

HIGH FIVE CLUB

changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

Malimba Community School, Zambia

Malimba Community School in Zambia's Luangwa Valley is a government adopted primary school in the heart of Mnkhanya Chiefdom bordering South Luangwa National Park. Like many rural schools in Zambia it struggles to secure the resources it needs from the government to run the school and over the years the High Five Club and other well-wishers have supported this school with various interventions to help it develop.

Malimba was the first school where we pioneered the High Five Club "Breakfast Club", providing each pupil with a nutritious porridge each school day. This single intervention saw absenteeism reduce from a high level to almost zero percent as children no longer skipped school to find food. It significantly improved the learning outcomes of these children as they were not only IN school but were able to concentrate on their lessons without the distraction of an aching, empty stomach. The school as a result is now amongst the top schools in Eastern Province for exam results. A massive achievement, and in no small part due to the dedication and commitment of the school's long serving headmaster, Mohamed.

What is most encouraging for the High Five Club is that this school started out in 2001 as a community school set up as a mud and thatch classroom with volunteer teachers from the community – just like

the community schools we have recently 'adopted' in the Luangwa Valley. From humble beginnings acorns grow into mighty oaks and Malimba is now one of the best primary schools in the District! This gives us a picture of what the community schools we are currently assisting to develop can become with dedication from their leaders and support from charities like ours.

High Five Club Support: We have joined hands together to provide the school with the modest sum of **£175.31** which has enabled the conversion of a windowless storage room into a dedicated light-filled office for the Headmaster, where he can concentrate on running the school without disturbance from pupils and teachers!

