



# The School of St Jude

FIGHTING POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

## Welcome to our September and October 2011 Newsletter

**Thank you for passing this newsletter onto your family and friends.**

Greetings from Tanzania to all of our St Jude's family!

Yes you have read the heading above correctly, this newsletter is combining all the news from the September and October happenings over here. I have sent this message from Australia having taken my whole family over to enjoy some very special extended family time as we celebrate my Grandmother's 100th birthday and just for good measure, mine as well!!

The last two months have been chockablock full of amazing events, visitors and achievements. It never ceases to astonish me how much can be accomplished when people join together with their hearts and souls to make a difference in the lives of our students. Our students are having the most rewarding learning experiences each day, all thanks to our dedicated teaching staff and then we had the entire school population join together to celebrate St Jude's Day.

Our school still needs more buildings and all systems are going at Usa River campus to get the latest constructions completed for 2012. Our gorgeous MLC girls from Melbourne returned for a visit and threw themselves into daily life at St Jude's. And to cap things off our Fundraisers are coming up with so many awesome ideas for raising money for the school AND they are making sure they are having a fun time while they do it. The power of the team is outstanding!!

Our student selection process is well underway and we are now needing to make sure we have sponsors for our new batch of students. Spread the word please and visit our website to find out how you can make a huge difference in the lives of these very poor but exceptionally bright children by signing up for one of our much needed sponsorship packages.

I know you will enjoy the following pages, full of many great photos and very special St Jude's family members.

Best wishes to you all,  
Gemma



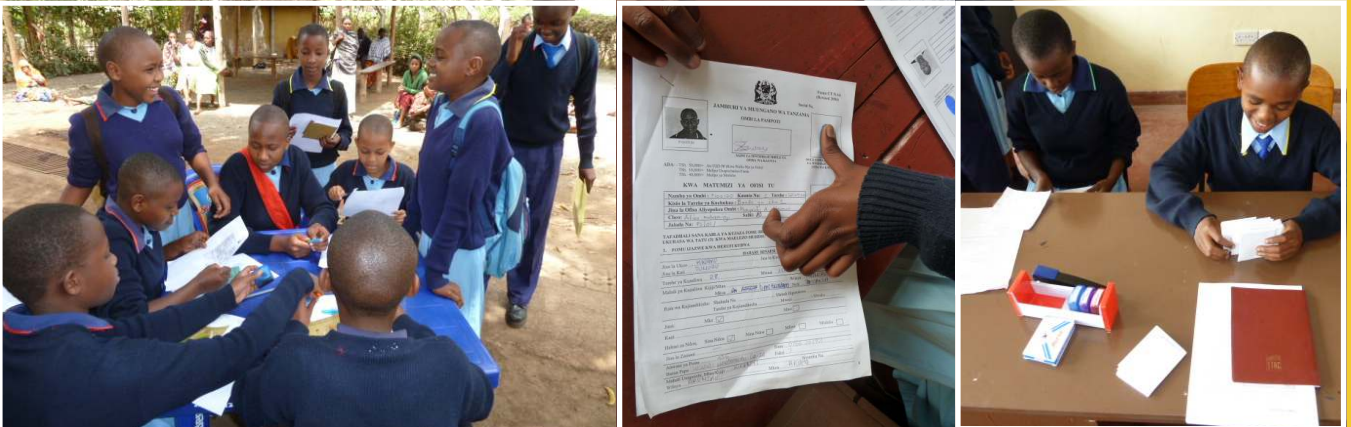
### Newsletter Highlights

- Message from Gemma
- Student Migration Excursion
- St Jude's Student Journalists
- St Jude's Construction News
- From the Academic Leaders
- Our Visitors

## Standard 6 students learning about 'Moving People'

St Jude's Standard 6 students have been learning about how people move about as one of their topic areas. The students participated in a mock migration exercise that took place at various locations around the Moshono Campus. Following are some of the reports from our students describing, in their own words, the recent migration practical exercise. The students always enjoy these exercises that are designed to enrich their classroom learning.

