



The School of St Jude

St Jude's News

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends

ISSUE 6, 2015



Achievers empowered in South Africa

Tanzania's next generation of doctors, aircraft engineers and artists returned to St Jude's with renewed confidence following a week at one of Africa's most prestigious universities.

Six St Jude's Form 6 students attended the JuniorTukkie Empowerment Week at South Africa's University of Pretoria and described the experience as life-changing.

"Now I can say what I want to be, and be confident in that, because of this program," said Sifuni, who traveled alongside fellow St Jude's students Godson, Leah,

Maurine and Winrose.

"With gratitude and all my heart, I'd like to thank my school for giving me this opportunity to attend this wonderful week, with wonderful sessions. I've learnt a lot from it."

Read more about their experience on page 2.

Provide high-achievers with the chance to make the most of their talent. Find out more or sponsor a student by phoning 0438 783 035 or online at www.schoolofstjude.org.

Achievers empowered in South Africa



The JuniorTukkie program comprised motivational sessions, e-learning workshops, a social responsibility session, career guidance and adventure workshops.

It was established to assist Form 4, 5 and 6 (Grade 10, 11 and 12) pupils from across Africa to approach their final years at high school with clarity and confidence.

It certainly seems to have worked for our students.

"I've loved airplanes since I was young and I love flying", said Winrose, who is more confident than ever she can fulfill her lifelong dream of becoming an aircraft engineer.

As a future linguist and lawyer, Leah said she "wants to fight for people's rights," and that the program also helped her discover a clear career path.

A medical future awaits Sifuni and Godson, with Sifuni certain he is ready for the many years of preparation it takes to become a doctor, and Godson keen on becoming a cardiac surgeon. Godson said he planned to share his experience with others who were not able to attend, to "tell them more of the experience I got here and to emphasize the importance of knowing their career path".

Maureen, who has a busy future ahead as a film producer, animator and actress, said she believed JuniorTukkie achieved its aim of helping youths with what they want to be. "It has meant a lot to me," Maureen said. "I've never been to South Africa, so this is a great opportunity to come here, meet different people and learn about a different culture from mine."

Donations to our School Excursion Fund have allowed students and accompanying staff to take advantage of these important opportunities.

Donate to projects like this at <http://bit.ly/1Gbxa2z>



Working hard to show thanks



In what is becoming a popular way of saying 'thanks' to St Jude's, a group of 23 student parents recently volunteered their time to help keep the Moshono campus beautiful.

Christopher, whose daughter Neema is currently Form 6 at Smith campus, was one of those parents who helped out with school maintenance.

"We are happy to work with other staff, because they help us" - Christopher

He said it was their way of saying thanks for giving their children an education.



It was Christopher's first time volunteering at the school, and he kept busy working in the gardens alongside other parent volunteers. Meanwhile, the senior primary dining hall got a thorough clean thanks to a group of mothers who had also come to help for the day.

The parent volunteers have inspired our students to get involved in caring for the school campuses too.

St Jude's students have begun gardening their own plots of school land as part of a Self-Reliance Program, which will be launched next year. Upper primary school headmaster Peter Manjalla said Standard 5, 6, and 7 students were so enthusiastic about the upcoming program they were getting an early start. The program will have long and short-term practical benefits for the school and the students.

"We want to make sure the students take pride in their school and develop the skills and abilities to keep it tidy," Peter said. "The idea is about teaching them how they can work on any kind of project to be a source of income, and to make it self-sustainable."

Other areas likely to be part of the program include "domestic science" (how to cook hygienically and clean up properly), and maintenance of classrooms, boarding rooms and outside school areas.

With such ideal role models in many of their parents, we are thrilled the students have adopted the program with such enthusiasm.

Great Form 6 results!

The results from our first ever Form 6 national exams have been released and the achievements are inspiring.

Years of dedication has paid off for our incredible students, who all passed, with more than half of them achieving the highest possible mark of 'Distinction'. The class also ranked in the top 10% in Tanzania for chemistry, economics, advanced mathematics and physics.

