

HILLTOP
SCHOOLS



Zoe Robinson Academy Quarterly Report

September - December

Creating From Scratch to Date



**Zoe Robinson Academy Revitalizing Quality Education
by
Learning Together and Rising Together**



ABOUT US

HILLTOP SCHOOLS INC. IS A WOMEN-LED LIBERIAN NGO PROVIDING EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND PROTECTION TO CHILDREN IN LIBERIA. WE CURRENTLY OPERATE TWO SCHOOLS FOR CHILDREN FROM LOW-INCOME FAMILIES AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES: MORE THAN ME ACADEMY OUR ALL-GIRLS ACADEMY IN CENTRAL MONROVIA, SERVES STUDENTS FROM KINDERGARTEN TO 12TH GRADE, WHILE ZOE ROBINSON ACADEMY THE PARTNERSHIP SCHOOL, RUNS OUR CO-ED ACADEMY IN CONGO TOWN, CATHOLIC HOSPITAL COMMUNITY, SERVES STUDENTS FROM KINDERGARTEN TO JUNIOR HIGH.

BOTH SCHOOLS FOLLOW THE S/HE MATTERS MODEL, USING THE SAME RECRUITMENT CRITERIUM/POLICY ON (VULNERABILITY & FINANCIAL NEED) AND HILLTOP CURRICULUM (A BLEND OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION'S AND LIBERIA READS). WE OFFER A HOLISTIC AND SUPPORTIVE PROGRAM ATTENDING TO THE SAFETY, EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH NEEDS OF EACH STUDENT ATTENDING EITHER SCHOOL.

HILLTOP ALSO OFFERS A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR THEIR GRADUATES BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF DONORS.

OUR MISSION & VISION

**TO EDUCATE CHILDREN TO BECOME THE FUTURE
LEADERS OF LIBERIA.**

**HILLTOP SCHOOLS SUPPORTS CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TO
EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND PROTECTION.**



SAFETY

OUR SAFETY TEAM, LED BY TRAINED SOCIAL WORKERS, HELP TRAIN STAFF, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS PRIOR TO THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL ON THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD, SAFETY MEASURES USE ON EACH CAMPUS AND REPORTING PROCEDURES. ADDITIONALLY, STUDENTS AND PARENTS ARE PROVIDED PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES, COUNSELING AND OTHER SUPPORTS. OUR SOCIAL WORKERS ALSO ENSURE THAT STUDENTS ARE HAPPY, SAFE AND FREE FROM ABUSE ON AND OFF CAMPUs.



HEALTH

ALL STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO BASIC HEALTHCARE AT OUR SCHOOLS. STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT HEALTH ISSUES, HYGIENE AND WELLNESS, TO KEEP THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES HEALTHY. WE BELIEVE NO CHILD SHOULD HAVE TO SUFFER FROM PREVENTABLE AND TREATABLE ILLNESSES, THEREBY ENSURING THAT WE FOLLOW ALL HEALTH GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS



EDUCATION

EVERY CHILD HAS RIGHT TO EDUCATION. HENCE, EDUCATION IS TUITION FREE AT OUR SCHOOLS. WE HOWEVER CHARGE A BASIC FEE FOR SUPPORT SERVICES. WE OFFER FIVE FULL DAYS OF EDUCATION WHICH INCLUDES BREAKFAST, LUNCH, LEISURE AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TRAINING. WE INVEST HEAVILY IN RECRUITING THE RIGHT STAFF FOR THE CLASSROOM, PROVIDE ONGOING TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS AND AIDES IN CLASSROOM DELIVERY, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD SOCIAL SKILLS ACTIVITIES FOR THE STUDENTS. THE GOAL FOR EACH STUDENT IS TO BE SAFE, HAPPY and LEARNING.



