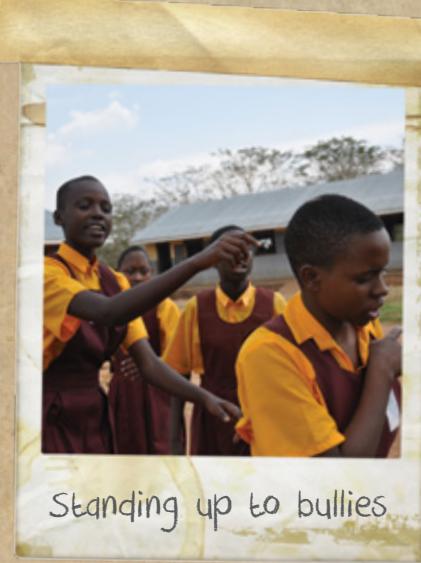


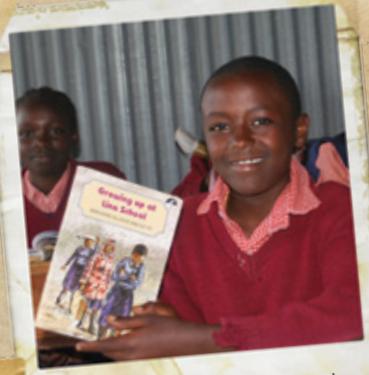
The Kids are taking over **HABARI**

A voice for young people in Africa

Issue 48 | Spring 2013



My favourite teacher
Gloria



Rules
are rubbish
Sam



Musyoki Jacinta

INSIDE



Down with bullies:

how the Letter Link scheme is giving children an opportunity to voice their concerns

More than a game:

our puzzle pages give you an insight into the challenges that our education programme is doing so much to overcome

What the kids think:

what do children in the UK and Africa think about school, adults and their futures?

The Kids are Taking Over



Hello,

Welcome to this very special edition of Habari. Don't worry, your normal editor, Chris, isn't bound, gagged and writhing around on the floor behind his desk trying to get out. No! We have kindly given him some time off to put his feet up while we kids take the strain.

My name is Musyoki and I am your guest editor for this special school magazine edition of Habari. It's been written especially for you by the children at Build Africa's schools. So when you've finished don't forget to pass it on to your own children and grandchildren: I'm sure they'll get a lot out of it too.

We show you how we deal with bullies, our intrepid reporters fire some challenging questions at a local Education Officer and we give kids in both Africa and the UK the chance to have their say and tell it like it is. We also have a puzzle section that will get your brain cells working overtime, illustrating the problems our schools face, and the ways that Build Africa is dealing with them.

Don't forget to pass it on and spread the great stories about life in Build Africa's schools.

Kids rule!

musyoki

Musyoki

**Hi! I'm
Musyoki
your super
guest editor**

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Carson Glore's lasting legacy



**ONE OF THE WAYS
YOU CAN HELP** →

Encourage your friends to do so too.
It really makes a huge difference.

Please follow us on:



Search: BuildAfrica

Bully for You

How the Letter Link scheme is dealing with issues like bullying



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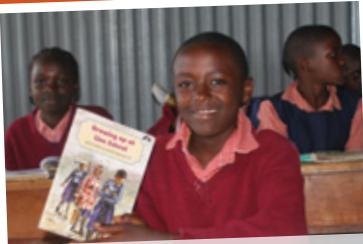


Gloria

12, from Amugagara Primary School, Uganda

1) What is your favourite colour, animal and word?
Blue is my favourite colour. I like dogs and the best words are 'thank you'.

2) What is your most treasured possession?
I treasure my books because I get knowledge from them.



Jesinta with her favourite book

1) What is your favourite colour, animal and word?
White, it shows purity and cleanliness. Horse, even though I have never seen one. 'Thank you': it shows appreciation and helps build friendship.

2) What is your most treasured possession?
My story book called 'Growing up at Lina School'. It helps me improve my reading and knowledge.

3) What is your favourite part of the school day?
My favourite time is during P.E. lesson. This is when we play and compete in games.

