

It was a beautiful, sunny morning and Thandi had just woken up. She could hear her dad's voice coming from outside, so she quickly got up and rushed outside. 'Morning daddy' she shouted as she washed her face in a bucket of cold water which was sat outside her front door.

Dad was busy counting his animals '17, 18, 19, 'Oh No!' cried dad. '1 of the baby goats is missing.' Thandi counted the goats again and sure enough, there were only 19.

Thandi & her dad began to look for the missing goat. 'I hope it's not hurt,' said Thandi as she started to cry. Dad took her hand and whispered, 'there, there Thandi, don't worry, it has probably found a cozy warm place to sleep and hasn't wakened up yet.' Thandi smiled and began searching everywhere where the goat could be hiding. She checked in her neighbours house, in the long grass behind her house, in the wood shed, she even checked inside her own house, but the goat was nowhere to be found.

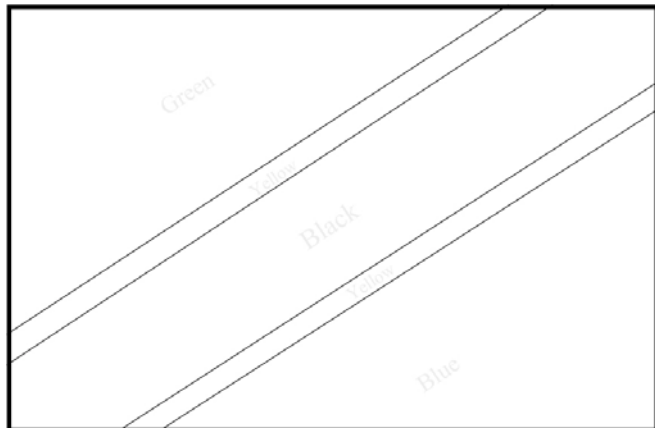
Thandi sat down on a big rock and had a little think. 'If I was scared and cold, where would I go?'

At that moment, she jumped up and shouted, 'Daddy, Daddy, I think I know where our goat is.' She ran as fast as she could to a little corner of the field where mum made all of their food - The Cook House. There, curled up in the corner, on a soft bed of hay, lay the missing goat, fast asleep.

Thandi lifted the goat, gave it a wee cuddle and carried it back to the rest of the flock where Daddy was waiting with a big smile on his face. 'Well done Thandi,' said Dad. She felt very happy inside.



The Flag of Tanzania



The flag of Tanzania was officially adopted on June 30, 1964. It consists of four different colors: green, yellow, black and blue. The flag has five diagonal stripes and is based on the flags from the countries of Zanzibar and Tanganyika.

The colors of the flag represent the following:

- ~ Green {top left corner}: the agriculture and the fertility of the land
- ~ Blue {bottom right corner}: the color of the Indian Ocean, which is Tanzania's eastern coastline
- ~ Black {middle stripe}: the land and the people of Tanzania
- ~ Yellow {above and below the black stripe}: the country's rich mineral wealth

Learn a few words in Swahili

Jambo	hello
ttabari @ani	how are
You?	
NZuri	I am fine
Twiga	Giraffe
Mojo	1 one
Tano	5 five
Kumi	10 ten
Simba	Lion
Tembo	Elephant



Future Work and Witness Trips 2011-2012

8th - 23rd October 2011

5th - 20th May 2012

July & August 2012 (dates to be confirmed)

If you would like to be part of an exciting and life-changing trip please contact the office and request further information and an application pack.



We affirm the following commitments to each person that sponsors a child through **kids4school**:

- We commit to honour Jesus Christ in all that we do.
- We commit to directly impact each child's individual development. We've seen over and over again that what happens in the life of a child is much more significant than what happens in the environment that surrounds the child.
- We commit to use money only for the purpose for which it was raised.
- Each **kids4school**-sponsored child has only one sponsor for their education.
- We encourage sponsors to develop meaningful relationships of encouragement with the children they sponsor.
- We commit to encourage children to respond to the gospel, to learn about Jesus and discover a lifelong relationship with God.
- We commit to being financially accountable.

