



April 2016  
#19

# NEWSLETTER

EDUCATION  
*for all*

## Education For All Supporters



## Interview with Khadija studying in Marrakech



*"When you see the flower, you know the fruit will come and it will be nice! When I think of education I think that the future will be good."*

First of all, a big Happy New Year to all our readers and supporters. We have started 2016 with 5 houses running, full of motivated and optimistic girls, who know they have a great future ahead due to being able to get an education. The success of EFA is for them and thanks to all of you who support us financially and otherwise. We wanted to share the new EFA video with you.

We hope you like it and please share it far and wide.

<https://vimeo.com/139221987>





## Fundraising Update



### What we need for 2016 and how you can help

As we look forward, we can see that by expanding our number of houses means we have 50 more places for girls to receive a secondary education. Now the celebrations are over, and the girls are settled in, we also need to ensure that we can meet the new costs for the extra house as well ensure we can guarantee maintaining running all the houses for years to come. **We need to raise 200 000€ (£160 000) this year and next year.** We can do this with a combination of grants, large donations and also with people like you raising money through all kinds of activities like sponsored walks and marathons, cake sales, Moroccan dinners, as

well as asking for donations on your birthday and on your wedding gift list. Contact Sonia for more inspiration: [sonia@efamorocco.org](mailto:sonia@efamorocco.org). If you would like to raise money for EFA this year, or know a person or a school who might like to sponsor a girl and fundraise for us, please contact Sonia for more information.



*Here are some of the BGS students picking litter to raise money as part of their EFA week!*

### Bristol Grammar School

BGS, long term supporters. This year we were their charity of the year and they raised over £4000! This will be put towards the new AV room in Asni 3 and the solar-heating system there. **We are so grateful for BGS and all our school supporters who raise money for us each year.**



### Etape update: new video and registration details

A great way to fundraise for EFA is to take part in the Marrakech Atlas Etape, a cycling sportive run by EFA each April . On Sunday 24th April 2016, over **200 cyclists from Morocco and other parts of the world will don their lycra and tackle the Ouka monster.** This is a fun, multi-level event into the High Atlas Mountains. Breathtaking views are guaranteed. Taking place over the weekend means there is a chance to make a trip of it, spending time in the exotic city of Marrakech and enjoying its delights, before taking part in the race which is extremely well organized with water stations, delicious snacks and a celebratory fundraising dinner at the end.

**For more information , we invite you to visit the website [www.marrakech-atlas-etape.com](http://www.marrakech-atlas-etape.com) or contact Sonia [sonia@efamorocco.org](mailto:sonia@efamorocco.org).**



**PaperSeed** Foundation

## Paperseed: support and article

This article by one of our funders in 2015, gives some keen and powerful insights into the importance of educating girls and mentions the work of EFA for their efforts to bring solutions to this area.

[www.paperseed.org/blog/2015/12/8/creating-solutions-for-moroccos-rural-girls](http://www.paperseed.org/blog/2015/12/8/creating-solutions-for-moroccos-rural-girls)

## TheDutch4Kids



Another key supporter this year is a Dutch charity, **TheDutch4Kids** who organise an annual charity golf day in Holland to support a variety of charities. As of 2015, Education for All Morocco has been selected as one of their Partner Charities for a period of 3 years. **The event raised 25 000€ for EFA. This will sponsor a whole house for 2016.**

[www.thedutch4kids.nl](http://www.thedutch4kids.nl)

## CEGID

**FONDATION** Thanks to an article about EFA published in the Royal Air Maroc magazine, we were put in touch with a French IT company, **Cegid**, passionate about reaching young people who might otherwise fall through the digital gap. **With their financial support we were able to set up an IT room in our new boarding house.**

[www.facebook.com/FondationCegid](http://www.facebook.com/FondationCegid)



