

Education for
All
Morocco

Education for All

WE WANT TO GIVE GIRLS
THE CHANCE OF A COLLEGE
EDUCATION IN MOROCCO
BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT
IF YOU EDUCATE A GIRL,
YOU EDUCATE THE NEXT
GENERATION AS WELL.

"Alone we can do little, together we can do much"

Cold kicked by keeping active



Sam from Eagles Nest parties with the girls before starting an intensive first aid course

Important Events in the House

- Sam visited to train the girls in First Aid in November
- The girls visited Terres d'amanar in December
- All girls have shiny new teeth after a shipment of toothbrushes were delivered
- Linda left the house in February
- Amanda Scott visited from the International School in Nice

With winter in Asni being a very cold time, the girls were lucky to be kept so busy this year that they barely noticed the cold (well, sort of)!

The girls have had First Aid Training, they spent an exciting day at the leisure centre, their teeth are shiny now that they have new toothbrushes, and they have shown their delighted parents around the house.

And, of course, the girls have been studying hard! Although the older girls have found the second year of college has increased in difficulty, all of the girls are applying themselves to their studies.

Latifa has taken on more responsibilities in the house. With this, we have welcomed a new lady into the house. Latifa Deux is from Moulay Brahim and she will now do the cooking for the girls. The EFA team met at Kasbah du Toubkal in January to assess the progress of the

house and any needs that would be addressed this year. Latifa has since overseen some excellent maintenance projects that have ensured the house remains in good condition.

The repairs to the house involved repainting the stairwell due to water damage and repainting the cupboards in the kitchen. The fixtures in the house have all been put in place to ensure it is functional as well as beautiful! We have finally begun the long-awaited garden and the roof terrace looks great with new washing lines. We also now have mirrors in the bathrooms, which have seen lots of lovely hairstyles emerge!

Along with overseeing these changes and learning new skills, Latifa has implemented an awards system with

the girls to ensure that they are members of a functioning, clean house whilst they are studying hard.

The girls were thrilled to receive these awards as well as a small gift which was related to the prize.

There are a large number of groups travelling to Morocco in the coming months who intend to visit the house and work with the girls. We look forward to a busy end to the school year.

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*From the team at
Education For All*



Above: The proud girls and their awards Below: Mouna receives the English Award from Linda

Get involved!

Want to get involved? Here are some ideas:

- Visit our website at <http://www.efamaroc.org/donate/index.html> for tips on how to donate.
- Are you a company looking to support us? Join our corporate sponsors.

- 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 six years of college education.

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www.educationforallmorocco.org

A job well done!

On February 7th, the girls were presented with new awards according to their participation in the life of the house. We feel it is important to teach the girls household skills and how to be good citizens and to reward them for their efforts.

The awards consisted of the Best Bedroom, Cleanest Cupboard, Cleanest Clothes, First to Wake Up, Most Helpful in the Kitchen, Best House Cleaner, Best in English, Most Studious and the Best Marks at school.

'it is important to teach the girls household skills and how to be good citizens'

The girls dressed themselves in their finest clothes as they were very excited about the proceedings. They applied makeup, and some of them even went without their hijab! A very special occasion indeed.

Our favourite award was the Girl with No Marks. This means that this girl had no 'demerit points' attributed to her name after 5 months. This is impressive!



It means that she did not leave her possessions lying around, and she has taken care of her things. This award was given to Fatima Bachki—she loves the new school equipment that she was given.

The doors of Dar Asni were open on this day to the parents of the current girls, as well as prospective parents. However, poor weather conditions unfortunately kept them away. It is hoped that the parents, who will travel long distances to be here, will join us at a later date to celebrate the success of their girls. It is also hoped that prospective parents of deserving girls will visit and submit an application in April for the new school year.

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First Aid Guest Leaves Gap in House

In November, the house was abuzz as the vibrant Sam from The Eagle's Nest came to visit. Over two days, she trained the girls in First Aid, Luckily she was here to attend to some minor first aid incidents (a bit of a coincidence, but some attention from the girls' favourite Brit—sorry Mike soon sent the tears away).



The girls were so thrilled to share some Moroccan delicacies with Sam. She was treated to Mesmen, couscous, tagines and plenty of Moroccan Tea.

After her visit, Sam has remained someone who the girls think of and ask after often. They loved receiving postcards from Sam about her life in France. ش



Cats and calendars

A huge thanks goes out to Claire Barry who has been a great contact for the house. Claire knows the importance of exposing the girls to a range of cultural differences, and she has actively enabled this by providing the girls with a DVD player, some DVDs and some books.

The girls have loved watching Sesame Street (the cat drinking a saucer of milk took some explaining) and various other English and French DVDs. They have also purchased some Arabic and Berber films and music. One girl finally feels at home because she can now listen to the same music her mother plays—no more tears!

