

The School of St Jude

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September 2012 Newsletter

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

OUR STANDARD 7s GRADUATE!

Graduation – it's one of the most memorable moments of a young person's life, a momentous occasion in which to celebrate their growing maturity and coming of age within the close company of family, friends and peers. It's a remarkable milestone that should be awarded with applause, adulation and respect.

We are all so proud of the 217 students who graduated from St Jude's Primary school in September and know that they could not have come this far without your love and support!

There was singing and dancing, with performances wishing the students good luck in their future endeavors. There was cake and laughter and smiles, especially after the teachers and staff got on stage in costumes and danced for their students! There were giant hugs and big kisses from parents who watched their children take one step further in achieving their dreams.

There was crying. Not for tears of sadness, but of joy, as teachers, parents, classmates, visitors,



supporters and sponsors watched the fifth class from St Jude's graduate primary school. All of our Standard 7 students now have the opportunity to advance to secondary school, a remarkable achievement considering only around 50 percent of all students in Tanzania go on to secondary school.

We know this graduating class will achieve great things in life and can't wait to keep you updated on their activities at Secondary school.



ALSO INSIDE:

Your support at work; Our girls summit Mt Meru;
Check out our new Tembo bus; See what our visitors
have been up to and lots lots more!!!!

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YOUR SUPPORT AT WORK

JULIE DONATES \$50 TOWARDS FOOD FOR OUR STUDENTS



As you know, St Jude's has over 1,500 students studying across three campuses everyday! In addition to providing each one of them with a quality education we are also providing them with nutritious and balanced meals. For our students in Standard 1—4, the food they receive at school may be their only substantial meal of the day. Donations like Julie's that go towards the ongoing cost of our food ensures our students will receive a balanced diet, making them strong and healthy—just the right ingredients to become Tanzania's future leaders!

MATTHEW & SARAH'S FAMILY SIGN UP!!!

Matthew, Sarah and their children recently visited St Jude's and signed up for four student and boarding room packages... What amazing support! This means that they are investing in children with strong academic potential who will now have the best opportunity to break the cycle of poverty that has plagued their family and community. The student and boarding sponsorship package ensures that students are housed in a safe environment, enjoy a nourishing meal in the evening and can work on their studies in the library.



MARCEL VOLUNTEERS AS A SECONDARY MENTOR

Marcel joined our volunteer teacher mentor team at the beginning of this year. His years of experience as a secondary teacher in Australia is guiding and inspiring our teachers and students at the Smith Secondary Campus. Volunteering is just another way that people choose to help fight poverty through education!



JOHN AND SUE SPONSOR AN ADDITIONAL BUS!

On top of their overwhelming support of our students and boarding rooms, John and Sue from Victoria recently signed up for three additional bus sponsorships! Here are the students on board Pundamilia—our zebra themed bus! By sponsoring this bus, John and Sue are ensuring that our students have safe and reliable transport to school.

Join the thousands of people who support St Jude's every day! Visit our website and choose from a range of ways to get involved today!

www.schoolofstjude.org

SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS!

The School of St Jude lives within the shadow of Mt Meru, Tanzania's second tallest mountain. On most afternoons the mountain can be seen in clear view from all three campuses. Most people in Arusha will never have the means to climb it, but fortunately for 10 of our girls in secondary school, they were presented the opportunity of a lifetime to climb Mt Meru.

Not only did they seize the moment – all ten successfully stood on the summit at 4,566m above sea level – but they made lasting bonds with a group of 17 school girls from Armidale, Australia. Through the wonderful work of Peaks Foundation – a company whose mission is to motivate, inspire and empower women worldwide to set their sights high and reach their highest potential – two groups of girls from vastly different backgrounds were able to share one unforgettable experience.

Climbing in two groups, each over four days, the girls hiked about 1,000m per day, camping out at Miriakamba Hut and Saddle Hut's overnight. On summit night, they both left around midnight and arrived at Socialist Peak, the top of Mt Meru, around sunrise. It's a labourious, thrilling climb in the middle of the night, with nothing but the head lamps to guide them.

