



The School of St Jude

St Jude's News

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends

ISSUE 4, 2015



Students make their voices heard across Africa

Here at St Jude's we're passionate about developing Tanzania's next generation of leaders.

That is why it is so exciting that one of our talented students is already making a name for himself in the nation's capital.

Form 4 student Hazzbon (pictured, left) travelled to Dodoma this month to receive an award from the Ministry of Education for his moving essay about climate change. In the essay, Hazzbon, who hopes to become a civil engineer, stressed the importance of students being educated about climate change.

"It is a major issue, not only in our country, but across the world," he said.

Hazzbon's essay was awarded first place in Tanzania after finishing fourth at the international Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Secondary Schools Essay Competition in Zimbabwe.

The competition included entries from Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Hazzbon travelled to the Ministry of Education this month to receive his certificate.

He was joined by Joseph (right), another Form 4 student who impressed St Jude's judges with his powerful essay-writing skills.

"I am personally proud of Hazzbon for his hard work and determination," said St Jude's librarian Lightness, who helped the students with their essays. "I must say he deserved it."

**Provide our students with tools to become leaders,
by supporting our Colour Their World Appeal**

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

Relief as Form 6 Students Finish Final Exams

Our students are a step closer to the event they've been working so hard towards — graduation.

Form 6 students completed their exams last week and expressed relief, excitement and impressive plans for their futures.

Their smiles could not be hidden as they spoke of what else may come from their and St Jude's very first graduation on May 30.

Our graduates are excited about their opportunity to "give back" to others and use their hard-earned education during the new Beyond St Jude's community service year.

We have confidence they will do us proud.



"We've been waiting for this day. After 11 years at St Jude's, I am going to graduate."

- Blandina, Form 6



We're very excited about graduation! See our latest video, where students share their thoughts on this huge event, at www.schoolofstjude.org/our-stories/graduation-2015.html

First Volunteer Returns to St Jude's After 10 Years

There had to be something special happening at St Jude's to lure back our very first teacher.

Australian volunteer Angela Bailey fondly remembers her first time living in Arusha and volunteering at the school, so the chance to offer further support to some of the very same students she taught back in those early days was too good to pass up.

"It's amazing, and I feel very privileged to be back here working with these kids, or young adults I should say, because they are amazing students. It has been fantastic walking the grounds of the secondary school, getting big hugs and cool handshakes," she said. "I'm certainly very excited to be working with them and they seem to be very excited about it too."

Thirteen years ago, the Sydney resident helped establish St Jude's along with Gemma Sisia and Kim Saville, who have both remained with the school. Angela became the first teacher at St Jude's and spent three years with us, before spending the last decade working on various projects in Australia and Vietnam before the right offer to return was made.

Angela returned to St Jude's in early April to oversee the community service and tertiary teams, as part of the Beyond St Jude's program. The task is far from a walk in the park, with 59 of the 61 graduating students volunteering to spend a year as teachers in Government-run schools before their university education begins. Angela said the hard work her excellent team had already put in was a great start.

"Gemma and I joke around - she has literally offered me so many jobs to come back over the years - and this, for me, was it. I am so passionate about the community service and I think it is such an amazing way for these kids to give back," she said. "There's an opportunity to make even more of a difference here, as this education is going to spread even further, into the government schools, which I know are seriously lacking. This is why I'm so excited and passionate about this role in particular."

Find out how you can volunteer at St Jude's
www.schoolofstjude.org/join-us/volunteer.html



Volunteer Angela Bailey (above middle), with two students who welcomed her back to the school, and (left) on her first day at St Jude's in 2002.

Students Invited to Rwandan Achievement Camp



Two students are leading the way for career-driven females with an all expenses paid invitation to an exclusive camp held by the US Department of State, Intel, Microsoft, Girl Up and the Rwanda Girls Initiative.

Form 5 student Emiliana (above left) and Form 3 student Neema (above right) will attend WiSci: Girls STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) Camp, a three-week event kicking off from July 27 in Rwanda. They will join more than 100 other outstanding high school students from around Africa and the United States.

The news brought obvious joy to our high achievers, who each said they looked forward to the experience and expected it to be helpful in making their dreams reality.

"I'm really excited," Emiliana said. "My grandpa was diabetic, and he had both of his arms amputated, plus his



leg, so from that moment I just said I had to be a doctor. I decided I have to help these people, because it was in the village back in Moshi and it was really hard. It would be better for me to become a doctor to help people in such situations." Emiliana plans to specialise in gynecology and children's health.

Neema, meanwhile, is more involved in computer science and has been busy studying programming and software development. "It's very exciting. I like computer science, and one day I would like to make applications and this kind of stuff. I think this camp will increase my skills and knowledge with workshops."

