

# young times

## Legacy of Louis Braille



**Lawrence Momanyi, 11,** lives in Nairobi, Kenya's capital. He developed eye problems after he was born and now is totally blind.

"There are children who are blind in my class as well as children who can see, and we all learn together in the same lessons. My parents could have sent me away to a school that is just for blind children, but my dad didn't want me to be alone so far away from home.

"My best friend is called Gassim, and he helps me by reading from the blackboard. Sometimes he carries my things to lessons. I spend a lot of my time at the resource centre using the computer. It has a special

program that reads out loud what I am writing, as I can't see the words on the screen. "I wanted to be a driver when I grow up, but my father says this is not possible, so now I want to be a doctor. I'm doing well at school, and my teacher says I perform better than some of the sighted children!"



**Heera Satnami, 14,** lives in a village in eastern India. She was born blind.

"I haven't been going to school for very long. My parents were used to me being at home and didn't see the need for me to go, so I was stuck at home. But a special-needs teacher spoke to them and they eventually changed their minds. A teacher began visiting me at home and taught me how to move about on my own, and wash and dress.

"Now I use a cane and come to school. I love it. I used to be shy and didn't make friends easily, but now I have lots. I'd like to be a teacher when I grow up so I can help children like me."

### Blindness facts

- There are 45 million blind people in the world, and one child goes blind every minute
- 75 per cent of blindness could be cured or prevented if the person had access to healthcare or a pair of glasses
- In developing countries, only 2 per cent of blind children go to school

Sightsavers combats blindness in the developing world. Find activities, illusions and puzzles at [www.sightsavers.org/kidzone](http://www.sightsavers.org/kidzone)



### PUZZLES

#### Dingbat

Which word or phrase is this? Say what you see

E CUSE

Friday's answer School of fish

#### Conundrum

What dessert can be made from these letters?

RATDUSTCART

Friday's riddle: A stamp

#### Puzzle of the day: mobile code

If JUDO is 5836 on this phone keypad, which sports have the following numbers?



- 1 7866
- 2 26957
- 3 527283
- 4 2767838
- 5 4543464

Friday's answer 1.Everest 2.Mont Blanc 3.Olympus 4.Snowdon 5.Fuji

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