



The School of St Jude

St Jude's News

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends

ISSUE 4, 2013



Check out page 3 to see the delivery of one of the new water heaters, purchased thanks to your support of the Appeal!

St Jude's Annual Appeal **EVERY PIECE COUNTS**

We are so pleased with how the Every Piece Counts Appeal has gone. THANK YOU to all of you who have contributed by purchasing a piece of the puzzle.

The generosity that you have all shown to help reach our target is truly overwhelming. We've come so far but still need all the help we can get to complete the St Jude's Appeal puzzle by the end of June so be sure to spread the word with your friends and family!

At St Jude's, we want to provide students with more than a teacher and classroom. We want them to have all the resources necessary to reach their full potential. Comfortable beds for boarding, computers, music equipment and art supplies are a few things that help ensure our students are well rounded and have the

highest chance of becoming future leaders so they can positively impact their community and their country.

Become a part of this vision today by checking out the appeal items on the website.

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Meet Saidi from Standard 3

St Jude's students relish a good education and will overcome many obstacles to succeed. Saidi is one dedicated student who is currently in Standard 3. Saidi has improved his grades markedly in all areas and received straight As in English, Maths, Science, Computing, Kiswahili and Vocational Skills last year. He is a model student who is highly motivated, responsible, and eager to learn. His favourite subject is Science.

Saidi's excelling at school but like other Tanzanian students, comes from difficult circumstances. His father, mother, three brothers, two sisters, his cousin and himself live in a small room in a rundown brick home. They have no electricity or running water. They have to travel ten minutes from their home to get water and pay 50 shillings per bucket. Their only source of income is from Saidi's father, who works as a casual labourer.

Today, two thirds of Africa's urban population lives in slums where a lack of skills can confine young people to a life of subsistence work*. But Saidi wants to rise above that. He hopes to one day become a pilot because he wants to know more about the sky. We have yet found a sponsor for Saidi but we are committed to doing everything we can to help Saidi achieve his goals.

* Reference from UNESCO EFA Global Monitoring Report 2012

Saidi wants to become a pilot because he wants to know more about the sky!

Help Saidi reach his dreams by signing up for a sponsorship package. You'll receive regular updates and letters so you can share his journey at St Jude's. Visit our website today!

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



First Water Heater Arrives

Thanks to your support of our Annual Appeal, we've already been able to purchase one of the new water heaters! Here it is being delivered to the Upper Primary kitchen.



There are still two water heaters needed for our kitchens.

Click below to make your mark today!

www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/appeal.html

Below is Mama Neema who is one of the loved cooks at the Lower Primary kitchen. Mama Neema is excited about the new water heaters because she said washing the oil off the plates is sometimes hard without constant hot water.



Jungle Reading Club

St Jude's students are developing a passion for books through a fun, new reading program in the Lower Primary library.

Staff at the Lower Primary Library helped produce more than 500 booklets containing pictures, puzzles and writing exercises for students to take home during their holidays. It's part of the Jungle Reading Club. The exercise proved to be a resounding success with many of the students completing the booklet. "We found this has retained their interest in stories; they are excited about taking more books out," says Ms Faye, Head of Lower Primary Library.

While they read, the students learnt more about African wildlife, including elephants and lions. "Sometimes the

students can forget their English over the holidays because they're not practicing every day, but this has really helped them," says Ms Faye. Most of the students do not have colour pencils at home, so they borrowed pens or used biros to fill out the booklets.

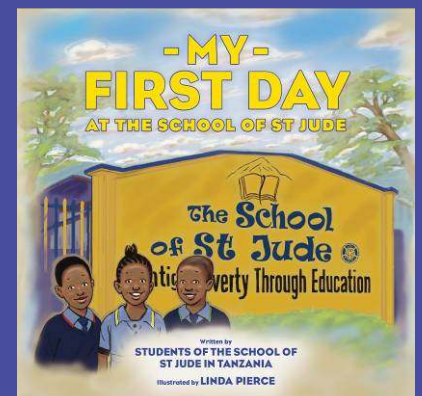
It coincided with World Book Day last month, which encourages children to pursue their love of reading.

Left: Irene and Nice from Standard 2; Top right: Fatuma from Standard 2; Bottom right: Obadia from Standard 4



Did you know that St Jude's students wrote their very own book that is available at our online store? 'My First Day' is a beautiful book that is the perfect tool to teach your children all about St Jude's.

Get your copy via our website at
www.schoolofstjude.org/Donations/store.html



Meet the Team!

Students' welfare is paramount at The School of St Jude and we have a dedicated team who keep a close eye on children who are living in extremely difficult circumstances. Students are regularly visited at homes to see that they are well nourished and adjusted. It is a demanding job and there are long hours involved.

