

# The School of St Jude

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## August 2012 Newsletter

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

### INFLUENCING LEADERS

It is a very exciting time for the secondary school here at St Jude's!

We have recently received the results of the Form 4 Mock Exams, and we are thrilled with the results. Our students are continuing on their path towards tertiary education. In just a few short years, all of our eldest students will hopefully complete Form 6, a very momentous occasion for everyone who has ever been involved with St Jude's.

As the Headmaster of the Smith Secondary campus, I have been attending many meetings of secondary leaders around Arusha and more and more I'm being asked *"What are you doing at St Jude's that's working so well? Can we visit the school to see what works?"* It's this type of recognition that makes me proud of the direction our school is headed, as we are slowly influencing the Tanzanian educational system.

There are many aspects to my job, but my philosophy about St Jude's is that we are all intricate parts that make up the well-functioning machine that the school has become. Everyone involved – teachers and administrative staff, drivers, guards, cooks, cleaners, gardeners, etc – has a role to play, and if one person fails, the entire machine can be disrupted. There is high accountability in place, both for staff and students, and we have all come to believe in being responsible for our actions.

As staff, it is our responsibility to nurture these young minds and instill a belief in them that they will achieve their goals. By being well-prepared in front of a class to facilitate the learning process, we will help students become well-rounded individuals, ready to tackle Tanzania's problems. I want them to succeed and that is why, going on seven years working at St Jude's, I continue to help fight poverty through education.

-Rasul Abdul



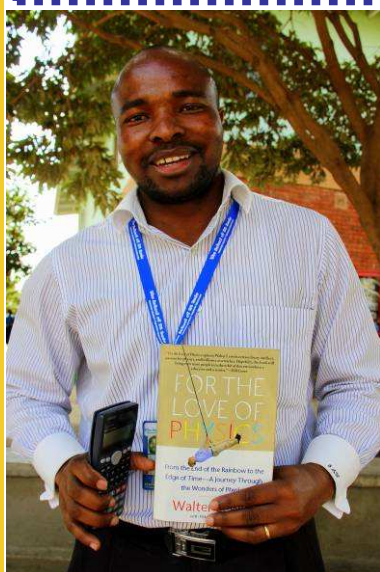
## OUR STUDENTS SHINE IN THEIR MOCK EXAMS

In June, our Form 4 students took the Form 4 National Mock Exams for the very first time. This is the precursor to the real exam given later in the year, which is a national test that students must pass to further advance their secondary studies. And guess what? Our students scored tremendously, earning some of the top places.

Overall, St Jude's placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 302 schools in the North-Western Region. We're the top co-educational school and the only school to sit for the exam for the first time to place in the Top 10.

Out of 32,409 students who took the exam, our very own Alex, came in 5<sup>th</sup> among the Best Male Students, and five girls – Hosiana 1<sup>st</sup>, Esuvat 3<sup>rd</sup>, Anna 8<sup>th</sup>, Blandina 9<sup>th</sup> and Caroline 10<sup>th</sup> – ranked in the Best Female Students.

These fantastic results are a testament to our students and education staff, who continue to demonstrate that through a proper education, determination and spirit, we can produce the future leaders of Tanzania.



## MR MCHARO GUIDES OUR STUDENTS

Out of the 13 subjects our students were examined on in the Form 4 Mock Exams, students scored highest in physics. Thanks to Mr Mcharo, head of our science department and a physics teacher at the Smith Secondary campus, our students are well on their way to becoming engineers, doctors and scientists!

*"The desire to learn – that's all they need to succeed," Mr Mcharo says. "They have a passion for physics."*

As a graduate from the Arusha-based Kilimanjaro International Institute for Telecommunication, Electronics and Computers (KIITEC), Mr Mcharo is on a path that St Jude's hopes its students will learn from – use their knowledge and education to give back to the community in any way they can, whether it's teaching, starting a business or working in local government.



## MR MCHARO IS CURRENTLY UNSPONSORED!

If you or someone you know are in a position to become a student + teacher sponsor today, please visit

[www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html)

so that our students can continue to learn from the best teachers in Tanzania!





## THE CONTAINER HAS LANDED!

We are so excited to let you know that the container full of goodies that were so generously donated at the beginning of this year has finally arrived at St Jude's!

It was a bit like Christmas when our staff opened the container to see what was inside. Thank you so much to everyone who donated blankets, books, power tools, sports equipment and much, much more!

