

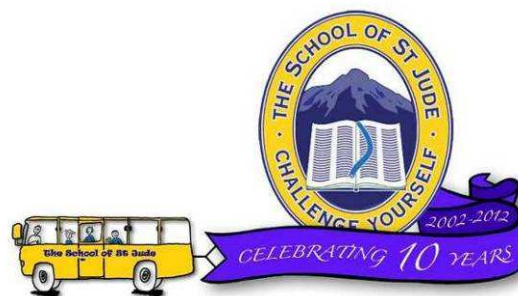
# The School of St Jude

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## July 2012 Newsletter

Thank you for passing this newsletter on to your family and friends.

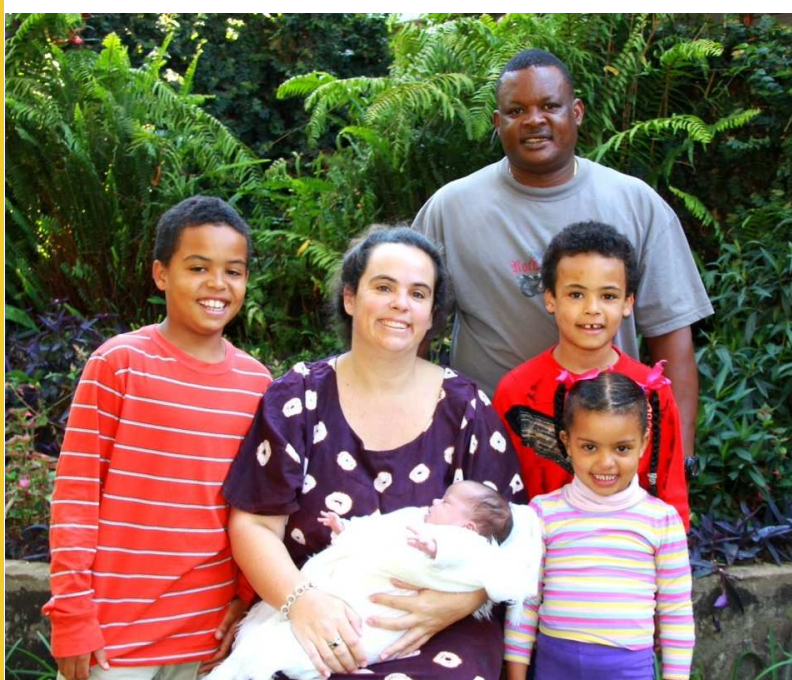
### WELCOME TO THE WORLD BABY LOUISA



Gemma, Richard, Nathaniel, Jacob and Isabella are very proud to welcome the newest member of the Sisia family—baby Louisa Ellen Sisia!

Louisa was born around 11am on Wednesday 25th July at the St Thomas Hospital in Arusha, weighing 3.7kg. Gemma and Louisa are doing very well and healthy. The family are enjoying getting to know their little baby girl— with the three other children currently on school holidays, home life is busier than ever!

Gemma and Richard have been happily overwhelmed by all the St Jude's supporters who have sent messages of congratulations over the past weeks.



Also inside:

- ◆ Meet some of our amazing students and teachers
- ◆ Find out what inspired Renee to become a St Jude's sponsor 10 years ago
- ◆ Feeding the masses at St Jude's!
- ◆ The Important Book

And lots more!

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## MEET YOHANA AND MISS SALOME

When a child enters our blue gates for the first time and becomes a St Jude's student, it's always a tremendous accomplishment. For Yohana, he entered in 2011 and hit the ground running. Currently in Standard 2, Yohana has excelled in mathematics and science, scoring high marks in his exams. With a bright smile and wonderful attitude, Yohana has endeared himself to many of his teachers, particularly Miss Salome, who was his ICT (Information and Communications Technology) teacher when he was in Standard 1.

