

PROJECT PRINCESS INITIATIVE

EMPOWER A GIRL, EMPOWER A NATION



END OF YEAR REPORT

DECEMBER 2024

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ANNUAL THEME

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE proverbs 16:9, You may make plans but God directs your actions.

*Project Princess Initiative services are extended to Girls from vulnerable backgrounds to ensure that those princesses who still need to stay in school are supported, educated and empowered. This is done by providing them with psycho-social support, easing access to medical care, sourcing for sponsorships and providing them with relevant skills for a brighter future. With our services, we are currently reaching out to **2499 girls** in our 9 partner schools namely; Kira secondary school (**700 girls**), Najjeera high school (**193 girls**), Majorine college school, (**190 girls**) St. Henrys college school (**230 girls**), Hope hill primary school (**110 girls**), Kira C/U primary school (**310 girls**), Kyaliwajjala Umea primary school (**136 girls**), Winterland Junior school (**130 girls**), St. Francis Bulindo primary school (**140 girls**).*

SCHOOLS THAT LEFT FROM THE PROGRAM include; Namugongo mixed school (**210 girls**), Little Rinah primary school (**104 girls**), Kira college school (**46 girls**)



PPI WORK IN NUMBERS

- ✦ 8 partner schools.
- ✦ 2499 beneficiaries reached.
- ✦ 102 Princesses received tuition fees in our partner schools.
- ✦ 15 home visits conducted
- ✦ 1600 pieces of disposable sanitary towels distributed
- ✦ 9 cartons of exercise books distributed
- ✦ 74 uniforms for 74 princesses were procured



INTRODUCTIONS

The grass roots.

Project princess initiative is a Girl-Child Christian Organization which started operations in 2009.

The primary focus for this organization is to Educate, Empower and Support Girl-Children to stay in school and have a bright future.

The founder Mrs. Fiona Kiggundu is a teacher and Team leader at Child time Brookside Academy and it was one day when two (2) Girls; Doreen and Becky approached her in search for employment at her school. They were working as maids for longer hours and their salary was paid as fees until when their bosses couldn't afford them. They were very young but desperately decided to look for a job due to the situation they were going through and explained their plight for education. The founder was touched how these young Girls worked as maids and visited their school to find out their true story.

The story was true as it was narrated by their teacher, Becky was desperate to join high school whereas Doreen was already in high school and yearning to finish and have a better life.

Whereas our founder did not offer them employment, she was moved by these Girls' determination for a better life and decided to support them morally. She could meet them every Thursday at her office and also encouraged them to come along with their friends purposely to check the kind of company they carry.

The situation was not different with the friends they brought in and soon the group grew to 30 Girls. She could visit them at school once in a while to bring hope to the rest of the Girls in school with permission from school administrators and its from this that the PPI school outreach program started.

PPI was allowed to talk with the rest of the Girls purposely to bring Hope, about issues that concern them and how to avoid things that could block them from achieving their goals.

From 30 Girls in 2009, we are now proud to mention that as per 2024, we are reaching out to 2499 Girls in 8 partner schools.

NOTE. Partner schools are those schools both primary and secondary that allow us to Educate, Empower and Support the Girl-Children in that school.

OUR VISION

WE ENVISION A WORLD WHERE EVERY WOMAN IS EMPOWERED TO REALIZE THEIR FULL EDUCATION, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, CIVIC POTENTIAL, AND SELF-RELIANCE.

OUR MISSION

TO EQUIP GIRLS AND WOMEN WITH QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE TO REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL THROUGH ENROLMENT AND RETENTION IN FORMAL EDUCATION AS WELL AS NON-FORMAL EDUCATION FOCUSING ON LIVELIHOOD AND EMPLOYMENT COMPETENCIES TO BECOME WOMEN LEADERS OF THE NEXT GENERATION.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1. GIRLS SKILL-UP, MEMTORSHIP AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE**
- 2. EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP AND GIRL PLUS PROGRAM**
- 3. SRHR AND BODILY AUTONOMY**
- 4. PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT AND MENTAL HEALTH**
- 5. GENDER RESPONSIVE ENVIRONMENT**

