

HOPELAND SCHOOLS: UGANDA
CHILD SPONSORSHIP NEWS LETTER
MARCH 2026



WELCOME TO OUR MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER!

Sponsorship is a commitment to support, nurture and encourage a child over time. We thank you for the commitment and walking this journey with us. Child Sponsorship is made possible because of you.

Child sponsorship is an opportunity to connect with your child, their family and the community at large. A child empowered, is a community empowered. As we bring you the latest updates about their school activities and their communities we pray you feel the connection.

COUNTRY ELECTION PERIOD

The school year and school term began a month ago. We thank God for his continued faithfulness. The Holiday was slightly extended this year to accommodate the country's presidential, parliamentary and local council elections.



Children in class concentrating

We are grateful that the election period concluded peacefully and life has smoothly returned to normal across the country. Schools are fully open and all our children are safe, happy and well settled in to their classes.

We thank God for the peace and stability we continue to enjoy and appreciate your ongoing prayers and support.

LAST CHRISTMAS SEASON

This past Christmas season was very wonderful, filled with great excitement for our children. Many of them were blessed to receive special Christmas presents from their sponsors. The Joy was evident as the children proudly wore their new clothes and shoes on Christmas day: A meaningful and memorable experience for each of them.

In addition to clothing, many also received scholastic materials, beddings and other thoughtful essentials that continue to support their daily lives.



Nicholas loved his Christmas clothes and shoes

As is our cherished tradition, our Director Mr Rutaisire Valence once again organized a joyful children's Christmas party for the entire village where all our children come from. The day was filled with the children's favorite treats like meat, rice and Soda, creating a warm atmosphere of celebration and togetherness. Children had lots of music, dancing and games.



Children's Christmas party

This year, however, there was an extra special surprise: a beautiful Christmas cake. The excitement it brought was unforgettable and truly elevated the celebration. For many of the children, it was their very first time enjoying such generous slices of cake. In the weeks that followed, the Christmas cake remained the happy talk of the village.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Director for the consistent love and care shown in making each child's Christmas so memorable. We are also deeply humbled by the kindness of our Cake Sponsor, John K and everyone who gave gifts to the children.

Your generosity continues to bring joy, dignity and hope in to their lives. As we look ahead, we warmly welcome and appreciate continued support in helping us create more beautiful moments like these for the children in our care. Thank you so much for being such an important part of their story.

2025 National Examination Results

We are delighted to share encouraging academic news from the 2025 national examinations. Our primary seven and senior four candidates sat their exams at the end of last year, and the results were released a few weeks ago.

We are proud to report that both of our primary schools performed exceptionally well, competing very favorably alongside well resourced town schools. Our senior four candidates also achieved strong results that made the entire school community very proud. Most importantly, all our children passed all their subjects and our school was ranked among the top performers in the district. This is a remarkable achievement that reflects the dedication and teamwork behind the scenes.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our Director, teachers and non teaching staff for their tireless commitment and support that made this success possible. To you our dear sponsors, we offer special thanks. Your faithful support enables our children to study without the distraction that often comes with unpaid school fees. Because of your generosity, they are able to focus, learn and excel. Together we are shaping brighter futures.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT HOPELAND SCHOOLS

We are happy to share some exciting developments that took place at both of our campuses during the holiday period.

At one campus that serves the Kindergarten and primary sections only, a beautiful new playground has been completed. The area is well fenced, colourful and equipped with a wide variety of play materials, including swings, slides, a merry go round, monkey bars, aeroplane slides, climbers and more.



The children's playground at Hopeland Junior school Kitoola

This addition has brought great excitement, fun and joy to our younger children. They happily move from one play item to another, enjoying every moment. Such a well equipped playground is very rare in village schools, making this truly a special blessing for our learners. We have already seen a growing enthusiasm and love for school among the children. We thank an anonymous donor for this playground.

At our second campus which has a secondary school, two new dormitories have been completed for one for boys and the other for girls. These modern dormitories are well ventilated and thoughtfully designed to provide a comfortable living environment. The students are extremely happy and deeply grateful. The new facilities will help us accommodate the growing number of children in our care.

