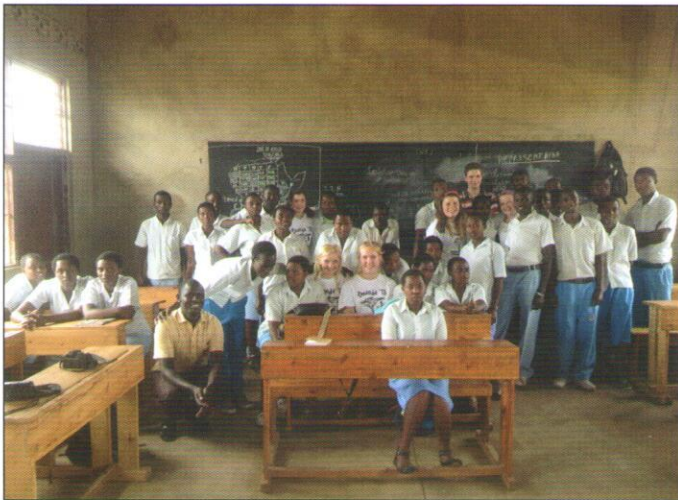


THE AMAKURU TRUST



Eleven pupils from Gresham's have just returned from a once in a lifetime trip to Rwanda supporting the work of a Dorset based charity, The Amakuru Trust. This is a Charitable Trust dedicated to alleviating poverty in Rwanda by supporting education, humanitarian and health projects. The ten-day trip was organised by Head of Geography, Mr Dominic Atkinson and included many memorable and exciting opportunities. The pupils worked with schools both observing and delivering lessons to local children. The group also visited a like-minded boarding secondary school to observe and participate in lessons. During their visit the group spent time walking with widows of the genocide in 1994, in addition to visiting two churches where over 10,000 people were killed, giving pupils a sharp reminder of the troubles the nation has faced.



The Amakuru Trust provides support to the widows and orphans through various projects.

During a morning visit to a children's street project the pupils spent time helping out with local chores, playing games and dancing. The next leg of the trip took the group to Kigali to visit another boarding school where Gresham's was given a traditional welcome and managed a spot of cricket as well as a visit to the setting of Hotel Rwanda.

Karina Olsen a Lower Sixth student commented, "I didn't know what to expect going out there but it was an amazing and emotional trip and I definitely hope I will go back soon."

This was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to take part in and give something back to disadvantaged communities in Rwanda. It was an inspirational place which provided unique opportunities and experiences for the pupils to learn and grow from. They witnessed stunning landscapes, saw some wonderful wildlife and provided their time and skills in trying to support local projects. It will be an experience they will never forget.

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