

Your Sponsor A School report

Mlomba Primary School, Blantyre, Southern Malawi

Sponsored by Mary's Meals Netherlands

mary's
meals



Thank you for changing lives!

Through your incredible generosity, you have enabled many children – living in one of the world's most impoverished countries – to come to school, receive a nutritious daily meal and gain an all-important education.

Without your support, these children could be working in fields, begging on street corners, or even scavenging among the garbage just to survive.

It is thanks to the support of special people like you that Mary's Meals has gone from feeding just 200 children in Malawi in 2002 to providing a daily meal for now more than ONE MILLION children across 12 different countries.

With 61 million children missing school today because of poverty and a further 66 million attending school so hungry they're not able to concentrate and learn, it's clear that our work is only just beginning.

Thank you for giving so generously to Mary's Meals and choosing to sponsor an entire school. We're very excited to share with you this report on your project!



About Mary's Meals

A quick reminder about Mary's Meals and our approach...

- Mary's Meals is a simple idea that works – by providing a daily meal in a place of education, chronically poor children are attracted to the classroom where they can gain a basic education that provides an escape route from poverty.
- The global Mary's Meals campaign was born in 2002 when our founder and CEO, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, visited Malawi during a famine and met a mother dying from AIDS. When he asked her eldest son, Edward, what his dreams were in life, he replied simply: “To have enough food to eat and to go to school one day.”
- Our vision is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education, and that all those who have more than they need share with those who lack even the most basic things.



About Mary's Meals

- The average global cost of feeding a child for a whole school year with Mary's Meals is just £12.20 / €14.50 / \$19.50.
- Today Mary's Meals is feeding 1,187,104 children every day at school in 12 different countries around the world.
- Where Mary's Meals are provided, there is a rise in rates of enrolment, attendance and academic performance.
- We have a commitment to keeping our overhead costs low, with at least 93% of donations being spent on our charitable work.
- Mary's Meals is a grassroots global movement. Without passionate, motivated volunteers, Mary's Meals cannot function.



About Mary's Meals

- Local communities own and run Mary's Meals in the project countries in which it operates. We have more than 65,000 volunteers in Malawi alone.
- Wherever possible, the meals provided by Mary's Meals are made with locally produced food, thereby supporting the local economy.
- Mary's Meals operates its international headquarters from a shed in a remote part of the Scottish Highlands.
- Mary's Meals is named after Mary, the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty.
- Mary's Meals is a non-denominational charity which consists of, respects and reaches out to people of all faiths and none.



Mary's Meals in Malawi

Every night, too many of Malawi's children go to bed hungry, in the only clothes they own, in makeshift homes, weary at the thought of facing another day of struggling for survival tomorrow.

The lucky ones will have parents, or some other caregiver, who will look after them and provide them with love and support as they grow up in this most challenging of environments.

But for countless children – born into this country where life expectancy at birth struggles to surpass 60 and where HIV/AIDS and other illnesses are routinely robbing Malawi of people in their prime – the reality is that, all too often, they are destined to live life as an orphan.

This is the landlocked country in south-east Africa, which the UN ranks as the 19th least developed nation in Africa, and is where the Mary's Meals campaign first began in 2002, feeding 200 children in the township of Chilomoni amidst that year's devastating famine.

Its founding partly inspired by a Malawian child who, when asked what his ambitions were in life, answered starkly, "To have enough food to eat and to go to school", Mary's Meals has continued to centre its rapid expansion on this country where 51% of people live below the national poverty line.



Mary's Meals in Malawi

Thanks to the incredible generosity of donors, Mary's Meals is now feeding over 880,000 Malawian children with a nutritious meal every day in their place of education. This means we are currently reaching over 28% of the country's entire primary school population – a remarkable feat, achieved in just 14 years of operation.

Head teachers frequently report that the impact of Mary's Meals in their schools has been enormous, and Mary's Meals' research from Malawi shows a 24% increase in enrolment and 10% increase in attendance six months after the introduction of feeding. Long-term data trends from Mary's Meals' Malawi programme beginning in 2008, show that enrolment increases by an average of 30% three years after the introduction of Mary's Meals.

With more than 47% of Malawian children under five suffering from stunting, the importance of the daily meal children (particularly those who attend our Under-6 centres) receive from Mary's Meals cannot be overestimated.

