

How you're helping us to create change

Habari



Welcome

In this issue we're launching our new Learn to Read Campaign - helping 16,000 children learn vital literacy skills at 40 schools in rural Uganda.

We know reading and writing forms the basis for all education, so we're acting now to ensure young learners don't miss out on this critical early step - and we're proud to share with you how we'll do it. By improving literacy rates we believe we can have a dramatic impact on the number of children who will stay at school, pass their exams and make a better life for themselves.

You'll also find out about our newly re-designed Home Money Box, as well as how our mighty team of runners got on at the 2016 London Marathon.

We hope you enjoy it. And remember, we love to hear your feedback, so please contact us if you'd like to share your thoughts or get involved.

Thank you.

Our new Home Money Box

Our brand new Home Money Box is available now.

This handy little collection box will give your spare pennies a purpose, and is one of the easiest ways to support our work. Since the scheme began we've raised an impressive £689,861 – all thanks to the generosity of people like you.

If you haven't already got a Home Money Box, or you'd like to receive a new one, please email hello@build-africa.org.uk or call **01892 519 619** to order one.

Remember to leave yours in a prominent place at home or work. You'll be surprised how much you can raise just by collecting loose change.



In this issue:

Learn to Read Campaign

Read about how we're laying the foundations for learning through our campaign.

Champions for Change

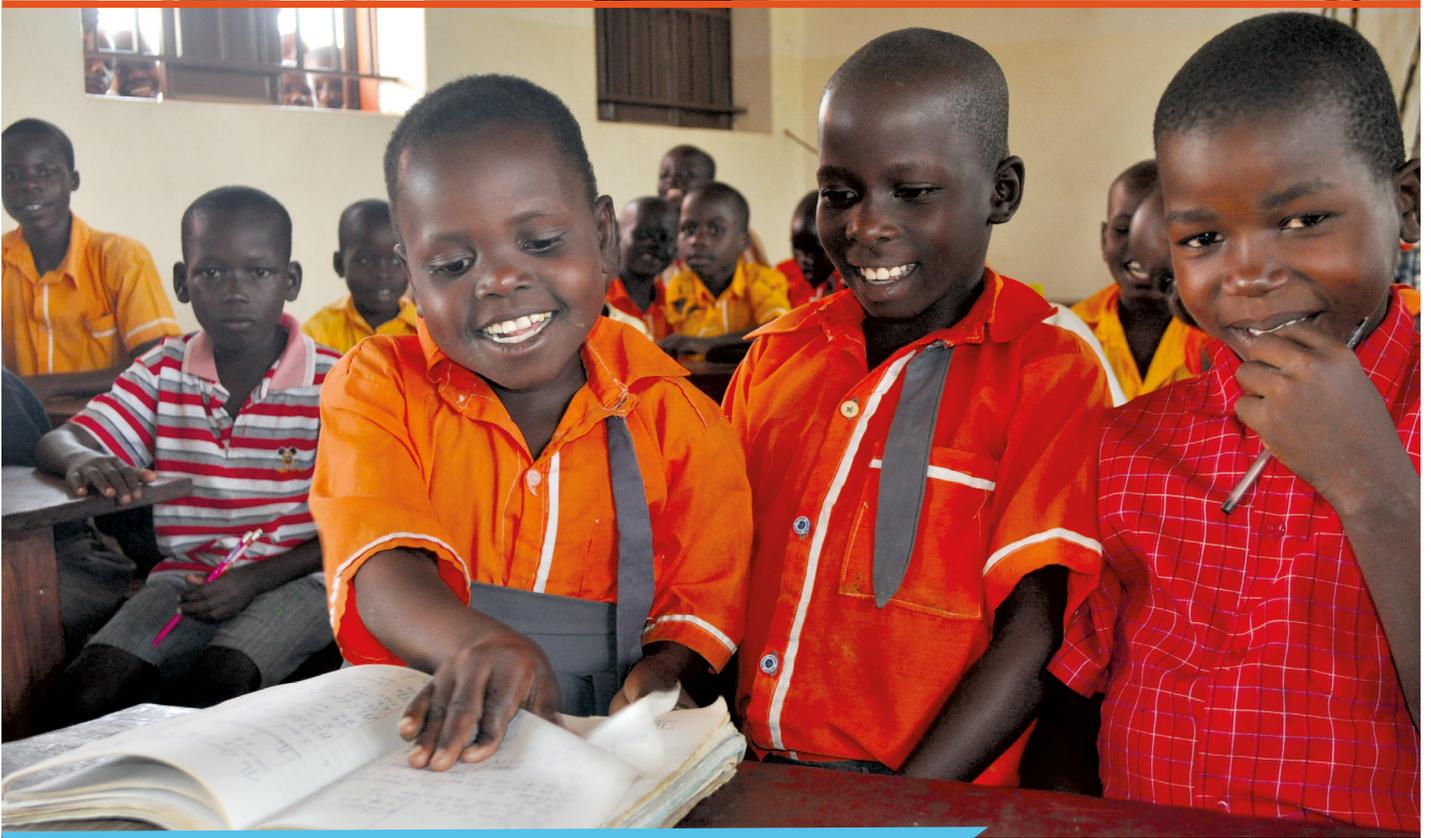
A round-up review of our recent challenge events.

