

Dear Parents/Carers,

As many of you will be aware Highbury Grove School has supported a number of charities and two schools in Ethiopia for the past seven years. We have managed to accomplish a great deal and our fundraising last year helped to finish the half built school pictured below. This year with the proceeds of the recent Non Uniform Day, we were able to buy 26 desks/benches for this school and they have been made and will be delivered shortly.

Engifa Primary School Before and After Photos



The 26 benches, similar to the ones we bought last year will be in place for our visit in January



There is still a lot we can do to help. We are currently trying to raise money for our other linked school in Debre Abay to be able to concrete the floor within 6 separate classrooms, as they are currently just mud and rocks and are very uneven. We will once again take as many books and teaching materials as our luggage will allow. They are so grateful for these resources and for the help they receive and the small things that we so often take for granted can make a huge difference to the education of these children. For example, one of our teachers donated 4 Jenga games and the students absolutely loved them. We would also like to buy them some sports equipment. Football in particular is a huge sport within Ethiopia and last year we provided a football kit to one of the schools, the first one they had ever had and this year it would be amazing if we could provide them with enough footballs for them to train with.

The students who are going this year have set up a Justgiving page and if you would like to help in any small way please use the following link/address:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/HGSEthiopiaTrip2017>

Every penny that is raised will go directly to the two village schools in Northern Ethiopia and the three other charities which we support in the capital Addis Ababa.

Continuing with the theme of fundraising and with Christmas around the corner perhaps you are looking for a great present to give someone? Arsenal have kindly donated a new signed Arsenal shirt from the team that finished second in the Premiership last season. We are holding a sealed bid auction for this shirt with all money raised going towards our good causes. If you would like to bid on the shirt (minimum starting bid of £100) please email me at:

pgilbert@highburygrove.islington.sch.uk with your name and maximum bid and I will inform you if you have won after the closing date, midday Wednesday 14th December 2016. The person who bids the most will win the shirt! Good luck.



Finally if anyone has any baby clothes 0-12 months we are working with two charities who would very much welcome these donations. Please feel free to email me directly and I can give you further details.

Many thanks for your support and enjoy the forthcoming holiday,

Paul Gilbert

(Assistant Headteacher)