



Geofry

Githongoro is one of the most deprived areas of Nairobi, this is where Geofry lives and attends Compassion School. Geofry was born in July 2013.

Every **6 months** the children are all given a dose of **albendazole** to combat Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis (**STH**), one Neglected Tropical Disease that is simple to treat but has wide spread effects. Almost a **quarter** of the worlds population are **infected** at any one time, the majority are young children and particularly those living where **sanitation is poor** and open defecation occurs.

A young child like Geofry, can become **physically, nutritionally** and **cognitively impaired** when frequently re-infected by **STH**. This happens because the worms feed on host tissues, including blood, which leads to a loss of iron and protein and poor absorption of vital nutrients.

Porridge and Rice follows the **WHO strategy** for **controlling STH**:

- health and hygiene education to reduce transmission and reinfection by encouraging healthy behaviours; and
- provision of adequate sanitation such as hand washing facilities.



Porridge and Rice
Feeding for Education

Albendazole is donated to the ministry of health through the WHO, however, they do not always reach the children in informal schools where they are needed most. **Porridge and Rice** works with the **health authorities** to distribute the medicines and improve the health of the children.

Geofry was once on the **3rd**, the lowest percentile, for his height and weight, after **sustained nutrition** and regular **treatment for STH**, he now sits on the **25th**.

18/02/2016	3 rd 101.5cm, 14kg
13/10/2016	3 rd 106.5cm, 15.5kg
31/03/2017	3 rd 110.4cm, 16kg
21/06/2017	25 th 112cm, 18kg