4) Who's your favourite teacher and why?
Miss Mbaluka. She is very understanding and helpful.

I treasure my books because I get knowledge from them



Gloria in class

3) What is your favourite part of the school day?
I like lunch time because I run home to eat. I live 2km away. We have the same food every single day: maize and beans.

4) Who is your favourite teacher and why?
Mr. Gabriel. He teaches us well, gives us examples and doesn't tell us off.

5) What's your favourite lesson and why?
My favourite lesson is English because I want to talk well when I grow up.

6) What's the worst thing about your school?
The worst thing about school is that some teachers tell us off.

7) What's the best thing about your school?
The best thing about school is that we now have a library which other schools do not have.

8) Do you play sport and what are your favourite hobbies?
I play netball. My favourite hobby is reading my books.

9) What do you think of grown-ups?

Grown-ups are people who have seen so many things in this world. Some are poor, some are rich; some are good, some are bad.

10) What would you like to be when you grow up?

I want to become a teacher because my parents are teachers.

What
the
kid
Lessons
rule



5) What's your favourite lesson and why?
Religious Education. It is one of my best subjects. We learn about the bible and how to live together.

6) What's the worst thing about your school?
The old classrooms made of iron sheets. They're dusty and hot when it's dry and cold when it is raining.

7) What's the best thing about your school?
We have some new classrooms, built by our parents with the support of Build Africa.

8) Do you play sport and which are your favourite hobbies?
I take part in athletics. My other hobbies include reading, playing football and travelling.

9) What do you think of grown-ups?
Grown-ups are great mentors, I admire them a lot, especially my teacher and parents who are hardworking and guide me in my daily life.

10) What would you like to be when you grow up?
A teacher. I believe teachers have an important role to play in the development of my village and country.

Grown-ups
are
great mentors
I admire them
a lot

Jesinta
12, from Kathyoli Primary School, Kenya



Alice
8, from Hildenborough Church of England School, Kent

I love making animations on my Dad's computer

1) What's your favourite colour, animal and word?
My favourite colour is pink. I love pandas because they are cuddly and 'friend' is my favourite word, because I love my friends.

2) What's your most treasured possession? My iPod Touch.

3) What is your favourite part of the school day?
Lunchtime, because I get to play with my friends, eat hot food and run around. Sometimes we have fun clubs too, like Craft Club or Gardening Club.

4) Who's your favourite teacher and why?
Miss Snell, because she really cares about us.

5) What's your favourite lesson and why?
I love literacy because we can write stories and let our imaginations run riot.

6) What's the worst thing about your school?
I don't like our playground because it always has banana skins lying on the ground.

7) What's the best thing about your school?
The friendly people and hot dinners. We have fish and chips every Friday and pizza on Mondays. I love them both.

8) Do you play sport and which are your favourite hobbies?
I like netball and P.E. My hobbies are dancing, music and the computer. I love making animations on my dad's computer.

9) What do you think of grown-ups?
Most are nice, but some are not.

10) What would you like to be when you grow up?
A fashion designer or a hairdresser.

kids think down with school

1) What's your favourite colour, animal and word?
Blue because it is a boy's colour and the colour of Manchester City. I like monkeys because they are cheeky like me and my favourite word is 'happy' because I wish everyone could be happy.

2) What's your most treasured possession?
My PlayStation 2 and my HTC Wildfire Desire S smartphone.

3) What is your favourite part of the school day?
Lunchtime! We have brilliant, massive hot sausage rolls at our school every day.

4) Who's your favourite teacher and why?
Mr Crane. He likes me, finds me funny, and we have lots of brilliant musical equipment in his lessons.

5) What's your favourite lesson and why?
P.E. is my favourite because I love running and football.

6) What's the worst thing about your school?
Having to stick to the rules and getting told off.

7) What's the best thing about your school?
I have some nice friends who make school fun.

8) Do you play sport and which are your favourite hobbies?
My hobbies are football, music, fitness, tennis, running, cycling, swimming, golf, basketball and hockey. I love all sports and play whenever I can.

