



THE SCHOOL OF
ST. YARED

St Yared Newsletter

Issue 36, March 2019

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS



On January 26 the entire School of St Yared community, including students and their families, teachers and school staff, HFC team members and government representatives, came together to celebrate our ten year anniversary. Amanda Huxtable represented the Australian St Yared family and was warmly welcomed by the whole school community. The celebration included a video slideshow, powerful testimonials, staff awards and an entertainment program. The sense of pride and ownership felt by the community was evident through the displays of

emotion and positive energy that were exhibited throughout the day.

The day was a true showcase of our achievements over our first decade and the direct transformative impact that the school has had on the lives of our students and their families. While we have experienced our fair share of challenges throughout our journey thus far, it is thanks to the combined efforts of our teachers and local staff, supporters around the world, and the dedication of our students and their families that we have been able to keep moving towards our goal to create a conducive school environment to mirror our innovative and holistic education model.

Our first ten years have shown that education truly can change lives and provide a pathway out of poverty.





MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDERS...



The School of St Yared began as a dream. Bringing dreams to life is not always easy. I know firsthand how hard working in an NGO can be but look how far we have come together! We have achieved so much and our students, parents and staff are a testimony to the value of hard work and the power of education.

Happy 10th Anniversary! Thank you for believing in our dream.

- Yared Wolde

We all have a responsibility to teach the younger generation to the best of our ability. Every one of us has lessons we have learnt in our lifetime that we need to empower them with.

I believe our job is obvious, by shining a light we assist this new generation to teach itself to achieve beyond our dreams.

As adults we need to all work hard to provide the best learning environment for our students. We should then get out of their way and allow them the room to learn, explore and achieve!

- Jacqui Gilmour



10 YEARS

A GLANCE AT THE FIRST DECADE AT THE SCHOOL OF ST YARED

- **2008 –**
 - Initial seeds planted
 - SSY started as a business.
 - First two classes of 25 students
- **2009 –**
 - School bus purchased
- **2010 –**
 - Emphasis on Professional Development and Child centred learning
 - Soccer team and art program commenced.
- **2011 –**
 - SSY becomes a project of Hope for Children, Australia
 - Library project established
 - Partnership with Stanford International School
 - School leadership team travels to Australia for training
- **2012 –**
 - Parents committee formed
- **2013 –**
 - Steve Venour appointed as Educational Advisor (School Principal)
 - Jolly Phonics program introduced
 - Lunchtime activity clubs introduced
 - Evidence of students 'paying it forward' by bringing practical knowledge into the community
- **2014 –**
 - Expansion of staff
 - Moved to Haya Arat Compound
 - Building program to increase classrooms undertaken
 - Parent Working Bee to improve grounds at new site
 - Natural History Museum field trip
 - International Primary Curriculum adopted
 - Inaugural 'Day of Sport for Development and Peace' held
 - 'Salvage/Selvedge' exhibition in Perth raises money for new school bus
 - Technology program introduces iPads into classrooms
- **2015 –**
 - '40 Kids in 40 Days' sponsorship campaign launched
 - Student visit to African Union
 - St Yared's Trust set up in UK
 - Accepted premises in Akaki
 - Senior teachers travel to Australia for an Immersion Program.
- **2016 –**
 - Parents Saving Program established
 - Hosted Jolly Phonics training program for local school teachers
 - Santa Maria College immersion program conducted
 - Science laboratories established
 - SSY soccer team win European tournament at National Stadium
 - 'Professional Spraycationers' graffiti St Yared buildings
- **2017 –**
 - Multi-media club established
 - Staff participated in Child Protection Training Conference
 - Rotary Charity House developed in Australia
- **2018 –**
 - Dawit Mamo appointed as new headmaster
 - Launch of new school logo
 - Exceptional exam results on first National Exam (Grade 8)
 - President of Israel visits school
 - Student body grown to 214 students.



The St Yared's Difference

Whenever our students are asked what makes The School of St Yared 'different' from other schools, the answer is nearly always the same: their teachers. St Yared's students do not come from ordinary situations which our dedicated team of educators know and understand. By visiting student homes and maintaining close relationships based on mentorship and compassion, our teachers gain a deeper appreciation of the challenges that their students face both in and outside of the classroom. Many students refer to their teachers as family, saying that they are more like their parents or siblings than traditional teachers. While many aspects of our education model can be emulated by others, we know that the outpouring of love that our teachers provide truly makes the greatest impact to put our students on the pathway for success.



Student Scholarships



Meet Yosef.

Yosef joined The School of St Yared in Kindy as one of our first students and is now a confident ninth grader. Yosef dreams of becoming an engineer or architect. He understands the power of education, aptly explaining: "St Yareds helps poor students through education. There's an idea that someone can only be poor or rich through money but you can also become full through education."

Through your support, students like Yosef are able to receive a free, quality education complete with all of the tools that they need to truly thrive.

Scholarship Options:

Full Student Scholarship \$1500 per year (\$125 per month)

Shared Student Scholarship \$1000 per year (\$84 per month)

Group Student Scholarship \$500 per year (\$42 per month)

Contact sponsorship@schoolofstyared.com for full details.

GET READY, YARED IS AUSTRALIA BOUND...

Yared will be coming to Australia for a three-week multi-city fundraising and awareness trip in late April. The focus will be on securing student sponsorships as well as funds for ongoing classroom construction. If you are in Perth, Melbourne or Sydney and are interested to meet with Yared or host a fundraising event or speaking engagement please reach out to jacqui.gilmour@gmail.com or sponsorship@schoolofstyared.com

Dates are:

Perth - 26 April to 5 May

Melbourne - 5 May to 12 May

Sydney - 13 May to 19 May

Perth - 20 May to 23 May



STUDENT ART CORNER



INTRODUCING DAVID LEE



We are thrilled to welcome David Lee to Addis Ababa as the new Country Representative of Hope for Children Australia. David arrived in Addis in January and has hit the ground running. David has a wealth of experience within the international development world including past experience in Ethiopia and several other African countries. We anticipate many positive changes with David at the helm of our Ethiopian team.

David brings extensive international management experience in sub-Saharan Africa and beyond.

Much of his work has focused on livelihoods and economic development and we are confident that his finance background and organisational development skills will propel us to the next level.

HIGHLIGHT: AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR VISIT



In February we were honoured to welcome the newly appointed Australian Ambassador to Ethiopia, His Excellency Peter Doyle, along with his wife Jennifer to visit The School of St Yared's Farensay campus. The Doyle's were welcomed with a coffee ceremony, had time to chat with Yared about his story and vision, toured the school and visited classrooms to see the students in action. They expressed admiration for the students and teachers and their desire to support the school. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Embassy in the future.



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