*It was at Moshono campus on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September and we were learning how people migrate from one place to another. Students of 6F and 6E were practicing migration and we took photos of ourselves. In the passport book we should not be laughing because it does not show our real face. We made the passports. There were migration officers from Tanzania and Kenya, non residents, residents and businessmen. I was the non resident. – Angelina Std 6*



*We learnt about migration by doing a practical activity. During the day we were studying in a practical way about how people travel to another country and we learnt about the borders between Tanzania and Kenya. We know what the passport looks like and how to get a visa and how to use it. Before I didn't know that when you want to live in another nation you have to get a residence permit and if you are going for work you need to get a working permit. I really enjoyed all the activities that we did and I learnt a lot of things that I will never forget. I will keep this in my mind so I can work for the Immigration Department when I grow up. – Jesca Std 6*

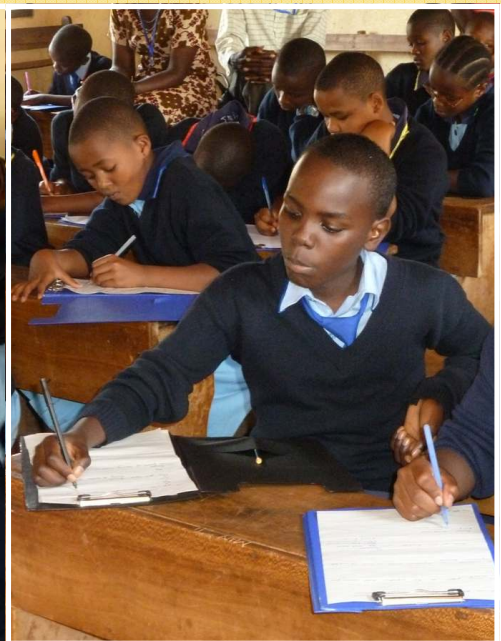


*It was in the morning when grades 6E and 6F began their activity by going to the Lower Primary gate which was the Tanzanian Migration office. While outside the gate we had Kenyan migration officers check our passports. The migrants then took a short a walk to Upper Primary where we had the Kenyan Migration office. All migrants were supposed to have four stamp marks in their passports at the end. We also advise that while traveling to a different country or nation, do not forget your traveling documents and make sure that you have valid documents. – Oscar, Martin & Luqman Std 6*

## Standard 6 students cross the border!!

Following on from the practical migration exercise at Moshono, our Standard 6 students then had the unforgettable experience of actually traveling to the Kenyan border—a first for so many of them!!

The students were given a rundown on the migration process by Tanzanian border staff and shown how the fingerprint scanner operates. They watched as both Tanzanian and Kenyan citizens were processed at the Namanga border crossing. The highlight for the students was when they actually crossed over no-man's land and entered Kenya!! Our students impressed the staff with their thoughtful questions during the migration process presentation, with one official saying that with our students being the future of Tanzania, the country will be a much better place. Accompanying staff were very proud of their students and regard the entire migration activity a huge success.



## Budding Journalists In the media

Our students have also been studying a unit called 'In the Media'. One of the associated tasks was for the students to conduct interviews with St Jude's staff. Following is an interview with Felix Mollel, one of our Visitor Team staff members, by Rahim-Hussein in Std 6.

"Visitors are very important in our school. Many visitors come from different parts of the world like Australia, America and so on. They usually support and donate to our school. The School of St Jude is really blessed by God, that's why there are many visitors and sponsors supporting our school. They help in building school campuses, buying lands and giving out some learning facilities. The visitors come to our school during the day and some stay overnight. They inform the visitors team through mails when they are coming to our school. One sponsor can support/sponsor 50 students and some visitors can sponsor 1 student said Mr Felix.

When visitors come to our school and go back to their mother countries they always help us by spreading good news about our school and later the school can get more visitors and sponsors. We like visitors and appreciate on what they are doing to our school, God bless them."



## St Jude's Construction Report

"Construction of two new boarding houses at the Secondary Campus at Usa River is progressing well, along with the construction of a new staff accommodation building. The boarding houses will provide accommodation for 192 of the 217 students who will be moving to the campus in 2012, with the rest being accommodated in the existing boarding houses. The new staff accommodation building will house additional volunteer staff, particularly teacher mentors that will be assisting and supporting our secondary teachers in 2012. Both of these projects will be completed by January 2012." Shean Gannon - Business Director.



