



METHODIST PRY ARE-ALASA

BOOK BOX LIBRARY CLUB LAUNCHES IN FIVE MORE SCHOOLS

January 2021 marked the beginning of second term for primary schools in Nigeria and we began to see the schools in Ona-Ara, Oyo State, settle after a tentative start to the academic year. With a late start to the year and many new procedures in place for teachers after returning from closures due to the Covid pandemic, there were limitations in first term to what outside organisations such as Christianna Foundation could do.

We used the months of November—December to recover the books that we had left in the community back in March 2020 and spend time receiving feedback from pupils and teachers about how Book Box Library Club (BBLC) could improve.

Feedback was that even the simplest storybooks in English were too difficult for a large number of pupils and they needed books for beginner readers. The storybooks we had provided in Yoruba were being well used and enjoyed.

Second Term saw BBLC launch in 5 new schools, taking the total of schools serviced by our mobile library to 10 with a reach of over 2000 children. To service the 5 new schools, and the 5 existing schools, we purchased 800 new story books and printed 640 books from a set of levelled early phonics readers that are available free online and have been written specifically for Nigeria.

The response from teachers and pupils was extremely positive in regards to the phonics readers and all schools requested more books like this. We scoured the bookstores for more high quality phonics books for beginner readers in Nigeria and found a lack of relevant material. As a result Christianna Foundation has been working with Telling Our Tales, a children's book publishing initiative. They had already been working on producing early literacy books for Nigeria and have been able to respond to the needs of Book Box Library Club and the children of Ona-Ara.



IDC SCHOOL OLODE



ISLAMIC MISSION AKANRAN



ST JOSEPH'S GBEDUN



ST JAMES OLORUNDA