



The School of St Jude

St Jude's News

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends

ISSUE 3, 2014

Make Your Mark

We are so proud of how far we have come in giving a free education to 1,800 of the poorest and brightest students in Arusha. **It is 100% thanks to people like you that St Jude's exists.** Next year, our first graduates will venture into the world and we will start to see even more evidence of the difference an education makes in fighting poverty.

To reach our goal of fighting poverty through education we really need your help. We still need 61 new computers, help with our electricity bill, meat to make students strong and textbooks so they can study. You can make your mark on the lives of our students in so many ways. Imagine the difference these students can make in Tanzania. We just need to give them the tools to empower them to do so.

An education will not only help them make a change in their communities, it will give them choices to do what they want to do with their life. This is something people can't do when they live in poverty.

MAKE YOUR MARK

Wow! We've just sold one of our buses as part of the appeal. We're so excited and grateful.... Thank you!



Fourth Annual Science Fair

Two Form 4 students, Eunice (pictured below) and Robert, took out first prize for their unique refrigerator project in our fourth Annual St Jude's Science Fair, held on 29 March at the Smith Secondary Campus.

The refrigerator is made out of tiles, cement, charcoal and other materials and it is designed for people who don't have electricity in rural communities to use. Crops and other food can be preserved and stored in it.



It is a simple method utilising charcoals which is used for cooling and the tubes have porous holes to slowly leak circulating water. The tiles make the inside base for storage and the door is on top, while the double wall wire mesh allows for ventilation.

Other notable projects included a grinding machine which can be hand operated and used for juice and maize extraction while others developed computer software which could be used for online voting during African elections.

The judges granted the refrigerator first place based on its positive impact on society, its easiness to adopt because it doesn't involve electricity, the time spent on the task, the application of scientific theory and method, its simple design and low cost.

The students were overwhelmed by their win and Eunice took to the stage to accept the prize, giving a moving speech. "You really have to use all that you know and all that you have to bring changes in your societies" she said.

Our secondary students continue to perform extremely well in science subjects, national competitions and exams.

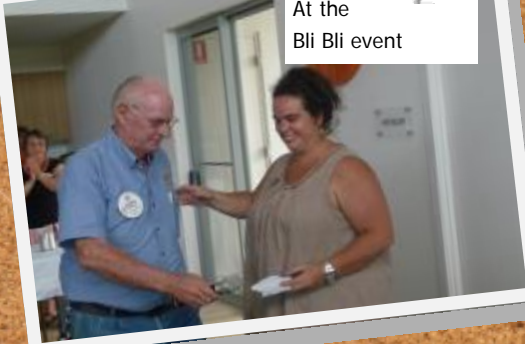
"Across the school, two-thirds of our students now do science. They really love it and many want to become scientists, technologists, doctors or engineers" said Mr Mcharo, Head of Physical Science Department and Assistant Academic Master.

The sponsors of the event, local business Zenith Media and German group Freudenberg, donated finances which went towards prizes on the day and science equipment for the school.

Around 150 visitors attended the event including the Arusha Technical College, Edmund Rice, Uraki, Soreny Star High and Nkoasenga Secondary School.

Thank you to everyone who got involved with the Science Fair. We can't wait for next year!



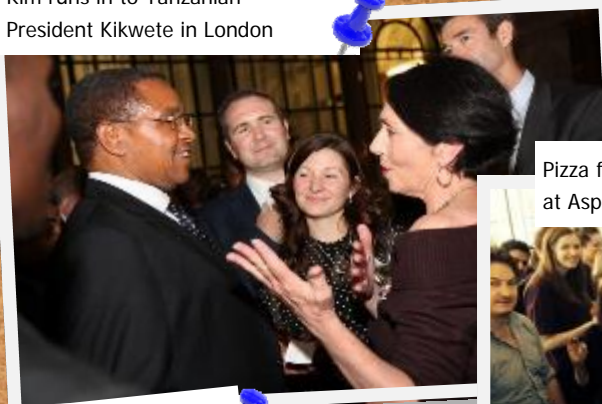


At the
Bli Bli event



In Grafton

Kim runs in to Tanzanian
President Kikwete in London



Pizza fundraiser
at Aspect Capital



In Echuca for a great first
time presentation

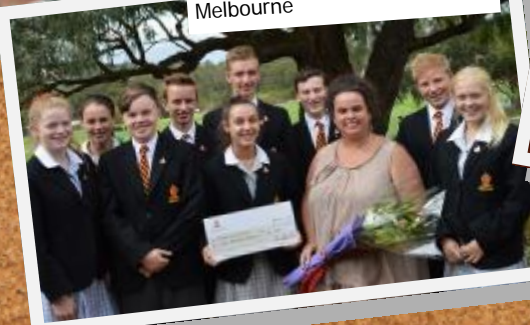


At MLC school in
Melbourne



Taking Our Message Around The World

At Yarra Valley Grammar in
Melbourne



Fantastic new
supporters in Scotland

With Chairman Mark Cubit and
Australian Federal Treasurer
Joe Hockey



With Australian PM Tony Abbot
and Julie Bishop



With past volunteer Hellen
and Rotary members in the Orkney
Isles, Scotland



Fundraising Highlights

A beloved former St Jude's gardener, Elipokea, who is now based in Australia, has given our school a heartfelt gift.

