



REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1151173

Spring 2023



UPDATE

WWW.SCHOOLFORPEACE.ORG

Latest News from Congo

The main picture shows the children from the **nursery school** on their annual trip in February. Firstly they visited a new supermarket so that the children could see the variety of goods available. This was followed by a boat trip on the river. All of this is new in Lubumbashi so it must have been a very exciting outing. They were dressed in their P.E. kit and the staff wore their best clothes for the occasion. There are 210 children in this section.

Primary School There are 646 pupils in this section. No-one has dropped out so far. Of the 11 pupils being sponsored, only one has failed the December exam but they



will be able to resit. We will get a full report after Easter. This photo shows the girls celebrating International Women's Day on 8th March.

The new Head of the Secondary School, Sr Émilie, writes: There are now 395 pupils and 20 teachers, all of whom are fully qualified having studied at the Institut Supérieur Pédagogique and the University of Lubumbashi. However not one of them is paid by the State

and so their salary comes from the parents' contributions. The pupils generally apply themselves well but the current conditions in the country do not really allow the students to master what they learn. Many parents do not earn enough to send their children to school and many youngsters have to work after school, especially the orphans. Those who can study outside lessons are making good progress because out of 395 learners only 97 have failed this year so far, in spite of these conditions. On average 4 out of 10 pupils in the final year go on to university. Some go straight into teaching in nursery and primary schools or start small businesses, develop various specialist skills while others work for their families. **Difficulties:** There are not enough study rooms for the students, not enough text books for the library to encourage further study, not enough equipment for the school science lab. *(We have decided to send the money raised at the Quiz and Curry evening to the secondary school. We'll update you about this in due course. Ed).*

Message from Sr Virginie, Mother General As the euro has lost its value against the dollar, building for **the toilets** has been delayed. Furthermore, the cost of cement has gone up from 10 dollars to 16

dollars; a lorry load of sand has gone up from 450 dollars to 720 dollars. Thank you for your generosity and I look forward to seeing you all in June. *(We have sent an extra £1000 which will hopefully cover these increases. Building will now start on Monday 10th April. Ed)*

Fundraising Events

- + **The Quiz and Curry evening** on 25th March was a great success with a final result of £998!
- + **Visit of Sr Virginie Kadima** end of June when we will have a garden party so that you can meet her and ask lots of questions! Details TBC.
- + **Music Garden Party** in the garden of 40 Puddingmoor Beccles. We hope that this will take place at the end of July.
- + **Stalls:** The first will take place in Ravensmere (next to Practical Van Hire) on 30th April 8.30am – 2pm and the second will be in Newmarket, Beccles on Friday 14th July 8.30am – 1pm
- + **Evening of Poetry and Song** TBC

Please do not forget to use **easyfundraising.org.uk** if you shop online, search for **Congo School for Peace. Amazon Smile has ended.**

! If you can fundraise, find sponsors or help us in any way please contact Mary Ellwood (Secretary) or Alan Williams (Treasurer): **congoschool4peace@gmail.com**