



YOUTH FOR CHRIST / RWANDA



A catalyst for change



REFLECTIONS ON  
TWO DECADES  
OF TRANSFORMING LIVES  
2006 - 2026

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## 01. INTRODUCTION

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Kigali Christian School is a private christian school owned and operated by YFC/Rwanda since 2006. The school is entrusted with a mission to provide students with an excellent Christian learning environment that fosters their spiritual growth, discovers and develops individual student potentials so that they can become Christ-like servants in the community. Over the past two decades, we have seen the mission flourish and impact a lot of lives. By God's grace, we have also realized a significant growth in all school aspects as well as expansion to the East and North of Rwanda. As you read this booklet, it will introduce you to the journey of Kigali Christian School through the last twenty years - its beginning, growth, impact as well as the way forward.

## 2. ABOUT THE FOUNDER OF KIGALI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Youth for Christ Rwanda (YFC/Rwanda) is a Christian youth evangelism and discipleship movement whose initial planning began in 1993, and has officially been operating since 1995 under the leadership of Mr. Jean Baptiste Mugarura, the pioneer and National Director. The ministry was established shortly after the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, with focus on reconciliation, trauma healing, transformation, and providing hope to young people in a broken nation through evangelism and education. The ministry also aimed at developing a generation of young leaders who are followers of Jesus Christ for them to be a catalyst for positive social transformation. Through the School of leadership and discipleship that was established later, many young people have undergone essential training, and are today building and giving hope to the nation.



*YFC /Rwanda National Office*



In 1996, the ministry began searching for land to establish a youth center and a school. With the help of Mr. Alphonse Gatete and Mr. James Habarugaba, the property in Kibagabaga was identified. In 1997, efforts to raise the money to pay for the land started. The first instalment was paid in 1997, but most of the money was raised in 2000 in Florida and full payment was made in March 2001. In 2002, Construction of the Youth Center officially began. In 2006, Kigali Christian School (KCS), a major project of YFC Rwanda, opened its first campus, starting with preschool to Primary 3.



*Jean Baptiste Mugarura with Daniel Dodrill, a YFC Rwanda partner*



*The land had old houses that needed to be removed*



*Land survey and demarcation*



*Kids from a neighbor school could stop to see what was going on as they passed by.*



*Kids from a neighbor school watch the bulldozers*



*Engineer Musoni and Mrs Julia Marina Mugarura*

## Launching construction activities on January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2004



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### 3. HUMBLE BEGINNING OF KIGALI CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

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*Brad Burnfield (First Director), his wife Kiki, with Mr Ronger - Deputy Director and a parent*

Kigali Christian School (KCS) traces its origins back to a vision of restoration and hope in the aftermath of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. Founded in 2006 by Youth for Christ Rwanda, the school was born from a deep-seated desire to provide a new generation of Rwandans with an education that balanced high academic standards with strong Christian values. The founders, led by Jean Baptiste Mugarura, recognized that rebuilding the nation required leaders of integrity, and they chose to start that transformation in the classroom.

Around Kibagabaga, there was extreme poverty. Quality schools that existed in Kigali were beyond the financial abilities of the families. Yet at its core, Youth For Christ Rwanda wanted to provide quality education to every child regardless of their families financial status.

The school's physical start was a bit modest. It began with just 144 students and a small team of dedicated staff. Resources were scarce, and the campus bore little resemblance to the expansive institution it is today. Despite the lack of extensive equipment, Kigali Christian School often points back to its early, lean years as the period that defined their core values of perseverance and faith. The early days were fueled by a missionary spirit and a commitment to nurturing the character of every child who walked through the doors.

#### INAUGURATION OF KIGALI CHISTIAN SCHOOL ON JANUARY 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006





*BRAD BURNFIELD,  
The first Director of Kigali  
Christian School speaks to the  
enrolled stu-dents as well as  
the teaching staff*

*Early classes of Kigali Christian School*



## 4. GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The growth of Kigali Christian School (KCS) is a story of rapid transition from a small community initiative to one of Rwanda's most respected educational institutions. This evolution is evident in such aspects as staff welfare and development, improved services to students, academic growth, co-curricular activities, school physical expansion, and so on.

### 4.1. Staff welfare and development

Right from the start, the school has always sought to maintain a healthy, effective educational environment. To achieve this, the school focuses on teachers' well-being as well as their professional development. Regarding welfare, the school aims at ensuring that educators are physically, mentally, and financially supported so they can focus on their students. The school has evolved to provide health insurance and pension schemes. The school pays tuitions fees for the staff kids attending KCS.

