



# St Jude's News

NOVEMBER 2017

Thank you for sharing our newsletter with your family and friends



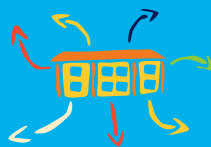
The School of St Jude is a project of The East Africa Fund

## Cause for hope— St Jude's impact is widespread!



Our graduates change lives in government schools.

Story page 3



All the action from St Jude's Day 2017.

Story page 4



Rehema and Jackson are our new school captains!

Story page 7

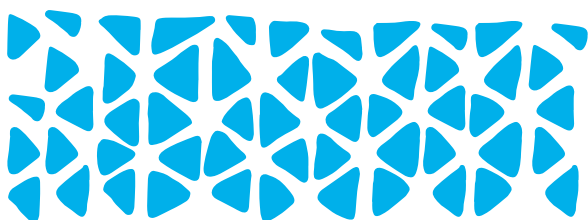


- **Teaching the next generation:**
- Being a good role model is
- important to all our CSY interns.



- **No first day jitters:** Vicky has always
- been reliable and self-assured.





## Victory beyond St Jude's

Community Service Year intern, Vicky, passes on the gift of a St Jude's education.

**V**icky is one of Beyond St Jude's newest Community Service Year interns. Confident and motivated, she's having an impact on almost 300 government school students, who otherwise wouldn't have a mathematics teacher.

Vicky attended the primary school linked to the government secondary school she now teaches at, before she was accepted into St Jude's for Standard 2 in 2006.

More than 10 years after her St Jude's journey began, she's well on her way to achieving success, thanks to her free, quality education.

"I feel great. I have the chance to teach these students what I know, and make sure they reach where I am. I was once like them."

"Every student has come from a different background and most of them are poor, so being with them and helping them is teaching me a lot of things."

Community Service Year interns are able to empathise with the students they teach, as St Jude's graduates know all too well the perils of growing up in poverty.

Vicky was raised by a courageous single mother in a village near our Sisia primary campus. Her mother worked as a labourer on building sites while raising her only daughter.

Resilient and headstrong, Vicky is determined to now be the first person in her family to receive a tertiary qualification.

"In my family, it is me, my mother and my grandmother and none of them have been to university."

"After finishing my Community Service Year, I would like to attend Sokoine University of Agriculture or the University of Dar es Salaam."

"Most people will say that if they are educated, they will get good jobs and then they will be able to earn money so they won't be poor again, but I think it's much more than that."

"I don't just think that if you study, you get a job, you get paid. I think education opens your mind, you start thinking outside the box."

"You see it's not just about you being rich, it's about thinking more deeply about society."

The aspiring agricultural economist sets high expectations for herself, and she holds similar hopes for her students.

"I'm the kind of person who wants quick results. I'm trying to move the students with the lowest scores to the front of the classroom, so I can attend to them individually, and ask if they understand."

"I'll be happy if all my kids get As or Bs."

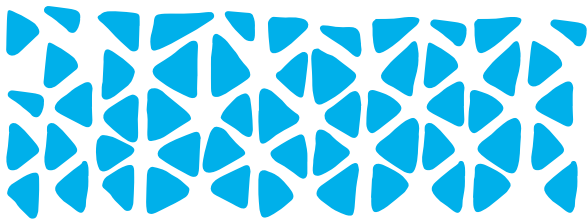
In addition to providing underprivileged students with a quality learning experience, Vicky sets an example they'll follow in years to come: to work hard and try their best.

"I would just like to make sure that all of them believe in themselves, believe that they can do everything because it's not that they cannot do things, they can, they just don't trust in themselves. If I make them believe in themselves, I think they can do great things."

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With her ambition, Vicky is sure to achieve great things, and inspire others to do the same along the way. Find out more about the Beyond St Jude's program and how you can support students like her.



# Cause for Hope: St Jude's Day 2017

Celebrating our students' golden chance to succeed

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**A**n air of promise and hope hung in the Sisia primary campus hall at our annual St Jude's Day celebration on Friday October 27.

More than 2,000 staff, students, visitors and invited guests gathered excitedly to celebrate the feast day of our school's namesake, St Jude, the patron saint of hopeless causes.

