Year 1: 2010-2011

In October 2010, staff from Greenholm Primary School in Great Barr, together with staff and students from Great Barr Secondary and Lichfield Cathedral Schools, visited the district of Waterloo in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Funded by the British Council, the trip had a number of aims:

• To build links and assess how our school could support the Waterloo community in the future and give our children an opportunity to develop greater awareness of the wider world.





• To work with a local primary and secondary school to share teaching methods and create an ICT suite which the children and local community could benefit from.



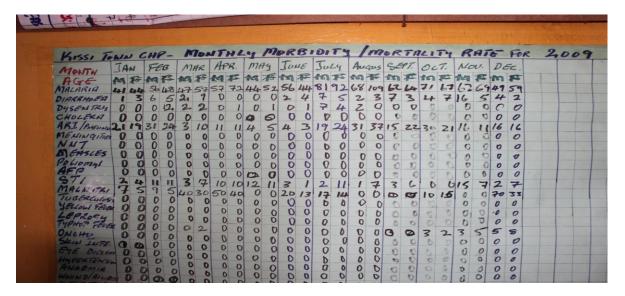
• To enable our children to collaborate with children from Sierra Leone on art and computer projects and share their experiences.





The project was a great success!

However, in the final days of the 2010 Sierra Leone project, Teachers from our school visited Kissitown refugee camp in Waterloo. Confronted with an empty and broken school building, an under equipped and under staffed orphanage and an infant mortality rate which, due particularly to malaria, reached 3580 deaths so far that year in a camp of only 12000 people, it was felt that the next stage of the project ought to have Kissitown camp as its focus.



Through a discussion with local leaders, doctors and teachers, who either live within or nearby Kissitown camp, three main areas of support were identified:

1. Buying as many mosquito nets as possible so as to give the camp's children the greatest chance of making it into adulthood.



2. Renovating and securing the school building to make it and the resources within it safer, as well as creating an inspiring and enjoyable learning environment for the camp's children.





3. Collecting shoebox donations containing books, toys, clothes or writing materials to give out to

the children in the camp orphanage who otherwise have literally nothing.



Therefore, to achieve all of this, we set our school community a target of raising £3000 over the next year.