



St Genevieve's
High School
Belfast

**HUMANITY
STARTS WITH**

CHARITY

<https://www.stgenevieves.org.uk/>





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High School,
Belfast

What is Ajosepo and what does it mean?

Ajosepo is a Nigerian word which means working together in friendship and as equal.

Our school charity is called Ajosepo, and over the years we have assisted many worthwhile projects in Nigeria and Ethiopia.

Since 2018, our school charity has also supported many local charities as well.



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The following slides
show some of the
countries we have
helped and some
stories the local people
have shared with us...



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The image features the national flag of Nigeria as a background. It consists of three vertical stripes of green, white, and green. The word "Nigeria" is centered in the white stripe in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Nigeria



The Vocational School which we have helped in the past



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Ethiopia





The feeding project in Dawhan, Ethiopia. Every year a couple of thousand pounds is sent here to support this great cause. The following slides show the help St Genevieve's has given to those in Dawhan. We have even shared some stories the school staff have given to us.



The School



The school re-opened in May 2023, this was led by the School Director with the support of the teaching staff. The Tigrayan authorities were keen to bring a measure of normality and stability and encourage the resumption of everyday life, hence the push to re-open the schools. The sisters were not able to be there due to continued insecurity. The staff have remained loyal and committed to the school and the parents too have engaged, some 105 children attending the re-opening. The school closed for summer on July 7th and will re-open again in September.



The classrooms were not broken into by the Eritreans, except the school kitchen that was destroyed and part of the roof in one of the classrooms was shelled. Nearly all the windows in the classroom blocks and the dining room got cracked and some smashed as a result of the impact of the shelling. In fact the school compound was used as a base to carry out shelling of the surrounding areas. All the arranged stones that stood as a boundary wall to protect the children were dismantled to form a shield for the soldiers during the war. The projector for the school was taken and will in time need to be replaced.



Zimam's story



Zimam is from Medi'a a short distance from Dawhan where she lives with her family. When the bombing started, she and the family would run to hide inside the drainage with the slab shielding them during the day and returned home at night for about three days. But when the bombing started at night the family members ran in different directions, in search of a safe place. Her husband ran to Alitena, she remained in Dawhan and the children to another place, as the bombing continued at night she ran to Alitena and there was no food there and with the constant bombing she ran to Ara'e and stayed there for three months and came back to Dawhan when things were better. Fuel was available for milling and people were able to get something to eat.



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Desta and Aster



Against all this very difficult backdrop, we are pleased to report that the professional development of two of the staff has been continued and will be of great value when the school resumes this September.

Desta and Aster have completed their 4 year programme from 2017- 2023 which was a 4 year upgrading course in Amharic language. Some glimmer of hope in very dark times.



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Some of the teachers

Lemlem is from Sabida a village behind the mountain near to the Sisters of St. Louis Convent. Lemlem has an aged mother who was sick, for safety from bombing she moved to Awo with her sick mother to a relation's house and met six other families who came to seek refuge from different places. There they were managing and eating together with the seven families. In a space of three weeks everything had finished and they were left with nothing to eat. The sick mother pleaded to be taken back to her house; she preferred to die in her home. They had to return to Sabida on her mother's request. They stayed at home running in and out to hide in the cave during the day time till the war ended.



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Some of the teachers

Manna Sabhat is from Adaga about 2 hours walking distance from Dawhan. She was in Alitena for some days and she later went to Daya a village after Adaga; she thought the situation was improved and moved to Dawhan. Soon trouble started again in Dawhan, she too was finding refuge inside drainage for two days, the third day she ran to Atlitena, the same day Alitena bombing started she ran to Daya and discovered there was no food there so she ran back to Dawhan to get food at night because bombing was only at night. Unfortunately that night as she got to Alitena bombing started she couldn't get to Dawhan she ran into a cave and stayed till morning and continued to Dawhan to get food and walked back to Daya two days after in the night. Daya too was also under attack with bombing, she ran to Sengede, a desert and stayed three weeks there before coming back to her house in Dawhan.