**A Statement from the Executive Director
on Zoe Robinson Academy Status**



Sylvestine Gbessagee

When Hilltop Schools assumed management of Zoe Robinson Academy, we inherited a facility in a deplorable condition, with a damaged infrastructure, not enough space for proper learning, activities or tools for learning. The school was also unlicensed and was utilizing un certified and untrained teachers. There was no safety or other policies to support the school or students. The administrator lacked the requisite training to lead the school. More importantly, the proprietress was out of country and was recently deceased. or were non-existent, and the student population had dwindled stark contrast to the vibrant learning environment every child deserves. Our immediate mission was a complete transformation. We embarked on a thorough renovation, replacing the entire roof and redesigning the interior to create dedicated spaces: new classrooms from Kindergarten through Grade 7, a principal's office, and functional offices for our Safety Officer and School Nurse, and a post for our security guards. True to our core model, we constructed a kitchen and storage facility to launch our daily feeding program and established a dedicated digital space to become the academy's computer lab.

From a state of ruin, Zoe Robinson Academy reopened for the 2025/2026 academic year as a beacon of hope, welcoming 104 students into a safe, nurturing, and fully equipped school. Our academic vision expanded this year to include Art and Craft in the curriculum, empowering students to create useful items with their hands and fostering practical creativity. We are particularly proud that this year, our students will be prepared to sit for the National Examination—a testament to the structured learning now in place. The year culminated in a joyful Christmas party, where students from More

Than Me Academy joined their peers at Zoe Robinson Academy to celebrate, build friendships, and share in the true spirit of community.

This remarkable journey from scratch to a thriving academy would not have been possible without the foundational support of the Liberia School for Needy Children and our in-kind partners. We extend our deepest appreciation for the partnership in making this school ready to serve the children of Congo Town and its environs. Together, we have not just repaired a building; we have built a future.



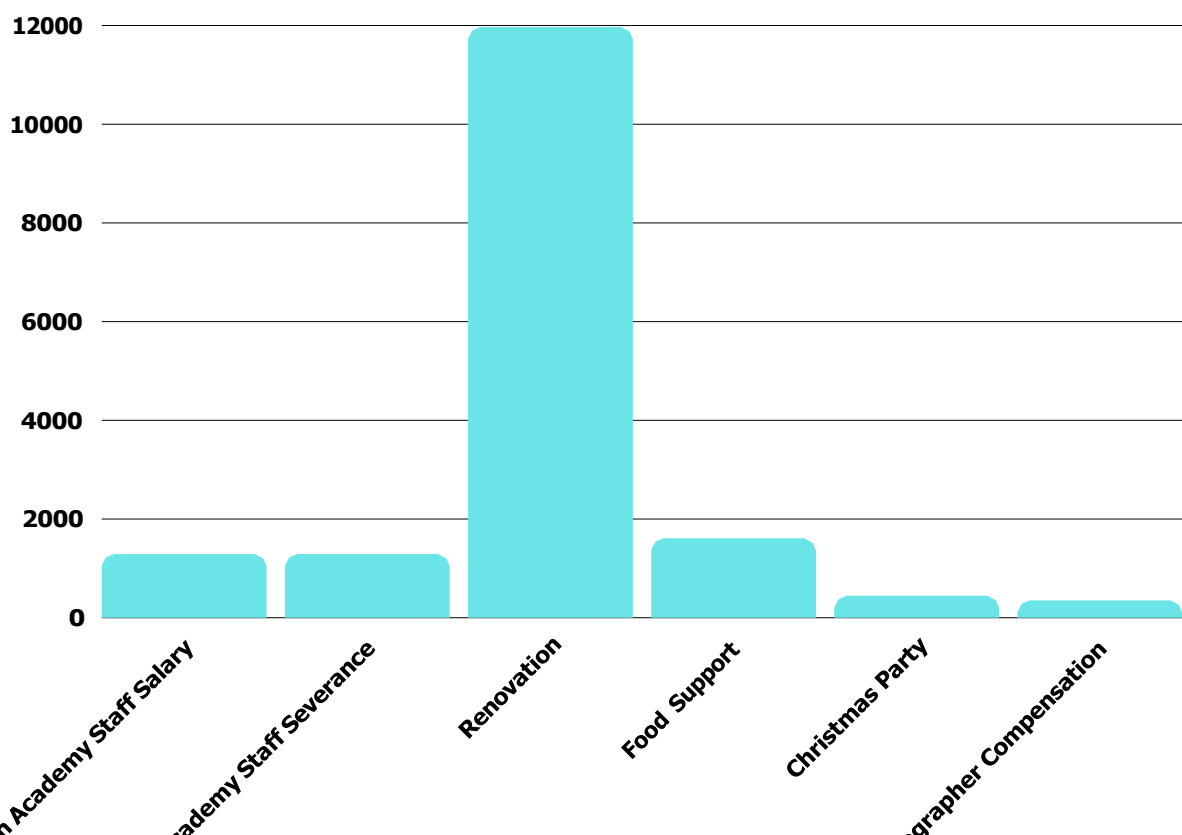
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FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: STRATEGIC ALLOCATION OF STARTUP FUNDING