We sincerely thank the Director for his dedicated leadership and vision. We are also deeply grateful to Mr. Chris Davis and all other donors who contributed to make these developments possible. who made the children's playground possible. Your kindness continues to make a lasting difference in the lives of these children



One of the new dormitory blocks at Hopeland High school Naija.

Important Updates on Giving Channels

We would like to remind all our valued sponsors that the Pismo Beach Rotary Account is no longer active. Going forward, we kindly ask that all tuition payments and donations be directed only through Hope land Volunteers account.

To strengthen our financial processes, we are pleased to further remind you that our chief Finance Officer, Dr Donna Tully, over sees the receipt and management of all sponsors funds. Any payment reminders or financial communications you may receive from Dr.Tully are part of our normal accountability procedures and should not cause any concern.

We deeply appreciate your continued trust, partnership and faithful support of our children

For donors who haven't sent their donations, please send checks to:

FRIENDS OF HOPELAND VOLUNTEERS and mail to:

C/o Donna Tully 1944 Westwood Lane

Brookings, OR 97415

USA.

SPECIAL WOMEN EDITION

In commemoration of the international women's day that is celebrated on 8th March. We bring you the women's edition.

In our efforts to transform lives in our communities, we find ourselves working with mainly women. In the sponsorship programme, it's no surprise that we find mainly single mothers and grandmothers. These are strong souls and powerful minds. We honor and appreciate their sacrifices, efforts, commitment and incredible contribution right from the household, community to the entire world. Very strong women who have not accepted society's thinking of their status quo. Women who have gone through terrible hardships that life has thrown at them yet they have not stood a loaf to feel sorry for themselves. Instead they are always searching for a ray of hope and at every given opportunity; their support is unwavering along the way.

It is in this very spirit that every year, we bring you a story of such women.

Celebrating Resilient Women: Percy's Story.

Percy is a mother of three children aged 12, 9 and 6 years. Her journey in to motherhood transformed her life. Before becoming a mother, Percy struggled with alcoholism, but the responsibility of raising children helped her turn her life around.

Sadly, tragedy struck shortly after the birth of her third child when the father of her children passed away. His death left Percy to face life alone with three young children, and the burden was over whelming. At times, she felt hopeless and close to giving up. Yet whenever she looked at her children, she found the strength to continue fighting for their future.



Percy and her three children at their current home

Housing has been one of her greatest struggles. With nowhere else to go, a kind Samaritan allowed Percy and her children to stay in an unfinished house while the owner searches for funds to complete construction. For now it is the only shelter they have, though they know they may have to leave once the house is finished. Despite challenges with her health, Percy refuses to sit back and give up. She takes on any casual work she can find: digging in people's garden, washing laundry or doing any small jobs available just to

provide basic necessities for her family. She once tried working in the sugar cane plantation but her health made it difficult to continue.

Today Percy carries a renewed sense of hope. One of her children has recently been confirmed for sponsorship and this opportunity has lifted her spirits. Having seen how education transforms lives in her community, she is filled with excitement and gratitude for what the future may hold.

Percy represents countless women around the world who tirelessly sacrifice for the well being of their children. These women are the strong backbone of our communities and our nations. Their resilience rarely makes headlines yet every day they quietly fight to build better futures for their families.

As we commemorate International Women's Day under this year's theme, Percy's story reminds us of the strength, courage and determination that women carry. They are the unsung Heroes, steadfast and unwavering in their love for their children.

Opportunity to Sponsor

We have many opportunities – that is special children who desperately need sponsorship. Please talk about your sponsored child to your friend, family, church and social groups. Show them pictures of your special child. Share this newsletter. This might spark interest in their hearts to become a sponsor as well.

We thank you again and wish you a wonderful year ahead. We take this opportunity to wish you a wonderful Easter season too.
Thank you so much

May God Bless You

Doreen K. Rutaisire

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Director of Child Sponsorship , Hopeland Schools: Uganda.

FOR JUST \$450 PER YEAR, YOUR SPONSORSHIP PAYS FOR.....

- ***One year of education***
- ***Mentoring as needed***
- ***Health care***
- ***2-3 meals a day***

Note: If a child is to be “boarded” that means will live at school and not return to the village at night, we ask for an additional \$150 to cover the extra costs associated with boarding