## THANKS TO LLOYD AND NORMA FLEMING

A very special thanks to the amazing, ongoing support of Norma and Lloyd Fleming for coordinating yet another container to be sent over to St Jude's. With only one container organised every few years, it means that the collecting, sorting and packing is a mammoth task! Norma and Lloyd were recently featured in The Courier Mail in Queensland and we wanted to share the gorgeous article with you. "Norma won Queensland's first Olympic gold medal, but 56 years on she admits she was more excited about her upcoming wedding than one of the great moments in the state's sporting history." Sixty years on and Norma and Lloyd's love continues to be as strong as ever. To read the full article, click through to our facebook page: <http://on.fb.me/Pyv8iw>

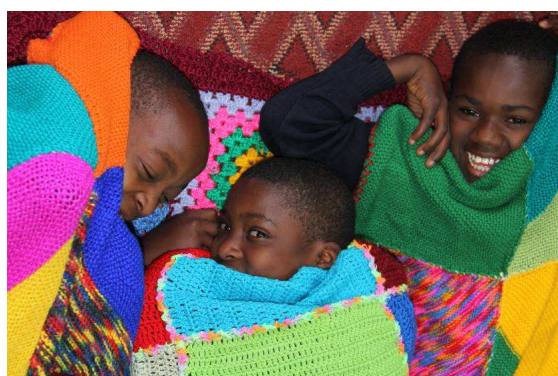


## BLANKETS ARRIVE FOR OUR BOARDERS

One of the most exciting donations arriving in the container was the overwhelming amount of blankets that had been handcrafted with love and shipped over for our boarding students to use.

The colourful blankets have been taken to our Moivaro and Smith Campuses where they will keep our students warm and cozy during those chilly nights.

St Jude's offers boarding to over 1,000 of its students (from grade 5 up until the end of their schooling), providing comfortable beds, secure surroundings and reliable electricity to rest their heads after a productive day at school!



Show St Jude's students your support by becoming a

**STUDENT + BOARDING SPONSOR today!**

Visit [www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html) for more information.

## ROTARY KITCHEN GETS A MAKEOVER!

We were so happy to welcome visitors from the Rotary Club of Illawarra Sunrise last month. Thanks to them, our Rotary kitchen got a brand new makeover and is now looking brighter and better than ever! The group also gave our boarding students a flower arranging workshop which everyone just loved. Thanks guys.



## GEMMA & KIM TO TOUR IN 2013!



We are very excited to let you know that Gemma and Kim will be visiting in March / April next year!

In March, while Gemma is traveling around Australia, Kim will be heading to Europe (including the UK) and North America, before heading to Australia in April.

Please email [info@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.co.tz) if you would like either Gemma or Kim to speak at your Rotary, business or International Women's Day events.

*Please include preferred date, location, expected numbers and other details about your event in your email. We will do our best to fit in with your schedule.*

## JOIN OUR TEAM & MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE!

Our Smith Secondary campus is moving into a new and exciting phase in 2013 as our Form 4 students complete their national High School exams at the end of the year and we prepare for most of them to remain at the school to complete a further two years of study in preparation for the next stage of their education.

Our students are high achieving and highly motivated in a school which is committed to providing quality teaching, in well resourced classrooms.

St Jude's is looking for very experienced educators who are ready for a new challenge, who could support us in this next stage. If you have led a department or been part of a senior leadership team and feel that you could mentor our Heads of Department and academic leaders we would love to hear from you.

Visit [www.schoolofstjude.org/ContactUs/jobs.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/ContactUs/jobs.html) for a full list of vacant positions.

**Are you an experienced and passionate educator looking for a life changing opportunity?**

**The School of St Jude** in Tanzania is currently looking for people just like you to join our 2013 volunteer academic team. Visit [www.schoolofstjude.org](http://www.schoolofstjude.org) for full details on vacancies.



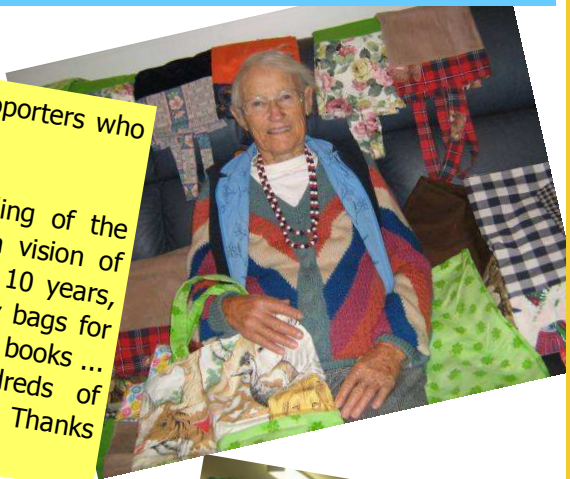


# YOUR OVERWHELMING SUPPORT!!!



Betty is one of those supporters who we just love!