St Jude's is very proud of Emiliana and Neema, and wish them all the best on their journey. We look forward to hearing how it all went upon their return.

We're driving ahead online

When The School of St Jude was listed on Trip Advisor last year, we hoped to hear some good feedback from people who have visited. We were pleasantly surprised to discover how highly recommended we are!

Our St Jude's "Day Visits" currently rate as the 6th best "thing to do" in the Arusha region. Every review listed the visiting experience as "Excellent" or "Very Good", the highest ratings available. Our overnight visitors told the same story.

We would very much like to thank everyone who has helped spread the word about our school on Trip Advisor, and encourage anyone else who visits to do the same.

If you were a day visitor, share your experience [here](#).

If you spent a night at St Jude's, tell your story [here](#).



Recommended on



Science Day: A Fun and Useful Learning Experience!

Raspberry Pi may have taken out top prize, but this was certainly no cooking competition.

The School of St Jude's 5th annual Science Day, which featured more than 100 entries in another successful year, was topped by Venance in Form 4C and Martin in Form 3H for their "Smart house with Raspberry Pi".

Venance and Martin (pictured top right with the Smart House) spent almost a year developing their invention, which enables control of many household functions (temperature, electricity supply, lighting, etc) from the one place. It can also be controlled remotely, by mobile phone. The students were allocated a small school room to work on their project, and used Raspberry Pi, a low-cost, compact device, to program it.



"We want to make our school the venue for science exhibitions for the Arusha region."

Mr Mcharo, Smith campus Head of Science and ICT, said school staff and students were happy with how the day ran.

"We want to make our school the venue for science exhibitions for the Arusha region," he said. It's something (the students) love, and next year we would like the Form 6's to judge."

The day-long event was generously sponsored by local Arusha businesses Bright Green Enterprise, Kiliative Solutions and Clock Tower Service Station. Thank you!

"Your students are some of the brightest and most able I have met throughout the past five years of working between Tanzania and UK education," Bright Green Enterprise Executive Director Lucy Devall said.

Talent from across the region took part, and we greatly appreciate and thank all involved.



(Top to bottom) Venance and Martin and their winning "Smart house with Raspberry Pi"; Biology students proving that Vitamin C is in carrots; Lower primary students share the science behind music.



Science Day: A Fun and Useful Learning Experience!



Students kept busy throughout Science Day by sharing and demonstrating their projects to an attentive audience.



**As part of our appeal, you can help sponsor an event.
See how at:
www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/2015_appeal.html**



Erick's Special Invite to an African Leadership Learning Lab

Earlier this month, Form 5 student Erick was honoured with an exclusive invitation and scholarship to ALA's (African Leadership Academy) Learning Lab.

The month-long, in-residence program is intensely academic and focuses on four key areas: Data and Decisions, Entrepreneurial Leadership, Projects, and Humanities. Smith campus mentor Sika Somberg worked with ALA to ensure the Morris Foundation-sponsored student could get his passport in time to make the flight for South Africa.

Erick hopes to learn as much as possible, and we will share his experience in a future newsletter. Congratulations Erick!



Supporters Set For Heights of Success

Reaching new heights is something the Roden family does well.

Most of their Mt Kilimanjaro Challenge team can already list the imposing Everest Base Camp expedition and Peru's challenging four-day Inca Trail among their conquests... good practice for their newest target, which is no mean feat.

"We were so impressed with the work Gemma was doing we decided to become donors."

As the highest free-standing peak in Africa, Mt Kilimanjaro will take the Roden team eight days to summit, and they have generously decided to attempt it to raise money for The School of St Jude.

Bernard and Linda Roden, their 21-year-old son Daniel and Linda's sister Diana Wolf have been training hard

for the climb since February.

"Our daughter visited St Jude's in 2008 with her school, St Vincent's College. We were so impressed with the work Gemma was doing, we decided to become donors," Linda explained. "We have been training on The Great Northern Walk in Sydney, mainly doing Grade 4 and Grade 5 sections of the walking track from Brooklyn to Berowra. We have also done training walks in the Blue Mountains."

The Roden family's admirable adventure is scheduled to begin in July, and everyone at the school is excited they will visit us on their trip!

To support The Roden family, please go to their fundraising page at <http://bit.ly/1QWOCp4>



Like to visit us in Tanzania? We would love to show you around! <http://bit.ly/1K7vYA9>



In preparation for their Mt Kilimanjaro fundraising climb, the Roden family have been keeping active.

There is an air of trepidation when speaking to a soon-to-be graduate of St Jude's.

Like final year students around the world, there is a mix of nervousness around finishing up school and excitement about taking their first tentative steps into the "real world" as adults.

However, our Form 6 St Jude's class of 2015 carry a heavier weight of expectation than most, as the first graduating class in the school's history.

