



imagine1day®

GEREB ABDELA PRIMARY SCHOOL

inauguration report



YOU have every
thing you need to build
something FAR bigger
than YOURSELF."
- Seth Godin SetbTM

Last year, the students at Gereb Abdela School experienced a learning environment no child should sit through.

The 679 pupils studied in open air classrooms that offered little protection from the weather. They spent their entire lessons perched on logs or sitting on the bare, dusty ground, scribbling on notepads balanced on their knees.

Many did not enroll in school, and even less stayed for the full eight grades.

Now, that has all changed, thanks to you.

With your support, we've opened a brand new school for the community and children of Gereb Abdela, complete with comfortable classrooms, gender-segregated latrines, a library, early childhood education centre, and playground. It caters for children from 0 Class to Grade 8. A water point is under construction and will open in February.

We've equipped the school with science gear, sports equipment, library books and other supplies. We're training the teachers to better engage their students. We're working local leaders to mobilize the community and champion education for all children.

None of this would have been possible without your incredible contribution.







"I am just so happy
that my parents
finally decided to
send me to school."

- **MEET TAEME HILUF, a student at Gereb Abdela Primary School. He estimates he is 16 years old, though doesn't know for sure.**

This is his first year at school.

Taeme's younger sister and brother are already enrolled, attending grades three and four. As the oldest, Taeme faced a different

- "I was responsible for looking after my family's cattle," he says. "I was so upset when my parents sent my younger siblings to school and kept me at home looking after the cattle, but I didn't say anything to them.

imagine1day worked with influential community leaders to share the importance of education for all the children in the community. The message was heard by Taeme's parents, who enrolled him in class.

- "I am just happy that they finally decided to send me to school too. My joy is even two-fold that I am joining the school when this new school blocks are built."

RASHAN ALEMAYEHU, a Grade 1 teacher at Gereb Abdela School, says the difference between the old and new classrooms is phenomenal.

“My students are now very happy to come to school and learn. The children have a lot to do at home, but now they prefer to come to school.

“Even for me as a teacher, it was not really nice to teach in the old classrooms. The floor was all dusty. The classrooms did not have proper desks. Four to five children sat on a desk. ’

“How could you expect them to concentrate on their studies learning in such a non-conducive classroom?,” she asks. “Now two to three kids share a desk. It makes a huge difference.”

Rashan says she expects an even bigger impact next year, when the first O Class students join her lessons. “The new early childhood education center will make a huge difference in preparing young students for the primary level,” she says.

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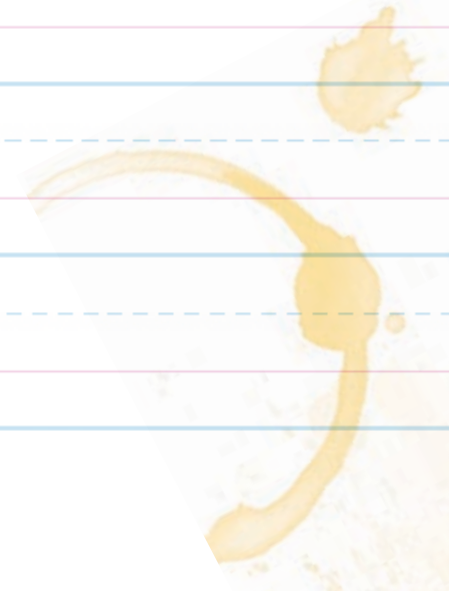
- **JOISE PETERS is part of the Run For Water crew that traveled to Ethiopia to take part in the inauguration.**

Run For Water generously contributed to the construction of the school.



"I have seen amazing smiles and lovely people," says Josie. "I cannot believe that I have influenced these people's lives in some way.

- "This is my first time in Africa. My dad told me a lot of stories about people getting sick just because of lack of access to clean portable water. Coming here made me realize how real the problem is.

"I would encourage people to travel and see what other people are going through and contribute to help improve their lives in some way."





 
imagine lday™

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Honouring the Support of Ryan and Trish Huston
the cornerstone Celebrating the inauguration
of Gereb Abdela Primary School on November
21, 2016, in Collaboration with Run for water
imagine lday, Gereb Abdela Community
Endamekhoni administration, and the
government of Tigray.

"I would like to thank the donors on behalf my students, myself and all the teachers in the school for building this school and making our lives much better. I pray for their long-life and success."

Rashan Alemayehu

Grade 1 Teacher



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CREATED A TRULY
TRANSFORMATIVE
CHANGE FOR
CHILDREN, A
COMMUNITY
AND A NATION.

THANK YOU.



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