Dear <<First Name>>,

Welcome to School Aid’s Autumn 2016 newsletter in which we are keen to share with you just some of the highlights over the last few months. As always there has been a great deal of activity including having sent a further 86,000 books to our projects in South Africa and Malawi, and opening two new school libraries in the Johannesburg area in the same month, a first even for School Aid!

We invite you to read on to find out more, and as always thank you so very much for your interest and support.

Africa News

South Africa

Our South African programme continues to grow as two new libraries opened in July. The first was Tsosoloso Ya Afrika, a secondary school in Ebony Park, Tembisa, and the second at Impala Crescent Primary School in Lenasia. Both schools marked the opening day with launch events inviting all the learners, press and dignitaries attending to help celebrate. We would like to thank South African poet and author Dr Don Mattera, who attended the launch at Impala Crescent library and unveiled the dedication plaque.

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Malawi

School Aid recruits its first ever Malawi Project and Reading Officer.

We are delighted to welcome Mr Gladson Chikolera who joins us as a graduate from Mzuzu University and more recently having worked with our partner Community Initiative for Self Reliance in Malawi. Gladson will be our on-the-ground representative, and working in partnership within The Book Bus, will help to develop a programme of after school reading clubs in local schools. We are excited about his appointment and look forward to hearing how the children enjoy and benefit from the extra literacy support.
Lesotho

Reading for fun in Lesotho is a rare activity and whilst the official language of education is English, there are few opportunities to learn to love books! Working with the support of our good friends at Usborne Books at Home, we plan to launch a fun and interactive reading club for primary school children in Lesotho. We have recruited our Project Manager Moso Ranoosi for this and look forward to telling you all about it in our next newsletter.

Tanzania

Our 7th shipment of 2016 has just left the warehouse and is going to help resource 9 primary and 11 selected secondary schools in the Missenyi district.

There are three more shipments scheduled to leave School Aid before the end of the 2016 so it's going to be a busy time in the warehouse!

UK News

Warehouse Changes

We are excited that we have been able to invest in a number of rows of library shelving at the School Aid warehouse. This may not sound particularly exciting to non School Aid volunteers but it will allow us to launch a long awaited new pick packing system that can more accurately select the most appropriate books as requested by each African school.

2016 School Run

On the 3rd July our third annual School Run took place again in beautiful sunshine and with a fantastic turnout.

Promoted as a family activity all ages walk, run or in some cases push pushchairs along this stunning country route. At the end, a medal is given to every participant to say thank you.

August Open Days

Every Monday in the month of August we open the School Aid warehouse, inviting children and parents to come and lend a hand sorting, stamping and packing books, and to learn about our work and life for children in Africa. It's a lovely event which sees all ages come and have a go at volunteering.
Middle Temple

Every three years School Aid hosts a major fundraising event, this year it was held on the 11th October at the historic Elizabethan Middle Temple Hall.

The evening was a huge success raising £38,000. It also did an amazing job of increasing School Aid’s profile. Thanks to everyone who attended and to those that helped on the night. We will see you at the next one!

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2016 Christmas Cards

Once again we have several delightful Christmas cards for you to buy. You can purchase them for £5 for a pack of 10 cards and envelopes.

The lovely snowman on this card was designed by Indiphile Myanda, aged 7, at the art room created by School Aid for our sponsors, at Koebery Primary School in Cape Town.

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