



### PREPARATION FOR THE REOPENING OF SCHOOLS

Early in the month of September, the Councils of Ministers in South Sudan made a decision concerning the reopening of schools. The Minister of Higher Education will make the official announcement soon. Loreto Rumbek will wait for the final announcement from the Minister of Education. We will stagger the return of students as a quarantine measure, with Senior 4 students returning to school first. After two weeks, our Senior 3 students will return, and so on. This will help with self-quarantining and also help us to determine social distancing measures for our students. We are looking forward to having students back on the compound after 6 months of school closure.



### MARY'S MEALS

In September, Mary's Meals assisted our community by distributing food to local schools supported by the Diocese of Rumbek (DOR) through DOR Education. Loreto Primary School is one of the beneficiaries of Mary's Meals. The distributions consisted of maize, beans, oil, salt, and soap. Since our students were still at home, parents and guardians collected the supplies on behalf of the students. This was done to encourage the pupils to continue their focus on education even while they were at home. Mary's Meals has supported our school for many years and this has heavily impacted our high levels of school attendance - especially in the lower primary grades. We offer a heartfelt 'thank you' to Mary's Meals!

### MARIAL'S HOUSE

Marial Machut Ruai is a vulnerable member of the Maker Kuei community. He is a leper and has no relatives. In our community, it is normal for someone suffering from a contagious disease to face social stigma. Because of this, Marial has lived in isolation from some of our community members. However, one community member, Mary Adol, has cared for Marial - ensuring that he receives food and soap from Loreto Rumbek every two weeks. Recently, we partnered with Sudan Relief Fund to build a house for Marial and other vulnerable people in the community. Many thanks to Sudan Relief Fund for their invaluable support!



A Special Thank You to all of the donors , advocates, and supporters of the Loreto Programs in Rumbek.

Without your hard work or support none of this would be possible.

For more news & info about the programs, our students, and how you can help, please visit our website: [loretorumbek.ie](http://loretorumbek.ie) and our Facebook page [Loreto Schools Rumbek](https://www.facebook.com/Loreto_Schools_Rumbek)



## Health Update



### A SAFE SPACE FOR HEALING

Due to the increasing demand for counselling at Loreto Rumbek, a private room was built and handed over to Sr Petra, the counseling facilitator, in September. Previously, Sr Petra had been using the Computer Lab for her counselling sessions. Unfortunately, these sessions were often interrupted by classes. Therefore, a safe and quiet space was

constructed to ensure that these vital sessions could be facilitated without interruption. We thank our donors who made this possible!

### SR. MARIA

In August, Loreto Rumbek hosted Sr. Maria from the Comboni Mission in Cueibet. Loreto Rumbek has a long history of partnering with this mission, which is part of the Diocese of Rumbek, with a focus on education. About 3% of our secondary school students are past pupils of the Comboni primary school in Cueibet. Sr. Maria, a kindergarten teacher arrived in Cueibet during the current school closure. Since Cueibet is only 50km from Loreto Rumbek, she stayed with us for a month to learn more about the local community. As a native French speaker, Sr. Maria also used this time to practice her English conversation skills. Since the Mary Ward PHCC was serving a high daily influx of patients, Sr. Maria helped to support our health outreach by working as a receptionist in the PHCC. She supported our mission by serving as a receptionist in the Mary Ward PHCC. We were happy to have Sr Maria with us and we thank her for her help!



### A SHORT BREAK

In the month of September, the staff of Mary Ward PHCC took a short break after 6 months of non-stop service. The nurses took a two-week break while the health assistants had a week's break. The clinic staff staggered their breaks to ensure that service to our patients did not stop. All of our clinic staff are now back - rested, revitalized, and ready to serve. We thank our nurses and health assistants for their compassion and service to the people of our community.

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