Tom Robinson (Director)



Responding to the Great Commission and the need of the children of Tanzania, kids4school exists to enable them to fulfill an educational programme, to show them the love of Jesus and with God's grace help them to become responsible and fulfilled Christian adults.

From the Director:

With little more than a week past from the August Work & Witness trip my mind is already in gear for organizing the next one in October. Both trips in 2011, the April and the August trips were exciting and productive. The teams covered a lot of work at the schools and had exposure to the work, the culture and the people we work with. Classrooms were renovated and painted and a toilet block was built. But more than the needed physical work, was the opportunity for the team to see what this mission is about - children, and giving them an opportunity for a future. I believe it was both educational and exciting. It was educational, for the team members to see the condition of the schools, and the feeding program. Exciting, to be able to interact with them, get to know them, teach them and play with them; so much so that many are already planning to return on another trip.

God is blessing the work of kids4school in so many ways and it is wonderful through our child sponsorship program and through special donations for other school projects to be able to do so much in such a short space of time. We are looking to a great future and behalf of all our kids in Tanzania I would just like to say 'Asante Sana' (thank you very much).

Three strangers arrived at Belfast International Airport anticipating what would lie ahead!

Alan had been planning the trip for 10 months, Heather had applied only three months prior and Tracey decided she wanted to go about four weeks before the departure date! All three were nervous and yet at the same time excited. Little did they know that by the time they reached Dar es Salaam (after 5 hours in London airport and 10 hours on a British Airways flight) they were going to be friends for the trip and

Meet the August Team



Grace McCabe, James McCabe, Al Saunders, Margaret Robinson, Tom Robinson, Lindsay Easson, Gwyneth Easson, Heather Turnbull, Tracey Shields, Catherine Easson, Jack Easson

Coffee Morning and Cake Sale
Saturday 19th November 2012
10am - 1pm
STAFF NURSING OFFICES
41 YORK ROAD
BELFAST
ALL proceeds to kids4school

£3 entrance including coffee and shortbread or traybake
FREE kids4school CALENDAR

Christmas Crafts
Christmas Cards
Bric-a-Brac

Christmas Carol Service
Sunday 4th December at 3.30pm
DONEGALL ROAD METHODIST CHURCH
- Lessons and Carols
- Donegall Road Primary School
Choir will be taking part
All friends, sponsors and supporters welcome

Alan, Tracey and Heather on arrival in Dodoma



most likely because of this life-changing experience ahead of them, friends forever.

It was really a case of the Lord preparing the way and providing all our needs in every way.

Alan, Heather and Tracey write:

"To have fellowship with team members, the teachers and children from the two schools was a rewarding experience. We will take with us many memories including uninvited nocturnal wildlife hiding in the rafters, small rodents falling from the dining room ceiling and 'Robin Hood' our night watchman."

"Individually we will remember the reaction of the children in Nzasa School when they received their football strips, their enthusiasm to listen to stories in English and playing games and sharing gifts we brought from kind friends and family at home."

"We thank God for a very special two weeks and the opportunity we were given to help others."

Discover Adventure with kids4school

kids4school has a very exciting opportunity to present to you! Discover Adventure, a tour company that specialise in fundraising trekking and cycling challenges have added kids4school to their Charity directory giving you the chance to take on a once in a lifetime challenge while raising money for the charity.

Have you ever wanted to climb Mount Kilimanjaro or traverse a rainforest in Borneo? Maybe you've always dreamt of walking the Great Wall of China or would love the challenge of cycling the Tour de France route? All these opportunities and more are available through Discover Adventure. The great thing about this is that through participating in one of the adventures you also have the opportunity to raise money for a great cause.

