

September 2013

Hi,

### **SATURDAY SCHOOL**

Sadly Minesh left over the summer with his family for a job in England. He will be a great loss to Heshima and the Saturday School. Thankfully Patrick has said he and Alison Wallace will continue the Saturday school next school year. We had up to 90 students coming last year at times and with the Oxford Reading tree books, donated Lego and good tuition at the swimming pool, the kids have been really enjoying the opportunity.



We have also had a number of student volunteers coming last term. Year 5 took Saturday School on as part of their community service and 2 students came each week to help with the activities. Dalinda the other year

5 teacher also came, which was fantastic as she could help with Swahili translation. We have also had 2 Year 9 Students helping as part of the International Award.



### **TEXTILE PROJECT**



Maja has continued building the Heshima line and has now introduced women's pyjama bottoms, which have sold well among the Braeburn teachers



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Heshima also produced a stunning and unique quilt for Allison Wallace.



Sadly *George* has left us this summer to go back to Kenya and his family. He has done an amazing job training the women, who are now able to make a range of products independently, which will enable us to meet our regular orders in Arusha.

The Heshima ladies have also been into school to help with costumes for the secondary production as well as the Year 4 hat making project.

## BUILDING

The building has been progressing slowly this. This summer though saw a burst of activity with the training centre.



We are hoping to do a Christmas Fundraiser to see if we can finish at least part of the building, so that the women can move out of the store room. We will be selling a Christmas decoration pack for £10. For more information email [orders@heshima.org.uk](mailto:orders@heshima.org.uk)



We have been trying to find some local sponsorship for our work



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here. Minesh and Maja did a presentation to the local Rotary group, which has resulted in one member donating 400 pounds for the building of a nursery classroom. Also from this came a link with a meditation group, who are keen to support a local charity. Hopefully we will have more news to report on this soon.



*Rotary visit to Heshima*

Braeburn Primary has offered to take on Heshima as their charity for the year with the aim of designing and buying some playground equipment for the site, which is fantastic news.

This summer we had a number of volunteers. Becca and Hannah came for 3 weeks from Saffron Walden. They undertook a whole range of activities from making a parachute, doing a mural of the Heshima logo with the help of handprints from the children.



They enjoyed helping Fina with the preschool group, which ran every morning, and in the afternoons they worked with Maja and the women on textiles. They designed a beautiful pencil case from kanga and took home a whole load of Heshima products to sell. Thank you to them for all their help this summer.

## **VOLUNTEERS**



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Megan also arrived at the same time and stayed with Alison for almost 3 months. She worked incredibly hard at Heshima, with the kids group as well as the textiles and was a real support for Maja. Hopefully she will write a full report for us for the next newsletter.



Thanks once again for your continued interest in the work of Heshima and for your support and encouragement.

Best Wishes,  
*All of us at Heshima*



*Christmas decoration pack*

Alan Cram is coming out again in September for 2 weeks and Rob and Claire are currently here building the nursery. More information to come



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