THOSE WHO CAN, DO!
A message of thanks.

I’ve just come back from showing some visitors our Grade Two art class and I thought, this is the right time to sit down and write my message of thanks to you.

When we entered the room, our art teacher, Mr Amos, greeted us with a great broad smile and extended his hand before the students all turned around to welcome us.

The walls of the art class are covered in bright paintings, and freshly sharpened pencils are all sitting tip up in their holders.

On the tables we could see that the students were learning to draw a library, in perfect perspective, pretty impressive for 8 and 9 year-olds!

This is not a scene that you can easily witness in a government school.

Teaching is hard work and teachers in Tanzania contend with more than most.

Classrooms are overcrowded and under resourced, the commute can be difficult and students can go the whole school day without a meal.

Your support of teaching at St Jude’s provides our 118 qualified, locally hired teachers with the environment and resources they need to fully realise the great calling of their profession.

Our teachers receive: competitive salaries, transport to and from school, meals, quality classroom resources and professional development opportunities.

Thank you for making sure “those who can do” – are making a difference in the lives of the poorest and brightest students in Arusha.

Gemma Sisia

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”
- Nelson Mandela
You're helping us employ 118 local & qualified teachers.

Your support provides:
- Competitive salaries
- Safe, reliable transportation to and from school
- Continuing professional development
- High-quality classroom resources

23% of government school teachers in Tanzania don't show up for work on a given day. -World Bank

90,900 of teachers in Tanzania - UNESCO

23% of regions with higher per capita income have lower pupil-teacher ratios. Students attending these schools perform better. - UNICEF

Our solution:
- Our 2015 community service interns taught more than 10,000 students in 21 local government schools.
- Textbook ratio (primary school): Tanzania: 5:1 ST Jude's: 1:1

National teaching crisis:

Teacher ratio:
- Tanzania: 1:46 ST Jude's: 1:16

3.

Teaching at ST Jude's
1. Who is your favourite teacher and why?
Mr Denis Ezron, he teaches us computers. I love him because he gives us so much support, for example, currently I am working on a project building an automatic vending machine – it ranked first overall in a competition at Nelson Mandela University. Mr. Denis really helped us so much, any material or advice we asked for, he gave us. He is one of the best teachers in St Jude’s. I really love him very much!

2. Why are good teachers important?
I would not be studying anymore if I did not come to St Jude’s. Before entering the school, I was studying in the same class with my brother and currently my brother is not studying anymore. When I came to St Jude’s, I did not know about anything to do with technology but now I can repair phones, laptops, and many kinds of things. At my home, I have opened a little workshop repairing laptops, phones, speakers, everything. I really learned a lot of things from the teachers here at St Jude’s.

3. What do you like doing in your free time?
Every single minute counts, so I spend most of my time planning and thinking about my future life, about my little shop at home and how will I live in my future life.

1. Who is your favourite teacher and why?
All of my teachers are my favourite but the one who really changed me is Mr Meshack, my mathematics teacher. I can say he is my favourite because before I started at St Jude’s last year, I used to score very low marks in Mathematics. When Mr. Meshack started teaching me, it was different, he encouraged all of us like, “you can do it!”. He gave us many tests which improved my abilities and skills. That is why I find him special.

2. Why are good teachers important?
Because they can help us learn what we need to learn, what we have to know – they give us concepts. They don’t teach us everything but they give us concepts so that when we work on them, they bring us great benefits.

3. How do teachers change your life?
Teachers are not there only to teach us how to learn, they can act as a parent as well. They teach us what is right and what is wrong. When we misbehave they tell us this is wrong you should not be on that path. So that way they can change our lives, they can make us better people!

4. What do you like doing in your free time?
I like being around kids teaching them morals, Bible sometimes and academics. I enjoy being around kids.

1. Who is your favourite teacher and why?
My favourite teacher is my Geography teacher, Mr. Coleman. He is my favourite teacher because he teaches beyond the syllabus and gives students extra time to think beyond what he is teaching. When we study physical features like the Rift Valley, he comes with a projector and shows us what the real objects look like, rather than depending on textbook diagrams only.

2. Why are good teachers important?
Because education is life and teachers are the most important part of education. If you don’t have a good teacher, it is likely that you won’t have a good life. If you have a good teacher you will like the teacher. Liking the teacher means that you will perform well.

3. How do teachers change your life?
A teacher is a person who knows you the most, at this age you spend 3/4 of your time at school. A teacher knows every student’s attitude. He knows this student is rude, this one is polite, so he knows how to change and twist your behavior for the better.

4. What do you like doing in your free time?
I like writing speeches, essays and thinking of what projects I can do to help the entire community, and what can I do to give thanks to St Jude’s. I got a free chance to study here. There is a man in Australia who didn’t even know me and I didn’t know him but he offered to give me an education – to pay for the school fees. I have to work extra hard to show him that I am really the right person to fit the chance.
2002
The School of St Jude opens on 29 January with three students and one teacher.

2005
The first Standard 4 students sit Tanzania’s National Exam. The school is ranked third out of 204 schools in the district, with an average mark of 90.8%.

2008
St Jude's educates 989 students and employs 330 local staff. The first Standard 7 class sit National Exams, all are placed in the top 10% of the country.

2010
St Jude’s educates over 1,300 students (with 900 in boarding) and continues to employ local teachers to help educate our growing student body.

Form 2 students are ranked 1st out of 302 schools in the Tanzanian National Exams North Western zone.

2015
All teachers from Standard 1 to Form 6 are Tanzanian, with Tanzanian headmasters and local representatives on the parents representatives and Secondary Board.

St Jude’s Inaugural Form 6 class graduate. The class ranked in the top 10% in Tanzania for Chemistry, Economics, Advanced Mathematics and Physics.
Mr Nestory has an impressive history at our school beginning in 2004 as a Kiswahili teacher. He has been headmaster of our primary school, established the Beyond St Jude’s program and is currently serving as Secondary headmaster.

1. Why did you want to work at St Jude’s?
As a Tanzanian youth, I so much desired to emulate leaders like our first president, the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and the late Nelson Mandela, especially in fighting for the suffering and underprivileged populations. I served my nation for one year in National Service camps, for free, 1975/76. During my early career in schools, I was teaching adult education classes to help my people to see the possibilities of a good life where there seemed to be none. That is why St Jude’s was the right place to exercise my longtime dream of serving the needy.

2. Has Moshono suburb changed much in the years since St Jude’s opened?
Moshono town has changed a lot over the years. The mud and thatched houses have changed to modern houses. The rough road has become tarmac road. We used to walk the 4kms from Kijenge to Moshono, but now you can get a bus anytime. St Jude’s has been the force behind all these developments. St Jude’s involvement in the economic, social, and political growth of Moshono can never be underestimated.

3. What has been your proudest moment working at St Jude’s?
My proudest moment as a staff member at St Jude’s was during the Community Service Year preparatory workshop. The first Form 6 National Service group were sharing their experience by singing National Service songs in front of Mama Gemma. Some tears started forming in my eyes.

4. How has working at the school changed your life?
I have experienced and acquired different working techniques and methodologies. When I joined St Jude’s my sons and daughter were still in secondary and primary schools through my salary, now they are employed university graduates.

5. What are your hopes and plans for the students of St Jude’s in the future?
To achieve excellent academic performance. To achieve their dreams and make this world a better place to live in.
Over the past 14 years, we’ve done some incredible things. You are an integral part of our story and we hope you are as excited as we are about the new chapters unfolding at our school!

Thank you for empowering our teachers, with your help they can do amazing things and mold the future leaders of Tanzania!

www.schoolofstjude.org

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