



The School of St Jude

# St Jude's News

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends

ISSUE 7, 2014

## Students Display Their Talents at ECA Day



Earlier this month, more than 500 of our Upper Primary students, and some students visiting from nearby local schools, enjoyed our Extra Curricular Activities Day where they got to display their talents and new skills.

Each week, the students take time out from their studies to do creative or fine art, visit the needy, problem solving games, writing, stitching, scouts and more, so as to help them develop their interests.

On ECA Day, they put on vibrant musical and drama performances and had stalls showing their art, jewelry, self-made colourful batiks, tie-dye shirts and little booklets which they made themselves telling stories about their family, life and love of Africa.

*"I like writing stories about Africa because I love it and its people," said Nasoro in Standard 7. "It also helps to improve my English and writing."*

Students from neighbouring schools also participated by singing or performing animated dances on our stage.



**Find more colourful and fun photos of our recent ECA Day on Facebook**

<http://on.fb.me/1rjHt22>



# Pascal's Life Changing Opportunity

In under a year, our first set of students will do something they once thought would never be possible - graduate from secondary school. Many of them have been with our school since its early days, studying hard so they can pass their national exams and achieve high marks to get into their chosen university or secure a job.

There are some Form 6 students who only started at St Jude's last year and have come through years of government schooling. Their education took place in classrooms filled with more than a hundred students, often sharing only one textbook between them. Coupled with that, they were being taught often by poorly qualified teachers, due to a lack of teacher training colleges in the country. Yet, in the face of these immense challenges they proved that they desperately wanted to learn and, after going through an application process, were accepted into St Jude's. Now their futures are looking brighter, but some of these older students are still unsponsored and need your help.

## Pascal's story

Since starting at St Jude's last year, Pascal has kept up his commitment and strong work ethic towards his studies, managing to get A-level results in almost all of his subjects. It has not been an easy road for him. He grew up in Karatu, a remote area about two hours away from Arusha with his mother, who is a farmer, along with seven brothers and sisters. His father passed away when he was young. Most of his siblings only made it to the end of primary school for their education.

Pascal went to a school in Karatu, which like many other government schools in the country, did not have proper materials, books, equipment and teachers. Adding to the challenge was that he could not speak any Swahili or English when he started secondary school, as it was not properly taught at his former school. His mother also did not know either language. Pascal could only speak the language of his Iraqw tribe but he did not let this deter him. He could not stand to fall behind in his studies, so during his holidays he would do extra work with his friends and other local children and they would share things they

had learnt with each other. By the time Pascal got to Form 4, he had improved his ability to speak and understand Swahili and English. He and his friends had created an education for themselves.

Over time, Pascal heard about the high-quality education at St Jude's and knew it was an opportunity to realise his dreams. He sat our Form 5 entrance tests for Chemistry, Physics and Biology and passed all of them. His hard work paid off when he got accepted into our school. He now loves having his own set of textbooks and learning at St Jude's, which strives to have great resources.

Pascal is now closer to his dream of becoming an Environmental Management Officer so he can protect the natural resources in his country.

*"There is much misuse of natural resources in Tanzania and elsewhere and I think if I was in that position, I would have the knowledge to educate the people and pass on information about how to look after the environment,"* he said.



## Can you sponsor Pascal's education?

You can support the education of a student like Pascal and share the journey as they become leaders  
[www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/sponsor.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/sponsor.html)



# A Day in the Life of Our Bus Drivers



As our school has grown, we have been able to purchase more buses to transport our students thanks to generous donors. In turn, we have been able to employ 23 bus drivers from around Arusha, giving them stable employment and an income to support their families.

Our bus drivers are a valued part of the St Jude's family, with some working here for almost a decade. Loma, our head bus driver, started at our school in 2003 and later became manager of the team. The ripple effect spreads further with Loma's son, Elish in Form 2, also studying at our school.

*'His free, high-quality education at St Jude's will benefit the whole family and it means I can help my other children who are studying at local government schools,' said Loma. "I'm so happy to work at the school and all of the drivers are good and we work well as a team."*



**6:30am** - 23 safe and well-maintained buses file out of the school gates to pick up day students and staff from different areas around Arusha.

