



**The School of St Jude**

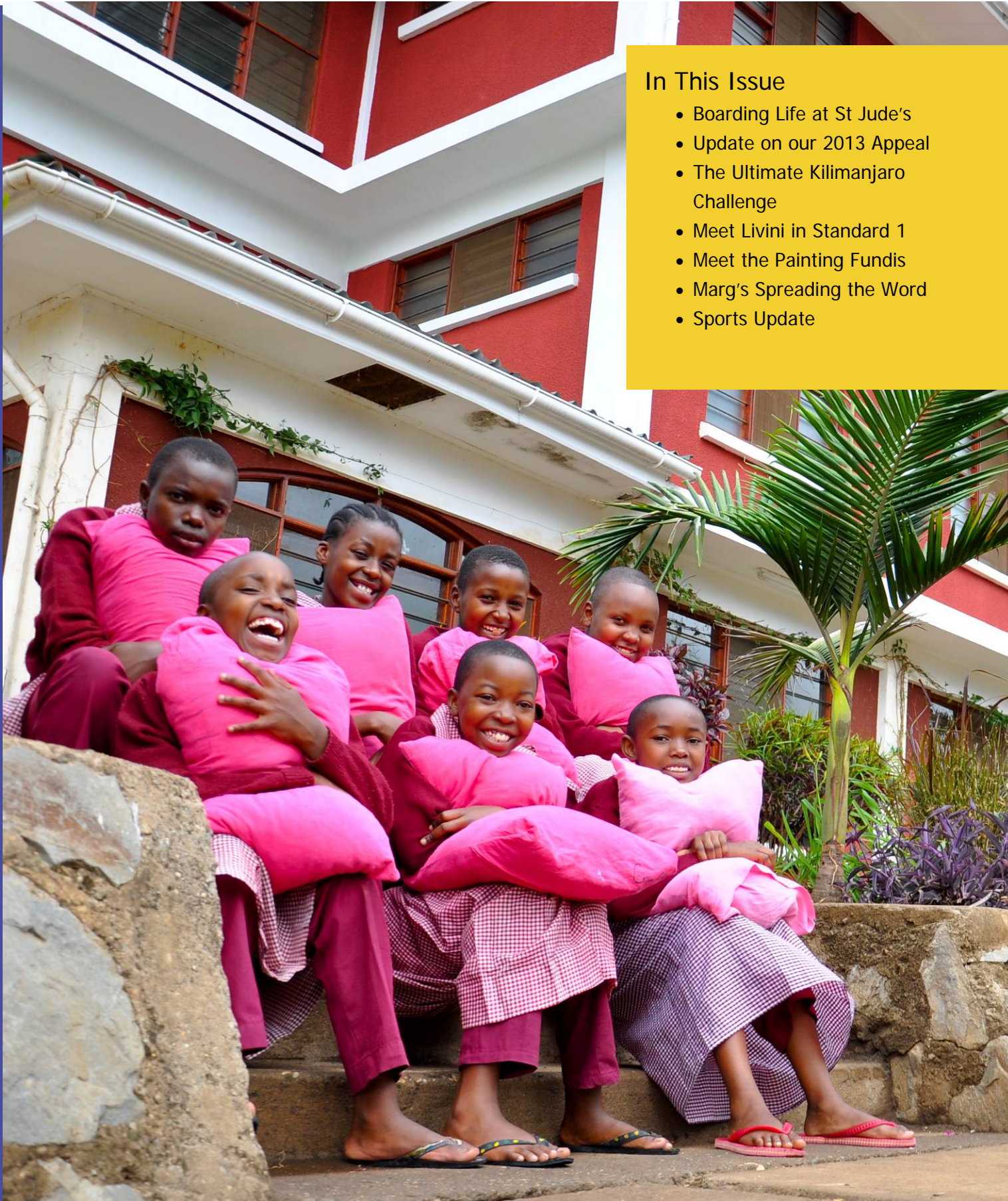
# St Jude's News

*Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends*

ISSUE 5, 2013

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## We're almost there thanks to you!

We are so grateful for the positive response to our 2013 Every Piece Counts Appeal. As a result we now have even more play equipment being built, buses being painted and music supplies being delivered. Our students are very excited.

We are so close to our goal but there are still things we need to keep our school running. We especially need more mosquito nets and beds which play an important role in providing students with a comfortable, good nights sleep.