## Corporate Sponsorship- an exciting new package for companies!

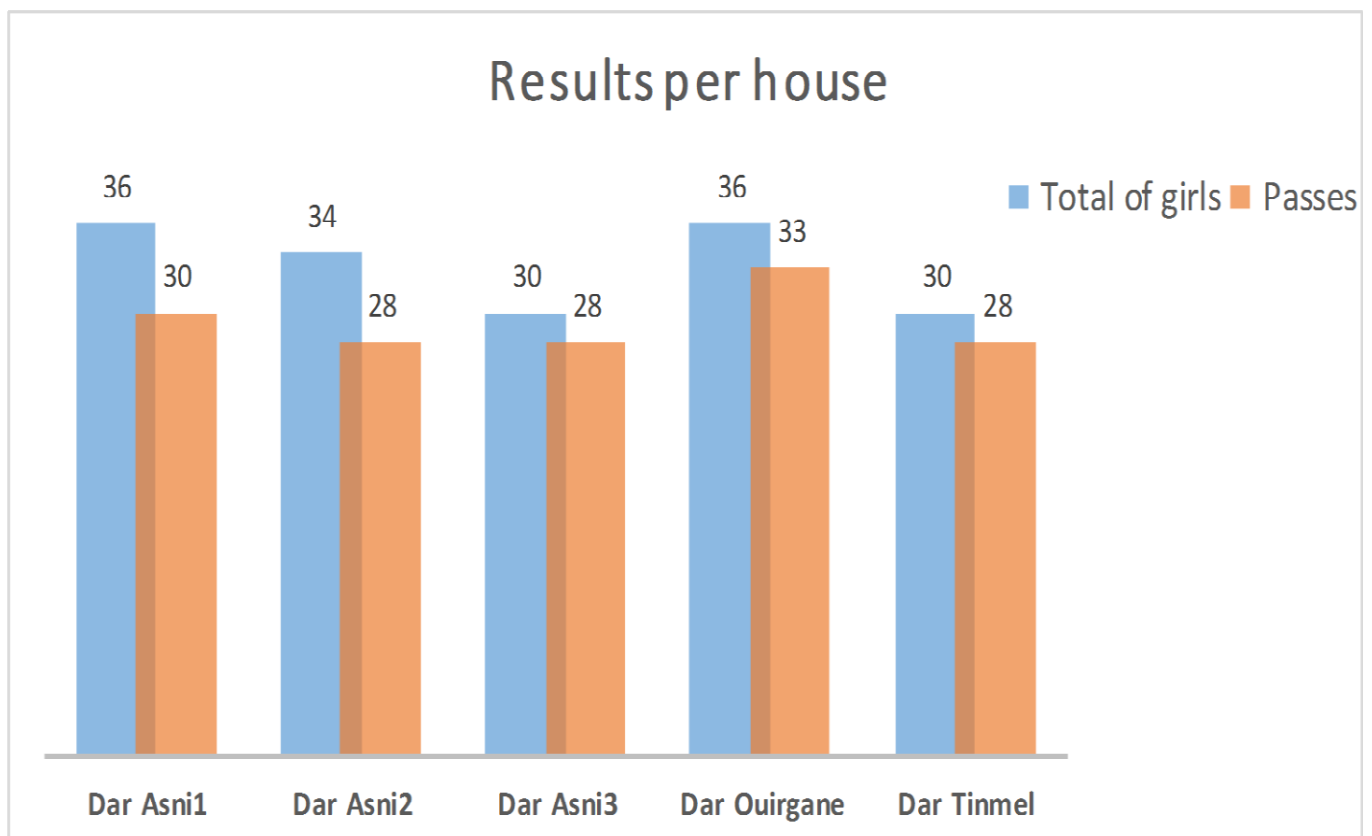
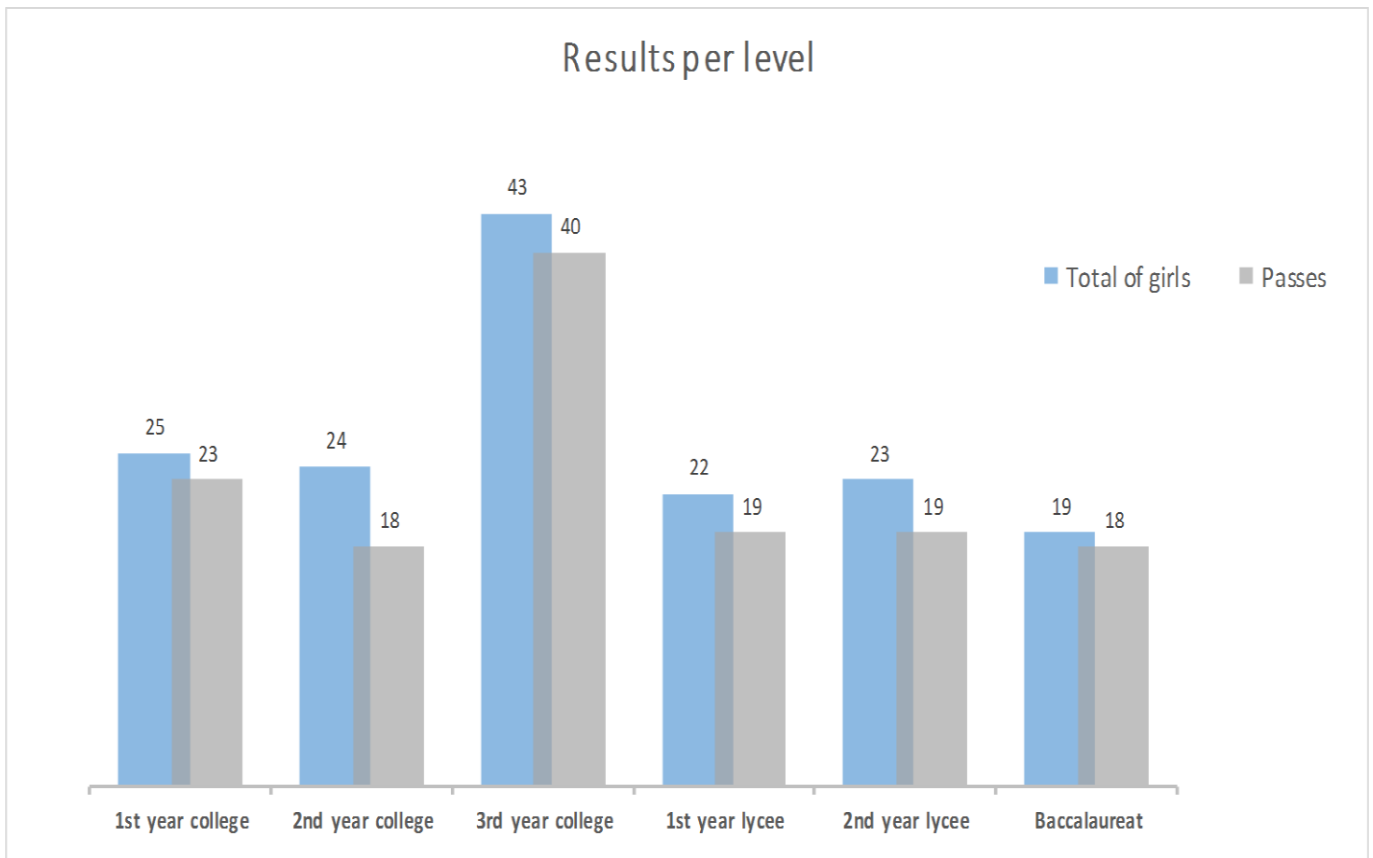
Corporate Social Responsibility is a great ally of any charity, and the perfect way for businesses to put something back into society. **We have developed a new Corporate Sponsorship pack** for large companies to small local businesses. This includes **sporting challenges** such as the Marrakech Atlas Etape and a trek to Mount Toubkal climb - a great way to bond any corporate team together! Sponsoring EFA can also include visiting the projects and developing a relationship with the houses being sponsored. Not only can this enhance your reputation with your clients and motivate your staff, it will also bring immeasurable benefit to the girls who live in these remote High Atlas villages.

