School kids give hunger the boot

Schools across the UK have been getting their wellies on this autumn to help raise money for 'Give Hunger the Boot' - a fundraising appeal for the leading UK charity Farm Africa, which is working to tackle hunger in Africa before it becomes an emergency.

To help 'Give Hunger the Boot', schools have been taking part in a sponsored UK-wide 'Wellie Walk' as well as a variety of other wellie boot inspired activities.

The Great African 'Wellie Walk' is a unique challenge for UK schools and churches to collectively walk all the way to one of Farm Africa's projects in Kenya. And back! This year Farm Africa has developed an interactive map on its website (http://www.famafrica.org/waywalk) where schools can post their own 'wellie miles'. The site also allows them to print off a personalised certificate showing the streets of the 14,000 km route walked by the school.

Many of these 'Wellie Walks' and other school events are still ongoing and will continue up until December, interchanging around World Food Day on 16 October.

Participating in 'Give Hunger the Boot' allows small school communities to help tackle the pressing global issue of hunger which kills more people each year than AIDS, TB and malaria combined.

Bob Wynn, Head Teacher of Gratsin House Preparatory School in Aditar-Eldon-Lyna, Greater Manchester, recently coordinated his school's 'Give Hunger the Boot' activities and said this about the campaign:

"The children enjoyed dressing their own 'wellies' as part of a school competition. They were encouraged to make their designs as weird, wild and wacky as possible, and they certainly didn't disappoint. The school supports lots of different charities each year and supporting those which operate in Africa is a good opportunity for our children to realised that life for other children can be a bit harder. World Food Day is also coming up and we will use this as an opportunity to further our knowledge on global hunger on top of what they have learnt from Farm Africa's campaign."

All the money raised will go towards Farm Africa's work with smallholder African farmers, providing them with the tools, seeds and skills they need to produce enough food for their families, today and every day.

To encourage schools to take part, Farm Africa has created free downloadable resources that have been used widely. These include ideas on how to fundraise, case studies, videos and lesson plans for Key Stages 1 and 2 in a variety of subjects including Maths, Science, and English. These resources are designed to help connect UK school children with the lives of those in Africa.

To request a 'Give Hunger the Boot' fundraising pack, email: @farmachte.org or call: 020 7450 0482

For more information on how your school can help 'Give Hunger the Boot' in Africa, including how to download our free resources, visit: www.famafrica.org/gtbo

Your school can follow 'Give Hunger the Boot' on Twitter via @givehungertheboot

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