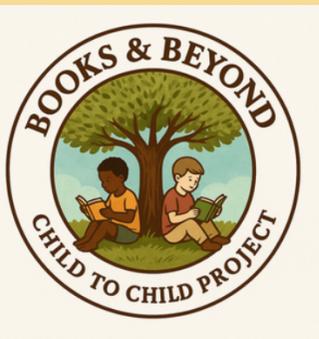


 Books & Beyond Project Proposal  
Submitted by: Surina & Keisha Kasaku  
Project Coordinators

Project Site: Kathonzweni HGM Primary  
School, Makueni County, Kenya  
Date: 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2025

Project Motto: "Children Leading Change"

contact details  
 +254-728435012  
 [priyadharshinidias@gmail.com](mailto:priyadharshinidias@gmail.com)  
Nairobi, Kenya



# *The Spark of a Dream*

***We're sisters, Surina (13) and Keisha (11)  
Using the power of reading to inspire change***

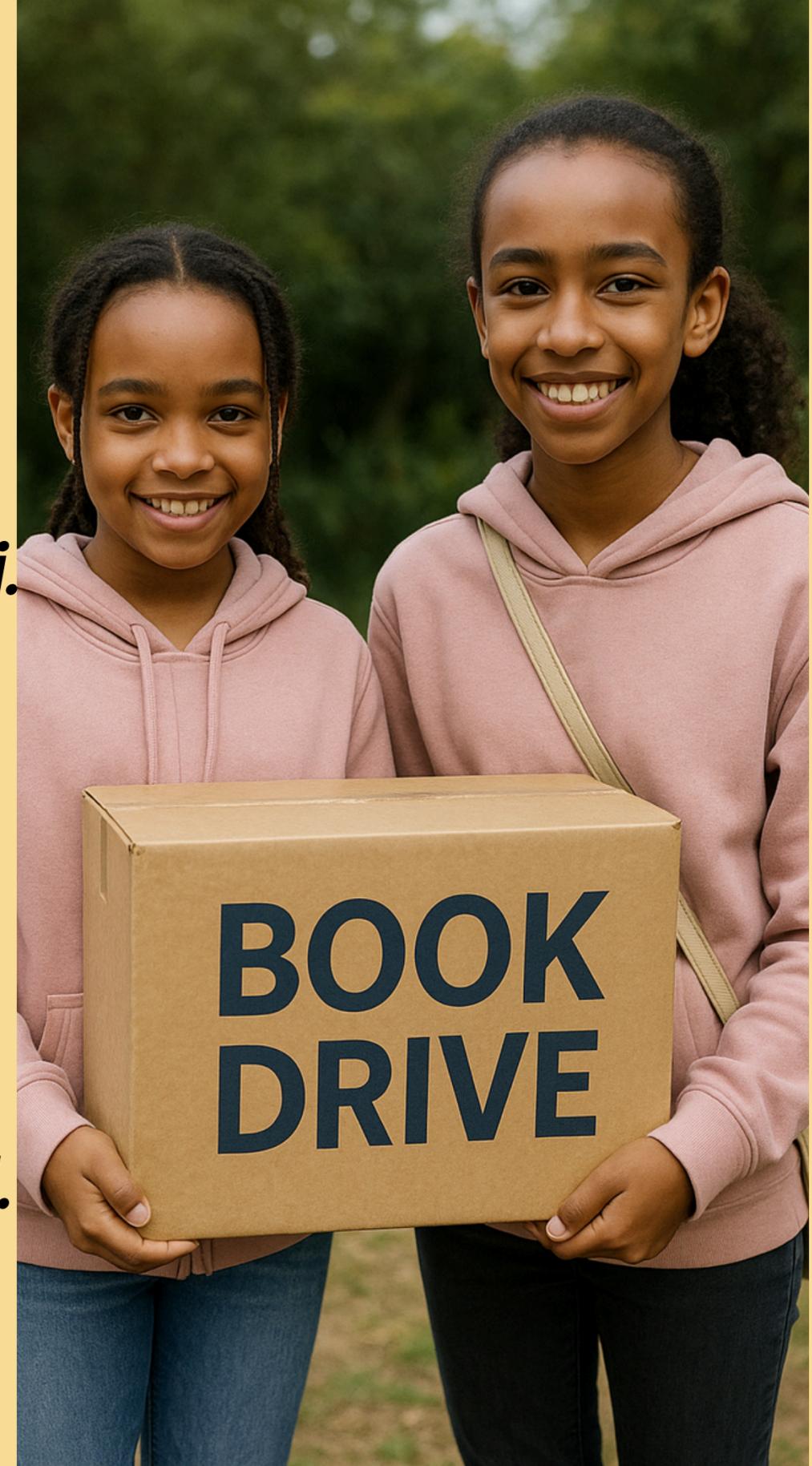
***Our dad grew up in a small village called Kathonzweni.***