The results placed St Jude's 3rd in our Region and 25th in the Nation!

The full results illustrate the success of our hardworking and talented graduates:

Individual pass marks:

Distinction	32
Merit	19
Credit	9
Pass	1
Fail	0

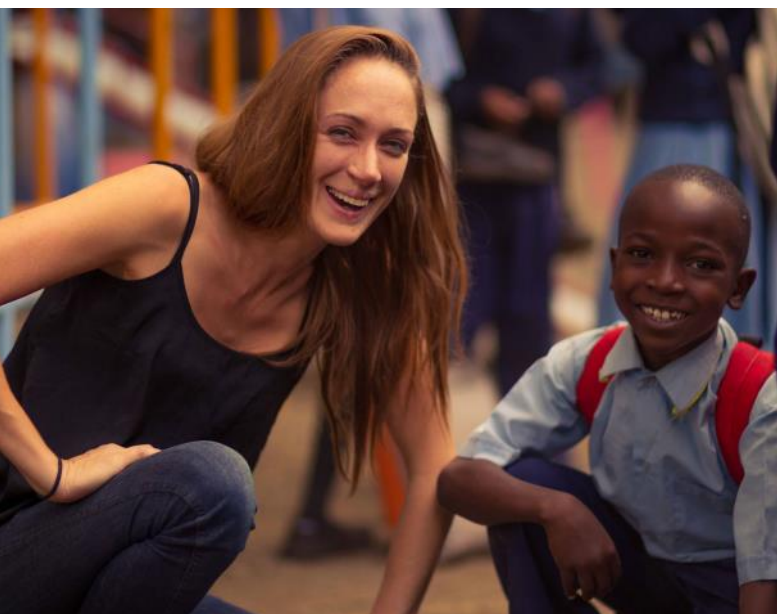
Class rankings by subject:

Subject	Regional Ranking	National Ranking
Accountancy	1/5	10/50
Advanced Mathematics	4/17	15/245
Biology	3/15	25/220
Chemistry	4/17	12/234
Commerce	2/5	14/50
Economics	2/17	16/207
Geography	5/27	81/403
History	3/26	44/374
Physics	4/13	22/210

We couldn't be more proud of our inaugural graduates, who have set an exceptional example for their St Jude's peers to follow.

Find out more about sponsoring one of these future leaders on our website, at www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/sponsor.html

It's an African adventure working at St Jude's



A desire to travel and help others led Angela Black to the other side of the world and on the doorstep of the marketing team at The School of St Jude.

She never envisioned it would be three years before she left, let alone with such a cherished swag of memories, accomplishments and friends.

"I was working in Japan, teaching English, but I really did want to live in Africa. I asked around because I wanted to come over here and do something in my profession so that I was adding value," the former marketing manager recently explained, as she packed her bags for a new job near Hong Kong.

"Then my sister, who works for a travel company in Australia, told me about St Jude's because they have tour groups come through here. I went on the website and found there was a marketing job, and obviously the school sells itself in a lot of ways and it's something you'd want to be part of."

Angela initially agreed to a year-long contract as our marketing assistant, but found it difficult to consider leaving as the 12 month mark neared.

"You learn a lot as you go, especially working in an NGO, as we have limited resources," she said.

"I've come away with a lot more skills than what I arrived with. Even though you're not earning as much as you could in other places, it's a really cool project

to be a part of. I've become really close with the team and we've all been on this journey together. It's a really great place to be creative and come up with ideas and try new things.

"And it's not about healing Africa, it's about giving a group of people a really great opportunity and knowing that those people, because this project's so successful, will have a better opportunity for the future, and at the moment a lot of people do have quite hard lives."

Not only was her volunteer role fulfilling and rewarding, Angela found plenty to enjoy about living in Arusha.

"Arusha's a really fun town, I've loved living here. It's definitely a quieter life than living in Melbourne (Australia), and has a bit of a small, country town feel. It's a bit rough around the edges but it's really charming and the location's fantastic, near Kilimanjaro and the Serengeti, so it's a really cool part of the world and it's a pretty easy place to adjust to. You can live a pretty good life here and be quite happy," she said.

