

SCORE update September 2021:

At the recent committee meeting a grant of £2,000 was made to EVC (Empowering Vulnerable Children, Uganda). The charity provides education to children in the Masaka Catholic Diocese of Southern Sudan, Uganda. One particular school, in the very poor parish Kyansi, will be the focus of the grant which will be used for books and equipment.

Describing their work in their application EVC write:

St Matia Mulumba primary school has 360 enrolled children. This is an extremely impoverished parish in rural Uganda where the majority of families live below the poverty line. Children are malnourished and dressed in rags. Many children are orphans, their parents having died of aids and other diseases such as cholera and typhoid. It is quite common to come across elderly grandparents or other guardians looking after ten or more young children.

The school has dedicated and enthusiastic teachers but lacks funds to provide the essentials for a competent education. Teaching is carried out by “chalk on blackboards” to large class sizes. The small number of curriculum text books are shared and not given out to the children. In addition, the school has no library facilities or communal library books.

Schools in Uganda are currently closed due to the covid pandemic. To overcome this horrendous problem, EVC Uganda is carrying out “outreach education” by employing teachers who take work out to children’s homes and collect work one week later. Online education is impossible as the school has no internet access and most parents are too poor to own a computer.

It is the aim of this project to provide 4 text books per child, one book for English, Maths, Science and Social/Religious studies. We wish to stock the library with an initial batch of 400 books for extra studies (approximately one book per child).

We will measure success by monitoring internal exam results (and particularly literacy improvements) for children in all years.

The next SCORE meeting is on 6 December and applications for grants should be submitted by the end of November. Anyone in the parish who is involved in a charity, local or overseas, can apply for a grant for a project.