



Sponsor and supporter update

May, June & July 2024



We made it!

We needed to raise £52,000 to add two additional classrooms to our school in order to retain our school licence

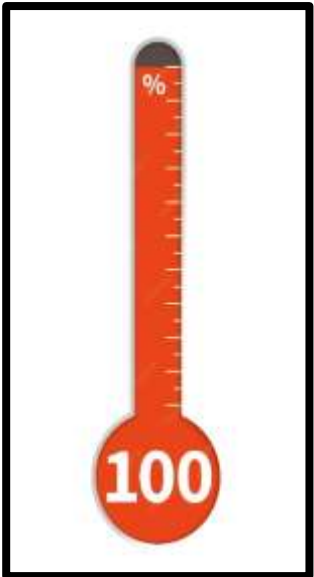
Thanks to very generous donations from the Kenya Orphans Sponsorship Trust and The Thompson Trust plus many rotary clubs, individuals and clients of ActionCOACH

We now need to raise the funds to turn the building below into the needed classrooms - Please can you help?

Any donation would help enormously – THANK YOU

For debit/credit card payment: (Ctrl + click – this takes a while to load)
<https://empowerinkidsinkeny.enthuse.com/cp/52edc/fundraiser#!/>

Bank payment: Santander – Empowering Kids in Kenya – sort code 09-01-28 – account number 49379650



Please scan our new QR code – it will take you straight through to our website



School

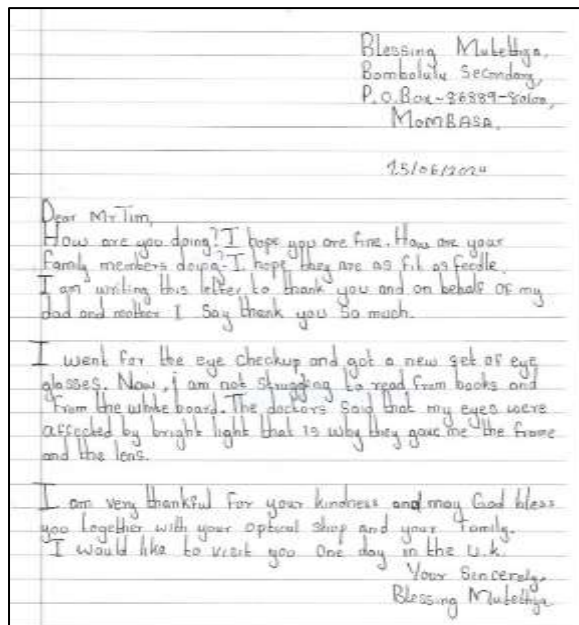
New building

Playground

This building is perfect as it links the school and the playground

Blessing – our albino pupil can see properly at long last

Thanks to her sponsor, Tim Tucker, and the optician practice he works for, Blessing had an eye test and now has her new glasses. She is delighted to be able to see the blackboard clearly as well as everything around her. It has transformed her life.



Here is a heartwarming special message from Blessing to her sponsor

"I am very thankful for your kindness and may God bless you together with your optical shop

Now I am not struggling to read from books and from the whiteboard. The doctors said that my eyes were affected by bright light that is why they gave me the frame and lens.

Thank you for giving me this magical gift of better sight"

Our amazing students excel at debating

THE AFRICAN DEBATE ACADEMY - 2ND EDITION MOMBASA SCHOOLS OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP



The event was organized by The African Debate Academy and the Aga Khan Academy Mombasa. The event took place on 1st and 2nd June 2024 at the prestigious Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa Campus.

The aim of this event is to pioneer a debate movement in Mombasa and other regions using the world schools' style of debate. The vision of the founders of the African Debate Academy was to shape African students into great leaders of tomorrow.



The motion aims at challenging the students to brainstorm, do research, present by defending their views and their understanding of the themes given in order to win. The event was categorised into three; debate, public speaking and quiz challenge and we send a total of 8 students who competed in all the three categories.