9) What do you think of grown-ups?
Some look a bit miserable in spite of the big houses they live in and flashy cars they drive, but my mum and dad and some others are very nice.

10) What would you like to be when you grow up?
A singer/songwriter or a sportswear designer.



I love I all sports and play whenever I can



Samuel
12, from Bennett Memorial Diocesan School, Kent

Snakes Alive!

The Snakes & Ladders Education Game



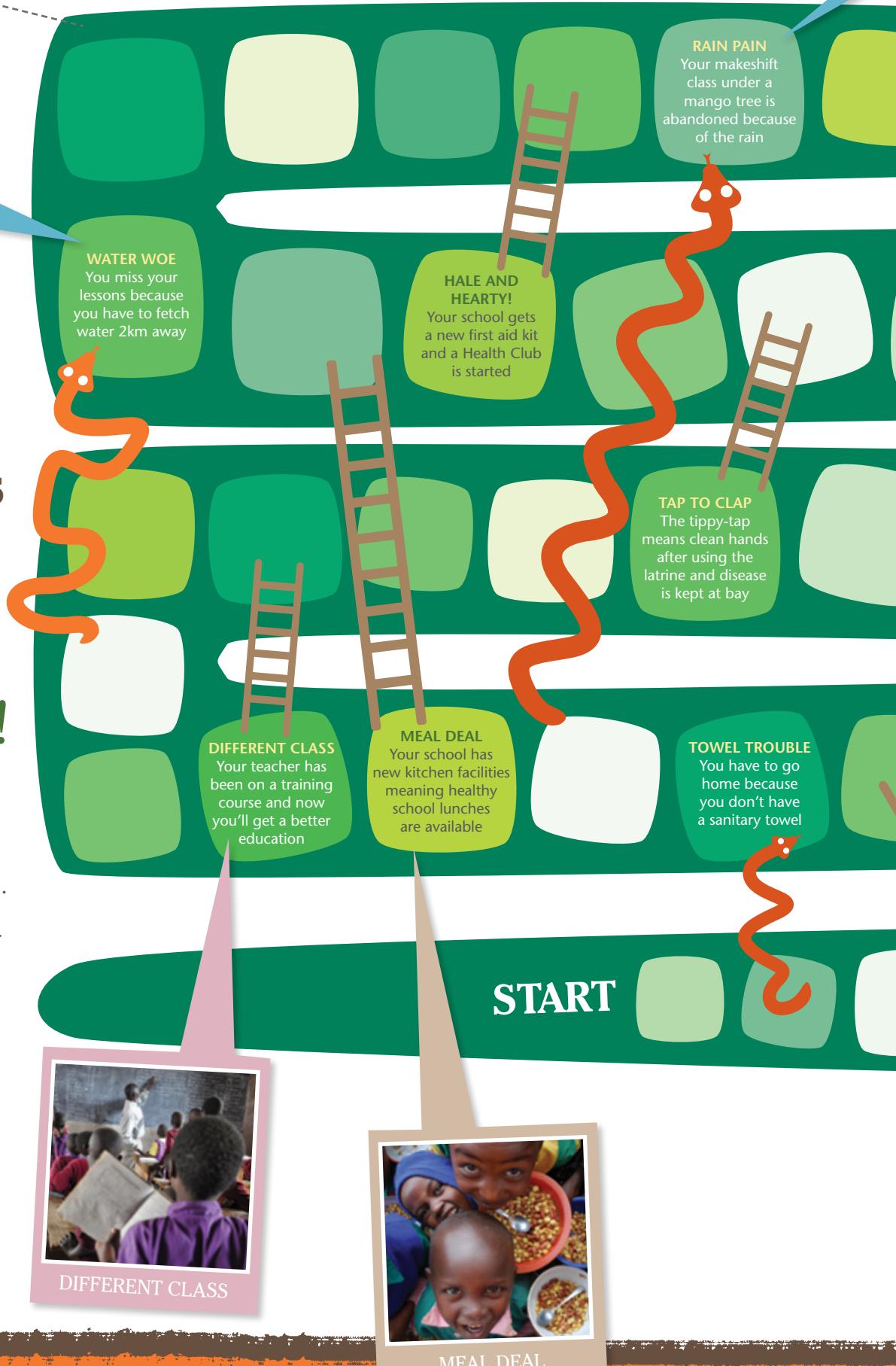
WATER WOE

Be the first to get
a great education,
with the help of
**BUILD AFRICA'S
LADDERS.**

But beware of those
**VICIOUS
SNAKES**
that lie in wait
to ambush you !

