

FRIENDS OF MALAWI

BOOK PROJECT

Volume 2, Issue 1, Fall 2002

Primary School Activities

A letter from Mr. Kwinyani, Headteacher of Njale F.P. School

Typical Activities at a Malawian Primary School (sic)

“During this term, we have done a lot at this school. Among some activities, pupils have done the following:

STUDIES: They have been studying and reading different books very hard (making use of the library).

SPORTS: Pupils like to play football and netball here at Njale School. We have 3 boys teams and 3 girls teams. Our main boys team and main girls team have defeated several teams from neighbouring schools. And our girls team has won Education Quality Trophy.

ATHLETICS: Our pupils like to do 100m race, relay race, bottle race, three-legged race, long and high jump.

QUIZ CLUB: Pupils do compete in answering questions from different subjects i.e.interclass and school by school competitions.

YOUNG FARMERS CLUB: Students do learn new methods of agriculture and carry out certain experiments, for example, we have small gardens of tea and bananas.

ANTI-AIDS CLUB: Pupils learn ways of prevention of spreading of AIDS and care of AIDS patients. They do so by: making visits to patients, organizing big walks, performing plays/drama, giving poems and singing about AIDS. Pupils

Facts about Malawi

- One of the 10 poorest countries in the world
- Population of 10 million
- Adult Literacy: 58%
- About 600,000 books in the entire National Library system.
- Average school size is 1500 students, 15-30 teachers
- Most schools have no books or libraries
- English is the official language and is taught starting in kindergarten

Books for Malawi, The Warm Heart of Africa

I have been asked repeatedly over the last year if we are still sending books to Malawi. The answer is a resounding YES! After a slow but steady 2001, we are ramping up again, hoping to exceed our 2000 shipment record in the current year, 2002. We welcome any and all tax-deductible donations, which will be used exclusively for freight costs. We and the children of Malawi are grateful for all your support for this on-going, 8 year old book project!

Book Shipments

1999 - 3,225 books

2000 - 6,200 books

2001 - 3,400 books

have also formed a local band which plays music about AIDS disease.

WILDLIFE CLUB: Pupils learn how to care for wildlife e.g. animals, tree and grass. They make some educational visits in mountain areas, plains, rivers etc. These pupils are always supervised by teachers.” *C.S.M. Kwinyani, Headteacher, Njale F.P. School, Ntanbanyama, Thyolo, Malawi*

“I am pleased to inform you that I have received the books. They are nice and the teachers and the children are very happy and have started reading them. Before the children and teachers started borrowing, I convened a meeting. The following were invited to attend: children, teachers, parents or guardians, school committee members, PTA and the village headmen to sensitize them how they can help their children look after their books at home. The response from those who attended the meeting was enthusiastic and very grateful about the gift. Now we have a library of which we had never dreamt of before.” *Jones Michael Siffu, Headmaster, Samama F.P. School, Mangochi, Malawi*



Coordinator
Friends of Malawi
Book Project

Shannon Brown

7940 SW 11th
Portland, OR 97219
Phone 503-977-2652

e-mail
shannon@inetaarena.com



FRIENDS OF
MALAWI

The FOM Book Project

has established relationships with many schools and libraries in the Portland, Oregon area, and have a constant supply of like-new text books and reading books. These books are sorted for appropriateness and quality and shipped to Malawian schools on a weekly basis. 100% of your tax-deductible cash donations are used on freight – there is no overhead.

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A Simple Concept

What a simple concept. Malawian schools have few if any books. The teachers have few resources and are discouraged at the task before them – educating Malawi’s children. We in the U.S. have books on our shelves we never read, our schools and libraries discard books when the new editions comes out. Why can’t we just take the books we don’t use here in the U.S. and send them to schools and libraries in Malawi, where they are treasured and used daily by those who otherwise wouldn’t ever have access to a book? Please help us continue supporting Malawian childrens’ desire to learn!



“I am happy to inform you that we have received the cartons of books recently sent to us. Pupils, teachers and parents say “thank you” for these unforgettable gifts. By the way, there is still enough room in our library for more and more books.”

*C.S.M. Kwinyani,
Headteacher, Njale
F.P. School,
Ntambanyama,
Thyolo, Malawi*

“These books are the first books in our life to be donated to us. Books are scarce in Malawi. Pupils can hardly afford writing materials, let alone books. Thanks you so much for your effort. Books give people more knowledge and are the bridge to solve any impossible problem.”

*Mrs. Rose Nyirenda, Kotowa school,
Katumbi*

More about Malawi

- Life expectancy: 37 years
- HIV/AIDS adult rate: 16% (1999)
- Telephones: 37,000
- ISPs: 8
- Internet Users: 10,000
- GDP per capita: \$180

Matching Gifts Program

Many businesses and corporations have Matching Gift Programs that match charitable donations. Please check with your employer – a doubling of your contribution by your employer would double the number of books we can send!

Your support is needed

_____ Yes, I want to support a child and help send discarded books to Malawi. I have enclosed a contribution of:
_____ \$40 (enough for one box of books) _____ \$100 _____ \$ Other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State, _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to Friends of Malawi Book Project. Your gift is tax-deductible.