There were over 25 schools of whom all but two were international schools. Bombolulu Secondary School and Mary Joy Academy were the only local schools. Mary Joy only took part in the quiz.



We are proud our students; their dedication and hard work paid off and they competed up to the semi-finals. Their hard work earned them a trophy and the three debaters received a medal. This was a great opportunity for our students to sharpen their skills.

Bravo to our students and teachers!

Children supporting children – Beadale supporting Bombolulu

Before the schools broke up for the summer, the Beadale High School Interact Club (Rotary for secondary school age children) had a zoom chat to the children in Bombolulu. The meeting largely entailed all the children smiling, waving and laughing with each other. The Beadale children had held a fun run to raise funds to sponsor one or two of the children in Kenya. This is their International Project. Thank you Andy and Chris for organising this. The many children all eager to chat to the children in the UK.



They all agreed to become pen pals, so the next year is going to be interesting!



Brighton's story – narrated by Nancy, our school manager

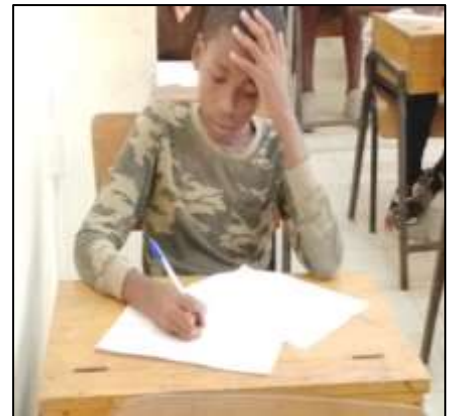
Brighton is one of our 35 students who joined our school in January this year. It is the norm that parents or guardians are the ones who go out to schools seeking for admission of their children. But Brighton's case was different. He heard about our school and the sponsorship opportunities given to our students while in primary school last year.

His class teacher, who understands the challenges kids go through in public schools, used to tell them that if they worked very hard and performed well in their National Examination, they could then come to our school and apply for a scholarship for their Junior Secondary School years.



So the boy was determined, and in January this year, when we were receiving applications from parents and guardians for their kids, he walked into the head teacher's office all alone and with tears in his eyes – he said “Sir, please allow me to come here because I want to continue with my education and one day I would like to become a teacher” I overheard this from my office and it touched my heart so much.

We asked him about his parents or if anyone will be coming to do the application for him, but he said “I have tried but my aunt is always busy, she has to go searching for casual jobs every day so that she can get something for us to eat, but most of the time we have nothing and so I decided to come alone because I want to learn”. He said that he doesn't have parents; the aunt who is a distant relative told him that his father died when he was very young, and his mother abandoned him at the age of three.



He was so happy and felt so lucky, just like the other kids, for securing a chance to join our school.

The new 35 children settled in well and as we interacted with them over and over again, we realised that most of them had low self-esteem and were stressed due to things they were having to endure growing up - abuse, neglect and hunger – all of which affect their physical, psychological and emotional wellbeing.

With the help of our teachers through continuous guiding and counselling, children are able to open up and share with us their challenges so that we can talk and find a solution.

Brighton's case was not an exception; he has gone through many challenges of which some resulted in health problems. From time to time, he complained of back pain, general pain,



watering and swelling of his left eye and painful ears. When we called Brighton's guardian and discussed his health issues, she admitted that the challenge has been lack of money as she also has five kids of her own to take care of and is a single parent with no income.

Thank God, John and Wendy Burns who are school supporters, offered to pay for Brighton's hospital appointments, medication and other personal items which he did not have, like shoes and clothes.

Brighton, accompanied by his guardian and Nancy, went to Lighthouse Eye Centre on 26th June, then to Pandya Memorial Hospital for spinal cord and back treatment then on to Mombasa Hearing Centre for ear treatment. These medical tests and diagnosis took 4 days and, at the moment, he is under medication and will be going to the doctors once he's completed the current course of treatment.



