BIKITA- Mashoko High, one of the biggest secondary schools in Masvingo province was hit by mass hysteria last week, sending pupils screaming and running in all directions as if they were beaten by invisible creatures.

Hysterias are known to be common during or towards exam times.

The Mirror had it on good authority that the school children would scream on top of their voices running around the school yard. It is said this would go on for several minutes before they fell down mumbling inaudible weird words and soon after that they would sprawl on the ground unconsciously.

The Provincial Education Director Clara Dube confirmed the incident but could not shed more light as she said she was waiting for a report from the district. “We are waiting to hear from the Bikita offices what really transpired,” said Ms Dube.

The school headmaster Tranos Mbwirire could not be contacted for comment since his mobile was not reachable.

Sources close to the school said the extent of the hysteria was frightening and this had divided the surrounding community with villagers pointing accusing fingers on each other.

Another source said the affected were mainly girls would start screaming and shaking uncontrollably in the middle of a lesson disturbing the class and literally the whole school.

“The children would scream and we suspect that there is something going on at the school and would urge the authorities to investigate the matter. This is a serious issue and we are afraid that the situation might recur in the near future,” said the source.