

BY NOELINE NABUKENYA

# Nabukeera is an all-round star pupil

**M**aria Devine Nabukeera is a 13-year-old Primary Seven candidate, who doubles as the head prefect for Bright Grammar School Masaka. She has justified the testament of being an all-round child.

She is smart in school, and she also inspires her classmates with her great leadership skills.

## How can one describe Devine?

I am a young devout Catholic with big dreams of always leading where others follow. I always strive to become nothing but the best.

## When were you voted head prefect?

Every year, the school organises campaigns and those interested in running for a particular position are given a chance to express their potential through an open campaign from which pupils vote for their favourite leaders. I was voted in August 2025 and the term of leadership expires in one year.

## How have you found the role of your tenure?

My service has been entirely okay. I have served to the best of my expectation.

## How do you get things done?

I plan ahead so I know what needs to happen. Then the teachers on duty help me make sure everything goes the way it should.

## What is expected of a head prefect?

With the powers vested in the head prefect, he or she oversees and guides in operation of the work at the school.

## How do you balance leadership and studies since you are now a candidate?

I drafted a schedule I follow. I make sure I do the right thing at the right time.

## What have you learnt from this position?

I have learnt that leadership is not about ruling others but serving them to

the best of your abilities.

## What gains have you attained from being the head prefect?

I have attained respect from the pupils I lead. All the teachers recognise my work and I have always been an example to the pupils I lead.

## What challenges have you faced as a leader?

Sometimes children do not follow the school rules, and that can be tough to handle.

## Who is a good leader according to you?

A good leader is supposed to be God fearing. They should also be able to serve

diligently with transparency and fairness.

## Why do you think you were voted the head prefect?

We were five candidates in the race and I think I was voted the head prefect because of my confidence.

## Besides being head prefect, what other leadership roles have you had, and what were they like?

I have also been class coordinator and class monitress. Those were really good experiences, I enjoyed them.

## How old were you?

I was seven years old at

## WHAT ISSUES HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO ADDRESS?

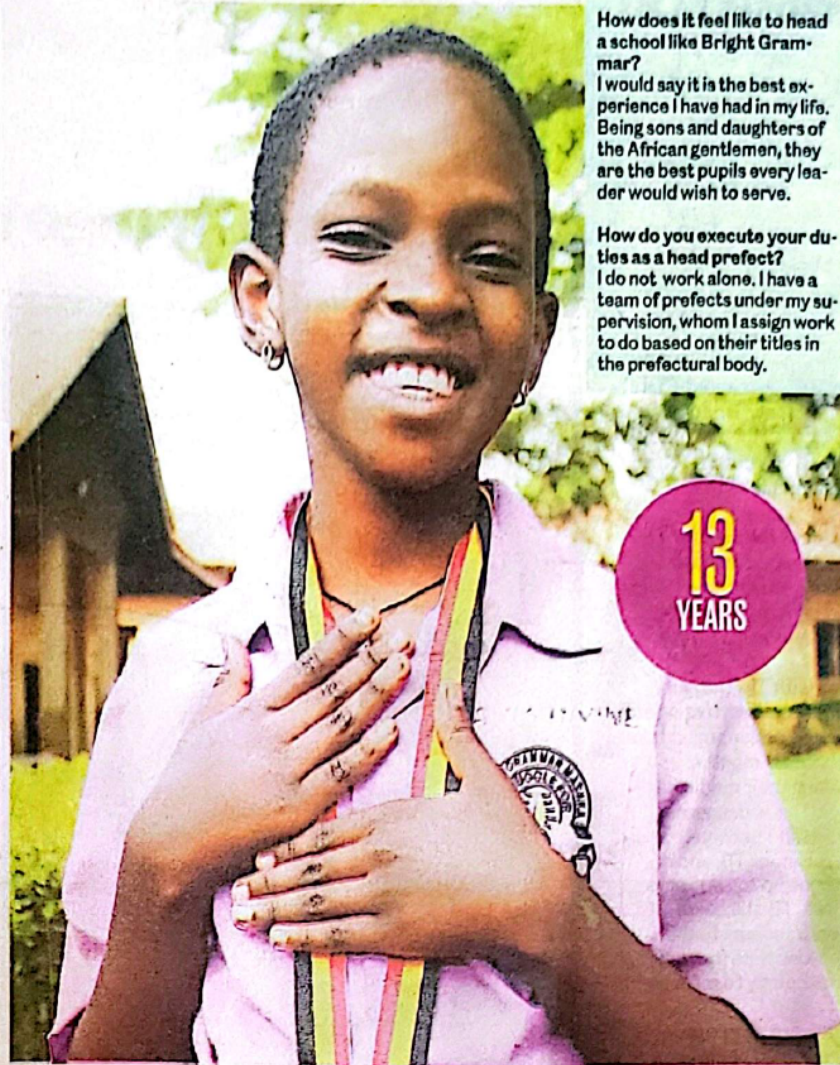
I have been able to address issues such as maintaining order in the school and following the school rules and regulations.

## How does it feel like to head a school like Bright Grammar?

I would say it is the best experience I have had in my life. Being sons and daughters of the African gentlemen, they are the best pupils every leader would wish to serve.

## How do you execute your duties as a head prefect?

I do not work alone. I have a team of prefects under my supervision, whom I assign work to do based on their titles in the prefectural body.



leading and that I truly cared about my fellow learners.

## Had you taken part in any competitions like this before?

I took part in a debating and public speaking contest. It was a great experience because I got to practice speaking in front of people and sharing my thoughts clearly. I really enjoyed the challenge.

## How did you perform?

I came in second place, so I was the second-best speaker! The contest went on for two weeks, which meant I had time to prepare for each round, learn from my mistakes, and grow more confident with every speech.

## What did you achieve from your debate competitions?

I learned a certificate for being an outstanding participant, which made me really proud because it showed that all my hard work paid off. I also won a medal for the same competition. Holding that medal reminded me that if you stay focused and give your best effort, you can accomplish great things.

## How were you able to balance books and practicing for these competitions?

I was using my evening time to practice then the rest of the time to read my books and attend lessons.

## Which other activities have you ever participated in?

I have engaged in Music, Dance, and Drama competitions.

## What is your message to fellow young people?

I encourage them to discover their strength and always go for what they want. Even if it means trying to fail but let them never to fail or to start.

## About Nabukeera

**Role model:** Madam Resty Nabatanzi

**Hobby:** Watching movies.

**Best teacher:** Teacher Justine Nassamula.

**Best subject:** Mathematics

**Best friend:** Nakkazi she is caring and loving

**Parents:** Mr Joseph Kasozi Muyomba and Mrs Resty Kasozi.