



The School of St Jude

FIGHTING POVERTY THROUGH EDUCATION

Welcome to our 2011 End of Year Newsletter

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

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

Well far from winding down at this time of year St Jude's has been experiencing activity at fever-pitch.

Our selection process for new students commencing in Grade One 2012 commenced in August and culminated with one of the favourite days on our annual calendar of events, Uniform Day. Due to the hard work and commitment delivered by our selection team 80 extremely poor young Tanzanians will realise their academic and personal potential.

This time of year has also seen numerous occasions for the St Jude's family to come together: St Jude's Day, Awards Days across all three campuses, our Grade Six Production 'SOSJ TV' and our end-of-year staff party. AND OF COURSE we are well and truly in planning mode for our 10th Anniversary Year of celebrations in 2012. If ever you had a vague thought of paying us a visit this is the year to turn the thought into reality by joining one of our tour groups, all the details are on [our website](#). We also have some beautiful gift ideas with our gorgeous children's book 'My First Day at St Jude's and our Christmas eCards, both available from our [online store](#).

"Tunakutakia krismass njema na mwaka mpya wenye fanaka",
(We wish you a Merry Christmas and blessings in the New Year)

Newsletter Highlights

- **Message from Gemma**
- **End of Year Celebrations**
- **Uniform Day for New 2012 Students**
 - **Uniforms at St Jude's**
 - **My First Day at St Jude's**
- **St Jude's Construction News**
 - **Gemma's Tour 2012**
 - **Volunteer Opportunities**
- **From the Academic Leaders**
 - **End of Year Celebrations**



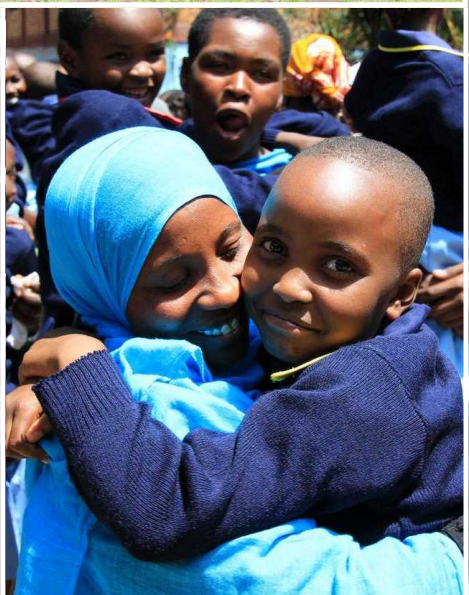
Standard One students 2012

Way back in August, 80 young Tanzanians started on one of the most important journeys of their young lives with the commencement of the student selection process. They were not alone, they were accompanied by many hundreds of other young hopefuls. Each year we enrol up to 150 very poor and very bright new students to The School of St Jude and each year it takes nearly six months to find them! Spaces are very limited and we have to make sure that the most eligible applicants are successful, therefore our entry criteria are quite challenging.

Uniform day was the day when the families of these young ones were left without any doubt that their children had made it through the many steps and dressed in their new uniforms they greeted their parents. They had been anxiously waiting outside the school gates all morning...anticipating confirmation that their child would be gaining a life-changing education at such a great school. The pride, smiles and excitement on all the faces was unbelievably moving. It was an unforgettable day for every member of the hardworking selection team.



Standard One students 2012 Uniform Day



The School of St Jude Uniform

School uniforms are compulsory in schools here and our St Jude's students are certainly no exception. They can be seen around Arusha looking very smart and proud in their distinctive blue uniforms. Each of our new Standard One students receives two full uniforms on Uniform Day in December so they are all ready and raring to go come the new year. Every year after, in January, our students are given a full uniform, excluding socks and shoes.



Primary Boy



Primary Girl



Secondary Boy



Secondary Girl

We try to support the local community and economy as much as we can by purchasing our goods close to home. Most of the uniforms are made and picked up from local tailors. However the sweaters, shirts and ties are sourced from Nairobi, Kenya because we want to provide our students with the best quality clothing as possible so they will last our students the whole year.

As you would be aware here at St Jude's we have a successful Sponsorship program running which makes sure each of our students have a sponsor (or two) to cover a large portion of the expenses that coincide with providing each of them with a quality education. The Sponsorship support however, does not cover the complete cost of everything associated with the students' education. And of course not all of our students are fortunate enough to have a Sponsor as yet. In the case of uniforms the additional costs are covered by our generous Donors who have made General Donations that are then allocated to uniforms.