CORE VALUES

- 1. INTEGRITY**-we are true to our service and ensure we deliver
- 2. TEAM WORK**-working together with a common goal is a principal
- 3. GODLINESS**- we are a Christian organization and God is at the forefront
- 4. RELIABILITY**-we are a trusted source in service delivery
- 5. RESPONSIBILITY**- we are responsible in upholding the value of a Girl-Child
- 6. EXCELLENCE**-we make it a point achieve our best
- 7. COMMITMENT**-we are committed to the right upbringing of the Girl-Child

Area of Coverage

1. Wakiso district;

- ✚ Kira secondary school
- ✚ Najjeera high school
- ✚ Majorine College school
- ✚ St. Henrys' College school
- ✚ St. Francis Bulindo P/S
- ✚ Kira C/U primary school
- ✚ Kyaliwajjala Umea P/S
- ✚ Winterland Junior School

2. Kalungu district-Masaka; Hope hill P/S



TEAM LEADER'S KEY NOTE

As the year 2024 draws to a close, I cannot help but thank God for His faithfulness towards our work at PPI- Empowering young women in Uganda.

Many thanks go to CI for supporting this work throughout the year 2024 ! We have achieved quite a lot as an organization. The princesses have kept thriving as follows;

Princess Phiona Nakibombo graduated from college with a Diploma in Electrical Engineering and installation. This was as big as it gets because she not only completed her studies but joined a male dominated industry.

Also Princess Brenda Nantale one of our girls joined the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at Makerere University, the biggest in Uganda.

Princess Immaculate Natukunda is soon completing college as a midwife at St. Francis School of Nursing and Midwifery.

Princess Nalwoga Joan completed her Bachelors in Accounting and Finance and is graduating this month from Makerere university Business school.

Of the younger princesses, 140 Girls completed Primary school from our partner schools and are expected to join High school in 2025.

Also, 436 princesses among all our partner schools completed High school while 60 Girls completed Uganda advanced certificate of Education that when passed gets them into higher learning institutions and universities. I am beyond proud about all those achievements which without the support from Cross international would be impossible to reach.

Our reliable and dependable team at PPI thank you for your relentless effort towards all this success and may you always know your work is not in vain but eternal.

To all our princesses at PPI, your resilience is unmatched.! Soldier on!

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy new year 2025!

Fiona Kiggundu

PPI Team Leader

EDUCATION

All the years, quality Education for the Girl child has been inaccessible in Africa and primarily this is due to the high rates of poverty, climate changes, cultural resistance and reluctant unwillingness of Girls and parents.

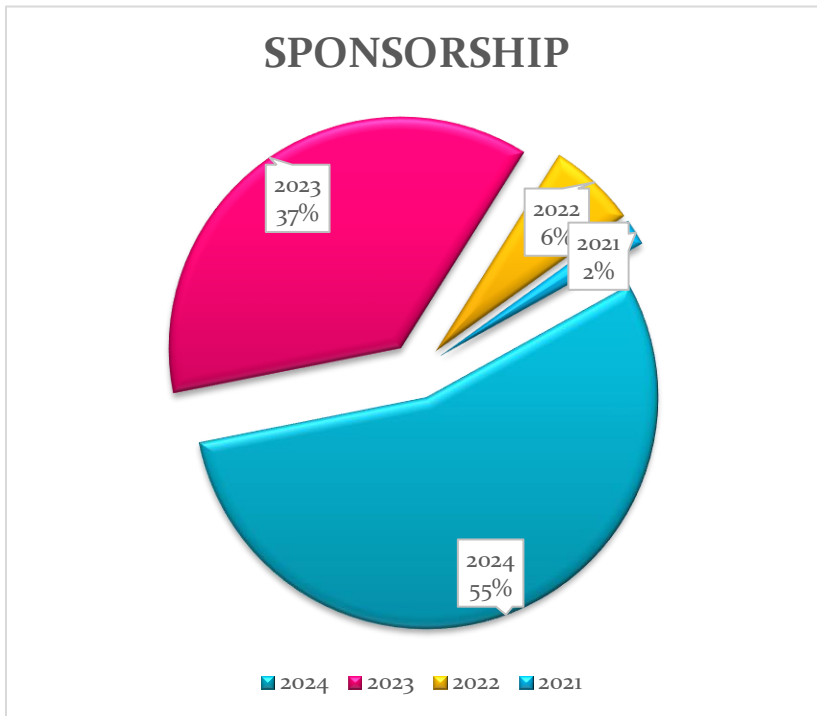
This gender education gap in Africa has been prominent for decades and denying females this basic human right restrains them from achieving better social lives and financial stability.

