ISSUE 10

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Three of our bright Senior 2B students taking their end-of-year examinations.

ABUKLOI FOUNDATION

WINTER NEWSLETTER

Dear Friends of Abukloi Foundation,

Greetings from Abukloi Secondary School in Rumbek, Lakes State - South Sudan. Your continued support keeps our school alive and gives hope to 705 young South Sudanese who dream of a better future through quality education.

OUR JOYS AND CHALLENGES AS WE CLOSE THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026

This year has been full of joy despite challenges. We successfully conducted our end-of-year examinations with all 625 students from S1 to S3 sitting for exams. Their discipline and determination are inspirational. Our students are becoming responsible citizens. Our YES Club visited the St. Theresa Orphanage and donated liquid soap and cleaning materials to the orphans. Seeing our students embrace those orphans was our greatest lesson of the year.

Our students' Peace Club has become a beacon of healing. After the gun incident the 9th of October 2026, the Peace Club swung into action alongside teachers and administrators. We closed for only three days and came back stronger. These are the joys that money cannot buy — compassion, resilience, and leadership growing in Abukloi students. (Please note the shooting was not on campus and not school related. It was a community outbreak that was quickly controlled).

Despite the joys shared above we have had challenges beyond normal needs. Beyond school fees, uniforms, and books, we face challenges we need your help to solve.

Rumbek is facing severe drought. Food production has collapsed. In our market today, maize flour is 6,000 SSP (South Sudanese Pound) per kg, beans 10,000 SSP, and groundnut 15,000 SSP. (For reference $1.00 = 7,800 SSP) As the result, many of our students come to school on an empty stomach. Where is the joy of a hungry child at school? You can feed a student for only $120 a year on our website donation page. **www.abukloi.org**

The violence and the general insecurity in Lakes State in the month of October has left wounds we cannot see. Apart from our teachers and nurse we have no trained counselors to handle the psychological needs of our learners during such incidents. Your prayers are much appreciated.

Thank you for your continuous support to Abukloi Foundation.

Yours in Service,
Dr. Isaiah Mutalemwa Lutashobya
Principal – Abukloi Secondary School

YES Club Update ~ *Community Service Projects*

Leprosy Colony Initiatives

The YES Club of Abukloi Secondary School regularly visits the Leprosy Colony in Malou, Rumbek. The purpose of these visits is to show love, restore dignity and instill values of compassion, volunteerism, and community service in students. Supporting vulnerable members of the community promotes a spirit of service among students.

The visits to the leprosy colony by students create impact in terms of:

- The clinic and compound are always left clean and safe for patients.
- Soap made by the YES Club is donated along with additional cleaning supplies.
- Basic medical supplies and medicine to treat malaria are delivered.
- Beneficiaries express deep gratitude for the support by students
- The activity strengthens the relationship between the school and the Malou Leprosy community.







Orphanage Sanitation

The Abukloi YES Club visited the St. Teresa Orphanage at Diocese of Rumbek to promote hygiene and sanitation.

The club donated 10 litres of liquid soap, two scrubbers and two buckets, and they took time to teach the staff proper cleaning techniques.



YES program students and their advisor, Lilian Likicho, enjoy completing service projects outside of the school.

The YES Club appreciates the support of the school administration and teachers who make this activity possible and remains committed to serving the community.

Three leper colony initiatives are sponsored by our board member, Ellen Wicker Cummings.

- Through an initiative called "Give a Goat", the women in the colony are provided an income as they can sell goat milk and meat. Rearing and multiplying goats has fulfilled the adage of "teaching man to fish rather than giving him fish".
- To further their educational outreach, this community is provided with scholastic materials such as books, paper and pencils.
- Sewing machines were donated to provide an additional source of income for the women.



YES Club participates in Youth Summit

On October 30, YES Club students joined students from Uganda and Taiwan online for a Youth Voices mini-summit. The summit, hosted by Words Into Deeds and Global Education in Taiwan, was a time for each school to share their Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) projects.

Abukloi's YES Club, led by teacher Lilian Likicho, presented their implementation of SDGs 4, 5 and 6. To promote both SDG 4 and 5 – Gender Equality and Quality Education, the representatives from the club presented their project of creating reusable sanitary pad kits for girls and women that was started in 2023. In three years girls have beeen receiving reusable pads made by the YES Club members which has greatly reduced days a girl would miss in school to zero. This has also improved their concentration and performance in the classroom This month, the club supplied 102 first year female students at Abukloi with pad kits.

To promote SDG 6 - Sanitation, the club produces liquid soap which they use within the school, donate to other



schools, hospitals and orphanages. The product is also sold to keep the project self-sustainable.

Abukloi Secondary School collaborates throughout the year with Stitch Youth Foundation and UNIFAT Primary School Gulu, Uganda and the Affiliated High School of Chung-Hsing University Taichung, Taiwan. The youth meet to support one anothers' work, ideas, and dreams to promote dignity and equality for all.





Peace Club in Action

Sometimes violence is a reality in our world and in South Sudan. While normally a very peaceful environment, an armed incident occurred near the school community in Rumbek in early October. The sound of gunfire caused panic among students, teachers and community members, leading to disruption of learning activities and emotional distress, particularly among students who witnessed the incident.

This incident highlights the importance of the Peace Club as they stepped in to provide peer-to-peer support in a calm environment where students could process their emotions. Throughout the recovery period, class meetings were held and students were taught the purpose of forgiveness and peaceful co-existence as part of the healing process. Within a week students had returned to the classroom and order had been restored in the surrounding community.

End-of-Year Exams

Abukloi Secondary school took end-of-year exams from October 26 through November 6 exhibiting what they had learned this year.

Examination papers were set and moderated by subject teachers in Sciences, Humanities and Business Education. A unified timetable was followed for all classes. Monitoring was carried out by teaching staff with support from the administration. The examinations were conducted in an orderly manner.

All classes recorded high attendance in good health, with only 20 students having to be out due to illness. Malaria incidences are high in South Sudan during the rainy season, but thankfully these illnesses can be treated on campus at the school clinic.

Exam grading will be done by subject teachers to compile detailed results before the end of November to determine which students will be promoted to the next class in the new academic year.

While we wait on the 2026 school exam scores, we are excited to finally have the national results for the 2025 South Sudan Certificate of Secondary Education (SSCSE). We are delighted to report that 100% of the 33 candidates the school registered passed. Abukloi Secondary School emerged as one of the best performing schools in Lakes State. **Achieving 100% pass rate is an historic milestone for our school community.** Registered students included 28 males (85%) and 5 females (15%). Female students still face a low completion rate of Secondary School in Lakes State in particular and South Sudan in general.



Senior 4 candidates are being given final instruction and revision exercises in preparation for the 2026 national exams.



*Senior 3A student, Achiep Machiek Ledi looks up for a quick smile while taking her end-of-year examinations. Thank you to **Raleigh Court Presbyterian** for sponsoring Achiep.*

Would you commit to sponsoring a student?

For just $80 a month or $960 a year, you can provide the resources needed to encourage a student to remain in school.

If you or your organization would like to learn more about the Abukloi Sponsorship Program or other projects, please contact Mary@Abukloi.org or Beth@Abukloi.org.

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