Hosiana Jonas is one such graduating student. She has been at St Jude's since starting as a Year 1 student in 2004. The second eldest of four children, Hosiana is a member of the Maasai tribe and comes from a small farm close to Arusha. She is very aware of the significance of her time at the school.

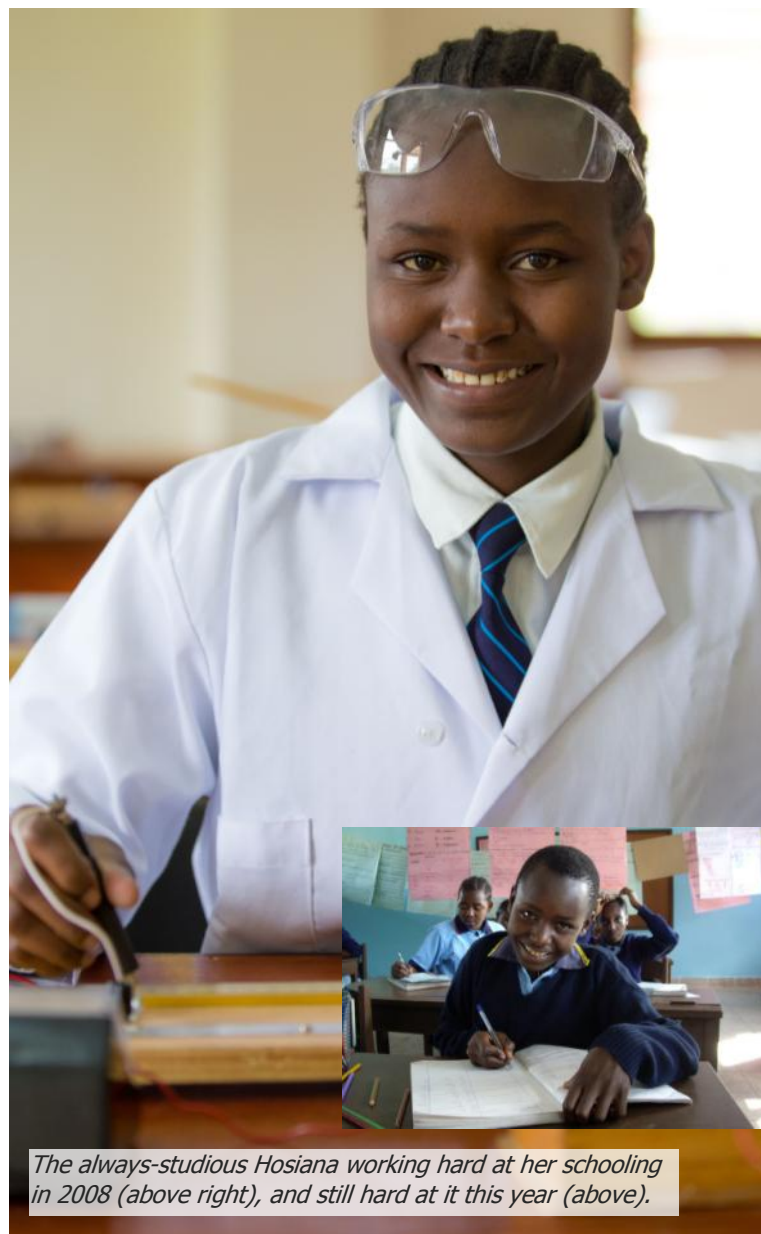
"St Jude's has really changed my perspective of my future. In the past I could only see darkness in front of me," she said. "St Jude's gives me opportunities across the country and the world. I have met people from around the world and was encouraged to express my talents in different ways".

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An excellent student, Hosiana's talents are extensive and she has a love of scientific subjects including chemistry and physics. Her favourite is biology. She plans to put this aptitude to work when she studies medicine at university, specialising in orthopedics.

Before embarking on her tertiary studies, Hosiana will experience another, different journey. For one year she will undertake community service, teaching physics and chemistry in a local government school. With classes of up to 50 students and no labs, Hosiana knows she has her work cut out for her.

Yet she will be no stranger in her role as teacher, as it is one that she has played within her community for many years. In the tradition of St Jude's, she has shared the knowledge gained throughout her schooling with her siblings and friends.



The always-studious Hosiana working hard at her schooling in 2008 (above right), and still hard at it this year (above).

Her whole community is ready for the next step in her journey and "are eagerly waiting for me to make the most of my opportunity", she said. "I will need discipline and I am hard working. I will help my community and care for others, not just myself."

Like all of the students graduating in her class, there are high expectations on her young shoulders. However, with the continued support of St Jude's, her sponsors, her community and a simple, steely look of determination that gives away more than she can say, we are sure Hosiana will exceed all expectations.

