

# John Aves Education Project

## Welcome to the Summer 2022 Newsletter

Thank you for your continuing support of the John Aves Education Project (JAEP).

### JAEP headlines

#### Russian invasion of Ukraine

£ has fallen to a two year low against the US\$ amid rising concerns about recession around the world as energy prices continue to soar. This is compounded by slow UK economic growth. JAEP tuition fees are paid in US\$. In October 2021 our future commitments for current students for the next three years was approximately £90,856, because of the weak pound this is now approximately £106,907. A difference of + £16,051. This will impact on the number of young adults we will be able to financially support from October 2022.

With the worsening picture, we continue to be hugely appreciative of the support from over 40 regular standing order donors. We have also received an increasing number of online donations.

### Students

Seven laptops funded by the [Britain Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends \(Quakers\)](#) have been bought and distributed to JAEP students.

[Unipal](#) have confirmed funding for a Midwifery student at Bethlehem University for the remaining three years of their undergraduate course, starting the academic year 2021/22.

The 2022 scholarship call at [Al Quds University](#) ended on 23/06/22. We have received 11 applications all from girls studying Architecture, Medicine, Midwifery, Nursing, Psychology, and Radiology. We plan to shortlist and then conduct online interviews with Al Quds applicants by the end of July. We are also expecting a few applications from [Bethlehem University](#) before the end of July.

We are delighted to say that we are making plans to return to Jerusalem and Bethlehem in March 2023. As in previous visits we will spend time at both universities and Dheisheh Camp.

### Fundraising The Big Give Christmas Challenge Campaign

With the background of a deteriorating exchange rate, we are thrilled to announce that we have been successful in our application to The Big Give Christmas Challenge Campaign. The Campaign will run from 29/11/22 until 06/12/22. For further information on the history of the Big Give as well as previous campaigns visit, [www.thebiggive.org.uk/s/christmas-challenge](http://www.thebiggive.org.uk/s/christmas-challenge).

### Would you like to know more about our work?

As Covid restrictions continue to ease and organisations are returning to normal, we would be delighted to join you in person to share our students' stories and discuss the work of JAEP

## More information about JAEP students

**JAEP has awarded scholarships** to 70 young adults to date, (52 female, 18 male). From October 2022, 24 JAEP students are progressing to another year of study, (19 at Al Quds University, 5 at Bethlehem University).

We will begin to offer more scholarships beginning in October 2022 for young adults living in Dheisheh Palestinian Camp to study at either Al Quds University in East Jerusalem or Bethlehem University in Bethlehem. Prior to offering scholarships JAEP ensures that it has sufficient money to fund the young adult for the entirety of their undergraduate course.

### Laptops for JAEP students studying at Al Quds University

JAEP was successful in the application to Quaker Peace and Social Witness (QPSW) part of the Britain Yearly Meeting of The Religious Society of Friends for £4000 to buy laptops for our most disadvantaged students. JAEP was able to make the application because the Norwich Quaker Meeting continue to support us, indeed we are 'an area of concern' for the members. The funding enabled the purchase of seven laptops. During the pandemic, when, teaching, learning and assessment was delivered online highlighted the challenges many students have in studying. Many share laptops with siblings or use mobile phones to access course material.

Our partners, The Financial Aid Department at Al Quds University have purchased seven laptops and allocated six laptops to the most financially needy students. The remaining laptop has remained in the department for emergency use by JAEP students. In partnership with the Financial Aid Department the students sign a contract prior to being issued with the laptop.

The allocation of the laptops to the six students was photographed and published on the university website on 20/04/22.

*' The Financial Aid Unit at Al-Quds University delivered laptops to students who received the John Aves Scholarship, with the aim of facilitating their studies in a manner consistent with the reality of total or partial e-learning, in the presence of the Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Abdul Raouf Al-Sanawi, and the external grants officer Dana Salloum' .*

Right a picture of Maha (medicine) receiving a JAEP laptop. We met Maha during

our last visit and joined one of her classes, Metabolic Chemistry. JAEP is funding Maha from 2019-2024. Maha has three siblings her father is a labourer.



## **More information about Fundraising**

### **What is the Big Give Christmas Challenge?**

The Christmas Challenge is the UK's largest online match funding campaign. The campaign is run by the Big Give online donation platform and has raised over £190 million since it started. It offers supporters of participating charities the opportunity to double their donations. For example, an online donation of £100 is doubled to £200. If Gift Aid is claimed, the donation could be worth £225. Donations are doubled whilst matching funds last.

### **Who matches the online donations?**

The matching pot used to double donations is made up of two parts. Part of the matching pot is funding that JAEP secures in the run up to the campaign from pledgers. The other part of the pot is funding from external 'Champions' who are sourced by the Big Give. Champions are external funders who can be trusts, foundations, corporations or philanthropists. Champion funds are ring-fenced for the charities they are supporting. The amount of Champion funds received by charities is dependent on their performance in the live campaign which runs from 29/11/22 to 6/12/22.

### **How can you help?**

By becoming a pledger.

Pledgers are supporters of JAEP. They will contribute to the matching pots by providing promises of funding. We have set ourselves a fundraising target of £4000. We need a minimum of £1000 pledged to enable us to take part in the campaign. A pledge must be a minimum of £100.

### **When do we need the pledges?**

Pledge promises must be made by 02/09/22, via an online pledge form found at <https://www.thebiggive.org.uk/s/pledge?campaignId=a056900002NEXUZAA5>. The funds pledged will not be collected until after the campaign has finished.

### **What next?**

Provided we have £1000 pledged by our supporters, Champions will consider our application to the Big Give and may choose to match the funds we raise. We will be notified in late September/ early October whether we have been selected by Champions.

### **And then?**

From early October to 29/11/22, we will publicise the Big Give Christmas Challenge to our supporters, supporting organisations and through local media. The live campaign runs from 29/11/22 to 06/12/22. All online donations made via [theBigGive.org.uk](https://www.thebiggive.org.uk) during the campaign are doubled by the funds from Pledges and champions.

Finally if you feel you can help by pledging funds, please use the online form on the Big Give website via the link given above.

**A date for your diary**, URC Ipswich Road from 6pm-9pm on 29/11/22 to watch a film linked to JAEP and hear an update on the work of the project. More information in our next Newsletter.

**To end, would you like to know more about Palestine/Israel? We can recommend the following websites:**

Amnesty International [www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-](https://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/israel-and-occupied-palestinian-)

[territories](#) Recent report by Amnesty International:  
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2022/02/israels-apartheid-against-palestinians-a-cruel-system-of-domination-and-a-crime-against-humanity/>

Human Rights Watch [www.hrw.org/middle-east/north-africa/israel/palestine](http://www.hrw.org/middle-east/north-africa/israel/palestine) Recent report by HRW: <https://www.hrw.org/report/2021/04/27/threshold-crossed/israeli-authorities-and-crimes-apartheid-and-persecution>

The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories. [www.btselem.org](http://www.btselem.org)

Thank you for your continuing support and for reading this Newsletter.

Enjoy your summer

Best wishes The JAEP Team