



# **Rubanda Solidarity School 2022**



## What is a School Day?

The School Day is an eventful time when the entire school; students, parents, friends, donors, other stakeholders, and invited guests come together to celebrate success stories of their school. It is a process that comprises planning, preparations and celebration of a well anticipated school day, a day worthy of celebrating. The School Day is a great opportunity for the school to create publicity of its own existence and the values for which it exists. Therefore, process must be actively engaging since it's a period of renewal for all when the school demonstrates the talents and skills of its students and staff. It is a day of opportunity in demonstrating the trend of performance, and improvement in both academic and structural development of the school since its foundation. It's also a moment a school shows its impact and contribution to individual students and community transformation. It is indeed an open day for all to come and witness the beauty, power, and opportunity of the school.



**When and why do we celebrate our School Day?** July 27th is our School Day. This is the day when our school remembers and celebrates her birthday. Honoring the day the Rubanda Solidarity Community Development Association and the school were born. But, for this year, the celebration was moved to July 30th which is a more convenient Saturday weekend to avoid conflict with school academic programs and to provide a suitable day for parents and all travelling participants to come and celebrate.

On our School Day, we also celebrate and honour the Calling to Heaven of two great Missionaries namely: Most Rev. Bishop Sixtus Mazzoldi, MCCJ and Very Rev. Fr. John Marangoni, MCCJ of very great memories, who are so special to our school. These two men were both Italian friends who became religious, priests and missionaries within the Comboni missionaries. They were among the renowned missionaries of Bishop St. Daniel Comboni who brought Christian faith to South Sudan, to evangelize Africa before it was divided into today's North and South Sudan. Years later, due to political upheavals in the country of the Sudan, the two missionaries crossed over to Uganda and settled in Moroto diocese in Karamoja, Uganda. Therein, they were inspired to start an African religious missionary congregation of the Apostles of Jesus, which would continue to evangelize the African continent and the world. There at the foot of Mt. Moroto the Apostles of Jesus was born with a seminary and novitiate. Today, these founders are the men the founder of Rubanda Solidarity, Fr. Dominic Tumusiime, AJ, wishes to attribute all his blessings and his ministry. Fr. Tumusiime considers the two missionaries as his religious parents and directly connected to the work of his hands, the Rubanda Solidarity School. For Father truly believes their spiritual intercession in heaven continues to influence the goodness of their missionary work. Just to remind you dear reader, these two missionaries have a divine miracle attached to their death. Despite their death occurring twenty years apart, they both died on the same day of 27th and same month of July. Thus, making it easier for us to celebrate their life, legacy, and death anniversaries together on the same day. Allow me to mention, they are also both buried in the same tomb in the Chapel of our Major seminary in Langa'ta, Nairobi, Kenya following their last wills. Please, pray for them that, through them God's will may be done and one day they may be declared saints by the church.



The Most Reverend Sixtus Mazzoldi, MCCJ and Very Reverend John Marangoni, MCCJ



To conclude, my dear reader and friend, let us celebrate Rubanda Solidarity and our successes. Let us always be humble to learn from our past mistakes, allow God to use us as He wills and move on, more determined for a better tomorrow. Let St. Paul continue to be our daily mentor as he did centuries ago to the Romans when walking his own journey of life and said, *"Rejoice in hope, be patient under trials, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality (Rom. 12:9-13). Because "You Lord, you will not forsake your people, nor abandon your very own, (Psalm 94:14). Indeed, Rubanda Solidarity School has been walking this path for seventeen years now in favour of these little holy ones, the children. My appeal to you is to continue to support us in any form: ideas, volunteering, spiritual intercessory, good neighborliness, monetary, or intellectual support that continue to make our noble mission meaningful. We greatly appreciate all you have been to us and hope you continue to do even more for our school. We are determined to continue to make an impact of a difference to our children, community, and society.*

Only together can we succeed and soon return to celebrate our achievements. God bless you.

**Fr. Dominic Tumusiime, AJ., School Director.**



## The Power of Generous Hearts

My Name is Peace Uwimana the Yamba Abaana USA Representative in Uganda. In this magazine allow me share with you the different developmental episodes that we have realized as Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary School.

We are awesomely thankful to all the donors and sponsors in Yamba Abaana and the Italian sponsors who have tirelessly contributed to the enormous development and change in this community. Allow me to assure you that your labor is not in vain. There is a significant change you are causing in this community. Your support has helped many students become professionals and some of them are currently self-reliant. They are ably supporting their families.

We currently have graduates in different fields, nurses, social workers, engineers, and teachers among others. We are happy that all these alumni are working and earning a living. They have been good role models to the rest of the students that we still have in the program.

Due to the immense commitments from all the stakeholders (parents, teachers, friends and doners, students and local government authorities) over the years we have continued to enjoy the efforts of these stakeholders. We have seen several buildings being erected at the school site, acquired land where they constructed buildings, drilled a water well supply that is even helping the community members, fought malaria and typhoid through donation of mosquito nets and provision of imparked water [purified water which is very safe for drinking], boosted the performance at the primary level in the region through computer/electronic books skills for both staff and students. I want to thank you so much and kindly request you to keep praying for RSDA fraternity and supporting us in all ways you can.

In 2004, Rubanda Solidarity Development Association embarked on a journey to improve the quality of education in the rural areas of Uganda in Rubanda district. To begin, several challenges had been identified in the area of education that needed immediate responses. Due to limited funding and urgency of the challenges that needed to be addressed, the few children who had been selected started their school under the tree.