**If you would like to sponsor our projects, enter into any of our Morocco charity events, or discuss a tailored package for your company, please contact [sonia@efamorocco.org](mailto:sonia@efamorocco.org).**



## First semester results

Once again our girls **worked very hard** and didn't give up ! **Congratulation** for these results, we wish them to continue and improve for the next semester. And this year 19 girls will pass the baccalaureat and try to reach the university level.





## Interview

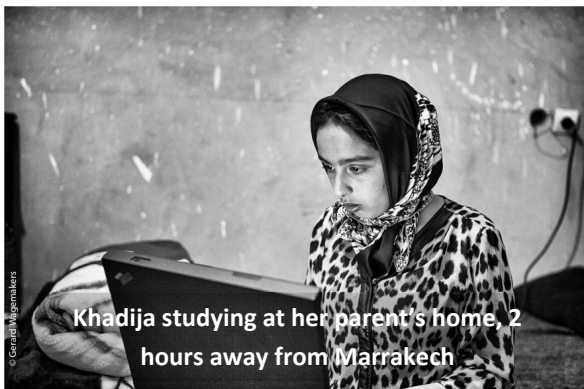
**Khadija** is 21 years old and is currently **studying Biology at the university in Marrakech**. She was among the first of the girls to ever stay on Dar Asni 1 when it opened.

### Why did you choose to study Biology?

My favourite subjects at school were biology and English, but I have always loved everything to do with biology and I knew that English would be something easier to pursue in my free time as I love to read. Biology is my passion and I find it always continues to be interesting.

