

Save the Children hails reading culture project

SINGAYAZI
KAMINJOLO
STAFF REPORTER

Save the Children Catch Up project coordinator Helen Mwimba says the organisation is satisfied with the project which seeks to promote reading culture in public primary schools.

Speaking during a reading fair competition final contest at Mtenthera Primary School at Kamphata, Lilongwe on Tuesday, she said the project is targeting 3 600 learners and working with education division managers in the district.

Said Mwimba: “Due to a number of challenges such as high pupil-teacher ratio, most learners have been struggling to master the art of reading. We started the project in April 2022 and the results are



PHOTOGRAPH: SINGAYAZI KAMINJOLO

A boy reading a script

impressive.

“Under this initiative, 20 primary schools in Lilongwe Rural West and East districts have been engaged in remedial learning programmes aimed at bolstering foundational literacy skills and fostering social and emotional learning among children.”

Mtenthera Education Zone quality assurance officer Limbikani Banda described the project as a success.

“We see more learners demanding reading materials as they want to learn more. We are grateful to Save the Children for embarking on this project. It is helping a lot

in promoting the reading culture among children,” he said.

Reading clubs from 20 primary schools in Lilongwe Rural West and Lilongwe Rural East took part in the competition.

Kingsley Kanjombi, a Standard Five learner at Mtenthera Primary School, said the competition has brought excitement among learners.

Earlier, learners through Save the Children’s Generation Hope Campaign held discussions on climate change and environmental sustainability.

Winners in the final round of the competition received school bags, reading and writing materials.

Save the Children ran the reading fair competition with funding from the Swedish Postcode Lottery. ■