



Kasirye of Entebbe Education Centre scored aggregate 6

# Asthma, fees struggles did not stop Kasirye

**By George Bita**

Despite repeated asthma attacks and persistent delays in clearance of school fees, Joachim Thomas Kasirye excelled in the 2025 Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE), scoring aggregate 6 at Entebbe Education Centre.

Kasirye told *New Vision* that his health challenges intensified as the examinations approached.

"I had numerous asthmatic attacks during the run-up to PLE. My auntie, whom I was staying with, even thought I had exam fever," Kasirye said.

The 14-year-old obtained distinction 1 in both English and mathematics, and distinction 2 in integrated science and social studies.

Kasirye hopes to continue his education at St Mary's College Kisubi or Kiira

College Butiki, his first and second choices respectively.

His mother, Irene Tyobo, said Kasirye developed breathing complications at nine months of age and was later diagnosed with asthma.

"He has been in and out of hospitals ever since. It was difficult to place him in a boarding school because he requires constant medical attention," Tyobo said.

She said the high costs of medical care — combined with the responsibilities of raising a family as a single mother — strained her finances, leading to frequent delays in paying school fees.

Kasirye remains optimistic about his future and dreams of becoming a surgeon so he can care for the sick, just as he has been cared for. Tyobo has appealed for a scholarship, saying the cost of education continues to rise.