## News from the Academic Leaders

**Mock Examinations** - At the beginning of Term 3, about 151 Form Two students sat for Mock exams and St Jude's came 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 124 schools in Arusha/Meru District. Our students performed well in Geography, History, Civics, English, Chemistry, Bookkeeping and Commerce. Teachers and students are encouraged to work extra hard for National examinations in November. We all hope for positive results.



**Fun Learning and Teaching** - Through the St Jude's staff professional development program there has been a great improvement in both teaching and learning. We have increased the number of indoor and outdoor classroom activities, more of our students are engaged in their own learning and we believe that more students will learn by doing the practical activities we have conducted.



## Our special MLC visitors

One of our favourite groups that regularly pay us a visit are the girls from Methodist Ladies College in Melbourne. The girls, accompanied by their teachers, spent 18 days in Tanzania and judging by the excitement generated everywhere they went, they had the best time. They put their hands up for everything on offer including trips to local NGOs including an orphanage, a government school, the United Nations Rwanda War Crimes Tribunal, a Maasai village and its market. Their interaction with our St Jude's students both on the sports field, playground and classroom was a joy to watch, regardless of the age of the students, these wonderful young women connected on so many levels. We can't wait for the next MLC group to come calling!!



The MLC girls also brought with them an amazing collection of items from our wish list including a full size skeleton for our Secondary Biology classes. Gemma was absolutely overwhelmed with their donations as was the entire school.



## Dubbo Rotary Group *roll up their sleeves*

Paula, Dave, Trudy, Bob, Myra and Kerry-Lyn from Dubbo Rotary Club arrived ready, willing and able to roll up their sleeves and get to work on the building of some much needed shade pergolas around our sports fields. Paula, Dave and Kerry-Lyn climbed Kilimanjaro first and were then joined by the remaining three Rotarians and while they were with us managed to design and construct two pergolas. PLUS they raised the money to cover the costs of the materials - what an effort!! They have left us with the plans so over time we can construct extra pergolas across our three campuses for the benefit of our students. Huge thanks to this incredibly hard working team of Rotarians who obviously possess enormous energy.



## Icon Adventures visit St Jude's

Members of the Icon Adventures tour group put some of our St Jude's P.E. students through their paces and shared their expertise by passing on a few track and field pointers. Thanks everyone, the children loved every minute of it and are now practicing their new skills regularly.



## St Jude's September/October Tour Group

Our most recent tour group topped off a bumper couple of months of throwing open our doors and welcoming our many visitors with open arms. We really do LOVE VISITORS. There was plenty of activity happening both inside and beyond the school gates and nothing makes us happier than sharing the St Jude's experience with as many people as possible. The trips to Nairobi and Zanzibar were a great hit as usual as you can see from some of the images below. The support our visitors give to our students is amazing. Karibu Tena! ('You're welcome again' in Swahili).



For further details and information about our 2012 tours  
please visit: [www.schoolofstjude.org](http://www.schoolofstjude.org)  
or contact our Visitor team at: [visitor@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:visitor@schoolofstjude.co.tz)

[www.schoolofstjude.org](http://www.schoolofstjude.org) Email: [info@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.co.tz)

## Fundraising is fun!!

What a month it's been! A huge ASANTE SANA to our supporters who have been busy running fundraising events for St Jude's across Australia, and having barrel loads of fun while they doing it. From Crazy Whist card games, garage sales, African cultural evenings, phantom race nights, open gardens, days without food, to school fundraisers and trivia nights! It's been a busy time and we are so grateful for the hours of effort our supporters put in to help spread the word and raise much needed funds! Asanteni Sana (Thank You All).



## St Jude's Day Kanga Comp

It was a day when 2000 students, staff, volunteers and guests came together to give thanks for our blessings. Our students all bought gifts ranging from chickens and ducks to soap and rice to be given to those in need. Voices were united in spirited singing during the official mass lead by our Secondary school choir. The cooking and serving of lunch for everyone was a logistical wonder that was a miracle to behold. The delicious lunch menu consisted of pilau, beef stew, roasted plantains, salad, rice and fresh pineapple. And to add to the fun of the day we had a competition to see who could come up with the best costume using our St Jude's kanga - our brilliant team of bus drivers won the day followed by the IT Pirates, with Mama Susie and Mama Silvia receiving a very honourable mention for their exquisite hats.

