



Our vision is that every child receives one daily meal in their place of education and that all those who have more than they need, share with those who lack even the most basic things.

**mary's
meals**

a simple solution
to world hunger

Dear Czech Republic Fundraising Group,

You, as a sponsor of a school, are doing something incredible. In very difficult times you are making it possible for Mary's Meals to keep its promise of a daily meal to the children – a meal that is more important than ever right now.

During this time, whenever schools have been closed because of the pandemic, we have rapidly changed our delivery model to ensure children can continue to receive our food at home. Working with local leaders and public health authorities, we have set up systems that allow parents to come and collect food rations from our stores at the school and to take them home to cook for their children there. Because, whilst schools might be suspended for very good reason at a time like this, the feeding of children never can be. And this stays true to our mission of providing a daily meal in a place of education – given that for many children around the world the family home has become their 'place of education'. Being able to adapt our model so quickly has only been possible because our approach has always been rooted in local ownership. Without the engagement of the community and the relationships of trust with local leaders and authorities this just would not have been possible. Nor would it have been possible without you.

I imagine the challenge of raising or donating the significant sums required to sponsor a school must have become even greater for many of you in this time of financial uncertainty and hardship. And I know many activities that would normally support fundraising efforts have just not been possible during the pandemic. And so, more than ever, we are deeply grateful that you have stayed faithful to the children in the school you sponsor – and to the promise we have made to them.

I am very aware, also, that during this time we have been very restricted in being able to provide you with reports from schools. The movement of people in and out of these communities has been so limited that our normal approach to getting photographs and individual stories has simply not been possible. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding on this. We are taking this opportunity to review how we might improve our reporting from sponsored schools going forward so that we can provide you with inspiring feedback about the difference you're making whilst balancing this with our simple, low-cost approach.

Please be assured that, despite the current constraints beyond our control, we never ever take your generosity for granted. And please know too that the children need our meals more than ever. The pandemic is causing new and terrible hardship across the world's poorest nations. Child hunger is on the rise once again. We are more passionate than we have ever been in our desire to keep the promise to those children already in our programme – and to also reach out to many more still hungry and waiting. We cannot do any of that without your continued support and for that, on behalf of the children you feed, I thank you with all my heart.

God bless,

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow
Founder of Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals International,
Units 10-13, Claremont Centre, 39 Durham Street, Glasgow, Scotland, UK, G41 1BS.
T: 0141 345 2381 E: hello@marysmeals.org

Registered office: Craig Lodge, Dalmally, Argyll, Scotland, UK, PA33 1AR. Registered charity: SC045223. Limited company: SC488380.