"St Jude's Day is very important because everyone who belongs to the school community comes together to understand each other, to serve together, and we hope the mission of The School of St Jude will always be supported," said George Stephen, our Primary School Headmaster.

With a vision to educate moral and intellectual leaders who radiate compassion, it comes as no surprise that St Jude's Day is one of the most important events on the school calendar.

The celebration began with a mass, during which students generously brought forth gifts to be donated to disadvantaged members of the local community.

"It makes me very, very proud to see the students giving back. This is a real team effort," George added.

Following mass, and a scrummy lunch of traditional Tanzanian cuisine, it was time for an afternoon of spectacular entertainment!

The audience cheered, laughed and shed tears of pride, watching students of all ages express profound gratitude for their education.

Sisia primary campus's Head Girl, Faith, gave a stirring vote of thanks during Class 6E's cultural performance.

"This is a golden chance. A golden chance which we would not have otherwise had. This is the

only school in Arusha providing free, quality education. There is no school like St Jude's. This is the best place to be."

Our visitors wholeheartedly agreed.

"This is such a happy occasion. You can see the students really value what they've achieved, and they want to give back. You can see how much it means to them to help others," said Rita Harris, Secretary of the East African Fund Board.

One special guest, whose presence invigorated hundreds of students and staff, was former International Director and current East African Fund Board Director, Kim Saville.

Kim, alongside Angela Bailey, helped Gemma Sisia start The School of St Jude in 2002 and worked at the School until her official fit-for-a-queen send-off in January this year.

"There are no words to describe what it means to be back today," Kim said.

Eric, our Form 3 Young Scientist Tanzania winner, was thrilled to see Kim, who has been a mentor for him since he first started at St Jude's.

"I am so, so happy to be here today. We are one family. Today, we celebrate, we sing and we give back."

Festivities concluded with an emotional performance of the 1985 hit-single, 'We Are The World'.

The entire school community raised their voices in unison, proclaiming a commitment to fighting poverty through education.

We thank our generous supporters and sponsors for ensuring each student at St Jude's has their 'golden chance' to be a beacon of hope in Tanzania.

The School of St Jude is anything but a hopeless cause.



You can ignite the flame of hope for a student  
in need by making a donation today.





- **Spirit and talent:** Class 2C wows the crowd with a special song and dance.



- **Gifts to the community:** St Jude's students love giving to others in need on this special day.



- **Kimin' home again:** Kim Saville, one of St Jude's first supporters, loved sharing the School's special day.

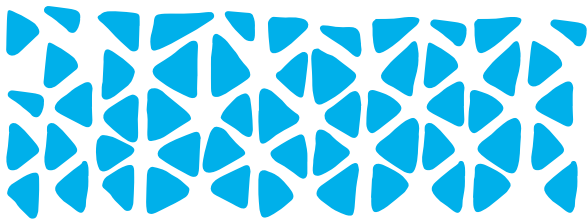




- **Ay, Captains!:** Jackson and Rehema are model leaders.
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- **Everyday hero:** Ms Linda, a librarian at Smith secondary campus, is a role model to the pair.
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## A desire to inspire

St Jude's secondary student leaders light the way to a bright future.

**E**very school deserves prefects like Jackson and Rehema. Our Head Boy and Head Girl, both in Form 5, have enjoyed a St Jude's education for more than 10 years and feel that now is the time to make their mark.

Inspired by former student leaders, the enthusiastic duo are committed to leaving a legacy of cultural pride and excellence when their term ends next year.

"I nominated to be Head Girl because I admired Christina, who was the leader before me. She brought about so many changes and encouraged everyone to do their best. I want to be like her," Rehema said.

Rehema has adopted her predecessor's persistence and critical thinking.

"Christina proposed the idea of group discussions between students, resulting in higher academic performance and better communication."

"Conversation is essential. We cannot apply our ideas forcefully. We have to understand other students and make a way for them to achieve their goals. Jackson and I both wanted to be in this position when we were younger."

For Jackson, a yearning for new experiences prompted him to apply for the top job.

"Passion, courage and wanting to be a persuasive role model is what motivates me, always."

"To be a good leader, you must be cooperative. There is no point in making plans without cooperation from others in the school."

