



# St Jude's News

SEPT 2022



Essentials for  
the Elderly

[Story page 2](#)



Amazing Askaris

[Story page 4](#)



Kufundisha Pamoja

[Story page 6](#)



Standard 7 Sets  
the Standard

[Story page 8](#)



**Give What You Can:** (L-R) Diana, Glory, Andrea and Goodluck with some staple items already donated by students.



Our Australian fundraising partner is registered as The School of St Jude Ltd and is responsible for all funds raised in Australia.

# Essentials for the Elderly



## The St Jude's Student Government pulls together to help the elderly in Arusha.

“Seeing an elderly person struggling makes me feel bad... We have a responsibility, as young citizens who have a chance to be educated and know the value of helping others,” says Goodluck, the confident Head Boy of St Jude's Secondary School.

Goodluck and his fellow Student Government member, Head Girl Diana, are leading students in an ambitious project to help elderly members of the Arusha community, who are currently struggling to cope with the rising cost of living.

“The cost of some staple foods, like oil, maize and beans has gone up recently because there is a high rate of inflation in Tanzania,” explains Diana.

This St Jude's Day, Diana, Goodluck and their fellow Student Government leaders are encouraging students and staff alike to donate goods to include in St Jude's Day Essential Packs for distribution to elderly people in need.

They have set their sights high, and plan to prepare 400 packs!

The St Jude's Day Essentials Packs will include soap, tea leaves, Blue Band (a popular shelf-stable margarine) and rice, donated by students and sugar, salt, beans and cooking oil donated by staff. To include maize, a true Tanzanian staple, the Student Government are calling on our international supporters to help.

St Jude's Day Essentials Packs, can be purchased on the St Jude's website for AU\$50.

Those who are familiar with St Jude's know that the annual St Jude's Day celebration is a time for togetherness, gratitude and giving. This year, the event on 28 October will hold an even deeper meaning as everyone contributes their donations to help the elderly.



**Give What You Can:** (L-R) Diana, Glory, Andrea and Goodluck with some staple items already donated by students.



**Getting Organised:** Many students have already donated goods for St Jude's Day Essentials Packs, and Diana and Goodluck have been hard at work collecting and organising the items.





**From me to you:** Diana and Goodluck collect a donation of soap bars to add to St Jude's Day Packs.

The following day, students and staff will gather again, to pack up all the donations, ready for distribution in one of the most economically disadvantaged areas of town. There, in early November, they'll host a lunch for elderly community members, giving everyone the opportunity to talk and learn from each other. Afterwards, students will accompany the elderly home, to carry their packs.

"This idea of supporting these people makes me feel proud and enjoy being part of St Jude's community," shares Diana.

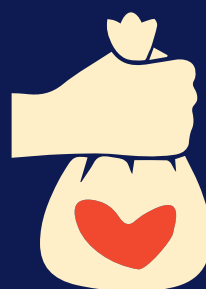
Along with the cost of living, students also recognise that elderly community members face daily practical challenges.

"It's very hard for them to do their house chores such as fetching water, washing, and cleaning the house," Goodluck explains.

Diana, like many St Jude's students, assists an elderly neighbour during the holidays. "I help my neighbour with different chores such as fetching water since it's very hard for her to fetch water from a distant place, also cleaning her house, and helping out with the washing of her clothes," she says.

Diana and Goodluck, like all 1,800 St Jude's students, come from some of the poorest homes in their regions. In fact, on entry to St Jude's 94% of families have just AU\$4.80 or less to cover their daily needs.

Yet, in spite of their own challenges, St Jude's students understand the importance of giving to those who have even less, of sharing what they have and serving the community. At St Jude's, this spirit is encouraged, as the school works to build an educated community of moral and intellectual leaders; fighting poverty in Tanzania.



**Give a St Jude's  
Day Essentials Pack!**



# Amazing Askaris



## St Jude's security guards keep the community safe and sound.

Stationed at the entrance gate to St Jude's Sisia Campus in Moshono is Israel, a security guard of 15 years. Israel's contagious smile and friendly personality is the first impression that staff, students, and visitors get as they arrive at the school.

