

The School of St Jude

Fighting Poverty Through Education



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Kelvin Jackson

26 November 2010

Dear All at The Rotary Club of Ryde Inc,

Thank you so much for helping Kelvin Jackson attend The School of St Jude. Your sponsorship of this very special boy provides him the opportunity of a free, quality secondary education in a nurturing environment; an opportunity that would not otherwise be available to him.

A little bit about Kelvin... Kelvin was born on 13 August 1993 and is seventeen years old. (In Tanzania, birthdays are not celebrated and many don't even know their date of birth).



Kelvin lives with his family in Sekei, a poor and densely populated area of Arusha town. He lives with his mother *Agnes*; eighteen year old brother *Goodluck* and two sisters *Happy* and *Fatuma* (eight and six years-old respectively). Sadly, Kelvin's father passed away from malaria.

Kelvin's family have lived in their home for 25 years and like most other Tanzanian dwellings, it has no plumbing; water is collected from a neighbourhood tap for a small monthly fee and meals are prepared outdoors over a simple wood fire. Fortunately, Kelvin's family lives close to town and has access to electricity, though it is very unreliable!



Inside Kelvin's home

To make ends meet, Kelvin's mother sells vegetables in the entrance of their home and they have a small flock of chickens, which provide eggs.

Both Kelvin and his parents are Lutheran and belong to the Mwarusha tribe. The Mwarusha are an ethnic and linguistic group based in the Arusha region of northern Tanzania. They are distinct from, but related to, the Maasai and traditionally live in larger communities.

In Tanzania, children are given their father's first name as their surname. You may also notice that the spelling of Kelvin's name will vary. Swahili is a phonetic language and the spelling of names often changes. So you need not be concerned if you notice that Kelvin's name is written differently (e.g. on school reports) - that's just the way it is here.

You might also find that in his letters, Kelvin tells you of brothers and sisters you have never heard of. This generally happens for two reasons: children often have two names in Tanzania, one "official" name which is used at school, and another "home" name. Secondly, relationships are not as clearly defined as in



Western countries. Any older female relative (aunt, cousin, etc.) in the family might be called "dada" (sister) and cousins are usually called brother and sister.

Kelvin is one of approximately 190 students (46 in secondary) who have started studying at The School of St Jude in January of this year. It's hard to believe we opened the school in 2002 with only 3 children and now have over 1310 students! Our primary/elementary kids (years Prep to Standard 7) are now studying across two campuses; *Moshono* and *Usa River*.

In 2009, we also opened a secondary school at our Moshono campus, which is where Kelvin is attending. This year, we have two classes in our secondary school as our first class of



With his mum, outside their home

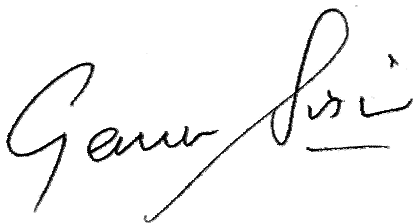
Form 1 students progresses to Form 2. For the next four years, we will be adding on another class level per year as our first secondary school students continue to make their way through to Form 6! In 2008 we also opened boarding houses on both campuses and now all students, in Standard 4 and above, attend school as boarders..

At The School of St Jude, each class numbers approximately 25 - 30 students and is taught by highly skilled, qualified teachers. The students have the opportunity to learn on computers, get creative in art and music, be active in sports and borrow from a wonderful selection of donated books at the school library. Benefits outside of the classroom include a daily hot and nutritious lunch, clean drinking water and transport to and from school on our colourful buses; without which, many students would be waking long before sunrise and walking for hours each day just to get to school. Thanks to your sponsorship, Kelvin will have a better chance in life and will be a huge contribution (and inspiration!) to his family as he gets older. Thank you sincerely for giving him this life-changing opportunity.

After each school term, Kelvin's school report will be emailed to you. You will also receive aerograms throughout the year. For your protection, we keep your postal and email addresses confidential, and all communication between you and Kelvin goes through our sponsorship program. It is therefore of great help to us that you please do not include any contact details on any mail items or emails addressed to Kelvin. For all the ins and outs of sponsoring a student of St Jude's, please refer to our Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) document, also attached with this email.

Once again, thank you so much for helping Kelvin attend The School of St Jude. We hope you enjoy following his progress and ultimately, standing with us in our fight against poverty in Tanzania!

Best wishes,



Kelvin's favourite subjects are Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. When he graduates from St Jude's, Kelvin would like to become an engineer. Kelvin will need to study hard for whatever career he chooses to pursue, but he will be given our full support to help him achieve his dreams!





Kelvin at home...





At The School of St Jude, Kelvin is provided with all that he needs to complete his secondary school education including uniforms, books and textbooks, three nutritious meals per day, comfortable boarding quarters and an environment designed to nurture and encourage Tanzania's future leaders.



In 2010, Kelvin is in Form 1 and attending lessons at our Moshono Secondary campus. In 2009, he was ranked fifth of 179 students at his local government school.



Thank you!

