

4th October 2018

Dear Sirs,

Re: Student Expedition to Zambia 2019

Over a number of years, students from The Arnewood School have taken part in charity-based projects run by The Arnewood School Expedition Club. Previous expeditions have been to the Alti Mountains and Mongolia, Nepal and Tibet including Everest Base Camp, Peru, and Bolivia. The last expedition was to Zambia. What makes these expeditions different is that they are all designed around completing charity work. For example, the students who went to Nepal and Tibet raised funds to have a school built in the mountains outside of Kathmandu. They then, when in Nepal, opened the school and completed a building project. The students who went to Peru spent time working with street children at an orphanage in Cusco and the students who were in Zambia worked at refuge orphanage for children who had been rescued from trafficking and spent time in a rural village building accommodation for the school's students. All of these projects were completed using UK-based charities.

We are currently preparing the next cross-curricular expedition in the summer of 2019. It will involve students who will be in Year 11 or 12 in that summer. The expedition will again be to Livingstone, Zambia. This expedition will also be a charity expedition with students working on three different projects over the five weeks that they are in the country.

The first project will be going back to continue the work with orphans in Livingstone, running workshops including sport, music and craft based activities. The second project will again be in a rural village near Livingstone where the students will complete a building project in support of the village school. This will be building shower rooms and a dormitory for students to stay in who are attending the school, but live further than 20km away. The final project will be a conservation project where students will interact with a charity that works with lions and the villages who are based in or around the game parks. The students will work with the lions and run environmental educational projects with local school children.

By taking part in this expedition, students will gain greatly. It will be the chance of a lifetime, a chance to give instead of taking as well as an opportunity to learn how others live. They will start to gain an understanding of how hard life can be for some people and add value to their own lives. I promise that it will be life changing.

As one student said, on a previous expedition,

"It brings it home when we complain about not having the latest iPhone or trainers and the students we are working with walk 20 miles to and from school with one meal a day and no shoes. This makes me feel very humble".

The students have a large say in all decisions relating to each project, as it is important that they have ownership. This will involve liaising with organisations and students in Zambia and the UK-based charities, which we will be supporting, as well as raising the funds to support these projects.

As I am sure we all know, one of the things that the young people in the likes of the orphanage or the rural village in Africa love to own is a football shirt. To that end, the students have asked me to write to you asking if you would support them. If you were able to donate two or three football shirts, or more! be it this year's shirt or a previous years shirt, we would be able to put a large smile on faces of the children we work with in Africa. We would also be, for some, doubling the number of shirts they own, of any form, from one to two shirts. Shirt would need to be large children's or adult sizes.

I understand that you receive many requests to fund worthwhile causes, but I ask you, as an organisation, to please give this request your special consideration and support my students' request.

I look forward to your positive response, and much more to the point, I know my students do.

Thank you, in anticipation, of your support.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Gough
Senior Teacher
Expedition Coordinator

For more information please do not hesitate to contact Mr Gough of The Arnewood School at; m.gough@arnewood.hants.sch.uk or by telephone on 01425 625400

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