As for growth in professional development, KCS educators had to undergo different trainings to be equipped with the latest pedagogical tools, subject knowledge, leadership skills, and spiritual formation.

In 2009, for instance, the Rwanda education system shifted from French to English as a medium of instruction. The school's quick intervention was to train teachers in English language. Crystal Burnfield, an American missionary did a lot with KCS teachers in terms of English language. Within some years, teachers were able to use the language with ease. She also took teachers through basic computer literacy.



*Crystal Burnfield - English Literacy trainer*

Over the years, the staff went through Continuous Professional Development (CPD) consisting of regular workshops on topics such as Classroom Management, Social and Emotional Learning, Technology Integration, abundant leadership, and Bible worldview integration.



*Laura-on the right focused on kids sponsorship*



*KCS staff on a social occasion at Brad's home*

## 4.2. Growth in students services

KCS sought to have an environment where every learner can thrive both academically and emotionally. Alongside basic administrative services, some comprehensive wellness programs were put in place for the benefit of the students.

**i. Lunch program:** At the start, students had to bring their own lunch from their homes. Unfortunately some kids had no food to bring. So, they would not eat lunch. KCS introduced lunch program to ensure that all students have meals to sustain their learning. This program is successful and is presenting a lot of benefits.



*Students have lunch at school*

**ii. School transportation:** As the city of Kigali grew, some families relocated from Kibagabaga. Other families that lived far away from Kibagabaga heard about KCS and wanted their kids to attend our school. Unfortunately, here was no easy transportation means. As such, KCS started transportation services for kids.



*Some of the KCS buses*

**iii. Health services:** since 2025, the school offers first aid and basic health treatment that the school nurse is able to give. Beyond such services there is counseling services also offered to students when necessary, students are also sent to hospitals by the school.



*KCS Clinic Services*

**iv. Chaplaincy:** The School Chaplain provides spiritual guidance, Bible study, and counseling to students and staff



*Pastor Edward Makara  
(on the left) KCS Chaplain*

### 4.3. Physical expansion



*KCS Elementary School—Kigali Campus  
(780 students in the year 2025/2026)*

The most visible sign of KCS's growth is its expansion. What began as a preschool and primary school in 2006, grew to have a secondary section and realized growth that extends beyond the capital city to serve rural communities with the same quality of education provided in the city.

In 2011, the KCS Secondary School was established to ensure continuity for their primary graduates.

The Secondary school offers both Ordinary Level (O-Level) and Advanced Level (A-Level), with competitive pathways in Sciences (such as Physics, Chemistry, and Biology) and Humanities, preparing students for both local and international universities. The school moved beyond standard classrooms to include well-equipped science laboratories, computer labs, and a library. Currently (academic year 2025/2026), the school enrolled around 600 students. The secondary school has a boarding section, with around 300 students accommodated.



*KCS Secondary School—Kigali Campus*

In 2016, Kigali Christian School opened a campus in Eastern region of Rwanda, Rwamagana District to be precise. The campus offers preschool and primary and it is one of the best schools in the region. To date the campus counts around 690 students



*KCS Elementary School—Rwamagana*

In 2024, Kigali Christian School opened GICUMBI CAMPUS in Northern Province of Rwanda; The campus offers preschool and primary school as well. In their second year of existence, Gicumbi Campus enrolled 148 students.



*KCS Elementary School — Gicumbi Campus*

## 4.4. Growth in academics

The trajectory of academic growth at KCS reflects a dedicated effort to harmonize standardized excellence with the individual needs of every learner, creating an environment where scholastic achievement is both expected and supported at every level. Aside from the noticeable outstanding performance in national tests, the school has grown to embrace other programs such as:

### DELFDiplôme d'Etudes en Langue Française)

Students at Kigali Christian school have a chance to sit for tests administered by “Institut Francais au Rwanda” in an effort to win different diplomas that are internationally recognized and beneficial especially if one has to attend further education in Francophone countries. Students do both DELF Prim and DELF Junior. DELF Prim is an official French language proficiency diploma issued by the French Ministry of Education, specifically for primary school children 7 to 12 years old who are beginners while DELF Junior is tailored for teenagers (12–17)



### Focus on Literacy

The school moved from imparting language foundational skills like phonics, vocabulary, and comprehension to fluency. Students are taught language performance observable use of language in concrete situations, encompassing both the production (speaking/writing) and comprehension (listening/reading) of language. Students have opportunities to engage in inter-school literacy competitions emerging triumphant with awards from time to time.



