



St Jude's News

OCTOBER 2018



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Form 4 Celebration and Awards Day

Celebrate the achievements of our O-level students

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Form 4 Celebration and Awards Day

Saturday October 13 marked a significant education milestone for 151 students who have successfully reached the end of their O Level scholarship at St Jude's.

Reaching the end of O Level studies, the secondary schooling years between Forms 1-4 (Grades 8-10), is no ordinary achievement in Tanzania. While 87% of Tanzanian students between the ages of seven and 13 are enrolled in primary school, only 32% of 14-19 year old students are enrolled in secondary school.

This is largely due to Tanzania's strict examination requirements, which exclude students who do not pass benchmark national examinations in Standard 4 (Grade 4), Standard 7 (Grade 7) and Form 4 (Grade 10).

Each of the students St Jude's celebrated this month at the Form 4 Awards and Celebration Day has already shown considerable aptitude and motivation.

The ceremony, attended by students' proud family members, school leaders, staff and international visitors, recognised the academic and non-

academic achievements of current Form 4 students and cast the spotlight on deserving high-achievers.

The DUX of Form 4, Veronica, received awards for being Best in English, Best in Mathematics, and Overall Best in her class.

"I did not know I was going to be awarded. It was a surprise, even for my mother and father who are here. I hope they will be proud."

When she completes secondary studies, Veronica hopes to give back to her community by pursuing a career in education.

"I would like to be a biology teacher because I know how important school is. I would like to be a role model for girls," she enthused.

It was a day of tribute to the success of our O Level students, and to students between Forms 1-6 with talents in specialty areas, including sports, design, citizenship, science and innovation.

Great expectations: Reaching Form 4 in Tanzania is a significant educational milestone.



Debora and Lowoi, Form 4 students who were nominated to represent their class, delivered a stirring message of gratitude.

“From the bottom of our hearts, we give bundles of thanks to each and every person present, because you each had a part to play in this journey. We express our gratitude to Mama Gemma for her dream, our beloved parents for their care and guidance, teaching and non-teaching staff, and sponsors and donors who have given so much to us.”

“As this journey comes to an end, we ask you for your well wishes so we can do our best and succeed. We know there will be light shone on our path as we head towards our Form 4 exams. Celebrating this day is not an end goal. It is a part of the larger journey in life. All accomplishments are a starting point for future achievements.”

**Build the bridge between
O Level and A Level studies
for one of our students.
Take the next step
and sponsor an
A Level academic
scholarship
today.**



Top International family: The event was attended by many supporters from Australia and New Zealand.

Bottom Cultural pride: Students performed traditional dance in celebration of their classmates.





Striking Impact for Rotary Visitors

Brian brings St Jude's message home to New Zealand

In 2010, Brian, a Rotarian from New Zealand, first visited St Jude's in 2010 on a Rotary tour of Tanzania. The visit had such a profound impact on him that he and his wife, Shona, decided to sponsor Upendo, a current Form 6 student.

Eight years later, Brian returned to St Jude's with Shona, their two daughters, Amy and Anna, and son-in-law, Toby.

Also joining the family were 13 representatives from the Rotary Club of Stortford Lodge. The club began sponsoring academic scholarships in 2011, and finally, members of the club had the chance to see firsthand the impact their support is having on so many Tanzanian students.

Their two-week visit coincided with Form 4 Awards and Celebration Day,

with Brian representing Rotarians as our Guest of Honour at the event.

"I have been waiting to return to St Jude's for eight long years," Brian shared with the audience.

"Since I was here in 2010, it is clear that Tanzania is making progress. There are more tar roads, and more traffic travelling along them. There are motorcycles, lots of new buildings.

What hasn't changed, though, is the need for education."

"What also hasn't changed is the welcoming, friendly and proud people of this school and of Tanzania. Everywhere we go to talk to people, they smile at us. What is even more apparent to me from this visit, is that The School of St Jude is one of the best schools of its kind in Tanzania."