To ensure our students can reach their full potential we also provide them with a meal everyday. This helps students develop properly and gives them the energy they need to learn.

Our vision of Fighting Poverty Through Education is not an easy one to achieve. It involves a lot of people believing in what we do and playing their part. Have a look at our website today and choose your piece of the puzzle.

## A personal message from Gemma and students.

Have a look at our recent video to see Gemma's personal message to update you on the appeal.

<http://bit.ly/14FhsMZ>



## Bed & mosquito nets still needed!

For \$300 you can buy a student a bed and mosquito net. A gift that will be very much appreciated by children, many who have grown up sharing beds with family members.

[www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/Donations/appeal.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/Donations/appeal.html)



# Marg Makes St Jude's Her Cause

The team at St Jude's are constantly amazed by our supporters who take up the mantle to generously donate their time to spread the word about the school. Marg Dawson from Castlemaine in Central Victoria is one such special person who hosts speaking events back in Australia to raise awareness and support of St Jude's.

Marg's a retired school teacher and her love for St Jude's developed after hearing Gemma talk at an event in the Australian town of Bendigo in 2009.

Marg's support for the school is unwavering. Not only does she sponsor Margeth from Standard 3 and a boarding room, she also was lucky enough to visit the school with her sister Libby in 2012 as part of our September Cultural Tour. Meeting her sponsor student for the first-time proved to be an amazing experience for her. "I found it very emotional meeting Margeth and her family. They live in the poorest of conditions but we were made to feel so welcome and they were so happy. We shared lunch and played with Margeth and her friends numerous times whilst we are at the school which was great fun," Marg says. She also loved the friendliness of the staff and students and the calibre of the buildings at the Sisia and Smith campuses.

After returning from her visit, it became her and Libby's mission to tell everyone about St Jude's. She told her friends about it and they donated a day's takings when

they did a fundraising event in November. Marg and Libby were on hand to give out photobooks, maps, DVDs, and brochures to promote the school. Sarah Henry, our Australian coordinator, based in Brisbane can send out St Jude's material for all speaking events. Marg spoke about St Jude's at a Country Women Association's meeting and to this day she continues to look for opportunities to tell more people about the wonderful students, staff and volunteers in Tanzania.

Marg recognises that by talking to people about St Jude's she can help transform the lives of our students.

**"It doesn't matter what you do, whether it's a fundraising activity, or talking to one person, just tell everyone what a fantastic school St Jude's is. It really is making a difference to so many people," she says.**

Marg's advice is to look for any fundraising activities happening in your area and if you can, to come over and see how St Jude's operates! "This will certainly inspire you, and on your return you can't help but speak passionately about what an amazing place you have the privilege to be involved with," she says.

If you would like to speak to your Rotary club, school or any other group then we've made it easy with lots of tools and resources. Find out more by emailing us at

[info@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:info@schoolofstjude.co.tz)





# Boarding Life at St Jude's

Thanks to your support, St Jude's is able to provide quality boarding facilities for students in Upper Primary through to Secondary, that's more than a thousand boarding students who can focus on their studies in a secure environment with comfortable facilities. They benefit from staying in warm, cosy beds with mosquito nets, three nutritious meals each day, extra homework sessions each evening and thrive in a nurturing and educational environment. St Jude's is leading the way in providing quality care for our students compared to local, government boarding schools where there is a severe lack of resources. Often, Tanzanian government students have to bring their own bedding, including a mattress, and the schools' rarely have electricity.

By sponsoring a boarding room at St Jude's, you help eight students in one room and contribute to the provision of food, water, electricity, linen, extra lessons

by diligent teachers and supervision and mentoring by dedicated adult boarding parents.

**"I love boarding because I get to play volleyball and enjoy spending time with my friends in the dining hall," says Form 2 student, Josephina. "My favourite thing is our Thursday breakfasts when we have eggs, bread and tea."**

Sponsorship renewals for boarding rooms have come around again and we wanted to take the opportunity to say a special thanks to our boarding sponsors.



If you would like to sign up for a student and boarding room sponsorship package, visit

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





## Meet Livini in Grade 1

Livini joined St Jude's this year and so far is excelling in English, Maths, Kiswahili, Science, Computing and Vocational Skills.

