



The School of St Jude

St Jude's News

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends

ISSUE 10, 2014

Thank You for Opening a World Full of Possibilities

We are so grateful for 54 new sponsors who have stepped up to provide our students with a free, high-quality education. It is exciting to think of the possibilities that now lie before these students who will start at St Jude's in January.

Imagine how their lives will change! With an education these students, who previously knew only a life of poverty, will have the opportunity to make choices about the life they want to live.

Meet Huseein, a student starting in January

Huseein lives with his mother, father, and two older sisters in a rented two-room mud house in the Unga area of Arusha. They use a car battery to power the few light bulbs in their home and pay 50 shillings (30 cents) for a bucket of water which they collect from the tap at a nearby house. Every morning, they cook breakfast in the corner of one of the rooms over a charcoal fire.

Huseein is lucky to have both of his parents employed. His parents work six days a week making shoes, earning a few dollars a day depending on how many shoes they can sell. His mother does the intricate beadwork for Maasai sandals and his father makes rubber flip-flops from old tyres and sells them on the street corner. The family also has a small plot of land where they grow food to make sure there is always something to eat.

Huseein was 4th in his government school class of 88 last year. He received near-perfect marks in maths, English, and Kiswahili, his favorite subject. When he grows up he wants to be a doctor, "so I can help people who are sick but can't get help." He is thrilled to be starting school at St Jude's and is looking forward to learning more English.

Below: Huseein and his family



**Sponsor a Student Today and
Open a World Full of Possibilities!**

www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/sponsor.html

St Jude's students celebrate the gift of education



Hundreds of students, decked out in colourful costumes to celebrate St Jude's Day recently, showed their appreciation for the free education they receive and acknowledged, by bringing a small gift for the needy, that helping others less fortunate is one of the important lessons at St Jude's.

Each year on St Jude's Day, staff and students join together to dress up in the school colours to express their sense of pride in their school and enjoy participating in a concert of traditional African dances, songs and plays. It is always very difficult for the judges to decide the winning classes and staff groups to be rewarded on the day as everyone throws themselves wholeheartedly into their

performance for the coveted St Jude's Day Cup! Students then carried baskets of donated gifts onto the stage, which they will then distribute to needy people in Arusha.

"It helps them learn how fortunate they are to be at St Jude's and also ensures they are caring for other marginalised people in the community," said Mr Peter Manjalla, the school's Upper Primary Headmaster.

"I feel proud because St Jude's helps me to succeed so I can pass my exams and become a doctor so I can treat people," said Baba, a Standard 5 student.



Do I Need to Worry About Ebola when Travelling to Tanzania? Some Useful Facts

As many of you will have heard, the Ebola virus has claimed more than 5,000 lives during the current epidemic in West Africa. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), over 9,000 people have been infected during the outbreak.

Even though the outbreak only affected eight countries out of 54 (only three being wide-spread), Arusha and the whole of Africa has seen a major decline in visitors due to the media coverage and the widespread misunderstanding of the size and diversity of Africa.

Some people have contacted us wanting to know if it is safe to travel to Tanzania and The School of St Jude. We want to explain why it is still safe and why visiting us helps us continue fighting poverty through education.

Some important facts about Ebola

While the outbreak is undoubtedly serious, it is important to understand the reality of the situation as far as Tanzania is concerned. There have been **no reported cases of Ebola in Tanzania** to date or in East Africa as a whole (i.e. Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania).

Only eight countries in Africa have had Ebola cases in the current outbreak. All of them -- Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Mali and Sierra Leone -- are located in the western part of the continent, and Nigeria and Senegal have since been declared Ebola-free by the World Health Organization after going six weeks without any new cases.

Africa is big. Really big. It's much bigger than the United States and China combined. If you look at the below map it will help paint a picture as to how big it is.



As a continent not so widely understood, it is easy to misunderstand its geography. In terms of geographic distance, however, West Africa is approximately 5,300km from Arusha - to put that in perspective, Brisbane to Perth is approximately 4,000km, and Brisbane to Tanzania is approx. 12,000km.

