

The School of St Jude

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Final News for 2012

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

WHAT A YEAR IT'S BEEN!!!

As the curtain on 2012 draws to a close we can't help but reminisce not only on the joys and celebrations of this past year, but over the past ten years as well! Who would have thought a decade ago that the little school in Moshono village in Arusha would turn three students into 1,500 students; one building into three schools and two boarding campuses; and one teacher to a staff of over 450?

We've had much to celebrate in 2012. Thanks to you, our 10th Anniversary Appeal raised over \$200,000 with a generous donor matching that amount! Hundreds of supporters from around the globe visited our campuses and our tour groups in June, July, 10 Days for 10 Years and September were able to witness the enthusiasm of our students firsthand. Four brave visitors also climbed Mt Kilimanjaro to raise funds for St Jude's! New buses were added to our fleet and construction of new boarding houses and classrooms continued.

The students thrived over the past year. It was fitting with the renaming of our "Smith Secondary Campus" in January that the secondary students would go beyond our wildest expectations.

The Form 4 class placed 3rd out of 302 schools in their Mock Exams and became our first graduating class from Form 4. Students at both primary and secondary levels scored huge goals in sporting competitions and ten secondary girls summited Mt Meru!

This year Gemma was named one of Australia's 100 Women of Influence, a deserved recognition during St Jude's 10th Anniversary. She believed that fighting poverty through education was worthwhile, that it would be an effective means of combating cyclical poverty.

Her belief went viral and spread to thousands of

people around the globe who have helped make The School of St Jude what it is today and what it can be tomorrow.

This will be our final Newsletter for 2012 and we are thankful for every person who has taken the time to read and share our stories every month. We look forward to bringing you all the St Jude's excitement in 2013!



150 STUDENTS DARE TO DREAM AN UPDATE ON OUR SPONSORSHIP CAMPAIGN

Since launching our Dare to Dream campaign in early November we have been busy trying to find sponsors for the 150 new students who will be joining us in 2013. We have been humbled by the support received and would like to thank everyone who has gotten behind the campaign—by sharing it with your friends on Facebook, sending emails of encouragement, becoming a sponsor, renewing your current sponsorship or telling your friends about how fantastic St Jude's is!

We are very pleased to let you know that Adolfina, the young girl featured in our campaign, has a sponsor. Thank you to the generous supporter who has invested in Adolfina's future by supporting her education at St Jude's.



MEET OLIVA, OUR NEWEST STUDENT

When St Jude's staff recently visited Oliva's home she showed them around the one room house that she shares with her family. She showed them the mattress she shares with her siblings and the place where she collects water. It was clear that her family comes from a disadvantaged background.

Oliva was selected to St Jude's because she has a great ability to learn new concepts, has a good attention span, and academic potential. Oliva has just received her brand new school uniform to start at St Jude's in January. It was an emotional day for her family who know how much this will change not only Oliva's life, but life for the entire family.

For the first time, Oliva has a real chance at getting a high-quality education and has the chance to be a leader in her community.



See just how proud and happy our new students and their families are as the children receive their very own brand new St Jude's uniform. It was an emotional day when we outfitted our new pupils and we are just so excited to welcome them here in early January to start their free, high-quality education.

<https://vimeo.com/55506386>

MANY STUDENTS REMAIN UNSPONSORED

If you are in a position to sponsor one of our new students, or know someone who is, we would love to hear from you. To find out more information about sponsorship please email us today or visit <http://bit.ly/LyK2Fu>

FORM 4 GRADUATION

CELEBRATING THEIR YEAR AND LOOKING TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

Each successive year at St Jude's brings with it new milestones and achievements. Most of these are spearheaded by our eldest students, who have not only been at the school the longest, but have paved the way for each class to follow in their footsteps. In November 2012, our eldest students became our first graduating class from Form 4.