### What do you hope to be when you're older?

I would like to complete my degree and then after getting a job I would like to go on and do a masters and a doctorate in the field of biology. Then I would either like to become a researcher and work in a lab, or a lecturer in biology at the university, so I can give something back while also continuing with my research. **I have always loved education.**



Khadija studying at her parent's home, 2 hours away from Marrakech

### How do you find living in Marrakech?

I very much enjoy living in Marrakech. It was quite a change to begin with having to adjust to a city after living all my life in a small village, but now I am used to it, although I do enjoy coming home sometimes on the weekends! I am currently living with a friend and her family which is great because living in Marrakech can be very expensive, and I am very appreciative that they have let me be a part of their family, however I find it very hard to work because there are lots of small children and noise! I am trying to get a job for over the summer so that I can work and earn some money to try and rent a place for myself for next year or the year after so that I am able to focus more on my work. I tried sharing with some other girls in my first year but it was also difficult because they always want to go out to parties and have fun but for me I enjoy studying and I want to be able to celebrate and have fun like this after my education is complete. I love studying, and I miss it in the holidays and during exams. I find it so amazing to listen to the lecturer speak with so much passion about something so interesting.

### How does everyone at home feel about your choice to carry on your studies?

**My father is very supportive** and he tries to help me in every possible way, but he is a mason and I have many other siblings who are at school still so it is very difficult. I can't wait until I am able to get a good job so I can put myself through my studies and I do not have to put so much pressure on him. **My whole family are amazing and give me so much support** and I hope I can be a good example for all my brothers and sisters.

### What have been the biggest challenges about starting university?

I found the first year very difficult and didn't pass my exams at the end of the year. All of the lectures are in French but I have nearly always been taught in Arabic so my French wasn't good enough to understand what was going on all the time. Everyone kept trying to convince me to change to English and said I wouldn't succeed with Biology but I knew I wouldn't enjoy it as much. After I failed my first year I went to visit an old high school teacher and told him I was thinking about changing to English. He said that he trusted completely that I could succeed in Biology and that I should stick at it. I decided instead to retake the year now that my French had improved. I had a lot more confidence after speaking to my teacher and it was easier once I started understanding French better. I am now very glad that I stayed with Biology.

Another challenge was that **in my village where I grew up everyone thinks you should stop studying and get a job** as early as possible, so they always talked about me and questioned what I was doing. After a while I stopped listening to them, but I am happy now that I am succeeding in my exams because I know that I was right despite everyone doubting me.

### Are you still in touch with Latifa and everyone from Dar Asni 1?

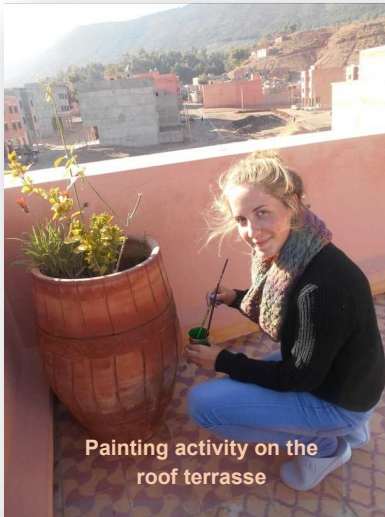
Yes, I often go back and visit Asni whenever I have time, in particular Asni 1. They are like a second family for me and they raised me half of the time when I was growing up. They gave me (and still do) so much care and advice, and stayed with me through everything, and that is impossible to just leave and let go. **I really hope that one day I can be a role model for the girls** in the boarding houses, to show them what they can achieve. I would love to be able to help the charity in the future by donating money and visiting the houses and to tell the girls that I was one of them once and that they have been given such an amazing opportunity by Education For All and they should make the most of it!

### Is there anything else you'd like to add?

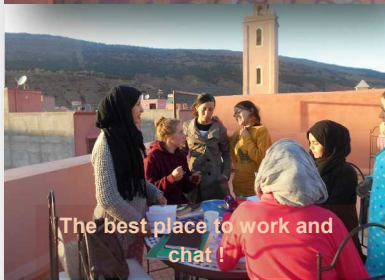
I'd like to say **thank you to everyone who works for EFA**. You have given me and so many others a **future** and **changed our lives** and I really appreciate everything you have done for us!



## Volunteers



Painting activity on the roof terrasse



The best place to work and chat!



Music lessons with the girls

My name is **Emily** and I am 19 years old.