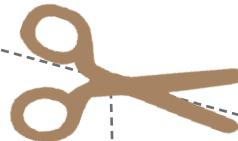
You will soon see that
there are so many
setbacks to learning
in a rural African school.
These are the obstacles
that we are helping our
school communities
to overcome.

We hope you enjoy the
game and that it helps
you understand the
daily challenges that
Kenyan and Ugandan
schoolchildren face.

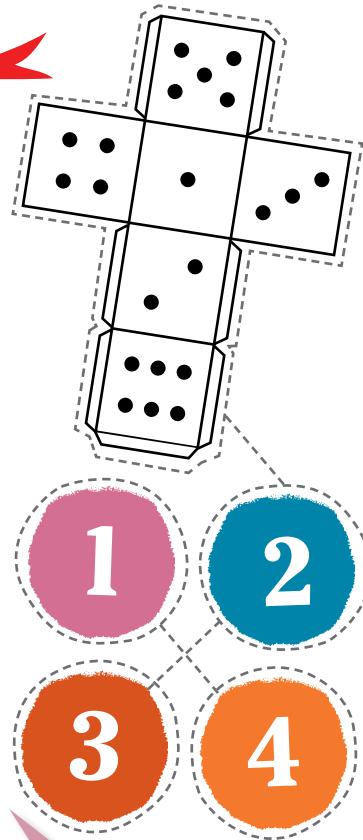




Give them a
LEG UP
and help us
WIN THE GAME!



Cut out
to play



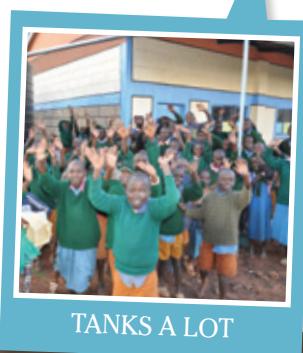
JIGGER JEOPARDY

Providing a good education is so much more than a game.

But the various problems and solutions to education in our schools can seem like snakes and ladders.

With your help we can give the schoolchildren of rural Kenya and Uganda a real leg up.

TOGETHER WE CAN WIN THE GAME!



Spot the Difference

There are 6 differences
between these two pictures...

There's a lot that goes in to a good education. Every missing bit of the picture is a missed opportunity at school.

You have to have a great attention for detail here.

ON YOUR MARKS, GET SET... GO!



Answers to Spot the Difference can be found on page 11

FUNDRAISING NEWS



Is it a
bird?

Is it a
plane?



... no it's our
SUPERHEROES
running (and walking)
to **SAVE LIVES**



Do you
fancy a
challenge?



Sunday 19th May
SUPERHERO 5KM OR 10KM (WALK OR RUN)

An annual walk or run taking place in Regent's Park, the only difference is, everyone is dressed as a superhero. This is a great opportunity for family (the minimum age is 8 years old), colleagues or a group of friends to enjoy a fun day out. On the morning of the race you will have the opportunity to pick out your very own Superhero outfit. Wonder woman, Spiderman, Superman, take your pick!

Registration fee: £20, Sponsorship target: £100



Saturday 8th - Sunday 9th June
TREKFEST IN THE BRECON BEACONS 2013

Located in the beautiful Brecon Beacons National Park, TrekFest Brecons offers some amazing scenery whilst at the same time providing an exhilarating mental and physical challenge. Crossing the highest peaks in the Brecon Beacons and South Wales the TrekFest Brecons charity challenge is an unforgettable way to spend a weekend.