The generous funding received from the Liberia School for Needy Children was strategically allocated to critical startup areas, ensuring the successful reopening and launch of Zoe Robinson Academy. The majority of these funds were designated as capital expenditure for the comprehensive renovation and preparation of the school facility. Additional essential allocations included one-time severance payments to former staff of the defunct Melvin Tolson Academy, ensuring full compliance with Liberian Labor Laws, and covering initial operational costs. These operational expenses are categorized as both recurring monthly supports, such as the feeding program and photographer services, and one-time community investments, including the inaugural Christmas celebration.

Furthermore, we are deeply grateful for the substantial in-kind contributions that complemented the monetary funding. These donations, which included 100 bookbags filled with school supplies, a laptop computer, a professional-grade camera, and assorted medical supplies, provided immediate, tangible resources that directly enhanced our educational and wellness programs from the very first day of operation. Together, these financial and material investments formed a solid foundation for Zoe Robinson Academy's transformative first academic year.



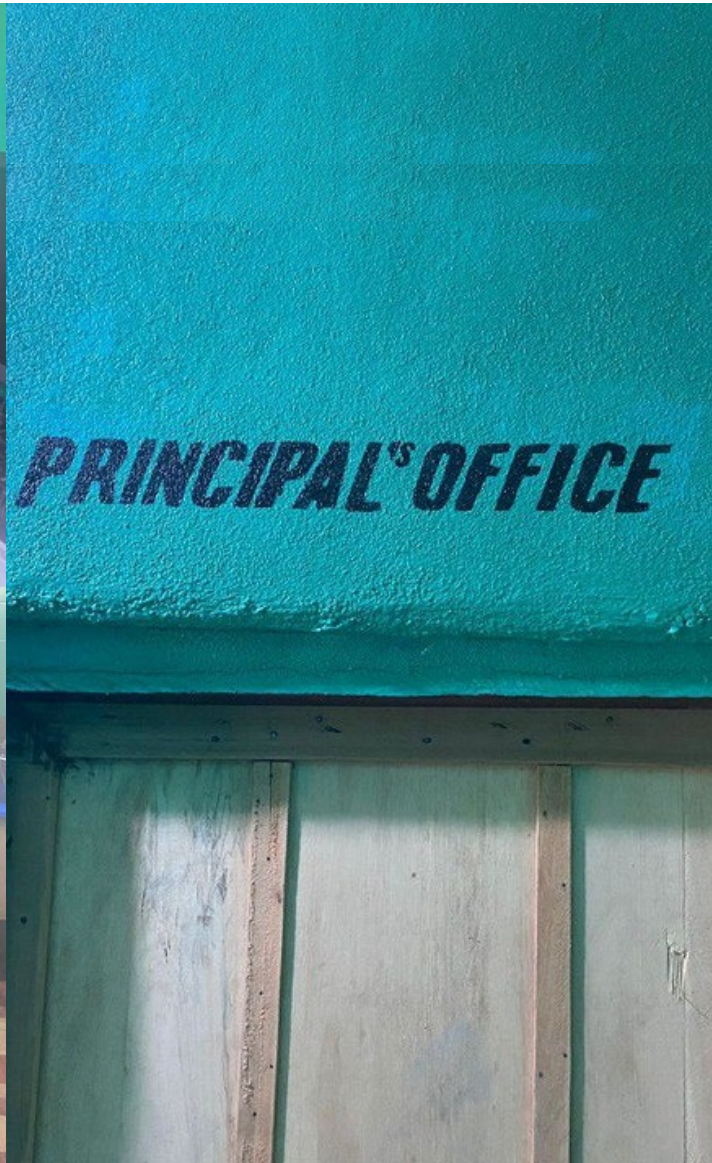


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THE PRINCIPAL

At the helm of Zoe Robinson Academy is Principal Ms. Christain Smith, an accomplished educator whose leadership is rooted in over a decade of specialized experience in secondary education. Holding a Bachelor of Science degree in Early Childhood Education and certified as a Reading Methodology