

[HAVE YOU SEEN OUR NEW WEBSITE?](#)

The Trust website (www.lisakenttrust.org) has been completely revamped with many thanks to Lifetime Web Services. We now have a new logo which was designed by one of our sponsored children. The website contains up to date information together with lots of details of children still looking for sponsors. Copies of previous newsletters are also now accessible on the website. Please have a look at the site and let us know if there is something else you would like to see which is not included.

The original logo remains as the official branding for the Lisa Kent Memorial Nursery School.

[CORRUPTION WITHIN THE GAMBIA](#)

From time to time the Trust encounters practices, which are not considered ethical either by Trust standards or our personal beliefs but are considered to be quite acceptable in the Gambia. For instance, if a local person takes a visitor to see a school, hospital, clinic etc and the visitor then gives a donation, the introducer is likely to expect half of this fee. This is a subject about which the Trust feels very strongly and are working to try and eradicate. For this reason we would be grateful if any donation could be paid directly to the Trust to ensure all contributions are used for the purpose intended.

[READERS QUESTIONS](#)

We have been asked by one of our readers whether children in the Gambia are immunised. We are pleased to report that generally 90% of children are immunised under the Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI) against pertussis, polio, hepatitis B, haemophilus influenza type, TB, diphtheria and tetanus.

If you have a question, please either drop us a line or email (enquiries@lisakenttrust.org) and we will do our best to answer it.

[GIFT AID/STANDING ORDER FORM](#)

If you haven't already done so, PLEASE, PLEASE complete and return the Gift Aid and/or Standing Order form enclosed. The Gift Aid form allows us to reclaim any tax on your donation and payment by standing order helps cut administration costs.

With many thanks to Trevor Benton of Danwood Working Solutions for help with printing this edition.

NEWSLETTER

Issue 10 July 2008

[Teacher Training](#)

Our head teacher, Fatoumatta Baideh graduated from the teacher training college in February. We are pleased to be able to show her pictured in her graduation gown. Following the teacher training, lots of new ideas have now been taken into the classroom giving the children new concepts to learn. Each classroom has its own special corner where a different topic is displayed, for example, shapes, nature, shopping etc.

[Awards Ceremony](#)



Six children, one girl and one boy from each of the three classes were chosen by the headmaster and teachers for good performance during the past year. We were pleased to be able to present these children with a book donated by the Trust as a memento of their efforts. The prize winners were Halimass Sanneh, Amie Jallow, Fatim Ceessay, Mariama Camara, Anta Jallow and Mamadou Alieu Jallow.

[Local Curriculum Council](#)

We are pleased to announce that the Headmaster, Pa Camara, has been elected as Chairman of the Local Curriculum Council, who meet alongside members of the Education Department, PTA members and representatives from the local primary school. This Council has been set up to ensure the curriculum is fully covered in school and that the children are being taught the correct procedures.

Schools are regularly inspected by members of the Department of Education. Inspections can be carried out without any notice being given to the school. The Inspectors are very keen to check on the number of children present against those names in the register.



ANNUAL COMMONWEALTH CEREMONY

Commonwealth Day is used to promote understanding about global issues. The modern Commonwealth is made of up of 1.7 billion people in 53 independent states or 30% of the world's population. It is a voluntary association of former British colonies, dependencies and other territories. The event grew out of Empire Day, which was marked from the time of Queen Victoria. It was changed to Commonwealth Day in 1958 and is celebrated by all member nations.

Schools activities are an important part of Commonwealth Day, held on the second Monday in March, a date chosen by Commonwealth leaders because it was a day when schools in most member nations would be in session.

As part of the Annual Commonwealth Ceremony, the LKMNS celebrated this day by learning about and dressing up to represent a different country, this year The Gambia, Senegal and the UK. This is a great celebration, which the children enjoyed with music and games followed by a party.



UPDATE ON JUMBUR

Following a recent visit to the Gambia by two of the Trustees we have been able to advance the purchase of the land at Jumbur for the development of a nursery and primary school. With the assistance of a Solicitor based in The Gambia we have had plans drawn up, both of the plot and for the new development. Land purchase can be a very long and complicated procedure, especially when land has to be registered for the first time — it appears to be even more difficult than it is in the UK! However, all being well we are hoping to complete the process within the next few weeks.

As a result the Trust now needs to raise £15,000 to build this school. It is important that this project is completed as quickly as possible because with more and more children moving to the area and no school, we need to be able to provide the opportunity of an education for them.

FUNDRAISING

Meridian Primary School



The Meridian Primary School, in Comberton has a tradition of fundraising to support overseas charities working with children. For



example, we bought a wind pump for an orphanage in Malawi and that helped them to grow more of their own crops to feed the children.

This year the school decided to support the Lisa Kent Memorial Trust which currently runs a school in The Gambia. The money will help set up a school in a second village in that country. The Meridian children raised £993 by various means:

- In February there was a sponsored pancake tossing competition
- Older pupils designed and made their own games and then ran them at lunchtimes
- 2 classes of younger children competed to see which one could make the longer line of copper coins. In total, the lines reached just under 150m
- Children in key stage 2 held a sponsored competition to see who could fit the most objects into a Smartie tube

At the same time as the fund raising the children enjoyed an themed Africa week which included gumboot dancing and a Senegalese drumming workshop.

Children of the School Council have decided to strengthen our links to the Charity by undertaking to sponsor a child to attend the school in The Gambia. This commits our children to the responsibility of raising £60 per year to support the child during the years of his or her education.

Trustees of the LKMT are very grateful for the efforts of the Meridian school and would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to everybody involved.

Article written by Heather Webster

If you are able to help the Trust by either holding a fundraising event or being involved with an event held by ourselves, please do get in touch. We are always looking for new ideas to raise funds for the charity. We hope to hold several events during the next few months to include an Indian evening, a wine tasting and a coffee morning.