



# St Jude's News



Charming as Always: Long'ida catching up with fellow students in between class hours.



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# Nurturing Tomorrow's Leaders

Newly elected student leaders at St Jude's Secondary School reflect on their journey in leadership.



**Congratulations:** Long'ida (left) and Vivian (right) are the newly elected top leaders of the Student Government at St Jude's Secondary School.

One of the most coveted opportunities at St Jude's is a chance to serve in the school government. Every year, students across St Jude's three campuses contest for a spot in one of the many leadership roles within the student government.

"You need to be influential to stand a chance to win," says Long'ida, the newly elected Student Government Chairperson at St Jude's Secondary School. "This means developing a relatable personal brand among your schoolmates and having strong interpersonal and people skills to earn their trust," he adds.

Long'ida joined St Jude's 12 years ago as a Standard 1 student. He had never imagined that he would rise to become the chairperson of the student government one day. In spite of his calm and composed personality, he demonstrated strong personal values and leadership skills that gradually caught the attention of his peers and teachers.

"I was appointed as a Table Leader a few years ago," recalls Long'ida. "At the outset, it looked like a fairly easy task but it's amazing how simple responsibilities shape you as a person. Through this role, I learned invaluable lessons of patience, empathy, management, and even conflict resolution," he adds.

This experience opened new opportunities for him within the school. He has since served as a Level Coordinator, a Dormitory Leader, and ultimately the Student Government Chairperson, the highest position in the student government.

Along with Long'ida is Vivian, St Jude's Student Vice Government Chairperson. Unlike Long'ida, Vivian discovered her flair for leadership at an early stage and has held various positions since joining St Jude's 11 years ago.





Charming as Always: Long'ida catching up with fellow students in between class hours.

“I think being a leader makes you understand yourself better,” reflects Vivian. “My perspective and attitude have improved over the years of my leadership experience. For instance, I no longer see problems as challenges anymore but opportunities for growth,” says Vivian.

In addition to the personal growth she gained through leadership, Vivian has also benefited from St Jude’s extensive resources and support. Regular training sessions and access to a wealth of resources, such as the school library and computer rooms, contribute significantly to students’ development as leaders.

In spite of her responsibilities, Vivian is charming and outgoing. She enjoys playing netball and decorating. In her free time, she practises poetry and reads inspirational books at the school library.

“I approach life one step at a time,” says Vivian. “My dream is to use all the experience and skills that I have to help my country and community,” she adds.

At St Jude’s, the Student Government enables aspiring leaders to develop their skills and personal attributes. It instils the spirit of solidarity and cooperation on campus whilst nurturing the future leaders of Tanzania.



Walking the Talk: Vivian and Long'ida seek to lead by example.

Your support enables St Jude’s to provide immersive and practical leadership skills, helping students develop into Tanzania’s future leaders.  
**Donate Today.**



# Q & A with Omega

St Jude's alum, Omega, returns to St Jude's as part of the Health Check team.



**Happy to Be Back:** Omega (second from right) returned to St Jude's as part of the Health Check team.

Every year, St Jude's conducts health checks for all 1,800 students across its three schools. Health checks help the school identify any health issues of our students and any special adjustments they may need, ultimately, enhancing their overall school experience, well-being, and academic excellence.

Guiding this process is a team of international volunteers who spend two weeks each year at St Jude's conducting various checks on students. With diverse backgrounds and expertise, these volunteers bring fresh and valuable experience and knowledge to improve students' health.

We recently caught up with Omega, a St Jude's alum who volunteered for this year's health checks. Omega currently works as a radiologist at one of Arusha's largest hospitals.

## What inspired you to join the Health Check team?

One day, I met Gemma at the hospital where I work. We talked and she asked if I was interested in volunteering as part of a health team that was coming to St Jude's. I was excited at the opportunity and promptly applied for it.

## How did it feel coming back to St Jude's as part of the Health Check team?

It was a wonderful experience. I had the opportunity to work alongside a diverse team of medical professionals. We had plenty of meaningful conversations and I got to know a lot about what goes on behind the scenes during the health checks.

## What did you enjoy most from health checks as a student?

The whole experience was great and a lot of fun. We would ask the team lots of questions and sometimes they brought us treats such as candy.

## Did you always want to get into the medical field?

My childhood dream was to join the military. I began exploring other interests as I grew older and ultimately settled for a career in the medical field. It's been a fulfilling journey ever since.

## How would you describe your experience in one word?

Amazing! I'd love to do it again in the future!

Your support ensures students receive regular and efficient health checks enabling them to pursue their dreams and ambitions with good health. [Donate Today.](#)



# Building a Brighter Future

Real estate entrepreneur, Zacharia reflects on his transformative journey at St Jude's.

From a young age, Zacharia aspired to work hard so that one day, he could support his mother and siblings. He put a lot of effort into his studies and greatly improved his academic performance until he became one of the top students in class. His hard work eventually paid off and Zacharia was invited to apply for a scholarship at St Jude's.

“And the rest was history,” says Zacharia with a smile. “St Jude's was like no other school I had seen before. I immediately knew this place would have a lasting impact on me,” he adds.

Zacharia completed his primary school education at a government school and joined St Jude's for secondary school. Coming from a government school, he was initially fascinated by the resources and opportunities available at St Jude's.

Zacharia continued his hardworking spirit at St Jude's where he spent the next six years. In his free time, he tried his hand at different sports and extracurricular activities.

“I have plenty of good memories from my time at St Jude,” says Zacharia. “Some of my best experiences were serving as the Entertainment Prefect and participating in career and science fairs,” he adds enthusiastically.

