



St Joseph's African Aid

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES | CHANGING LIVES



New Benches and desks, Domiongo, DR Congo

Newsletter 2024

www.sjaa.org.uk

Charity No. 1087768

Registered Office: Kenmore Cottage, The Friary, Windsor SL4 2NP



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2023 Project Highlights

New benches and desks, Domiongo, DR Congo

The children at the school were sitting on the floor for lessons. This still happens! The Trustees readily approved a request to provide benches and desks for the children who were extremely happy when they saw them arrive!



Fence for school campus, Ilebo, DR Congo

This is the school and church complex in the town of Ilebo which is on the **Kasaï River**. Security of the pupils, some very young, has always been a concern and the flimsy boundary fence was also damaged in many places. This has now been replaced by a far more sturdy, permanent boundary fence much to the delight and relief of the teachers and parents of the pupils.



Old boundary fence



New boundary fence

Solar fridge for vaccines, Cameroon

A few years ago, SJAA funded a medical centre at Gomemblem because there was no hospital in the area. With the increasing reliance on the storage of vaccines (there was a recent case where a child was mauled by a dog and there were none available), a request was received for a solar fridge. This request was swiftly approved by the Trustees.





Football kit for school teams, Koza, Cameroon

The families of the children at the school have enough difficulty feeding their children let alone considering paying for football kits. This sorry state of affairs touched the hearts of those at St George's who funded the new football kit from some of the proceeds of a Non-uniform Day. As you can see the boys and girls are proudly showing off their new kit - not sure who gets the job of cleaning the kit though!



Store-room for sewing machines, Domiongo, DR Congo

The sewing machine is now a desirable commodity as it is widely used to make garments that are sold in markets in DR Congo and Cameroon. It is a way for the students to make a living and ensure that their families have food and clothes. A store-room was requested to avoid the pupils carrying the sewing machines from a remote secure location for each lesson. The photo shows the store-room that is also used for classes.



New toilets, Koza, Cameroon

At present the girls, boys and teachers all queue to use the same toilet cubicles. Due to an increase in pupil numbers this makes the current situation extremely difficult and unhygienic. Additional toilets have started to be introduced to reduce the queues at break times. More will be installed later this year to ensure segregation.

A new kitchen and canteen, Domingo, DR Congo

The old kitchen was just a shack with no roof and there was no place for the pupils to eat meals. When the weather was bad it was not possible to use the old kitchen. A new kitchen and canteen are now in place.



Water cisterns for toilets in Domingo, DR Congo



The old water cisterns were rusted and damaged and not suitable for supplying water to the toilets. A new metal cistern and a larger concrete cistern have replaced the old ones.

Looking forward to 2024 ...

Your generous donations are much appreciated. SJAA has been particularly fortunate to receive a very generous legacy. The money has been put to extremely good use as a number of vital projects have recently been approved for 2024 e.g. repair work to schools damaged by the recent floods in Ilebo, DR Congo.



Every donation is valuable as money goes a long way in Africa. Donations can be posted to SJAA, Acorn Cottage, 74 Byfleet Road, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 3LB. Donations can also be made online on the [SJAA Website](http://www.sjaa.org.uk).

