

#HASHTAG

MAY EDITION, 2026



CITE YOUTH
NETWORK



HAPPY
AFRICA
CELEBRATING DAY UNITY & HERITAGE

MAY 25

Brot
für die Welt

Editor's Note



-Melinda Ncube

CITE Youth Network Coordinator

Stories that reflect the voices of young people.

May has been a month filled with conversation, creativity, and important moments for young people across Zimbabwe and the African continent. In this edition of Hashtag Magazine, we bring together stories that speak directly to the realities young people are navigating today, from the opportunities created by technology and social media to the pressures affecting schools, communities, and mental wellbeing.

Although Africa Day has passed, the conversations it inspires remain relevant every day. Questions around African identity, culture, unity, progress, and the future of young people continue to shape how we see ourselves and the world around us. Across Africa, young people are using their voices, talents, and platforms to challenge stereotypes, preserve culture, create opportunities, and tell authentic stories that reflect who we are.

This edition captures that energy and spirit. From youth football tournaments creating safe spaces and bringing communities together, to discussions around artificial intelligence and social media dependency, the stories in these pages reflect a generation trying to adapt, grow, and make sense of a fast changing world. We also shine a light on serious issues affecting young people, including school discipline, peer pressure, mental health, and the importance of stronger community support systems.

At the same time, we celebrate resilience, especially the everyday strength found in families and communities. Stories honouring mothers, encouraging self-care during winter, and highlighting young people pushing forward despite challenges remind us that growth often happens quietly, through consistency, sacrifice, and support from those around us.

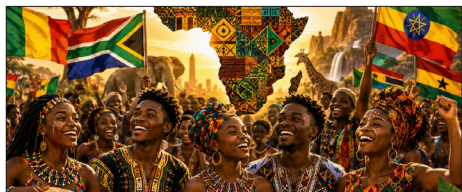
At Hashtag Magazine, our mission remains clear, to create a platform where youth voices are heard, where important conversations are not avoided, and where young people can see their realities, dreams, and struggles reflected honestly. We believe storytelling has the power to inform, connect, inspire, and challenge communities to think differently.

As winter begins and the year continues to unfold, we encourage our readers to take care of themselves physically, mentally, and emotionally. Check in on your people. Stay inspired. Stay curious. And most importantly, continue believing in the power of your voice and your story.

THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO GROW WITH US.

ENJOY THE READ

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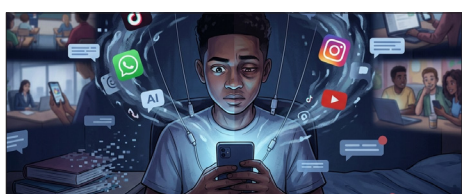
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Celebrating Africa, Celebrating Us

BY RUVARASHE MUNYORO

Africa Day, celebrated every year on 25 May, is more than just a date on the calendar. It's a day that reminds us of our shared history, our strength, our diversity, and our unity. It's a time to celebrate how far we've come — and to reflect on where we're going.

For young people especially, Africa Day is a chance to proudly embrace African identity. From music and fashion to food and language, our culture connects us and tells the world who we are.

This day also marks the founding of the African Union, originally known as the Organisation of African Unity in 1963. The organisation was formed to promote unity, independence, and development across the continent.

Africa's journey hasn't always been easy. Many leaders and freedom fighters, including Kwame Nkrumah, Julius Nyerere, and Nelson Mandela, helped shape the vision of a free and united Africa. Their courage laid the foundation for the continent we know today.

African culture is rich, vibrant, and constantly evolving. From traditional dances and ceremonies to hairstyles and clothing, creativity flows through everything we do. And today, African fashion is gaining global recognition, blending tradition with modern style.

Music and art are also powerful ways we tell our stories. Artists like Burna Boy and Tyla have taken African sound to the global stage, while writers, filmmakers, and digital creators continue to showcase African excellence to the world.

Technology is opening even more doors. Young Africans are using social media to share ideas, build businesses, speak out on important issues, and connect with global audiences. Despite chal-



lenges like unemployment and inequality, African youth continue to show resilience, strength, and determination.