Betty supported the building of the school when it was just a vision of Gemma's and for the past 10 years, she has been sewing library bags for our students to care for their books ... That's hundreds and hundreds of bags, all made with love. Thanks Betty!



Graham and Margot have been supporters of St Jude's since they heard Gemma speak at a Rotary Conference in Tamworth, Australia, way back in 1999! They have been the proud sponsors of student Lenista for 10 years and were able to meet her and her family last year when they visited the school. Their visit also inspired their sponsorship of our Kiswahili teacher Miss Jasmine.



"We feel proud to be part of this wonderful success and talk about it whenever possible. It was also obvious from the attitudes of the students to whom we spoke that they value the opportunities afforded them and are determined to do something with their lives. One of the school mottos, 'Challenge Yourself,' is particularly pertinent to their futures."



A small sacrifice makes a HUGE difference! That's what year 7 students from Rockhampton Grammar Primary School (Australia) learnt when they challenged themselves and held a 'day without food' fundraiser. All children sought sponsorship for the event and sold cupcakes and jam drops to support the fundraising efforts! What an amazing effort. It just goes to show how the power of small sacrifices can help people less fortunate.



# STUDENT SELECTION FOR 2013 BEGINS



Each year from August until December, our staff at St Jude's goes through a rigorous process to find the 150 students who will join our school the following year. This is the gift of a lifetime for these children—a chance of a FREE, high-quality education.

Last month we began the tough process of student selection. Step one is Friday testing where children are given a basic academic test to show their ability. Thousands of parents bring their children to the Friday tests in the hope that their children will meet the criteria. Following this, potential students come in for a two week probation to allow our educators to assess their academic potential. We then head out on the road to visit the homes of potential students and interview their family and neighbours.

The tough process continues until we are sure that we have found 150 of the brightest and poorest children around the Arusha region of Tanzania who will join us in 2013.

We will keep you updated on our progress but in the meantime, we wanted to share these photos with you so you can see for yourself how we select our students.



The gift of a FREE, high-quality education is priceless and has the potential to lift a family, community and country out of poverty.

**Sign up for a sponsorship package today to show your support!**

<http://www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html>



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE ART ROOM?

Tanzanian author and illustrator, John Kilaka, visited St Jude's for the second time this year and took special illustration workshops with the students!



Mr Kawaka's classes are preparing to make batiks—a unique style of fabric.



Miss Lucy's class has been busy making jewellery and decorations for the Std 7 graduation ceremony.



Mr Dickson at our Smith Secondary campus has been teaching his students how to make jewellery with beads.





## OLYMPIC FEVER AT ST JUDE'S

We are so excited to welcome Australian Paralympian Kurt Fearnley to St Jude's early next year.

Kurt is a true inspiration who has conquered many long and middle distance wheelchair races, not to mention climbing the Kokoda Trail!

Kurt was in London last month competing in the 2012 Paralympics and our kids wanted to wish him all the best! Check out the clip on YouTube by following the link below....



[www.youtube.com/watch?v=roMkr69gx7s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roMkr69gx7s)



## LATEST FROM THE BLOG



Over at the St Jude's blog, we've been talking a lot about academics. Recently Jane Wall, the Academic Head of St Jude's, provided a guest blog titled *St Jude's Academic Head on the State of Tanzanian Education*. Here's a snippet of what she said:

"Our collective aim is that we can share what we are doing with other schools, that we share our resources and our expertise and make a difference, not only to the over 1,500 students who pass through our school gates at any one time, but to all those who will be influenced in some way by what is taking place here at St Jude's."

To catch up on this and a recent post about volunteering at St Jude's, visit:

[www.schoolofstjude.org/\\_blog/School\\_of\\_St\\_Jude's\\_Blog](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/_blog/School_of_St_Jude's_Blog)

## WATER WOES AT ST JUDE'S

For a few weeks in late August, the Moshono campus was running on minimal water due to a lack of water from the regular village supply. Our staff, students and volunteers took the water woes in stride, conserving and recycling every day. Our maintenance team worked with the local community to solve the water crisis and in the early weeks of September the problem was resolved. Truck loads of water were brought in from our Smith Campus at Usa River and the Moivaro Boarding houses nearby. St Jude's worked hand-in-hand with the local village leaders to solve the problem, which stemmed from a blockage issue; three air valves were donated to the Moshono village by St Jude's, ensuring that not only the school, but the families in the surrounding community should never have to be without this basic necessity for an extended period of time again!



*Buckets to recycle the little water that we have and our fundis (workmen) trying to find any water blockages.*