It is also important to appreciate that travel between West Africa and Eastern Africa is generally done in a very limited capacity.

See our blog for more facts!

bit.ly/11qqkrJ

We understand that many people are worried about Ebola however we want to assure you that Tanzania, and East Africa, continues to be a safe destination to travel to. Your support during this time is greatly appreciated since without visitors, volunteers and word of mouth it is harder for us to find funds to keep fighting poverty through education.

If you are thinking about visiting us in Tanzania and you have any concerns please feel free to contact our friendly Visitor Team who are on the ground and well equipped with useful information to ease your mind.
visitor@schoolofstjude.co.tz

We'd love to see you over here soon!



Neema's Education Will Give Her a Head Start in Life



Neema is in Form 2 and loves learning physics so she can understand more about space and the world around us. It is an encouraging sign as many Tanzanian students lose interest in studying science in secondary as many of the public schools don't have laboratories, proper textbooks and there's a lack of qualified teachers. Neema's passion for science has grown while she has been at St Jude's because she learns from teachers who have in-depth knowledge about the subject and encourage them to make innovative projects to enter into national science competitions.

The support given to Neema in the classroom enables her to think big about her future as she dreams of becoming a doctor or an engineer one day. "The most favourite thing I like about St Jude's is education, a good environment for studying and I also like my teachers and others who support me," she said. Outside of the classroom, you can catch Neema on the netball field where she likes to play a game with friends.

Neema comes from a large family, living with her parents, five sisters and brothers and a niece in a basic mud home. To get by, her father sells soup while her mother looks after cattle, selling the milk to gain a bit of income each month. His sister also chips in to help with the family's expenses. "We are so grateful that they (St Jude's) took Neema because she gets a good education..." they said.

Completing her studies means everything to Neema and her family as it will give them opportunities they've never had and will improve their quality of life. By sponsoring Neema, you will be giving her the greatest gift of an education by providing her with books, school uniforms, hot lunches, basic medical needs and accommodation.

Our sponsors all have the chance to develop a special connection with their sponsored student and all sponsors are welcome to visit the school to meet their student in person.

If you are interested in sponsoring Neema or another one of our students find out more on our website today!

www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/sponsor.html

St Jude's Form 4 Graduates Take the Next Big Step in their Educational Journey

Congratulations to our Form 4 Graduates!

Over 600 people attended the event to see the 126 Form 4 students graduate at St Jude's Smith Campus. Parents happily watched on as the students received certificates. Parents were also part of the celebration as some received awards for their cooperation with the school.

Gemma Sisia founded St Jude's over twelve years ago and is so pleased to see the results a free, high-quality education is having on the lives of our students.

It is a big milestone for these students to complete Form 4 as many Tanzanian students struggle to finish their schooling due to poverty and other factors.

The Guest of Honour at the event, Deputy Secretary General of the East African Community (EAC), Hon. Jessica Eriyo gave an inspirational speech to the crowd about her life growing up in an impoverished area. Through her years of studying she eventually became an elected member of the Ugandan parliament and later earned a position working at the EAC.

She stressed to the students about the importance of giving back to one's community.

"Offer yourself to lead and to help others as it shapes you as a human being," she said.

As part of the event, students did energetic performances expressing their appreciation for education.

"I feel very proud to be at the Form 4 graduation because very few of us (Tanzanian students) are able to graduate and it's a step forward in the future," said Jessica, a St Jude's Form 4 graduate.

During his speech to the graduates Mr Rasul Abdul, St Jude's Secondary Headmaster announced that St Jude's Form 4s performed very well in their mock exams, ranking third in the region, with 114 students scoring Division 1.

"You're a star in your own eyes and I want you to take what you have learnt at St Jude's and channel it into helping others," he said.

The Form 4s sat for their final Form 4 exams from the 3rd to the 19th of November and we are currently waiting for their results.



