

Namagunga @ 75

Celebrating 75 years of academic excellence

Established. Mount Saint Mary's College Namagunga was established in 1942 by Sr Theresa Kearney commonly known as Mother Kevin.

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KEY ISSUE

During the recent celebrations to mark its 75 years of existence, the Prime Minister Dr Ruhakana Rugunda who represented President Museveni urged the students to emulate the school's old girls who are already putting the flag high.

Mount Saint Mary's College Namagunga is one of the oldest girls' school in Uganda.

The school has retained its position among the best performing schools in Mukono District and the country as a whole.

The O and A-Level girls' school, which was founded by Sr Theresa Kearney commonly known mother Kevin, in 1942 currently, has a population of more than 1,000 students.

Despite being a catholic-founded school, students from other religions are also welcomed and freedom of worship is observed.

According to Archbishop of Kampala Dr Cyprian Kizito Lwanga, mother Kevin had the desire to empower girls in Uganda and it is one of the reasons why she started the school.

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"You have nothing to stop you from



Prime minister Dr Ruhakana Rugunda (right) hands over an award to one of the old girls of Mount Saint Mary's College Namagunga recently. In the middle is the chairman board of directors Msr Richard Kayondo. PHOTO BY ZUURAH KARUNGI

shining because there are a couple of old girls who have already set the pace, you are capable of being like them or even better than them," he said.

Namagunga has produced many prominent women, including Ms Doris Akol, commissioner general of Uganda Revenue Authority, Ms Mary Okwakol,

board chairperson of National Examinations Board and vice chancellor of Bustema University, Ms Winnie Byanyima, executive director of Oxfam International, Ms Specioza Wandera Kazibwe, the former vice president.

Ms Angela Kanagabiri Bageine, the chairperson of Namagunga old girls Association appreciates the efforts of teachers in making them who they are today.

She advised the current students to work hard and keep the school name high.

Msgr Dr Richard Kayondo, the school board chairman, said just like any other school, Namagunga has also experienced a number of challenges, including inadequate space to accommodate the increasing number of students.

"We have been forced to send back some students despite having all the qualifications we need, which is very sorrowful. For this matter, we need a couple of infrastructure, including classrooms and dormitories," he says.

Under the project dubbed "Holding a hand around the world" which is mostly sponsored by old girls in the diaspora, the school has been able to pay school fees for unprivileged girls.

"There are girls who are very bright and would want to study at Namagunga but are incapable because of school fees, we use this money to pay for them school fees," she said.

The association also helps students meet with old girls of different walks of life at their work places, an arrangement they believe helps the girls get role models hence work hard to be like them.

Helping community

The old girls appreciate the environment they grew from therefore endeavor to give back to the community.

They recently treated 2,000 patients helped by 100 old girls who are now doctors.

"They examined the patients and gave them free medicine."

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CONGRATULATIONS

The Management and staff of TMT Technologies (U) LTD would like to congratulate Mt. St. Mary's College Namagunga upon your Platinum Jubilee. This 75 year journey is a remarkable achievement and we are proud to be associated with such a great school whose main focus is to uplift standards and excellence in the girl child through quality education

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The Management and staff of Hoima Engineering Services Ltd congratulates Mt. St. Mary's College Namagunga on their 75th Anniversary. We are proud to be your partner and truly appreciate the great work that you are doing in educating the girl child of our country

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