It's no surprise that Rehema and Jackson had their sights set on student government from an early age; leadership is in their blood.

"I think about my grandfather, who was a tribal chief in the Lake Victoria area. I was told he was a good leader who talked to people so they could understand him. He brought people along with him," Jackson shared.

Rehema's greatest inspiration is also someone close to home.

"My mum is a role model to me, my family and the community around us. The best thing about her is that she will always try her hardest. I have two brothers and one sister, and I am the youngest. Our mother is so courageous. I learn my leadership skills from her."

And, there's certainly no shortage of heroes at St Jude's!

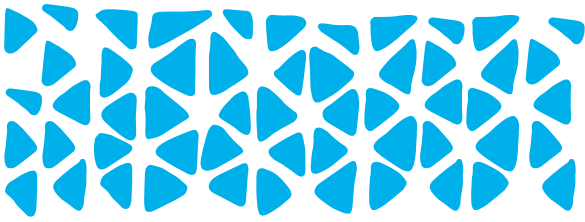
"Our school helps us to be our very best. I really admire people like Ms Linda [librarian at Smith secondary campus]. She is passionate for the students and her work," Jackson remarked.

"For me, Mama Gemma is absolutely a good example. She looks to the problems facing our society and finds a way to solve them."

"After graduation, we both would like to do a Community Service Year and teach in a government school. I can't compare the quality of education we receive at St Jude's, to the quality in government schools. We will both carry our passion for leadership into the future," Rehema said.



You could support a young Tanzanian leader.  
Become a sponsor this month!



## Service with a Smile

**Helping others is the name of the game at Smith secondary campus!**

When St Jude's Interact President, Lisa, hangs up her school uniform at the end of each term, her work is not yet done — and that's just the way she likes it!

As a part of the Smith secondary campus service program, Lisa and dozens of her school friends volunteer at several local orphanages during their term break.

Inspired by the spirit of St Jude's supporters worldwide, the energetic Form 4 student hopes to make a difference in the lives of others.

"St Jude's is giving many students the opportunity to receive a free education. We love the chance to share what we receive... to give back in return."

The program, overseen by Head of School Services & Self-Reliance, Mr Ernest, motivates students to demonstrate our school values: Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Kindness.

"Without the spirit of generosity, St Jude's would not exist, and this is why we started the program."

"The students come up with ideas for ways to help. I seek permission from the academic leaders, then organise transport and supervision," Mr Ernest said.

It's clear that Mr Ernest's humility and compassion has had an impact on his students.

"Every idea we come up with, he will try to support us. He is a good role model," Lisa affirmed.

● Lisa believes that helping others is a way to show gratitude for the opportunities she receives at St Jude's.

● "When we see these children, we feel like we are one with our community. We can teach them what we know. When we spend time with them, they feel like they belong too."

● "Our duties include helping with washing and cleaning, and we have fun playing with the kids!"

● "It makes me appreciate my family, because most children at the orphanages do not have any. I am privileged to get the love I deserve."

● Of course, there's always time for the students to bond and laugh.

● "The first time we went [to the orphanage], my friend was cleaning the stairs. She was almost finished, then she accidentally spilled the bucket and had to start again! Even she thought it was so funny."

● At the end of a hard day's work, it's the quiet moments of humanity and empathy which fuel our students' appetite for community service.

● "One of the children at the orphanage had a birthday. We celebrated with sweets. One boy I had made friends with came up to me and said, 'you have been my friend. I want to give you this,'" Lisa shared.

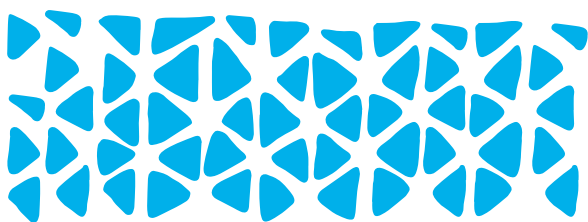
● "I told him to keep his own sweets, but I felt so nice...I knew I had made somebody feel special."

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You can make our students feel special by spreading the word about their inspiring projects!





