

# 30 schools closed in Kumi district

KUMI

By Charles Achoda

Authorities in Kumi have launched a crackdown on unlicensed schools in an operation that started last week.

In a joint operation led by the resident district commissioner (RDC), Joseph Okwakau, 30 out of 64 private schools in the district have so far been closed.

Some of the schools closed include Star Angels, Light and Shine, Alpha and Omega, Top Care Nursery and Primary School Kanyumu, St Andrew, St Clare, Mukongoro God's Will, Sote Skills Vocational, St Joseph Ongiino, St Peter's Ongiino, Green Valley, Eden Preparatory School, Kalapata Visionary School, Mother Margaret, Caroline and Golden View. Others are Apaf, John Dankan Akol, Shine Primary School, Home Land Senior School, God's Glory, Blessed Vissionary, Abalasa, Midland, Silom and Ariet among others.

Okwakau said the schools were operating without licences, had dilapidated structures, unqualified teachers, poor sanitary facilities and did not have enough furniture.

The RDC said the closed schools will only be allowed to resume operations after fulfilling all the requirements. Okwakau also warned officials from the district education office who plan to secretly permit the re-operating of the closed schools.

Meanwhile, the district education officer, John Michael Otai, has directed the proprietors of all the closed schools to refund the money parents paid as tuition for their children. Otai said any proprietor, who does not refund the money will be apprehended and subjected to the laws of the country for obtaining money by false pretence.