

Your Sponsor A School report

Kaphirikwete Primary School, Balaka, Southern Malawi

Sponsored by St. Willigis School

mary's  
meals





# Thank you for changing lives!

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meals

Through your incredible generosity, you have enabled many children – living in one of the world's most impoverished countries – to come to school, receive a nutritious daily meal and gain an all-important education.

Without your support, these children would be working in fields, begging on street corners, or even scavenging among the garbage just to survive.

It is thanks to the support of special people like you that Mary's Meals has gone from feeding just 200 children in Malawi in 2002 to providing a daily meal for now more than ONE MILLION children across 12 different countries.

With 59 million children missing school today because of poverty and a further 66 million attending school so hungry they're not able to concentrate and learn, it's clear that our work is only just beginning.

Thank you for giving so generously to Mary's Meals and choosing to sponsor an entire school. We're very excited to share with you this report on your project!



# About Mary's Meals

A quick reminder about Mary's Meals and our approach...

- Mary's Meals is a simple idea that works – by providing a daily meal in a place of education, chronically poor children are attracted to the classroom where they can gain a basic education that provides an escape route from poverty.
- The global Mary's Meals campaign was born in 2002 when Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow visited Malawi during a famine and met a mother dying from AIDS. When he asked her eldest son what his dreams were in life, he replied simply: “To have enough food to eat and to go to school one day.”
- 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.





# About Mary's Meals

- The average global cost of feeding a child for a whole school year with Mary's Meals is just £12.20 / €14.50 / \$19.50.
- Today Mary's Meals is feeding 1,101,206 children every day at school in 12 different countries around the world.
- Where Mary's Meals are provided, there is a rise in rates of enrolment, attendance and academic performance.
- We have a commitment to keeping our overhead costs low, with at least 93% of donations being spent on our charitable work.
- Mary's Meals is a grassroots global movement. Without passionate, motivated volunteers, Mary's Meals cannot function.



# About Mary's Meals

- Local communities own and run Mary's Meals in the project countries in which it operates. We have 65,000 volunteers in Malawi alone.
- Wherever possible, the meals provided by Mary's Meals are made with locally produced food, thereby supporting the local economy.
- Mary's Meals operates its international headquarters from a shed in a remote part of the Scottish Highlands.
- Mary's Meals is named after Mary, the mother of Jesus, who brought up her own child in poverty.
- Mary's Meals is a non-denominational charity which consists of, respects and reaches out to people of all faiths and none.





# Mary's Meals in Malawi

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Every night, too many of Malawi's children go to bed hungry, in the only clothes they own, in makeshift homes, weary at the thought of facing another day of struggling for survival tomorrow.

The lucky ones will have parents, or some other caregiver, who will look after them and provide them with love and support as they grow up in this most challenging of environments.

But for countless children – born into this country where life expectancy at birth struggles to surpass 50 and where HIV/AIDS and other illnesses are routinely robbing Malawi of people in their prime – the reality is that, all too often, they are destined to live life as an orphan.

This is the landlocked country in south-east Africa, which the UN ranks as the 17th least developed nation on Earth, and where the Mary's Meals campaign first began in 2002, feeding 200 children in the township of Chilomoni amidst that year's devastating famine.

Its founding partly inspired by a Malawian child who, when asked what his ambitions were in life, answered starkly, "To have enough food to eat and to go to school", Mary's Meals has continued to centre its rapid expansion on this country, where 40% of people live below the poverty line.





# Mary's Meals in Malawi

Thanks to the incredible generosity of donors, Mary's Meals is now feeding over 814,000 Malawian children with a nutritious meal every day in their place of education. This means we are currently reaching over 25% of the country's entire primary school population – a remarkable feat, achieved in just 14 years of operation.

Head teachers frequently report that the impact of Mary's Meals in their schools has been enormous, and Mary's Meals' most recent research from Malawi shows a 24% increase in enrolment and 10% increase in attendance six months after the introduction of feeding. Long-term data trends from Mary's Meals' Malawi programme beginning in 2008, show that enrolment increases by an average of 30% three years after the introduction of Mary's Meals.

With more than 47% of Malawian children under five suffering from stunting, the importance of the daily meal children (particularly those who attend our Under-6 centres) receive from Mary's Meals cannot be overestimated.

Most of the kids who queue outside our school kitchen shelters, waiting patiently for the selfless and dedicated local volunteers to cook and serve the mugs of porridge – made of locally-grown maize, soya and sugar, supplemented with vitamins and minerals – will not have eaten before coming to school.

In fact, the food they receive from Mary's Meals will, for many, often be their only substantial meal of the day. For the poorest children, this simple meal is what has attracted them to school for the very first time.



