



## **A Success Story**

### **A Student Of St. Thomas**

### **Primary School**

Mr. Paul Lorii, caregiver, at the Matara nursery interviewed:  
**Mr. Iko Longyia from Namuton village**

My name is Nakuruwa Iko. My father is Iko Longyia from Namuton village. I am ten years old and attend the St. Thomas Primary school in Kuron. I am the 5<sup>th</sup> out of 10 children in my mother's family. We used to live at Namorupus before but now my parents live in Namuton.

Before I started school I used to rear goats and scare birds in the fields. I would help my mother with digging in the garden. My elder brother was taking care of the cattle. He used to admire those who were going to school.

I joined school because I got information from my step-brother called Peter Lokwar Iko. Then later his parents sent him to school in St. Thomas Primary school in 2019. He had to travel a long distance on foot from Namuton village to the school every day. His fear was that he could be kidnapped or abducted by the Jie. At that time the schools was not free like nowadays. His parents had to pay. He later left Kuron in June 2019 and came to St. Paul Nursery in Matara. All his friends were there.

But in 2020 the school was closed because of Covid 19. Life was hard again at home. Although he used to attend the mobile school which the teachers came to the village at times, but now there was no breakfast or lunch and our stomachs hurt.

My life at school is better than in the village. At school I can get porridge, other food and play football with my friends. I expect to be able to stay in the school during the terms and only go home for holidays. I also expect at times to receive rice and beans plus some meat and tea and chapatti. We don't get this at home.



*Pupils have assembly at St. Thomas Primary School*

For my future, I look at Mr. Mark Lokeno, the nutritionist assistant at a Health Clinic. After I finish my studies in secondary I also want to learn about nutrition and work as he does but in Kapoeta.

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