"I love my job," says Israel. "It is what I have always wanted to do," he adds with a smile.

St Jude's security guards keep the school property, staff and students safe at all hours. In addition to this, they're the first people visitors meet when they come to St Jude's.

Israel's journey to becoming a security officer started in the early 1990s, when he opted to join a civic security training program. There he learnt basic combat training and other skills such as team work and self-discipline.

"By the time I completed my training, I knew I was going to be working as a security guard," recalls Israel. "But I never thought I would have such a fulfilling and rewarding career ahead of me at St Jude's," he adds.

In Tanzania, uniformed guards are referred to by their Kiswahili name, askari. Traditionally, askaris are known for their serious character, but Israel has gained some perspective after working at St Jude's.

"As a security officer, I thought I had to be serious all the time," says Israel. "But at St Jude's, I realised that I could smile and enjoy my time even when I'm on duty," he adds with a smile.

St Jude's impact on Israel's life doesn't just stop there. Working at St Jude's has enabled him to build a house for his family, take his six children to school and university, and explore his passion in agriculture.

"My journey with St Jude's has been one improvement after another," reflects Israel. "It is incredible," he adds.

Along with Israel is Melami, St Jude's security officer of five years. For Melami, coming to work is something he looks forward to.



**A Warm Welcome:** Israel waits at St Jude's entrance gate with his distinctive warm smile.





**A Friendly Community:** Israel with one of St Jude's drivers during a routine vehicle inspection at the gate

"I love interacting with people," says Melami. "As a security guard, I have the privilege of meeting different people every day so it's very fulfilling," adds Melami with a smile.

Melami has a long working history with St Jude's. Prior to working as a security officer, Melami served as a cook for nine months and later worked in the library for five years. These roles equipped Melami with skills that he now applies to his current position.

"Working at St Jude's has improved my English and communication skills greatly," says Melami. "I can now speak confidently with a vast variety of people from all over the world," he proudly adds.

As the first contact of for all visitors to St Jude's, Israel's gentle smile and Melami's charm serve as the perfect introduction to the school's values and way of life.



**Smiles All Around:** Melami catching up with fellow staff at St Jude's.



Your support of St Jude's helps hire super staff like Israel and Melami. **Donate today!**





Kufundisha Pamoja 2022 Team: Jim, Cindy, Clay, Mr Kileo, Jeff and James on the final day of the Kufundisha Pamoja visit to St Jude's.

# Kufundisha Pamoja: A Fruitful Partnership in Education

Learn how The School of St Jude partners with schools in the United States to improve its holistic education model.

James first heard about The School of St Jude in 2013 when he joined Louisville Collegiate School in Louisville, Kentucky.

“The first group of teachers from Louisville had just returned from St Jude’s in Tanzania and were telling wonderful stories about the place,” recalls James. “I was thrilled and wanted to come to see for myself,” he adds.

So when Cindy, a board member of Louisville Collegiate School, President the American Friends of The School of St Jude (AFSJ) board and a pioneer of the newly established partnership between the two schools, asked him if he would be interested in joining, James jumped at the opportunity.

“In the summer of the following year I was on my way to St Jude’s for the first time!” says James excitedly. “I immediately fell in love with the students, teachers, staff,

and everything about the school,” he adds passionately. This September, James was back again, along with Cindy and three other education professionals.

Kufundisha Pamoja (kufundisha pamoja means teaching together in Kiswahili) is a partnership program between schools in the United States and St Jude’s in Tanzania. Through the program, teachers from both sides exchange their skills, knowledge, and experience in pedagogy through running professional development programs, team building training, co-teaching, and more.

“Both teachers and students have greatly benefitted from this program,” says Mr Kileo, St Jude’s Primary School Deputy Academic Master, who has been working with James during his recent visit.



**Happy Reunion:** James addressing students' assembly on his third visit to St Jude's.



**A True Partnership:** Jim catching up with Mr Mollel, Head of English at St Jude's Secondary School.

"It is different from other programs because the facilitators are actively engaged in the day-to-day activities at school. So their input is timely and relevant," he adds.