"Education will lay the foundation for your success, and the values will guide you through the rest of your lives."

Amy and Anna, Brian's daughters, were equally impressed by the school their parents have supported for so many years, expressing a shared desire to use their medical skills as members of the Health Check team in coming years.

"I am a theatre nurse and my sister, Amy, is a clinical nurse. I'd love to spend the next year refining some of my training and skills, and hopefully in years to come, we'll both return for the annual Health Checks," Amy shared.

"Upendo's scholarship has been sponsored by our parents for eight years. She's been a part of our lives, Mum and Dad photocopy the correspondence we receive from her."

"Dad gave the whole group a good idea of what to expect from the visit, but nothing could fully prepare us for the wonderful welcome from students doing cultural dances as we arrived

at the airport, or for experiences like visiting a student's home."

"When you go on a home visit and you see where these students come from, what they have overcome, and how generous their families are to welcome us as guests, it blows you away," Amy explained.

Amy smiled, recalling a particular comment made by a Rotarian during the group's school tour with Founder, Gemma Sisia.

"One of the Rotarians is named Brian, same as my Dad, and he said to Gemma, 'they have medication for malaria and vaccines for typhoid, but is there anything that can get the St Jude's bug out of your system?'"

"This trip will continue to have an impact on all our lives. All of us are walking away with even more of a desire to make a difference," Amy said.



The Rotary Club of Stortford Lodge is helping to change lives. Why not visit St Jude's and catch on to the 'St Jude's bug'!



Top Left Leading the way: The Rotary Club of Stortford Lodge were special guests at Form 4 Awards Day.

Top Right Guest of Honour: Brian congratulates a student at the Form 4 Awards ceremony.

Bottom Bringing hope: Shona and Brian have sponsored Upendo, Form 6, since 2010.





An Elaboratory Plan

Two Community Service Year interns find the perfect measure to give back

Dorcas and Denis graduated from Form 6 at St Jude's in May and began their Beyond St Jude's Community Service Year internships in July.

Dorcas, a skilled communicator, opted for a placement in St Jude's Supporter Relations team in the Business Office, while Denis has taken on the task of teaching sciences in a local government school.

These voluntary internship placements have given the daring duo the necessary skills and confidence to pitch a unique social enterprise scheme to potential investors at a recent conference held in Dar es Salaam — Tanzania's industry hub.

Thanks to their free, quality education at St Jude's, Dorcas and Denis were encouraged to pursue their interests in science and entrepreneurship, and had access to well-equipped science laboratories during their schooling.

"Denis and I were grateful for having access to good facilities at St Jude's. We realised that government school students do not have the same resources. Some of the government school students Denis teaches have

a negative attitude towards science because they think that if they do not have practical science experience, they cannot succeed later on," Dorcas shared.

"We pitched the idea to investors to open a small lab and provide cheap, yet safe, facilities for government school students to learn how to do science experiments. Without innovators and scientists, Tanzania cannot move forward."

Dorcas and Denis presented their idea at the Arusha Sparks Innovation and Technology Event in September. As finalists, they received partially-sponsored tickets to pitch their business plan at the larger Sahara Sparks and Afrilabs Annual Gathering in Dar es Salaam during October.

"We met with young adults from all over Africa and Europe. As two of the youngest delegates, we were nervous, but met with great success and learnt from everyone we spoke to," Dorcas enthused.

"There is so much to consider when you write a proposal. We considered the role of marketing, the revenue



Community Service superstar: Dorcas is a volunteer intern in St Jude's Supporter Relations team.



Minding their startup business: Denis and Dorcas at the Sahara Sparks and Afrilab Gathering in Dar es Salaam.



mode and how our idea would be unique. Most importantly, we considered the wider community impact: how can we empower youth to change their own community?"