Registration fee: £75, Minimum Sponsorship: £300



Saturday 6th - Sunday 7th July
TREKFEST IN THE PEAK DISTRICT 2013

Britain's first national park, the Peak District is both beautiful and inspiring. The impressive network of footpaths and bridleways makes this location perfect for the TrekFest Peaks charity challenge. Starting and finishing at the TrekFest village in Hope Valley, the route will take you around the most breath taking part of this amazing national park.

Registration fee: £75, Minimum Sponsorship: £300



Sunday 6th October
ROYAL PARKS HALF MARATHON

With over 16,000 people running the 13.1 mile course, it is certainly a highlight on the running calendar.

Registration fee £30, sponsorship target £300



Contact
us

for more information!

Visit build-africa.org or contact Deirdre Bruce-Brand by emailing deirdre@build-africa.org.uk or calling 01892 519619



Joseph

A note from *Musyoki*:

"We don't often get a day off school in Kenya. But Monday March 4th 2013 was different. On that day it was our parents who made the journey in, to vote in the most important elections our country has held since its independence in 1963.

As the elections approached Build Africa thought it would be a great idea for the children of Ngecho Primary School to ask the local Education Officer some searching questions about education. It's a burning election issue, particularly since the government introduced Free Primary Education ten years ago. So the children are on politically sensitive territory!"

Under the spotlight...

The kids ask the questions

The sun is beating down as our interviewers, Loveniar and Kevin, sit down behind their makeshift desk to quiz Joseph in their school's courtyard. He shifts nervously in his seat; he's not used to being interviewed by 12-year-old schoolchildren and wonders quite what he has let himself in for. Loveniar wipes a bead of sweat away from her forehead and Kevin fiddles with his pencil. They're feeling the pressure too. It's now question time and Loveniar fires the first query.

Loveniar: (*clears her throat*) Thank you for agreeing to be interviewed by us and for coming today. What is your name and job title please?

Joseph: It's my pleasure. I hope you won't be too hard on me! (*He laughs*). I am Joseph Kinuthia, Education Officer, Karunga Zone, Gilgil District.

Kevin: (*consults his notes, lost for a moment*). Sorry... OK... Could you tell us how important is Free Primary Education to the future prosperity of Kenya?

Joseph: It is absolutely crucial, because through it we have increased the number of children attending primary school and brought back those who had previously dropped out because their parents couldn't pay school fees. It has also helped lots of adults come back to school to learn how to read and write.

"I strongly believe that the future of Kenya is dependent on an educated population"



Introductions

Loveniar: Following up from Kevin's question, could you tell us what the main problems are trying to give everyone a good education?

Joseph: Good question, Loveniar! We had problems it is true. School facilities haven't been able to cope with the rise in numbers. Overcrowded classrooms have compromised the quality of education and latrines have been overstretched. This is still a problem we need to overcome.

Kevin: Loveniar and myself live in the countryside. I have to ask: do you think the government really cares about stopping rural poverty?

Joseph: Of course Loveniar! (*Joseph looks quite offended*). The relief of poverty is very important. We have more than half the Kenyan population living under the poverty line.

Rural areas face unique challenges such as poor physical facilities, fewer teachers and low morale. Literacy levels are low too, which affects the community management of schools. And high HIV and AIDS figures means a lot of money is used in healthcare. Cases of child abuse and labour are also high, especially amongst girls.

a question of education

"It is the aim of the government to raise the standards of living for all Kenyans."

Loveniar: As you know Joseph, we have many problems at our school, like a lack of classrooms, not enough toilets and too few teachers. What has the government done to deal with these and what will it do in the future?

Joseph: We know there are problems so the government has assigned funds, and introduced various policies and procedures, to ensure that education is a universal right and that teachers are assigned to schools. Unfortunately, because the funds are too small, we rely on parents to pay for extra teachers. As a matter of fact, at the schools that Build Africa supports in this area a third of the teachers are being paid for by the parents. That's 72 out of 215!



