



The School  
of St Jude

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# St Jude's News



Made It: St Jude's Standard 7, class of 2024.



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



Our American fundraising partner is registered as American Friends of The School of St Jude, Tanzania, Inc. and is responsible for all funds raised in the USA.



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# Racing against time at St Jude's

Behind the scenes of a rigorous scholarship application process that transforms lives through education.



**Chance at a Brighter Future:** The scholarship application process at St Jude's opens doors to thousands of students.

Every year, hundreds of students join St Jude's on 100% full scholarships at the primary and secondary school levels. This is made possible through a rigorous scholarship application process that involves multiple stages, from the initial invitation to final enrolment. The whole team of staff, volunteers, and parents comes together to make it happen.

"The entire process typically takes anywhere between two to four months," explains Glory, Assistant Team Lead responsible for organising the scholarship application process. "But sometimes, especially at the end of the year, we have to squeeze everything into a much shorter timeframe," she adds.

There are three key stages of schooling in Tanzania, the seven years of primary school from Standard 1 to 7, then four years of secondary school from Forms 1 to 4 in Ordinary Level (O Level) studies, and finally the final two years of secondary school, Forms 5 and 6 in Advanced Level (A Level) studies.

St Jude's aligns its scholarship entry points with this structure, offering opportunities for students in Standard 1, Form 1, and Form 5.

"At each stage, prospective students must apply for a scholarship," says Glory. "The opportunities are highly sought after and competitive. Although the process is rigorous, we ensure it is both fair and transparent," she adds.



The scholarship application process reflects St Jude's mission of providing free, quality education to bright, poor children in Tanzania. It is divided into two main parts: academic testing to assess aptitude and home visits and interviews, to determine financial need.

St Jude's works closely with local and central government bodies to identify students that would most benefit from the scholarship. One way is through the national examination results – standardised assessments conducted by the Tanzanian government – are a key tool in identifying potential candidates.

Based on these results, St Jude's invites the top performing students across three northern Tanzanian regions to apply for a scholarship.

"Every year, thousands of candidates show up to apply," says Glory. "Our academic team prepares a series of exams to evaluate their academic abilities, and only those that meet our academic requirements progress to the next stage."

One significant challenge Glory and her team face is the tight timeline. For example, Standard 7 results are typically released at the end of the year, leaving only a few weeks to complete the scholarship application process before the new academic year begins in January.



**Due Diligence:** Glory (standing behind the desk) reviews documents during scholarship application day.



**Off to a New Start:** After the scholarship application process, students receive new uniforms ready to start education at St Jude's.

"We often have to condense three to four months of work into just a few weeks, Thankfully, we have the best staff around that rallies behind us. But it's always a race against time," she adds.

After the results are released, Glory's team compiles an invitation list and enlists the help of St Jude's alumni and community service volunteers to distribute invitations. These volunteers cover hundreds of kilometres and overcome logistical and geographical challenges to ensure the right students are reached.

The next steps involve scholarship application days at designated centres, followed by home visits. It's an enormous undertaking for St Jude's staff and volunteers, many of whom work overtime, including weekends, to ensure the process is a success and on track.

"Each year, we rise to the challenge, Moments like these remind us of our shared mission to provide opportunities to those who need them most," Glory says.

In 2025, St Jude's aims to enrol 190 Form 1 students, ensuring that more bright children can access the free quality education they deserve.