Claire sent a lovely letter from Oxford in England, along with a calendar of the town. This also took a lot of explaining!!! Thank you very much, Claire! ش

Spotlight on: Mouna

Name: Mouna
Age: 12
Father's Name: Hassan
Mother's Occupation: House Cleaner and exhausted mother of baby Houda
Favourite Subject: Informatique
When I am 20, I see myself: studying to become a forensic pathologist at university. I have seen this new job in movies on the television. ش



Terres D'amanar

Utterly exhausted, but thrilled, the girls flopped into bed very early after a day at Terres d'amanar, in Tahannoute. The day started with a few hurdles as we had no water in the house! But, we quickly got ready and then headed to the site in a big green bus.

The d'amanar team met us with a glass of tea and then it was into the activities. The girls were a little nervous when they were handed helmets and told to 'Yallah'.



Looking up at the high ropes course caused a few tears to begin with, but almost all of the girls made it through the whole course.

We had a quick stop for a picnic lunch—a very rare occurrence in Morocco! We

enjoyed sandwiches, soft drink, yoghurt and fruit before hitting the flying foxes.

The staff were great with the girls, assisting them and making them feel at ease. There was even an impromptu singing session when the girls realised the staff spoke Arabic and Berber!



The girls were complimented on their wonderful behaviour, their kindness to each other, and their faith in Allah when facing the large flying foxes. They were so brave and they had a great time because of it.

The bus was MUCH quieter on the journey home.

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Spotlight on: Saida

Name: Saida

Age: 15

Village: Tachedirt

Siblings Names: Fadma, Zahra, Fatima, Hamid, Ibrahim, Abdul Latif, Rashid

Favourite Subject: Arabic Language

When I am 20, I see myself: studying to doctor at university and I want to get married. I would not like to stay at home!

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Clean Teeth!

As the girls were recovering from their depression after Sam left, they were sparked up again by a delivery of toothbrushes.

The girls experience various issues with their teeth, the common remedy for which is a trip to the souk for an extraction (ouch).

With a lesson from Linda, talking, brushing and showing, the girls started brushing with enthusiasm. Hopefully this trend will continue!

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Education for All

www.efamaroc.org

Morocco

Volunteer Required



Education for All have opened a house for girls in Asni, 45 km from Marrakech. We are seeking a volunteer who would be willing to work in the house to support the house mother in both house and administrative duties.

- Your work in the house will involve cooking, sharing cultural experiences and teaching basic English and computer skills.

- You should be open to trying new things and willing to share your own customs and recipes.

Do you have 3 or 6 months to give to help girls in rural Morocco?

- Your working conditions will be flexible to accommodate the aspects you would like to focus on during your stay.

Recruiting now for 2009/2010.

If you are interested in volunteering to assist the girls in Morocco, please contact info@educationforallmorocco.org





Education for All, Morocco
Immeuble El Batoul, 2eme étage,
N° 5, Ave Mohammed V, Guéliz,
Marrakech, Morocco
Tel: 00 33 4 66 45 83 95

info@educationforallmorocco.org

**EDUCATION FOR ALL
MOROCCO**

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

Volunteer teachers

In February, we were delighted to welcome Amanda Scott to Dar Asni for a week. Amanda teaches at the International School of Nice...

"My suitcase weighed in at just under 22 kilos as I departed from Nice airport, but it was not an extravagant wardrobe that was the culprit on this trip. It was loaded down with books, DVDs and software, all purchased with the money that our class had raised with great energy and creativity during Africa Day last May."

Amanda has worked with her students to raise money for Education for



All, and in June 2008, a small group of students from ISN visited the boarding house and met some of the girls. "During the February break I was thrilled to have the opportunity to visit and work as a voluntary teacher at *Dar Asni* for several days. My mission was to advise the association and help coordinate an extra-curricular program of studies for the girls to follow. This involves mainly teaching English, but suggestions were also given for drama, art, music and IT activities which could be taught by Latifa and future volunteer teachers."

Upcoming Events:

BIKE TRIP MARCH 2009:

Sat 28th March to Sat 4th April 2009

There is still the opportunity to join us for a day or two on our 2009 cycling holiday. If you would like to raise funds for Education for All, stay in some lovely Riads in Marrakesh, and take part in some cycling through the spectacular scenery around Marrakesh, get in touch!

More information here:

www.kasbahdutoukbal.com/education/bikeholiday.html



OPEN DAY AT THE HOUSE APRIL 26:

Dar Asni Open Day

*Join us to celebrate the girls' successes,
and our first anniversary!*

"World change starts with educated children."

Sunday 26th April, 2009

11.00hrs - Girls' Boarding House, Asni

13.00hrs - Kasbah du Toubkal, Imlil

Come for coffee, meet the girls and visit Dar Asni
Afterwards an invitation to a charity Mechouie lunch at
Kasbah du Toubkal

500Dh/£40 All proceeds go to "Education for All Morocco".

To reserve your place, go direct to:

www.justgiving.com/opendayspring09

TOUBKAL ASCENT MAY 30-31



May 2009 Toubkal summit expedition...this is not a doddle but achievable by anyone who can walk and is reasonably fit.

Come and join us...anyone who lives in Marrakech and has not summited Toubkal now is your chance and anyone who wants to join us and summit North Africa's highest peak.

More details here:

www.kasbahdutoukbal.com/education/toubkalascent.html

For more information, visit our website:

www.educationforallmorocco.org