

HOW MUGUNGA BUILT HUB OF CREATIVITY AT NETZAH

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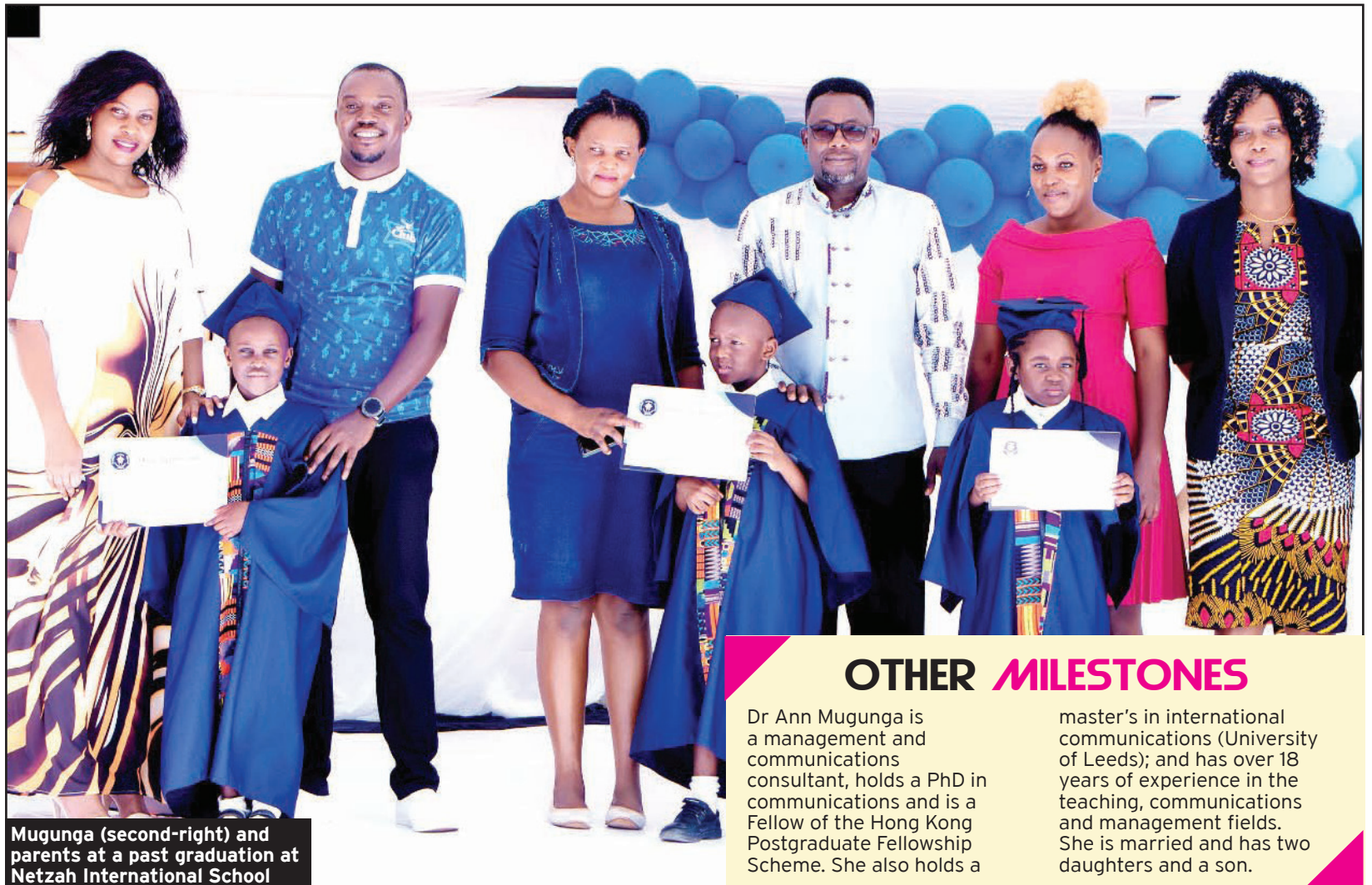
Netzah International School was premised on a vision very dear to Mugunga: To raise Uganda's children in a loving, nurturing and Christian school environment.

Adhering to this, Netzah is nestled in a vibrant landscape that exudes an air of joy and enchantment north of Kampala, in Gayaza.

Sticking to Mugunga's core principles, Netzah is the only school in Uganda that uses the kindergarten, Bible-based Weekday Early Education curriculum for 0-6 years. It focuses on learning through play. The upper classes use the Accelerated Christian Education curriculum, from grades one to 12.

Netzah is also evident in all the love that Mugunga has poured into nurturing children. From the exterior adorned with colourful designs that invite children into a world of imagination, to interior walls with children's artwork and educational displays fostering creativity.

Netzah is a testament to Mugunga's journey from shying away from teaching to building a haven for children and a strong message that "nothing is impossible."



Mugunga (second-right) and parents at a past graduation at Netzah International School

OTHER MILESTONES

Dr Ann Mugunga is a management and communications consultant, holds a PhD in communications and is a Fellow of the Hong Kong Postgraduate Fellowship Scheme. She also holds a

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WHY TEACHING CHILDREN VALUE OF WORK IS ESSENTIAL



**MAMA
TENDO**

The need to teach children how to work cannot be underscored. Children have to learn how to work and need to have a good attitude towards work. Parents are key to ensuring that this is done. Whether children live in the city centre or the village, they should be trained to use their hands.

The prevailing belief is that people who have lived in rural settings all their lives know how to work hard. We assume that poverty is rife in their environment and they are hardworking.

However, you may be surprised that this is not necessarily true as many have grown up in the village but are lazy.

They cannot do any chores when they go to visit relatives in the city. They would rather wake up in the morning, have breakfast and then return to bed until they are called for lunch.

Life demands that we work hard



Teaching children to work cultivates responsibility

and not be lazy. If we love progress and financial independence, we must work hard. Teaching children to work

hard at home is a must, not an option. Parents should start on this when the children are little.

Even a two-year-old child can do some work suitable for his age such as picking rubbish and arranging their space. The culture of working should be instilled in children early so they grow into responsible citizens.

Children should continue to be given age-appropriate tasks as they grow. They should be part of the work culture of the family. Parents are key in making this a reality.

Work teaches us many things such as processes and procedures. Work develops our keenness to learn; it sharpens our observation skills and keeps our limbs in motion. It is, therefore, beneficial in so many ways.

It should not be thought of as a punishment. We should instead promote it for its benefits. Of course, sometimes children can be overworked and abused or overindulged. We should, therefore, strive to give children age-appropriate tasks, which they can happily and ably do.