Africa is also known for its diversity. With over 2,000 languages spoken across the continent, our differences are not weaknesses — they are our superpower. The spirit of Ubuntu — humanity, compassion, and togetherness — reminds us that we grow stronger when we support one another. Celebrating Africa means celebrating innovation, talent, and potential. It means recognising the achievements of African scientists, entrepreneurs, athletes, writers, and creatives who are making a mark globally.

But Africa Day is not just about looking back at history. It's about shaping the future. Young people have a powerful role to play in building a continent that thrives. Through creativity, unity, leadership, and bold ideas, we can continue to move Africa forward.

This Africa Day, let's celebrate our culture.

Let's celebrate our progress.

And most importantly, let's celebrate ourselves.

Raised by a Strong Mom: A Tribute to the Mothers Who Shape Generations



BY RUVARASHE MUNYORO

Behind almost every young person chasing a dream is a mother who sacrificed quietly, loved fiercely, and held the line through storms her children never even saw coming. Mothers shape families. They shape communities. And whether they do it through tough love, long working hours, or whispered prayers at 4 a.m., strong mothers leave fingerprints on the next generation that never fade.

In many African homes, mothers wear too many hats to count, caregiver, provider, teacher, counsellor, protector. Even when money is tight, when society judges, when life simply refuses to be kind, many of them keep pushing, because the children

come first. This piece is for them.

THE SACRIFICES WE DON'T SEE

Most of us only understand what our mothers did for us long after we've grown up. The early mornings. The late nights. The dreams she quietly shelved so we could chase ours. The smile she wore in public while everything was falling apart in private.

A strong mother often hides her struggles behind encouragement. She motivates you even when she's running on empty. She gives up her time, her rest, sometimes even her own ambitions, and most of the time, she does it without expecting a

thank you. Those invisible sacrifices are the foundation a lot of us are still building on today.

STRENGTH WHEN LIFE GETS HARD

Life isn't always kind, and many mothers face battles most people will never see. Some raise children alone. Some are widowed. Some juggle two or three jobs just to keep the lights on. Yet they keep showing up.

Single mothers, widowed mothers, mothers working themselves to the bone, they teach their children something no textbook can: you don't quit when things get hard. You adapt. You keep going.

OUR VERY FIRST TEACHER

Before any classroom, your mother was your first teacher. She taught you to speak, to walk, to share, to behave around others. Through the small everyday things, she passed down values, wisdom, and a sense of who you are.

In African culture especially, mothers are often the keepers of family traditions and identity. They teach honesty, humility, discipline, and respect, not as lectures, but as a way of life. A strong mother doesn't just prepare you for school. She prepares you for life.

THE FIRST COUNSELLOR WE EVER HAD

When you fail an exam, when a friendship breaks, when life feels like too much, for many of us, Mom is still the first person we call. Mothers have a way of reminding us that one bad moment doesn't define us. That mistakes are part of growing. That

we are loved even when we feel like we don't deserve to be.

In a generation drowning in pressure, school stress, social media comparison, complicated relationships, an uncertain economy, that kind of steady emotional anchor matters more than ever. Mental wellness doesn't always need a therapist. Sometimes it just needs your mother's voice on the other end of the line.

APPRECIATING HER NOT JUST IN MAY

Mother's Day is a beautiful moment, but it's also a reminder. The women who hold us up deserve more than a once-a-year tribute. Appreciation doesn't have to be expensive. A phone call. A "thank you." Showing up. Listening when she talks. Helping with the small things she's always done quietly.

Most mothers won't ask to be celebrated. That doesn't mean they don't deserve it.

Being raised by a strong mom shapes your character long before you realise it. It builds your values, your work ethic, your courage. And the ripple effect goes far beyond one home, it builds stronger communities and a stronger country.

So this May, as we celebrate mothers, remember this: behind almost every dream, every achievement, every "I made it" story, there's a woman who refused to give up. Honour her this Mother's Day, and every day after.





