FATHER SON HOLY SPIRIT

WHERE ARE THEY TODAY?

HOLY TRINITY PEACE VILLAGE SUCCESS of FORMER STUDENTS

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get understanding rather than silver!

Proverbs 16:16

St. John Paul II Nursery and St. Thomas Primary School were first initiated in 2005. This was the very first education facility in this area. At that time, there was only one building and no other structures to speak of. The nursery was held under a tree and primary students were packed into two small rooms. Over the years, the education in Kuron has expanded to three nursery sites, the Primary school in Kuron Peace Village and now the Secondary School in Matara. There are over 550 students enrolled in these three levels.

Some of the pupils have started in Nursery, attended the Primary 1 through 8, and then completed their Secondary education somewhere else. It is difficult to maintain communication with these alumni as cell phones and internet are not always available. However, some of these former students have kept in touch with HTPVK staff and we are aware of their current situation.

Daniel Lokwar and Lotabo Amvelio were two notable pupils. They both came to the Nursery school in 2006 by themselves and determined to study. Their parents were not in favor of education in a school so they were left to

Figure 2 Daniel Lokwar studies in Torit

fend for themselves. In those days, there were no boarding facilities so the boys had to sleep on the ground in the compound. There were some communities bringing sorghum and

Figure 1 Amvelio Lotabo studies in Wau

milk so that thesepupils did have something to eat although it was very minimal.

What Teacher Chandia Prisca remembers about these two boys was how quickly they picked up, especially in English. Persistence paid off and they both graduated from Secondary School with honors. Today, Daniel is currently on scholarship studying in Torit at the Health Training Institute to be a Clinical Officer. Amvelio is also on scholarship in Wau at the Community Health Training Institute studying to be a Nurse. Both are on pace to graduate within the year and return to Kuron Peace Village to work with their own people. Two examples of Toposa boys going through the Kuron Peace Village education system and becoming successful.

There are many other alumni out there like Lokwar and Amvelio. The difficulty is communication, but HTPVK does hear from some of them from time to time. Out of those who have graduated in previous years, there are several notable alumni who have gone on to Secondary or graduated and become successful.

- 1. As mentioned: Amvelio who will return to Kuron Matara PHCC in April.2022 to serve as Clinical Officer.
- 2. As mentioned: Daniel Lokwar, graduated from St. Thomas in 2013, and attended Juba Secondary School. He will return to Kuron Matara PHCC in 2023 to serve as Nurse.
- 3. Nelda Nachebe is enrolled in a Clinical Officer course in Nairobi, Kenya. There is a strong indication she will return to Peace Village as she has a scholarship from Mercy Beyond Borders.
- 4. Peter Obore, is a graduate of the class of 2013, and completed secondary in Narus, He has his Secondary Certificate and teaches at the St. Thomas Primary School today. He is a priority to send to teacher training for an advanced certificate in Education.



Figure 3 An early photo of Nelda Nachebe in Primary School

- 5. Peter Lomojie graduated from Kapoeta Secondary School was working for Andrea Foods and now works for OPRD who are one of the donors for HTPVK.
- 6. David Rachu (2013) another primary school graduate, finished Logistics and Procurement courses in Kenya and remains there doing business.
- 7. Titus, (2013) a male Primary School graduate is also pursuing his degree in Education at Juba University.
- 8. Amos Lomana (2012) is a businessman with his own shop in Kapoeta.
- 9. One of the boys who started in Nursery at Kuron Peace Village is now at Juba University studying Finance.



Figure 4 Peter Obore, CLASS of 2013 has returned to teach at his Alma Mater

Graduates from St. John Paull II Nursery and St. Thomas Primary are doing further studies, working in business, or occupied in some sort of profession. They are the leaders and role models for those currently enrolled in the programs. Who are we teaching today that will be a leader of tomorrow? Which of our current students will rise above the challenges to be a contributor to the development and growth of their country? A teacher's greatest joy is to see a former student succeed. Life is not easy and it takes some luck to become successful. However, with the Grace of God, Holy Trinity Peace Village will continue to educate and train the Toposa leaders of tomorrow.

(Sources: Interviews with Nursery and Primary School Heads and Teachers, Students, HTPVK Staff, and school records. Edited by Gabe Hurrish: 24.Nov.2021)