# Your sponsorship details

School name: Kaphirikwete Primary School, Balaka, Southern Malawi

Sponsored by: St. Willigis School

## Country



Malawi

## Enrolment



518 pupils



260 boys



258 girls

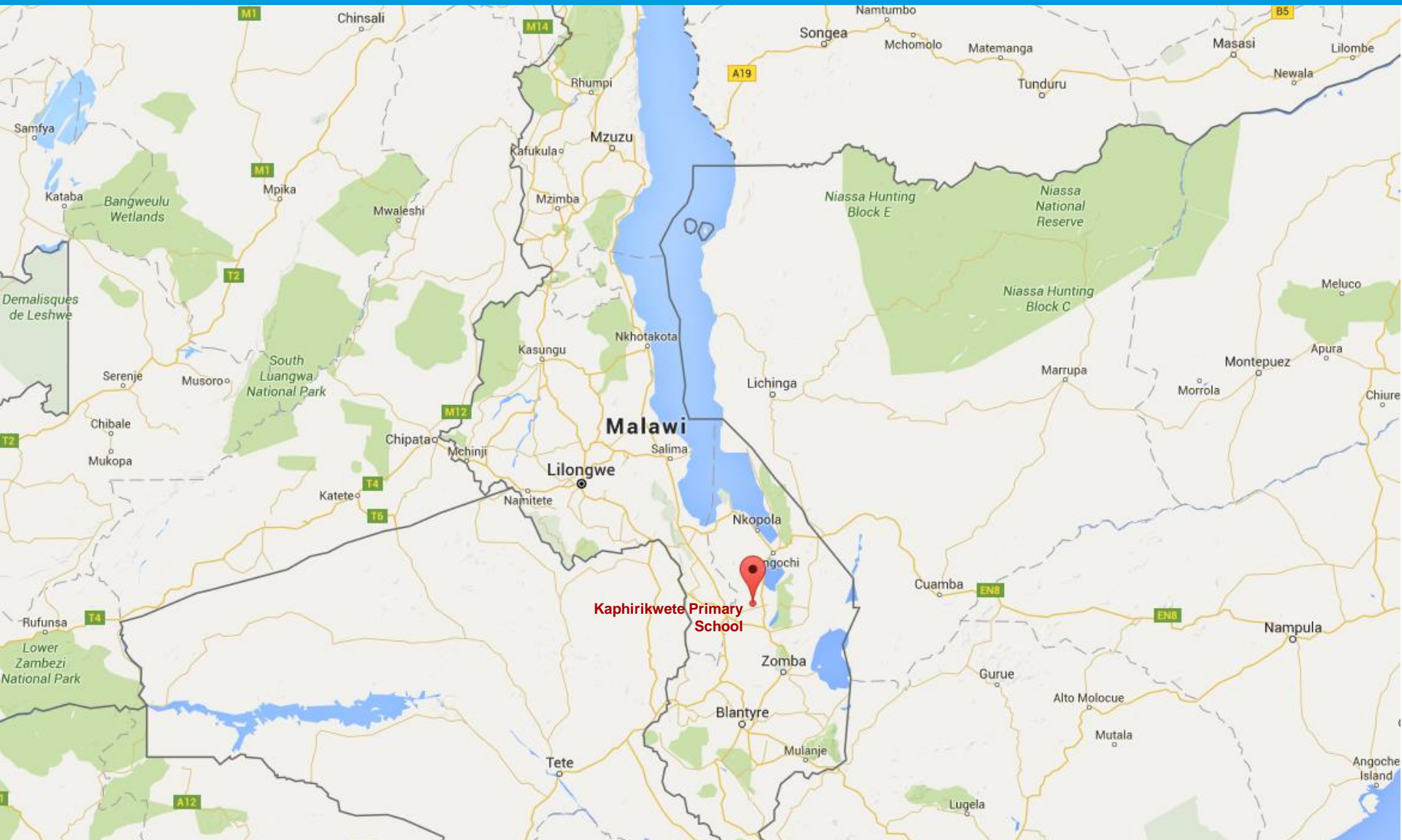
## Meal



Vitamin-enriched  
maize porridge



# Location of your school



# About your school

Kaphirikwete Primary School now has 518 pupils enrolled, including 260 boys and 258 girls, which is an increase of 43% since Mary's Meals first began feeding in the school in December 2012. The children at Kaphirikwete range from Standards 1 to 5.

There are 4 permanent classrooms at the school and the Mary's Meals sponsored kitchen can be doubled up as a classroom after feeding. During busy periods classes are taught under trees in the school grounds.

The pupils are taught by a total of 12 qualified teachers. The school's water source is a borehole in the school grounds which is very close to the kitchen and there are 12 pit latrine toilets on site which are split evenly between the boys and girls.





“I would like to be a soldier when I finish with my education. The porridge gives me energy and there are vitamins in it and it makes me healthy and it is good. My family does not always have enough food for us so I look forward to coming to school to eat the porridge.”

– **Charles Makumba, 11 years old, Standard 3**

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“I come and cook because I can see the benefit on the children here. They are no longer very hungry and are able to concentrate in class.”

– **Alice Jackson, mother of 3, volunteer cook**

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“The programme has helped our learners in the following ways: enrolment has increased and dropout rate has reduced, the children are looking healthy, there is low absenteeism, attendance has significantly improved. I would like to thank Mary's Meals and the donors for the great support and I ask God to bless the organization and pledge for continued support.”