*Dr. Mary Assesses kids levels to be able to raise their phonemic awareness*



*Primary school students get certificates from International debate tournament*



*High school students win certificates*

## 4.5. Open day at Gicumbi Campus

On Saturday, May 16, 2026, Kigali Christian School-Gicumbi Campus opened its gates for a vibrant open day, in line with the grand celebration of the school's 20th anniversary. Staff, Parents, guests and well-wishers gathered to witness a vibrant showcase of academic excellence, talent, discipline, and Christ-centeredness. Delegates from other KCS campuses were also readily present.

The day commenced with a moment of prayer led by Mr. Emmanuel Habumuremyi-the coordinator of the Eastern chapter of YFC/Rwanda. Right after the opening prayer, the audience heard from the school Principal, Madam Belancile Nyirantwali who delivered her welcome remarks.

Thereafter, parents and visitors were invited to observe live class lessons. Teachers demonstrated the school's commitment to high-quality, faith-integrated education, utilizing modern teaching aids such as computers and tablets as well as active student participation. Parents enjoyed seeing firsthand the nurturing environment where their children thrive daily. Mothers and fathers walked with pride as they watched their children confidently answer questions, and collaborate on group assignments.



*One of the Classroom lessons showcased to parents*

Following the classroom lessons, everyone gathered at the main campus ground, under the shelter of beautiful white tents decorated with orange tissue. The transition was marked by a spectacular student parade, class by class. Marching with impeccable precision, the students moved in perfect harmony, their smartly pressed uniforms catching the sunlight. The tone of the parade commander drew a big applause from the crowd. She is a serious young girl aged 9.



*Students entertain the gathering with a parade*

Right after the parade, a group of three students took to the stage to recite a beautifully crafted poem. The recital, delivered with passion and dramatic flair, touched on the themes of Christian values, the pursuit of knowledge, and gratitude toward parents and teachers. The audience then heard from a succession of distinguished speakers:

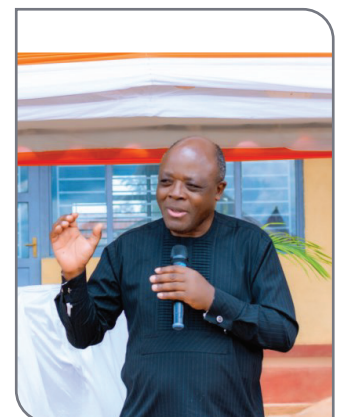


*Kids render a well crafted poem*



Mr. Emile Musonera, the Parents' Representative expressed heartfelt appreciation to the school administration and teaching staff for their unwavering dedication to student welfare and discipline. He suggested more investment in kids play equipment on the part of the school leadership.

Mr. Jean Baptiste Mugarura, the National Director of YFC/Rwanda began his address with many thanks to kids who had rendered a vibrant poem. He then highlighted that YFC/Rwanda started a Christian school as a way to contribute to the healing and rebuilding of a broken post genocide society. He alludes to the humble beginnings of Kigali Christian School 20 years ago, starting a branch in Rwamagana in 2016 and the Gicumbi campus in 2024. He expressed deep gratitude for how far the institution has come, and reiterating its core mission of imparting discipline and excellence. He appreciated the leadership of KCS/Gicumbi campus for emphasizing on kids' holistic development.





*Director of Education at Gicumbi District*

Local Government Officials representing the District and the Byumba Sector commended KCS for its immense contribution to the local community, praising its high standards of discipline, academic results, and educational management. The officials pledged continued partnership and support from the local government to ensure the school's community impact grows even stronger.



As the day came to a close, a transition with kids performing Rwanda traditional dance entertained the audience, followed by cake cutting in celebration of the 20th anniversary of Kigali Christian School. Surrounded by cheers, applause, and a shared sense of pride, the leadership, guests, and student representatives sliced into the celebratory cake, marking twenty years of God's faithfulness.

The day concluded on a warm note of fellowship as the entire gathering came together for sharing lunch, enjoying good food, laughter, and conversations about the bright future ahead.