***When we visit our grandparents, we play in the fields,  
herd cattle, & help with milking the cows.***

***It's a place filled with Love, Laughter &  
Beautiful Memories.***

***Beyond the fun, we visit village homes, share meals,  
and donate books, clothes, and toys to those in need.***

***As Mum always says:  
"If you don't use it, bless someone who will."***



# The moment that inspired us

In Rural Kenya, many children grow up without access to storybooks or electricity,  
But with an unshakable thirst to learn.

When we visited Kathonzweni Primary School,  
we were surprised to find there was no library at all.

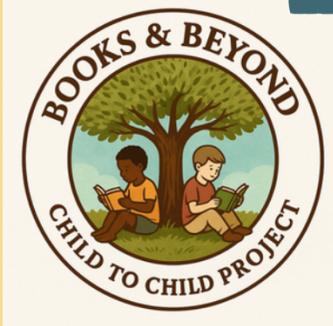
Miss Rosinah, the Principal, said:

*"Most of our 350 students have never read a book outside their textbooks."*

That moment inspired us..

To bring knowledge, color, and imagination..

To give an equal chance to children like us.



*Because When kids read, they grow,  
& the whole world grows with them!*

# Kathonzweni HGM Primary School

## Barriers to Learning..



### Physical Environment

#### Poor Infrastructure

Cracked floors, leaking roofs, and no furniture make learning hard.

### Working Conditions

#### Dilapidated Staff Offices

Cramped, neglected spaces hurt teacher morale and focus.

### Learning Resources

#### No Library & Learning Materials

No storybooks, creative supplies, or a space to grow literacy & Imagination

### Isolation from Broader Learning Communities

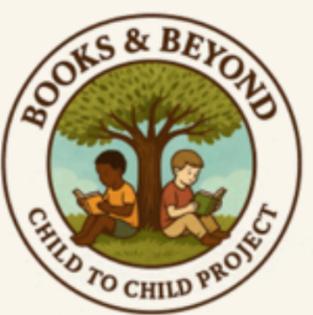
#### No Peer Exchange

No exposure to better-resourced or global learning environments.

### Educational Depth & Imagination

#### Textbooks-only Learning

Little room for curiosity, creativity, or critical thinking.

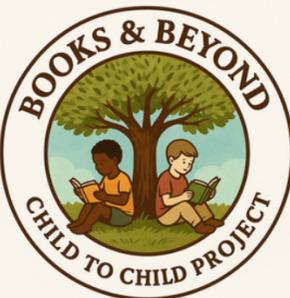


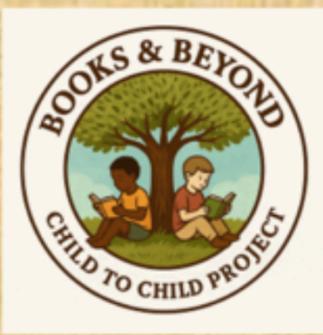
# ✨ The Heart Behind the Project



Books & Beyond was born out of love, empathy, a desire to share stories... Connect children across schools & countries through ideas, inspiration & imagination.

We aim to transform Kathonzwani HGM into a safe, motivating space by bridging gaps in learning resources & reading tools to give every child a chance thrive..





# Expected Outcomes

## **A Safe, Child-Friendly Library**

A welcoming space where over 350 students can read, learn, & dream.



## **Upgraded Staff Spaces**

Enhanced workspaces for teachers to plan, collaborate, and support student learning.



## **Stronger Readers, Brighter Minds**

Children will build literacy skills, improve in school, and grow into curious, creative thinkers through the power of storybooks.



## **Equal Access for All**

Inclusive learning for girls, boys, and children with special needs.



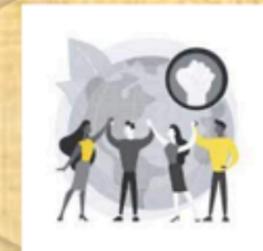
## **Stronger Community Connections**

Urban and rural students learning together through reading events & exchange visits.



## **Empowered Young Leaders**

Children gain confidence, leadership skills, and a sense of purpose by driving real change.