He is a bright, model student with a keen interest in all of his subjects. But, like our other students, he has had a tough upbringing. His parents combined income is roughly around three dollars a day. Livini, his brother and parents live in their house which has no electricity or running water. His parents built the home over four years from the meagre money they earned. The family has to get water from the well and cook outdoors on a wood fire. Livini's father sells chai tea and mandazi (local Tanzanian snack) from a makeshift room on the side of the road to help provide for their family.

Livini's so dedicated to his studies that his dream is to eventually become a teacher. It is inspiring to see that he wants to use his education to become a future leader in his community. There is a desperate need for highly qualified teachers in Tanzania. Local government schools are often overcrowded and have limited facilities. At St Jude's we hope to demonstrate to our students about the power of a quality education which can open up many, exciting opportunities.

**Livini still needs sponsoring.**

You can help him reach his dreams of becoming a teacher.

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





## Are You Ready for the Ultimate Kili Challenge?

If you've got the determination, then we've got the challenge for you!

In 2014 St Jude's is offering you the opportunity to truly challenge yourself while you raise funds for our students future.

You can choose to run the Kilimanjaro Marathon (half or full), climb Mt Kili—the highest peak in Africa, or do both... the Ultimate Challenge!

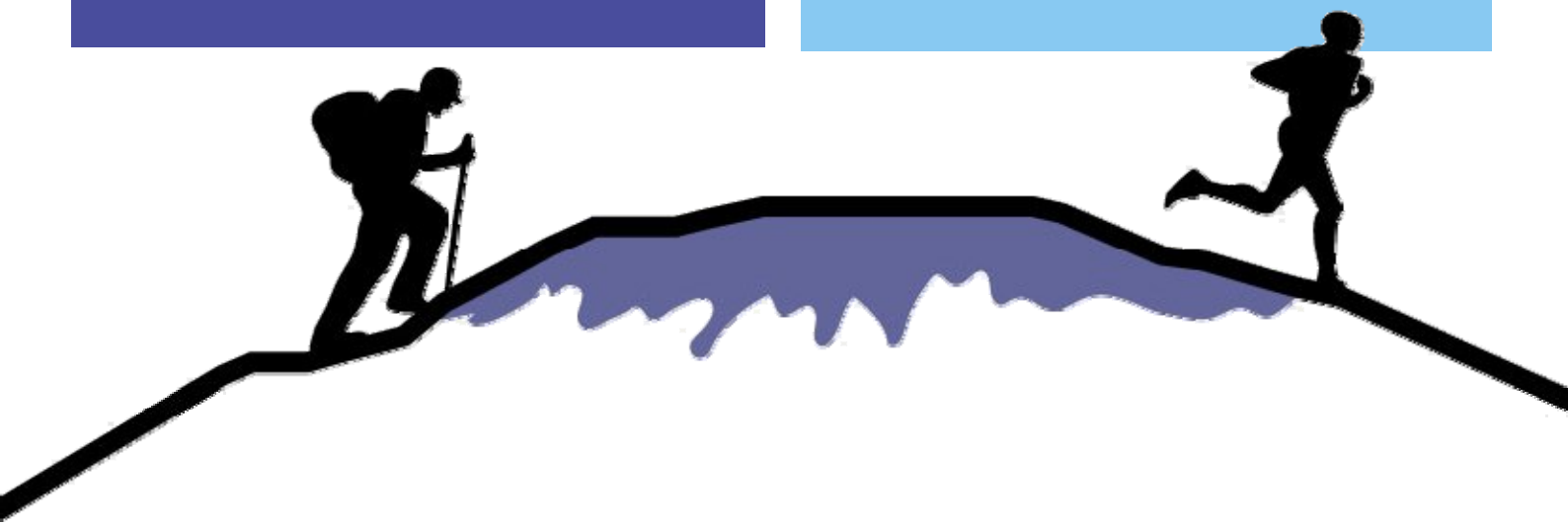
Each option has a specific itinerary including time at St Jude's where you will get to see the school for yourself and be cheered on by our students, staff and volunteers. You can download the information pack with the sample itinerary via our website at

[www.schoolofstjude.org/VisitUs/mtkili.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/VisitUs/mtkili.html).