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Winter Advice: Staying Warm, Healthy, and Positive Through the Cold Season



BY RUVARASHE MUNYORO

Winter has a vibe of its own — cold mornings, shorter days, the smell of woodsmoke in the air, and that one blanket nobody wants to share. For some, it's the coziest time of the year. For others, especially young people juggling school, work, and life, it can be a season that drains energy, messes with motivation, and tests the immune system.

As the temperatures drop, looking after both your body and your mind becomes non-negotiable. From dressing right to staying mentally steady, winter is a season that rewards preparation.

DRESS WARM — BUT MAKE IT FASHION

Staying warm is the first rule of winter. Cold weather catches you slipping and suddenly you're nursing a flu for two weeks.

The trick is layering. A hoodie under a jacket, a scarf, gloves, warm socks — small things that make a big difference. And no, warm doesn't have to mean boring. Pair your puffer with sneakers, throw on a beanie, mix in some street-wear pieces, and winter fits can easily become some of your best outfits of the year. Stay warm,

stay stylish — the two aren't enemies.

PROTECT YOUR HEALTH

Winter is flu season. Don't wait until you're already sick to start taking care of yourself.

A few habits that go a long way:

- Drink warm fluids — tea, coffee, soup, hot chocolate, lemon water
- Eat proper meals and load up on fruits and vegetables
- Keep moving, even if it's just indoor stretches or a short workout
- Sleep properly — your immune system needs it
- Wash your hands often, especially in shared spaces
- Don't stay out in the cold longer than you need to

That feeling of laziness winter brings is real, but movement is the cure. Even fifteen minutes of indoor exercise can shake off the sluggishness and lift your mood.

MIND YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

Cold weather and shorter days can quietly mess with your emotions. You might feel flatter than usual, less motivated, more withdrawn — and that's not weakness, that's your body responding to less sunlight and more indoor time.

Stay connected. Call your friends. Step outside when the sun is up, even briefly. Watch what you consume on social media when you're already feeling low. And if things feel heavier than usual, talk to someone — a friend, a family member, a counsellor. Mental health matters in every season, but winter is when it needs a little extra attention.

STAY MOTIVATED WHEN THE BED IS WINNING

Let's be honest — waking up early in winter feels like a personal attack. Productivity dips, study sessions get shorter, the snooze button gets a serious workout.

The fix is structure. Build a simple routine and stick to it. Set small, realistic goals for the day. Lay your clothes out the night before so morning decisions are easier. Balance hustle with rest — winter isn't the season to burn out, but it's also not a write-off.

Honestly, winter is a great season for growth work that happens behind the scenes. Read more. Learn a skill. Plan the year ahead. Reflect. The cold months can be the foundation for everything you'll show off when summer comes back around.

STAY SAFE AT HOME

Winter safety is one of those things people only take seriously after something goes wrong. Don't be that story.

A few reminders worth repeating:

- Never leave heaters or braziers unattended
- Keep blankets, curtains, and clothes far from open flames
- Make sure rooms with braziers or paraffin heaters have ventilation — carbon monoxide is silent and deadly
- Dress younger siblings and kids warmly, especially at night
- Avoid unnecessary movement outside late at night in extreme cold
- Unplug electrical heaters when leaving the room or sleeping

Small habits, big difference. Winter accidents are almost always preventable.

FINAL WORD

Winter doesn't have to be a season you just survive. With the right fits, a bit of routine, some care for your mind, and a little common sense around safety, it can actually be one of the most grounding seasons of the year — a time to slow down, refocus, and prepare for what's next.

So this winter: dress warm, eat well, move your body, check on your people, and check on yourself. The cold passes. Make sure you're still standing strong when it does.

Scrolling Minds: Is Social Media Making Us Smarter or Just More Dependent?



BY BEATRICE HOFISI

Everywhere you go in the world today, someone is on their phone. At home, at school, in church, at work, on the kombi, social media has woven itself into modern life. From WhatsApp groups to TikTok trends to AI tools like ChatGPT, technology has made communication, learning, and information faster than ever before.

But beneath the convenience, a quiet concern is growing: are we slowly losing the ability to think for ourselves?

For many young people, social media isn't just entertainment. It's a workplace, a classroom, a

news source, and a social life, all crammed into one screen.