Read more about our graduation, in the lead-up and as it happens, online!

www.schoolofstjude.org/our-stories/graduation-2015.html

Kim's Taking Australia by Storm



On the Road

Kim has been busy travelling Down Under for the last month, speaking at various events and catching up with supporters and past volunteers. She'll be back at school just in time for our Form 6 graduation!

Spreading the word of St Jude's is vital, and help is always welcome.

If you'd like to host a future event for us, please email Sarah at australia@schoolofstjude.org

Felix is in the fast lane!



Here at St Jude's, we are lucky to have truly amazing supporters. The happiness this brought Felix during his recent Melbourne tour was captured here by two such people, Denis and Helen Weily. This amazing couple generously funded both of our latest tours and we can't thank them enough!



Kim's Taking Australia by Storm



Teachers Spread the Word, in English



Sisia Campus lower primary teachers and new English Ambassadors (L to R) Isaka B. Silomba, Elineema Kileo, Grace Saguma, ESOL teacher Mel Lamus, lower primary headmaster George Stephen, Emmanuel Augustine, Bertha Claud, Alfred Rwatamabanga and Ruth Kyata.

Seven savvy and enthusiastic lower primary teachers have been chosen as English “champions” for St Jude’s lower and upper primary school.

The teachers all achieved a “Good” mark for their use of English in the classroom, when evaluated by ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) teacher Mel Lamus at the beginning of the year.

“Knowing English is one thing, but being able to speak it takes practice.”

Lower primary headmaster George Stephen has officially named them English Ambassadors for the school. “English is a second language in Tanzania and a medium of instruction at St Jude’s. Right now staff use it specifically for that purpose only, and not otherwise,” George said. “The thought to have English Ambassadors was to bring awareness to all staff that English is also a medium of communication at St Jude’s.”

Mel also noted the “Good” English of four accomplished upper primary teachers — Japhet Rayan, Julieth Mbuya, Ernesta T. Njau and Noah Emmanuel (pictured right). “It is hoped that all of these teachers will act as role

models of English for both students and colleagues,” Mel said. “One of the teachers, Emmanuel, has already let me know of two different mobile phone apps that he uses for learning English and I have passed this on to all the teachers.” Mel said each teacher demonstrated positive English teaching in the classroom and supported the students’ language development. They could be marked one of four categories: Unsatisfactory, Some Improvement Needed, Good and Outstanding.

English Ambassador and Lower Primary Librarian Isaka B. Silomba said he was proud to be given the title and found ESOL helpful in improving his English skills. “It means a lot. Although it’s not our mother tongue, being able to speak it is good,” he said. “Knowing English is one thing, but being able to speak it takes practice. Being in a school where you speak only English helps to develop that ability a lot. We learn from our ESOL teacher and from the material we have. It’s enjoyable.”



Read more about the school’s English Ambassadors, and find more stories from around campus, at www.schoolofstjude.org/our-stories/our-stories.html

Boarding: An Important Part of Student Life

Boarding at our school is essential for many students to get the most out of their education. Support in this area provides a safe, comfortable and happy living environment to young achievers who may not otherwise have the chance to reach their potential.

Those who have access to clean water, proper sanitation, reliable electricity and a supportive study environment may not consider how fortunate they are, and boarding ensures our underprivileged students also have this peace of mind. It goes a long way towards the success of our students. Not to mention the wonderful community, including highly skilled boarding parents that serve as teachers and mentors, in which these future leaders mature.

Students board at our Smith and Moivaro campuses. Beautiful Moivaro (pictured) is home away from home to 400 upper primary students in Standard 5-7. They are just a short, 10 minute walk from our Sisia Campus in Moshono. Meanwhile, 900 secondary students in Forms 1-6 enjoy life at the foothills of beautiful Mount Meru at Usa River. Both campuses offer access to 24 hour medical care, morning exercise classes, afternoon study groups and tutoring, and much more.

Boarding life provides students with a safe home away from home, and helps instill the importance of independence, respect, community, health and balance.

Support our students by donating towards boarding. \$500 can buy a student a bed, bedding, and a mosquito net. Find out how to help here:

www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/2015_appeal.html



Friends Spend a Fun Day Out and Raise \$360 to Better African Education

People all around the world are going to great lengths to support the vital work we do here at St Jude's.

Just this month, students from the Friends' School in Hobart, Tasmania held a busking day that raised \$360 for our school. The students, aged from 4 to 11 years old, tapped into their creativity to raise the money.

"There was a wide range of acts, from musical performances to magic tricks



and poetry reading," said Mary-Margaret, head of The Friends' School's primary campus. "There was

even a group of students doing tricks with a soccer ball."

The money they raised will help educate some of Africa's poorest and brightest students.

"(The students) were very excited when we announced the amount raised at the next assembly," Mary-Margaret said. "We hope this is helpful and that you are able to use this money for the school."