Mr Kileo was part of a group from St Jude's that travelled to Louisville Collegiate School in Kentucky as part of the program in 2016. He looks back at his time in the United States as one of the most eye-opening experiences in his 15-year career in education. His most interesting discovery was how similar students in the United States are to their Tanzanian counterparts.

"For example, the discipline challenges we face with students in Tanzania were identical to those in the United States," he explains. "Yet their approach to disciplining students is different from most schools in Tanzania. So an exchange program like this can go a long way to help us re-evaluate our approach to pedagogy," he elaborates.

Along with James is Jim, the Associate Head of School at Louisville Collegiate School. Like James, Jim uses his 24 years' experience in education to enhance the exchange of knowledge and skills within the program.

"What I love about the program is that it is a true partnership," says Jim. "We learn and we're also supportive of the work that's happening here at St Jude's," he explains.

Jim joined the program in 2014 and has been to St Jude's three times since then. In addition to helping out with the program, he is inspired by St Jude's mission of fighting poverty with education and has since joined the fight himself.

"I knew I wanted to sponsor a scholarship for a student right away," Jim recalls of his first visit to St Jude's.

"During my first visit in 2015, there was a small group of students that would play games with me after class hours. When I enquired about the sponsorship process, I was told one of the students from that group was unsponsored and asked me if I'd like to sponsor him," Jim shares.

"And that's how I met Isack!" Jim says excitedly.

Over the years, Jim has grown to learn about Isack and his family through regular greetings, letters, and updates. The sponsorship experience has been a fulfilling one for Jim, who now looks forward to hearing all the wonderful things happening in Isack's life.

Since its inception in 2013, Kufundisha Pamoja has brought together 43 different participants between the United States and Tanzania. The program has expanded to include four schools in the US with participants meeting at least once every year. Through the program, the St Jude's community has grown and welcomed many wonderful new members.

Your support enables St Jude's to explore and implement new partnerships across the world to facilitate truly holistic education. **Donate today!**







**Ready for the Next Stage:** Standard 7 students (Class of 2021) posing for a group photo at their graduation ceremony last year.

# Standard 7 Sets the Standard

## Primary education builds a strong foundation for St Jude's students

In Tanzania, Standard 7 National Examinations are incredibly important. Not only do they mark the end of primary school, but for government school students, a good result means a ticket to secondary school, while a fail grade can mean the end of formal education.

In October, St Jude's current Standard 7 class will sit these important exams. St Jude's has a history of great performance in Standard 7 examinations, which goes all the way back to the first class to sit them in 2008. Over the last 14 years, 100% of St Jude's students have passed, with many receiving top marks.

Last year, 86% of St Jude's primary students scored A grades in all subjects, which placed the school within the top 0.1% nationally.

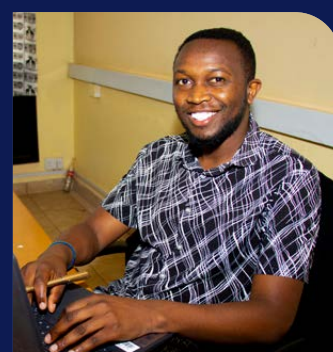
Back in 2008, Enock was among the first St Jude's students to sit their Standard 7 National Examinations. In a sign of things to come, Enock was top of his class and among the top 10 students in Arusha.

"Primary education determined my path. Because of the strong foundation I got, it helped me move forward and opened gates for many more opportunities," says Enock.

Today, Enock is back at St Jude's, where he works with alumni to secure international scholarships for tertiary education.

"The feeling of being back at St Jude's is nostalgic. I get a sense of satisfaction knowing that I am back where it all began," says Enock with a smile.

"I would like to tell this year's Standard 7 students that they are all excellent with amazing strengths. They have worked hard for the exams and I have total faith in their abilities. I wish them all the best," he adds.



**Then and Now:** A young Enock in primary school and Enock today, working at St Jude's.

With your support, St Jude's students receive a secure educational base for future academic success.  
**Sponsor a scholarship of a primary student today!**