Miss Salome joined our wonderful team of teachers in 2009. Prior to joining St Jude's, she was a Computer Course Coordinator at the Holidays Computer Training Center in Arusha City. Recently married with an adorable son named Ian, Miss Salome is an inspiration to St Jude's students, like Yohana, who can receive invaluable knowledge about computers and information systems from such a young age.



**Yohana and Miss Salome are currently unsponsored.**  
**If you or someone you know can support them by signing up for a STUDENT & TEACHER SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE please email us at**  
**[info@schoolofstjude.org](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.org).**



## MEET MIRAJI AND THE GANG FROM KIBOKO B!



Meet Miraji, who joined St Jude's in Form 1 earlier this year. Miraji loves the Smith Secondary Campus and boarding facilities. He is blessed with a safe living environment where he can get a good night's rest on a comfortable mattress, a hot nutritious dinner and consistent electricity to study and finish his homework.

Miraji wants to become a businessman when he grows up, and while it will take hard work and dedication on his part, favourable external factors like amazing teachers, access to excellent resources and great boarding arrangements will help him achieve his goal.

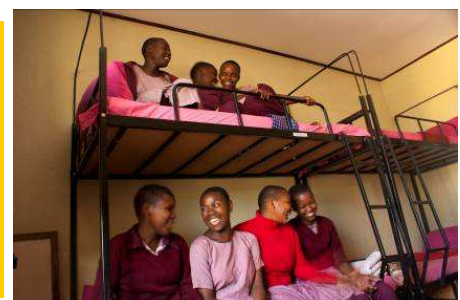


Like Miraji, the seven girls living in Kiboko B boarding room will have the benefit of learning and growing as a community through a boarding experience. The seven girls in Kiboko B are all in Form 3, and perform their activities together - like studying, washing and exercising. Boarding houses provide a chance to bond with fellow classmates and form lifelong friendships. With upcoming Form 4 exams just around the corner, they'll need all the support and camaraderie they can get!



By sponsoring a student and boarding room package, you can ensure that students like Miraji and the girls in Kiboko B boarding room have the available friendships and supportive accommodation to help them become the future leaders of Tanzania.

Visit [www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html) to become a STUDENT AND BOARDING SPONSOR today.

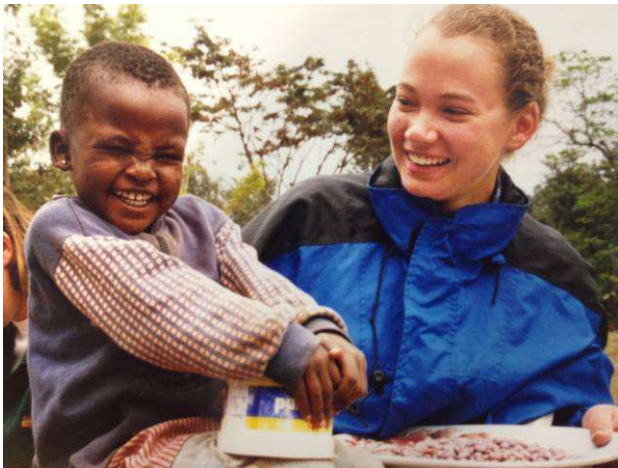


## Q&A WITH 10 YEAR SPONSOR RENEE

As St Jude's celebrates its 10 Year Anniversary, we take a look back at some of our original supporters who believed in Gemma's dream to fight poverty through education. We asked Renee Berry about her sponsorship story to find out what initially inspired her to become a part of the St Jude's family and the impact it's made on her life.

### What was it that inspired you to become a St Jude's sponsor?

When Gemma was my high school biology teacher, she used to tell us some amazing stories of hardship as well as strength from her days of teaching in Africa. While a primary motive was to get her to abandon our maths/science class and tell stories, the outcome was that I became very interested and inspired by her work, and knew that when I left school I wanted to be a part of it in some small way.



pleasure to see how much enjoyment they gain from their time at St Jude's, as well as knowing that we are contributing towards the fight to end poverty.