Exploring Universities in South Africa in Preparation of our First Form 6 Graduation

2015



Judica taking her first plane trip



Enoch enjoying a display at a centre in South Africa

For Form 6 students Judica and Enoch heading to South Africa for the first time to participate in a university program, has been an experience of a lifetime. They were buzzing with excitement as they boarded their first plane. "It was fun getting the chance to go to Kenya and all the way to South Africa because at some point when the clouds are clear, you can see the difference when you move from one country to another every time you looked down," said Enoch.

They were headed to the University of Pretoria to participate in the Junior Tukkies program, which is designed for high academic achievers who intend to study at the educational institution. Impressively, Judica and Enoch were the only two representatives from Tanzania out of 288 other students from across the continent. "The students are from different schools and from what I heard from them, St Jude's is far better than their schools because it's a free, high-quality education" said Judica.

During the 5-day program, the students participated in a creativity workshop, team building activities, matric preparation sessions run by teaching staff, presentations on university life, a visit to Investec (the sponsor of the conference) and some time to soak up the atmosphere of South Africa. "We had a timetable from morning to evening, sometimes we attended classes or we went camping and did fun activities like sports and hiking. We also toured Johannesburg and visited Southtown where the Mandela Square is," said Judica.

The experience had a deep impact on both Enoch and Judica as they were exposed to communities completely different from their own.

"I think the whole journey gave me a different overview of how the world is and how we think, especially the choices that we make and how we have to be careful with those decisions," said Enoch. "We have to do a lot of things to change our country because what I find is that people are busy in South Africa, even with minor causes, to generate money. Also we need to improve city planning and many other small things..."

Tertiary Corner

We have a Tertiary Team of three people at St Jude's who are working hard to travel around Africa, visiting universities to find out all the information we need to help our students get a tertiary education.

The countries they have researched so far include: Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi and South Africa

We are still finalising the plans but once we know more we will be sure to let you know everything we've discovered on our journey.

Stay tuned!!

Watch these insightful interviews with Judica and Enoch about their hopes and dreams for the future:

<http://goo.gl/wC0rbv>

<http://bit.ly/1Fjk42g>

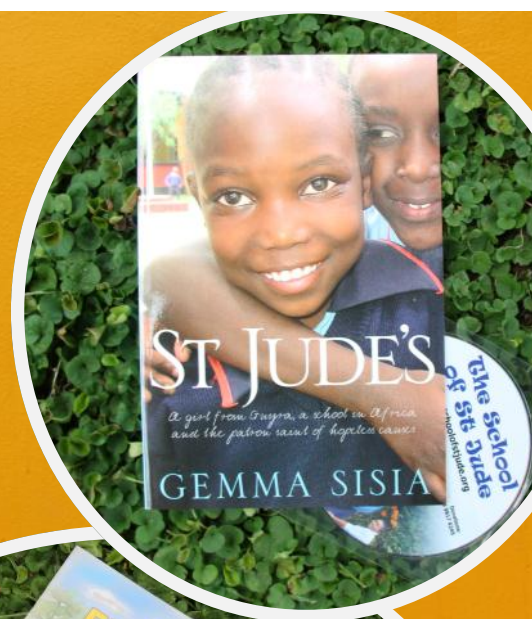
#GI[♥]INGTUESDAY™

Is on December 2nd!

Share your #unselfie on why you support St Jude's on your social media pages! www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/st-judes-in-action/gt



\$5 off any book and get a FREE beanie!!
Offer valid until the end of the year.
Happy Holidays!!



Purchase a gift for yourself or a loved one online!
www.schoolofstjude.co.tz/support-us/merchandise.html

Read a Student's Winning Essay About Africa!

We are extremely proud of three secondary students who have achieved exceptional results in a national essay competition. Form 4 students Julieth, Pius and Ebenezer wrote wonderful and insightful essays on 'The Role of Standards in Promoting Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and Trade in Africa.' All three were in the top 10 national winners with Ebenezer coming in first.

See some of Ebenezer's essay below:

Roles of Standards in Promoting Sustainable Agriculture, Food Security and Trade in Africa.