"IT HAS MADE LIFE EASIER"

"Social media has made life easier," said Neo Damisi, one of the ten girls currently being trained in AI, media and information literacy, and news writing. "It has helped me do my projects in high school. You can get anything in seconds, and if I don't understand something, I can just search and it explains immediately."

Platforms like YouTube and TikTok, alongside

AI-powered tools like ChatGPT and Meta AI, have transformed how students learn. Textbooks can be summarised in seconds, ideas generated on demand, and information accessed in a flash. Tasks that once meant hours in a library now take minutes online.

THE GENERATION GAP

Not everyone is convinced this is progress.

“The thing is, if you were at varsity 10 years back, you envy abaka AI, Gemini, ChatGPT and so on. Honestly, it’s like it’s not fair, kodwa it’s technology, research is now different. I envy you guys, you’re having it easy. Even kids, they just print notes instead of writing, sokulula for you. Mina personally, bekungalalwa 2014, 15, 16, from day one,” said Tawanda Moyo, who graduated from NUST in 2016.

For Tawanda and many of his peers, university meant long nights, stacks of borrowed textbooks, and the slow grind of forming your own conclusions. Today, he argues, students get answers without ever understanding the process that produced them, and he worries it’s eroding patience and deep thinking.

“People no longer sit with information long enough to analyse it. Everything is fast, done in seconds,” added Nothando Ngwenya.

OR ARE WE JUST ROMANTICISING THE PAST?

Others push back on the idea that technology is dulling young minds.

Rutendo Mautsi says social media isn’t making people lazy, it’s simply changing how humans learn. “Every generation uses the tools available to them,” she explained. “Before PDFs, people used textbooks. Before calculators, people solved things manually. Before the internet, people relied on libraries. Now we have AI and social media. That doesn’t mean people don’t think anymore, or that intelligence is disappearing.”

It’s a fair point. Every leap in technology, from the printing press to the smartphone, has come with the same anxiety, that the new tool will weaken the human mind. So far, it hasn’t.

BUT WHAT ABOUT THE SCROLL?

Still, concerns about addiction are hard to ignore. Many young people openly admit to spending hours on TikTok, Instagram, and YouTube, often without any real purpose. Endless short videos, constant notifications, and algorithm-driven content are quietly reshaping attention spans, productivity, and real-life social interaction.

“It becomes dangerous when people cannot sit quietly without checking their phones,” said Munyaradzi Ndzou. “Some people are connected online and disconnected from themselves.”

Social media has also rewired how young people see themselves. Views, likes, and followers now shape confidence and identity, especially for teenagers. A bad post can ruin a day. A viral moment can change a life.

A TOOL WE CAN’T PUT DOWN

And yet, despite the warnings, few are willing to log off. Businesses market online. Students study online. Families stay in touch online. Job interviews happen online. Social media isn’t just a habit anymore, it’s survival infrastructure.

Maybe the real debate isn’t whether social media is good or bad. Maybe it’s whether we still remember how to balance convenience with independent thought. Whether we can use the tool without becoming the tool.

As technology keeps advancing, one question keeps echoing back at us:

Are we using social media, or is it slowly using us?

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Beyond the Certificate

BY CHANTELE CHISIRI

Unemployment in Zimbabwe is one of the most exhausted conversations in the country. It is an intergenerational problem that has continued to exist because the human ecosystem will always have social classes determined by an individual's net worth. Looking at our youth population in Zimbabwe and narrowing down to Bulawayo, we notice how the bulk of young people are contributing to the unemployed masses. Beyond the articles written, conversations held, and unemployment seminars hosted, it takes calculated action to reduce unemployment.

Furthermore, the country has witnessed large companies such as OK Zimbabwe closing down various outlets and Telecel Zimbabwe announcing its closure. These are only two among many others and, with each company closing, more individuals are left without jobs. As a result, we are left questioning where jobs will come from if each day might bring another announcement of a company shutting down.

Consequently, young people in Bulawayo and beyond need to unlearn the notion that we study solely to graduate and become employed. It is pos-

sible to use the skills gained from our different study disciplines to craft a comfortable lifestyle and even create generational wealth. One solution to reducing unemployment is entrepreneurship. An eye that is able to identify a need can also envision how to provide for that need.