### What do you think sets St Jude's apart from other charities?

For me the most important thing is to know that your money is going directly to the cause. In developing countries corruption is an issue, and I have seen first hand how The School of St Jude is run with the utmost of integrity. In addition, a great team of volunteers means that marketing and fundraising costs are kept at a minimum, further enhancing the value of each sponsorship dollar. In a world where there is a plethora of potential causes to donate to, I know every dollar counts at St Jude's, and this is really important to me.

*Left: Renee with one of the local children Aisha. Right: Renee, her mother Margherita (who is also a St Jude's sponsor) with students.*



### How has your St Jude's sponsorship impacted your life?

I have visited the school twice, and have some very cherished memories from the early days at the school. Having my initial sponsor student allowed me a window into a world that I knew very little about, and to get to know my sponsor family personally. I absolutely loved meeting my sponsor student and her family in 2004, and have been very excited to be able to sponsor two more students with my husband Toby. We love seeing the children's skills and knowledge develop, and it is a



*Left & below: Renee's sponsor student, Lenista when she was first accepted into St Jude's and now in 2012.*



## WHAT IS YOUR SPONSORSHIP STORY?

We'd love to hear your sponsorship story.... Just drop us an email at [info@schoolofstjude.org](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.org) and tell us:

- ♥ Why you chose to sponsor at St Jude's?
- ♥ How a St Jude's sponsorship has impacted your life?



## FEEDING ST JUDE'S MASSES!

In 2004, the first hot lunches were introduced for students and staff at St Jude's. Eight years later, the 29 cooks across the Moshono, Smith and Moivaro campuses are serving meals to over 1,500 students, plus over 450 staff. It's an incredible operation that requires commitment and top-notch logistical planning in order to serve five different, hot nutritious meals for lunch at the campuses, and dinners at the boarding campuses. For some idea of the amount of vegetables and staple foods that our purchasing team acquired during the past term (April to August), take a look below:



**1,855 kg  
onions**



**2,605 kg  
tomatoes**



**2,905 kg  
carrots**



**4,500 kg  
beans**



**12,500 kg  
rice**



Our latest blog post takes a closer look at what's involved in feeding St Jude's students and staff. Log on to [www.schoolofstjude.org/\\_blog/School\\_of\\_St\\_Jude's\\_Blog](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/_blog/School_of_St_Jude's_Blog) to get all the ins and outs!



## THE IMPORTANT BOOK

Students from Standard 5 and 6 unleashed their creativity in the library when they were asked to draw inspiration from Margaret Wise-Brown's 'The Important Book' with the underlying message that the most important thing about yourself, is that you are **YOU!** Students were asked to choose objects or aspects of their life and, using all of their senses, describe why it is important to them. Their contributions and illustrations have been compiled into their very own Important Book. Here we share some of their contributions...



"The important thing about **A SMILE** is that it gives a moment of happiness. You rejoice in your heart and chase the sad moment away. It makes your heart feel like you want to fly and jump up in the blue sky. A smile looks like two giant bananas which are tasty. But the important thing about a smile is that it gives a moment of happiness."

~Queen, 6B



"The important thing about **MY PARENTS** is that they help and care for me. They encourage and teach me. My parents are smart and clean and love to be funny and tell me stories. They love me and enjoy spending time with me. But the important thing about my parents is that they help and care for me."

~Grace, 6C

"The important thing about **MY SPONSOR** is that they care for me. They send me gifts, like pens and bags. My sponsor pays my school fees and they have visited me at my home. But the important thing about my sponsor is that they care for me."

~Sarah, 6C



"The important thing about **A DALA DALA** is that it is good, cheap transport. They are colourful and help people get to work. Some of them roam around and produce money for their owners. But the important thing about a dala-dala is that it is good, cheap transport."

