—The library students sell used work books, and all proceeds raised are donated to our school build. Thank you so much for your hard work and generosity to date.
3. Shrewsbury Rotary—For the amazing £700 donation from Colin Sharp, Presidents fund, and for inviting me to share the work we do with the Rotarians. Money donated has been allocated to the build fund.
4. Kaylee Murray—Charity Ball event, which raised £1290.00. Amazing evening was had, and will be repeated. Thanks to all who attended and supported the evening, Hundred House, DJ, and Photo booth, thanks to all the companies who sponsored a table.
5. To all the sponsors who support and help I in so many way. Thank you
6. For the four team members who went over to the school in April (2 x sponsors) 1 x trustee and 1 x member, who all paid there way to work and help. Totally mind blowing.

Finally

Can we wish our fantastic Trustee Kaylee, who holds the sponsorship programme together, a wonderful wedding day, as she becomes ONE with Andy Nicholls on 31st May 2019. We wish them both love and happiness for the future. Thanks Kaylee for your wonderful support.



Special children, enjoying being a part of a family, and growing and learning . Thank you to all those that make this possible.