

**Visitor Assembly:**  
**James from Kisuma, Kenya**



11 October 2016



In Romsey there is a coffee shop, run by volunteers and by the charity, Citizens for Change.

The charity was set up to support the children of Kisumu through learning and education and is run by two very dedicated people. One of those, James, came over to the UK for two weeks, and we were lucky enough for him to come to our school and run one of our assemblies.

James talked about the school in Kisumu and the children that study there along with the differences and experiences. (The determination and dedication of the children and teachers is admirable, for example, some time ago in the middle of the night local county officials bulldozed the school and its contents leaving the children with no place to study and some close to end of year exams. Through unbelievable resilience they salvaged what they could and started over.)

The children listened to his stories and watched a video before asking James questions about his life and the life of school children in Kisuma.

We reflected on what we heard and recognised that, whilst there may be differences, there are also huge similarities to the needs of children in Kenya and the needs of children in the United Kingdom. We referred to the Harvest Festival assembly and the food to be donated to food banks in Lordshill, as well as the importance of an education to all children.