"I've gotten so much out of it I don't see myself as a volunteer at all. This has become just like home."

Angela is excited to take the next step in her career as the marketing manager of a 3D printing company.

We wish her all the best!

While Angela's vacated marketing manager role has been filled, the St Jude's marketing team is currently looking for a Graphic Designer. See more about the position on our website

www.schoolofstjude.org/join-us/graphic-designer.html.



We're fit for national competition

Fourteen gifted St Jude's students proved their skills at last month's national Union Sports Secondary Schools competition, helping the Arusha and Manyara (NW) zone finish third.

The 135-strong Arusha and Manyara team took first place in boys' athletics, and second in girls' basketball and girls' athletics. They placed third overall, as well as third in girls' volleyball and drama/ngoma. The team also received a special award for cleanliness and behaviour during the competition, held in Mwanza, Tanzania's second largest city.

St Jude's Form 6 student Denis was particularly outstanding, winning both triple jump and long jump. He qualified to represent Tanzania at the East African secondary schools sports' competitions (FIASA), expected to be held in Rwanda in August.

The competition, which is known by its Kiswahili acronym UMISSETA, aims to identify the best budding sports talents in Tanzania.

St Jude's PE teacher Ali Rashid Juma participated as

Meru District UMISSETA Coordinator, and music teacher Vencheslao Mgani helped as a trainer for the drama/ngoma and singing zone group.

Firmin A. Kiwale, St Jude's Religion and Vocation Skills Head of Department, said the final 14 representatives emerged from the 56 St Jude's students who represented the district team.

"They've gone from the sub-zonal, to the district, to the regional competition," he said, explaining the hard work their group had committed to the national competition.

"We are an academic institution, but we encourage (the students') other talents. We try to make sure there is a balance. Generally, all who went were happy with the organization and thankful to the school and anyone who, in one way or another, supported them in attaining that level."

Congratulations to all the talented students involved, and we wish Denis all the best in his pursuit of success at FIASA.



Teachers Ali Rashid Juma and Vencheslao Mgani with St Jude's students who represented the NW zone at UMISSETA. **Pictured:** Innocent, Jovine, Jackson, Frank, Hadija, Irene, Millicent, Godson, Monyaichi, Elisante, and two student visitors who were also part of the zone team. **Inset:** Denis. **Not pictured:** Emiliana, David, Dalton, Denis, Gladness, Queen and Amos. Innocent, Frank, and Dalton were not selected for the national competition.

Giving Back to the community



A joyous ceremony revealed the hard work and impressive personal growth of 40 former Form 4 students who have spent the past five months as dedicated volunteer employees of St Jude's.

The celebration provided insight into the new Giving Back course, where students helped in many areas of the school, from the kitchen to boarding and teaching to business office roles.

"When we started this program, most of us just thought of the benefits of the certification. Now we thank you so much for giving us this opportunity. Some of us were working in areas which we had no idea about, but now we are almost specialists in those areas," student participant Ezekiel Haji said.

Upper primary headmaster Peter Manjalla said the program was proposed to Form 4 students as a "bridging" opportunity for their break between completing Form 4 and progressing to Form 5.

"This program helped the students to learn how to work. Not just as a student at St Jude's, but as part of the team of workers at St Jude's. They met many challenges, such as how to behave professionally and how to be a model to their young brothers and sisters," Peter explained.

"We are still looking at our mission of developing the future leaders of this country. If they can't practice their leadership now, how can we be sure they can do it for their community? So we have to give them the opportunity."

School founder Gemma Sisia expressed her pride and thanked students for their months of dedication to the school.

"I also want to thank you for being the pioneers (of the program). As you have been such wonderful pioneers, we will be doing the program again next year," Gemma said.

Students who took up placements across the school shared their many positive experiences.