Throughout the four day trek, the girls from Tanzania and Australia learned about each others' culture, customs, likes and dislikes, as they bonded over the task of reaching the top. It's this type of experience the girls will cherish forever, always able to look up at Mt Meru from the St Jude's campuses with a feeling of accomplishment, awe and satisfaction.



To see more
photos from the Mt Meru climb check out the album on facebook:
<http://on.fb.me/WQvLZP>

To learn more about Peaks Foundation click here:
<http://www.peaksfoundation.org/>

www.schoolofstjude.org Email: info@schoolofstjude.co.tz

SAFARI MARATHON

Early in September St Jude's students and staff participated in the Safari Marathon, a Sunday morning race around Arusha town. Overall, 32 students ran the race, with 9 competing in the 21km half-marathon and 23 running in the 5km. Our students ran alongside international runners from around East Africa, as they weaved in and out of designated streets and highways. It was a beautiful morning, as all students accomplished their respective distances. St Jude's even had one student, Emmanuel in Form 1E, finish 46th overall in the half-marathon and was 3rd in the under 18 division. Congrats to all of our supreme runners!



A BEAUTIFUL WELCOME FOR BABY LOUISA



The School of St Jude Parents Committee is a group of dedicated men and women who represent our local community, in particularly the parents and guardians of our students.

Recently the group held a beautiful welcome ceremony for Gemma and Richard's new baby Louisa. Songs were sung, gifts were given, dances were performed and speeches were made. All to ensure that little Louisa is warmly welcomed into the world. As Committee Head Mrs Fausta Alfayo softly said, "Gemma's Australian family aren't able to be here at this special time so we want to make sure the St Jude's family welcome Louisa today." It was a colourful affair on the day... just look at these photos!



WE LOVE VISITORS!

September was a busy month for our visitor team here at St Jude's. We were happy to welcome so many lovely supporters including Terese Newell and friends from the Rotary Club of Forbes Ipomoea as well as the Duff family who were here to witness their sponsor student Giliad graduate from Standard 7. Visiting St Jude's is a fantastic experience where you can see first hand how your support is helping fight poverty!



A group of adventurers who are driving 12 MG vintage cars from Cape Town, South Africa to Cairo in Egypt popped into St Jude's to say hi and make a very generous donation. The students just loved checking out the cars (the staff and volunteers thought it was pretty great too!).



The September tour group had a jam packed itinerary—from buying a goat for the nearby Maasai village, getting to know our students, safari through Tanzania's national parks and a wind down in Zanzibar!



If you would like to visit St Jude's, click on the link to check out our 2013 tour packages or email our Visitor Team!

www.schoolofstjude.org/VisitUs/tour.html
visitor@schoolofstjude.co.tz



A BIT OF HEALTHY COMPETITION

One of the benefits of sporting competitions between schools in and outside of Arusha is that it provides an opportunity for our students to meet and learn about students from different parts of Tanzania. It's an invaluable networking opportunity to build friendships and share different experiences of their education and lifestyle. One of the schools we partner with is Orkeeswa, a school located in the predominantly Maasai lands in the Monduli Hills. Our secondary students competed in girls and boys volleyball, basketball and netball games with the Orkeeswa students, as well as doing a fun training run up and down the hills.

The day also included a friendly science competition with four of our Form 3 and 4 students being paired with four of their students to compete in a jeopardy style game. It was great fun and a good way to revise content covered in their everyday curriculum.



CHECK OUT THE TEMBO BUS!



Thanks to your generous support of our appeal earlier this year and the purchase of the 'tembo' bus by a generous donor, we are very excited to unveil the brand new TEMBO bus which has recently been painted by our budding artists from the Smith Secondary Campus. Their art teacher Mr Dickson guided them with the design as they carefully painted the sunset scene with a herd of elephants. The bus is nice and visible from the road so our students can easily identify their transport to school!



Our Secondary student painters with art teacher Mr Dickson. The bus before and after shots!