Joseph at a parents meeting at Ngecho Primary School

There are also plans to give sanitary towels to all the schools, but this is sporadic and isn't meeting demand yet. (*Joseph pauses for breath*). So there are some positives, but a lack of funds is hampering us. That is part of the reason why we rely on organisations like Build Africa to help us reach our goals.

Kevin: Could you tell us what contact have you had with Build Africa? Has it been a successful partnership?

Joseph: My office has been in contact with Build Africa for a number of years. The contact has been very good. I said that Build Africa has helped us because we lack funds. But they do much more than that. We also rely on their skills and knowledge: in the training of teachers and School Management Committees, in the monitoring and evaluation of our schools, in gender and child protection issues, and much more.

"As a government office we are met with challenges and Build Africa has always come to our aid."

Loveniar: This is a good one for me to ask. How important is the education of girls?

Joseph: Very important. It's similar to educating a whole community. In Kenya girls are more at risk than boys. By educating a girl, we cut the risks that they are exposed to: we stop early marriage and ensure that their children are healthier. They are the future of Kenya after all.

Loveniar & Kevin: You'll be pleased to know that's it. (*They both get up and Joseph follows suit. The three shake hands*). Thank you, Joseph, for your time and for answering our questions so honestly. Let's hope together, with the help of organisations like Build Africa, we can help everyone get an education.

Joseph: Thank you guys. It's been a pleasure being interviewed by you.



Joseph under the spotlight



Spot the Difference
(answers for page 8):

1 Water tank: A lack of clean water can be catastrophic for a community that runs the risk of water-borne diseases like cholera and typhoid.

2 Football: A lack of sports equipment means students don't get a chance to let off steam, keep fit and learn about teamwork and communication.

3 First-aid kit: Cuts and scrapes can become infected without disinfectant and bandages.

4 Desk: Without adequate seating packed classes struggle to learn.

5 Pupil: Absenteeism is a huge problem in rural Africa, the result of a wide range of issues that include a lack of sanitary protection and parents who don't appreciate the value of education.

6 Textbook: Without an up-to-date textbook for every pupil learning is much slower than it ought to be.



Nathan and Carson at Primary School

Foundation of Love

A friend in need is a friend indeed. When Carson and Nathan were at primary school they both had a dream of becoming teachers, with classrooms next to each other, when they grew up.

So when Carson tragically passed away in the 6th Grade Nathan decided that the best way to honour his best friend's memory was to support Build Africa's work at Kamuya Primary School in Kenya.

Can you tell us a little about why you set up the Carson Glore Foundation?

I thought the perfect way to carry on Carson's legacy was through education. Because of the need it seemed more possible to change lives in Kenya than here in the US.

This is your second trip to Kamuya Primary School.

What transformations have you seen in this time?

My first trip with my mom in 2011 showed us that we made a huge impact by helping them with two new classrooms, latrines, and educational support. But in our recent trip, we saw not only the improved education standards, but also the confidence among the students, staff and families within the school community.

What are some of your favourite moments?

My favourite moment was watching the board members and the classroom sponsors meet the students. They have worked so hard to make it all happen; it was a reward bigger than any financial gain.

Nathan visiting the first two classrooms in December 2011



Carson Glore visitors in the latest classroom, January 2013



What does the school mean to those who support the Foundation?

Opportunity! They all feel incredibly lucky to have the opportunities they have in America, and want to give that gift of opportunity to the students of Kamuya. It's an honour to be a part of it, and we are all proud to tell others about our work.

What do you think Carson would think of Kamuya?

I believe Carson would be incredibly proud of the community in Kamuya, because instead of a 'hand-out' they have taken an opportunity and grown with it. I think he would be incredibly grateful to the donors and would not be surprised by the amount of love and support that makes up the foundation as a whole.

A legacy is a generous gift which can have a long-lasting impact on communities like mine. It would help me and my class mates get a good education, give our mums and dads the opportunity to save money that they can use to get us through school and provide clean drinking water to the whole community. *Musyoki*



If you already have, or intend to, leave Build Africa a gift in your Will please do get in touch so we can thank you personally and show you the difference your gift will make. You can call Abi on **01892 519619** or email abi@build-africa.org.uk

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