Yellow House



Red House



Green House



Blue House

Each primary student is put into one of four houses (yellow, red, green or blue) when they start here. The students earn points for their house: by lending a helping hand, performing well academically, showing great effort and being conscious of how their actions effect their peers and the school environment. At the weekly school assembly, the leading house is announced, a fun and friendly challenge for each group!

Stephanie, is the Tailor for our Moshono Primary campuses, and is one of two tailors at St Jude's. Among her sewing duties for the school, she is responsible for sewing repairs and the colourful trim on the collars for all Primary students. Four rolls worth of ribbon are used each year—that's a whole lot of ribbon!



The School of St Jude Uniform



Red Sashes adorning our students indicate very special achievements indeed. They demonstrate that the wearer has shown sound performance academically and socially and displayed strong community spirit and as a result has become a class leader. The head boy and head girl also wear a sash incorporating their title.

Sports Uniforms provide our students with the ability to enjoy one of their favourite pastimes. The 'skorts' (combination skirt/short) and shorts ensure school uniforms remain in good condition and allow plenty of room for racing round the school grounds. These 'bottoms' are also paid for by our generous Donors and our students are very grateful indeed!!



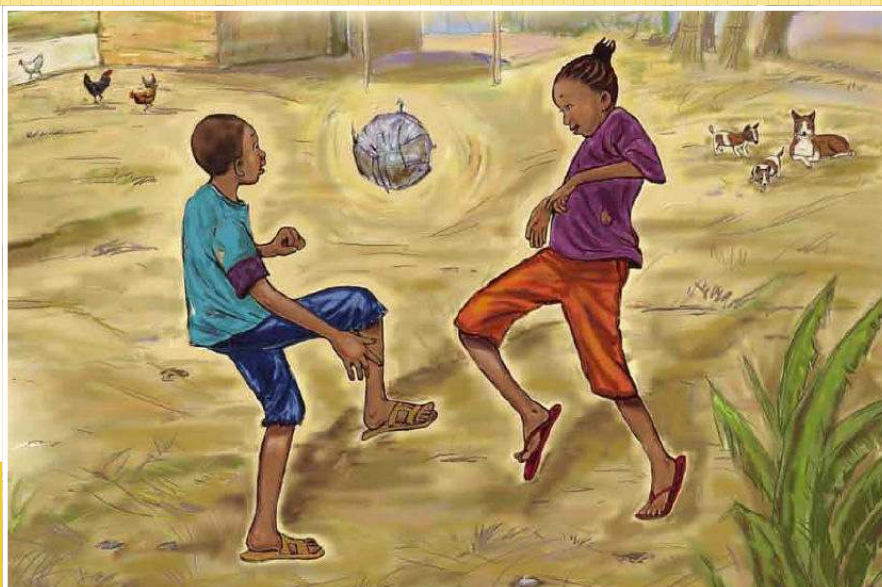
My First Day at The School of St Jude's

Would you like to see our school through the eyes of our youngest students? Find out how special our school really is to those that matter the most...our students. We are now taking orders for a very special St Jude's children's book inspired by the stories of our very own students, their lives and their dreams. The words exquisitely convey how important St Jude's is in delivering the prospect of a very different future for these young Tanzanians.

Share the story of 'My First Day at The School of St Jude's' with your loved ones at story-time. This beautifully illustrated book is available for purchase now from the St Jude's online store.



Available today!!
[St Jude's Online Store](http://www.schoolofstjude.org)



St Jude's Construction Report

Construction of the new staff accommodation and the boarding houses is progressing well, and we are in the process of carrying out the finishing touches to the buildings. They will be ready for occupation by our students and new staff in January 2012.

We have also commenced building a biogas waste water treatment plant at the Usa campus to cater for the 1,000 students that will ultimately be accommodated on the site. This plant will treat all the waste from the campus and then supply gas for cooking in the school's kitchen. This will also be ready for operation in Jan 2012. Another important step in improving St Jude's 'Green Credentials'.



2011 end of year staff party

2011 has been yet another year where all of our amazing St Jude's staff have given their absolute all to ensure that our school continues to deliver a free quality education to our students. Our dedicated cooks, cleaners, admin teams, drivers, fundis, gardeners, guards and teachers all joined together to celebrate another successful year with the annual staff party. Held at the picturesque Ngurdoto Lodge at Usa River, the day was jam packed with yummy food, dancing, swimming and extremely popular sports competitions, the perfect combination for a day of relaxation and fellowship.



