www.steventitoacademy.org info@steventitoacademy.org





Steven Tito Academy

STA Newsletter, Term 2, July, 2015

Partnering with Parents

At the end of Term 2 we welcomed all parents to STA for a parent meeting. Each parent also met with teachers to receive feedback about their child's learning.

The twice yearly parent/teacher conferences are a great opportunity to include parents more in their child's education as well as offer practical tips for how they can help their child at home. The parents value understanding what their child can do and what they are having difficulty with rather than just receiving a ranking or number which is typical in Tanzanian schools.

Most of our parents are unable to pay school fees and so their children are sponsored. As they cannot contribute financially, each parent comes to school once a month to work in the kitchen, garden or other areas of the school. The students are always excited to see their parents helping out. Having parents who are committed to their education seems to increase student motivation which is priceless!



STA Clubs – Engaging our senior students in vocational skills

In Term 2, standard 4 and 5 students started 'Clubs'. The students brainstormed some different skills they wanted to learn and we narrowed these skills down to 5 clubs; cooking, sports/running, computer, modern dance and bicycle.

Students participated in clubs every Friday afternoon for 8 weeks. After each session they reflected using the questions 'What did I learn?' and 'What do I want to learn next?' Throughout the 8 weeks each student also had an opportunity to share their reflections with the whole class.

Our students were very engaged during 'Clubs' and are excited to do it again next term.

A big thank you goes to our monthly donors who ensured we had funds to repair bicycles and buy cooking ingredients.

"I am in computer club. It's a good club because the teachers help you learn a lot. Now I know about PowerPoint. In our club we made a video using PowerPoint. It was about how much we like school."

~Justis, Standard 5, Computer Club



Doris and George, Standard 4, Bicycle Club





Sponsorship – The key to education

Sponsors are a very important part of the STA community. Sponsorship provides 63 of our students with an English language primary education that they would not otherwise have been able to afford.

For our students, the connection with their sponsor is special. Each student knows they have a team of people (parents, teachers, sponsors) supporting them to achieve their dreams. Sponsoring a child's education truly is a wonderful gift!

"The reason that I sponsor Mary is that I feel like I am having a positive impact on her life. Over and above education, she will also soon speak English and this will open up new opportunities for her as she grows up. I feel very strongly about the need for girls in developing countries to be educated and the transparency and grass roots nature of STA gives me confidence that my sponsorship is being used appropriately. I hope to return to visit Mary again one day – and next time we won't need a translator!"

~ Monica, STA Sponsor

Monica meeting Mary, her

sponsored student

Are you a sponsor?

We're hoping to make a short video about sponsorship and would love to hear why you sponsor.

Please email info@steventitoacademy.org answering the questions: 'Why do you sponsor?' and 'Why should other people sponsor?'

THANK YOU SPONSORS!



from her sponsors

Standard 5 students with letters

from their American sponsors

Mary

Let the Borrowing Begin!

Thanks to Trinity Group in Arizona and the many donors to our 2015 Furniture Fund, in May, we were able to open a library corner in the senior classroom. All the books now have a home in our new bookshelves. 6 of our senior students, with Teacher Lauren, helped sort and label hundreds of books. Each week students select two books to take home and share with their families. STA students' enthusiasm for reading seems to be growing at a rapid pace!

In Tanzania few schools have a library and often more than 20 students share one textbook.

Thanks to our many donors STA has hundreds of books to help students master the English language and support our teachers in educating our students in all subjects.



Miriam, Standard 4, selecting a book from the STA library.

2015 Furniture Fund



It's not too late to donate to the 2015 Furniture Fund! We still need \$716 to equip our storeroom and office with furniture.

By donating to <u>our furniture fund</u> you are helping us to continue to provide a well-resourced and high quality education to over 75 students.

We will use all donated money to purchase furniture and storage items for STA right here in Tanzania. So, your donation has double impact as you will be supporting the local Tanzanian economy as well!

To donate visit www.steventitoacademy.org/2015_furniture_fund