If you would like to sign up for a bus sponsorship visit

www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/sponsorships.html



www.schoolofstjude.org Email: info@schoolofstjude.co.tz

**Want more ways to get involved?
Show your support by purchasing
St Jude's merchandise.**

**St Jude's
Day
Special**

As part of our St Jude's Day celebrations we're offering you a 20% discount on all St Jude's merchandise for two weeks only (17-31 October).

Purchase your goods online today and join the fight against poverty through education.

Visit our website today!

www.schoolofstjude.org



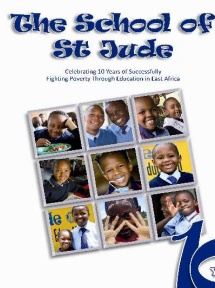
Get in quick! Sale finishes 31 October!

T-shirt and 10 Year Anniversary Book Package

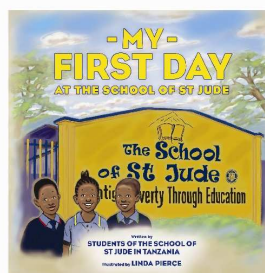
\$35

For the next two weeks you can get a St Jude's T-shirt, designed by one of our students plus a copy of our 10 Year Anniversary book for only AU\$35.

Get yours today!



20% off all merchandise



20% off

NEWS FROM THE EAST AFRICAN FUND

The past few months have been busy for the East African Fund and we are looking forward to welcoming representatives from the board to the upcoming St Jude's Day celebration on 26 October including our first ever volunteer Angela Bailey. Sarah Henry has been busy assisting with Australian fundraising and speaking events as well as getting prepared for Gemma and Kim's tour due to kick off in March 2013.

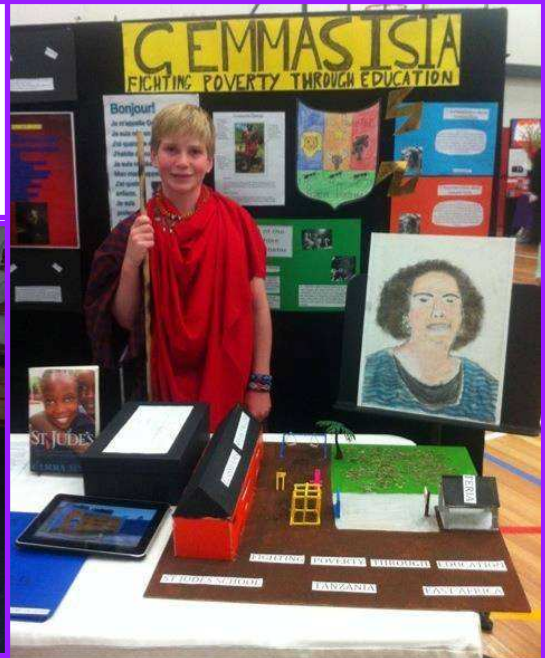


Lyn and Judy held another Bridge Day, fundraising for St Jude's. We love this photo of everyone focused on their game!



Our good friend Ian Skippen presented at a fundraising event hosted by YLead.

After visiting the school with his family recently, 12 year old Josh was given a school project where he had to choose someone that has made a difference to the lives of others. Here is Josh, dressed in his Maasai inspired outfit, sharing with his peers all that he learnt about Gemma, St Jude's and Tanzania.



Canterbury College held a fundraiser at African restaurant Mu'ooz in Brisbane recently. The College is sending a group over early next year to work on professional development with our local staff!



YOU CAN HELP SPREAD THE WORD!

One of the best ways to support St Jude's is to simply help spread the word with us! To find out more and access a range of promotional material to support your event, just email info@schoolofstjude.co.tz.

GEMMA & KIM'S 2013 TOUR!

One of the ways that the EAF supports The School of St Jude is to coordinate Gemma and Kim's annual tour!

Don't forget to drop us a line at info@schoolofstjude.co.tz if you would like either of these wonderful women to speak to your Rotary, business or club function in March or April next year.