*At Gicumbi-Cutting the cake to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Kigali Christian School*



*YFC leadership with the guests*

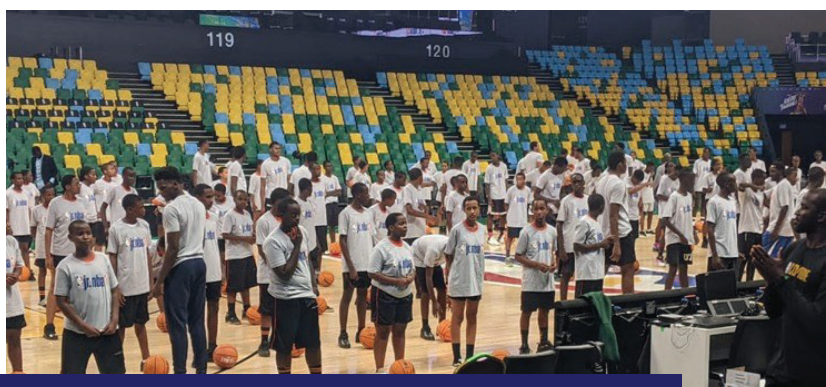
*Parents watch their children showcase talents*



## 4.6. Extra - curricular activities



*House system in KCS Secondary Section. Students and staff members are spread in 4 houses namely Faith, Wisdom, Agape, and Peace. Members of each house share life and strive to grow together spiritually.*



*Students participate in sports competitions especially in soccer and basket ball*



*Students perform traditional dance*

## 4.7. Partnership with other schools



*Fellowship with friends from Sante Fe Christian School (USA)*



*KCS SECONDARY SCHOOL PARTNERS WITH HOPE HAVEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL*

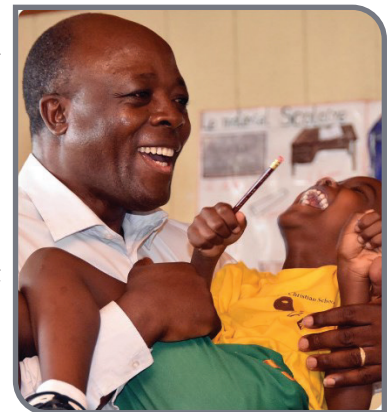
## 5. SCHOOL COMMUNITY IMPACT

The community impact of Kigali Christian School (KCS) has evolved from serving a local neighborhood to influencing the social fabric of the entire nation. By staying true to its motto of “Discipline and excellence,” the school has moved beyond the classroom to touch lives through several key initiatives.

### 5.1. Sponsorship program

The school contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty. While the Kibagabaga area has de-veloped into a more affluent residential neighborhood over the years, KCS has maintained its original commitment to the underprivileged. Through Youth for Christ Rwanda, the school currently supports over 272 students with full tuition sponsorship. This program specifically targets children from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, ensuring that high-quality, private education is not reserved solely for the wealthy.

Holistic Support: These sponsorships often extend beyond tuition to include meals, books, and medical care, providing a safety net for families who would otherwise be unable to afford schooling. During the pandemic of COVID-19, the school supported families with food.



*He likes it when kids smile*



*Sponsored alumni gather to recognize the Christian Education they got from Kigali Christian School*

### 5.2. Project serve

Community impact at KCS is not just about what the institution gives, but what the students do. A cornerstone of student life is Project Serve. Over the years, KCS students and staff have been involved in outreach programs to assist poor families in the surrounding community. This includes everything from physical labor and house repairs to distributing essential supplies. These programs serve the purpose of immediate relief and support for local vulnerable groups.



*Building a house for a needy family in Rwamagana District*



*Project serve in Western province, sharing with people affected by floods*



*Sharing with kids at Nyagatovu School*



*Sharing with kids in Bumbogo sector*

## A project serve at Kibagabaga Hospital

True education goes beyond the classroom, transforming knowledge into empathy and active service within our surrounding community. As a core expression of its foundational values, Kigali Christian School organized a community service outreach to Kibagabaga Hospital, offering direct support to patients in the pediatric unit.



*At Kibagabaga District Hospital-Gasabo*

Driven by a mission to extend practical care to those experiencing financial hardship, a delegation of Elementary school students, accompanied by school leadership and Miss Ylanie, a dedicated friend and long-term school partner from France, visited the hospital to step in where the need was greatest. Upon arrival, the school delegation was warmly received by the Director General of Kibagabaga Hospital. The Director General commended the school's initiative and facilitated the logistics by connecting the team directly with the hospital's professional social workers. Guided by the social work department, students and leaders visited the pediatric ward directly. This bedside approach allowed the students to interact safely and compassionately with the children and their guardians, offering words of encouragement alongside the administrative relief of paid medical expenses.