Olsen helped teach science in upper primary. "We had a good experience with the kids. I enjoyed teaching Standard 7 actually, they were very good. They wanted to learn more, so all of us gave what we had," he explained. "There's a very good feeling that comes from being a teacher."

Two students, Simon and Irene, were stationed in the school Visitors Office and also had positive feedback.

"I worked with all different kinds of people, and after meeting some of these people I was really inspired with my career to be a university professor," Irene said. "We are so grateful to have had this chance, to experience the visitors team. We have increased our skills of having a sense of humour, of having confidence, and being able to handle lots of visitors and being responsible with time," Simon said.

The new Form 5's returned to school last week, and we look forward to seeing what more they will achieve.



Liston shares his ALA success

A year after heading to South Africa on an African Leadership Academy scholarship, former St Jude's student Liston was back to share his education through a weekend leadership course at Smith campus.

The two-day, ALA-initiated camp is designed to help ambitious students problem-solve via a grassroots structure. Called "BUILD in a Box", the course is a mobile entrepreneurial development kit that takes its name from the motto 'Believe, Understand, Invest, Listen and Deliver'.

"I believe St Jude's is the perfect place for me to come and teach (the course)," Liston explained.

"I studied here for a long time and I really know what they need, and what they need is that familiar relationship. By teaching them BUILD in a Box, I'm sure, once they finish at St Jude's they will be able to run their own businesses and solve the problems in their community, using this knowledge. I think it would really help them personally, and their communities."

This was the first BUILD course Liston has delivered,

and he is ecstatic with how well it was received by the 32 St Jude's students involved.

"BUILD is about looking at the root cause of problems, so let's say the group you are with are looking at the root cause of poverty. The short-term impact is to help individuals, but the long-term impact is to help all of Africa," he said.

Liston also enjoyed the opportunity BUILD provided to return to St Jude's as an alumnus.

"I'm really happy to be here again and meet my classmates. I just feel happy. I love St Jude's, and I think they have the same aim as ALA. Their goals are the same and, for me personally, I align with those goals. They are something that will transform the lives of many people – I'm one of those people who have been transformed by St Jude's, and now I'm being transformed by ALA."

Liston is half-way through his ALA scholarship, so his BUILD presentation was supported by recent ALA graduates Bernadette and Peace.



"The BUILD course is usually a term-long course but here we compress it into two days, so it's much harder. We went through it at ALA and got the right understanding of it so that's why we can teach it," Peace, who hails from Rwanda, said.

"Because we are targeting 15 to 22-year-olds who are in the same age bracket, it's easier for us to communicate from our understanding of it. It's more of a fun, productive conversation rather than a lecture," Tanzanian-born Bernadette said.

The young women said their main aim was to change the mindset of the students involved, and that meant each group had to find a solution through the root cause of a complex problem.

Peace said students often chose too-broad topics such as education, and were asked to "think about what they can be more specific about within education".

"We try to focus on very little problems, as in what really bothers you, as you walk from home to school or as you experience your normal, daily life with your peers," Bernadette explained. "After you have solved a little problem, and you see 'Oh, I successfully did that,' it makes you feel like you can do something bigger and bigger, and that becomes a whole 'change the society' type of thing."

Bernadette said their ultimate aim, at the end of each two-day program, is to produce "actual, practical solutions that people can feel they might be able to do for something they really, deeply care about".

Bernadette and Peace said they had thoroughly enjoyed helping facilitate the St Jude's students, and that Liston was shaping up to be a promising BUILD in a Box leader.

Meanwhile, Liston is enthusiastically looking forward to his second year at ALA.

"I'm really enjoying ALA after studying there for one year. At first it was really challenging, you know, you are changing everything, changing curriculum, no speaking Swahili. From my second term, I can say I started to enjoy it more than I thought, and I've had many chances to explore a lot of opportunities," he said.

"I will graduate next year, in June, with a high school diploma. After that, I will go to college. I would like to study electrical engineering. Since when I was here (St Jude's), since I was young, I've loved electrical engineering. I always taught other students and showed them, and also learnt from them. I love sharing."