Not long ago a logo with an image of the globe caught my eyes as I browsed through the internet, it read thus;

"Standards level the playing field"

A few days later, I crossed path with the same logo on another website. However, this time the logo didn't strike my "humour" nerve but my meditative one. If indeed standards level the playing field then maybe life on earth would have been impossible without them.

Standards are documented agreements containing specifications or other precise criteria to be used consistently as rules, guidelines or definitions of characteristics to ensure that material, products, processes and services are fit for their purpose. For example, the format of credit cards and smart cards that have become commonplace is derived from an ISO international standard. Adhering to the standards, which defines such features as an optimum thickness (0.76mm), means that the card can be used worldwide.

Standards can be traced back around five to six thousand years ago when the Mohenjo-Daro or Harappa civilizations of Indus valley used standardization for town planning, water supply, drainage, house building and even weights and measures. Eli Whitney, who in 1793 invented the cotton gin, a machine for cleaning cotton fiber, pioneered the development of standardization as an engineering

activity. In 1947, the International Standard Organization (ISO) was established to ensure the implementation of standards in the world.

In Africa, standardization is proved to have existed even before the colonial era. In 1970s and 1980s many standards organizations were established in Africa to ensure and implement standardization across the continent, these includes Tanzania Bureau of Standard (TBS) in 1976 to ensure standardization in Tanzania, Uganda Bureau of Standards (UBS) in 1989 and Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) in 1974 with the same tasks.

Standards have played a big role in promoting sustainable agriculture, trade and food security in Africa. We argue that Africa would have been facing great hunger, economic crisis and insecurity in food supply if it were not for standards. To prove our intellectualism I have confidently jotted these points to show how standards promoted sustainable agriculture, food security and trade in this continent.

Firstly, standards have enhanced the production of quality farm inputs such as seeds and fertilizers which have managed to curb agricultural problems. Food production has been maximized and the continent no longer suffers from hunger. As part of what is done by standard organization in Africa seeds and fertilizers are certified before they are allowed to be sold to farmers. For example, Tanzania-Seed Co Limited has been certified and given permission to supply various seeds within the country and various parts of the world. This is because the company managed to reach the required standards.



Read the winning essay on our blog!
We love it when our students are acknowledged for their hard work. We also love hearing their Ideas and visions for the future of Africa.

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

Left: Pius, Ebenezer and Julieth proudly holding their certificates.

We Pay Tribute to Our German Supporters!

Right from the very early days St Jude's has had many German supporters impacting our development. Three of our most dedicated and hardworking volunteers, Anna, Suzanne and Pia, are German. And after a brief visit to St Jude's from Uwe and Renata Kayser, the Rotary clubs of Düsseldorf and Cologne were soon supporting our school with generous donations towards our text books and science and computer laboratories entailing dedication from Rotarian, Marcus Cremer, who had to deal with the paperwork!



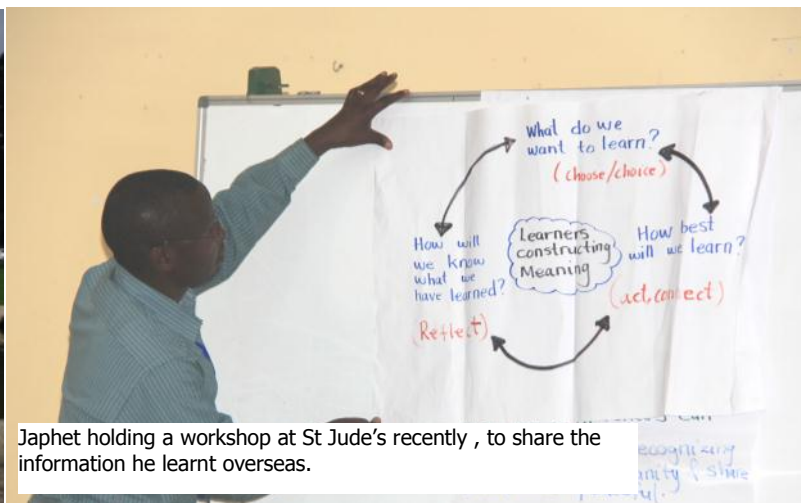
During a fundraiser for St Jude's in Zurich last year, Ulrich Kerber from Freudenberg Immobilien Management GmbH in Weinheim, Germany, approached Kim Saville (long term volunteer and Director of International Relations) and offered support for St Jude's. So, it was thanks to Mr Kerber and Freudenberg's generous donation that our Science Day celebrations were such a success.