The central mission of the project was to clear the outstanding medical bills of ten pediatric patients whose families lacked the financial means to cover their treatment and discharge costs.

This outreach project served a dual purpose. Providing immediate, tangible financial relief to vulnerable families during a stressful hospitalization, while simultaneously cultivating a deep sense of social responsibility and civic duty within the students of Kigali Christian School.



### 5.3. Students spiritual Outreaches

Students participate in community evangelistic crusades, taking their spiritual formation off-campus to share messages of reconciliation and hope with their neighbors. Students visit other schools for evangelism purpose. They also do outreaches with churches.



### 5.4. Economic and Infrastructural Development

Students participate in community evangelistic crusades, taking their spiritual formation off-campus to share messages of reconciliation and hope with their neighbors. Students visit other schools for evangelism purpose. They also do outreaches with churches.

The school has acted as an anchor for local development in the districts where it operates.

**Job Creation:** The school also acts as an engine for local economic and social stability. By employing local staff, KCS helps stimulate the local economy. As the school expanded to campuses in Kibagabaga, Rwamagana, and Gicumbi, it became a significant local employer for teachers, administrative staff, and support personnel.

**Infrastructure Improvement:** The school's presence often drives local improvements. For example, in 2022, the school constructed a tarmac road around the Rwamagana campus, which benefits not just the students but all local residents and businesses.



*Kigali Christian School constructed a tarmac road around its campus in Rwamagana*

## 5.5. Remembering—Kwibuka

On April 28th each year, YFC/Rwanda commemorates the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda. This involves the staff and KCS students where a walk to remember is organized to Kibagabaga genocide memorial. Students are then taken through Rwanda history with purpose of educating them on preventing genocide ideology. YFC/Rwanda financially supports memorial activities and genocide survivors in this particular month.



## 6. ALUMNI TESTIMONIES

My name is BA Celine, and I studied at KCS from 2022 to 2023 in Mathematics-Economics-Geography (MEG)

I currently live in Canada, where I am pursuing Aviation as a student. My time at KCS was truly special. I particularly appreciated my mathematics teacher (Nkundabanyanga Daniel) who was inclusive and made every student feel confident and capable. The Kinyarwanda teachers were also amazing—they felt more like caring mothers than just teachers. As a boarding student, I miss the food and the morning prayers, which brought peace and unity to each day.

KCS shaped me to be confident and to let my light shine. I carry those values with me wherever I go.



*BA Celine, Aviation Student in Canada*

### Current Presidential Fellows



**Abiya Mugarura '27**

Office of the Vice President, Chief of Staff, and CIO

My name is Abiya Mugarura, and I attended Kigali Christian school from 2007-2022. One lesson that has stayed with me is to Always seek from the well that feeds and pours into you, and to take enough time to build a strong foundation rooted in Jesus Christ for your education, relationships and future career.

Some of my favorite memories at KCS were game days and travel days with the basketball team. Through those experiences, I learned valuable lessons about teamwork, leadership, discipline, and building lifelong friendships. Given that family is deeply important to me, KCS has and will always be my forev-er home.

Not only was I blessed to attend alongside my brother and sister, but also alongside the larger family of Christ.

The faculty and staff at KCS are a true testament to the school's dedication to helping students both in and out of the classroom grow in the likeness of Christ. In addition, to their commitment to pouring into the minds and lives of each and every student who passes through their gates. Tr. Walter Ntahobari, Tr. Reverien Nteziryayo, and Tr. Elizabeth Namugenyi, taught me the value of asking insightful questions, and how meaningful conversations can lead to wisdom and growth. Tr. Solomon encouraged me to be bold and always aim for the highest places available, while Tr. Assanassio taught me how to manage resources and reminded me that you are never too young or too old to start. In addition, big sister Louise shared a speech during our final year that would become a defining moment for me and many others.

Currently, I study in Indiana, USA, where I am majoring in Politics, and Law with a minor in Business management. I also serve as a Presidential Fellow at my University, working under the Vice President Chief of Staff and Chief Information Officer.

My journey continues to be shaped by the values and lessons instilled in me by my father, Jean Baptiste Mugarura, Kigali Christian School, and Youth for Christ/ Rwanda whom I am.

My name is Kessy Ruzindana, and I attended Kigali Christian School from 2020 to 2024. One of my favorite memories at KCS was serving as Head Girl. That experience helped shape my confidence, leadership skills, and sense of responsibility.



