

# Parents urged to monitor children online

By John Musenze

A growing digital divide between parents and their children is emerging as a silent risk in many homes, with educators warning that young people are increasingly navigating the internet without guidance, exposing them to cyberbullying, online exploitation and harmful content.

The concern took centre stage as Greenhill Schools marked 32 years of existence during a thanksgiving ceremony held on May 2-3, at the Kibuli campus, where educationists urged parents to adapt to the realities of digital parenting.

Speaking to the media at the event, Veronica Maraka, the school director, alongside Buganda kingdom finance minister Robert Waggwa Nsibirwa and Uganda Electricity Generation Company board chairperson Eng. Proscovia Njuki emphasised that parenting in today's world demands actively engaging with the digital spaces that children occupy.

"Parents must stay involved, guide their children and ensure that none of us undoes what the other has done, especially now when children are exposed to so much through the internet and media," Maraka said.

Nsibirwa challenged parents to rethink how they spend their time,

particularly during school holidays:

"Our children are going to be home for only three weeks. Let us be intentional. We spend entire days at functions, but struggle to sit with our children and guide them," he said.

Njuki warned parents to adapt so that they do not become irrelevant in their children's lives.

She noted that schools like Greenhill have introduced restrictions on what students can access on school computers.

"At school, we control what they access. But at home, the responsibility shifts to the parent. If there are things parents don't know, they need to learn," she said.



The Rev. David Asiimwe leading the thanksgiving service in Kibuli on Saturday. They urged parents to monitor children's online activities