Open challenges allow people from all over the world to join together in an adventure and each individual can choose a different beneficiary to donate their fundraising too. We would be delighted if any of our kids4school supporters wanted to 'discover adventure' for us! For more information please visit the Discover Adventure website: www.discoveradventure.com

If you are interested in taking a challenge on for us then please contact April Matchett at the kids4school offices on (028) 2827 2998 or by email: april@kids4school.org.



Our top 10 memories from Tanzania

Catherine and Jack Easson

Catherine: age 16 years

- High Five!**
When we arrived at the school for the first time all the children were hanging out of the windows of the class rooms or peeping out of the door, but only about 10 of them were brave enough to come and see the "white people". After we showed them how to high five they soon got the hang of it and all wanted to join in! Very quickly 10 turned to 20, then to 50 and then the whole school of 700 were surrounding us! Seeing that sea of happy faces was one of the most overwhelming and exciting moments!
- Little beasties**
One of the less pleasant memories of Tanzania was the creepy crawlies. Every night at midnight the bats and rats came out to play. Thankfully not in our rooms but above them. So all you heard was scratch, scratch, thump, thump, squeak, squeak, HORRIBLE!! There was one night when it kept me up from 2 until 6 but some team members were less fortunate. And I'll not tell you too much about the mouse in the kitchen....
- African Church**
I can tell you one thing, you could never fall asleep in Kitalera church! They sure like to give God all they've got, from head banging to beating their drums! They made us feel so welcome, with a special message written on the ground with stones, welcome dance and dinner. They didn't let their lack of resources get them down! Church in Northern Ireland will seem so lame in comparison!
- Saying Goodbye**
Saying goodbye was so hard, but it really hit me, just how much we could change the lives of those children. Looking back I could see children wearing t-shirts we gave them, playing with footballs we gave them, holding pens, pencils and toys we gave them, and they all looked so happy. Then you looked back at the school and saw all the classrooms that we painted, and the desks what we fixed and it started to look like somewhere that children can learn in a safe environment. All of the small things what we did made such a difference to some of those kids and that gave you such a good feeling inside, and just makes you want to do more!
- Story Time**
I had the opportunity to read a story to a group of 60 children, through a Translator at Mchemwa school. I read "The Monkey Puzzle" to the most angelic class possible, there wasn't a squeak out of them, they were so amazed by a coloured story book! If only the BB boys were as well behaved when I read to them every week!

Jack: age 14 years

- So much need!**
What I first realised in Tanzania was how needy the people are. It was clear that every little thing we could do to try and help would make a difference, especially when many of the children were dressed in ripped t-shirts and worn flip flops, and live in small houses made of mud bricks. Their homes have no electricity and they have to walk for miles to fetch water.
- Enthusiastic and friendly children**
My second memory is the warmth of the children towards us. When we arrived at Nzasa School they all swarmed towards us as if we were celebrities, in the hope that we could help them. While we worked their curious faces were constantly at the windows and doors, and when there was an opportunity for a few games they were always ready to join in.
- Teachers working in difficult circumstances**
It is not easy for the teachers in the schools we worked in. The schools are under equipped and overcrowded. When we came to help some of the teachers would join us in the hope that this could give them better teaching conditions to pave the way for the futures of the children.
- Children full of joy**
The children were so grateful when they saw the completed classrooms. The expressions on their faces said it all, they looked so happy when they saw the new walls, working desks and the bright murals. You couldn't help but smile with them.
- The satisfaction of being of help**
My fifth memory is of the satisfaction of knowing that I was able to help out hundreds of kids in Africa by doing all this work and that I have hopefully helped them to get a better education for a better job, and for a better Africa.



Reflections on my Tanzania Trip



Our trip to Tanzania included the painting of two schools as obvious targets, however, the most memorable parts will include our interactions with the children in both formal classroom and informal settings. The devotion and reflection time set aside at the end of each day was vital to us all sharing our experiences together as a group. The kids4school project will hopefully continue to grow and I believe is much more than improving the physical learning environment. All of the group have shown commitment to the cause of kids4school. I would hope that we can continue to grow these seeds and develop them in the future. When's the next trip?! A big thanks to Tom for his smooth organisation/leadership and Margaret for her terrific cooking.