"Climbing Kili and running the marathon in 2013 presented challenges that tested and pushed me to limits I've never thought possible. I've stood at 5,895m on Uhuru Peak and watched the sun rise, and I've also run 21km and crossed the finished line, both while representing The School of St Jude. To be able to accomplish both challenges to promote St Jude's makes them two of the best experiences of my life."

– Matt Lawyue

All participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$1,000 on top of their base cost which will directly support our students break free from the cycle of poverty.





# Meet the Team

The Kiswahili word for tradesperson is *fundi* and our painting fundis are a unique and integral part of the operations team here at St Jude's. They freshen up our classrooms, furniture and anything else that needs a coat of paint. They're a special group of painters here at St Jude's who share a close friendship and love for our school.

Devotha has a tight bond with her male coworkers and her focus is on getting the job done. "I have spent the past two years at St Jude's and I love painting and learning more about it," says Devotha. She is kept busy painting cupboards and other furniture used by the students. In her downtime, she likes to spend time with her family, which includes two children.

Robson is one of the longest serving painting fundis and has been at the school for the past three years. One of the things that Robson enjoys the most about his job is that he has made lots of friends. He was elated when he got a position at St Jude's. "I love St Jude's because students can make something of themselves from their study. The school also helps a lot of local families by giving them work," says Robson. St Jude's is proud to employ more than 400 Tanzanian staff. The school also provides ESL and computer support for its staff.

Ally is one of our younger fundis and painting is one of his main passions. He's happy when he's painting a building, furniture or something for St Jude's. "I enjoy working for a group. I love to paint and have fun," says Ally.

Charles and Lota enjoy their work at St Jude's because they are kept constantly busy. They always have a job to do and find it very rewarding. "The remarkable thing that I will remember from St Jude's is how it works, incorporating with each other, wherever I go, I'll never forget about the workers here," says Charles. Charles, Lota and the others are always prepared to do any job, big or small. They're often out in the school grounds, painting an array of furniture. Away from work, the men, like Devotha, enjoy spending time with their families, children and playing sport.

Top left: the team in the workshop; Top right: Devotha painting a set of bookshelves; Middle left: Ally; Middle right: Robson; Bottom left: Lota; Bottom right: Charles.





# Sports Roundup

Fifteen secondary St Jude's students have been chosen to represent our zone in a national sports competition. They'll compete in football, basketball, volleyball and athletics. It is a great achievement and the students have been busily training and preparing for the finals.

Meanwhile the St Jude's girls' U16 netball team has done a marvelous effort and won the interschool tournament earlier this month. The girls won all their matches, then the semi final and eventually defeated Orkeswa Secondary 3-0 in the final. They were presented with a glass goblet and a trophy to be held for one year.

St Jude's has also done a stellar effort in cross country by taking out silver in the competition recently at Braeburn School. Around 44 primary school students raced to their limits during the games. Their ages ranged from under 10 to under 14. It was a tight competition, with our students competing against children from Braeburn, ISM, Orkeswa, St Constantine and Arusha Modern Schools. The under 10s ran in the 2.5 kilometre run, under 12s ran for 3 kilometres and the under 14s and Open raced for 5km. The students' hard work paid off and it's an excellent result!

TOP RIGHT: ready to race at the Cross Country competition; The girls prove that soccer is for everyone—Zuena, Ibrahim & Ramadhani RIGHT and Olivia BELOW LEFT. The netball team ready to go BELOW.





# Want to Support, But You're Not Connected?

We understand that not everyone uses the internet to show their wonderful support of St Jude's! If you would like to get involved but would prefer to use an alternative method, you can print this page and post it to us at

**PO Box 82, Kew East, Victoria 3102** (Australia). Alternatively feel free to give Robin Vargo a call regarding your donation. Robin can be contacted on **+61 3 9817 6245**.

## Your details

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like to make a general donation of  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Gemma's book 'St Jude's', AUD\$33 (Australian delivery)

☐ St Jude's 10 Year Anniversary book, AUD\$25  
(Australian delivery)

I would like to sign up for:

☐ Sponsorship of a teacher, AUD\$55 per month

☐ Half sponsorship of a student, AUD\$60 per month

☐ Student and teacher sponsorship, AUD\$110 per month

## Payment details

☐ Please find enclosed my cheque made payable to **RAOAF Eastern Region St Jude's School**

☐ Cash ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Card number

Card expiry   /

CCV: \_\_\_\_\_ Cardholder name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