Technician by Liberia Reads — an organization dedicated to empowering educators with impactful literacy curricula — she brings a powerful dual focus on foundational learning and advanced pedagogical skill. This distinguished expertise positions her uniquely to lead the academic and operational team at Zoe Robinson Academy, ensuring that our mission of quality, compassionate education is delivered with both professionalism and profound commitment to every student's growth.



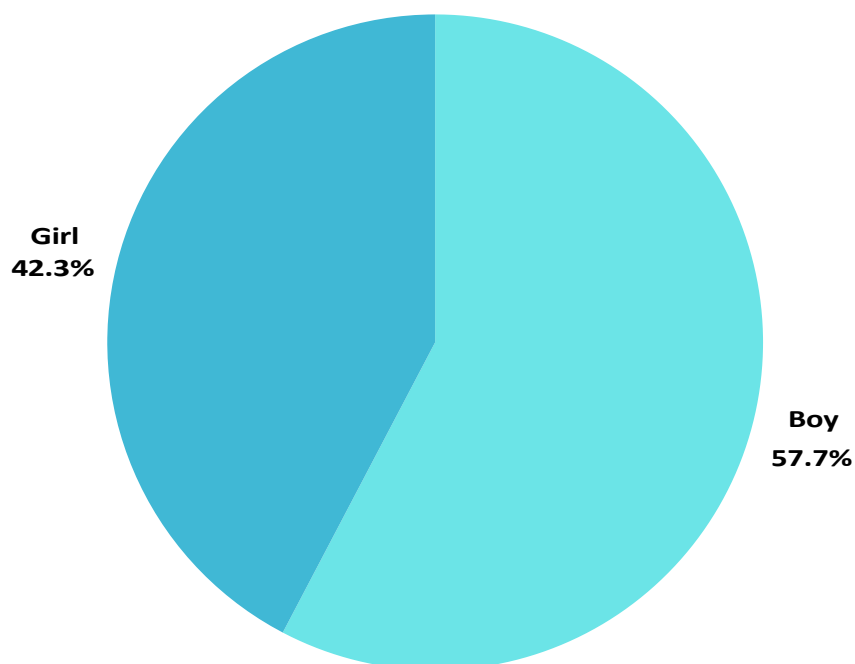


ACADEMIC

The 2025/2026 academic year at Zoe Robinson Academy was launched with a dedicated focus on community integration and trust-building. Recognizing the need to establish confidence after a period of decline, we implemented a robust, multi-channel recruitment strategy. This included targeted radio announcements, active social media engagement, direct community outreach, and the strategic placement of posters throughout the Congo Town area. This concerted effort was designed not only to announce our revitalized presence but to actively demonstrate our commitment to providing a safe, quality educational alternative for the community's children.

This foundational outreach proved immediately successful, resulting in the admission of 104 students for our inaugural year under new management. Our student body now spans from Kindergarten through Grade 7, forming the core of a revitalized learning community. This enrollment is a powerful vote of confidence from parents and a clear indicator that our mission to serve needy children in the area is resonating. It marks the successful first step in rebuilding Zoe Robinson Academy as a pillar of educational opportunity and excellence.