May God bless you so much

**Peace Uwimana**  
**Yamba Abaana USA Representative in Uganda**



*Parents participate in policy making.*

## HOW TO MAKE FRIENDS

A friend in need is a friend indeed. How do you get such friends? First impression always brings us together and sees if we will really mean something in the future. Such impressions include: our physical hygiene, speech, smile, and overall confidence which paints a picture of oneself to meet another.

Though the first impression is the foundation of making friends, it doesn't define the process of friendship. Friendship is the process that involves trust. Honesty "being the most important pillar of making friends," is openness of the mind to reveal the truth. It reveals the inner person of an individual which determines and makes friendship. The truth is, it's not the physical you that makes friends, but the inner you which finds a mutual feeling of impression, trust, and honesty.

Finally, one has to engage him/herself in communal works, sports activities, hand crafts. This will imply harmony and togetherness, whereby the interested people will join and you create new friends.

"Get United for Success"

***Nisiima Donatira, O.G. 2007-2012***



## MY SCHOOL, MY PRIDE

Dear family of R.S.N. & P/S, including our dear director, Rev. Fr. Dominic T., who had a dream to make such a gathering, administration, teaching and non-teaching staff. I greet you in the name of the Almighty God. Join me as we thank God for the gift of life and that we celebrate this special day as one family of my mother school Solidarity.

Looking back on my life, I know it would have been drastically different if I hadn't gotten Solidarity as my nature school. I hope it wouldn't have been bad, but I know how much I could have missed out on, and I am eternally grateful I didn't, given that is from you that I attained a MasterCard scholarship which supported me from senior 1 to senior 6 and I don't regret this.

You opened my eyes to what I could accomplish and what I could become in ways I never would have thought to be possible without you; the very day I joined Rubanda Solidarity in 2009. For I was a kid from a small town, Kagadi, and it was all I really knew. I could have been contented with that, but you made me want to see what lay beyond the fields I knew, especially during the joyful celebrations of Holy Eucharist that were often held at the school; where one would be asked what they wanted to become in future and all one would want to become was President Museveni.

My dear teachers James, Salvi, Joseph, Adolf, late Nareth, Immaculate (mapa), Joy, Angela, and the H/M: you changed the way I thought about life and about learning. Now I know that I am capable of anything with enough dedication and hard work. Tr. Angela and Sr. Mary Tibihirika, you taught me to read the Bible which has made me know more about God.

As a family of Solidarity, this is all I can leave you with. Take time to enjoy this time of your life and keep your options open. When you look back, you will remember it is as one of the best times of your life. A time of expanding horizons when the world feels full of possibilities. Get acquainted with as many people as possible. The more you know, the more perspective and empathy you will have, as well as the vital connections to help you get where you want to go. Stay focused and never give up.

Let's keep our environment clean. Get United for success. For God and my country.

***Kemigisha Moreen***  
***BS Environmental Science***



## I CAN'T TELL IT ALL

Rubanda Solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!  
Started in the mind of Fr Dominic, way back in 2004  
When time for his study reached;  
Call it time for his research study  
Could not think of any other study  
Other than a study about education issues  
As the old saying goes, "Charity begins at home"  
Could not carry out his study from any other place  
But from Rubanda community, call it his home area  
Wanted to know why children did not  
Have interest and love for education  
Finally, his study was a success!  
Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!  
In 2005! It was no longer in the mind  
But in the hands of Fr Dominic  
Started putting his successful study into action  
Like the old sayings go;  
"Actions speak louder than words"  
"Two hands are better than one"  
"Two heads are better than one"  
Fr Dominic found another hand and head  
Call them people of good will; people of positive thoughts  
Ready to make a step ahead at any cost

Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!

Was now a single tree!

I and you know a tree is for shade

If not for fruits and timber; maybe also for firewood!

Depending which tree planted

Surprisingly, Fr Dominic did not use this tree for either of the above

Became a classroom; Call it a school!

It seems unbelievable to I and you

To Fr Dominic and his good people, it was the way to go

Fr Dominic believed once a vision is known

All is possible even from scratch

Indeed he knew it!

A better life to children with quality education

Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!

It was an incredible step!

"As if it became magical"

Who could tell what he did!

Call it the goodness of God

Indeed God is good



Ask Fr Dominic, will tell you why!  
As the saying goes, "one by one makes a bundle"  
Children, one by one started reporting  
The number grew from one to what a tree  
Could not accommodate

Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!  
It was no longer under a tree  
Life was indeed becoming a better one  
Like at the start, good meals inter alia breakfast, lunch were offered

Good teachers; call them teachers of passion, were there present

More children all over regardless of religion, background

Got a chance to have a better life

Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!

Became a school of many irrespective of race

Who would not want the chance!

As the old saying goes, "a chance comes once"

Did not miss the chance

From then my life became more better

Calling it my home, could not portray anything

But what it has nurtured me into

Even others tell of its wonders

Meet any OB or OG, will tell it all

Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!

How can I describe it for you!

It's beyond description

No one can tell that it started from under a tree

Who can describe it well is who is there now

Was I there! I would have told you

Just know Fr Dominic sowed "a mastered tree"

Indeed, he did!

OBs and OGs desire going back.

Meet him or her tells you, come January!

Him, and her know why!

