

HOPELAND SCHOOLS: UGANDA
CHILD SPONSORSHIP NEWS LETTER (JULY 2026)



WELCOME TO OUR 2026 JULY NEWSLETTER!

Dear friends and partners,

Precious greetings from Youth Focus Africa Foundation and Hopeland Schools. We pray you had a wonderful Independence day. In this Independence Month, we welcome you to yet another edition of our child sponsorship Newsletter. Thank you for your continued love, prayers and support for the children and their families. We appreciate your patience in receiving this edition. You may notice that the newsletters this year, reach you later than in previous years. We sincerely appreciate your understanding and patience as we prepared this edition. As always, this newsletter highlights the lives of the children we serve, with stories and updates from their schools, families and communities. We hope these glimpses in to their journeys will encourage you and remind you of the meaningful difference your partnership continues to make.



Middle class children very busy with their teachers

Second term Update

The second term began well, with our children returning to school full of excitement and hope for another season of learning. While the start of the term was marked by some uncertainty due to the Ebola outbreak, many parents were understandably anxious and hesitant to send their children back to school because of concerns about a possible nationwide lockdown. We are grateful that the Ministry of Education assured the nation that there would be no

lockdown. Coupled with the remarkable efforts of the health authorities to swiftly contain the imported Ebola cases and a few contact infections, this reassurance restored confidence, and before long all our children had safely returned to school.

Today we are delighted to share that the school life has continued smoothly



Mary one of our sponsored children discussing for her friends as they get ready for Midterm assessments

. Lessons have gone on without interruption and the children have settled well in to their studies. Their classrooms are once again filled with eager minds, joyful laughter and a renewed

determination to learn and grow. We thank God for his protection over our children, staff and community and we are deeply grateful for your continued support. Your generosity makes it possible for these children to learn in a safe, caring and nurturing environment, giving them hope for a brighter future.

Ebola Scare

We would like to reassure all our sponsors regarding the recent Ebola outbreak in Uganda. While the news initially caused concern, we are grateful for the swift and effective response by the country's health authorities. Through prompt case identification, contact tracing, and dedicated medical staff, the imported cases and the infections among a small number of health care workers were successfully contained. The outbreak did not spread beyond those cases.

We are thankful to report that all the children, their families and the communities we serve remain safe and healthy. The government continues to monitor the situation closely and at our schools, the teachers, matrons, school nurses and children themselves are all vigilant. At school, to boost their immunity, greens are part of the children's meals. We are grateful for your continued prayers, care and support.

As a precaution, schools and communities observed the government's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to help prevent the spread of the disease. As a result some of our usual school programmes and celebrations had to be cancelled. These included our Music dance and Drama activities, which normally bring together large crowds as well as this year's celebration for the day of the African Child. Although we missed these special occasions, we were encouraged by the cooperation of our children, staff, parents and the wider community in putting health and safety first. We thank God for his protection and are grateful that through the combined efforts of the health authorities and the cooperation of the public, the outbreak is being contained.



Hopeland kitoola children getting greens from the school greens garden

Out Standing Senior Six Examination Results.

We are delighted to share the outstanding performance of our senior Six candidates in the national examinations of last year. Results were released end of march and our students excelled in both the science and the Arts subject, earning our school a place among the top performing schools at both the district and national levels.

This achievement is especially remarkable because it was the very first year that science subjects were introduced at our high school. Despite being new to the programme and having limited resources than many well established urban schools that have offered science subjects for years, our students exceeded expectations. Their performance not only matched but surpassed that of many town schools with more advanced facilities and longer experience in science education. We are so proud to announce that all our children qualified for higher institutions of learning. These exceptional results are a testament to the hard work, determination, and resilience of our students, the unwavering dedication of our teachers and above all God's grace. They also reflect the life changing impact of your faithful support.

Suzan is one of our sponsored children who never imagined she could complete even senior four. She was raised by her single mother with 9 of her other siblings. Her mother had no stable income because she survived on casual labour. She could barely afford the basic needs of the children. For Suzan, dreaming of a brighter future seemed like a luxury she could never afford. Because of your faithful support. Her story has been transformed. she is one of our children who successfully completed senior six at the end of last year and excelled. Today she has already been admitted to two different universities for degree programmes, a milestone she once seemed impossible. Your investment in her education has not



Suzan waiting to join University

only changed her life but also the future of her family and community. By investing in these children, you are helping to unlock their full potential and opening doors to brighter futures. We are incredibly proud of what they have accomplished and look forward with great hope to all they will achieve in the years ahead.

To all our dear sponsors,
These children love you, think about you and always pray for you. Very soon we shall begin

sending personal softcopy letters and pictures from your sponsored children. Kindly share your current postal office box number on my email at the end of this newsletter. We hope you will enjoy your children's letters. Please note that we always encourage communication between the sponsor and their children. This will enable both of you to know each other more and to bond more. For now however, the rates of sending and receiving parcels are very expensive. So for now we encourage sending soft copy letters using my email. In the future when this changes, you can always send letters or parcels by writing to:

Name of Child
C/O DOREEN K RUTAISSIRE
P.O BOX 166
LUGAZI, UGANDA.
EAST AFRICA

Day of the African child edition

Every June 16th of every year, different organizations and stake holders gather to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing full realization of the rights of children in Africa. This year, the African Union declared the theme as "Assuring Sustainable water availability and safe sanitation systems to achieve the goals of Agenda 2063"



and safe sanitation systems to achieve the goals of Agenda 2063"

This day reminds us of the rights every child deserves: education, protection, love, and a chance to grow without fear.

In this edition, we

bring you Joshua, one of our sponsored children. He is the first born in his family of four children. His father passed on a few years ago.

Joshua saw his mother struggling a lot. She could hardly afford the bare minimum of basic needs at home later alone send them to school. Joshua could not bear to see his mother suffer like this; he started skipping some days at school doing small odd jobs to supplement his mother's



Joshua on the school compound

income. As a result, his performance at school kept on declining, and he started to lose interest in studies. His sponsor took a special interest in his education and overall wellbeing. Wanting to give him the best possible opportunity to succeed, she thoughtfully had him join boarding. When he joined boarding, he changed completely, he became so lively, happy and his performance greatly improved. He loves schooling and being at school. During the holidays, he can only go back home for a few days. Last holidays, he spent the entire holiday at school. He could just go and check on his mother and siblings for a few hours once in a while. Joshua feels more comfortable at school. Child sponsorship is not only about a child's education but one of the ways of standing with the child, supporting their future and creating safe spaces for the children to thrive.



***Joshua enjoying a meal
at school***

It is because of your efforts that these children gain increased access to education that transforms them and their lives for the best. This year we did not have an opportunity to celebrate this day as a way of observing the standard Operating Procedures of Ebola in the country.

As we remember the day of the African child, remember that you are their pillars and we shall forever

be grateful. On behalf of the children, their guardians and the YOFAFO Fraternity, we thank you for your sacrifice that brings forth such Hope.

Opportunity to Sponsor

Do you want 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.

Thank you so much

May God Bless You

Doreen K. Rutaisire

doreenklutaisire@gmail.com

Director of Child Sponsorship Program