James McCabe



While working on the kids4school project in Tanzania this summer it was fascinating for me to see just how much of a struggle it is for the subsistence farmers who form 80% of Tanzania's population. As we passed through the villages most of the homes had maize cobs, millet, and other crops that had been both planted and harvested by hand earlier in the year, stored on the flat roof where the sun dried them out. Each year there is a short wet season, if the rains come, from December to March during which the crops can be grown. At that time dry water courses fill with water and roads become impassable for vehicles! In some wet locations a crop of rice can even be grown, but in seasons when the rains are poor crops that have been planted may never reach maturity and the families have little to survive on.

In the area around Hombolo where kids4school works with the schools I could see little evidence of any improved farming techniques or mechanised farming – in fact I only saw two tractors in spite of driving through the countryside for at least an hour each day for two weeks! When driving from village to village we frequently encountered mixed herds of cattle and goats foraging amongst the dried remains of the harvested maize or the coarse grasses. Each night the herders, who stay with their animals throughout the day, return their stock to roughly made pens next to their houses. The manure from these pens is used by some farmers to improve the yields of their crops.

From April to November there is virtually no rain and it is a struggle for everyone to obtain water, many people walking or cycling for miles each day from home for water that is often dirty and polluted. The maize, millet and other cereals that have been harvested in June or July have to be threshed and winnowed by hand as the grain is needed. The staple diet is maize porridge for which the women have to pound the grain into flour by hand in a large wooden bowl. Most houses have a few hens foraging around so that the diet can be boosted by the occasional egg! Fruit such as bananas, water melon and papaya are grown locally as are tomatoes and other vegetables.

The large Hombolo lake created when a dam was built in 1957, has enabled some irrigated farming, for example a commercial vineyard and some horticultural crops, but most farmers are too poor and lack the resources to take advantage of the opportunities that even simple irrigation systems could bring.

By providing a feeding programme for the children it supports in schools in this region kids4school at least ensures that these children are not disadvantaged by the struggles that their parents may have to provide an adequate food supply throughout the year in this area.

Lindsay Easson

Lindsay works in agricultural research at Hillsborough, Co Down, with the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute.



Masai herder with his cattle



Traditional home in the Hombolo area

Support kids4school by buying your Christmas cards and 2012 calendars from us. Contact the Staff Nursing office for the Phoenix card catalogue. There will also be a selection of cards and Christmas paper for purchase at the cake sale and coffee morning with donations going to kids4school.

Remember our brave sponsor **Ruby Nixon** as she prepares for her parachute jump on 8th October, 2011 the day before her 53rd birthday! If you would like to show your support for Ruby & the work of kids4school, please contact the office on (028) 2827 2998 to make a donation or request a sponsorship form.

If you are interested in holding a fundraising event for us, or undertaking some daring event, please let us know and we will help and support you in any way that we can! We have a fundraising toolkit with sponsorship forms, ideas for fundraising, and permission slips for under 18's so don't hesitate to contact us! We look forward to hearing from you & partnering with you!



Follow us on FACE BOOK



Tom is off again! Yes, back to Tanzania with the third work and witness trip this year!

A team of 8 excited people are planning to leave, all being well, on Saturday 8th October for 16 days. Projects this trip will include wiring and plumbing the new hostel and work in Gawayia school.

Gawayia is the last school to be visited this year. Previous teams have worked in Hombolo, Kitelera, Nzasa and Mchembwa schools. All the kids you support are at one of these 5 schools or the Hombolo nursery and Hombolo high school.

If you haven't heard about the hostel yet let me tell you a little about it. Specific donations from 2 sponsors have enabled Tom to build a secure dwelling for future W&W trips that will be close to John Ntandu's house in the city of Dodoma. Already the walls are up and any day now the tin roof will go on ready for the inside to be wired and plumbed.

This building will ensure a safer and secure environment for future teams.