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Partnership for Mother Tongue
Based Bilingual Education in Ghana

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PAMBE Ghana is a registered
501(c)(3) organization

PAMBE GHANA

Partnership for Mother Tongue-based Bilingual Education in Ghana

SUMMER 2020

Rising to the Challenge:

Distance Learning in a Remote Region



Strict stay-at-home orders from the Ghanaian government required La'Angum Learning Center to suspend in-class learning this Spring – just as many of us have experienced closer to home. This abrupt change presented immediate challenges as students live in several villages that in the main lack electricity and internet. The kind of home-based online learning implemented in parts of the United States – albeit with mixed results – is not possible at all in this region. LLC's local leadership and staff have communicated with families face-to-face to check on the children's well-being and gain input in how to best facilitate at-home learning for the Fall term. As many homes lack books, a mobile library program is being explored. Other matters to consider include the children's nutrition – due to PAMBE Ghana's innovative lunch program students enjoy a daily nutritious meal when school is in session, and LLC's local leadership is brainstorming ideas to replace these meals at home. Please check in at www.pambeghana.org for updates on implementation of plans for the new school year.

"The end depends on the beginning." We thank you for your support!

Fair Trade Market Transforms Again

Hearty thanks to all who volunteered and shopped at PAMBE Ghana's Global Market in the 50 Penn Place Mall in Oklahoma City in late 2019. The market provides 20-25% of the revenue that supports and educates children at La'Angum Learning Center in northern Ghana, and record sums were raised in 2019! While we look for space to hold the 2020 holiday market, PAMBE Ghana is thrilled to announce the new **ONLINE GLOBAL MARKETPLACE!** Please visit at pambeghana.org/shop/ for lively items to brighten your days, including ~



[L] This bright cardinal metal wall art is made in Haiti from recycled oil drums.

[R] A spin drum designed with birds and peace symbols will add rhythm to your day



Market products come directly from artisans and producers located worldwide, or are purchased through fair trade businesses (members of the Fair Trade Federation). Artisans and producers are paid a fair price for their product when it leaves their hands, and Fair Trade criteria guarantees safe working conditions, quality control, marketing assistance, no child labor, and a continuing, supportive relationship between sellers and buyers. Additionally, all proceeds of the global marketplace go to La'Angum Learning Center.

At this point, all purchases are available for curbside pickup only at the Learning Tree toy store, 7638 N. Western, Oklahoma City. Shipping option to come. We can't wait to meet you online!

Teachers Gain New Skills

Baba Bukari, PAMBE Ghana's Program Director in Ghana, used the time this Spring when Ghanaian leadership paused student school attendance to help LLC teachers gain computer literacy skills necessary to participate in the type of online meetings we have come to know so well in the past few months. Teachers later used these new skills to collaborate through remote weekly virtual meetings. At right, teachers explore the school's laptops at PAMBE Ghana's office in Langbinsi.



Like almost everywhere on the globe, mask wearing has become a necessity in northern Ghana. Thanks to the ingenuity of local seamstresses, there are many colorful options composed of Ghana's legendary local fabrics such as these photographed and used by LLC teachers:



Beautiful batik face masks for both children and adults and sourced from Ghana are available for \$10 in the online marketplace:

<https://www.pambeghana.org/shop/product/adult-masks/>
<https://www.pambeghana.org/shop/product/children-masks/>



Please send us a photo of you or loved ones wearing your Ghanaian or other mask to pambeghana@gmail.org! We also welcome short stories describing how your children, grandchildren, young friends, or students are experiencing new methods of learning. Photos and stories collected will be sent to LLC to share with students to help them understand our shared predicament.

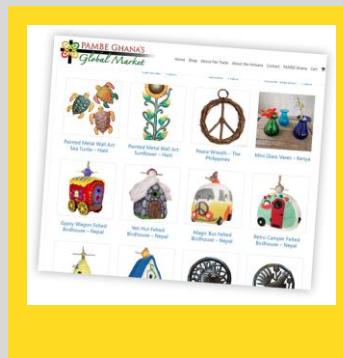
PAMBE Ghana has continued to provide teacher support by paying salaries and offering skills training during this time. All proceeds from purchases at the online market place will go directly to support La'Angum Learning Center including teacher compensation and training, educating students, purchasing materials, and developing infrastructure to facilitate learning. Thank you!



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER:



Please visit PAMBE Ghana's Global **NEW** digital market:

pambeghana.org/shop/

At right: yeti hut – one of the fabulous felt birdhouses available in the new online store. At left: back in stock – the popular scissortail flycatcher ornament *exclusive* to the global market.