Colourful decorations filled the outdoor hall at Smith Secondary campus where the Form 4s were greeted by their parents and friends, cheered on by the rest of the student body and congratulated by distinguished guests, academic heads and the rest of the St Jude's staff. Most of the students will continue at St Jude's to complete their A Levels in Form 5 and 6, placing them on track to become our

first graduating class from the secondary school in 2015.

These students have seen the school change tremendously year after year, and we are proud that they've been able to handle any learning curve and challenge thrown at them. Sitting for their Form 4 Mock Exams for the first time this year, they placed 3rd out of 302 schools in the North Western Zone, a massive achievement.

We have nothing but the highest expectations for our students, and our Form 4 class continues to exceed them year after year. We can't wait to see what else they'll accomplish during the rest of their time at St Jude's!



To read what St Jude's Academic Head, Jane Wall, has to say about the Form 4 class, check out her guest blog post:
<http://bit.ly/TXutct>

THE ULTIMATE CHALLENGE...

NINE VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS SUMMIT MT KILIMANJARO FOR ST JUDE'S!



When the nine participants reached the top of Mount Kilimanjaro all were exhausted. Having had to wake up at 12AM to walk 6-7 hours in the middle of the night – after walking 4-7 hour days for the past five days – there was little room for error or misstep. They trekked uphill fighting the cold as they moved slowly closer towards 5,895 metres, where Uhuru Peak and their destination awaited them.

Once at the top, they basked in the sunrise and one of the greatest accomplishments of their lifetime, having just summited the world's tallest free-standing mountain and the highest point in Africa!

Prior to the climb, they had fundraised money for St Jude's, partaking in the third annual "Kili Challenge" that St Jude's hosts. For months the four visitors and five volunteers worked equally hard training for the climb and raising funds.

A big congratulations are in order to Grace, Bob, Brenton, Dennis, Clare, Hellen, Anna, Kate and Matt! Everybody is in awe of their accomplishment and proud that they carried the St Jude's kanga all the way to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro!



To read more about this year's Kili Challenge visit our blog post:

<http://bit.ly/XxlvYD>

Debra Lawrance (much loved *Pippa* from TV show *Home & Away*) appeared on The Morning Show in Australia recently. Debra spoke about her daughter Grace who was one of our Kili climbers! Check it out by clicking this link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=2HPV3mNZgbg

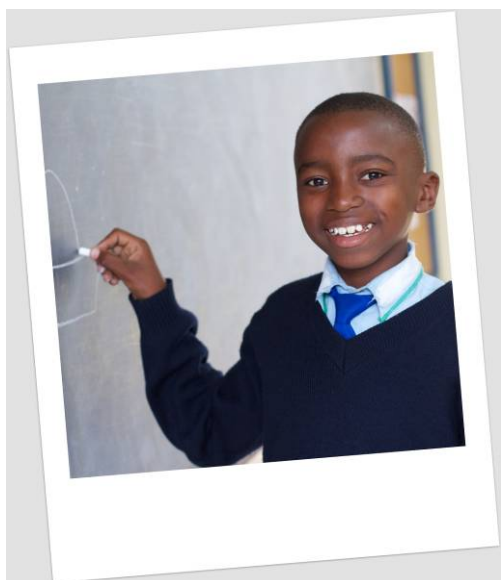


CHRISTMAS IN ARUSHA, TANZANIA

HOW WILL OUR STUDENTS BE CELEBRATING?

Christmas means many things to different people — spending time with family, going to church, holiday season, Christmas carols, presents or bellies full of yummy food! We asked three of our students what Christmas means to them and how they celebrate the festive season!

Sylvia in Standard 6 celebrates Christmas by staying together with her family and friends. They go to church and decorate a Christmas tree with cards and coloured paper. Sylvia likes going to church.



Nickson's family doesn't put up a Christmas tree or exchange gifts, but instead he and his seven siblings gather together with their parents and relatives to celebrate over food and attending Mass.

Christmas is Brayson's favourite holiday! His family celebrates by decorating a tree, attending Mass and going for a walk in Arusha town. They only buy one present for their grandmother and decorate their Christmas tree with blue and red balloons and ribbons.



