

Fiji Book Drive



Pillars of Fiji Book Drive

- To improve educational outcomes and therefore life opportunities for students of Fiji through increased access to educational resources, predominantly focussed on literacy.
- To re-purpose books, computers and educational resources, taking them out of the hands of those that do not need them and into the hands of those that do.
- To operate in the most sustainable manner possible: keeping resources from landfill and only sending the most durable goods.



Schools assisted:

- 2012:** Korotari Arya School, Vanua Levu
- 2013:** Nabukelevuira Primary School, Kadavu
- 2014:** Korotari Arya School, Vanua Levu
Vunisei District School, Kadavu
Navikadi Primary School, Kadavu
Holy Cross Primary School, Taveuni
- 2015:** Bulou Dolele Memorial School, Kadavu
Yale District School, Kadavu
Drue Village School, Kadavu
Namalata Central School, Kadavu
Naceva Primary School, Kadavu
Ratu Varani Memorial School, Kadavu
Vunisei District School, Kadavu
Rukuruku District School, Sigatoka
Koratari Arya School, Vanua Levu
Kadavu Provincial School, Kadavu
Nakasaleka District School, Kadavu
Natusara Primary School, Kadavu
- 2013-16:** 21 assorted kindergartens

What?

I send library books, stationery, kindergarten toys and laptops to under-resourced schools and kindergartens in Fiji.

How?

I speak in primary schools in Melbourne, Australia, explaining the need for books in Fiji. The students then bring books to their classrooms which I later collect. I also have libraries and bookshops donate. With the help of friends and family I then pack the books for shipping. In 2015 we packed and sent over 11,500 books to Fiji. I estimate the time commitment for myself is the equivalent of a full-time job for four months of the year and part-time beyond that.

WCBM (www.wcbm.com.au) freight the books to Suva for me at their cost.

Why?

I do this because education empowers students and communities. One of the keys to education is having the right resources. I have already helped thirteen schools in Fiji and seven kindergartens. Thirteen of these schools now have great library collections that were previously non-existent or in very poor condition. I believe there are more than enough educational resources in Australia and that these can be redirected out of landfill to Fiji, where many schools are under-resourced.

What next?

I do all of this work unpaid and, with the exception of free freighting from WCBM, no sponsorship money. I would like to help more schools and kindergartens but I need money to pay for phone calls to Fiji, the services of handling agents, my plane fare to Fiji, and the use of a warehouse. I would also like to give every school child a calico bag with a logo on it that says 'Readers are Leaders.' In my ideal world I would visit the schools twice a year as some of the success of the donations depends on the strength of the relationship between me and the teachers.

My costs could not be any lower as no-one gets paid and to date my family and I have paid for nearly everything (apart from the freighting.)

My goals

1. To help all Kadavu schools and kindergartens and then as a result of this for literacy and digital literacy to improve;
2. To help the hurricane affected schools in Viti Levu;
3. To give each child a calico book bag to show that library books need to be cared for properly and to help engender a sense of pride about reading;
4. To forge strong relationships with corporations, the Fijian government, and most of all the teachers, to ensure the ongoing success of the program.

Contact - Fiona Luth

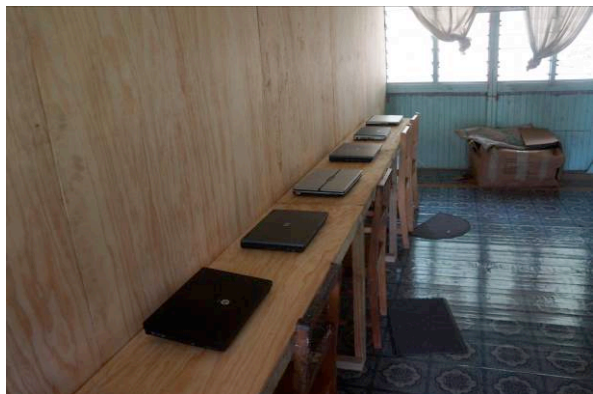
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Photos from prior visits



Testimonials

Merewalesi Qiolele - Head Teacher - Ratu Varani School

Merewalesi Qiolele - Ratu Varani Mem. School

FIJI BOOK DRIVE

We would like to know what you think of the donations to your school/kindergarten

How satisfied were you - please circle the face that best shows your feelings.

With the amount of books you received

With the quality of books and school materials

How did the parents and students feel about the donations?

How did this donation overall make you feel?

I'm overwhelmed with the kind donation especially when serving
one of the disadvantage schools in Kadavu

How do you anticipate the donations will help your school?

It will boost the literacy level of the school overall.

Any other comments? Please use the other side of this form.

Thank-you from Fiona Luth of Fiji Book Drive
fijibookdrive@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/Fijibookdrive

John Kautia - Head Teacher - Bulou Dolele School

FIJI BOOK DRIVE John Kautia

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How satisfied were you - please circle the face that best shows your feelings.

With the amount of books you received

With the quality of books and school materials

How did the parents and students feel about the donations?

How did this donation overall make you feel?

THE DONATION MADE THE STUDENTS FEEL EXCITED AND MOTIVATED TO READ
MORE BOOKS AND MAKE GOOD USE OF THE LIBRARY.

How do you anticipate the donations will help your school?

IT WILL SURELY IMPROVE THEIR LITERACY LEVEL IN YEARS TO
COME.

Any other comments? Please use the other side of this form.

Thank-you from Fiona Luth of Fiji Book Drive
fijibookdrive@hotmail.com
www.facebook.com/Fijibookdrive

Daku Village
Nauva
Kadavu
Fiji Island
27. 9. 2015

The Sponsors
of Fina Luta
Australia

Re- General Report for the
children of our village.

Dear Sir/Madam.

I am writing to inform you of how grateful we are for the role you played in supporting our school children ^{with} the stationaries and other school equipments.

Looking at the resource available to us we knew that we would not have the chance to give the children those expensive stationaries that you donated.

As English & ~~the~~ Mathematics are compulsory we have seen great improvements with the children's progress.

Thanking you from the bottom of our hearts we pray God to channel resources your way so your heart of gold never fail.

Yours faithfully,

J. Apurua

Eproni Ilimanabure
For the people of Daku.