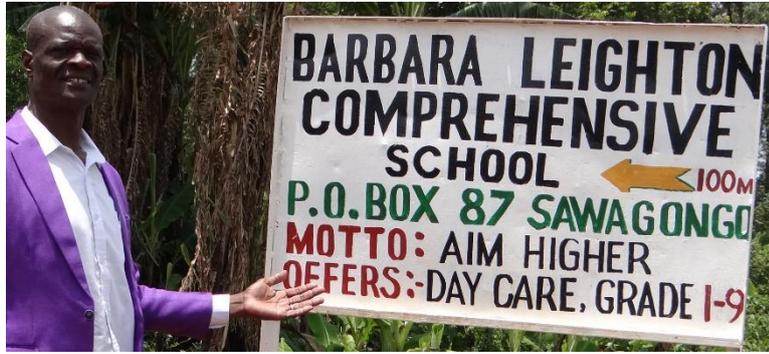


New school name to reflect creation of Junior Secondary School



REHEMA TRUST
(Registered Charity No: 1175562)
Donor Update – November 2025

As well as thanking you for your continued interest in and generosity towards the work of Rehema Trust, you will recall from Jackie’s **Donor Update (Sep 2025)** that I visited Kenya again in September. I am grateful to you for your thoughts and prayers, and I am pleased to report back on a truly special visit, including the following special memories: -



- Staying with Edward Wata and his family meant I was looked after so well and enjoyed many special moments with the family, including Edward’s wife Esther and their younger children (Malcolm, Joy & Gilbert) – their older children, Winnie & Eunice, were away at university, a testament to the family’s commitment to quality education for their children
- Their house is literally next door to **Barbara Leighton Comprehensive School (BLCS)**, so I had a very short commute for my many visits to the school, including: -

- Visiting the **pupils** in their classrooms and being entertained with expertly recited poems and songs – celebrating their opportunity to learn and have fun too



- Seeing how the improved **Computer Laboratory** equipment and newly established **Science laboratory** are creating enhanced capacity to teach these vital **life skills**



- It was also pleasing to see: -

- Evidence of our continued investment in the provision of textbooks and the achievement of a 1:2 ratio (textbook: pupils) across all subjects
- The completion of the project (**see Donor Update – Sep 2025**) to provide a cheaper and reliable source of water by enhancing the existing borehole plus new storage tank plus **Grade 9 Classroom** ready for next year



- Meeting the **staff** members – an opportunity to thank them for their commitment to **BLCS** and to celebrate what they have achieved as the school has grown



- Meeting the **parents**, who expressed their delight at what their children were achieving at **BLCS** and who have signified their support through the **school bus purchase** and other contributions to the life of the school



My extensive discussions with Edward and his team naturally highlighted what still needs to be done to



ensure our existing facilities are capable of supporting the continued successful development of **BLCS** in the future: -

One example of an urgent requirement is the improvement of the **Kitchen Facility**, which makes it possible to provide our vital **Feeding Programme** and which is no longer fit for purpose. Since returning from Kenya, I am pleased to say that **Ashted Parish Church**, through its **mission committee (World Mission Team)**, has approved **£2200** to fund the construction of an enlarged and enhanced **Kitchen Facility** as well as continuing to fund Edward's community development work.

- Whilst this further support from **World Mission Team** is extremely welcome and is offered in recognition of what you, as **faithful and generous donors**, have achieved so far, I am asking whether you feel able to contribute a little more to help us meet the following additional challenge, first mentioned in **Donor Update – Sep 2025**: -
 - **Renovation of Our Older Classrooms**
 - As semi-permanent structures, **Grade 1-3 classrooms** have suffered from termite damage over time and need to be reinforced in order to remain safe to be used
 - As a guide, the budgeted cost could be met if all our donors contributed less than **£100** each, but any contributions would be very welcome towards this vital project

New Project – Practical Vocational Skills Opportunity

- Having successfully expanded to include the **Junior Secondary School**, we are keen to offer support to those pupils, who are not suited to benefit from the academic education on offer at **High Schools**
- Edward has recently established the **Amani Home Furniture Workshop**, run by ex-prisoner **James** – wonderfully rehabilitated through Edward’s prison ministry work. As well as making items for **BLCS**, he takes on private work and the plan is to offer apprenticeships to young school leavers, who can learn a trade, which can support them financially in the future
- For this to happen, we need to purchase additional tools, including the following items: -

	£
TAPE MEASURE	14
UTILITY KNIFE	11
CHISEL	25
SCREW DRIVERS	10
NAIL SET	18
SLIDING BEVEL	11
CLAW HAMMER	4
VICE 8”	128
FILE	9
SEALEY SASH CLAMP	73
SAW	7
TOTAL	310



- Please consider contributing to the expansion of this exciting new opportunity to provide some young people with skills, capable of equipping them for an independent life in the future

School Anthem

BARBARA LEIGHTON, THE SCHOOL WE BELIEVE IN.
 APOSTLE WATA, OUR FOUNDER WE BELIEVE IN.
 ORPHANS AND NEEDY, THE CHILDREN WE BELIEVE IN.
 OUR VISION, QUALITY EDUCATION FOR ALL.
 OUR MOTO, AIM HIGHER, AIM HIGHER.
 ALL MIGHTY GOD, FOR EVER BLESS OUR SCHOOL.

.....



- I also attended the weekly **School Parade**, when all pupils and staff gather – some proudly wearing their scout uniforms (see also photos elsewhere) – to raise the **National Flag** and to sing the **National Anthem** plus the **School Anthem** (see above), more evidence of how proud everyone is to be part of **BLCS**

SCOUTING AT BLCS



- The Scout Group has been registered since 2023 and **BLCS** has participated in a full range of local scouting activities, including local camps and other competitions
- Enthusiastically led by teachers **Cornel Agunda** and **Christine Akoth**, the Group has almost 30 equally enthusiastic members, but only a few of their parents have been able to afford to buy the uniform – **average cost £30**
- The Group also has to borrow other equipment to participate in local activities – **tents (for boys and girls) cost £100 each**
- **If this reminds you of your own happy scouting or guiding days, please consider helping to equip more of our pupils to take full advantage of this wonderful activity – acknowledged throughout the world to teach life-changing skills**

BARBARA'S LEGACY

- I have always seen the **Barbara Leighton Comprehensive School** as the way to preserve Barbara's legacy, representing the impact she had during our joint visits to Kenya – especially her love for, and connection with, the young children we met
- I am aware that some of us have included a **Legacy** in our **Wills** in recognition of our long-term commitment to providing quality education for the current pupils and those, who will follow them
 - If you are interested in doing likewise, please contact me for further information

I appreciate this has been a longer read than usual, but I hope you have been encouraged by all that you have helped us to achieve over these last eight years or so, which has in turn helped us to obtain further **World Mission Team** project funding.

Please now consider if you are able to contribute something extra to support the new initiatives mentioned above or to meet the new challenges, which we inevitably face, by **reviewing your regular giving or providing an additional one-off gift plus considering the legacy option.**

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For more information, please see our website ([REHEMA TRUST - Registered Charity No 1175562](#)) or contact me direct: - 01372 815082 (Home) 07766 051576 (Mobile)
malcolm.leighton@ntlworld.com

AND FINALLY – A GIFT FROM ME TO YOU!

**For the first time, my latest trip included a short Safari in the Masai Mara National Park
Please enjoy my photos of the wonderful wildlife I was able to enjoy, thanks to Peter, my expert guide**