After six years at St Jude's, Zacharia graduated Form 6 with St Jude's inaugural class of 2015.

In Tanzania, secondary school education is divided into two levels: the first four years are called Ordinary Level (O Level) studies; from Form 1 to Form 4, and the final two years of Advanced Level (A Level) studies; Form 5 and 6. According to a 2017 UNESCO report, only 12% of students who start secondary school in Form 1 complete Form 4, with poverty being one of the main factors for the high dropouts.



A Proud Entrepreneur: Zacharia working in his office.

At St Jude's, on the other hand, 100% of students who start secondary school in Form 1 complete Form 4, and 100% of the students that choose to continue onto A Level complete Form 6.

“Graduating Form 6 was a proud moment for me and my family,” reflects Zacharia. “In addition to my academic qualification, I have acquired valuable connections, practical skills and knowledge that are useful to this day,” he adds.

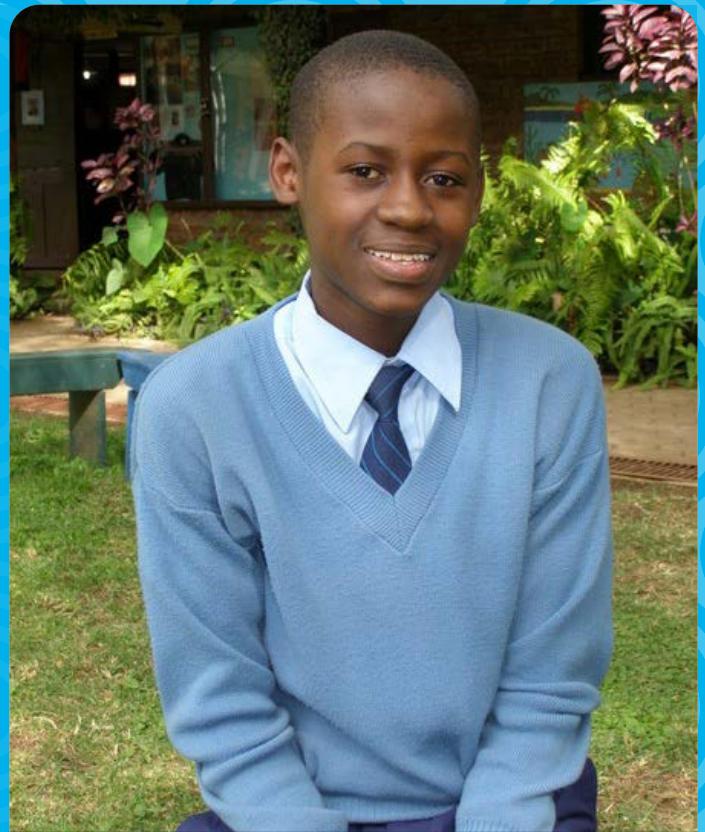
Zacharia was one of the first students to join the Beyond St Jude's Scholarship Program (BSJSP) for Form 6 students. As part of the BSJSP, graduates participate in a year of community service, volunteering to teach at understaffed government schools or at various non-teaching placements within St Jude's.



Those who successfully complete their community service placement are then eligible to receive a Tertiary scholarship to pursue their first higher education qualification; enabling them to become the future professionals that their country needs.

“I spent the next year after my graduation volunteering at one of the public schools in Arusha,” shares Zacharia. “It was a fulfilling experience that enabled me to share the skills and experience that I acquired at St Jude’s,” he adds passionately.

Zacharia now holds a bachelor’s degree in building economics from one of Tanzania’s top universities. He is also an aspiring entrepreneur who is currently building his real estate business. Zacharia has fulfilled his lifelong dream of supporting his family: he has renovated his home, pays for his siblings’ tuition fees, and routinely supports his mother financially. He is living proof of our alumni fighting poverty through education.



A Little Throwback: A young Zacharia during his student days at St Jude’s.



Giving Back: Zacharia with some of his students during his Community Service Year (CSY).

Your support goes beyond our students, it’s a ripple effect that impacts families and communities. [Sponsor Today.](#)



# Australia vs Tanzania

Discover five eye-opening contrasts between Tanzania and Australia you may not have known.



**Australia**

## Size

Australia is about eight times the size of Tanzania. On the other hand, while Tanzania has 63.59 million people, Australia has 25.69 million.



**Tanzania**

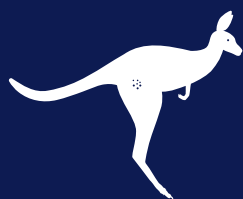
## Sports Culture

Tanzanians are passionate about everything football. In contrast, Australians love of sports like cricket, Australian Rules Football (AFL), and rugby. They even have their unique version of football called "Aussie Rules"!

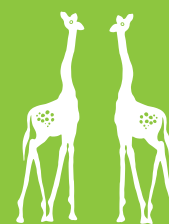
## Food

The staple food for Tanzanians is rice, cooked banana, beans, barbeque goat, and ugali (stiff porridge made from ground maize). Australians enjoy a wide variety of foods including beetroot, meat pies, barbeque prawns, and roast lamb.

## National Animal



The Kangaroo is Australia's national animal. It was recognised as an official symbol when it was included in the nation's coat of arms in 1908. The Masai giraffe is Tanzania's national animal.



## Iconic Landscapes

Australia's Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system and home to amazingly diverse marine life. On the other hand, Tanzania has the tallest mountain in Africa, Mt Kilimanjaro.



Gemma, Suleiman and Winnie will be speaking at different venues in Australia over the next weeks. **You can attend one of our events.**