**9:00am** - The shuttle bus does the daily mail run to our campus in Usa River.

Throughout the day our bus drivers do a range of jobs, including:

- Taking our sponsorship staff to do house checks at our students' homes to check everything is going okay.
- Transporting wageni (visitors) to various cultural spots in Tanzania including to Monduli, about three hours away from Arusha, where they visit a Maasai family at their traditional boma (home).
- Taking students on excursions to beautiful safari parks and other spots like Kilimanjaro Airport, where they learn more about aviation.
- Transporting students to hospital if they become sick.

**2:00pm** – Visitors return to our Moshono campus on the shuttle bus from Usa.

**3:30pm** – Twelve buses file out of the gates to start taking our primary school students home for the day. Many of the students live in some of the poorest areas of Arusha, including Ngaramtoni and Kikatiti.

**5:00pm** – Work finishes for the day and our hardworking bus drivers drop our staff, volunteers and any remaining students home.

**Did you know you can sponsor a bus? Find out more!**  
[www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/sponsor.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/sponsor.html)



Right: Severin has worked at our Moshono campus for the past 7 years.

*"It's very good to be a driver at St Jude's and being able to get a salary at the end of the month. It goes towards paying for my two kids who study at a government school and also helping to take care of my mother and father."*



Left: Ezekial is one of our bus driver and has worked with us for 14 months.

*"I'm so happy working for St Jude's and being amongst the drivers and how all of our buses are serviced so I feel safe when I am driving," he said. "It's good to get a salary and it helps to take care of my two year old girl."*



# Wenseslaus' Journey to South Africa

Our Form 3 student, Wenseslaus, has had an amazing opportunity. He had an exciting time away at the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa, learning about leadership building and teamwork. This trip is part of a prize that he won for coming third in the International Youth Day Essay Competition last year. He was the only Tanzanian among the winners.

Here is the reflection Wenseslaus wrote about his time at the academy:

## African Leadership Academy

During the three weeks in South Africa I felt very privileged as the only young boy from Tanzania. I met around 44 other students from all over the world. Everything was exciting to me starting from my departure from Tanzania to my arrival in South Africa. I am now experienced with all the travelling bureaucratic procedures out of my country. I also had a chance to experience other people's culture.

African Leadership Academy is one of the places I had for a long time wished to be because I used to see it in the media, but I couldn't believe I was there at last. During the stay we did a lot of experiments to do with leadership and entrepreneurship. They were so helpful to me because they changed my mind set and how I used to think.

## Touring around Johannesburg

We also went on a tour to different parts of Johannesburg. We visited three museums, Nelson Mandela's museum, Hector Peterson's museum and the Cradle of Human Kind museum. I enjoyed Cradle of Human Kind museum the

most because we went on a boat ride and could see volcano rocks, ice and fire on the sides of the river all inside the same museum.

We also visited three houses where Nelson Mandela lived. We went to Pilanesburg National Park where we could see cheetahs, elephants, zebras, antelopes and wildebeests. We went hiking in a place called kloof waters. The tallest building in South Africa is another place we visited. It was a 50 story building and we could see the whole of Johannesburg.

Furthermore we visited some very famous streets in Johannesburg like Soweto, Alexander and Hillbrow. In these places we saw how other people live.

Back at the academy we had teachings and classes on very interesting lessons like identity, need identification, proactivity, project planning, emotional intelligence, public speaking and lastly, seminal readings. In the seminal reading we read articles about the history of South Africa and all the people who contributed to the struggle for independence. We were also asked to do a project on need identification and my group was very successful. Also my house won a certificate for the best presentation of our project. I personally won a humility award.

**You can read his full reflection with more photos on our blog:**

[www.schoolofstjude.org/our-stories/our-stories.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/our-stories/our-stories.html)



*Above: Wenseslaus participating in leadership building exercises at the academy*

*Below: Wenseslaus taking a 'selfie' with a view in South Africa.*





# Running with Style

How is running a marathon and keeping up to date with fashion helping five St Jude's students?