This Christmas you can show your friends just how committed you are in the fight against poverty by purchasing one of our e-cards!

It's simple: Purchase the Christmas e-card for a friend, choose the amount you want to donate on their behalf and they'll receive a card from you and St Jude's!

Visit www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/ecard.html today!

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

SCHOOL CARNIVAL TOPS OFF A GREAT YEAR OF SPORT!



The recent inter-school sports carnival was held on Saturday 10 November and was a fantastic opportunity for our students to show off their sporting ability whilst mingling with peers from other schools.

Our students challenged themselves and were outstanding performers on the day with a total of 33 medals won! St Jude's students placed first in the 100m sprint, long jump, high jump, 1500m race, discus and shot put. Keep an eye out for our sporting updates as St Jude's could be the future home for Tanzania's Olympians!



If you would like to help develop the skills of our students on and off the sports field, why not make a donation today. Donations can be made by clicking this link to our website.

www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/donate.html



CONSTANTLY IMPROVING SKILLS!

Our ESL program is giving St Jude's staff the necessary skills to educate the future leaders of Tanzania!

One of the things that sets St Jude's apart is our investment in staff training and development. Our ESL program ensures that mentorship is provided by trained specialists to academic staff in order to build their skills.

We were very proud to award 16 Lower Primary and 14 Upper Primary teachers with ESL awards at a recent assembly. Recognition such as this gives teachers confidence in their English skills and ensures that they have the knowledge needed to pass on to our students.



We were thrilled to receive a donation of books to support our ESL course. Thanks to Duncan Prowse, Brookemead ELT, London, we now have brand new resources to support English learning. *"These are some of the best resources I have seen and will support our work so much due to the quality of content,"* says Di Ward, our ESL mentor.

STUDENTS GIVE GIFTS TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE

In the spirit of St Jude, the patron saint of hopeless causes, our kids give back to their community!

As part of our annual St Jude's Day in October, students are asked to bring along a small gift of non-perishable food that can be distributed throughout the local community to people in need. In November, our primary and secondary students spent a day going around Arusha to orphanages, health centres, local schools and community areas to deliver these gifts. The students embraced the community spirit and the opportunity to support people around their villages. They especially loved spending time with the younger children!



IN OTHER NEWS....

THE COUNT DOWN IS ON... GEMMA & KIM ARE HEADING TO A CITY NEAR YOU!



With 2013 just around the corner, so too is Gemma and Kim's St Jude's tour! Kicking off in early March, these two remarkable women who have built St Jude's—literally from the ground up—are heading to a city near you.

While Gemma will be visiting cities and regional centres in Australia during March, Kim will be heading to North America, UK and Europe to visit our international supporters. Kim will then stop by New Zealand and Australia in April to wrap up the 2013 tour.

We are busy confirming their itineraries so if you would like to arrange for either Kim or Gemma to speak at your local Rotary, business or school then please let us know by emailing australia@schoolofstjude.org.

WE'LL BE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

To our wonderful supporters! Please note that our office will be closed from Saturday 22 December and will re-open Tuesday 7 January 2013.

Of course you can still continue to make your sponsorship contributions and/or donations during this time by emailing us at:
accounts1@schoolofstjude.co.tz.

Our team will be back, hard at work, in the New Year and will be able to respond to all of your queries then.



The staff, students and volunteers at St Jude's would like to wish you a very happy holiday season and thank you for all of your amazing support in 2012!

We look forward to continuing to fight poverty with you in 2013!

GIVE SOMETHING THAT MEANS SOMETHING

Give the ultimate gift this Christmas and show your friends just how you are fighting poverty through education. By sending a friend one of our special Christmas e-cards, you can make a donation on their behalf that will be used for our students here in Tanzania!

It's simple:

1. Go to www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/ecard.html
2. Decide how much you would like to donate on behalf of your friend and write your own special Christmas message to them
3. We will send an e-card letting them know how generous you have been and how their gift is helping St Jude's students!

