

PLEASE REMEMBER 100% OF YOUR DONATIONS GOES DIRECT TO THE SCHOOL

Christmas treat from the sponsors



Well, 2025 started off with Stephen travelling to Uganda with Rachel and Bea and is ending in the middle of December with the children at the school finishing their term on a high by travelling to Queen Elizabeth National Park as their Christmas treat from the sponsors.

And, equally important to us here in the UK, the Emily Collins Trust has now been granted charitable status by the UK Charity Commission. Hallelujah! The registration number of 204948 will now start to appear on all of our promotional material and gift aid forms will soon be available once we have secured a charity bank account.

EMILY COLLINS TRUST
Shining hope, sharing love, changing lives

This year has seen some significant challenges but also some notable successes for the school, the staff and the children. So where shall we begin...



There are now 115 children attending the school on a regular basis. Many have been rescued from the jungle villages around Kisoro, some from living on the streets of the town and recently the school has also attracted children from fee paying parents who have been impressed by the quality of the teaching, the strong Christian ethos and the improvements to the school building. The manufacture and installation of colourful safety balustrades on both floors and every staircase and ramp has drawn positive comments from children, parents, teachers and the local council and education officers.





In February the school hosted a wonderfully vibrant Christian service in one of the classrooms, led by the local priest, The children and teachers were fully engaged in the worship.



Dynamic New Headteacher Guided by Veteran Education Expert Ken

The appointment of Apollo, a young and dynamic headteacher under the tutelage of Ken our wise and accomplished education consultant/teacher has helped to drive up teaching standards and has resulted in improved academic achievement across the school. While the provision of a generator, a couple of computers and a printer from sponsors' donations have ensured that the school can now print its own regular mock exam papers to identify areas of development and achievement.

So while Ken and Apollo have been driving standards in education, Doreen who manages everything other than the education and Emily the bursar have been working very hard to ensure that the due diligence programme we set in place in February continues to be introduced at pace. The school's Board of Governors has also become more involved in supporting the school through regular meetings.



'Friends of the Emily Collins School' Team Funding School Build and Sponsoring Students

Our main role here in the UK is to provide funds to build the school and to find 'Friends of the Emily Collins School' to sponsor children, spread the word about the project and to positively use their skills in all that we strive to achieve. Of the 115 children attending the school only 45 have sponsors so we need another 70 children to be sponsored to take the school closer to becoming self sufficient. Some local people believe the school is an orphanage and often try to just dump children at the door which is not an easy situation to resolve. We would love to find more sponsors... These are some of the luckier ones!



Children with disabilities largely underserved in Uganda

Children with any form of disability are not catered for very well in Ugandan society although there are sponsors from St. Mary's who currently sponsor some of these children who are looked after by carers.

One such is this happy young boy who is blind and has learning difficulties and this lovely little girl with Down's Syndrome does actually attend the Emily Collins School. We hope to build an annexe/unit for children with disabilities one day.



The 'Football Bug'

Leisure activities and sporting events are not common in Uganda but the Government has been investing in football in recent years and now children are beginning to catch the 'Football Bug'. And the children at the school are also very keen to compete. Sadly the highest profile team in Uganda seems to be Arsenal.

Finance: Heartfelt Thanks to our generous sponsors

Finance: Our sponsors, as usual, have been very generous this year raising money through events, calendars, prints and cards, You have not bought products you have donated money to save a vulnerable child from poverty and possibly abuse. You have and are continuing to give them an education and hope for a better future. Through your generosity we have managed to fund many improvements to the school for their benefit.

Summary Breakdown of income 2025	
Brothers Farm	330.00
Rachel's Loo	1,000.00
Beacon Coffee Morning	1,011.83
Skokholm Coffee morning	248.00
Debbie's Cream Tea	200.50
Vehicle Replacement	20,000.00
Paris Fireworks	40.00
Clare's Golf Ball sale	120.00
St. Mary's Mission Committee	5,060.77
Debbie's 'Swish' event	200.00
Events Total	28,211.10
Donations	1,922.88
Standing Order donations	6,775.00
Calendar donations	1,887.59
Studio donations	0.00
Cards donations	1,342.90
School item donations	0.00
Events donations	28,211.10
Still to pay	90.00
Total donations	40,049.47
2024 Bank Balance C/F	3,556.06
Total	43,605.53
Return - Exchange rate charge	69.27
Sent to OFHM & ECS	40,968.15
Current balance @ bank	2,568.11



Supporting The Emily Collins School - Kisoro, Uganda

the EMILY COLLINS SCHOOL

Building Projects:

The building programme this year has been transformative.

1 The external toilet block (Noah's Ark) has been extended to include two European toilet cubicles, 2 handbasins and water connected via a 500 gallon tank, The walls have been plastered, the floors screed and the access ramps extended.



2 Safety balustrades have been manufactured on site, installed on all corridors, stairwells and ramps on the main school building and painted which has improved safety for everyone as well as looking very smart.



3 The internal toilets have been plastered and tiled and the sanitaryware fitted. They are looking fantastic but the toilets need a septic tank to be installed before they can be used and that is going to be a big project that will be expensive.



4 Electricity has been extended from just one classroom through to the offices. So now the teachers, the social worker and the bursar can all work even when the sun has set. We still have a long way to go to bring electricity to the first and then the second floor.



5 Two desktop computers, a printer, a surge protector and a small back-up generator have been purchased and wifi connected to enable us to exchange information more easily.



6 The stairwell that emerges onto the roof slab of the first floor, now has a temporary covering to protect the inside of the building from rain damage.



7 Broken windows on the ground floor have been reglazed.



8 The windows and doors on the first floor have been made and installed and the windows are being glazed,



The current abbreviated list of projects for 2026:

URGENT:

1. Build a new perimeter fence around the back of the school
2. Install septic tanks for the internal toilets

IMPORTANT:

1. Extend the electricity throughout the school
2. Buy more school uniforms
3. Use 'Jim's Shed' to make more desks for the first floor

NEEDED:

1. Plaster the walls and ceilings in the 1st floor classrooms
2. Seal the floors of the first floor classrooms
3. Teaching materials, books, musical instruments etc
4. More Blackboards



A HUGE thank you to all of our individual sponsors



We must end with a huge thank you to all of our individual sponsors, our corporate sponsors, our fundraisers and, of course our Church, St. Mary's for their kind and generous support throughout 2025. We also thank Gary, Alan, Rachel and Dave for their commitment, their advice, encouragement and support...

Without your support none of this would be happening...

Thank you.

Blessings

Stephen & Sarah Collins

EMILY COLLINS TRUST

Shining hope, sharing love, changing lives

Web: emilycollinsschool.com