Most of the kids who queue outside our school kitchen shelters, waiting patiently for the selfless and dedicated local volunteers to cook and serve the mugs of porridge – made of locally-grown maize, soya and sugar, supplemented with vitamins and minerals – will not have eaten before coming to school.

In fact, the food they receive from Mary's Meals will, for many, often be their only substantial meal of the day. For the poorest children, this simple meal is what has attracted them to school for the very first time.



Your sponsorship details

School name:

Mlomba Primary School, Blantyre, Southern Malawi

Sponsored by:

Mary's Meals Netherlands

Country



Malawi

Enrolment



653 pupils

304 boys

349 girls

Meal



Vitamin-enriched
maize porridge

Location of your school



About your school

Mlomba Primary School now has 653 pupils enrolled, including 304 boys and 349 girls, and Mary's Meals first began feeding in the school in October 2014. The children at Mlomba Primary School range from Standards 1 to 8.

There are 6 permanent classrooms at the school but due to a lack of indoor space, some classes are taught under trees in the school grounds.

Mlomba Primary School's pupils are taught by a total of 8 qualified teachers. The school's water source is a borehole in the school grounds which is very close to the kitchen and there are 8 pit latrine toilets on site which are split evenly between the boys and girls.



“When I get to school I look forward to eating phala. It gives me energy and it takes away my hunger. It makes me gain weight and am very happy about it. My fellow friends also seem energetic and stronger after eating phala.”

– Faniasi Binwell, 14 years old, Standard 7

“This is my second year being a volunteer. I chose to become a volunteer because I wanted to set a good example to other men in the village. Other men mock me but I ignore them because I’m not doing this for anyone but for the children and community.

There were less children before the programme but now the numbers have gone up. Many children in the village dropped out, but now they are back in school. As a parent I can gladly say Mary’s Meals has changed lives in this community.”

– Robert Mang’anda, father and volunteer cook

“Ever since the introduction of Mary’s Meals, children’s concentration has improved in class. Before the programme they used to come to school hungry and to get their concentration when teaching was really difficult. Now they listen attentively. Performance has also gotten better. In addition there is good interaction between the school and women in the village. This will enable the programme to be carried out in a good manner.”

– Dyson Masanjala, 27 years old, Teacher of Standard 7

Mlomba Primary School
Mary's Meals Sponsored by
Mary's Meals Netherlands











Photos of your school





MLOMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL,
P.O. BOX 45
LIRANGWE

TO: THE SPONSOR

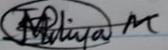
REF: A VOTE OF THANKS

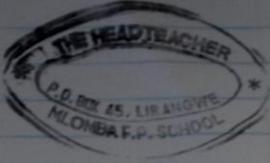
Dear Sir / Madam,

On the behalf of the School Management Committee (SMC) Parent Teachers Association (PTA) Mother group and School Health Nutrition committee (SHN) and the community at large, we are very grateful to express our gratitude for the support of the School feeding Programme that you are offering here.

We are very Proud of it. Our learners are enjoying lessons comfortably because of this Programme.

Lastly we wish you all the best.

Yours faithfully,

J.M. SIKUYA

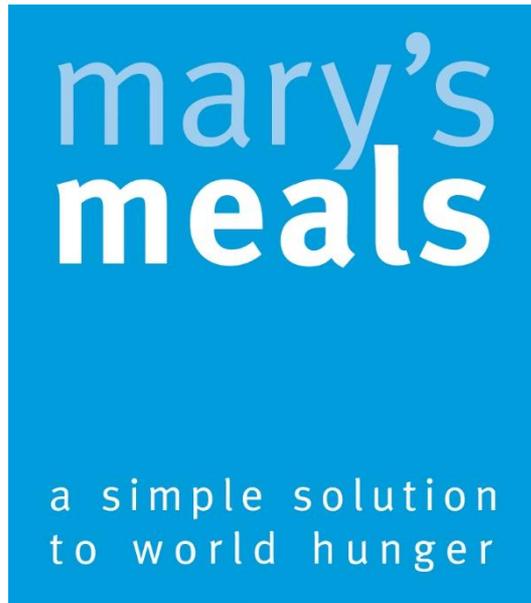


THE HEADTEACHER
P.O. BOX 45, LIRANGWE
MLOMBA P.P. SCHOOL

Thank you so much!

mary's
meals





To find out more about Mary's
Meals or to contact our team,
please visit:

www.marysmeals.org