The Kelly Family are long-term St Jude's supporters and have been the catalyst for raising thousands of dollars for our students to receive a free, high-quality education.

Parents of the household, Bernie and Frances Kelly, are responsible for 100's of students across Australia contributing greatly to the building of a boarding house and a 'state of the art' science block that serves our secondary students. More recently, however, it has been the Kelly Kids who have been hard at it for their beloved St Jude's.

Daughter Bernice, aged 22, staged a wonderful fashion parade that was a memorable night attracting almost 150 St Jude's supporters. Australian 4BC Radio icons, Ian Skippen and Loretta Ryan hosted the event and added even more colour to this glorious evening.

Jack Essex from St Patrick's College Shorncliffe, won the 'Global immersion' free trip to St Jude's this December, much to the disappointment of the other 145 ticket buyers.

While Bernice had Brisbane's best strutting the catwalk, her brother James, aged 20, rattled up the kilometres with his marathon dedication to one of our students, Gaston. He has raised \$4500 so far, but after requesting donations towards Gaston's education rather than a gift for his 21st birthday in September, he has high hopes of increasing this amount.

In his recent Gold Coast Marathon, Jimmy completed the marathon in a most creditable 3 hr 17 minutes!

St Jude's are forever grateful to ALL of our donors who play an integral part in 'Fighting Poverty through Education'.

We look forward to the arrival of the Kelly family in December when they will lead a team of 50 Australians over to Tanzania, all of whom are following in the Kelly's footsteps to aid our beautiful students.

**Would you like to fundraise or host an event for us? Find out how.**

[www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/fundraising-events.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/fundraising-events.html)



Above: Fabulous frocks at the fashion parade



Above: Our great supporters 4BC presenters Ian Skippen (left) and Loretta Ryan (right) with Bernice Kelly, organiser of the St Jude's Fashion Parade.

Right: James Kelly running the G.C Marathon  
Left: The Kelly family at home



# Shining Bright at Nelson Mandela Science Fair

Students at The School of St Jude have scooped up awards at the recent Science Fair at Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology in Arusha.

The university invited some of the brightest students from a range of local schools including St Jude's and Ilboru Secondary Schools to showcase their innovative scientific and technological projects at the fair last month.

The university's Fair and Nobel Symposium ran for three days as part of Nelson Mandela week celebrations. The symposium speakers delivered achievements of last year's Nobel Prize winners in Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Peace and other areas, to inspire young talented minds to be inventive and creative.

Seventeen students from St Jude's featured seven projects at the fair, from an SMS polling project for voting to a refrigerator which doesn't run on power and is designed to help people in rural communities who don't have electricity.

Ilboru Secondary School won first prize while St Jude's secured second place for its students' project of redesigning a helicopter. St Jude's also received a third-place prize for its demonstration project for Gamma Rays, which its Form 6 students, Hosiana and Emmanuel, worked on with Professor Chary from Canada.

*"The chemicals which are used in industry and mines contain a lot of radioactive elements and emissions, so the detector can be used to check a wide range of substances in our environments or any dangers which could harm*

*people in our society or those working in those areas,"* said St Jude's student, Hosiana.

A few St Jude's Form 6 students participated in the event and felt it had further developed their confidence and skills in the lead up to their graduation.

*"For our school, this is a huge step to be recognised by an international university that we can participate, compete and win in science."* said Mr. Mcharo, St Jude's Head of Physical science department and Assistant Academic Master.

Below: Form 6 Student Hosiana with her winning Gamma Rays project .



## Felix and Gemma are Coming to Australia



In October Felix will be heading to Australia to continue spreading the word about St Jude's. The reason our school has grown so quickly and can provide a good education to over 1800 students is because of word of mouth.

Having supporters all over the world hosting events, talking to their friends over a cup of tea and forwarding on our newsletter are a few ways people have been spreading the word.

When Felix visits Australia he is able to explain from first hand experience how St Jude's has impacted his life and how it is creating change in Tanzania.