QUICK STATS ON ENROLLMENT





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ACADEMIC

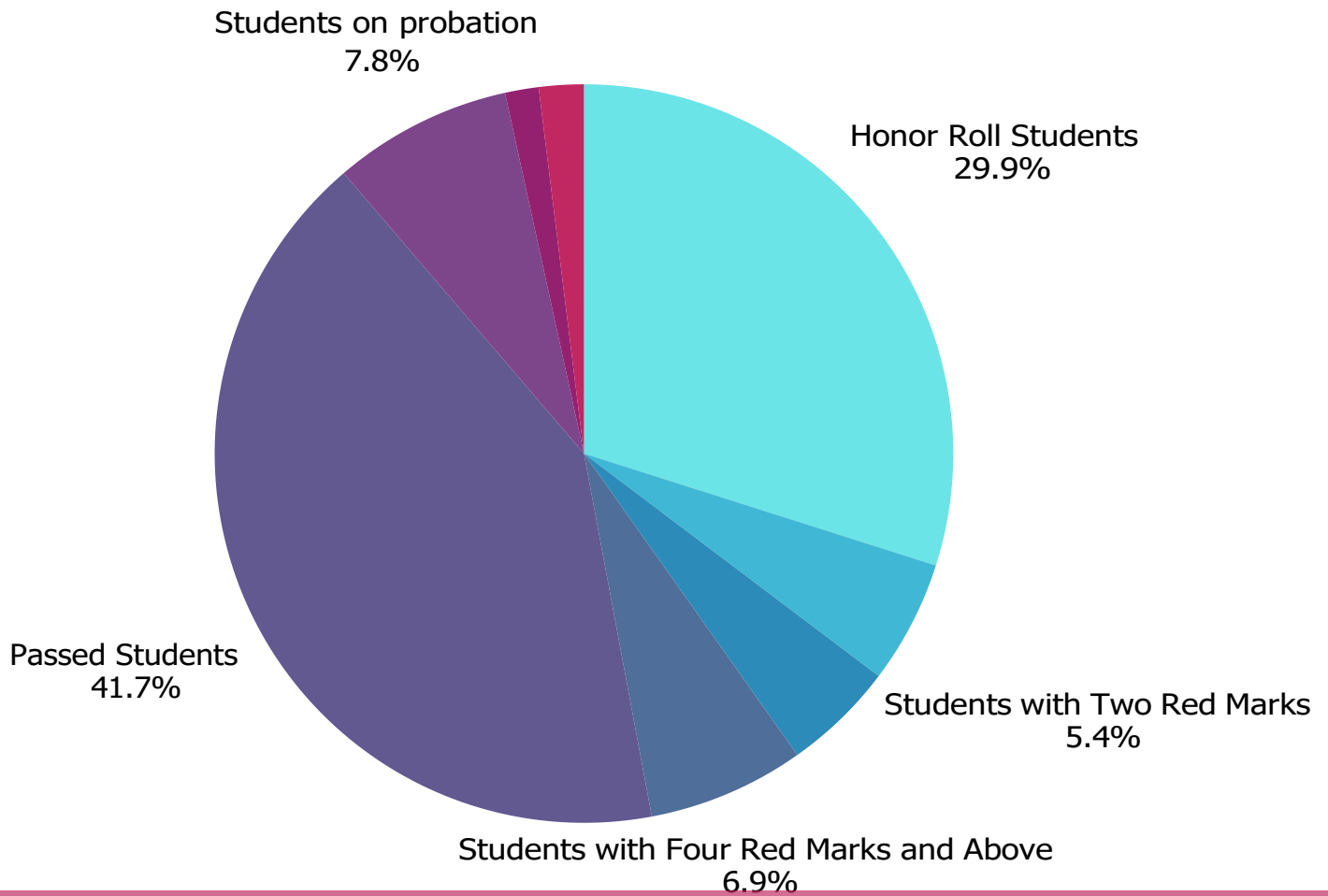
PERIODIC PROGRESS STATISTICS (PERIOD I, 2025/2026)

Category	Number of Students
Total Students	104
Honor Roll Students	61
Students with Two Red Marks	11
Students with Three Red Marks	10
Students with Four Red Marks and Above	14
Passed Students	85
Students on Probation	16
Failed Students	3
Students with Incomplete Status	4



ACADEMIC

PERIODIC PROGRESS STATISTICS



PERIODIC PROGRESS STATISTICS SUMMARY (PERIOD I, 2025/2026)

For Period I of the 2025/2026 academic year, a total of 104 students were assessed. Honor roll students accounted for 29.9% (61 students) of the total, reflecting a strong performance from over half the cohort.