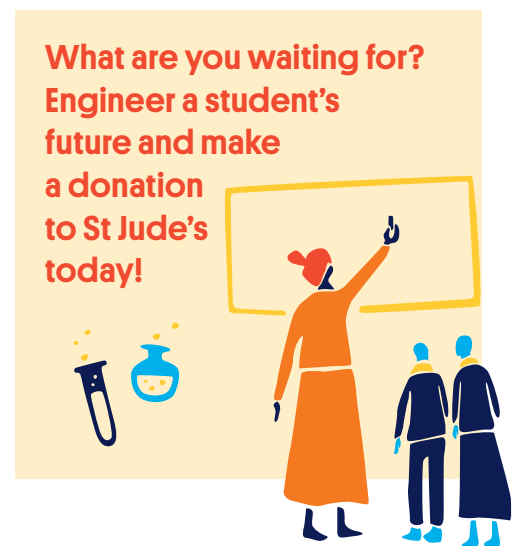
St Jude's encourages students to ask that very question and to address challenges facing Tanzanians. Dorcas and Denis believe that students proficient in science and technology will go on to be leaders in their country.

"Science can fulfill many goals and intentions for Tanzania. Due to minimal resources in government

schools, we are also lacking skills in producing scientific methods and goods here. We import instead of producing on our own. We have so much land to use. The President has talked about industrialisation, but without engineers and lab technicians, how do we move forward? People here have the brains, but not always the privilege or motivation because of the poverty they experience," Dorcas and Denis said.

"Of course, when presenting to fellow scientists and entrepreneurs in Dar es Salaam, we were very nervous.

I was alone at the conference on my first day, but even the public speaking and debating training I had from St Jude's gave me confidence to share my idea. It was scary, but I overcame the fear. As a result, we had people from all over Africa taking interest in our idea. To others who wish to pursue a passion, I would say, 'just go for it!'"



Ready, Steady, Work

Work Readiness Training prepares Beyond St Jude's participants for year of service

In May 2018, The School of St Jude welcomed 70 Form 6 students into our growing cohort of graduates. Since 2015, 395 young men and women have completed their secondary studies at the school.

After graduating from Form 6, alumni may choose to participate in Beyond St Jude's two-part program: a Community Service Year internship in an under-resourced government school, or in one of St Jude's departments, followed by a tertiary scholarship, commencing upon successful completion of the Community Service Year.

This month, our fourth group of volunteer Community Service Year interns began their placements, eager to develop their professional skills and share their knowledge and passion for learning with government school students who have not been as fortunate as they have.

The Beyond St Jude's team was hard at work in the weeks leading up to the commencement of a new Community Service Year, refining the five day Work Readiness Training and updating training resources so this

year's interns can benefit from the experience of previous interns.

The comprehensive training equips interns with practical and theoretical knowledge about professionalism, child protection, communication, time management, budgeting, and more.

Mr Avity, a member of the Beyond St Jude's team, oversees Work Readiness Training and knows it is beneficial for our interns.

"When we started the training this year, many interns did not think they had confidence to stand in front of students and teach. However, after acquiring new skills, by day five [of training], the same students said, 'I am not as nervous anymore. I see that I can, and I will.'"

Christina, formerly the Head Girl of Smith Secondary Campus and President of Tembo Club, has chosen to complete her Community Service Year as an intern in the Marketing team in St Jude's Business Office.

"Work Readiness Training was really a mind preparation program. I loved learning life skills through the training.

When you learn, teach: Many volunteer interns will be teaching in under-resourced government schools.