– **Fred Samson, 33 years old, Head Teacher and Standard 5**

# Photos from your school

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# Photos from your school





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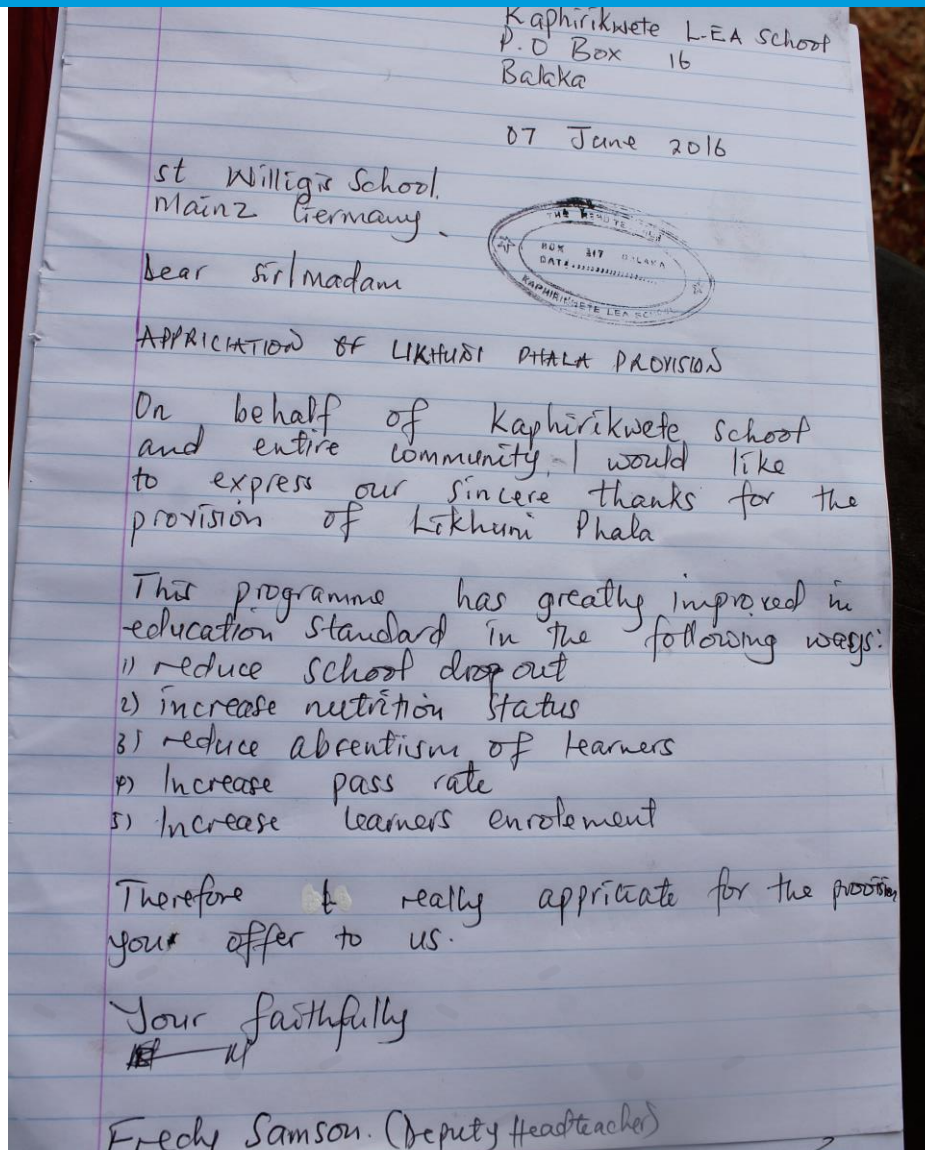


# Photos from your school





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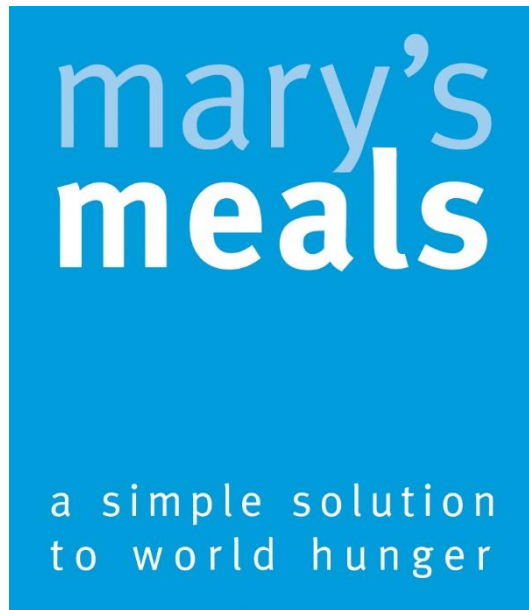


Thank you so much!

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To find out more about Mary's  
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please visit:

[www.marysmeals.org](http://www.marysmeals.org)