Students with red marks (indicative of underperformance) were distributed as follows:

- 4% (11 students) had two red marks,
- 9.62% (10 students) had three red marks, and
- 9% (14 students) had four or more red marks.

In terms of academic standings, 41.7% (85 students) passed the period, 7.8% (16 students) were placed on probation, 1.5% (3 students) failed, and 2% (4 students) received incomplete status.



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ACADEMIC



In Grade 4 classroom at Zoe Robinson Academy, the quiet focus is broken only by the clear, confident voice of student Sam B. Seh as he leads a reading exercise. While Sam reads aloud from a shared text, his classmates listen intently, actively taking notes on key points and questions that arise from the passage. This interactive exercise, a regular feature of our literacy curriculum, is designed to build multiple critical skills simultaneously. It empowers the reader, like Sam, to develop fluency and public speaking confidence, while training the listening students in comprehension, critical thinking, and note-taking. This collaborative approach adds a vital layer to the quality of education at Zoe Academy, transforming passive learning into an engaging, participatory experience that prepares every student to both articulate and analyze ideas effectively.





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HEALTH

At Zoe Robinson Academy, our commitment to student well-being is a foundational pillar of our educational environment, ensuring that every child is healthy, safe, and ready to learn.

A critical component of this commitment is the direct, caring interaction between our school nurse and our students. The nurse proactively addresses both routine and critical health conditions, providing immediate care, health education, and vital psychosocial support.

This integrated approach ensures that health barriers are removed, allowing uninterrupted learning and fostering a school culture where every student's physical and emotional well-being is actively monitored and nurtured.

This proactive system began at the very start of the 2025/2026 academic year with a comprehensive baseline health assessment conducted by our nurse, Ms. Olivia. This essential initiative established a clear health status for each of our 104 students, creating individualized profiles that enable timely and effective emergency response and ongoing care.

By establishing this baseline, our health program moves beyond simple treatment to true prevention and early intervention, embedding student wellness into the daily fabric of life at Zoe Academy.





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SAFETY

At Hilltop Schools, student safety is a cornerstone program, essential for safeguarding our students both on and off campus. Our proactive approach is anchored by the dedicated work of our school social worker, who provides critical psychosocial services directly to students. Through counseling, mentorship, and targeted interventions, this focus is key to preventing and addressing safety issues such as bullying, fighting, classroom disturbances, and disrespect toward teachers, fostering a respectful and secure learning environment for all. This protective ecosystem extends beyond our school gates through the vigilant work of our Safety Team, headed by Mrs. Lablah. The team actively engages with parents and guardians to ensure strict adherence to our comprehensive Child Protection Policy, which clearly prohibits all forms of abuse. A core tenet of our program is holding offenders accountable, thereby sending a powerful message that the well-being of every child is our non-negotiable priority and a shared responsibility with the community we serve.





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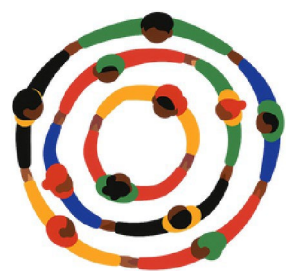


LUNCH TIME





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YEAR END CHRISTMAS PARTY





YEAR END CHRISTMAS PARTY

STATEMENT OF GRATITUDE FROM GEORGE



George, a bright 5th-grade student at Zoe Robinson Academy, shared his heartfelt joy about the recent Christmas celebration, describing how the party “brought a lot of excitement” as he enjoyed fun moments with his schoolmates and new friends from MoreThanMe Academy. He expressed deep gratitude to the organizers, administrators, and generous donors of Zoe Robinson Academy for their thoughtfulness in creating a nurturing and joyful space for students like him. In his own touching words, George reflected,

“This school is more than a place to learn, it is where we feel seen, cared for, and able to dream. Thank you for giving me and my friends a second home.”

-George-