*Kessy Ruzindana, Children and Youth  
Therapist in CANADA*

KCS taught me the importance of discipline, faith, resilience, and believing in my potential. The environment encouraged me to dream bigger, speak up, and lead with confidence.

I am currently living in Canada, where I balance both school and work. I am studying Psychology while also working with children and youth aged 6–18 as a therapist/caseworker, with a 1-year experience in the field.

KCS played an important role in shaping the ambitious and driven young woman I am becoming today. I am grateful for the memories, opportunities, and leadership experiences I gained there.



*Kessy Ruzindana, Children and Youth  
Therapist in CANADA*

As a KCS alumnus, it's hard to fully capture how impactful and transformative the school was for the Class of 2018—especially for me, whose life took a decisive turn after joining in 2016.

The beginning wasn't easy. It was my first time in such an environment, navigating life as a day scholar. But that challenge quickly became the foundation of growth.

I started with HEG (History, Economics, Geography) before transitioning to HLG (History, Literature, Geography)—a shift that felt uncertain at first, but ultimately shaped the path I walk today.

Joining Teacher Reverien's literature class ignited a deep love for reading. Simple yet powerful works like *Animal Farm* turned me into a passionate reader, sharpening my writing and laying the groundwork for my journalism career.

Beyond literature, history classes expanded my critical thinking and deepened my understanding of the Great Lakes region—especially the history of the Genocide against the

Tutsi and the liberation struggle of the RPA/RPF.

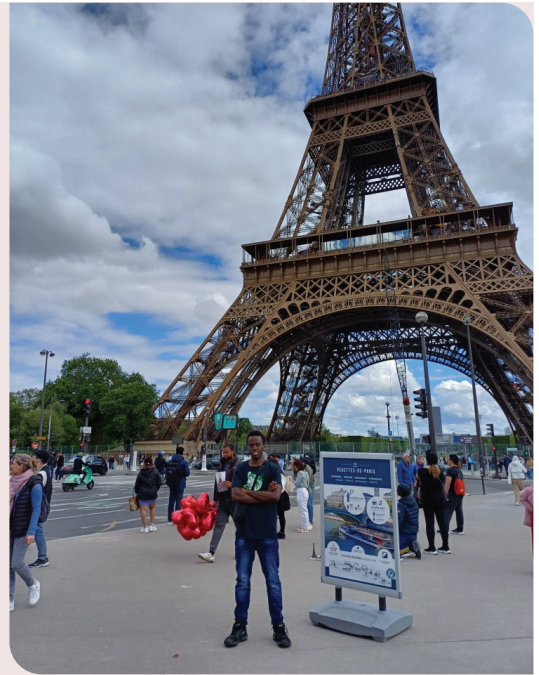
Teacher Reverien and Teacher Solomon didn't just teach; they shaped me. Today, as a freelance journalist who has worked with platforms like Pan African Music (PAM) Magazine, SENS Magazine, and The New Times Rwanda, I carry their influence in every story I tell about Rwanda.

Happy 20th anniversary, KCS. You've transformed lives—and I'm proud to call you home.

My name is Lucain Ihirwe Nzayisenga, I am from the Class of 2021-2022. I had my majors in Physics, Chemistry and Biology. I was a part of the Prefectorial body of 2020-2021 as the Social Welfare Prefect and I served as a Timekeeper in 2018. I am also a born-again christian.

I started the journey in KCS in 2016 for my secondary school studies. Fresh out of primary, with little to no notion of what was coming. I loved the harmony that reigned between students and school staff, especially the school administration. My favorite teacher was Teacher Walter Ntahobari who taught Mathematics and I am still forever grateful for making me love the very subject I had never wanted to love. My best memory was the Basketball team winning the U18 Private School League in 2016.

I am currently in Germany, pursuing Health care in a hospital. I took away the foundation of Christ in my journey and it is indeed a light for my path in my every decision.



*Lucain Ihirwe NZAYISENGA (2022)*  
*A student of Medicine in Germany*



*Captain Maxime Mutwewingabo (2017)*  
*Instructor Pilot, Rwanda Air Force*

I am Maxime Mutwewingabo, a KCS alumnus, class of 2017, I am truly grateful for the years I spent there. KCS was more than just a school to me it was a place where I learned Christian values, built life-long friendships, and grew both academically and personally. The teachers and staff always encouraged us to do our best and believe in ourselves.