I have just completed my A levels and am going to university in September to study French and Arabic. I am working with the girls in Dar Asni 2 teaching English and French, and I am also doing some singing and music with them. I have spent many years supporting EFA as a pupil at **Bristol Grammar School** and so it is great to be able to come and support the girls personally. I am really excited to be involved with such an important project and hope I can have a positive impact on their learning - both linguistically and culturally!

A term of working incredibly hard culminated in 2 intense weeks of important exams for the girls at the Lycée! Their dedication was unbelievable, working from 7 in the morning until 11 at night **determined to do their very best.**

When it was all over each of the boarding houses had a party to celebrate the end of exams and the beginning of the holidays! Our celebrations at Asni 2 were particularly special because it was the 18th birthday of Farida, one of the girls here. The evening began after dinner with everyone putting on their best clothes and then the next few hours were spent dancing. I was taught the differences between Berber and Arab dancing and put full effort into both - much to everyone's amusement.

After much dancing we sat down for a fantastic feast provided by our amazing cook Fatima, including mini pizzas and two types of cake. After a lot of singing and chatting and laughing, and happy birthday in 4 languages, we all headed off to bed exhausted!

A special **thank you** to **Hanneke** on behalf of all the girls and EFA for her kind donation of sofas and the beautiful paintings she made for Asni 3! They are such a perfect addition to the house.

We also thank her for helping the girls with their English and spread her dynamism and joy to everyone.

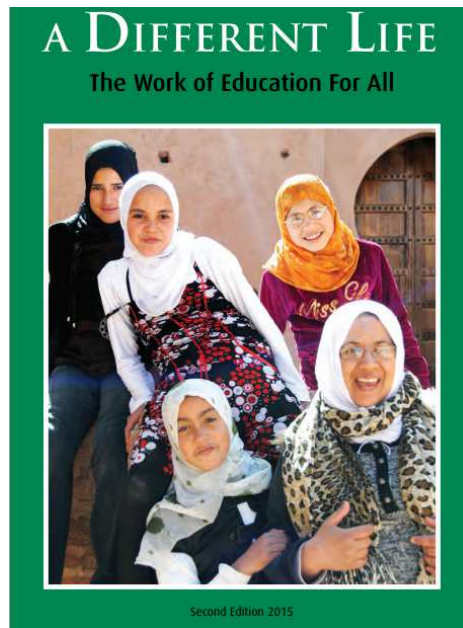




Want to know more about **Education For All?**

The **SECOND EDITION** of the excellent and thoroughly researched booklet written by **Derek Workman** can be downloaded by using the link below:

[www.efamorocco.org/p/ADifferentLife.pdf](http://www.efamorocco.org/p/ADifferentLife.pdf)



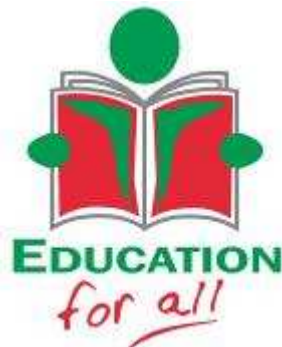
Want to get involved?  
Here are some ideas:

- Are you participating in an event and looking for a charity to donate your funds to? Visit <http://www.justgiving.com/efam/> to make a page where your funds go directly to the girls.
- Financially adopt a girl to ensure that she has the opportunity to complete three years of college education.
- Visit our website <http://www.educationforallmorocco.org/donate/index.html> for tips on how to donate.
- Are you a company looking to support us? Join our corporate sponsors.

**Education for All,  
Morocco  
Immeuble El Batoul,  
2eme étage,  
N° 5, Ave  
Mohammed V,  
Guéliz,  
Marrakech, Morocco**

**Tel: +212 (0)5 24 42 19 96  
Tel: +33 4 66 45 83 95**

**[www.efamorocco.org](http://www.efamorocco.org)  
[info@efamorocco.org](mailto:info@efamorocco.org)**



*Do you have at least 3 months to give to help girls in rural Morocco?*

**If you  
educate a  
girl, you  
educate the  
next  
generation**

## **Volunteers Required**

Education for All have five boarding houses for girls, three in Asni (45km from Marrakech), one in Ouirgane (60 km from Marrakech) and one in Talat n'Yacoub (100km from Marrakech).

We are seeking volunteers who would be willing to live and work in each of our houses to support the girls with their studies.

- **Your main job** will be to help the girls with their homework and give them **extra French lessons**.
- You will also **help the housemothers** with their daily tasks.
- **Help EFA** to be connected with the donors.



**Recruiting now for 2016-2017.**

If you are interested in volunteering to assist the girls in Morocco, please contact

[info@efamorocco.org](mailto:info@efamorocco.org)