

Did you know that national Make a Difference Day is October 24th? Do you know someone at Maple Avenue who has made a difference halfway around the world? I bet you do! Her name is Leah Woods, an eighth grader in Excelsior House, and she has made a difference in the lives of over 350 people!

As part of her Bat Mitzvah project, Leah gave a portion of her Bat Mitzvah gifts, her allowances, her babysitting money, and raised donations at three of our spring concerts last year to purchase treated bednets (mosquito nets) for ALL the students, ALL the teachers, and ALL the support staff of a school called the Arlington Academy of Hope in a very remote village in eastern Uganda. Eastern Uganda lies in sub-Saharan Africa, where one child dies every 30 seconds due to the effects of malaria. The bednets will help prevent mosquito bites, which is how malaria is transmitted to humans.

If you see Leah in class or in the hall, please greet her, as they do in the village, with a "Well done!", and feel free to honor her by getting involved in Make a Difference Day in your community, or by simply making any day better for someone else.