

Your Sponsor A School Update

Name of School: Makalanga Primary School, Blantyre, Malawi

Current School Enrolment: 672

Sponsored by: Princethorpe College, Mary's Meals UK

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Thank you for changing lives!

- You're doing something amazing! By sponsoring a school, you're giving children in one of Malawi's poorest communities the chance to gain a life-changing education.
- With the spread of Covid-19 and resulting school closures, unfortunately we are unable to provide you with a detailed report on your specific school at present.
- However, we hope this more general update – including our Covid-19 response – demonstrates that Mary's Meals' work can not and will not stop.
- Thank you for helping to make this possible!



About Mary's Meals

- Mary's Meals works with local communities to provide life-changing school meals.
- We run programmes in 19 countries where poverty and hunger often prevent children from gaining an education.
- 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.
- Mary's Meals offers children hope and a possible route out of poverty for the future.



About Mary's Meals

- It costs just £15.90 / €18.30 / \$21.00 / \$26.40 to feed a child with Mary's Meals for an entire school year.
- It's a simple idea that works. Research shows that children who eat Mary's Meals:
 - have more energy
 - feel healthier and happier
 - find it easier to concentrate and
 - do better in school
- We are committed to keeping costs low – at least 93% of donations are spent on our charitable work.
- Without our passionate volunteers and supporters, our work would not be possible.



About Mary's Meals

- Mary's Meals is owned and run by local communities.
- We provide food, training and equipment so that volunteers can cook and serve the school meals for the children.
- We have more than 80,000 volunteers in Malawi alone.
- Where possible, we buy food from local farmers and producers, which helps to support local economies and benefits the wider community.



- Malawi is one of the world's poorest countries. Many families live through farming, but struggle to grow enough food.
- It is home to our largest school feeding programme and, today, almost one in three primary school children in the country receives Mary's Meals.
- Like many children in his community, 11-year-old Francisco is grateful for the porridge he receives every day
- Francisco says: *"I am happy to eat Mary's Meals' phala every day. I'm here in school because it is nutritious and it makes me full."*



Our Covid-19 response

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**COVID-19
RESPONSE**

Our work won't stop



Our Covid-19 response (i)

- Around the world, schools have closed and homes have become places of learning.
- We've had to find new ways of reaching the children who eat Mary's Meals – sometimes the only food they receive in a day.
- Working with governments, community leaders and our trusted partners, we have developed new methods of distribution.
- Through our Covid-19 response activities, we are now, thankfully, reaching virtually all of the children who rely on our nutritious meals with take-home food rations.



Promoting hand hygiene

We're distributing soap and hygiene information to families to help prevent the spread of the virus.



Encouraging social distancing

We're abiding by social distancing guidance at our community food collection points and explaining why.



Supporting local communities

As well as feeding hungry children, we're continuing to support communities by sourcing food locally.



- We are providing children with food at home, until it is safe for them to return to the classroom.
- Parents and guardians collect the food from a central distribution point – observing all necessary hygiene and social distancing measures.
- We are also distributing soap and handwashing guidance to help support communities' resilience to the virus.
- We are working hard to ensure we are ready to continue with our normal activity once schools start to re-open.



“There are often times when children in this village are sent to school without eating anything from their homes. I volunteer to cook Mary’s Meals because I know the importance of this porridge, to ensure children don’t go hungry.

“Now [under Covid-19] I ensure my household is adhering to what the government is encouraging every household to do. I have purchased a special water bucket so that my children and all relatives wash their hands frequently with soap. I also stop them from attending any social gatherings where they may be exposed to the virus.

“I’m so happy today to be receiving this flour so that I will be able to make phala for my children at home. My children had forgotten the taste of phala and what it means to receive it every day, but now it will bring good memories.”

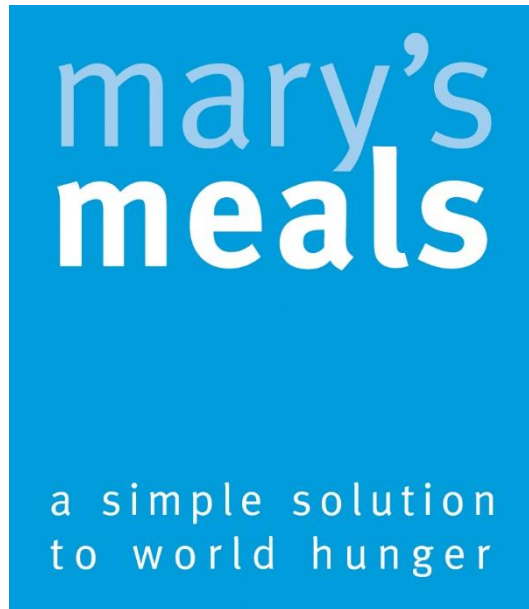


Thank you!

- One of the core values of Mary's Meals is that we believe in the innate goodness of people.
- In this time of crisis, we are seeing this goodness every day from all corners of the Mary's Meals family.
- We are so grateful to all our volunteers and supporters for keeping their faith in our mission for the sake of the children and families who rely on Mary's Meals.
- Thank you for the crucial role you are playing in bringing food and hope to thousands of children.
- For the latest updates about our Covid-19 response, visit our website: marysmeals.org or social media channels.

**COVID-19
RESPONSE**

Our work won't stop



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