One of my most memorable moments as a boarding student at KCS was Dinner time within our respective families The joy, laughter, and sense of family made those experiences unforgettable. Those memories continue to remind me of the strong community spirit that makes KCS special.

Today, I proudly serve as an officer in the Rwandan Air Force with the rank of Captain, working as an Instructor Pilot.

Dear KCS Family,

It is both a joy and an honor to share my story as part of the 20th Anniversary celebration of Kigali Christian School. For seventeen of those twenty years — from 2006 to 2023 KCS was not just my school; it was the place that shaped who I am, who I am still becoming, and what I believe. Reflecting on this journey, I realize how much of my life carries the fingerprints of this institution.

I came to KCS as a young child and left as a young man. In between, I was, by my own admission, a challenged student — one who struggled with focus and study habits, and who had to repeat Senior 2. But what I lacked in early academic ease, KCS made up for in patience, mentorship, and faith.

Two teachers, in particular, carried me through. Teacher Christophe MUTAGANZWA, my social studies teacher from P4 to P6, helped me read just to the Rwandan education system after my family had been abroad for a long stretch during my mother's cancer treatment. He understood that I needed to be reacclimated, not just taught — and he was patient with me through it all. His message to me was simple and firm: be disciplined in all that you do. I still hear his voice when I have to make the hard, unglamorous choices that matter.

Then there was Teacher Charles, SINDIKUBWABO, my physics teacher — now the Director of Studies — who walked with me from Senior 1 all the way through Senior 6. He helped me build a study plan, taught me how to organize my thoughts, and showed me how to actually understand concepts rather than memorize them. His advice has become almost a personal motto: "If you do not use your brains, you will use your muscles, and that will be the future you lead." I have carried that line across continents.

Today, I am a junior at Taylor University in Indiana, USA, where I am majoring in Cybersecurity. I chose Taylor because it is, like KCS, a Christ-centered school. The transition from Kigali to Indiana was lighter than many expected — friends back home had long teased me that I was more American than Rwandan, even though I was born in Rwanda. I have found a spiritual home in Upland Community Church (UCC), which I attend whenever I can.

Faith remains the anchor of all of it. KCS taught me that God comes before everything — that studies are not the end all and be all.

If I could speak to my younger self — the boy struggling in Senior 2, repeating a year, unsure of his future — I would tell him this: be patient and calm, for it all gets better from here.

And to the students sitting in those same desks today, I want to say a few things.

If you are struggling academically — put down the distractions and look to your teachers. They are not your obstacles; they are your best friends in this season of your life.

If you feel small, unsure, or like you do not quite belong — keep it to yourself, keep your chin up, and work hard. The future is always brighter than the present feels.

Respect the rules; they are not there to crush you but to shape you into someone upstanding. Be disciplined. Lean into community. And above all, keep God before everything else.

Twenty years of Kigali Christian School means twenty years of lives quietly changed — lives like mine. From a boy who struggled to focus, to a college junior studying cybersecurity in America with dreams from a hungry boarder hiding wedding cake in his cupboard, to an alumnus who comes home every summer to build the school's networks — every chapter of my story has KCS written into it.



*MUGARURA AYEBARE A. ANDRE (2023)*  
*Cybersecurity Major, Taylor University (USA)*

To the KCS Family,

Happy 20th Anniversary! What a milestone. I joined KCS in my Senior 4 in 2016 and graduated in 2018. Looking back, those three years positively influenced my life after high school.

Coming from a school that struggled to obtain the new curriculum books (Competence Based Curriculum), stepping into KCS felt like a dream come true. I immediately liked the learning environment, the class systems, and the way students were genuinely pushed. But what really shaped me was the residential program. In boarding, I found safety, belonging, and room to spread my wings. I joined the worship team and evangelical programs that grew my faith. I organized, debated, sang, and led creative programs that became the foundation of my performing experience today. Not every day was beautiful. Some days I wanted to go home.



*Queen Joelle Kamanzi (2018), Performing Arts*

But looking back, even the hard days taught me something. And through it all, surprisingly, I started to actually enjoy studying because for the first time, it made sense.

I cannot forget the people who poured into me. Mr. Solomon (my history teacher) encouraged me to be curious and question things. He once predicted I would become an educator myself, and now I laugh because he was right. Mr. Reverien (my literature teacher) really saw me. He spoke life into me, encouraged me to try scary things, and cared enough to warn me away from wrong steps. Then my big sisters. We fought and disagreed a lot, but they also stayed up with me when I was sick, cheered me on for every victory, and kept checking on me long after I left KCS. They were, and remain, true big sisters.

