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Dear <<First Name>>,

RECORD BREAKING YEAR

2016 proved to be the best year yet for School Aid!

Nine shipments left the School Aid warehouse
sending ***184,860 books***
to ***127,014 children***
in ***168 recipient African schools***

Read on to see how we continue to grow School Aid's impact and influence in 2017.

Africa News

South Africa

In February of this year, Zerilda Park Primary School in Cape Town opened their bright and spacious new library. This library was a collaboration between School Aid, Learning in Reach and The Bookery, with additional support from the Rotary Club of Cape Town. School Aid funded the set-up costs of the library and with our publishing partner Usborne Books at Home, donated the majority of the lovely children's books. We also helped fund the stipend of a new library assistant, Ms Pouchea Hector.



[more](#)

Lesotho

The first School Aid Reading Clubs have now been rolled out in Lesotho. Our new Project and Reading Officer, Moso Ranoosi has been working with five primary schools each week establishing the clubs. Moso reports *"some children it is their first experience to read the books at home or even at school. The children now have the rare opportunity to hear and read a story and then using the crayons to draw pictures from the story books"*.



Thank you to our partners Usborne Books at Home for supplying the wonderful books that have made these clubs possible.

[more](#)

Malawi

Working in partnership with our friends at The Book Bus the new Reading Clubs in Malawi are going extremely well. Our Project and Reading Officer, Moses works closely with a small group of young learners three mornings a week in a formal school setting. He then joins up with other Book Bus staff to host afternoon sessions which offer open reading, craft and sports activities which regularly attract over 100 children at a time!



Tanzania

2017 has already seen one shipment sent to Tanzania. School Aid has linked up with Steve Scorer, a volunteer with Voluntary Service Overseas, to provide secondary schools with maths, science and English textbooks.

These books will be going to the Lindi region, one of Tanzania's 30 administrative regions.

This picture shows a previous 2016 delivery of School Aid books used to resource the My Little Travelling Library wagon (in the foreground) which visits schools in and around Dar es Salaam.



Huge Congratulations!

We are so proud of our South Africa Project Manager, Mike Makwela who has been invited to attend the International Association of School Librarianship annual conference in California in August. Mike will be giving a talk about his work with School Aid to 500 international school librarians and educators on a theme of "Learning without Borders". Representing South Africa is not only a huge personal honour for Mike but also gives international exposure and recognition to School Aid's successful library and librarian development project. We look forward to hearing all about the conference and sharing Mike's feedback with you a little later in the year.



Planned Shipments

With a further seven shipments planned the next one to be dispatched from the warehouse will be bound for South Africa followed by two back-to-back shipments heading for Malawi, one for Mangochi and Southern Lakes shores and one heading north to the Nkhata Bay area.

UK News

Book Swap on World Book Day

Clare Junak, our General Manager, was recently invited to talk about School Aid at two local primary schools - Chalfont St Giles Infants and Juniors. To celebrate world book day children dressed up as characters from their favourite book and held a book swap allowing them to exchange unwanted books with each other and the remainder all being donated to School Aid for counterpart young African learners to read. Our thanks go to both schools for their support.

[more](#)



Support from the South West

You don't have to be local to School Aid to help!

We would like to mention the fantastic support we are receiving in the South West of England via Sandra Maizels. Sandra, a former School Aid Trustee and long term volunteer, recently relocated to the South West and has made it her mission to introduce our work to a wider community. Our thanks go out to her and the host of organisations she has motivated to donate stationery and books to us over the last few months.

Finally...

A big thank you to Amilia, Joshua and James Tuddenham, who came with their mother, Lisa, to help sort and pack books during the school holidays. If you would like your family to have the opportunity to see how the books are sorted and packed and to help out at the warehouse in the school holidays, please contact the office or attend one of our family open days to be held on the 31st July, 14th and 21st August. Every participating child leaves with our thanks, a certificate and School Aid badge.



As always, thank you so much for your interest and support.



© 2016 School-Aid UK, Hammer & Harp Farm
Wapseys Lane, Hedgerley Green, SL2 3XJ, UK

Tel: +44 (0)1753 883853 Charity No. 1070416

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