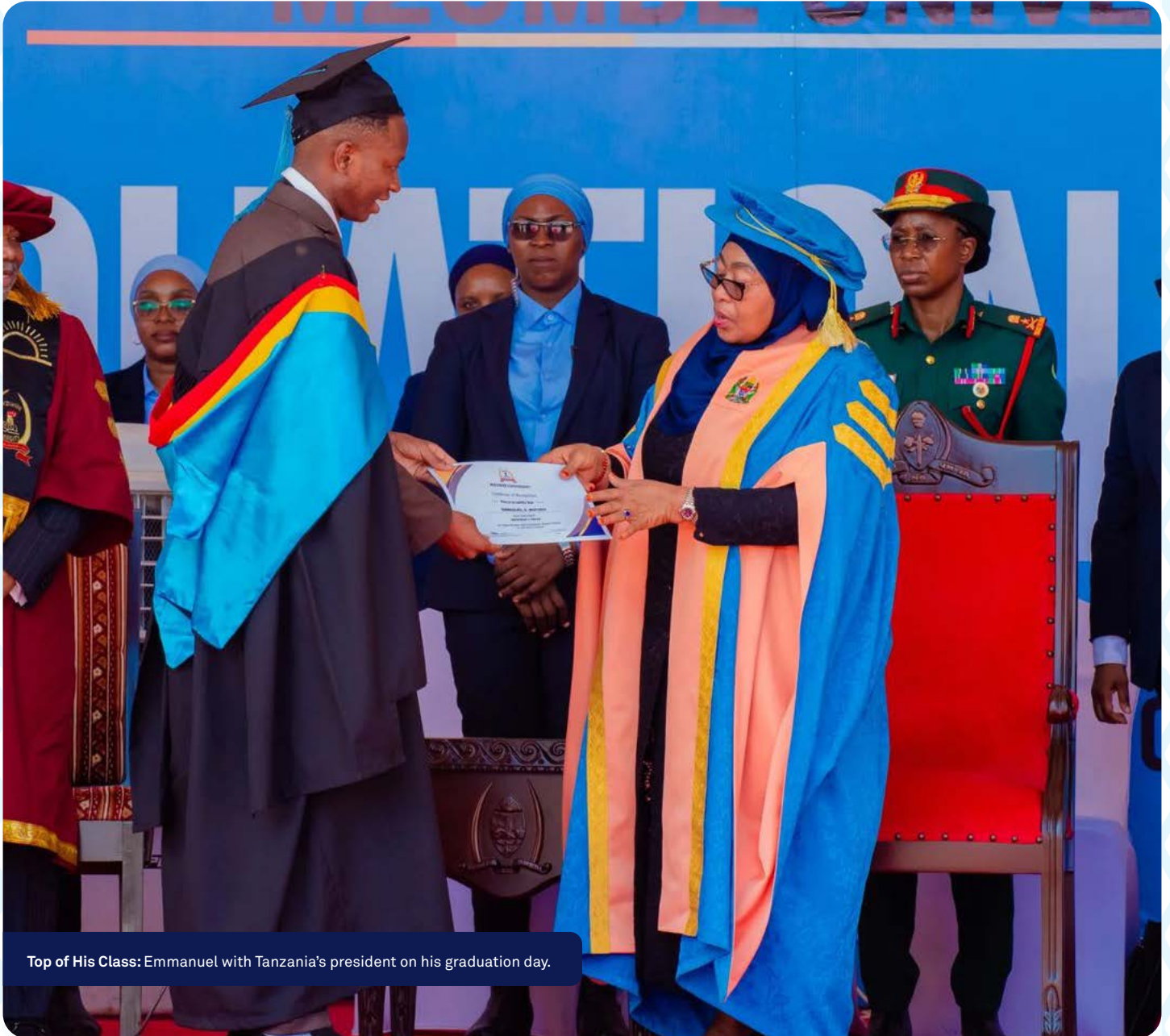
You can support future Tanzanian leaders and professionals by sponsoring the scholarship of a St Jude's student. **Sponsor Today.**





# From student at St Jude's to nation's pride

The inspiring journey of Emmanuel, a St Jude's alum driven by passion and hard work.



Top of His Class: Emmanuel with Tanzania's president on his graduation day.

Emmanuel, a proud St Jude's alum and recent university graduate, is a promising Tanzanian with a very bright future ahead. During his three years at university, he interned at some of the country's largest companies, became a local finalist in a prestigious international research competition, and graduated with the highest GPA in his class.

On his graduation day, he was personally recognised by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon Samia Suluhu Hassan and received his certificate from her. Emmanuel looks back at his love and passion for a career in finance as a motivating factor.

“I have always dreamt of a career in finance. It’s what I’ve loved since I was young, and that passion drove me to work hard in my studies,” he says.

Emmanuel’s educational journey began at a government school where he was a regular high achiever in class. His hard work and impressive academic results made him a teacher’s favourite and a peer mentor for his classmates. This continued into secondary school where Emmanuel became even more involved in tutoring his classmates.

“The number of teachers didn’t match the number of students at the school, so I became the go-to person for helping others. I really enjoyed teaching others and it is one of my favourite memories from school,” he says.

Emmanuel’s hard work and dedication paid off. He aced his Form 4 national examinations, achieving record-breaking results for his school, and helped many of his classmates improve their performance and qualify for the next stage.

In Tanzania, there are two key stages to secondary schooling, the first four years of secondary school are called Ordinary Level (O Level) studies; from Form 1 to Form 4 and the final two years of secondary school are called Advanced Level (A Level); Forms 5 and 6. At the end of each stage, students sit for a series of standardised national examinations organised by the government. Only those who achieve a determined pass mark progress to the next stage.