Since then it became his, and her home

East, West, home is the best.

Wants to feel the comfort his, and her home gives

Rubanda solidarity! Rubanda solidarity!

I am because you did it all.

I will be because you gave it to me: the foundation

You are my home because you became

Many want to be there because you are a school of all

If given a chance, could register for baby class

You have become better than those days

I am because you are, and since I am, you are

Live long my Alma Mater

"Get united for success"

"A better life"

"When you do a job with passion, it ceases to be a job" Fr

Dominic

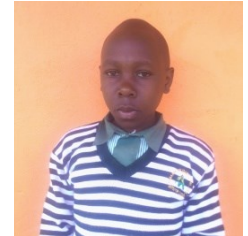
**Compiled by,**

**Eudecius Ainomugisha (OB, 2005-2013)**

**Katigondo National Major Seminary, Masaka.**

## MY LOVELY SCHOOL IN MY LIFE

Rubanda Solidarity is my lovely school in life. I am happy because it cares about me since 2014. We eat well compared to other schools. Our daily meals include rice, posho, ground nuts, vegetables, and beans. We enjoy local sorghum porridge, “Enkumba” twice a week as our breakfast. We love it so much.



We have a smart water tank which filters and provides us with safe drinking water for our daily need. We also have other sources of water harvesting like plastic and cement tanks and a borehole with electric pump. Sports in the valley on our playground is our favorite time outside the school gates. We use it to do different physical body exercises for social and better health.

We have well facilitated teachers and well-constructed classrooms, dormitories, and multipurpose hall in the area. Oh, how happy are the students because of the new computer lab and lessons in our school, upgrading the E-readers. We are becoming experts in using computers and soon we will be on a global arena.

I want to end by thanking our administrators for introducing the 3 School Pillars of Faith, Academics and Life Skills. They are easy to remember and to engage all students by providing possibilities of choice of engagement. I am happy at my school and wish others to come and join.

**Hillary Nowamani P.6**



*Students enjoying traditional clay skills in the school yard.*



*Headteacher, Nursery Deputy, Coordinator of Projects, and Director inspecting the fruits of school gardening.*

## PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION

This is the best school in all ways of strengthening. Spiritually we learn how to love and develop the fear of God. We have weekend Praise and Worship great moments. We also go to the church every Sunday. We have an opportunity to learn new songs, form Young Christian Action associations for students to create clubs to facilitate bonding, socializing, and learning about faith and life of service in the community. We learn how to live our faith in action. We learn how to read and teach the Holy Bible and train new Altar servants.

Having Regionaries of Mary every Thursdays, Praise and Worship every Saturday by our lovely Teachers has also continued to strengthen our faith. We thank the administrators and teachers who teach spiritual exercises very devoutly.

May God bless those who wish this school long life in abundance.

Long live Rubanda Solidarity and Keep Shining.

**Vanis Andiheihi P.6**



# INTERVIEW WITH THE SCHOOL DIRECTOR

Here comes Asimwe Innocent and Ventina Twinamasiko meeting the director Fr. Dominic.

“A knock at the door”

**Inno and Ventina:** Good morning, Father

**Fr. Dominic:** Good morning, Staff..... laughs

**Inno and Ventina:** We are editors of Rubanda Solidarity school magazine 2022 and we are requesting to have an interview with you.



**Fr. Dominic:** Oh, I appreciate that noble cause, please be seated!

**Inno and Ventina:** When did you get a vision of starting this great school?

**Fr. Dominic:** Aah... many years ago. It was during my missionary service years in southern highlands of Ethiopia, during the peak of HIV/AIDS virus. Arriving home for my vacation, I noticed increasing numbers of students dropping out of the only existing government primary day schools. Rubanda West had no single private school then. That meant there were no private schools, no boarding school, and no meals served during school times. Remember, schools were long distances far from most homes and many students walked for miles to get to school from Monday to Friday on empty stomachs. With this happening, I decided to do something to make a difference. During my home vacation of 2004, I graciously met Sr. Stella working as a Deputy and Mrs. Ssebugwaho Ntegyereze as a headteacher of Rubanda Mixed Primary school. With Sr. Kyasiimiire we agreed to launch a study program to find and confirm reasons for the increasing drop out and the school administration gave us permission to use their premises. After a year of study, the results confirmed food as the main cause. And so, we began the first Nursery and Primary School in Rubanda West that was day and boarding in 2005.

**Inno and Ventina:** (surprised eee...) That was great! Rubanda Solidarity School is known to be among the leading schools in Uganda, how have you managed to climb that ladder?

**Fr. Dominic:** This is by several factors: by the results of the previous unpublished research, clear vision, great mission and child/student focused objectives and putting our foundation on the 3 Pillars of Faith, Academics and Life Skills. The name of our school too is very attractive and embodies the values we stand for like Unity is power and “Get United for Success”. All these reinforce each another for good performance and excellence. Our emphasis is on teamwork, community involvement and building of in and out partnerships which have become our backbone for our growth, expansion, and future sustainability. We strongly believe in the Kiga proverb that it’s the combination of two teeth that shatters a bone.

**Inno and Ventina:** (smile) How did you feel when the PLE results were released for the first time, and you found Rubanda Solidarity with 19/21 candidates of 2012 in first grade?

