



*Changing lives
through education*



Welcome to Link Ethiopia's School Links newsletter!

We hope you had a successful International Women's Day earlier this month (8th March). Huge strides have been made globally for women and education. Between the years 2000 and 2018, the number of out-of-school girls of primary school age globally decreased from 57 million to 32 million - a 44% reduction. Despite this achievement, as of 2018, 55% of the 59 million primary school age children who were out of school were girls. Ethiopian primary schools are close to achieving gender parity - for every 100 boys in school, there are 93 girls. More information can be found [here](#).

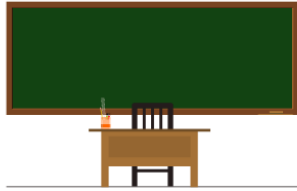
Starting primary school is the first step – but the next challenge is remaining and thriving in education. The gender disparity increases the higher up the education system you go - only 32% of university students are women. Factors that increase the risk of girls in Ethiopia dropping out of school include poverty, menstrual health, and risk of pregnancy.

That's why our approach to education in Ethiopia goes beyond just the classroom, and supports whole families to help ensure the environment most conducive to every child we work with achieving their education potential.

This half term's resource looks at the man who is responsible for pushing forward changes in Ethiopia's education - the new president and Nobel peace prize winner, Abiy Ahmed. I hope you enjoy using the resources as well as reading about some of the other Link Ethiopia activities!

Vanessa Diakides

Sponsorship and Projects Officer



The School Resource



This term's resource explores Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali's 2019 Nobel Peace Prize win. As part of the lesson, pupils learn about the situation which preceded Abiy Ahmed Ali's win, and how his decisions and actions promoted peace within Ethiopia, between Ethiopia and its neighbour Eritrea, and globally. This leads into further exploration about peace-promoting behaviours: what causes tension and conflict to develop and escalate, and what helps solve problems peacefully and fairly. The resource includes a lesson plan, a PowerPoint presentation, an activity, and links for further reading.

The resource is available for download from our website [here](#).



III. Niklas Elmehed. © Nobel Media.

If you are introducing a new class or school year to the Ethiopia link, we recommend the ['Introducing Ethiopia'](#) school resource to introduce your pupils to Ethiopia, which you can also download from our website.



Fundraising for Change



All our Education Ethiopia schools are currently fundraising for our donkey library project. A highlight so far this year is Gunthorpe School's phenomenally fun and successful 'Experience Ethiopia' day!

Gunthorpe School joined the School Links programme this academic year and went all in learning about Ethiopia, and fundraising to support children in rural areas in Ethiopia to access books. In October the whole school spent the day in various workshops to discover different aspects of Ethiopian history, geography and culture. Workshops exploring Ethiopian art, music, dance, cooking, sports, religion and trade items made for an exciting, immersive and colourful day.





Meeting Point



We're happy to share our latest annual report, which is published on our website [here](#). It explores our achievements over the year, including updates on our model school project in Gendit which has been part funded by donations from UK schools. The project aims to transform the local primary school building classrooms, toilets, water points and a library as well as providing extra training for teachers. We hope the school will become an asset for the local community and a model for teachers across Gondar.

The report also features highlights from our sponsorship programme which supports children and young people in Ethiopia to achieve their educational potential. Thanks to the support of our sponsors last year:

176 children received sponsorship

25 children completed the first cycle of primary

8 children passed their grade 10 national exams

30 young adults were in university or training

7 young adults graduated from university



Thank you for your support!

For more information/inquiries go to
linkethiopia.org