Today, I work as a soft skills facilitator at SOLVIT AFRICA and as a performer with Mashirika Performing Arts company, and other creative projects. Every time I facilitate a session or step on stage, I carry two lessons from KCS: humility — coming into every conversation with curiosity, not pride — and faith in action by doing everything excellently as a way to worship God and serve my community.

To current students, some of you feel like you don't belong yet. I felt that too. Give it time. The school might not change, but you will. And yes, study. But also dance, argue, lead, fail, and try again. That's the education that nobody puts on a report card.

With deep gratitude,

**Queen Joelle Kamanzi H.**  
KCS Class of 2018



*Mr. Jonathan Rwamamara (2015)  
President of the KCS students alumni*

As Kigali Christian School celebrates its 20th Anniversary, I look back with deep gratitude and pride for being part of this incredible family for nearly two decades myself. My name is Jonathan DUFITUMUKIZA RWAMAMARA, and my journey with KCS began in 2007 when I joined as a Primary 4 student. Since then, KCS has not only been a school to me — it has been a place that shaped my character, faith, education, and professional path.

Today, I serve as an Instacart Shopper Line Support Specialist under CCI BPO Rwanda, supporting American and Canadian shoppers remotely.

Before joining CCI Rwanda, I worked as a Microsoft Technical Support Engineer at Tek-Expert, now rebranded as Teknowledge, an Information Technology Outsourcing company partnering with Microsoft. From April 2024 to September 2025, I supported customers across America, Europe, India, and Australia in Microsoft 365 technical services.

I also hold a Bachelor's Degree in Networks and Communication Systems Engineering from the Adventist University of Central Africa (AUCA). Although my career

path has largely evolved into customer and technical support, I had the opportunity to apply my networking background while serving as a Network Administrator Assistant at a B2B hotel in Nyarutarama, where I helped deploy Starlink satellite internet connectivity.

Reflecting on this journey, I can confidently say that KCS laid the foundation for much of who I am today. The communication skills, discipline, confidence, and exposure I gained through this institution became essential in my ability to serve international clients and shoppers from different cultures and regions around the world.

KCS was the place where I completed all my national examinations: Primary level in 2009, O'Level in 2012, and A'Level in 2015. I was privileged to graduate in pioneer classes at each of these academic levels — an experience that taught me resilience, adaptability, and the courage to grow with every new beginning. Beyond academics, the spiritual foundation established at KCS continues to influence my life to this day. Morning devotions in class and prayer moments during break time — especially the gatherings we held in the science practical labs, whether chemistry or biology labs, to share the Word of God — remain unforgettable memories that reflected the true mission of Christian education.

My connection with KCS extended beyond graduation through the 8-month School of Leadership and Discipleship at YFC/Rwanda, which I attended a year after high school. That experience deeply transformed my understanding of God's love for humanity and His desire to reconcile Himself with a fallen world.

As KCS celebrates 20 years of impact, excellence, and faith-driven education, I celebrate not only an institution, but a home that has shaped generations of leaders, servants, and professionals. I remain grateful for the role KCS has played in my life story, and I continue to aspire to serve faithfully wherever God leads me — being an instrument of His love and impact in every community I have the opportunity to live and work in.

Happy 20th Anniversary, Kigali Christian School. Your impact lives on through us.



NTEZIRYAYO Révérien is an educator whose journey has been deeply intertwined with the story of Kigali Christian School. Joining the faculty in 2010, he has spent over a decade and a half, actively involved in the shaping of minds and hearts of the generations that have passed through KCS walls. He is therefore, a true witness to transformation. Having stood at the crossroads of the school's history, he has watched Kigali Christian School evolve from its foundational stages into a vibrant beacon of academic excellence and spiritual growth.



In this commemorative 20th-anniversary booklet, he pours his firsthand experiences, memories, and deep institutional love into a narrative that honors the past, celebrates the present, and inspires the future. His unique perspective offers readers an intimate look at the sacrifices, breakthroughs, and divine grace that have defined the KCS legacy.

*“To witness the growth of Kigali Christian School since 2010 has been a profound privilege. Every milestone documented in these pages is a testament to resilience, faith, and the incredible transformation of our community.”* - NTEZIRYAYO Révérien



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