**Fr. Dominic:** (Laughs.....) Ooh, after the UPLE national results and all our candidates had passed with distinguished excellence, I ran to my room, picked the New American Bible to search for the real words of the song of the Psalmist. I immediately found it, “Those who sow in tears will reap with cries of joy”, Psalm 126: 5.

**Inno and Ventina:** By the way, how old is Rubanda Solidarity School?

**Fr. Dominic:** Hahaha, we turned adult youth this year, 18 years old study year inclusive. We can now drive, and the skies are no longer our limit.

**Inno and Ventina:** We know you are a missionary priest who moves wherever you are sent, how do you manage to lead the school when you are not there always?

**Fr. Dominic:** aah, I love this. The Kiga proverb has it that where there is the heart there are the early morning legs. I also believe strongly in the common experience that when you do something with a passion it stops being a job. These two elements guide me and pull me in with a conviction that I have two related missions: one by the obligation of my religious life and discipline; and the other by walking extra miles in sharing my energies and opportunities to share and contribute to the needs of people who cannot do it themselves. To serve and make a difference, I rely on the providence of God. I know God is rich and can give anything out of love for love. He has always fulfilled his promise. He gives me rightful people to team up with me as administrator on the grounds, friends to join hands in both materially and intellectually to keep our noble work.

**Inno and Ventina:** Father, you have taught us to be focused and disciplined to have a bright future; how do you normally feel when suspending a worker or a student due to indiscipline?

**Fr. Dominic:** It always takes time and patience to suspend a staff member. But once I see that my patience is not helpful and instead it is becoming a hazard for the life and performance of the school and the values we stand for, I have no choice but take a painful decision. For that we have put our Constitution and Personnel Manual in place and encourage each staff member to study it and be conversant with it to protect that good relationship between the employer and employee.

**Inno and Ventina:** Thank you very much Fr. Dominic for your time. See you in the next release of the solidarity school magazine.

**Fr. Dominic:** (smiles) Thank you, my dears and God bless you!



## SUCCESS! SUCCESS!

The part that people see and the part they don't see gives VALUE. I have carefully sat to the best of my ability and reflected through understanding to share the valuable and the witnessed struggles to live life which gives VALUE. God has given a chance to evaluate the given opportunity and improved development, passionate to inspire before we expire.

Rubanda Solidarity Development Association (RSDA), a ministry of opportunities to serve the needs of the poor and the vulnerable, touched all the basics of life, with its three pillars of Academic, Skills and Spiritual growth. With the great resources put in towards founding, living and promoting the spirit God has been with us.



SUCCESS has come through people of Good WILL in the following aspects: passion, time, hard work, sacrifice, VISION, energy, failure and learning, but it remains success.

Following the right Mission, VISION and objectives, we have generated accountability and transparency that demands professionalism, innovativeness. This requires us to create something new as an added value to the OLD WAY of doing things.

The discovery of the new knowledge and new ways of doing things will generate new solutions to existing problems that accompany a growing and competitive world. It involves proper management of staff, community, parents, learners, donors, and alumni to ensure collaborative energy to create a conducive atmosphere where everyone feel in and ready for commitment for the community of the community. Teamwork requires the members to work individually and collectively towards a common goal. Solidarity spirit is essential if we are to make a difference in each other's lives and especially the lives of our children.

As we thank God through all the challenges we have encountered, let us celebrate the memory of the most Rev. Bishop Sixtus Mazzoldi and his counterpart Very Rev. Fr. John Marengoni MCCJ. The founders of Apostles of Jesus of whom the Director General of Rubanda Development Association belongs, Rev. Fr. Dominic Tumusiime.

Thank you God for all such Gifts to your people you created.

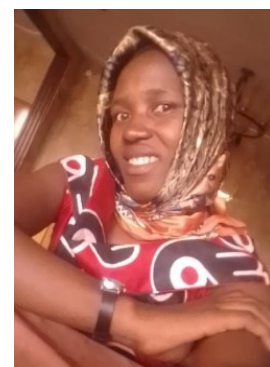
**Sr. Stella Maris Kyasiimire OLCG**



## SOLIDARITY! SOLIDARITY!

My name is Solidarity and I live with my friend Love. We live to respect and identify the suffering and the unhappy We make communities strong as we bring people closer together. We teach people to avoid conflicts, encourage them to share their time, and help each other when needed so that they benefit from being part of the same community.

People who feel us, and love us, support each other and have a spirit of togetherness with others. They stand and stick to each other. We always suggest a relationship of unity among people as we say, "all for one and one for all". My friend is unconditional of me, so Love is unconditional solidarity. Our other friends are loyalty, respect, trust, commitment, compassion. Love is so important for our survival. Without us, there is little to inspire you to work harder and to have nicer things. There is also no one to whom you can leave the things for which you have worked hard for in life, and you cannot take them with you when you are gone.



Everyone needs us to keep peace and unity because we always guarantee agreement. We love being here at school because the three people who started the school live with these virtues. We love and live to walk with everyone. Long live Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary school! Long live Uganda. For God and my country!

**Ms. Rosette Ayebare Aryatunga**





## A SALUTE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

I salute you readers of this magazine upon joining us celebrating the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and thanksgiving of Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary school. I like to liken Rubanda Solidarity School to a mustard seed spoken of in the Bible.

The Gospel of Luke 13:18-19 says, "it is like a mustard seed which a man took and planted in his garden, and it grew and became a large tree, and the birds of the air came and nested in its branches".