Most people who have visited our school in Tanzania have met Felix and are able to listen to his incredible stories full of passion. Now, Felix can bring his story to you!

If you are in Australia and would like to host an event with Felix as your special guest, please contact us today. If October doesn't work for you, Gemma is visiting Australia in March.

**Email us at [australia@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:australia@schoolofstjude.co.tz)!**

Kim will be returning to Europe and North America in September/October next year so keep her in mind if you're in those areas of the world.



# Win a Free St Jude's Tour and Safari!

**We know you love reading our newsletter, but do you know someone else who might like to receive them?**

If so, now is a great time to spread the word!

Email us with your details and the details of a friend who would like to go on our newsletter list and you will both go in the draw to win a St Jude's tour and Safari! (Please make sure your friend is happy to go on the newsletter list first).

**What does this tour involve?** Check out our St Jude's and Safari Tour for yourself.  
[www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/visit-us/cultural-tours.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/visit-us/cultural-tours.html)

Email [update@schoolofstjude.co.tz](mailto:update@schoolofstjude.co.tz) by August 30 and we will notify you of the winner through our Facebook page next month. GOOD LUCK!



We  visitors



## Get your free St Jude's DVD

 Free DVD

Get an insight into the history of The School of St Jude and the journey taken to get to where it is today with your own copy of our DVD. Watch these three entertaining documentaries and share them with your friends.

Fill out the form online with your address and we will send it out to you. It's absolutely free!

### Features

**Africa Calling** - the popular episode of Australian Story showing a close look into Gemma's life and passion.

**Washa Moto** - see the journey of one of our Students.

**Behind The News** - an informative segment for school students.

[www.schoolofstjude.org/about-us/contact-us.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.org/about-us/contact-us.html)



# Liston's Amazing Opportunity



A promising Form 4 student at The School of St Jude has been accepted to study his A-levels at the prestigious African Leadership Academy in South Africa.

Liston was one of 4000 students who recently applied to study at the academy and made the shortlist of 100 finalists who will begin their senior studies at the institution. He is one of only two Tanzanians selected.

The Academy identifies young leaders from across the continent with the potential and passion to undergo an innovative two-year program, which strongly focuses on Entrepreneurial Leadership and African studies.

The program is focused on developing and shaping the continent's future leaders who can make a real difference in the areas of science, politics, health, food production and other key areas.

Liston has been studying at St Jude's for the past 11 years which has enabled him to develop his skills by having access to well-resourced classrooms and committed teachers and mentors. He is one of 1,800 students who receive a free high-quality education at the school based on their academic potential and genuine financial need.

Liston feels privileged to have had his good education and is excited that he will soon be embarking on his studies at the academy.

"The day I got the results, I was with my father and opened the email with him and we were both really happy and so was my Mum," he said.

Last year, the talented Form 4 student and his group won an award for their modified generator, which runs on three fuels to generate electricity in the Young Scientists Tanzania Competition in Dar es Salaam.

Liston used the project as part of his application for the Academy. He plans to explore science, engineering and entrepreneurial opportunities during his time in the program.

"I'd like to help my people through the ways of technology in the agricultural sector and in the production of food," he said. "The academy is generating future leaders of Africa, so that's what I hope to do."

His studies will open up a world of possibilities for him and increase his chances of continuing his education at a good university in Africa or potentially abroad. Wherever he ends up, though, Liston's heart is firmly in Tanzania.

"Tanzania needs people who will develop the economy, so I think I'll be one of those people who will help the economy and contribute something to it by coming back here to work," he said.

St Jude's is proud of Liston's achievements. 'It is always good for our students to push themselves as much as they can. It helps if they believe that anything is possible and that's what we try to teach them,' said St Jude's Mentor, Sika Somberg.



*Above: Liston showing his generator project at the recent science fair at the Nelson Mandela Institute.*



# Welcome Canada!

We are very excited that we can now include Canada on the growing list of countries in which our supporter's donations are tax deductible!

