

MASAMBIRO

UPDATE 2018

Dear Supporters,

We're into our 14th year! It's been a year of great success at Kunyanja school.

2018's successes include:

- the number of children at the school has grown to 500. The school is bursting at the seams but continues to provide an outstanding education with record numbers qualifying for university.
- the first year of the girls' dorm, which is now full with 52 girls.
- the building of decent boys and girls toilet facilities at school thanks to a grant from the George Oliver Foundation.



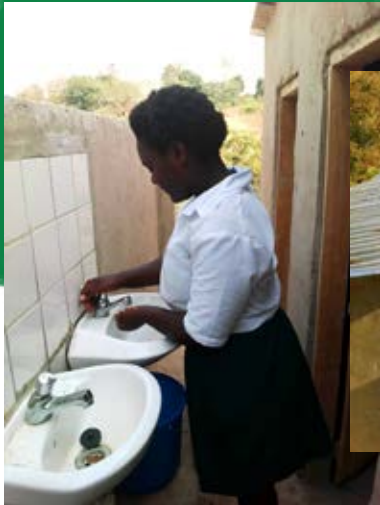
The year was topped off by a special visit from Sydney Simumba, founder and director at Kunyanja, who came to the UK to meet supporters and visit schools.

Huge thanks as ever to all of you, our supporters. Your continuing generosity helps to make all of this possible.

We were saddened by the passing of Victor Mkumbira, the Chair of Trustees of the Kunyanja Trust Board in Malawi. He was also the Traditional Chief for the area, and alongside other community leaders who volunteer as Trustees, played a huge role in the success story of Kunyanja over the first 14 years.



Sydney Simumba doing assembly at Manorside Primary School. He visited 2 primary and 3 secondary schools on his visit to the UK and left with lots of ideas and new connections.



Girls and boys at Kunyaanja now have decent toilet facilities with privacy and basins, meeting UNICEF standards. We're hugely grateful to the George Oliver Foundation for making this possible.

In November 2018 unprecedented storms hit the community where the schools is. Fortunately no one was badly harmed, but several school buildings were severely damaged.



With Masambiro's support all the damage to the school's buildings has been addressed in time for the new school term in January 2019.



The classrooms are as packed as ever, though results remain excellent. With an ongoing shortage of secondary school places in the area there is huge demand. We're very grateful to the Beit Trust who have just granted the school £21,500 towards building 2 new classrooms.



It is so important to continue investing in the skills and education of Kunyanja's staff and future. Fred Muyila, the deputy head teacher, graduated in 2018 with Masambiro's support. We are now fundraising to send an outstanding female graduate of Kunyanja to study to become a science teacher and return to the school.