Solidarity is a school with total enrolment of 330 pupils and 32 staff members. It is a school that does not segregate by religion, tribe, or clan. It is school strongly built on 3 pillars of Academic, Life Skills and Faith/Spiritual. These pillars have enabled us to focus better on the values of our school in delivering quality education and general performance of the school. We understand that there is no easy road to success but together we can be as our motto says, "Get united for success".

Please our distinguished reader, allow me to reveal to you that since the beginning, our school is a charity school. It's a non-profit school driven by faith in God and a means of living our faith in action to develop our community through the Founders of our school. Our interest is to support and work with those struggling to make a difference in the lives of our children, families, and communities to build a better life. This makes our school unique and different from other schools you know in your area. In order to do this well we have surrounded ourselves with responsible teachers, support staff and great friends and work as a team to deliver the best for our students. Rubanda Solidarity believes it's the healthy body that sustains a healthy mind in the classroom. So, our main priority in striving to create quality education is to offer basic needs which include how students sleep, pray, learn, personal health, eat, and drink safe water. We want them to move into a competitive world by investing in computer science and introducing our students to it from their early stage of life development. In response to these basic needs, our school has invested much to better school menu, add a purified water drinking system, mosquito nets, and school gardens for balanced diet. Faith is our pillar of discipline in the school. For we believe it's God who educates the heart and builds a human person.

As a Headteacher, I would like to thank the founders, Rev. Fr. Dominic Tumusiime and Sr. Stellamaris Kyasimire, and the entire team in the administration, parents and students, donors, government and religious leaders, Rubanda Primary Healthcare III, School Alumni, neighbors, and all stake holders. Indeed, our years of existence success stories are a great proof that "Unity is power" and "United for success" is a reality that works. Many thanks to our community elders and business partners and supporters of the school who include suppliers of school needs like Mr. Kyaka Gaston and Mr. Methodius, and Medical missionary sisters to mention but a few. This support towards our school is necessary and has always made our work easy especially in the greatest time of need.

On behalf of Rubanda Solidarity School, we are more committed and determined to make our school a school of excellence for holistic development Rubanda Solidarity has always enjoyed and stood for over the years.

Long live Rubanda Solidarity, long live Uganda and together we can.

***Innocent Asimwe***

**Head Teacher**





## A WORD FROM THE COMPUTER LAB MANAGER

I am Tr. Edger Monday, the School's New Computer Lab Manager.

I want to bring you great news from our school. Since the beginning of this year, the administration has worked hard to purchase and equip our new computer lab. Together, we are determined to ensure our commitment to better life by improving each day the means to quality education for our students, school, and the community.



We have found ourselves in a very competitive world and computer technology has become one of the necessity tools to engage in global competition. Therefore, its upon caring institutions like Rubanda Solidarity to keep visionary and preparing students fit for this competition, both in personal and public sector management. We are very grateful to the Administration of Rubanda Solidarity that keeps on top of advocacy for quality child education.

Many years ago, we introduced E-Readers, Kindles. But starting with this year 2022, we have upgraded to computers and integrated our school syllabus with Basic Computer technology classes. Classes (grades) 1-3 students start with the iPads known as E-readers or Kindles while Classes (grades) 4-7 upgrade to computers. To be efficient, we started our new computer training by organizing a Basic Computer Training Certificate Course for all our administrators, teachers, and staff as a requirement for now and the future employees so they can confidently deliver to their learners in the classroom.

As a new Lab Manager, I want to appreciate the Administration, the Yamba Abaana USA and all our stakeholders who are behind this innovation. I also congratulate everyone upon reaching this special day (Solidarity Day). With all these innovations, we are determined to continue to deliver quality services for better transform of individual child and society. For us, all students can pass exams and be meaningful in life if they are just given the right tools.

Computer skills will greatly benefit the students laying the foundation of their competitive world of survival. Our school is therefore committed to render what is needed to our young generations. Please come and join us. Do not let your child or that of your friend miss this God given opportunity.

***Edgar Monday***  
***Computer Lab Manager***



## EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO LIFE

It's a great pleasure to thank God Almighty for the gift of life. I also thank the school administration for their vision and dedication for quality education in this school. Their networking for the benefit of students, community and success of the school is awesome.

The child of today needs their eyes opened and giving quality education is handing over an opener that makes the mind capable of transcending beyond the horizons of nature for a better life. So, education remains the right key a child should never miss in school.

Indeed, Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary school has become masterly in this and is steadily progressing. The provision of basic needs like computer skills to staff and students are benchmarks for her determination for delivering quality education and making a difference in people's lives.

Long live Rubanda Solidarity, long live Uganda.

**Ms Ventina Twinamasiko**

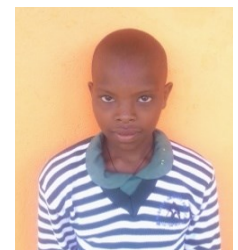


*Nursery students receiving reading guidance from selected primary students under the mentorship of Teacher Immaculate.*



## MY SCHOOL, MY TREE OF LIFE

Rubanda Solidarity began under a tree. It was begun by Rev. Fr. Dominic Tumusiime assisted by Rev. Sr. Stellamaris Kyasiimire. We thank God for His love and Divine Providence. God has always provided to our school needs with good people to work as a team and committed to serve as administrators, coordinator, head teacher and all other staff members. We are proud of our school which connects with many internal and external friends and donors who generously love, come, and help us to improve on our living conditions to build a better life. We love our school's health care system working with our school nurse who closely works with the RPHC III for referrals. Lots of gratitude goes to our school administration and donors for the assistance given the hardest times of COVID-19 and related lockdowns for a period of two years. Let me conclude by appreciating our teachers and support staff who treat us like their own children and as our parents. Oh, what a good school Rubanda Solidarity is!



