



April 24, 2023

Dear Students on Kids Boost Immunity (KBI),

Did you know vaccines save 4.4 million lives every year¹? World Immunization Week is a reminder of the importance of vaccines to help kids stay healthy.

Thanks to your help, more children are getting protected against diseases through vaccination. Each quiz you answered on Kids Boost Immunity helped a child to get the vaccine they need. This school year, students like you answered 515,000 questions on KBI that provided more than 46,000 polio, tetanus and measles vaccines to kids worldwide.

This contribution is important, because there are kids missing out on routine childhood immunization. Many children around the world are not vaccinated. One in 5 kids are unvaccinated and under-vaccinated. This leaves children vulnerable to a range of preventable diseases: like measles, polio or human papillomavirus (HPV).

In Canada, an estimated 1 in 4 kids missed their scheduled shots in 2021, according to non-profit 19 to Zero. Education is crucial for helping people access and understand the life-saving vaccines available to us in Canada. Your contributions through KBI help people worldwide, but also make the importance of vaccination more appreciated and understood here at home. Through education, we can work towards ensuring that fewer Canadian kids miss their scheduled shots each year.

Vaccines help protect children against illness. Vaccinating children supports the health of friends, family and loved ones by promoting community immunity.

UNICEF is working tirelessly to make sure that every child, regardless of where they are, has access to the vaccines they need to not only survive, but thrive. With its partners, UNICEF reaches almost half of the world's children every year with lifesaving vaccines².

Esau, 11 months (pictured below), lives in Vanuatu. He was not able to get his vaccines because of the remoteness of his community. Now, with the health team bringing the service to his doorstep in the context of UNICEF's cyclone response, Esau will be immunized.

¹ UNICEF's "The State of the World's Children 2023: For every child, vaccination".

² <https://www.unicef.org/immunization>



Every child deserves access to vaccines. #VaccinesWork and help #BuildBackImmunity. Thank you for every lesson, every quiz, and every vaccine you earned! Keep it up!

Signed,

Linton Carter
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