

PRESS RELEASE



SCHOOL REKINDLE HELL'S KITCHEN

Independent school caterers, *The Brookwood Partnership Ltd*, helped the pupils and staff of Aldenham School, Hertfordshire, to stage their very own version of television's, "Hell's Kitchen".

The event, which took place on the 20th March, was organised to raise funds for two charities supporting schools in Africa. The total amount raised was £8397.58.

The menus were prepared and cooked by two opposing teams, the pupils and the teaching staff, led by James Fowler, Headmaster of Aldenham School. The two teams worked throughout the day to each prepare a three-course dinner for parents who paid £35 a head to sample their dishes.

"It was a superb idea, a great way to raise money and it was excellent to have the teaching staff, the Brookwood staff and the pupils working alongside each other to produce some really great food," said James Fowler.

Parents were invited to vote for either the 'Blue Menu' or the 'Red Menu' without knowing whether the pupils or teachers had created the dishes. At the end of the night the volume of applause for each team was measured, results were officially ratified and the pupils emerged victorious.

"We just want to thank them for choosing the best team" said sixth former student chef, Dave Cotter. "You couldn't have asked for a better team and we will be happy to show the teachers a few moves; if they need some lessons on cooking in the future."

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As well as advising on the preparation, cooking and presentation of the dishes, employees of Brookwood also supported the pupils who acted as waiters on front of house.

Build Africa is the charity that will be helped by the fundraising event. The charity has coordinated the construction of a new classroom block at Bunyama School, Uganda; thanks to fund-raising by Brookwood and Ripple Africa, which has a close relationship with Aldenham School.

“The children of Bunyama are taught in very different conditions compared to the facilities here at Aldenham School, but by getting involved in an event like this, Brookwood and Aldenham are helping the education of Bunyama’s pupils and also giving them the chance to change their own lives,” said James Gambrell from Build Africa.

The original idea for the event came from Aldenham School Chaplain, Daniel Bond.

“Brookwood were brilliant” he said. “They are very much part of our community and they helped to turn what was a dream into a reality”.

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