**Tavel Orikubasa P.4**

## WHAT IS GOOD WITH EDUCATION?

*By two great friends, Victor and Kimera, who met at a water well*

**Victor:** How are you, Kimera?

**Kimera:** I am fine, how is life?

**Victor:** I am fine too but I would like to ask you about education.

**Kimera:** You may ask me please.

**Victor:** What is good with education?

**Kimera:** Education is good when you enjoy it in a better school.

**Victor:** What better school do you tell me to join?

**Kimera:** Rubanda Solidarity School

**Victor:** What is good there?

**Kimera:** Our school is good and has well trained teachers who help us in everything, matrons take care of us, and other many support staff members help us in our studies. Did you know that our school has opened a computer laboratory attached to a library for more research in our studies?

**Victor:** Oh no! That's good and exciting. I am going to inform my parents to bring me to that school called Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary School.

**Kimera:** Okay thank you for listening to me, have a good day.

**Victor:** Welcome and good day too, my friend.

**Victor Byarugaba and Araphat Kimera P.6**



*Students pausing for a group photo after a football game using a donated ball by a school neighbor Alex Kasiano (in blue).*

## SPORTS IS LIFE IN RUBANDA SOLIDARITY SCHOOL

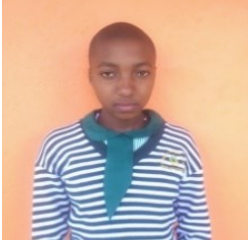
I first send my gratitude to readers of this article. I hope life is better in any place you are occupying now. I am so glad and happy to be one of Rubanda Solidarity Students. With great joy, allow me to say a big thank you to our beloved Director General Rev. Fr. Tumusiime Dominic for working tirelessly with his Administration to promote sports in our school. Sports is life in the school.

Let me also thank our sports teachers Tr. Edgar and Tr. Jonathan who try their level best to train us in all sports and games. In addition to that we also go for a jog every Saturday morning which also helps us to refresh our minds. Just come and join us to enjoy this great chance in life with us.

May God bless you all.

**Adarius Niwahereza P.7**





## SUNSHINE SCHOOL

I am so proud to have joined this lovely, beautiful, and shining school. I can't even imagine how Fr. Dominic Tumusiime thought of beginning this school in 2004. What was going on in his mind? Love? Christ? Business? Education? Children or what?

I joined this school in 2011 but found it the best I had ever known and heard of. The most interesting part came when they introduced the Three Pillars program of Faith, Academics and Life Skills. We love the pillars the more. They make our school brighter like the sun and sweeter like milk and honey.

By Faith we always pray in the morning, before meals, and going to sleep. We also have Praise and Worship using our Bibles and songs on Saturdays. We also have Holy Mass celebrations at school and in the main church. These moments make us alive. I can't love my school enough. On academics, we have passionate teachers, self-driven and eager to sharpen us into great citizens of today and tomorrow. And when it comes to Life Skills, we beat the district. We have sports, handwork activities like necklace making, gardening, sports, among others. Amazingly, recently the school administration surprised us with a new computer lab furnished with computers and photocopy machines for us. We are so overjoyed, busy learning computing and feel the sky will no longer be our limit. And all they say is "We need you to have better life" by offering you the best means to quality education and leave the rest to you to work hard". Oh, we can't tell it all.

We are overwhelmed by how our school is loved by many friends and donors all over the world. Our Founder must have some trick with God. But we know God is love. They come to visit us, write to us, and give us surprise gifts to enjoy together at school. They are a great hand to our school and our future excellence. We love them too.

Otherwise, I wish you well.

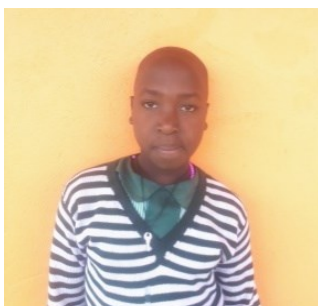
Long live Rubanda Solidarity, long live Uganda.

**Tracy Ainembabazi P.7 Class**



## BORN UNDER A TREE NOW SHELTERING HUNDREDS OF LIVES

Rubanda Solidarity was began under a tree. Who knew what would come out of its humble beginnings then? A huge, giant tree is already providing a canopy for over 330 young lives. Indeed, it was an inspired dream from God. Fr. Dominic did not keep the dream to himself but soon brought the candle from under the bed to the high tower so it could light for many to see. Sr. Stellamaris and Mr.



Rogers saw and jumped out to see the light shining from afar through the forest. I thank you our director whom God has used to build such great modern school in Rubanda. Our sponsors deserve our appreciation. Today's story would be different and run short of words if it was not with their great contribution. They are always there for us in good and bad times. Covid-lockdown is an unforgettable reality. We cannot forget and we cannot tell it all. Oh, what a great school Solidarity is!