The Welfare Team requires compassionate, strong and fair individuals and we are blessed to have Ms Husna on the team. She has been working at the school for over eight years and has been exposed to many heart-breaking situations. To these challenging situations, Ms Husna offers support and assistance to children and families who are being abused, mistreated or living in extreme poverty. She works closely with the school's Parents Committee which goes out into the community and monitors that the student's basic needs are being met. There are parent representatives for each area who deal with issues of abuse and complaints and liaise with Ms Husna. As part of the school's welfare program, a Parent Fund had been set up whereby parents can donate a small amount to support each other during times of great difficulty. Ms

Husna and the team will then use the money to provide essential items for families in great need. In extreme cases, she has to make a tough call about whether a child needs to be fostered. Often it is when there are cases of alcoholism, domestic violence, or abuse involved.

"I deal with many welfare issues and I see in some of the cases where the children don't have enough food and they're living in very, very bad condition with poor housing. And then I intervene and work with the parent representative in the area."

She is confronted with the harsh side of poverty and tries to prevent students from falling through the gaps. She devotes much of her time to the role and is passionate about it as she was born and raised in Arusha. "Since I was young, I've liked helping others. So in this role it is not much about what I am getting but what I am giving," she says.

Husna likes to spend time with her family, play basketball and netball and watch movies.

Left: Husna; Top right: Husna with adoring St Jude's students; Below right: three of Husna's children Hussein, Aluthoo and Dodo Jr.

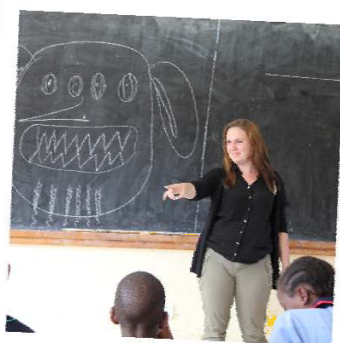


Volunteers Share Their Skills with Students

Our international volunteers have many skills and recently, the teachers from Upper Primary asked them to share these talents during their extra curricular sessions with students. It was a great way for the teachers to learn new skills and for our volunteers to get involved with some of the class activities. The program will go for six weeks so the groups have a chance to really develop their new found talents.



Knitting with Denise



Creative writing with Rachael



Urban dance with Kira



Juggling with Stephen



Board games with Hellen



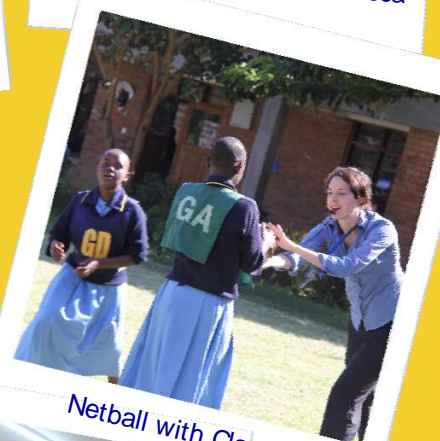
Origami with Ang and Becca



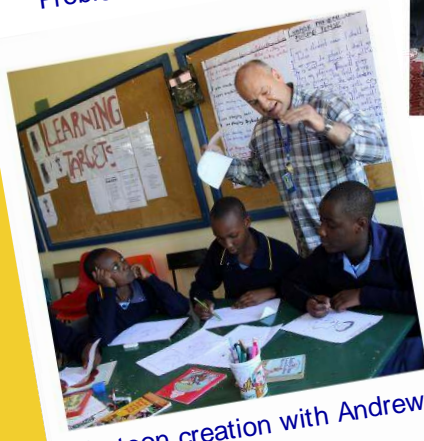
Problem solving with Daniel



French with Ros and Chris



Netball with Clare



Cartoon creation with Andrew



Creative writing with Matt

On the Road with Kim

We love staying up to date with all of Kim's adventures while she travels around to catch up with St Jude's supporters. Check out the pics below to see who she's been meeting with.



Rotary Club of Geelong East



Breakfast in Perth with Aspire and past volunteers



Rotary Club of Bundaberg Sunrise



Lunch in Perth with star fundraiser Kirilly, her family and friends!



'Lunch in Numurkah with Barb Muller, Marie Austin and friends



Sunshine Coast Ladies Probus Club with Jean Rabig and Laura Commins in Budrim



Inner Wheel Club of Leeton

More snaps from Kim on the road!



Belrose Probus Club



Kim with MaryLynne Bradford and Sally Dye from Conargo Shire



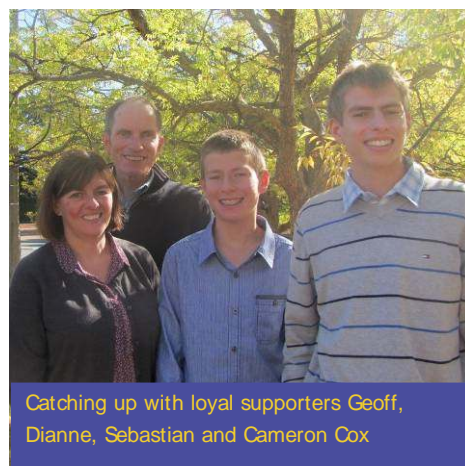
Catching up with Jock and Sue Bidwell, past volunteers, in Mittagong



Kim with great long term supporter, John Glassford



Enthusiastic participants of the Round Square Conference in Bunbury



Catching up with loyal supporters Geoff, Dianne, Sebastian and Cameron Cox



The team from Ferguson Cannon Lawyers and Lilian See, Maroochydore in Queensland



Kim presenting at Ferguson Cannon Lawyers



Sarah from St Jude's with Chris and Margie McClelland



The group at the Conargo Shire International Women's Day lunch in Blighty

Green Matters at St Jude's

The School of St Jude is leading the way in Tanzania through its innovative environmental projects. Most impressively is our fully operational biogas plant at the Smith Secondary Campus at Usa River.

