GENEROUS DONATIONS SPUR CHARITY ON

Beers Timber and Building Supplies Ltd have supported our charity for the last 7 years. They originally provided us with 2 pallets of cement to send out via container, to help build the original school. They have continued to attend our Spring Balls and to donate as and when appropriate.

NOW they have guaranteed to underwrite the cost of our second classroom for our expansion into Junior Secondary School. Their workforce and suppliers are generously donating up to £8500 which will provide a fully fitted room up and running for September! Manufacturer donations and staff participation in fundraisers is an all-in company combined effort.

Thank you BEERS.

ANDREW’S ESTATES & HARRY PHIPPS & CO

Wirral builder, OAKS Trustee, Nic Phipps and Andrew Smith from Andrew’s Estate Agent, Neston and other Wirral venues, have combined to help further the development of OAKS 2014.

A pledge from both parties of £3,750 each, to be taken from the sales profit, Elizabeth Cottages, Willaston, Wirral- (a similar figure is going to local charities on application).

NEW CHALLENGES AHEAD

During our visit in February we were taken to an area some 50 miles away, a 3 hour journey by 4 x 4, to a remote backwater. This village called Gendema was hit hard by the civil war some 14 years ago, with much killing and destruction. Here in this agricultural and alluvial diamond mining area there is deep poverty and underdevelopment – it has been compared to that of a village in an Indiana Jones movie set!

Through our founder Margaret we have been given perhaps as much as 10 acres of land to build a school and replicate our successes to date. This is a huge challenge.

Maybe with partners and matched funding, just perhaps we can show another community the OAKS experience.

TO OUR SUPPORTERS, ONCE MORE A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY AND ENCOURAGEMENT - TOGETHER WE ARE TRULY MAKING A HUGE AND TANGIBLE DIFFERENCE...

Putting the integrity of the word CHARITY back into charitable giving.

Contact:
Nic: 07876 356574
Margaret: 07771 924140
Laurel: 07840 510130
www.oaks-sl.org

This February we welcomed three new visitors to OAKS school, Bo, Sierra Leone. Andrew Smith from estate agent “Andrews Estates” based on the Wirral along with Dave Lambert and Tom Brunwin, Apache helicopter pilots from the Army Corps, Hampshire.

Tom and Dave discovered OAKS through our website and have decided to nominate OAKS as a 50% charity partner for their Talisker Atlantic Rowing Challenge 2015. They hope to raise enough money to start building our Senior Secondary school, to open September 2016.
SPORTS DAY - WEDNESDAY 12TH FEBRUARY

The 300 pupils were divided into 4 houses – Pink, Blue, White and Yellow. Sports day was meant to start at 9am but actually began at 11am... THIS IS AFRICA! We were held up by the late arrival of the PA system, the completion of a shaded spectator bafifa and the cordonning off the track.

Proceedings began with a parade and the display of the house banners. All the children dressed in the many shades of their house colours, all very proud.

We enjoyed many varied and amusing races – tyre, lime and spoon, sack, bottle balancing, tug of peace, musical chairs, balloon bursting, 3 legged, carrying your doll, planting & harvesting, as well as the old favourites and more athletic sprints and relays.

A FOOTBALL MATCH OAKS V SLUIM OUR LOCAL RIVALS

Our school played local Muslim school Sluim in a rematch of an earlier game which we had lost 4-1. Some of the kids were playing in old Everton replica shirt strips – extra, extra large & could have fitted some of them twice! This time we were on home soil with a very vociferous school support of some 280 screaming kids.

We took 100 OAKS embossed medals with a green neck ribbon for 1st prize winners, supplemented by “Well done” stickers for the 2nd and 3rd places – the school supplied printed and signed certificates, presented to all three on an impressive podium.

The community joined the festivities throughout the day. The penultimate competition of “African Queen” - when the best presented queen from a house won the prize. We had a massive 2000 adults and children all around the school enclosure, it was a sight to behold. Everyone had a wonderful time, so many proud parents.

The 2-0 scoreline was sweet revenge and each goal was met by a chaotic pitch invasion by the whole school, which more than unnerved our opponents.