Graduation Ceremony 2024

The last graduation the school had was in June 2018. One can imagine the joy and the great privilege that this year 2024 had offered to the children and families who were anxiously waiting for their children and wards to celebrate what had been missing for the past five years of trauma, fears, anxieties and uncertainties replacing with hope, peace and joy for the St Louis family in Dawhan.

Rosina Tesfay, the Assistant Director welcomed the invited guest and parents to the long awaited ceremony and wished everyone a joyful stay.



Class Presentations

2024

The different classes showed off the stuff they were made of through what were imparted in them and to show their parents that learning had taken place and the teachers efforts were not in vain.



Photo of KG2 Presentation.



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The Graduates

2024

The school this year on June 7th 2024 was blessed and graduated 47 children who were over the moon and expressed their readiness to continue ahead to another stage of their lives to the elementary school. The elementary school is always proud and anxious to have our children as part of their community because of the quality of life and work our children they get compare to those coming from other KG schools within the environs.



Academic achievement is always a thing of joy for parents to see their children progressing in their academics no matter the level. The parents were happy as they saw their children been awarded with certificates. Without the certificate the children wouldn't be accepted into the elementary school.

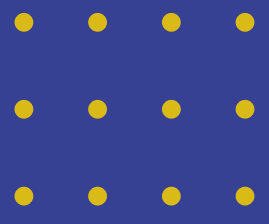
The graduates were so thrilled that they are moving to the next stage of their lives as seen from their faces with bouquet of flowers.



Certificate Awards 2024



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Candle lit Ceremony 2024

The candle light ceremony was for trauma therapy for the children and their families for what they all went through during the war. The candles were blessed by Abba Weldemariam the parish priest as symbols of Christ that had been with them all the way during the war and will continue to be with them in their new stage of life. The parents are to serve as guides to their children into the way of light (Jesus) which is a symbol of the lighted candles.



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The children always look forward for school days because of the nourishments they get from school. Many of their homes cannot provide and not happy when weekends approach for the meals they will miss. Many children always hide from their parents anything that will stop them from going to school especially when they are sick want to be in school.

What a happy and great day for the children who specifically requested for spaghetti on graduation day. Parents were happy with stories from the children how they have been feeding well even before the graduation day. Families are experiencing a hard time, the after effects of the war left many homes only eat once a day and in the school they were getting biscuits during break and meal at lunch time.

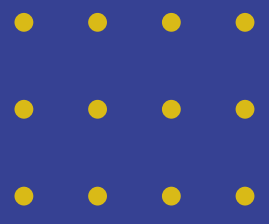
Ajosepo-St. Genevieve's is the reason for the children's motivation and looking forward to go to school with their funding for food program.



School Life 2024



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School Life Photos

Assembly time – used for public health and hygiene education. Every child is holding a handkerchief demonstrating with a song that after using handkerchief should be washed and sundried to prevent contaminating with a virus



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School Life 2024

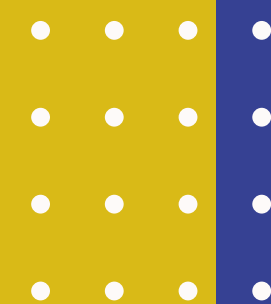
Sr. Maureen teaching KG 3 a song in preparation for their upcoming graduation



Children returning home after their school day



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In 2023

5000 Euro's were given to the feeding projects in Africa

In 2024

5000 pounds were given to the feeding projects in Africa





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Also in 2024...

Approximately
£800 was donated
to Macmillan

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



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In 2022 and
2024



£2000 was given
to the Ukraine
Appeal



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As well as what has already been mentioned, A Josepo has also donated to other causes in the past. Some are shown below.





How do we raise our funds?