We are looking forward to welcoming more supporters from Germany because our passionate volunteers are currently on the ground there looking into obtaining tax deductibility status in Germany. We welcome our German visitors to join us for an exciting and memorable stay at St Jude's where you can also plan to explore the famous Tanzanian national parks such as the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater or climb Mt Kilimanjaro. Willkommen (Welcome)!

Teachers Educational Trip of a Lifetime in Germany



Martha, Japhet and Teacher Mentor Lynn at the Bavarian International School in north Munich.



Japhet holding a workshop at St Jude's recently, to share the information he learnt overseas.

Recently, two St Jude's primary school teachers, Martha and Japhet, had the amazing chance to travel with a couple of our teacher mentors to visit various German schools and attend an international conference about using non-violent communication in their classrooms. The Karl Kübel Stiftung für Kind und Familie Foundation paid all of the expenses of the participants. Due to a critical shortage of teachers in Tanzania, this gift is timely for Tanzania as now Martha and Japhet can pass on their knowledge to others. We sat down with Martha and Japhet to find out more about the experience.

Describe your trip to Germany and its purpose

Martha and Japhet: We are lucky because we visited three schools, one of them was in Hamburg, another was in Ohm and the last was the Bavarian International School. We learnt so much about how they organise things, their work schedule and also about other work they do in the community. One class learnt about recycling, waste and landfills. We liked learning about their day-to-day activities and the importance of giving children the time to express themselves, showing what they have learnt.

What did you take away from the experience?

Martha: The more I saw the classes and saw things in action, the more I understood. I will now apply some of the techniques and knowledge that they use.

You both went over to Germany to gain more knowledge about teaching methods but I am sure staff and students at these schools also learnt a lot from you both. Describe the experience.

Japhet: I believe they have learnt something about our culture. We had some classes where they were discussing the population in my country and I shared information about the size of families in Tanzania and Africa.

Tell us more about the Conference

Martha: The conference hosted teachers and social workers from many places in the world, including Kenya, and Uganda. We had to share what people are facing in our communities, in our environments and work places. The theme of the conference was 'First Call for Children.' Most of the activities were based around kids because we believe in investing in the young ones. We are different in culture but have something in common – humanity.

Eye Specialist Volunteer Needed!



Are you an eye specialist who needs a change, wants a challenge and would like to volunteer in an area of need? Or do you know an experienced professional who is?

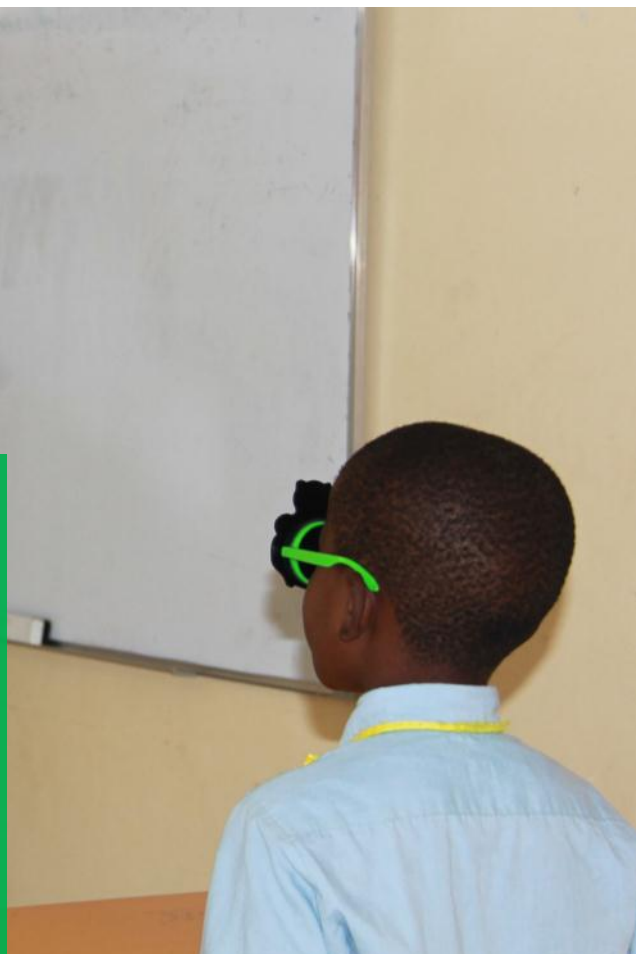
We are seeking applications for a volunteer eye specialist to join our medical check team from the 9th to the 20th of March 2015.