# Books & Beyond – Phases of Transformation

Phase & Timeline	Key Activities	Resources Needed	Expected Outcomes
<b>Phase 1: Digital Launch (2025)</b>	<b>-Launch student-led website- Set up dashboard &amp; donation links</b>	<b>-Hosting, design tools- Mentorship &amp; content creation</b>	<b>-Live platform updating donations- volunteer engagement- &amp; Progress</b>
<b>Phase 2: Infrastructure Support (2025)</b>	<b>- Renovate library &amp; staff workroom- Add book shelves &amp; furniture</b>	<b>- Roof &amp; Floor Repairs, Paint, Lighting &amp; Furniture</b>	<b>- Safe, welcoming spaces for 350 students &amp; staff. Improved learning conditions</b>
<b>Phase 3: Library &amp; Early Learning Setup (2025–2026)</b>	<b>- Run book drives- Early childhood materials, art kits &amp; digital tools- Involve student clubs</b>	<b>- Storybooks, toys, digital kits &amp; art supplies,</b>	<b>- Rich literacy resources- Active student participation- Boost in early learning</b>
<b>Phase 4: Literacy Promotion &amp; Peer Learning (2026 onward)</b>	<b>- Start reading clubs &amp; events- Train peer mentors &amp; reading buddies</b>	<b>- Training guides, books- Mentorship support</b>	<b>- Strong reading culture- Confident student leaders- Better comprehension &amp; expression</b>

# 📖 How the Library is Managed: Clear Roles & Ownership.

## 📌 Ownership & Oversight

The library is owned by the School & is dedicated solely to learning..

Oversight by the Principal, retired headteacher & church representative.

Supported by the PTA through a small termly fee for maintenance.

## 🔍 Systems & Accountability

Book lending is tracked by teachers and student volunteers.

The project ensures legal compliance, child protection & data privacy.

[www.booksandbeyond.org](http://www.booksandbeyond.org) will share updates, reports, & financial transparency.

## 🌱 Youth Leadership

Surina & Keisha lead events, project updates, and peer mentoring.

Encourage child-led action, creativity, & responsibility.



## Parent & Community Involvement

Parents manage funds, outreach, & governance roles.

Volunteers support reading sessions.

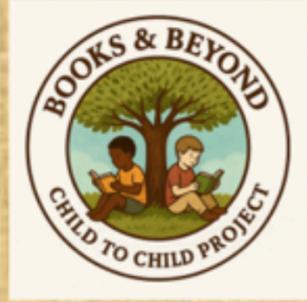
Surina's family will offer accommodation for visiting youth leaders & collaborators





# What We've Done So Far

## 5 Key Milestones



✓ Secured Official Support & approval from school management and local authorities.



Project Awareness & Advocacy -  
Created a YouTube video, Keisha gave a graduation speech to engage her school's CSR team.

📦 Resource Mobilization

-

Collected books & toy donations & outreached to overseas schools.



Level 5



Level 4



Level 3



Level 2



Level 1

🌐 Project Tools & Fundraising -

Launching the website, finalized cost estimates, & reached out to potential donors & well-wishers.



📖 Library Setup Preparations-  
Surina and team will spend their summer holidays arranging the classroom, covering and labeling books, preparing borrower ledgers & engaging readers.



# What Makes Books & Beyond Unique



## Empowerment Through Peer Leadership

Young people lead the way—proving age is no barrier to impact. They grow in empathy, leadership, and responsibility.



## A Global Connection

Through pen pals, shared stories, and exchange visits, Books & Beyond links children across continents.



## Hands-On Learning & Innovation

Children design websites, plan library spaces, and run book drives—gaining real-world tech and teamwork skills.



## Built on Hope and Community Spirit

We're turning broken classrooms into joyful learning spaces—powered by kind families, schools, and friends.



# BOOKS & BEYOND

## A Child-to-Child Project Empowering Children in Rural Kenya



### DONATE BOOKS, EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, TOYS & LIBRARY ITEMS

Help set up the Library at Kathonzweni HGM

# Student Population



6e

PP1 & PP2 (Pre Primary)	
Girls	Boys
22	24
Total - 46	



Primary Section (Grade 1-6)	
Girls	Boys
98	107
Total 206	

Total of 350	
Girls	Boys
175	175



Junior Secondary (Grade 7 to 9)	
Girls	Boys
53	46
Total - 99	

# KATHONZWENI HGM PRIMARY SCHOOL



★ Thank You

📖 Books & Beyond:  
Children Leading Change

*Bringing stories, imagination, and  
opportunity to Kathonzweni*

✅ Join Us in Making a Difference 📖

*Donate books, toys, or funds*

🏠 *Partner with your school or  
organization*

🤝 *Volunteer your time or skills*

📢 *Spread the word*

📞 Contact details

+254-728435012

✉️ [priyadharshinidias@gmail.com](mailto:priyadharshinidias@gmail.com)

Nairobi, Kenya