Eli went without a beer for the month of February to raise money for St Jude's. Working as a gardener in the often sweltering climate of Perth didn't deter him and he achieved a total of \$700 dollars. The money will go towards buying fruit and vegetables for our students.

All of Elipokea's family and friends are extremely proud of his efforts. Well done Eli!



A really huge congratulations to Libby and Mark who got married on 19 April. Instead of gifts from their friends to mark their big day, the couple asked that people donate to St Jude's. This is a great way for people to get on board and share our story with their friends and family.

Thank you Libby and Mark for your incredibly thoughtful gesture. We wish you all the best for your life together.



The team at St Michael's Parish in Melbourne held a stall in March. Gemma was able to pop in and see the great work that they were doing to raise money for the school.

Thank you to Trish and everyone who helped to put this fundraiser together.



Medical Checks

The health of our students is paramount so that they are able to study, concentrate and do their best in class and in life. Coming from impoverished backgrounds, they have often had to deal with poor nutrition and other related illnesses. It is why for the past five years, Dr Pip and a medical team from Australia and abroad come to St Jude's to do medical checks on our students to see if there are any problems which affect their ability to learn. All of the students' health issues are then documented in a school database, so Dr Pip can monitor and refer back to it.

We are so appreciative for Dr Pip and her team for devoting their time to come over here to do essential health checks. They really are a wonderful asset at St Jude's!



To learn more about the work they do, watch an interview with Dr Pip:

<http://bit.ly/1iY2nLd>



Going the extra mile for Sebastian

Two Lower Primary teachers at St Jude's are going beyond the normal duties of teaching to help a little prep child, who is overcoming major hurdles, as he has albinism and suffers severe visual problems. Martha Dello and Anna Nnko are up for the challenge though and are doing all they can to help Sebastian succeed in his studies.

Sebastian started at St Jude's in January and has gone through so much before he has even reached school age. It can be extremely dangerous growing up as an albino in Tanzania, as misperceptions about the condition are sometimes entrenched in rural communities. Many locals believe that the body parts or hair of an albino hold magical powers and sadly, it has led to an increasing number of killings across the country. Many families are persecuted if they have an albino child.

Sebastian is dealing with his visual problem which, for a little boy, is a lot to take on. He has also really benefited from the inclusive ethos of the school and his social skills are developing. "We showed him love and we accepted everything that he was doing," said Anna. "We showed him the right way to do things and we also talked to other students that they should accept him as he is and help him wherever he fails, any kind of problem."

We are so grateful that we have been able to help Sebastian thus far, due to our Health & Welfare program, which operates on the foundation of assisting students who require extra needs. Though all of our students come

from poor backgrounds, we have several students living in extremely difficult situations; students with serious illness, or dealing with other external issues such as abuse or mistreatment who require additional treatment and services. Our dedicated Welfare Deputies and their teams work hard to identify these students in each of our three campuses, and provide the required assistance within the means that we have.

Each case is dealt with sensitively and the school is willing to offer extra help when needed. St Jude's considers Sebastian's situation a special case and he will therefore receive financial assistance with any medical issues that will impact on his learning. We will also provide him and his mother transport to Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College Hospital, an hour away from the school, for regular medical treatment. The school is grateful for any funding it receives for its Health & Welfare program because it goes towards providing vital support for our students, like Sebastian.

We have recently fitted Sebastian with special glasses, in order to help him concentrate on his studies. St Jude's has also received some additional visual aids for Sebastian, as a generous donation.

St Jude's is determined to equip all of our students with the skills and confidence so they need for the best chance at developing a good life in the future.



As part of our current appeal, for \$80 you can help two students for an entire year in our Health & Welfare Program. Head to our website: www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/annual-appeal-2014.html

Lower Primary Students Let Their Talents Shine

Our students love to sing, dance, perform and paint and never shy away from it! It is lucky because they are truly gifted and thrive on stage doing traditional and modern African dances in front of an audience. Recently, our Lower Primary students hosted 'Talent Day', where all of the students prepared and practiced their special talent to showcase to a crowd. Some wore striking tribal costumes and danced, others paraded bright, colourful African kangas and clothing in a fashion show and one student couldn't wait to get on stage and paint an art piece from scratch.

As well as encouraging students to do well academically, St Jude's knows that our students need to nurture their creative side and they produce amazing results.



Budding Scribes Perform Outstandingly Well in National Competition

St Jude's students are notching up more awards in national essay writing competitions. Recently, Form 3 student, Joseph Deus Muhweza came 2nd in the 'Back to School Essay Writing Competition', conducted by Shule Direct based in Dar es Salaam.

Joseph wrote an essay about sustainable tourism in Tanzania and East Africa and how it can be achieved. He also focused on the importance of educating the community on environmental conservation and how the tourism industry can take more action to protect the natural environment.