Brighton is super happy and he says he is feeling better already. We wish him a quick recovery!

Thank you John and Wendy for making this all possible and lots of hugs to Janet Day who sponsor his schooling, all our Trustees, sponsors and supporters for your generosity and continued support to the school and the kids.

Together we are making a difference!

INCHA Writing Competition



This was an exciting event for students whose Kiswahili is one of their favourite subjects. The event was organized by the MM Shah and MV Shah Academy and it was held on 15th June. We took a team of 8 students and two teachers who did a good job.

In this event there were students from twelve schools all from within the coast region. Our team gave their best;

George came 3rd overall and the lowest of our team gained 24 marks out of 40. This means all our students performed very well indeed.

The students were accompanied by teachers Bonface and Zulekha who were also officials, and they were awarded certificates for their exemplary work. All our students received congratulatory certificates.

Well done team Bombolulu!



An amazing opportunity for our students – thanks to Rotary

This event was organised by the Rotary Club of Mombasa Downtown. It gave our students an opportunity to learn from the best. All sessions will help our children to develop into great people. Confident, community-minded leaders of the future.

Rotary Club of Mombasa Downtown

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY

STUDENT MENTORSHIP

Shaping the future of our students through inspiring talks:

- Education & Career Guidance
- Rotary & Interact
- Success & Leadership
- Relationships & the Ripple Effects
- Community Service

JOIN US
31st July 2024
At 3:00PM
Bombolulu
Secondady School

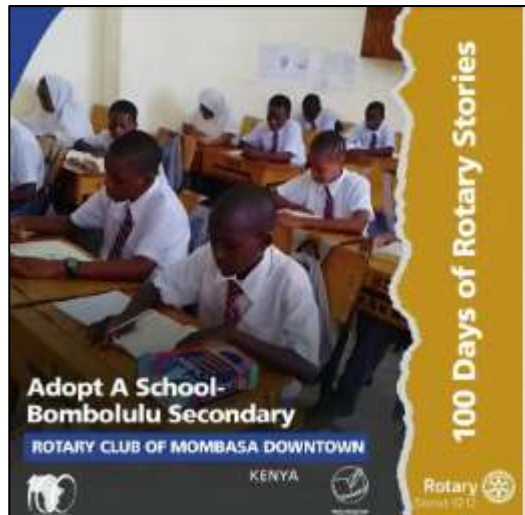
RotaryClubofMsaDowntown

Thank you
Mombasa
Downtown.

The children
really enjoyed
their day,
especially the
dancing!



Adopt a school!



The Bombolulu Project 'a beacon of hope'



Rotary International District 9212

12 July at 21:46 · 🌐



16/144

In the sun-drenched coastal city of Mombasa, the Rotary Club of Mombasa Downtown stands as a beacon of hope, illuminating the path to a brighter future through education.

Chartered in 2015, this vibrant collective of compassionate souls has embarked on a transformative journey, adopting the Bombolulu Secondary School as their flagship project. Nestled in the heart of Bombolulu, where dreams once struggled to take flight amidst makeshift classrooms in a Swahili home, now stands a testament to the power of community and global cooperation.

Through a Rotary Global Grant, partnering with the Rotary Club of St. Neots, the Mombasa Downtown Rotarians have woven a tapestry of opportunity, thread by thread, brick by brick. Today, the school buzzes with the energy of 70 junior secondary students from underprivileged families, their futures no longer constrained by circumstance. The Rotarians' commitment extends beyond mere infrastructure, encompassing every aspect of these young lives - from nourishing meals to crisp uniforms, from textbooks to sports kits, all provided at no cost to parents. But the [Rotary Club of Mombasa Downtown](#)'s vision stretches further. With unwavering dedication, they're mobilizing resources for phase two - an ambitious expansion that promises four additional classrooms and a digital library, aiming to double their impact and embrace 70 more eager minds.

Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, as the Indian Ocean whispers tales of possibility, these Rotarians gather at Mbaraki Sports Club. Their meetings are a crucible of ideas, where compassion meets action, and where the mantra of "Service Above Self" finds its most profound expression in the laughter of children whose horizons have been forever expanded.

Enos, our Chair of Board of Governors, becomes President of the Rotary Club of Mombasa North Coast



We hope you have a great year Enos



Nancy takes the lead on Rotary Grants



Thank you CMW Ltd

Supporting 7 children is simply amazing and we can't thank you all enough for your corporate and personal support

You have made 7 children very happy indeed

Save the date

East Anglia and Essex conference
Whittlebury, Northampton

Saturday 12 October 2024



Come and meet the staff and Rotarians supporting the project in Kenya

Sally will be joined on stage by several members of our Kenyan team. If you would like to attend this Rotary conference, please let Sally know as you will need to be booked into the event.

At this live Rotary conference, we have a slot booked to present the success of the school to a wide assembled audience. Sally will be joined on stage by members of our Kenyan school team who are travelling to England to say thank you directly to the many Rotary organisations who have made the school possible.

If you would like to attend, watch the presentation, and have the opportunity to meet members of the school team, we'd love to see you there.

You don't need to come for the whole day, and we'll make sure the team can spend some time with you. Just let Sally know as you will need to be booked into the event.

Thank you for your continued support through child sponsorship

Thank you – our sincere thanks go out to each and every one of you who sponsors or supports the children in order that they stand a real chance of reaching their goals and full potential. Every sponsorship we receive makes a significant difference to our children and helps the local community to develop and grow. Without your support, the majority of these children would drop out of education altogether – aged just 11/12 years old.

PLEASE do consider supporting our wonderful children. Without your generous sponsorship, none of them would be attending secondary school at all. The girls would end up in subservient, menial roles or married off and the boys would struggle to support themselves and thus potentially turn to crime, simply to gain enough money to feed themselves. Their options are very limited in this poverty-stricken area.

Child sponsorship – sadly the costs are escalating – can you help please?

The cost of food has escalated massively in the past couple of years. Teachers' salaries have also increased in line with government salary scales, especially as they are now well qualified secondary school teachers. Both result in the cost of feeding and educating a child increasing considerably.



The Rotary Club of Ashby Castle sponsor Feldah and Abrahams – you can see how happy the children are at receiving a letter from the club

Could your club, business or organisation sponsor a child or two?

Please do not feel under any pressure to increase your sponsorship unless you are happy to do so. Even an extra £5 a month will provide many meals for a child, a cost that would not be covered otherwise. Perhaps you could consider sponsoring a child between more than one person? And don't forget, a year's child sponsorship makes a fabulous Christmas or birthday present 😊. Regardless of the overall cost of supporting a child, we are only asking £20 per month or £240 per year from sponsors.

If you would like to sponsor a child, the rate per year is £240 or £20 per month - but any amount per month or as a one-off donation would be amazing, please use this link to pay by debit/credit card:

<https://empoweringkidsinkenia.enthuse.com/cp/52edc/fundraiser#!/>

Or you could pay by BACS to Empowering Kids in Kenya – Santander – sort code 09-01-28 – account number 49379650. Or a cheque made payable to Empowering Kids in Kenya and sent to 117 Willington Road, Cople, Bedford MK44 3TN.



Just for fun 😊

New shoes mean a lot 😊😊



In summary

Our 70 children have just completed their end of term exams but are staying in school for the first two weeks of their 3 week holiday. They asked the head teacher if they could have more remedial classes during the holiday period to improve their knowledge. Great kids!

I am happy to say that the girls in our safehouse are loving the security of going home to a home that is peaceful and supportive. What a great solution to the problems these girls have faced in their short lives. Please do look at our article on the website:

Thank you for all your support – we would not be where we are today if it were not for our sponsors and supporters.