

Primary teachers hail Daily Monitor

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MBALE. Teachers in Bugisu Sub-region have applauded *Daily Monitor*, the flagship brand of Monitor Publications, for promoting a reading culture in schools in the area.

During a field visit to the schools by the company officials last Wednesday, teachers said *Daily Monitor* has done a great work towards improving reading, which is essential for children's academic growth and development.

"Since MPL started giving us this magazine (Newspaper in Education - NIE), we are registering tangible results in the reading culture of our pupils in our schools," Mr Ben Watulo, the head teacher of Namagumba Primary School in Sironko District, said.

Mr Watulo explained that the thinking and reasoning capacity of the pupils has also improved.

"This is the importance of recognising and addressing a reading problem early. It has given the children a strong foundation in their career," he added.

Since 2010, MPL in partnership with MTN, a telecommunication company, and others, has been giving support to primary schools in the country. The company provides pupils with scholastic materials such as dictionaries, newspapers and pens, among others, in order to enhance pupils' literacy.



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NAMAGUMBA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ms Connie Nakami, the English Language teacher at Namagumba Primary School, said poor reading culture was the biggest challenge in the school.

"We are happy this is no longer the case because our pupils can read and write. This was made possible because they concentrated on reading newspapers that we get from *Daily Monitor*," she said.

Ms Alice Namoobo, the Nankusi Primary School deputy head teacher, asked MPL to keep inspiring and educating the children by providing such magazines.

She also urged MPL management to allocate more space in the education magazine for the pupils to write their articles, adding that MPL should help and organise inter-school debates.

"The management should organise interschool competition debates and also increase space for our children to write their articles," she said.

Mr Joshua Busiinge, the project supervisor of NIE, said with the support from MTN Uganda, MPL wants to empower and motivate pupils to improve reading in schools.

"The NIE project is aimed at promoting a reading culture in primary schools," he said.