

# STTC Newsletter - July 2025

Solidarity Teacher Training College, Yambio, South Sudan



## Meeting with Non-teaching Staff

**Date:** 18th July 2025

**Venue:** STTC

**Facilitators:** Br. Ismael Juma (HR) and Br. Francis Xavier (Principal)

The meeting held on 18th July 2025 marked the first official engagement between the new administration and the non-teaching staff at Solidarity Teacher Training College (STTC). Facilitated by Br. Ismael Juma (HR) and Br. Francis Xavier Agoah (Principal), the session aimed at strengthening collaboration and addressing key concerns affecting day-to-day operations. The meeting began with a warm welcome and an invitation to the staff to share reflections on what has been working well and what challenges they may have encountered so far. This open discussion provided was valuable and insightful.

The key areas explored during the meeting included:

**Communication:** The importance of maintaining clear and respectful communication was discussed, including the recommended channels for raising concerns or sharing information.

**Workplace Ethics:** Both facilitators engaged the staff in a conversation about professional ethics and mutual expectations between staff and administration, highlighting respect, integrity, and accountability as essential values.

The session concluded with staff acknowledging the moral and material support provided by the administration. The meeting ended with resolutions to enhance college administration.

Overall, the meeting was productive and set a solid foundation for improved collaboration between the administration and non-teaching staff.



## Induction of two new tutors

**Date:** 23rd July 2025

**Venue:** Solidarity Teacher Training College (STTC)

**Facilitators:** Brs. Ismael Juma (HR) and Francis Xavier (Principal)

On 23 July 2025, we held an induction for two new tutors — Ms. Laker Eunice and Mrs. Ndukpio Foiza. The session was co-facilitated by the Brothers Ismael Juma and Francis Xavier Agoah.

During the induction, tutors received a brief history of Solidarity with South Sudan and the development of STTC. The college's mission and vision were outlined to inform new staff about its goals and values.

Br. Ismael Juma then guided the new tutors through key sections of the Human Resource Manual. The Professional Code of Conduct and various staff leave categories have been detailed to provide clear guidance on expected standards and entitlements.

The confidentiality and safeguarding policies were reviewed, highlighting STTC's dedication to a safe, professional, and inclusive environment for staff and students.

At the close of the session, both Ms. Eunice and Mrs. Foiza expressed their deep appreciation for the warm welcome and for the comprehensive orientation. They felt positively embraced by the STTC community and affirmed a keen sense of belonging and readiness to contribute meaningfully to the college's mission.



## Preparation for School Practice

The first School Practice outing for Preservice was one day of lessons with an Early Childhood group, an opportunity to field-test the action songs and teaching aids they have been preparing, and to experience the sheer joy of instructing the beautiful children of Yambio. The Inservice (Year 1) team, under supervision during Early Childhood School Practice, established a multilingual STTC presence across numerous schools. This initiative is particularly advantageous for engaging young children. The children never fail to delight; the solemnity with which one small boy displayed his caterpillar one of the Teacher Trainees as a sample of God's Creation is one of the stand-out moments recorded by the supervisor. The students are now preparing for a longer teaching practice in the same school; they know already how bright and loving the children are, and that there is nothing to fear (on either side!)







## End of second term exams; beginning of term three

The move from a two-semester system to a three-term one (to align with the Ministry's preferred structure) requires Academic Affairs to conduct end-of-term exams and transition again to the next term with the least possible delay. The Preservice, Inservice, and Diploma programmes will each be managed in accordance with their specific requirements. The excellent cooperation of tutors and students alike has eased the transition. The benefits are already evident in the stability it gives to planning admissions and tracking the progress of students. From the students' side, it has sharpened the focus on studies - exams come round surprisingly fast! The interval between the end of Term 2 exams and the serious start of Term 3 was one week only. All students have progressed. To God be the glory!

## Visit of the sisters from Tombura

The Sisters of Perpetual Adoration of Guadalupe from the Ave maria mission Tambura paid a two week visit to STTC and to the Solidarity Community. They used the time here to improve their spoken English and familiarized themselves with the primary school curriculum. Sr. Jacinta involved them in the college's curriculum activities while Sr. Sherly took responsibility for the community hospitality bit. Apart from three of them getting a touch of malaria, they all described their stay with us as fruitful and enjoyable. They returned to their mission on 18 July 2025.



## My First Impressions

Joining the solidarity family is just an experience like no other; the amazing team, that conducive working environment and the committed staff all contribute to a unique atmosphere. My first month has been filled with exploration and observation.

One of the most wonderful experiences is that of team spirit and solidarity among the staff. Solidarity Teacher Training College has a great sense of community and welcome that gives someone a sense of belonging. The fact that the employees and students comprise people of different nationalities and ethnic groups working as a diverse but united entity reflects the vision of Solidarity to foster a unique collaboration among culturally diverse professionals working together to instill values and skills.

Overall, my first impression of STTC is this: It is a place where vision and mission are a source of hope and inspiration for our country. I'm looking forward to serving and giving of my best in whatever way I can.

Ms. Eunice Laker- English Tutor.

## Visit of Bro. Francis Agoah, Principal of STTC Yambio, to STTC In-Service Wau (July 9-11)

From the 9th to the 11th of July 2025, STTC In-Service Wau had the honor of hosting Bro. Francis Agoah, the Principal of Solidarity Teacher Training College (STTC) Yambio. The visit was a unique chance to boost our identity, teamwork, and exchange best practices in teacher training and development.

During his stay, Bro. Francis engaged with the administration, Tutors, and Trainees at STTC In-Service Wau. Key highlights of the visit included:

- Interactive sessions with student-teachers focusing on challenges and opportunities in the teaching profession. Child safeguarding and the role of the teacher, particularly in the Catholic School.
- A visit to the new Inservice construction site. The classrooms and other structures are almost ready for use.
- Exchange of ideas on strengthening educational quality, mentorship, and enhanced working collaboration with STTC Yambio.

The visit also fostered a spirit of unity and cooperation enabling the Trainees to understand the bigger picture of who Solidarity really is and the interaction between STTC Yambio and Wau. It opened horizons paving the way for future joint initiatives in capacity building and academic support.

STTC In-Service, Wau expresses its gratitude to Bro. Francis for his inspiring visit and looks forward to continued collaboration in the shared mission of enhancing teacher education in South Sudan.

