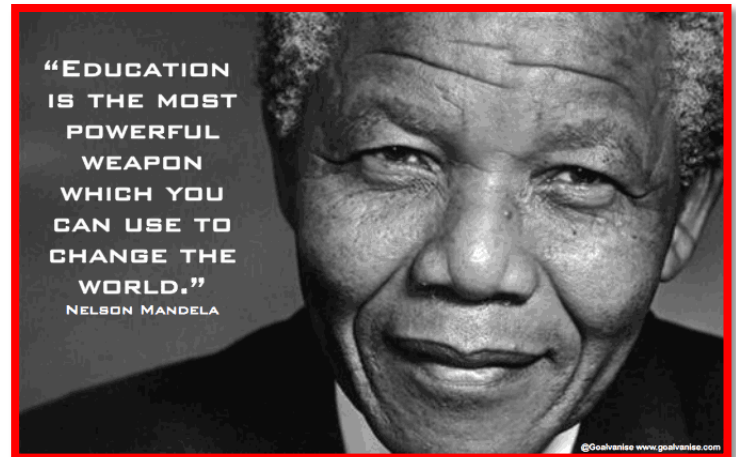




CHRISTMAS 2014

Dear Friends of the Children of Sierra Leone,

We set out to affect positive change through education in just one small part of the world. We discovered that change is sometimes very difficult.



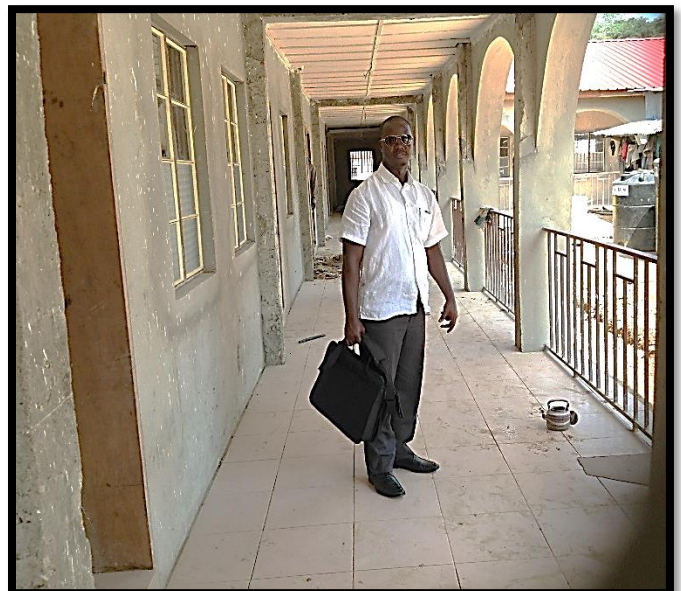
To say that this has been a very challenging year is of course an understatement. The government of Sierra Leone has found it necessary to close all the schools as an Ebola prevention measure; and it is not known when schools will be permitted to reopen. Businesses are closing, employment is lost and there is hunger in some places.



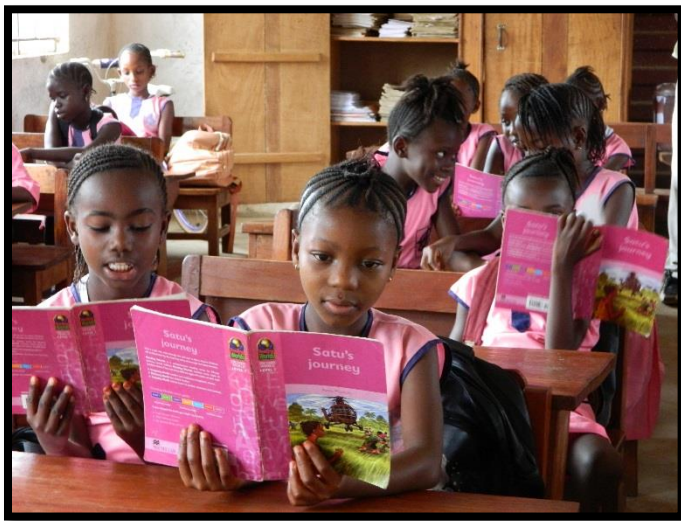
None the less, progress is being made and there is some good news:

1. The senior secondary school construction is nearly complete (pictured left). It is a beautiful very functional facility and it is already receiving many compliments from the Paramount Chief and other visitors.

2. None of our students and faculty has contracted the Ebola virus.
3. The highly qualified secondary school principal, Alusine Bundu (pictured right), is now in Kabala with his family; and has begun working with the teachers.



4. We have contracted for more solar power for lights, computers, and pumps. This should be available when the school reopens.
5. The new school accountant is doing a wonderful job controlling expenses and is providing monthly financial statements.
6. We have been able to continue to pay faculty and staff salaries. (faculty and administrators pictured right)



We have launched the **“Help Grow a Library”** project in partnership with Schuler Books. The goal is to provide 1000 books for the students. You may purchase books at any Schuler Books store or on line at: www.schulerbooks.com. You may select particular books or make a donation for acquisition of a book on the “wish list” we have selected. You may also write “Help Grow a Library” on your donation envelope.

Teachers and parents at the school are donating the funds to construct metal book shelves in anticipation of receiving library books.

The children of Sierra Leone need your help more now than ever before. If you are able to make a generous Christmas donation, it will be faithfully used to hold the school together during this time of crisis.

“And it was always said of him, that he knew how to keep Christmas well, if any man alive possessed the knowledge. May that be truly said of us, and all of us! And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us Every One!” - Charles Dickens

Grace and peace to you at Christmas,

John Loeks

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