A few weeks after the national results were released, Emmanuel received an invitation to apply for Forms 5 and 6 scholarship at St Jude’s. If successful, he’d be part of a new cohort of students joining St Jude’s for A Level studies on a scholarship to receive a 100% free, quality education. He jumped at the opportunity.

“I was told that it was very competitive to get a spot at the school. But I was determined to give it my best, and I did just that,” he adds proudly.

The application process was rigorous and only 10% of applicants are successful. Emmanuel completed assessment tests, underwent document checks, and

participated in a home visit by St Jude’s staff to verify his need for the scholarship. The selection process, involving third-party local government offices and schools, ensures that only the most deserving students are awarded scholarships. Emmanuel’s determination paid off when he was awarded a scholarship to join St Jude’s Secondary School for his A Level studies.

“I was so happy. Everything – the environment, the resources, the teachers, and the extracurricular programs – helped me become even better than I already was,” he says.

While at St Jude’s, Emmanuel paired his strong academic prowess with practical skills in extracurricular activities. He participated in sports and debate competitions, and sharpened his ICT skill-building programs. After completing his A Level studies, he promptly joined the Beyond St Jude’s Scholarship Program (BSJSP) and spent a year of community service teaching fellow students.

In 2021, Emmanuel joined Mzumbe University with a BSJSP scholarship, pursuing a Bachelor’s degree in Finance and Accounting. The free education he received at St Jude’s and the continued support at university provided extra motivation for him to work harder in his studies.

Now, with an impressive GPA of 4.8 (out of 5) and the honour of being the top graduate in his class, Emmanuel is well on his way to fulfilling his dream of a career in finance. His journey—from helping classmates as a young student to being recognised by the nation’s president as a university graduate—highlights the profound impact of quality education and the power of perseverance.



Support future leaders of Tanzania with free, quality education at St Jude’s.

**Donate Today.**





# Q&A with Standard 7 students

Our primary school graduating class reflects on their seven-year experience at St Jude's and their future in secondary school.



Made It: St Jude's Standard 7, class of 2024.

## Completing primary school education is an important milestone.

There are three key stages of school in Tanzania; seven years of primary school from Standard 1 to 7, then four years of secondary school from Forms 1 to 4 in Ordinary Level (O Level) studies, and finally the final two years of secondary school, Forms 5 and 6 in Advanced Level (A Level) studies.

It sets the stage for students to begin pursuing their careers and specialising on their preferred subjects. It's an exciting achievement for students and proud moment for parents. This is what it means in their own words.

### How does it feel about moving on to secondary school?

We're excited! We look forward to meeting new friends, learning different subjects, and experiencing boarding school for the first time.

### What are your next goals for next year as you start secondary school?

Our main goal is to improve in Mathematics and lay a strong foundation for our future studies.

### What are some of the most important lessons you've learned throughout your school years?

We learned to challenge ourselves, think critically, and seek help when needed instead of staying silent.

### Can you share one of your most memorable experiences at school?

The Ngorongoro trip was unforgettable. We saw many animals, visited Olduvai Gorge, and learned about the Zinjathropus skull. It was our first long journey and exploration of such a significant site.

### Do you have any advice for the students coming up after you in Standard 7?

Enjoy learning and find a balance between academics and extracurricular activities.

Our students loved their safari, you can go on one too. Learn about how you can **Visit St Jude's**.





# Impact for future generations

Leaving a gift in your Will to The School of St Jude is a powerful way to support us and leave a lasting legacy of impact for the future students of St Jude's.



The Gift of Education: David and Gail with student Agnes and her mother on graduation day 2024.

Bequests mean we can invest in buildings and equipment required for development and growth, and they help support the school's financial sustainability.

As a volunteer and long-term sponsor of students at St Jude's, Australian Board Director and Treasurer, David Collins, knows the value of gifts in Wills and the impact they've had for the school and its students.

"My wife and I are fortunate to have visited the school and seen firsthand the impact bequests have for St Jude's.

Bequests are another way of giving, and mean the school can sustainably provide free, quality education for students who would otherwise miss out on educational opportunities that significantly impact their life, their family's life and the broader community," he says

We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of people who consider our mission to fight poverty through education when creating their Wills.



Your gift, no matter how large or small, will make a difference, and it is much simpler than you think. To find out more visit:

<https://www.schoolofstjude.org/support/wills-bequests/>