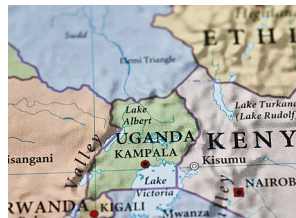




Making a difference:The Uganda Project

Aloha College has long sought to be an inviting and accepting school for people from all walks of life, and promote international mindedness. As such, the Charity Committee, which mainly comprises students from Years 11, 12 and 13, as well as Ms Saunders, the Charity Head for the school, and Ms Sweeting, Head of Pupil Enrichment and Development, have brought about an exciting opportunity for students to visit Uganda.



Why Uganda?

Last year, Aloha College decided to fund the primary school education of a 7 year old boy, Latif, in a boarding school in Kampala, Uganda. We ensured he had the right books, amenities, stationery and most importantly, access to a basic human right - schooling. Our donations have also contributed to the repairs of the transport vehicles of the organisation 'Help Africa' which enables students to go to school, and more children to be lifted off the streets into a life of education and hope.



In the past, the Ugandan students handcrafted jewellery in a project known as 'Beads of Hope' to send to Spain which later, the Charity Committee distributed during the Aloha Christmas Bazaar. Many of the students in the Primary sector are in touch with several children from the schools we've linked with in Uganda. They've become keen pen pals and as such write to each other often. Not only do our students frequently catch a glimpse of what life is like in Uganda but the students there also get to see how the students at Aloha are doing in similar fields such as sports, music, English and maths. It's a great way to make friendships all over the world and helps broaden our perspectives on what life is like beyond Spain and even Europe. As such, our aim this year is to strengthen links with the schools and local folk of Uganda and we aim to do so by organising a trip to Kampala, the capital and largest city of Uganda.



When is the trip and what is in store for students?

We recently had a meeting with the founder of 'Help Africa', Mr Kim Madsen, to finalise dates and the itinerary for the trip which will be taking place at the start of July in 2023. The duration of the trip will be for just over a week. During our stay we will visit the source of the Nile, catch a boat to Buyega island which is not even on Google Maps - talk about a remote destination! We will also be seeing the site where the equator is located.



The aim of the trip is to experience what life is like in Africa from a local's perspective, as such we will be visiting informal settlements like 'Katanga' and see what daily life is like. Students will also teach and interact with students from a local primary and secondary school. As most Ugandans are Christians we will be attending a typical church ceremony which is where the students will interact with some more of the local folk. Finally, as we have some very competitive football players at Aloha, there will be a football game held between Aloha and the students in Uganda to see who wins.

What will students gain from the trip?

First of all, this has never been done in all the 40 years at Aloha, which is why this will be a groundbreaking and revolutionary experience for all who choose to attend. We will therefore be the pioneers for change and pave a path for future students to follow in our footsteps. No other school along the Costa del Sol, or even the province of Malaga, has done this. As such, Aloha will be known as the revolutionising pioneers for change and many other schools would follow in our footsteps.

