

# Excel Soccer Academy targets global partnerships

By Michael Nsubuga

PHOTO BY MICHAEL NSUBUGA

The Excel Soccer Academy is determined to forge partnerships that will continue to shape and sharpen Uganda's future stars, after leading another group of Ugandan youngsters on a learning trip in South Africa. The director of Excel Soccer Academy Patrick Gwayambadde together with the Victorious Education Services Principle Barbara Ofwono Buyondo alongside some teachers led a contingent of about 25 to Cape Town not only to engage in sport but also to explore the city as well enhance the knowledge of the students and also broaden their outlook towards their outside world.

"The school is one of the schools that we work with, and it was so befitting for the school to organise such an amazing trip to give the children a different experience from what they are used to in Uganda," Gwayambadde said after the team returned to the country, Sunday morning. "There was a lot of exchange



Victorious Education Services pupils pose for a photo moment on return from Cape Town

in terms of us playing Cape Town City Legends, one of the biggest academies in South Africa, and the children did well, being that it was their first time having such an exchange.

"But they enjoyed everything else that Cape Town had to offer, so moving forward, I think we will make this an annual program so that many other children can have an oppor-

tunity to experience the same. We hope to engage more teams in the future so that the children can have more engagement with the South Africans." Ofwono Buyondo said the children went to Cape Town to learn, have fun, and enjoy the festive season.

"The children went sightseeing, they engaged in sports like swimming and football and learnt many things

around Cape Town," she noted.

"So this was a very good eye-opener to the children, some of them had never travelled outside East Africa, so moving around and seeing what Cape Town has in terms of culture, food, etc., was a new experience for them and by the time we were finishing the tour, they had gotten used to the system and culture".