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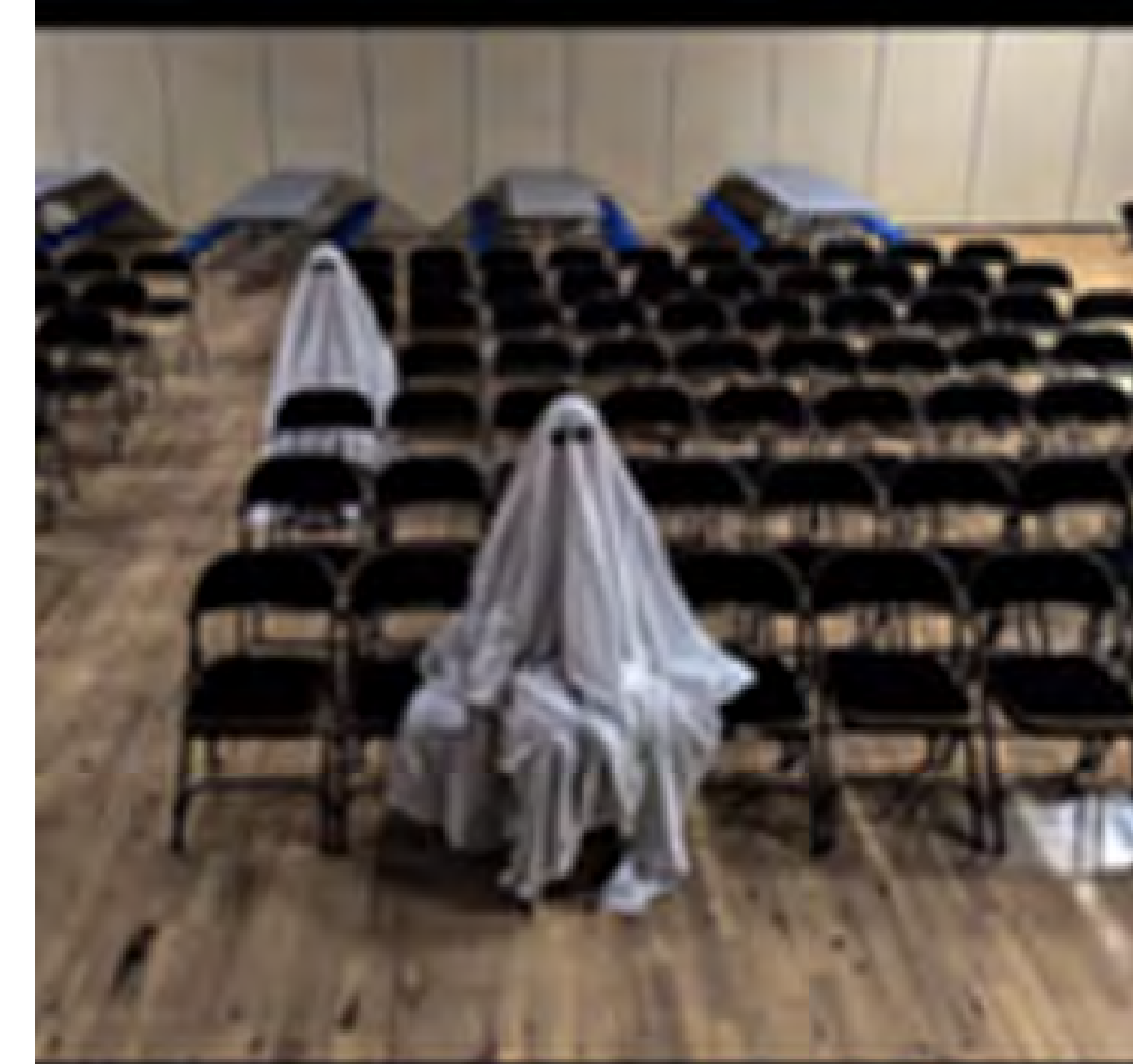
Christmas Jumper day, Carol Service and Christmas Fair



Halloween...(Fancy dress)



Even the staff members get involved in the fancy dress...



St Genevieve's High School Belfast

And the Senior Leadership Team



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Tuck shops



6th Year Coffee treats





Pumpkin Carving Competitions



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Fun Days

9MM (now 10MM), Top Fundraising class for 2023



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9CV, Top Fundraising class for 2024



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Thank You!



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Many thanks to many local businesses and the parents who have supported us this year.

If any business would like to donate in the future to help us with our fundraising efforts, please contact reception.