Education more particular in Uganda was a priority for the male gender and considered unimportant for the female gender. This is so because most parents thought Girls were fit for kitchen and married off for dowry at a tender age of 13 years.

Project Princess Initiative primarily considers Education important for the Girl Child in a way that it boosts decision making, promotes economic growth, builds confident and dependable women, and Educated women find it important to provide Education to their off springs. As an organization prioritizing the Girl Child wellbeing to keep in school, we mainly focus on enrolling and keeping more and more Girls in school by providing Education support in form of; scholastic material supply, reaching out to Girls through education outreaches, providing career guidance, providing school fees to the less privileged as a contributor towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals. We mainly find girls in schools we term our partners who assign us coordinators to help arrange programs and also help select girls eligible for sponsorship.

As of 2024, through a transparent consultation process with our partner school coordinators, 94 Girls have been kept on the sponsorship program and happily attend school. 7 Girls of these are enrolled in secondary school, 85 Girls enrolled in primary level and 2 Girls currently at the University. Parent/Guardians and students are advised with utmost caution to treat the sponsorship program true and these parties are always called for meetings to keep track of the beneficiaries. Of the 94 sponsored, 12 Girls receive tuition support from Cross international.

Over the years, this education sponsorship has tremendously grown in the years post-covid as seen below.



This chart shows how the sponsorship program has grown in the past 4 years from 2021 to 2024. The rise in the sponsorship program is the coming on board of new Partners and individual sponsors.

PYSCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT / COUNSELING

A large number of Girls in Africa more particular in Uganda go through a variety of challenges which in turn forces them out of school. These range from low esteem, lack of essential needs like sanitary towels, sexual encounters with teachers, hard labour at home, failure to find love, care and time from caretakers among others.

Most of the parents/guardians/care takers to these Girls have totally given up on their responsibilities and leaving it to the teachers and community who sometimes later take advantage of these Girls. Parents leave for work early in the night and come home late only to find their children sleeping. Adding to that, some parents don't know what to say to their Girls and how to approach them.

This leaves with the Girl child no option but to surrender and find love and care from those who care for her. Teachers on the other hand have a lot to

cover and mind more on finishing the syllabi therefore being left with little time for the issues of the Girl child.

It's from that basis therefore that Project Princess Initiative comes up to bind this gap with encouraging sessions like personal hygiene practices, how to achieve better grades, peer to peer guidance, living with a purpose, staying away from practices that might trigger the spread of HIV/AIDS and pregnancy prevention among others. This is mainly to impact these Girls with information that keeps them awake to the enemies of education success.

A total of 2499 Girls have been reached with our sessions from different facilitators to empower them keep in school.

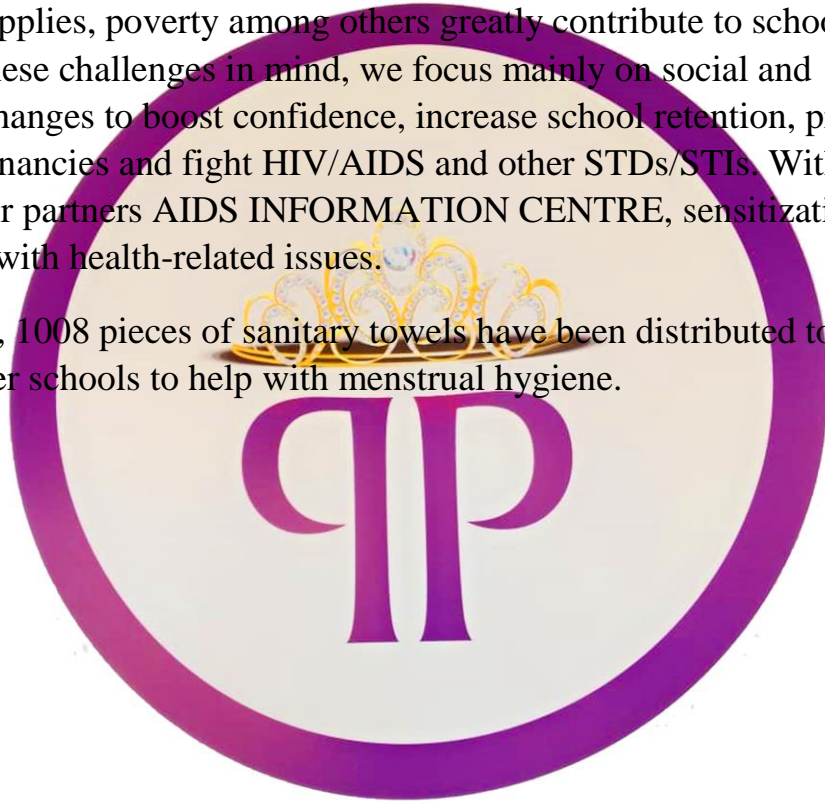
17 home visits have been conducted to have a one on one with the parents/guardians to the girls on how to handle issues that may arise from family neglect and exploitation from step parents.



SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RIGHTS (SRHR)

This program mainly focuses on providing access to health information to Girl children for example reproductive health literature, personal hygiene, provision of sanitary towels among others. PPI realized that challenges like teenage pregnancies, poor sanitation and hygiene, child marriages, limited menstrual supplies, poverty among others greatly contribute to school drop outs. With these challenges in mind, we focus mainly on social and behavioral changes to boost confidence, increase school retention, prevent teenage pregnancies and fight HIV/AIDS and other STDs/STIs. With the help from our partners AIDS INFORMATION CENTRE, sensitization is done in line with health-related issues.

Additionally, 1008 pieces of sanitary towels have been distributed to Girls in all our partner schools to help with menstrual hygiene.





SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Since 2022, a decision was made to take all the skills in our partner schools which initially were carried out from our project Centre. This was because the Centre was a bit far away from the partner schools and accessibility of girls was a challenge. But in schools, we are able to reach out to very many girls with the skills development program. Having knowledge about a variety of hands on skills is very important especially in a developing country like Uganda in that in cases where parents cannot afford fees, the skill can be embarked on as a family business to increase income inflows. This is evident with our beneficiaries who have learnt a skill. As of 2024, girls have learnt how to *crochet, learnt how to make re-usable sanitary towels, hair braiding and twisting, learnt how to make liquid soap, learnt how to make greeting cards*. These skills are taught by PPI staff and solicited facilitators.



Girls at Najjeera High school display liquid soap after the skill





Learners at St. Francis Bulindo display products from greeting cards.



Girls at Hopehill learning how to make re-usable pads.

CENTRE ACTIVITIES

a. Holiday program

During school breaks, beneficiaries are hosted at the project Centre for skilling activities to keep them busy and empower them more. Additionally, Girls come to the Centre for one on one counseling sessions, self-discovery sessions, among others. This program hosted 15 girls for 14 days who later received scholastic material and sanitary towels to keep in school.



Princesses learn how to make re-usable pads

b. Leadership training.

*This training saw 30 girls participate in a leadership training including topics like; stage freight management, public speaking, personal growth, networking techniques and team building at the project Centre. The facilitator for that day was Mrs. Fiona Kiggundu, Team leader PPI and Mrs. Rhodah Mukasa a youth advocate and web designer. The theme for that training was “**WE FIRST, THEN ME**” aimed at advocating for selfless actions. This message was based from **PHILLIPIANS 2:3**.*



c. Sponsorship meeting.

Each end of term, sponsored girls meet at the project Centre to present their termly school reports, meet with their sponsors and also present requirements for the following term. Sponsors come to encourage the Girls to keep in school who also promise them more school fees provision and other needs.



d. ***Coordinators' meeting***

We currently have 9 schools and 11 coordinators. These are the teachers who are assigned to us by partner schools to help with the schedule, follow-up, organizing sessions and who also help to identify the vulnerable girls who need a hand. The main reasons for this meeting is to discuss a way forward to our work in schools, access impact and get feedback.



1

e. End of year Bible Camp

This years' annual theme was "prepare for the future". We can make our plans but the Lord determines our steps. Proverbs 16:9.

