

**Balance as at 1st April 2020**

Current Account	0
Reserve Account	11286.75
Shawbrook Dep Acct, Int	16070.92
United Trust Dep Acct, Int	8312.65

35670.32**Income**

Donations	15814.3
Charity Platforms	5105.26
Grants / Trust Funds etc	5602
Bank Interest / Compensation	1754.68
Feeding Programme	4485.4
HMRC	4655.87
Shawbrook Dep Acct, Int	176.69
United Trust Dep Acct, Int	121.96

37716.16**Expenses**

Transfers to Kenya	20000
(wages; school expenses; feeding prog; secondary sponsorship)	
Bank charges	49.5
Expenses	62.71
(admin: postage; stationary; text books)	

20112.21

Balance as at

(Current - 31/3/21)

Current Account

28592.05 (Now with Co-op)

Shawbrook Dep Acct  
United Trust Dep Acct

16247.61  
8434.61

£73,386.48

Balances

53274.27£ 73,386.48**Note:**

Administration costs =	0.17	as a %age of income for 20/21
Bank charges =	0.13	as a %age of income for 20/21
Donations received =	41.93	as a %age of income for 20/21
Income from Charity Platforms =	13.54	as a %age of income for 20/21
Income from Grants / Trusts	14.85	as a %age of income for 20/21
Bank Interest	4.65	as a %age of income for 20/21
Feeding Programme Specific	11.89	as a %age of income for 20/21
HMRC Gift Aid	12.34	as a %age of income for 20/21
Transfer to Kenya =	53.03	as a %age of income for 20/21



### Annual Report for Mikoroshoni Primary School April 2020 – March 2021

Towards the end of MPS financial year 2019/20 the Covid-19 pandemic hit the world, Kenya followed the world with lock down procedures and announce in March that all schools were to close with immediate effect. MPS have had to take certain measures to ensure security of the school is maintained whilst this is in place, and have also put in place a financial policy which allows for a retention payment for teachers during this period. These are unprecedented & very uncertain times, however MPS trustees are doing all possible to protect the finances, security & longevity of the school in readiness for when the school is to re-open.

We have attempted to maintain links with our teaching staff throughout the pandemic and since April have been paying staff a 'retention' wage which is a significant reduction from their normal wage, this has been done in an effort to protect the income, through donations, which we have been receiving. The trustees also made the decision of providing 10 bags of ugali flour to every teacher each month during the pandemic to ensure that they have a supply of food. MPS Head Teacher has agreed to ensure this flour gets delivered to the teachers each month

In May we received feedback from our Head Teacher, Joshua, with regard to the situation in Kenya relating to the pandemic. The school remains closed by order of the Government. It was reported that this was the 55<sup>th</sup> day that curfew has been imposed and originally the curfew was supposed to end early June! The number of cases reported by 19/5/20 was 953 with 50 deaths, the incidents are rising with the most affected area's being 1) Kilifi 2) Mombasa 3) Mandera 4) Nairobi. These counties are in total lockdown with people unable to travel to other counties. No-one is allowed to move outside their house between 7pm & 5am if they do and are found by the police they will be punished and taken to forced isolation for a period of 14 days.

Businesses are suffering tremendously, education is not easily accessible for all especially the children of MPS as they do not have internet access & therefore cannot receive home learning from the school, indeed their priority is getting food to eat which is something that could be provided if they were attending school at MPS.

In June the Kenya Government Ministers made an announcement that the KCPE (Kenya Certificate of Primary Education) and KCSE (Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education) exams have been postponed from this October to April of next year.

In July the feedback we had from Joshua indicated a worsening of the situation with the number of cases still rising, the belief now is that the school will probably not re-open until January 2021 at the earliest and we await government advice on this. Locust swarms have affected many counties, floods have also been responsible for 250 people being swept away, and there has been a dramatic increase in pregnancy rates from many young children. These are very tough times for the area surrounding the school. However there has been some relaxation of lockdown rules around Mombasa with inter county travel being opened up & some internal flights resuming, the 9pm to 5am curfew still remains though.

