



“making a real difference” in

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Westminster Community Secondary School Hostel – latest news

All the interior and exterior rendering has been completed as has the concreting of all the floors, all the internal doors are fitted and the ceilings installed. They have also fitted the two steel doors and all ten windows, and as you can see the external painting has been completed.



The final phase of the programme is fitting out the two washrooms, doing all the interior painting, painting the gutter boards and building a set of entrance steps on the side of the hostel. We need to purchase mattresses for each of the rooms (£65 each) and then purchase furniture for the communal lounge. All of the above items are now fully funded and we are aiming to complete all these essential finishing touches to the hostel by Easter.

We are also planning to construct a cooking shelter by extending the roof line on the far gable end of the building. I am also currently exploring the cost of installing a solar panel system to provide light and power, but the decision regarding both of these items will be dependent on the costs involved, so this may not happen immediately.



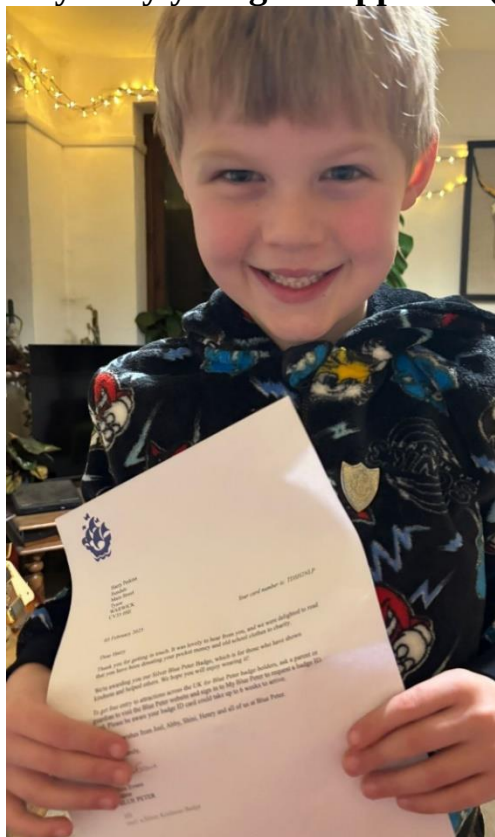
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I would like to acknowledge and thank the Doris Field Charitable Trust, who have been supporting my work in Sierra Leone 2008. I apply for a grant and I am pleased to report that I have recently received a donation from them which will help pay for the final stages of the work to complete the hostel. Thanks to the Trustees, for all your support, which I greatly appreciate.

Harry – my youngest supporter (7)



Harry has been supporting me for just over two years after seeing some Banbury Rugby Club being worn by kids in Sierra Leone. He started by collecting loose change, which he continues to do, but has also donated some of his old school uniform which has been sent to Sierra Leone, and as a result of seeing photos, his junior school, Tysoe, have also joined this scheme.

As a result of his fundraising endeavours Harry has just been awarded a **Silver** Blue Peter badge. CONGRATULATIONS Harry – it proves that you are never too young to help **“Make A Real Difference”**.

The Waterside Bar @ General Foods Sports & Social Club

I must thank Sandra, the staff and members of the Waterside Bar. Since the start of this year have raised an amazing **£1,165** as a result of their Friday night bingo and raffles. They’ve supported me since 2023, raising a total of **£3,659**. Sandra is the driving force behind this and loves the fact that she knows exactly what the money is spent on and that every pound goes directly to the projects.

JUSUF



A 20-year-old orphan, in his new school uniform. He didn’t finish his secondary education, but has just resumed classes.

Hot off the press

I have received a price for the solar panel system for the hostel, but have asked them to scale it back a bit due to the cost. In April I’m spending a few days in Llandudno and plan to do a zipwire activity to raise funds. I need to check age/medical restrictions!!!!