We chose this theme because we want Girls to know that whatever plan they have, its God to finally decide and therefore He must be a priority in their lives if they want to succeed. 88 Girls from 8 partner took part in this activity.



Mr. Isaac from Deliverance Church speaking to Girls about preparing for the future; this was based from proverbs 16:9

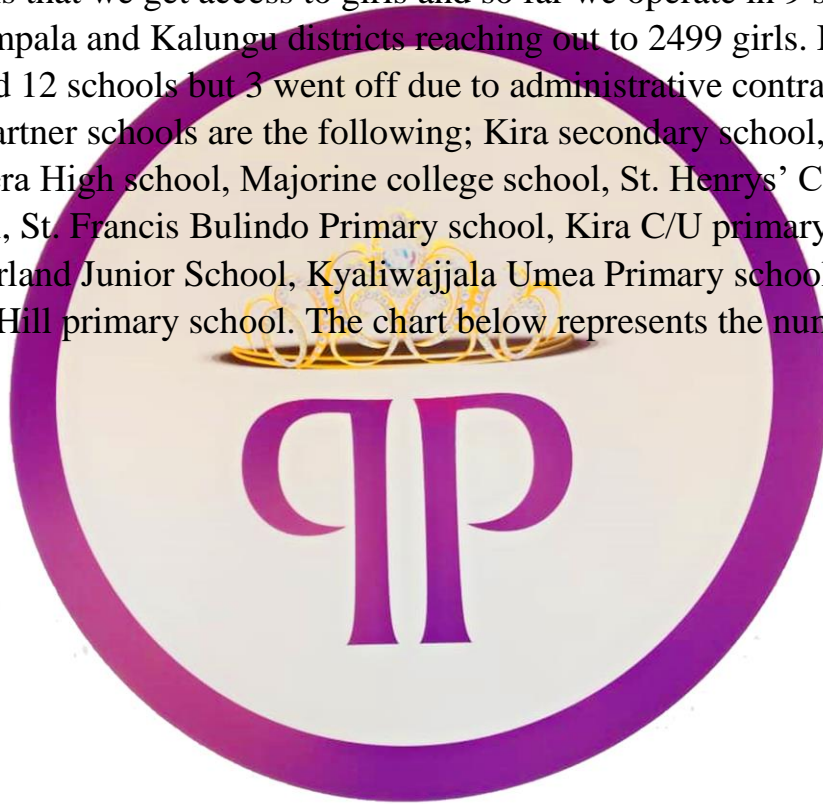


Keren, a PPI ALUMNI, from the PPI Big Girls Circle addressing girls about keeping in school