~Victor, 6B





## PREPARING OUR FUTURE LEADERS

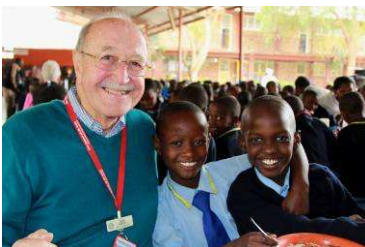


For our students, we want to provide them with all available avenues for personal growth and success. This may come in the form of newly equipped science labs for practical experiments, multiple computer labs, the best available teachers, or extra-curricular activities like dancing, sport and art to help stimulate their minds. Recently at our Smith Secondary Campus, two volunteers started a Leadership Program Club for students to work on their personal development and leadership skills.

The club accepted 22 students for the initial upcoming term, with hopes of adding more students as the club grows. The ultimate goal for the students is personal empowerment—realising their capabilities as individuals, and how their individuality can be utilised within a team, and as a leader. It's a forum for students to explore leadership, whether by themselves, in a group setting, starting a business or playing a sport. It's creative and hands-on.

## OUR JULY TOUR GROUP

Last month, we welcomed eleven visitors as part of our July Tour. The group was treated to the very best of St Jude's and Tanzania with visits to cultural sites, Maasai villages and local government schools. They met with Gemma to learn about her experience over the past 10 years and got to know our students and teachers over lunch and in the classroom, helping out with PE, Art and Music lessons. Oh, and did we mention that they were also treated to an African safari and exotic Zanzibar!



### What are you waiting for?

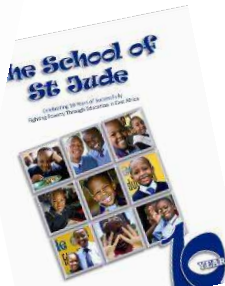
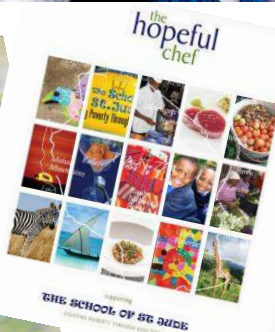
To get the best experience of St Jude's and Tanzania on our 2012 and 2013 tours, email us on [info@schoolofstjude.org](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.org) or visit our website [www.schoolofstjude.org/VisitUs/tour.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/VisitUs/tour.html)

## IN OTHER NEWS.....

### TAX TIME!!!!

Please note that our Australian Tax Receipts for the 2011/2012 financial year have now been issued! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made a contribution to us during the year!

Please contact our Accounts Team at [accounts1@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:accounts1@schoolofstjude.co.tz) if you have not received your Tax Receipt and/or if your contact details have changed.



### HELP US REACH 10,000!



Are you one of over 7,000 people who like the St Jude's facebook page? If not, what are you waiting for?!?! Click here to follow our regular posts which include photos and updates on everything St Jude's!  
[www.facebook.com/schoolofstjude](http://www.facebook.com/schoolofstjude)

We've set ourselves a target of reaching 10,000 likes by the end of this year... Will you help us? Facebook is a great way for us to spread the word about St Jude's so the more likes we have, the more people will know about the fantastic students and community here in Tanzania!

### ST JUDE'S WARES

We have a range of merchandise available for you to purchase on our website. From t-shirts to beanies, kanga bags, Gemma's book 'St Jude,' our children's book and one of our favourites—The Hopeful Chef cookbook. To see the full range visit our website at [www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/store.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/store.html)—there is something for everyone!



## SAVE THE DATE FOR ST JUDE'S DAY!



St Jude is the patron saint of hopeless, desperate or lost causes and has guided Gemma's vision of fighting poverty through education since she was a young woman with a very big dream.

Whilst the official St Jude's day is 28 October, The School of St Jude will celebrate our patron on Friday 26 October. This year's celebrations are sure to be bigger than ever with our 10 Year Anniversary as well!

We know Tanzania is a long way for you to travel to celebrate with us, so we're inviting you to host your own St Jude's day event on 26 October. Just email us on [info@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.co.tz) to let us know what you're planning, or if you're stuck for ideas, we can offer plenty of suggestions.