

## **Project Update: August 2013**

### **Ile Perseverance day out Snorkeling**

While it might be the South East Monsoon, meaning that water temperature is currently at 23° C (winter temperature for Seychelles), this does not prevent Seychelles kids from getting wet. Therefore, it was no surprise, when we took some young Ile Perseverance school children snorkeling during the beginning of August 2013, that all students were very keen to get into the water, get wet and learn to snorkel.

Of course some kids eventually wanted to stop, not because of the cold, but because they were very, very scared as they realised that breathing through their nose would get them nowhere, but that it was difficult to remember to breathe through their snorkel. One of the boy hung onto me and would not let go until I took him to shore.

Some of the kids, bolder and determined to use the new snorkeling gears that we were handing out, took to the water and, within a short moment, had mastered the breathing techniques and wanted to get out to the reefs. They were so happy and proud that they were able to get out and see the fish and corals that you couldn't help but feel just as happy as they did. Even their teachers joined in the adventure, with the best part of the snorkeling trip being the sighting of two small anemone fish.

At the end of the day the students were very thankful and I will never forget when one of the small 9 years old girl said "I will never be able to explain what I saw and how I felt when I was out on the reef. Those who did not go out to the reef have absolutely no idea what they missed. We will never be able to thank you enough for teaching us to snorkel"