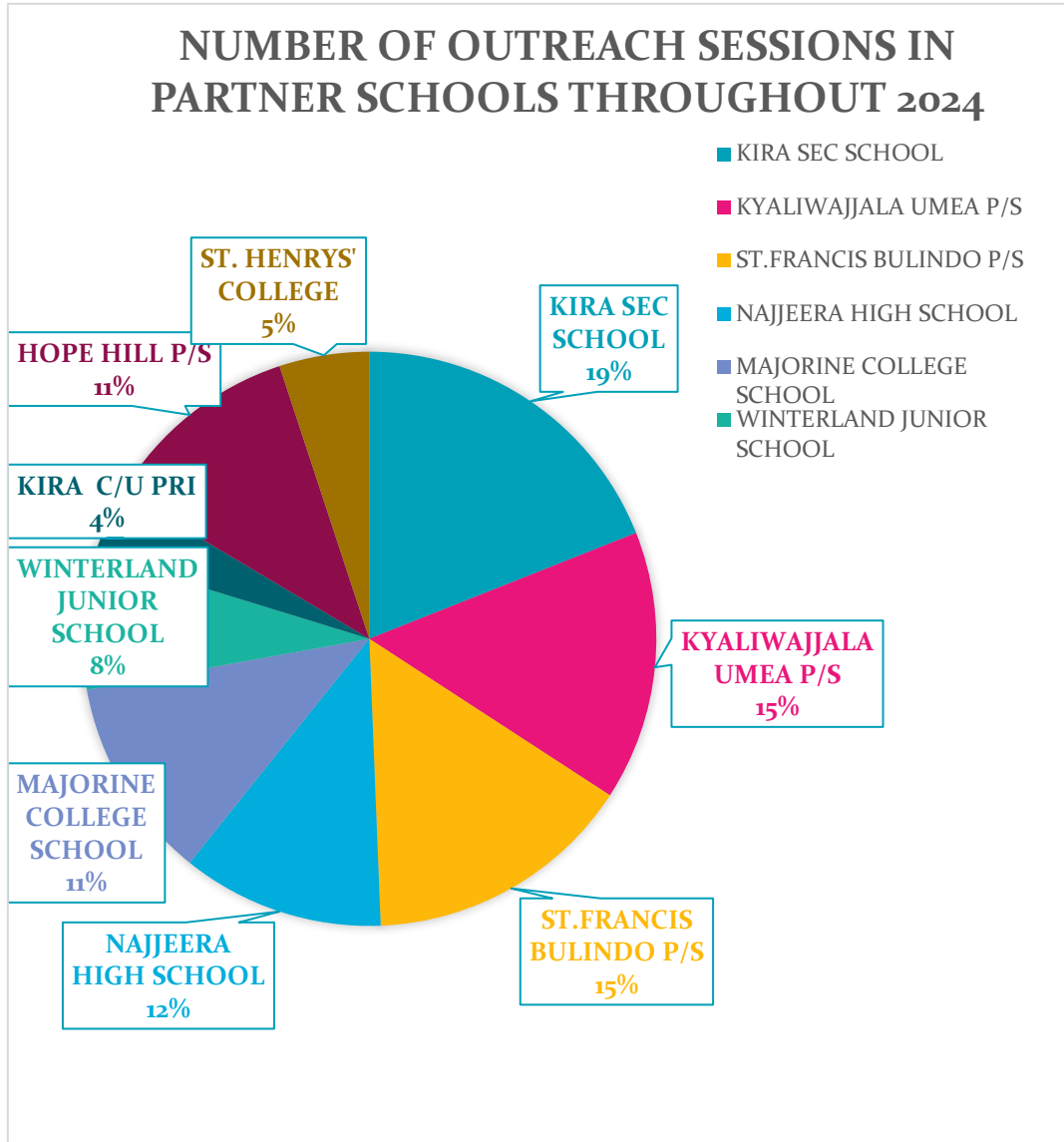
SCHOOL OUTREACHES

Project Princess Initiative does its work in schools called partners and the administrators to these schools assign us patrons called coordinators who help organize girls for sessions, help look out for vulnerable girls who require, and also help schedule us on the schools' program.

We operate in schools both primary and secondary, its in these schools that we get access to girls and so far we operate in 9 schools in Kampala and Kalungu districts reaching out to 2499 girls. Initially, we had 12 schools but 3 went off due to administrative contradictions. Our partner schools are the following; Kira secondary school, Najjeera High school, Majorine college school, St. Henrys' College school, St. Francis Bulindo Primary school, Kira C/U primary school, Winterland Junior School, Kyaliwajjala Umea Primary school and Hope Hill primary school. The chart below represents the number of



times we had school outreach sessions per school throughout the year 2024.



GUIDING SCRIPTURES FOR 2024 TOPICS.

1. BUILDING TRUST

A king wants to hear the truth and will favor those who speak it. Proverbs 16:13
 If you are good, you are guided by honesty. People who cant be trusted are destroyed by their own dishonesty. Proverbs 11:3

2. SETTING AND ACHIEVING GOALS

Ask the Lord to bless your plans, and will be successful in carrying them out.

Proverbs 16:3

Instead be concerned above everything else with the kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and will provide you with all these other things. Matthew 6:33

3. PURPOSEFUL LIVING

God has made us what we are, and in our union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared for us to do. Ephesians 2:10

I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for. Jeremiah 29:11

4. FINANCIAL LITERACY

The easier you get your wealth, the sooner you will lose it, the harder it is to earn, the more you will have it.

