

Schooling for Life

Newsletter December 2015
Edition 4



For over a year Sierra Leone was mainly in the news because of the Ebola-outbreak. Schools were closed for almost a year, but thankfully since April, the schools are open again. And on the 7th of November, Sierra Leone was officially declared Ebola free by the WHO. Our hearts go out to those who lost their lives to this horrible disease. And our sincerest thanks to all those who so bravely fought the toughest and scariest fight!

Let's start that programme!

After 8 months, the schools in Sierra Leone finally reopened on the 14th April this year. Children and youths were very eager to go back to school. For Schooling for Life this meant that we could start the SfL programme again and continue to support young and talented Sierra Leonean youth. Needless to say we were very excited to continue our programme! As the school year was cut short because of Ebola, Schooling for Life decided not to send the students to school yet, even though they opened. However, as everyone had been sitting at home for so long, we wanted our students to get back into the learning mode and therefore, gave our students an extra intensive skills training programme. This would give them a head-start on their English and Maths. Of course, the personal guidance had also started.



A field trip

In May this year, Schooling for Life took her students on a field trip. We visited the agricultural farm of Fresh Salone. Agriculture is a major industry in Sierra Leone that is growing by a steady rate. While the nation is more prominently known for its mining operations, more notably diamonds, its agriculture is the backbone of its economic productivity. We want to thank Fresh Salone for hosting us and teaching our students about the wonderful art of growing vegetables, fruits and flowers.

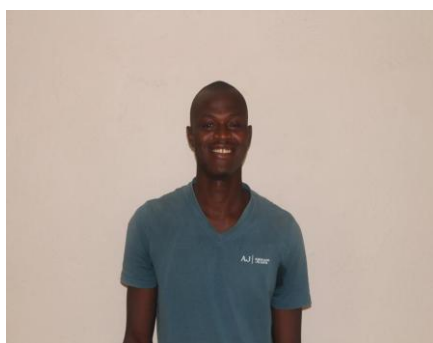


"I feel proud, comfortable and confident to help the students as a prefect because we are a family and we live as a unit, and our feelings and opinions matter to the management of SfL. With this, you can express your feelings and opinions freely with someone listening to you."

-Patrick J. Mambu, Class Prefect of SfL-

Getting to know our students

Curious about the students that are participating in the SfL programme? On our website we introduce all our students. For example Morlai Turay. He is twenty-one years old and wants to become a mechanic. He tells us that he is very proud that he got the opportunity of gaining a scholarship from Schooling for Life. Being in the programme gives him a continuous studying of various subjects that can help him to develop his thinking and research skills and the construction of grammar.



Morlai is also the first student to do an internship for his studies. Morlai joined the mechanics at CICA Motors Sierra Leone for a full week to get introduced into the profession that he dreams of doing after his studies; Motor Mechanics.

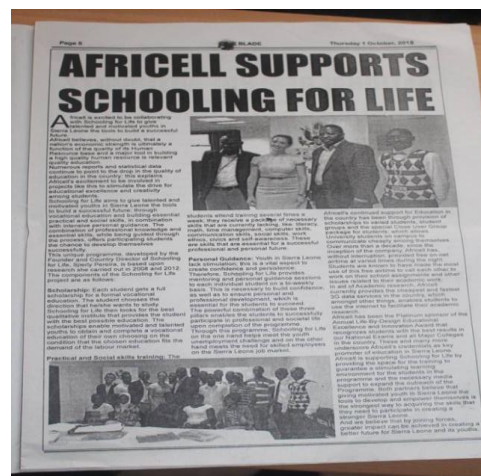


Want to read more about Morlai and the rest of the students? Go to our website www.schoolingforlife.net.

Partnership with Africell Sierra Leone

In September, Schooling for Life started a partnership with Africell Sierra Leone, one of the biggest Telecom companies in Sierra Leone. We are all very happy to have Africell Sierra Leone on board and to work together with them to provide the SfL students their professional and social skills. With joint efforts we will work towards a better future for the students and Sierra Leone.

Thank you Africell Sierra Leone for believing in us and the potential of our students. Together we can build towards a more skilful youth in Sierra Leone!



A big move (on)



Good news! Our programme in Sierra Leone is doing great. We are growing which means that we need more space. Schooling for Life has moved to a new office, where even the students have their own space to study together. You can visit us at 16 Adelaide Street in Freetown.



Now that we have moved to a bigger building, the students have a space for themselves to study. We are very excited to see that they eagerly make use of this opportunity. They come in on their own time and make appointments together to study the subjects they are taught in skills training. We are very proud to see our students take such responsibility.

FACT

The beautiful National flag of Sierra Leone: three equal horizontal bands of green, white and blue. Green symbolizes agriculture, mountains and natural resources, white represents unity and justice, and blue the sea and the natural harbor of Freetown.



Heavy flooding

As though Ebola was not enough, Sierra Leone was flooded by heavy monsoon rains last September. The flooding has devastated many settlements, caused deaths and left many people injured and homeless. Also students from Schooling for Life were affected by these floods. Some of them lost essential belongings. Supported by World Child Fund, Schooling for Life had the possibility to replace some of these essential items, like mattresses, clothes and study books. Needless to say, the students were very happy with this support.



"I want to share this most important idea that I have learned in my life: Time is the most efficient instrument used in achieving success. Avoid procrastination or you may be a failure in achieving your priority."

-Alimamy Sesay, student of SFL -

Our students have started their studies!

In December this year, our IT students have started their resp. Networking and Software studies at BlueCrest College. After their aptitude test, which they all did very well on (!), they started their classes.

The girls who are going to do Secretarial Studies as Milton Margai College of Education and Technology have started their two month preparatory classes. After which, the official studies will start beginning of next year.

Our other students will also start their studies beginning of the next year. To be continued in the next newsletter!



New sponsorship



We are proud to announce that we recently signed a new sponsorship with 'Stichting Latoer' in the Netherlands. This foundation, like Schooling for Life, aims to support children and youth who are not able to fulfil their right to education and build a successful future due to lack of financial means. A perfect combination with Schooling for Life! Welcome on board Stichting Latoer!

And off course, we also want to thank all our other sponsors and donors. It is impossible for us to achieve our goals without the support of people who believe in our programme! Thank you for supporting us financially and otherwise.

Do you also want to support Schooling for Life and our students? Please contact us on +232 (0)99181726 or admin@schoolingforlife.net.

Vacancies (Voluntary) in the Netherlands

Schooling for Life in the Netherlands is the driving force behind Schooling for Life Sierra Leone. Without our team in the Netherlands, our activities in Sierra Leone are not possible. Do you want to help us and be part of this driving force, do you know somebody or do you want to receive more information? Send an e-mail to info@schoolingforlife.net or visit our website www.schoolingforlife.net.

We are looking for an **operational manager**, a **social media manager** and somebody for **Communication and Administration**.

Donation

Do you want to help the youth in Sierra Leone receive good quality education and the skills to create a better life? Please help Schooling for Life accomplish this with your donation.

Donations done in the Netherlands

Send your donation to:

Rabobank
Schooling for Life,
Account number (IBAN): NL49 RABO
0171749022 Rabobank, the Hague.
BIC Code: RABONL2U.

Donations done in/to Sierra Leone

Send your donation to:

United Bank for Africa
Schooling for Life
Leones account number: 540110030005931
Euro account number: 540110130016516
Swift code: UNAFSLFR

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Schooling for Life wishes everyone Happy Holidays and a very Educational and Prosperous 2016!!