**Cabline Niwandinda P.5**

## COMPUTERS HAVE COME TO STAY TO CHANGE LIVES

Many people today still ask what a computer is all about. A computer is a useful tool that has come to stay and change our daily life. It may help in doing some electronic transactions, such as making payments, purchasing, and others. It helps perform the tasks assigned to the user. It provides tools and means to facilitate work, such as tables, worksheets, presentations, and many more. It helps teachers and students to learn fast, research and become more connected. Oh, we love our new computer lab and lessons.



This year is amazing. Just returning from Covid lockdowns, we thought adjusting our lives to school life was going to be tough. But it has not been so with us at Rubanda Solidarity. We had two weeks of adjustment program with so many activities to get each student back into the system. It was a great program that brought our former life of bonding back together.

Shortly later we resumed our three Pillars of Faith, Academics, and Life Skills. We just love our 3 Pillars. We have a fully equipped computer laboratory with great computers, and multifunctional photocopier to make sure our search for quality education is real. Our well-trained computer teacher Edgar Monday knows what he is doing. We are so anxious to know everything about computers and study computers weekly each class with a fixed day schedule.

These computers have helped us to improve a lot on our life skills and academics because we get more knowledge and notes through the computers.

Special thanks to the Director General, his administration, our friends from Yamba Abaana USA for the great opportunity of computers at our school in Rubanda.

### ***Proscovia Niwanyine and Ritah Nyakato P.7 Class***



*The District Education officer handing over gifts to our former students on their graduation day with administration and congregation happily looking on.*

## WE HAVE ANGELS AT OUR SCHOOL

It's we Caroline, Rucia, and Joseph. Oh, what a lovely, beautiful, and caring school Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary school is! This is because when you are in this school, you feel as if you are in heaven and surrounded by Angels who are our caring teachers and support staff. Dear staff, we are lucky and proud to have you. Besides having good and caring teachers, we also eat like queens and kings. And my favorite is rice and eggplants among others.



Our school is faith-filled and God-fearing community. It's a beautiful place everyone would design to bring his or her child or that of a friend. I love our school buildings with their spacious dormitories, classrooms, and gorgeous multipurpose hall with their eye-catching colours of orange, green and white. It's a unique school found in the trees, surrounded by a pure green environment that when approaching it you feel its natural breeze. We are very proud to be at Rubanda Solidarity School, a wonderful place full of life and interesting things, friendly to us students. It is rare to find this kind of school. It's a school I can recommend to my siblings and friends.

*"Get United for Success"*

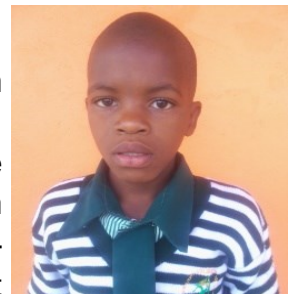
Rubanda Solidarity is the best and we are the best students.

***Caroline Ainembabazi, Ricia Asimwe, Joseph Nabasa P7 Class***



## MY SCHOOL STANDS ON THREE PILLARS

The first day I arrived in Rubanda Solidarity School, I was surprised. An older student started asking me what School Pillar I wanted to join. I had no idea of what he was talking about. Then another student arrived as we were still talking and added that the three pillars were like three main poles on which a traditional house stands. If all the three poles are missing, a house cannot stand and if one or two are missing still it will not stand straight. It became interesting before another student joined us and put things straight by saying the three pillars were *Faith, Academics* and *Life Skills*. That to study well one needs faith in God. He went on to say that the main reason we come to school is because we want to study (Academics) and these studies will only be meaningful if we translate them into Life Skills to improve life, serve and live a better life.



We love our parish Sunday Masses, School Mass and our praise and worship Saturday hours.

We love skills time in sports, drama, skits etc. with our beautiful school motto *"Get united for success*. Which means in our school, we must ever be united. Our core values are faith in God, excellence in academics and Life Skills for a better life. Yes! We have faith in God.

I greatly appreciate Rev. Fr. Dominic Tumusiime for his wisdom to plan to start this school. It has spearheaded the development of education in the new district of Rubanda.

***Ishameal Niwagaba P.5***



## **A WORD FROM THE NUSERY SECTION MOTHER**

I am Teacher Kesande Joy, the deputy in charge of Nursery section. I want to start by thanking God who has enabled us to reach on this special school day. Rubanda Solidarity Nursery School is composed of day and boarding students for both boys and girls. It was started by Rev. Fr. Dominic Tumusiime assisted by Sr. Stel-lamaris and Mr. Rogers Orishaba. His vision was to support especially the vulnerable children and families to have “Better Life”. In order to achieve this for children and society was to offer the children and the community means to “Quality Education”.

Before founding Rubanda Solidarity, Father organized a study year to find out why students were not interested in the only existing government aided schools and why there were high dropouts. His one year experiment had 72 students who spent it under a tree but with exceptional breakfast after assembly and before classes. Father testifies that breakfast changed everything students thought about school. A year later in 2005 Rubanda Solidarity officially started with both Nursery and primary sections for both girls and boys, day and boarding and non-discriminatory due either religion, gender, physical disability or even tribe or clan. For years both primary and nursery sections were in one compound but now each is independent.

I thank God who has kept our nursery school steadily growing stronger and providing a great foundation for primary section since 2004 up. I also thank our friends for the generous support they have always given to the school and the entire community. I pray that the Lord God may continue to bless our nursery school. Rubanda Solidarity Nursery school has three classes/grades of Baby (4 years), Middle Class (4 years) and Top Class (5-6 years). Top Class learners normally graduate at the end of the third term. It's always an enjoyable day with parents, friends, and the entire school family.