This was made possible thanks to our great supporters at Afretech Aid Society, Vancouver, a charity under the CanadaHelps umbrella that is run by volunteers and focuses on advancing education and relieving poverty in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Retired English teacher Bonnie Southerland and her late husband founded Afretech over 20 years ago after visiting a local school in Africa where they were immediately struck by the lack of basic resources. Being passionate educationalists and active Rotarians with a desire to help others, they started the charity. They now help around 30 projects in Africa, partnering with Rotary on most of these.

St Jude's involvement came about when Canadian Diane Payne volunteered at a local hospital in Arusha, and through her passion for jogging along village tracks discovered our school. Further research convinced her and her friend Janice that St Jude's was the school at which they wanted to sponsor a young girl. After discussing possible tax incentives for their donations, Janice introduced Diane to Bonnie and thanks to Diane's recommendation of the school, Afretech agreed to include

St Jude's in its list of African projects... and our Canadian supporters reap the benefits!



We are so grateful to Bonnie, Diane and Barbara (Afretech's volunteer accountant) for their hard work and care and compassion for the children of Africa and a special big thank you for including our St Jude's students!



From the left: Barbara, Bonnie and Diane

## Speaking of Canada...

Some of the highlights of Kim's (our Director of International Relations) promotional tour this year were joining the members of the Rotary clubs of Whistler, Langley and North Delta and the group from the Bahá'í Faith in the Vancouver area.

"From the enthusiastic responses and probing questions following my presentations, and the fact that we now offer tax deductibility, I believe that we will see a growing number of Canadians among our St Jude's supporters!" remarked Kim.

Next year, Kim will be looking forward to including visits to the eastern states of Canada to spread the word about St Jude's.



**You can read more about how to make a donation in your currency on our website!**

[www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/donate.html](http://www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/donate.html)



Catching up with past volunteer, Tara Mollel, and spending time with our long-term supporters, Deb Anderson and Drew White, were special moments in Kim's hectic schedule.





## Form 3 Student Wins National Essay Competition

Form 3 student Herieth recently wrote an essay in Swahili about how St Jude's could potentially plan to build sustainable classrooms and the downsides if they do not follow her advice. It required her to think outside the box about architecture and surveying.

We're proud to say that Herieth's essay ranked first in the region and 7th in Tanzania! Here's an excerpt of her essay:

### **THE ARCHITECT AND QUANTITY SURVEYORS' QUESTION:**

*Your school has a plan to build two classrooms; advise your school management on the steps to be followed in order to get better classrooms than the one which you have now. Mention the experts, and the key responsibility of each expert.*

Constructing is a scientific process of creating, setting, designing and forming different kinds of buildings such as hotels, industries, hospitals, railways, bridges, roads and churches and mosques. Construction involves various numbers of people with different levels of professional qualification. These people will be responsible for planning, setting and constructing the building. For the school to get complete and high standard classrooms, the following steps must be followed:

Firstly, the school must select a suitable area where the classroom will be set and constructed. The area must have enough space to avoid congestion and easy passage in

case of emergency such as fire breakout. The place must also be within the planned area to avoid interference with the reserved areas for social infrastructures such as road reserves, electricity poles and the pipelines. If the school will build the new classrooms in a congested area, it may endanger the lives of people because they may not be able to evacuate easily in case of emergency. Also, if the school won't build the classrooms in the planned area, the classes may end up being demolished by the city council.

Secondly the school management must make sure that it has enough funds for buying all the required equipment for construction and pay the constructors. The school may get the money through fundraising and writing a proposal to the government or donors. If the school doesn't get enough money then the construction may not be completed in time. This may also bring conflict between the school and the constructors.



## Caring Kid from Kentucky Gives Generous Gift

Pye, a third grade student from Louisville Collegiate School in Kentucky, USA, was so excited when he heard that his teachers were making a trip to St Jude's in July that he organised for his classmates to make 416 colourful bracelets for our Upper Primary students. Pye encouraged his classmates to make the most bracelets by offering home made gift certificates as incentives. Our students really loved the gift and have enjoyed wearing them.

**A big thank you to Pye and his classmates!**