Contact us

All our details if you want to get in touch.



Read on...



Our Learn to Read Campaign

Learning to read and write is perhaps the most powerful skill a child acquires during their first few years of school. It underpins all other learning, and builds the foundations for their future education.

However, more than 60% of children in Uganda are unable to read and comprehend a basic sentence by Year 3. This is tragically inhibiting their development at an early stage, and causes many to fall behind.

To tackle this, we're launching an important new Learn to Read Campaign to support children in Eastern Uganda learn vital literacy skills. This will build on the success of our Early Learning Project in Western Uganda.

A staggering 80% of children are dropping out before their final year of primary school, while 30% of all adults in Uganda are unable to read

The problem

There are many obstacles preventing children in Uganda from learning to read and write.

The key issues are:

- **A lack of books:** Children don't have access to books to help them learn their letters, practise their reading or experience the magic of a good story
- **Unsuitable teaching methods:** Learning by rote doesn't stimulate young children to read, however teachers often lack the training to create engaging lessons and are faced with class sizes of up to 100 students
- **Parents are unable to support learning at home:** Illiterate or semi-literate parents struggle to help their child learn to read or write. Only 25% of parents can actively support education at home



How Build Africa will change this

Over the next three years our Learn to Read Campaign will reach 16,000 children at 40 schools in Eastern Uganda. This is part of a wider project to help schools where high numbers of children are repeating their first years, and supports the Ugandan government's new focus on early primary education.

To do this, children need trained teachers with good resources, the support of their parents, and of course books.

Our campaign will provide:

- **Mini libraries:** Stocked with age-appropriate books to develop the reading abilities of young learners. These start-up libraries will also help parents invest in more books
- **Learning resources:** Counting games, jigsaws and toy clocks are just some of the ways to make literacy and numeracy engaging and interactive for young learners
- **Teacher training:** Training teachers in a new phonetic -based approach that meets the abilities of younger children
- **Wider school support:** Establishing extra-curricular clubs for struggling children, and "buddying up" the youngest learners with an older child to support their reading



How you can help

With your generous support, we want to help children in Eastern Uganda learn the literacy skills that will help them get the most from their education, and go on to lead successful, happy lives.

£4 can provide a book for a child desperate to read

If you're interested in making a large donation, or work for an organisation that might be able to help, £4,000 can support our Learn to Read campaign in one school for a year.

To make a donation or find out more about how you can get involved, please visit www.build-africa.org/learntoread



"Before the project, I never thought that it was important to get really involved in knowing how my children were performing at school. But when we were trained at the parents' club, we were told to also become teachers to our children while they are home.

"I realised that my two children did not know how to read and count and even do simple mathematics. I started by using the parents' pack at home and translating it into our local language for them to understand properly. I even bought charts for reading and now they can at least read ABC, simple words and even count and do simple additions and subtraction."

Sarah, a parent involved in the Early Learning Project in Western Uganda



Our mighty marathon heroes

Our six London Marathon runners raised an amazing £10,000 for Build Africa. Months of training and lots of blisters paid off with some impressive finish times, too.

Congratulations Team Build Africa!

What our runners said:

"Helping alleviate poverty by educating children is one of the worthiest causes."

"Build Africa actually helps people to help themselves. Their approach breaks the cycle of poverty."

"I'm proud to have the opportunity to support Build Africa."

Take on your own challenge at the Royal Parks

Be a champion for change. The Royal Parks Half Marathon is the UK's most scenic city run – and we have 20 charity places left to support our life-changing work.

The event takes place on Sunday 9 October 2016. If you need a reason to get in shape, why not put on those running shoes and fight poverty with the power of your feet!

Visit www.build-africa.org.uk/run to sign-up today.



Do we have your email address?

Help us save costs, and the environment, by signing up to receive our communications by email. It helps us put as much funding as possible straight into our vital work with rural communities. Let us know at hello@build-africa.org.uk or call **01892 519 619**.

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