## Teaching tomorrow's leaders

**Beyond the classroom, St Jude's staff inspire morality and leadership in our students.**

Mr Firmin is St Jude's Head of Religion and Vocational Skills at Smith secondary campus.

He oversees our physical education, music, art and religious education programs, but understands that nurturing future role models entails more than marking essays.

A mission-driven leader and born teacher, Firmin believes wholeheartedly that the work of St Jude's will have a profound impact on Tanzania.

"At St Jude's, we want to create an environment which promotes the development of a balanced person: not just academically gifted, but cultural and values-based leaders. Someone who can think, reason, believe."

For all his talents as an educator, Firmin's career did not begin in the classroom.

"I was working in the church as a chaplain, which is a form of teaching in itself. Then I decided to do further study and get my teaching qualification," he explained.

"I wanted to work at St Jude's because I was inspired by the spirit of the founder, Gemma Sisia. This charitable school gives opportunities to very disadvantaged people. The students show potential and have integrity."

Firmin knows that as a teacher, he can learn from and be enriched by his students, which is why he says his job is so rewarding.

"The future is so bright! There is hope for this generation. Our roots, where we come from, is so important. I am impressed with St Jude's students because they are future leaders, but

they are already starting to make a difference."  
"They will go out to their families and communities and share the spirit of our school."

Firmin says the role teachers play in supporting students is vital to ensure they become moral and intellectual leaders in the future.

"A teacher must be a role model and inspire their students. They will look to our actions as well as our words. Moral and intellectual leadership is a core part of the St Jude's vision."

"We are not just robots. We have the ability to impact upon others and make choices about the kind of impact we leave."

"Being an intellectual leader alone is not enough. One must also be moral, because this shows a sense of justice, spirit, and the respect you give to others."

"We will see one day the people running St Jude's, and being in positions of responsibility in their community, are our former students. Here, we give them a good foundation," Firmin added.

Thanks to teachers like Firmin, St Jude's students are already branching out and proving themselves as change-makers and critical thinkers.

Last month, three secondary students earned international accolades for scientific innovation.

Edgar attended the Anzisha Prize workshop at African Leadership Academy, while Eric and Prosper represented Tanzania at Exposcience. Both events were held in South Africa.

"In our students' efforts and achievements, we can see the fruits of our school are already growing."

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**You can be a part of St Jude's vision. Give opportunity and purpose to some of Tanzania's poorest and brightest students by making a donation today.**



## Annual highlights

It's been an amazing year. See some of St Jude's finest moments in 2017.



- **Top: Community Service Year**
- We welcomed 116 new Community Service Year interns into the Beyond St Jude's program. Between them, they are teaching more than 20,000 government school students and working in many departments across St Jude's three campuses.

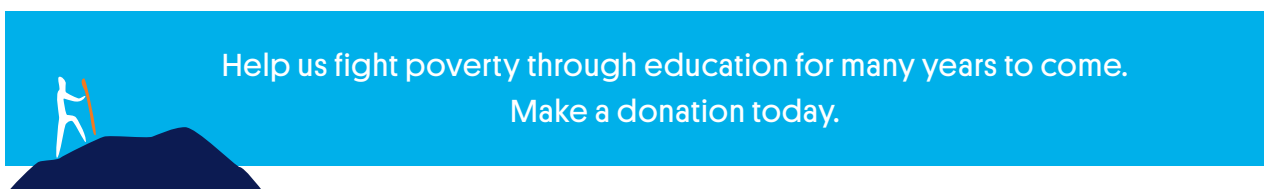
- **Bottom: A Visit InStyle**
- Laura Brown, Editor in Chief of InStyle Magazine, stopped by in late July. She's now sponsoring two St Jude's students, one in primary school and one in secondary school.





- **Above, left: Beyond St Jude's.** The Beyond St Jude's team visited scholars at university in Dar es Salaam.
- Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences is one of the best in Tanzania!

- **Top: St Jude's Day.** What's not to love about 2000 smiling faces? We capped off our annual highlights with St Jude's Day celebrations.
- **Above, right: Edgar's Success**
- Before attending the Anzisha Prize in South Africa, Edgar was given a superstar sendoff by Arusha's Regional Commissioner.



Help us fight poverty through education for many years to come.  
Make a donation today.