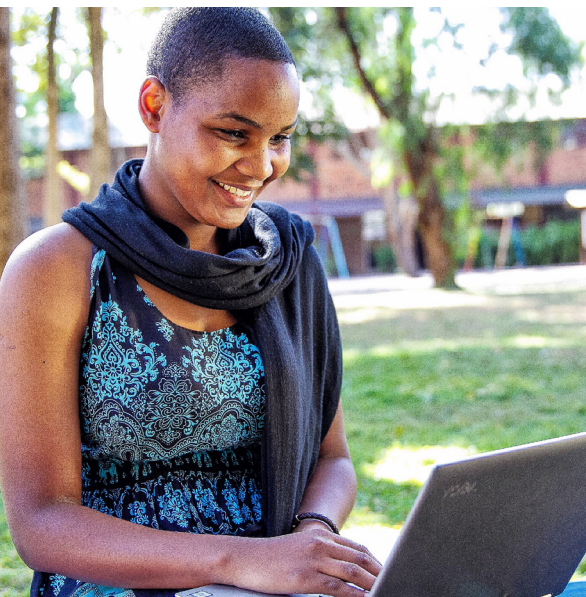




"I teach up to 300 students, across 16 classes throughout the week. I am happy to share the knowledge I gained from my schooling with our young brothers and sisters in government schools, who are at risk of not receiving the same opportunities I have had." Reginald told Christina.

"The Work Readiness Training prepared me very well for teaching. It taught me how to plan class lessons, we received advice from government school teachers who joined the program as guest speakers, and I learnt a lot about class management."

"It is only my first week of the Community Service Year internship, so I am still getting used to the environment. I hope that I will follow up on my students' progress throughout the year and I hope to be a part of their academic success," Reginald said.



Top Glowing graduates: 68 members of the Class of 2018 have elected to participate in the Community Service Year.



Bottom Behind the scenes: Christina and Elton are enjoying learning new skills in St Jude's Marketing team!

One essential thing I learnt was that one should build positive workplace relationships so that you can effectively communicate with others. Creating good relationships means you can tackle challenges you may face as a team."

The program was equally beneficial for Community Service Year interns who will be teaching government school students in subjects for which they would otherwise have no teacher.

One of Christina's first tasks as Marketing intern was to visit and interview Reginald, who is currently teaching chemistry to Form 1 students at a government school close to St Jude's Sisia Primary Campus.

You can support one of our newest graduates by sponsoring the scholarship of a Community Service Year intern!





Leading with Purpose and Promise

The school's core values underpin motives of our new student leaders

Diana and Abraham are St Jude's new school prefects. As Head Girl and Head Boy, they personify the school's core values: respect, responsibility, honesty and kindness, and are already making a difference as young leaders.

Both students joined St Jude's as Standard 1 students in 2006, so they are well versed in what it takes to lead by example.

"A good leader is confident, honest and fair. A leader who favours the few cannot lead well. It is a privilege to help lead my fellow students," Diana said.

"It is true that St Jude's values have taught us how to represent our peers. We understand that facing challenges is a part of leadership, and we are learning to solve problems in a diplomatic way," Abrahamani added.



During their one year term as school leaders, Diana and Abrahamani have grand plans to increase student involvement in extracurricular activities, knowing that these programs give students the opportunity to enhance life skills and broaden their networks.

"We expect that through our leadership, more students will become involved in sports, essay competitions and motivate students to become involved with the many clubs on campus."

"Such activities may motivate students in their studies also, and help them improve physical activity for overall health," the students agreed.

Diana and Abrahamani explained that they are inspired by student leaders who had come before them to apply for the school's top democratically elected positions.

"We know that we can do a good job, just as those before us did. We also have a lot of support from academic staff. The teachers encourage us to try our best," Abrahamani said.

"Mr Mcharo [Smith Secondary Campus Headmaster] in particular motivates us. He is a good listener and helps in every way he can. He works very hard to make sure our feedback is addressed," Diana shared.

"As for me, I have learnt to be more confident. I can speak in front of large audiences, and even to groups of teachers when representing the students. It is very empowering," she added.

"In my case, the experience is teaching me to mature," Abrahamani said.

"I know that we have the potential to be leaders not only in our school community, but to be inspiring role models for the wider community as well."

You can nurture the growth of leaders like Diana and Abrahamani by sponsoring an academic scholarship for one of our students!



Top Leading lady: Diana, receiving her first St Jude's uniform more than 10 years ago.

Middle Beginning the journey: Abrahamani and his mother on his first day at St Jude's.

Bottom A new chapter: ...And at Form 4 Graduation in April 2018.