Moreover, when looking at students in local universities, we are able to see the distinction between those banking entirely on employment and those who simply make ends meet through side hustles. Starting with those hoping for employment, many lack skills beyond what they are studying. The idea of job security that they were socialized into believing while growing up is no longer practical in this evolving world. We cannot label it job security if we are not guaranteed its eternal existence.

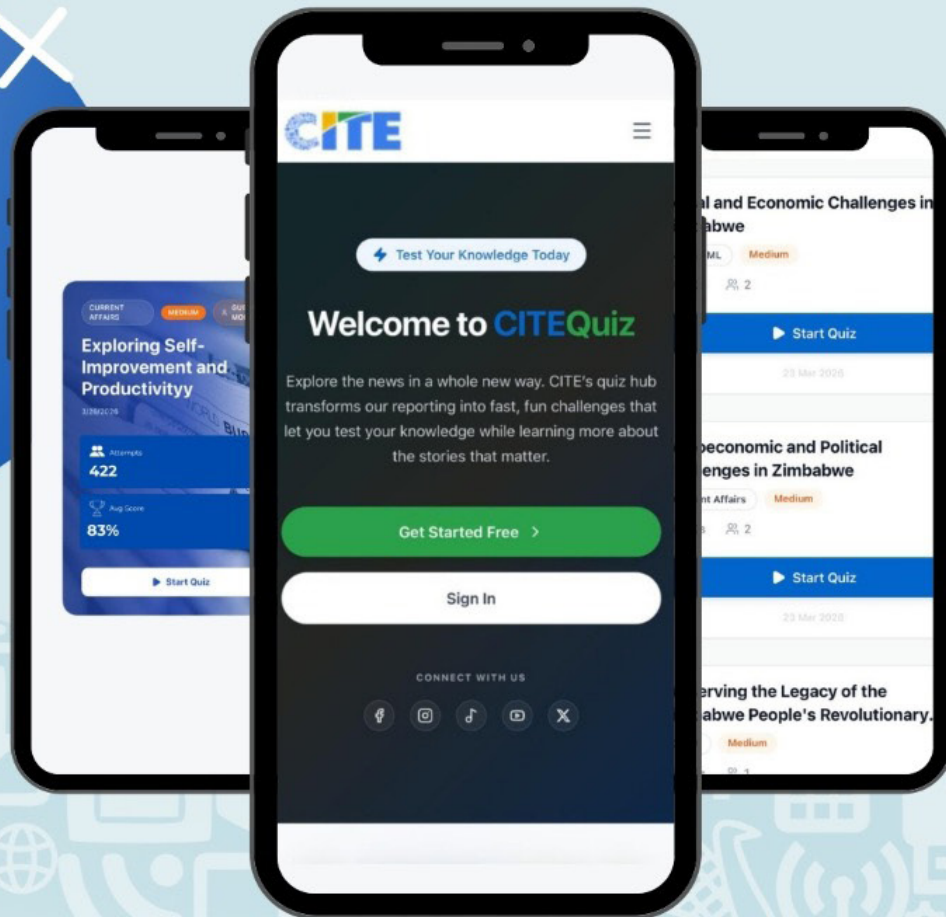
On the other hand, education remains essential, but no certificate truly secures wealth. It is important for people to understand that the problems you solve are what you are rewarded for. Therefore, why wait to be rewarded when you can create your own source of income that is not determined by someone else?

Meanwhile, students who make ends meet pursue both education and a side hustle, both of which may pay off in the end. What makes them different is that one group places all its eggs in one basket, while the other takes risks that can guarantee results, whether positive or negative.

Ultimately, if young people, including students, are able to craft different ways of earning a living, it will improve the general quality of life and collectively redefine unemployment in Zimbabwe, changing the status quo. Entrepreneurship is an alternative; it is a risk many need to take. Although it might involve challenges such as lack of capital, fear of failure, and economic instability, it is a risk worth taking. Indeed, it is a solution that many young people in business are rooting for.