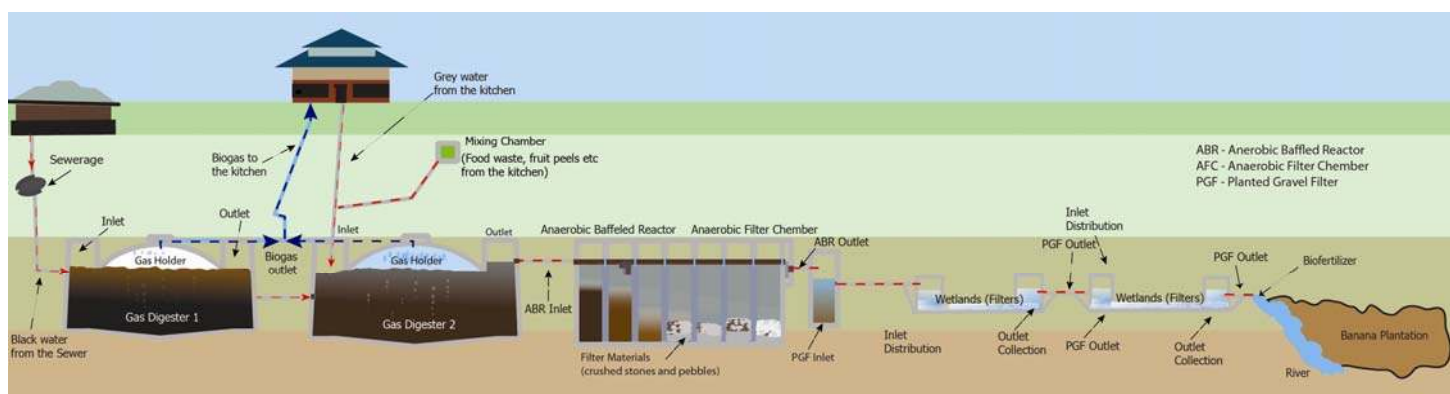
The plant uses the school's recycled water and food, which flows through pipes, where it is processed and digested before producing gas. The gas is then used in the school's kitchen. The treated water is used for irrigating a local banana plantation and already there are around 200 plants. This great project enables the school to save money on gas.

It is one of a list of eco-friendly projects at the school. At the Moivaro Boarding Campus, a water processing system supplies the school community with water for drinking and irrigation. The water comes from bores or rain water, where it is processed and stored onsite. Over at Smith Campus, the students are growing vegetables that are being used in the school kitchens. This is a fun activity to do when they're not studying. We're also doing our bit to help the community in Arusha with staff and volunteers also take empty bottles and used glass to Shanga, a local social enterprise that recycles the bottles for use in its art products. The school is keen to expand its eco-friendly projects and is always looking for new opportunities!



Left: Our gardener Edward with produce from the Moivaro Campus farm.
Above: The banana and papaya farm at Smith Campus. Below: How does biogas work?

Got a great green idea? Let us know by emailing info@schoolofstjude.co.tz



Volunteer Job of the Month

St Jude's is launching its recruitment campaign for teacher mentors to join us in 2014. We catch up with volunteer Lynn to find out more about her and the role.

What motivated you to move to Tanzania to become a teacher mentor at St Jude's?

Gemma! I saw Gemma speak in 2005 in Armidale and her passion, drive and vision for this project inspired me. I wanted to be a part of helping her achieve her goals, so when the opportunity arose in 2011, the time was right for me and I jumped at the chance.

Tell us a bit about your previous teaching experience.

I have worked in early childhood education for 28 years. The range of experience within this education area has been vast; from working directly with children, to educating teachers at TAFE & university for early childhood teaching degrees; from owning and managing early childhood services to consulting and training for state and



commonwealth funded associations to implement new government initiatives in the Early childhood field.

How long have you been volunteering at St Jude's?

I have been at St Jude's since September 2011. I feel it is extremely important to be able to develop relationships and understandings over time and to offer consistent and ongoing support to school staff as they strive to develop their skills.

What is the best thing about your role?

The best thing is the joy I feel when witnessing teachers and staff grow and develop their skills and understanding and I see them working hard towards improving the education of the children at this school. This has a domino affect first on the children, then their families, then the community!

What would you say to someone who is thinking of becoming at St Jude's teacher mentor?

Do it!! But remember effective change takes 20 years, the school is only in its 11th year. Be happy to play a small part (in the time you are here) in a long term vision for fighting poverty through education!

Are you up for the challenge of a lifetime?

For more information on volunteer teacher mentors, click below to our job vacancies section:

www.schoolofstjude.org/ContactUs/jobs.html