In addition to that, we have introduced the three School Pillars in our school which are Spiritual, Academic and Life Skills. These pillars are easy for children to understand the purpose for which they come to school. Each child is guided how to identify where his love and passion are so to join that for active participation. Learners love the three pillars so much. Our school is a home any caring family would love his child to be or that of a friend. I encourage parents and guardians to consider bringing your child or reaching out to your friend and neighbor not to miss this God given opportunity for your child.

I can't fail to extend my great appreciation to our directors for the compassion they are putting into the Nursery School and the community. Our Founders tell us that in order for children to receive quality education they must receive basic needs for their daily living. These basic needs include balanced food, safe drinking water, good place for sleeping, health care and disease prevention, required scholastic materials, security, light, God, and life skills. Good child development needs all this in place. Our administration is progressively realizing this. Just to mention, this year our school has upgraded from E-reader to integrated basic computer learning syllabus. In the near future the top class/grade will be introduced to E-readers so the learner starts to know about technology before going into primary one. Our Nursery students love very much rice, avocados, egg plants, local porridge (enkumba) and many others. The reason we have a school garden. Our school nurse is efficient in taking care of our students in collaboration with the Rubanda Primary Health Center III. As we know little children need more health attention. May God bless our Nursery School Forever.



**Joy Kesande**  
**Deputy in Charge of Nursery section**





## WHY DO WE FIGHT WITH PEOPLE WE LOVE?

Part of what it means to be a human being is to be sinful. That's what our first ancestors Adam and Eva did. In other words, no one in this world is perfect. We all do wrong things, our actions displease God and our fellow brothers and sisters and the worst of it all get us into trouble. Sinfulness causes us to get onto each other's nerves and to get angry with one another and with ourselves. We even argue and fight with the people we love, like our friends, parents, our brothers and sisters. God has given us simple rules for living and if we follow His rules we will get along with each other. Note to our parents: stay impartial and resist the urge to take sides. If the fight is verbal, try to work as a mediator instead of a judge. Offer each one the opportunity to communicate the issue to the other. Encourage the children to come to a mutual solution that they both agree with. Offer suggestions and guide the conversation to help resolve the issue. Praise them for resolving the issue on their own. If the fight is physical, immediately separate the children and send the both of them away from each other for sometime. Since you may not have seen the entire quarrel it's not just fair to discipline one child. When you discipline both you are sending a no tolerance message for physical violence.



### *Asiimwe Anaclet*



## THE THREE PILLARS OF OUR SCHOOL OUR ALMA MATER (Rubanda Solidarity Community)

Dear esteemed readers, we are delighted to share a glimpse of some of the many attributes, proud moments and pillars that make Rubanda Solidarity outstanding. The strength of our school is sponsored by three PILLARS namely, Faith, Academic and Life Skills. Founded by Rev. Fr Tumusiime Dominic, Solidarity stands on a firm Catholic faith foundation.

During our times at school, God took the first place and hence prayers were regularly conducted be it in the morning, at meals and in evenings. Occasional masses some of which were attended at the parish and others within the school were mandatory. This spiritual nourishment has yielded results since some OBs and OGs have joined religious vocations of priesthood and sisterhood and the discipline levels of all who have passed through solidarity is highly appreciated.

The valiant academic excellence at Solidarity saw the 21 pioneers in 2012 score highly with first position in Rubanda district for years till now. This academic excellency is attributed to the highly motivated and passionate teachers, study tours and seminars in and outside the former Kabale district. Since then Rubanda Solidarity has kept her outstanding record of excellence.

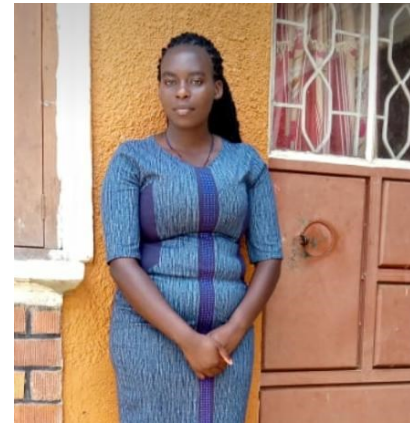
We the OBs and OGs are thankful to our Alma mater for the supportive life skills that were cherished during and after our times. Some of these include handwork (craft making) which is the currently highly competitive life skill in the job market, football and other sports activities to have healthy pupils since a healthy mind is only in a healthy body. Debate competitions were held within and outside school and I can boldly say they improved our speech, communication skills and confidence whereby most of our obs and ogs are holding leadership positions in different institutions.

Rubanda Solidarity therefore remains the only place where excellence is nurtured, pursued and celebrated as we work to create a positive change for a better world.

"One day in Rubanda Solidarity Nursery and Primary school is better than a thousand days elsewhere."

"GET UNITED FOR SUCCESS"

***Ninsiima Odiira***  
***Alumni Chairperson***







*To find out more about our mission or to make a donation,  
please contact us:*

Rubanda Solidarity  
P.O. Box 1050  
Kabale Uganda  
+1.971.400.1777  
+256.039.290.0394

kakihumaa@gmail.com  
rubandasolidarity22@gmail.com  
www.rubandasolidarity.blogspot.com  
www.yambaabaana.org  
www.facebook.com/yambaabaana.org

11th Edition—2022