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More Than a Match: Kasi Street Tournament Proves Bulawayo's Youth Are Alive

BY BRANDON NCUBE

When the final whistle blew at Old Magwegwe Youth Club in the early hours of 8 May, Real Madrid were crowned champions of the Kasi Street Tournament Cup, and with the trophy came a reminder of what Bulawayo's youth can do when they're given a real space to compete.

Promoted relentlessly across the organisers' social media pages in the weeks leading up to kick-off, the tournament pulled together eight 5-a-side teams from across the community for a knockout competition that ran deep into the night. From the opening round on 6 May, through the semi-finals on 7 May, and into a pulsating finals day on 8 May, the event was a showcase of raw talent, neighbourhood pride, and the kind of electric energy only street football can produce.

THE ROAD TO GLORY

Eight teams entered the competition: Real Madrid, La'Masia, Morren FC, BMS Spurs, MT Stars FC, Peace Magents, Luveve Galaxy, and Real Lobengula. After fierce group-stage battles and tense semifinals, four teams fought their way to the final day's showdown.

Third place: Morren FC 1–0 Peace Magents
Final: Real Madrid 1–0 La'Masia

Real Madrid edged out La'Masia with a solitary goal in a tight, hard-fought final, while Morren FC claimed third place with a narrow win over Peace Magents. Neither result came easy, every match on finals day was decided by the kind of slim margins that define street football.

THE STANDOUT PERFORMERS

La'Masia's Anele finished as the tournament's top scorer with five goals, leading the race from start to finish. Peace Magents' Rayan and Real Madrid's Ziro shared second place on three goals each, proof that the quality wasn't concentrated in one camp, it was spread right across the pitch.



The Player of the Tournament award went to Real Madrid's Dumo, whose performances across the competition were simply impossible to ignore. From group stage to final, he was the difference-maker his team needed.

MORE THAN JUST FOOTBALL

Events like the Kasi Street Tournament Cup matter for reasons that go far beyond the final scoreline. Old Magwegwe Youth Club is exactly the kind of space that keeps young people grounded, off the streets and channelling their energy into something meaningful. In a city where idleness can quickly open doors to drugs, crime, and hopelessness, a well-organised overnight football tournament isn't just entertainment. It's community care in action.

The organisers have built a real habit of keeping the community informed, announcing fixtures, sharing results, and growing a following that actually stays engaged. That kind of consistency and structure, youth-led and community-rooted, is what turns a one-night event into something that lasts. It's also what builds the kind of trust that brings sponsors, supporters, and bigger opportunities through the door next time.

Bulawayo has always had the talent. What it needs is more spaces like this, and more people willing to build them. The Kasi Street Tournament Cup is proof that when the youth are given the platform, they show up. Loudly.

Mzilikazi High in the Spotlight: Stakeholders Meet Over Growing Discipline Crisis



BY REJOICE IPHILE NDLOVU

Youths from Mzilikazi, Makokoba, and Barbourfields — many of them learners at Mzilikazi High School — are increasingly being linked to a wave of misconduct that has left both the school and surrounding community on edge.