The St Jude's family NEEDS YOU NOW!!

St Jude's is committed to supporting the community and provides employment to over 350 Tanzanians creating a widespread ripple effect. However, for specialised positions, where we are not able to employ a Tanzanian, we rely on volunteers from abroad. As a volunteer you have the opportunity of using your skills and experience in an environment where you will contribute to the fundamental change that is taking place in the lives of almost 1600 academically bright and desperately poor students. If you are looking to recharge your soul, have some time out or feel like giving back, please have a look at our list of vacancies. We know you will love joining the St Jude's family of volunteers.

To be a successful St Jude's volunteer, you will:

- Be flexible, open-minded, tolerant and appreciate the complexities of working in a rapidly growing charity in a developing country
- Have a passion for our mission and a strong desire to make a positive difference performing a variety of tasks; from the mundane to the fun and interesting!
- Work well independently and as part of a team of Tanzanian staff and international volunteers

Have good emotional and physical health and the energy and drive to take on new and rewarding challenges.

Current volunteer positions available include:

- Primary and Secondary Teacher Mentors
- Marketing Manager
- Purchasing Coordinator
- Marketing Assistant
- 2012 Tour Publicist
- ESL Teachers
- Maintenance Manager
- Media Relations Assistant
- Sponsor Relations Assistant and various short term positions.

For further details and information about all of our volunteer positions, please visit Job Vacancies on our website or contact St Jude's at info@schoolofstjude.co.tz
www.schoolofstjude.org Email: info@schoolofstjude.co.tz

News from the Academic Leaders

Child Protection Training: Both Form 3 secondary students and Usa campus staff attended separate Child Protection Policy training sessions recently. The sessions were facilitated by Robin Peterson and Boniface Kisi from Arusha Mental Health Trust (AMHT) and examined a broad range of topics including the rights of children and indicators of abuse.



News from the Academic Leaders

St. Jude's Day Celebration: Every 28th of October, students and staff celebrate St Jude's Day with a thanksgiving service and the students perform in competition for the St Jude's Cup. The day reminds everyone that our patron saint of hopeless cases has been working hard to look after us. We believe that St. Jude must have worked very hard this year as we have experienced a very successful year.



News from the Academic Leaders

St. Jude's Cup: St Jude's Day is also filled with excitement and laughter as the staff and students from three campuses reunite to share with old friends the joy of giving. After the service, the students, staff and guests enjoy a delicious lunch. The school returns to the hall after lunch for the finals of the St. Jude's Cup. It's a serious competition, where classes across the school present performances inspired by both traditional and contemporary themes, and every campus wishes to win the cup. This year again Form three students from Usa campus took home the trophy and enjoyed a joyous celebration and after few a weeks the winners enjoyed a special lunch off campus with the school Director.



News from the Academic Leaders

Giving gifts: There is a strong message that even though the students of St Jude's come from some of the poorest families, they must acknowledge and say thank you in giving gifts to others who are also suffering and in need. This symbolizes their gratitude to the sponsors, donors, teachers, drivers, cooks, cleaners, gardeners, guards and administration staff who make it possible for them to have the high quality free education they are receiving. They might bring some soap, sugar, rice, a chicken, some clothing, or even a pair of their own shoes.



Distribution of gifts from St.Jude's Day: On 12th November, student representatives from each campus together with staff and volunteers visited 21 different leprosy and community development centres and orphanages across Arusha. The aim was to distribute the gifts from St.Jude's Day, helping the poor and needy people at these centres. Locations visited included Gohechi Orphanage, Faraja Orphanage Centre, Upendo leprosy, Matonyok Orphanage, Plaster House, Living Water and Future Happiness. Everyone involved in this special day was overwhelmed by the deep gratitude of the recipients of the gifts from our students and their families.



SJTV

Our extraordinarily talented Standard Six students strutted their stuff in a high energy and colourful performance entitled 'SJTV' enjoyed by staff and students from across St Jude's. Under the guidance of Teacher Mentor, Becky Wray, the students in each class group devised a series of skits that explored the nature of the media in the world around them. St Jude's students need very little encouragement to throw themselves into every facet of the performing arts. The students also produced the sets, props and costumes used in the production.