In September we received potential plans for the return of schools, starting with year 8's toward the tail end of October. However these plans seemed to change every other day and so whilst plans were being made no definite arrangements can be made until confirmation is received by the Kenyan government. Provision of personal protection equipment will be necessary when the return is approved therefore Joshua is starting to source the equipment needed.

In the second week of October we were able to reopen the school, before doing so we had to give the school a thorough cleanse throughout and also train all staff on the Covid regulation measures set out by the Kenya government's education department. This being done we were able to introduce 2 classes (grade 4 & grade 8) back into the school, 54 pupils returned. During October the trustees met online to discuss the longevity of the school, given the financial pressures that are being felt by the charity, basically at the current rate of average donations received the long term future of the school is at risk. It was decided that we must try to

maintain the key learning groups i.e. grade 1 through to 8, however the kindergarten classes were not essential classes in the school and therefore these may cease when the school resumed fully. The classes had not attended since lockdown last March and would have to effectively start their year again. The result of this meant, after consultation with head teacher Joshua, that sadly 4 teaching roles would need to be terminated. These were notified in December. A review of this will be made at the end of the financial year to establish the best way forward for the long term sustainability of the school.

On a more positive note, we were contacted by a school in Chorley, Euxton C of E Primary school, the year 3 class are keen on exploring a 'partnership' with MPS whereby both parties can benefit from the understanding of how the different cultures work in the educational sense. Euxton see this as a long-term partnership and we are exploring different ideas & projects that we may be able to engage in. Initially planned was a day in December whereby the children receive some juice & a biscuit (courtesy of Euxton PS), a tradition at Euxton where apparently the year 3 children always serve the rest of their school with chocolate drinks at Christmas time, so they wish to share this day with MPS and exchange photos & videos. A great way to introduce each other. The day went well.

2021 started with the school still operating under strict Covid guidelines which obviously puts a strain on the staffing arrangements and also the finances of the charity. 252 children attending classes grade 1 to grade 8. However due to the restrictions with regard to social distancing we have had to split the classes to allow space in classrooms. As such we are having to run morning and afternoon classes. Taking temperatures as children enter the school, ensuring they wash hands, use sanitisers and are wearing masks – our teaching staff are doing a wonderful job given the circumstances. January also saw us resume our feeding programme so are happy that the children are getting at least one meal a day. Between 18th and 22nd January students in grade 1 to 7 did their national assessments set from the government education department, so we will be able to measure how the children have coped without schooling for almost 10 months.

MPS treasurer, Keith, started a 'virtual' walk from Lands End to John o'Groats to raise funds for our feeding programme. The distance is 874 miles and he is walking between 5 & 7 miles on average a day (sometimes more!), then logging the miles on the 'endtoend' challenge website which plots his progress. The original target for funds raised was £874 & this was more than exceeded, by the end of March almost £1300 had been raised.

MPS were fortunate to be invited to take part in an online International Rally held by the Rotary District 1285. 27 charities, small & large, took part and were each given up to 6 minutes to present the works of their charity. MPS get good support from Rotary clubs and very much appreciated this opportunity to raise further awareness of the school.

As MPS approached the Easter break, the government yet again announced all schools were to close, due to Covid-19, until further notice. We are hopeful, and in fact planning, for a return on May 10<sup>th</sup> and further that the situation regarding Covid-19 eases somewhat for the future.

The pandemic has had a clear effect on the finances of the charity but by making tough decisions on spend MPS has maintained a reasonable balance in the accounts. The charity, as always, is so appreciative of the continuous donations given by long term and some new supporters. We are pleased yet again to report that over 98% of all donations are used directly for the school. The trustees took the decision to switch banks from Nat West to the Co-operative Bank, partly due to the ethical policy of the Co-op and partly due to a switching fee incentive. This change-over took place at the end of December and no problems were experienced.

Sadly, again due to the pandemic, trustee visits to the school were not possible and this is something we hope will resume during the next year. However the trustees maintain very good links over the internet with the head teacher and are managing to advise on any issues arise.