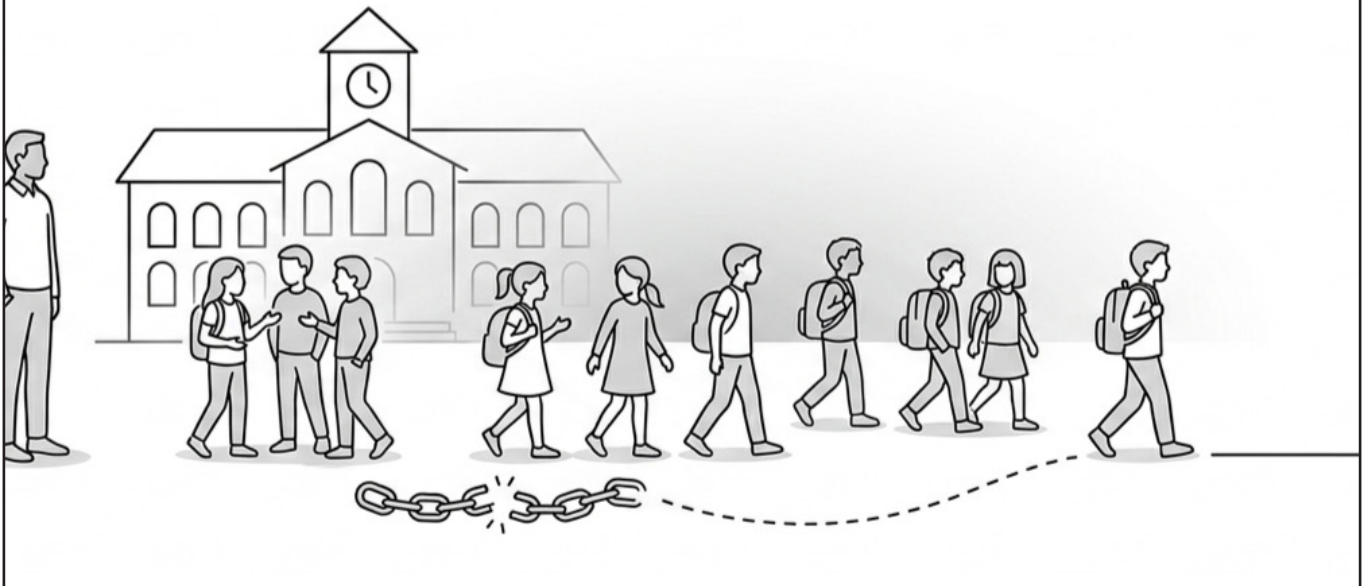
The school is now grappling with a long list of concerns: alcohol and drug abuse among students, bullying, truancy, violent outbursts, learners carrying weapons such as okapi knives and screwdrivers, threats against teachers, and even extortion — where students reportedly charge fellow learners “tollgate fees” to pass through certain points outside school grounds.

A DAILY DISTURBANCE

What was once isolated misbehaviour has become an almost daily occurrence. Fights regularly break out between learners, with stones thrown back and forth — often with little regard for residents, passers-by, or children caught in the crossfire.

The chaos has spilled beyond the school gates and into the wider community, and Mzilikazi residents have begun pushing back. Their complaints prompted a stakeholder meeting at the school, bringing together community childcare workers, the police, local residents, the School Development Committee (SDC), and school authorities.

“It takes a community
to guide a generation.”



“DISTURBING REPORTS”

Ward 8 community childcare worker Mr Antony Sibanda told the meeting that the situation has reached a point that cannot be ignored. He said reports show students are abusing substances, absconding from class, carrying dangerous weapons, and in some cases threatening teachers. Bullying and extortion, he added, are now part of the same pattern.

His account painted a picture of a school where the line between misbehaviour and outright criminality is being blurred — and where teachers are losing the authority they need to keep order.

HEADMASTER: “IT MUST BE A JOINT EFFORT”

Mzilikazi High School headmaster Mr Bhekokuhle Dube said tackling the crisis cannot be left to teachers alone. He called on parents to take a far more active role at home — checking schoolwork, knowing their children’s teachers, and searching bags and rooms for weapons, drugs, and other contraband.

His message was clear: the school cannot fight this battle in isolation. Without parents and the wider community pulling in the same direction, the problem will keep growing.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

The stakeholder meeting was a starting point, not a solution. The real work now lies in consistent follow-through — parents who actually check in on their children, residents who report rather than shield wrongdoers, police who respond promptly, and a school environment that gives learners a reason to choose differently.

Mzilikazi, Makokoba, and Barbourfields have produced some of Bulawayo’s brightest minds and proudest stories. They are too important to lose to a generation of unchecked indiscipline. The call now is for parental involvement and community vigilance to step up — before the behaviour escalates into something the community can no longer contain.

Court Is in Session

BY REJOICE IPHILE NDLOVU

The courtroom was tense. The judges were seated, the prosecution stood ready with evidence, and the defence prepared to argue their case. But this was no ordinary trial. Organized by the CITE Youth Network, the courtroom setup became a creative and engaging platform for young people to debate one pressing issue: Do youths lack opportunities, or do they lack consistency?