At the beginning of every year, over a two week period, our students have a medical check which includes height and weight measurements, vision testing and a brief physical examination. These checks are vital in ensuring our students are happy and healthy. It also helps us to keep an eye on any health issues students might have so we can provide advice to the students and their parents each year. All information collected is entered on a database and follow ups are arranged with parents and local health services.

The person we are looking for will undertake vision testing and will be confident in using a computer to enter data collected and will have the ability to work effectively in a team.

Accommodation is provided at St Jude's for the duration of the volunteer placement as well as airport transfers.

For further information about what the medical checks involve please contact Dr Philippa Binns pipbinns@gmail.com or our friendly HR team. hadmin@schoolofstjude.co.tz.



Check out our interview with Dr Pip who heads the annual medical check team here www.youtube.com/watch?v=70d5ZLrjX44&list=UUY7XznqF7t3hBM3tNOP4vFw

Searching for Conferences in Australia and the US

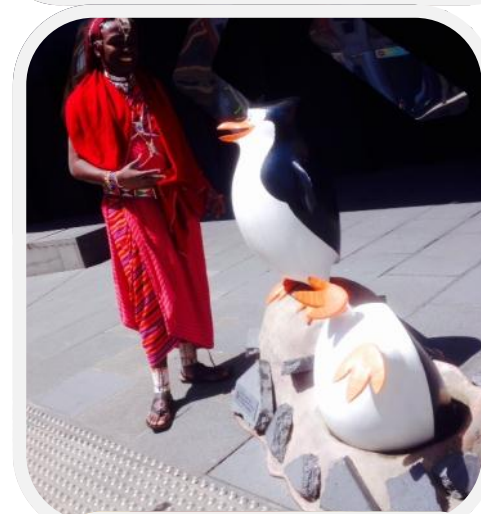
Gemma is excited to be planning her Australian promotional tour in March when she is looking forward to presenting at various conferences around Australia. As well as being a popular speaker at many Rotary conferences, Gemma also had the pleasure of being a keynote speaker at the TEDxUQ event in Brisbane this year. You can view this online at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwNEzk_an8s

Kim Saville, our Director of International Relations, has also been presenting at conferences around the world for

many years and is keen to hear of any she may include during her worldwide tour for St Jude's between September and December next year and Australia in June.

Australian and global conferences are vital for spreading the word about our fight against poverty through education. So we'd love to hear your ideas which you can send via email to us through Sarah, our Australian Coordinator, at australia@schoolofstjude.org or to Kim at kim.s@schoolofstjude.co.tz



Felix and Kim wrap up their tour

Gemma, Felix and Kim want to say a huge thank-you to everyone who supported them on their Australian and Southeast Asian trip. From the hardworking event organisers, to the many people who turned out to listen to their presentations, the others who offered them accommodation or drove them to events and our past volunteers – you all put in an amazing effort!

The trip couldn't have been a success without your help. The gang is all back safely in Tanzania but they won't forget all of the wonderful people who made their tour special.

See more photos on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/schoolofstjude