We are also very proud of Denis Meshack Mollel in Form 3, David Denis Hariorary in Form 2, Ayubu Wilson Moshi and Victor Boniface Mbise in Form 4 who made it in the top 25 list.

Joseph received 400, 000 TSH and a Samsung Galaxy Tablet for his win. All five of the students are expected to go to Dar es Salaam to claim their prizes.



Read an excerpt of Joseph's winning essay:

TOURISM

"Do you like going on holidays? It is hard to find anyone who doesn't. When someone goes on holidays and travels for recreation or learning and experience they become a tourist. Tourism is the temporary movement of people to destinations of their interest for pleasure or learning. There are two types of tourism, domestic and international tourism.

The topic of tourism caught my interest keenly with intentions to know more. The most interest was that, Tanzania is among countries with many tourist attractions. More than 44 percent of this land is covered with game reserves, national parks and other features. Moreover, Tanzania is the home to the famous roof of Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro.

Though tourism has positive and negative impacts, the demerits should not be overlooked but instead focus on the potential maintenance of sustainable tourism. This can be achieved by integrated approach that does minimum negative impacts to the natural environment.

According to my experience and the knowledge that I had obtained from this topic, I can use it to solve problems facing the community through a number of ways. I can educate the community on environmental conservation. The regular environment damage had led to the decrease and disappearance of plant and animal species. Activities such as poaching and forest burning leads to the destruction of natural environment which inhabits these species. The knowledge of tourism can help the community to increase the potential values to protect the natural environment.

To influence different cultures to participate in cultural tourism. So far some of the societies are involved, example; Masai society, we can involve other societies with different cultures in order to extend the boundaries of tourism and marketing..."

Go to our blog to read his full essay:

<http://bit.ly/1gFbqSZ>

Meet Catherine

Form 3 student Catherine is a regular, happy girl who loves a game of basketball but her eye is firmly on her studies. She grew up in a small, mud and wood home with her parents, older sister and brother in Arusha. They go to a nearby village to collect water from a tap, which costs about US\$12 a year. It may not seem like much but for many Tanzanian families, like Catherine's, it is a big amount, as they scarcely earn enough to buy food and other goods.

They own a calf and a few chickens and occasionally sell the eggs to get a bit of income. Her father rents a small plot of land to grow vegetables but he has been unable to work recently because he is sick. Catherine's mother does casual digging to prepare soil for farming and is a tailor. Her job and income depend on whether there is a festival or wedding occurring in town. At most she earns around US\$3 per day.

Sending their daughter to a good school would have been a remote possibility and it's why her parents are overjoyed that she is getting a free, high quality education at St Jude's. They have seen Catherine's studies creating a positive, ripple effect as she in turn, helps to educate other kids in the community by helping them to read. Catherine takes her education at St Jude's seriously and always strives to improve in her subjects. She loves going to classes and being a part of the school's events. She especially likes learning Commerce, book keeping and English because she says it'll help with her career, as she plans to study Business Law when she finishes school.



By investing in Catherine's education, you are making a big difference in her life and that of her family. Head to our website to find out more about becoming a sponsor
www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/sponsor.html

A once in a life time experience!

Experience the best of St Jude's and everything that Tanzania has to offer by joining one of our cultural tours. With some of the world's most attractive tourist destinations, Tanzania and St Jude's combine to bring visitors a once in a lifetime adventure!

All of our tours include time at the school where you can get to know the students and see the school in action. You can participate in class activities, visit students' homes, eat traditional Tanzanian food and explore the local villages.

Kilimanjaro Challenge

10 days

You choose the dates that suits your group. As long as there are a minimum of 4 people in your group we can organize the rest for you!



St Jude's + Safari

16 days

- 29 May – 13 June 2014
- 3 – 29 July 2014
- 11 – 26 September 2014



St Jude's + Safari + Zanzibar

21 days

- 29 May—18 June
- 3 – 18 July 2014
- 11 September – 1 October 2014



To find out more, visit our website www.schoolofstjude.org or email us at visitor@schoolofstjude.co.tz

Did you know we are on YouTube ?

As we move full speed into the digital future we are searching for more ways we can stay in touch with you.

We love making videos at St Jude's, and our students love being in them so we are excited to show you more from the school grounds.

If you love videos too, visit our YouTube channel and subscribe so you can receive all our latest clips.

We have some very talented volunteers and local staff working hard to create these clips so stay tuned for many more amazing (if we do say so ourselves) videos to come.

We are Happy at St Jude's in Tanzania

Have you seen our latest video? It is inspired by Pharrell's hit music video "Happy". So far over **10,000** people around the world have viewed it! We hope you love it as much as we loved



Check out some other videos we've made for you!

Meet a new student

<http://bit.ly/1j07cUg>



Gemma on Australian Story

<http://bit.ly/1hLrSmu>



Meet two teachers

<http://bit.ly/111VfDv>



Meet Dr Pip

<http://bit.ly/111Sd1W>



A day in a life of volunteers

<http://bit.ly/QpqN8g>



Visit the local market

<http://bit.ly/1hLqXm4>

