



# HORBURY BRIDGE CE J&I ACADEMY

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What an amazing experience our trip to Tanzania was. One leaves a country like Tanzania with a thirst and desire to want to do more; to appreciate life more; to be uncomplaining about trivialities; to make a difference and to bring the richness of life from such a wonderful country, back to the heart of our school and community. Every experience in Mara was an enriching one, from watching children meander down the dusty road with a heavy bucket of water on their head, to those wearing torn clothing which hung off their tiny frame, to those happy cheering children running alongside the jeep to welcome a visitor. It was an incredibly humbling experience, one which will stay with me forever.

A phrase which we heard often, which I want to be true to Horbury Bridge Academy and embedded within the culture of our school - 'In everything we are BEG KWA BEGA – shoulder to shoulder – with our friends in Tanzania'. I want this to be our strap line here at Horbury Bridge Academy. Children are already working together and actively seeking ideas to make this ring true in our school. Our children say Bwana Asifwe in our worship assemblies now as a way of remembering our brothers and sisters in Tanzania, but also to praise the Lord for all we have. We are already enriching the lives of our children by bringing my experience back into our curriculum and inspiring learning in our classrooms. I want children to have a true understanding of what life is like in Mara and have this learning embedded throughout our curriculum. At Horbury Bridge CE Academy, we live by our Christian values and we know this stronger link will give an even deeper meaning to our values, including compassion, respecting God's world, friendship, justice, and humility. We don't just pay lip service to these values and I want the learning from Tanzania to influence all aspects of life here and for our world-wide educational links to enhance the children's understanding of Christianity as a world-wide faith.

Using our children's interests, our Christian values and the national curriculum, we are aiming to shape learning opportunities which inspire our children to learn and will consolidate a true understanding of life in Tanzania. From the visit, we took video, interviews, pictures, materials and a list from all members of staff to bring back to school to help deepen our understanding and link to our narrative curriculum. We want to do more than just focus on a Tanzania day or a themed week because whilst this will interest the children, my aim is for Tanzania to be embedded within the curriculum. I want our children to truly understand how privileged we are, respect difference and also know how to make a difference through an exciting, relevant curriculum grounded in 'real life' scenarios.

Developing global citizenship is about learning, thinking and acting; making sure as a school, we do what we can to collectively make a difference. From buying an iPad to children planning and creating innovative ways to make a difference, we seek to promote this throughout our ethos. We are genuinely passionate about making a difference and this is something we want to do with our continued work with Mmazami Primary school. Involving all our learners in a curriculum that highlights social justice, the appreciation of diversity and the importance of sustainable development is an area I seek to develop and this trip with the first-hand experience will be a way to embed this further. May I take this opportunity to thank all those who made this experience happen.

Kerry Partington

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**Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Skinner**

**Head of School: Mrs K Partington**

**Chair of Governors: Mr J Brady**

**Business Manager: Mrs R Denton**