5. MENSTRUAL HYGIENE

When a woman has her monthly periods, she remains unclean for seven days. Anyone who touches her is unclean until evening. Leviticus 15:19-32

6. HANDLING PEER PRESSURE

Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of mind. Romans 12:2

7. BUILDING GOOD ETIQUETTE

Do for others just what you want them to do for you. Luke 6:31

You must all have the same attitude and the same feelings; love one another as brothers and sisters and be kind and humble with one another. 1 Peter 3:8

8. DEALING WITH ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION

Then the Lord answers, can a woman forget her own baby and not love the child she bore? Even if a mother should forget her child, I will never forget you. Isaiah 49:15

For God shall not show mercy when he judges the person who has not been merciful; but mercy triumphs over judgement. James 2:13

9. SAFETY MEASURES FROM SEXUAL HARASMENT

Avoid immorality, any other sin a man commits does not affect his body but a man who is guilty of sexual immorality sins against his own body. 1 Corinthians 6:18-20

God wants you to be holy and completely free from sexual immorality. 1
Thessalonians 4:3-6.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

a. FUNDRAISING EVENT

Each year, PPI organizes a fundraising event aimed at; supporting Girls stay in school, create awareness on the issues of the Girl-child, form strategic collaborations and partnerships, drive for sponsorships for Girls' Education. 2024 fundraising event happened on the 17th /April/2024 and 4 sponsors came on board to support the Girl child.



The Guest of Honor Mrs. Miria Matembe hands over a book to Zainab a PPI alumni after sharing her story

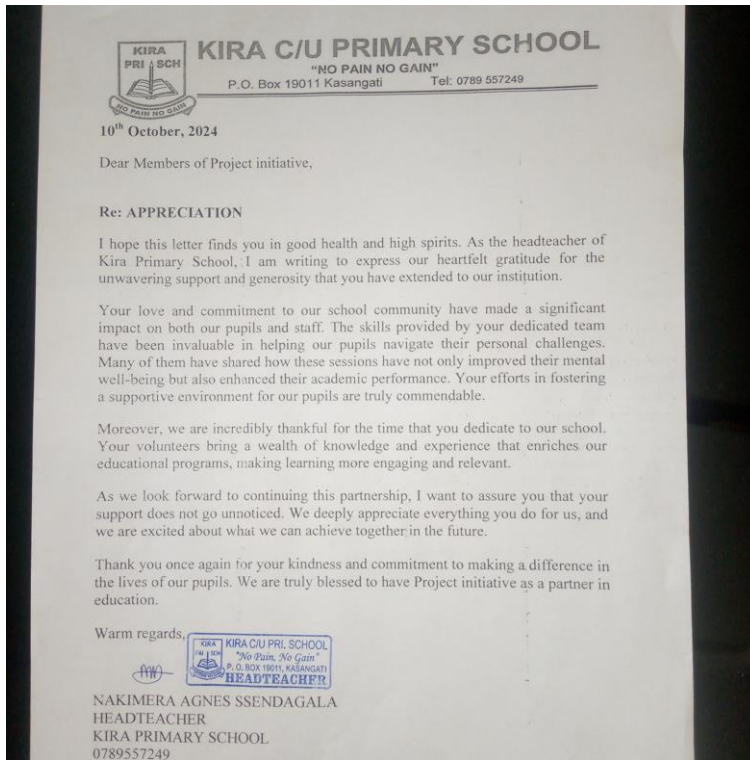
SUCCESS STORY

PPI is proud to present one of her own Fiona Nakibombo who successfully graduated from Lady Valeria Vocational institute and acquired a certificate in Electrical installation. Fiona joined PPI way back in 2019 while in S.3, she got a sponsor who paid her fees, took interest in learning and perfecting making liquid soap which she was selling to pay her fees at the institute. We are glad and celebrate the mile stone through PPI. She performed very well at school and was retained as a teacher as well as doing her other business.



Fiona Nakibombo is a victor

SPECIAL APPRECIATION



PPI Appreciations from Kira C/U primary school for the work we do

PPI takes this opportunity to thank her dear esteemed partners and donors / sponsors for enabling in fulfilling the dreams of many Girl children in Uganda; appreciations go to;

1. CROSS INTERNATIONAL
2. JAMES' JAR OF GIFTS
3. LES FLAMMES AFRICA
4. PPI TEAM LEADER, BOARD MEMBERS AND TRUSTEES
5. PARTNER SCHOOLS & COORDINATORS
6. PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS
7. AND PPI STAFF