The event, titled “Court Is in Session,” transformed a simple discussion into a powerful mock trial experience. With a full courtroom atmosphere complete with judges, witnesses, prosecution, and defence teams, participants stepped into their roles with confidence and passion. The audience watched as arguments flew back and forth, each side determined to prove its point.

The prosecution took a bold stance, arguing that many young people today are presented with opportunities but often fail to remain consistent enough to fully benefit from them. They highlighted examples of youths abandoning projects midway,

giving up too soon, or struggling to stay committed when challenges arise. Witnesses called to the stand spoke about how consistency, discipline, and persistence are often the missing ingredients in youth success stories.

On the other hand, the defence argued passionately that the real issue lies in the lack of accessible opportunities. They pointed out barriers such as unemployment, limited funding, lack of resources, and unequal access to platforms for growth. The defence maintained that many young people are eager and talented but are held back by circumstances beyond their control.

What made the event unique was not just the debate itself, but the way it encouraged critical thinking and youth participation. Instead of simply listening to speeches, attendees became immersed in the courtroom experience, engaging with real issues affecting their communities in a creative and relatable way.

As the session progressed, emotions ran high and arguments became stronger. Witness testi-

monies, cross examinations, and sharp rebuttals kept the audience captivated from beginning to end. In the final ruling, the judges declared the prosecution victorious, agreeing that while opportunities may not always be equal, consistency remains one of the biggest challenges facing many young people today.

Beyond the verdict, the event succeeded in sparking important conversations among youths. It challenged attendees to reflect on their own habits, ambitions, and dedication toward achieving their goals. It also reinforced the importance of accountability, resilience, and perseverance in personal growth.

The CITE Youth Network once again proved its ability to create innovative spaces where young people can openly discuss social issues while building confidence, public speaking skills, and critical thinking. “Court Is in Session” was more than just a debate. It was a reminder that youth voices matter and that sometimes the best way to confront difficult conversations is to put them on trial.



The Screenshot Takes on Isilwane Youth Centre

BY RUVARASHE MUNYORO

Youth spaces are more than just buildings. They are places where talent is discovered, passions are nurtured, and young people find a sense of belonging. In a recent episode of *The Screenshot*, the team visited the vibrant Isilwane Youth Centre to experience firsthand how the centre is creating opportunities for young people through sports, fitness, and the arts.

From the moment the episode began, the energy at Isilwane Youth Centre was impossible to ignore. Young people filled the space with movement, music, and excitement as different activities took place across the centre. The episode highlighted the importance of safe and active youth spaces that allow young people to explore their talents and connect with others in their community.

One of the standout moments was a lively performance by the centre's dance group. Their performance brought energy and creativity to the episode, showcasing not only their talent but also their dedication to dance as an art form. During interviews, the dancers spoke passionately about what dancing means to them. For many of them, dance is more than entertainment. It is a form of self expression, stress relief, and a way to stay focused and motivated.

The episode also stepped inside the gym area, where young people shared their passion for fitness and healthy living. Gym members spoke about the positive impact exercise has had on their confidence, discipline, and mental wellbeing. For some, the gym is a place to improve physically, while for others it has become a space for motivation, friendship, and personal growth.

Sports were another major focus of the episode, particularly basketball. The basketball players interviewed described their love for the game and how having access to courts and facilities at the youth centre allows them to sharpen their skills and spend time doing something productive.



Their passion for basketball was clear both on and off the court, as they spoke about teamwork, commitment, and the dream of growing further in the sport.

What made the episode special was the way it captured the authentic voices of young people. Rather than simply observing activities, *The Screenshot* allowed youths at Isilwane Youth Centre to tell their own stories, share their experiences, and explain why spaces like the centre matter in their lives.

The visit to Isilwane Youth Centre showed that when young people are given supportive environments and opportunities to express themselves, incredible things can happen. Whether through dance, fitness, or sport, the centre continues to provide a space where young people can grow, connect, and thrive.

Through this episode, *The Screenshot* once again demonstrated its commitment to highlighting youth voices and celebrating initiatives that positively impact young people in the community.

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