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Edition 14, May 2015

## Welcome to the Spring 2015 Edition of the StareheFuture Newsletter!

If you would like further information about the work that we do please don't hesitate to contact Michael Burton:

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**StareheFuture to bloom with NEXT Flowers in May**  
**Treat yourself or someone special to flowers in May and help support Starehe students.**

Why not celebrate Spring by treating yourself or someone special to Starehe's beautiful charity bouquet at NEXT Flowers throughout May.

Besides being a wonderful gift or a stylish treat for the home, the blooms have an extra special feature; NEXT will donate 10% of the purchase price of every charity bouquet sold to help create a brighter future for children at the Starehe Boys' and Starehe Girls' Centres in Kenya.

NEXT Flowers continue their support for the Starehe schools which began in 2011 with additional charity bouquets in 2012 and 2013.

The proceeds from previous charity bouquets have resulted in donations exceeding £16,000. We would be grateful for your help to build on this total and nurture the futures lives of Starehe students.

To purchase your bouquet during the month of May please visit <http://www.nextflowers.co.uk/FlowersItem/6737/6737> and pick the Starehe Charity Bouquet of the Month.

We thank NEXT Flowers for choosing Starehe as their charity beneficiary once again and hope you will be able to help grow futures at Starehe through this initiative.

**Starehe Boys' Centre students reporting for the BBC**  
**Starehe Boys' tell the world how they revive the art of letter-writing.**



Students at Starehe Boys' Centre captured the imagination of BBC News readers when their report on the role of letter writing at the Centre was featured as part of the BBC's School Report News Day on 19th March 2015.

The students filmed their report based on the love of letter-writing as a way of communicating with friends in other schools due to student mobile phones not being allowed at the Centre.

Whereas other children may use texting as their choice of communication with friends, at Starehe Boys' the students have revived the art of letter-writing, calligraphy and love letters

The Boys' report has stirred international interest. Amongst the supportive responses, one from Canada particularly captures why the act of writing letters is such an emotive topic:

"We find this very refreshing. Making use of technology by means of texting is a wonderful way of instantly reaching others. However, although it is an immediate way of connecting with others, it does not lend itself to a great deal of reflection... Texting cannot replace letter-writing as a caring, sympathetic, mediative, introspective way of sharing thoughts and feelings with friends. Bravo for Starehe!"

The student's report can be visited at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schoolreport/31941842>

### **2014 Exam success**

**Great results for the schools in the KCSE examination results.**



On 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015 the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education Examination results for 2014 were released with students from the Boys' Centre receiving great grades. The results revealed that the boys achieved a mean score of 10.65 out of the possible 12 points. As a result nearly all students achieved the grades to enter into University programmes.

His Excellency Mwai Kibaki, the third President of Kenya wrote to congratulate the staff and students on their results. He remarked that the performance is a clear demonstration of the resolve to ensure Starehe Boys' Centre remains a hub of excellence in modelling responsible and progressive young Kenyans.

Amongst the achievements, 6 students have won scholarships for universities and gap-year programmes overseas. These include at Stanford University, St Andrews College and University School in the USA. Armidale University in Australia, Regent School in Pattaya Thailand and Aiglon College in Switzerland.

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### **Starehe Girls' Fundraising Dinner**

**Botswana ambassador hosts fundraising gala dinner.**

In November Starehe Girls' Centre was center of attention at the annual fundraising gala dinner hosted by The Botswana Ambassador, John Moreti and his wife at their residence in Muthaiga, Nairobi.

The dinner also marked the 10 year anniversary of the Girls' Centre and students provided entertainment for the evening through their musical prowess.

Guests at the dinner included Ambassador Bethuel Kiplagat, Kenya Girl Guides Association national trustee Honorine Kiplagat, nominated senator Zipporah Kittony, Equity Bank Chief Operation Officer Julius Kipng'etich, Agha Khan University Vice Provost Professor Kweku Bentil and Ambassador Jelani Habib.

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### **Shell Manchester supports Starehe**

**Creating brighter futures with events and art auction.**



Throughout 2015 the Starehe schools will benefit from being nominated as Shell Manchester's charity with proceeds raised through a selection of events.

So far events have included book sales and an art auction of pieces from the Brabazon House Art Collection (Pictured above: *Airmen Prefer Shell*, auctioned poster designed in 1930 by Andrew Johnson).

Shell is a long term supporter of the Starehe schools. Kenya Shell/BP gave the first donation of two huts in 1959 in a slum area of Nairobi to the founders of Starehe Boys' Centre to serve as dormitories for orphaned street children.

We send our special thanks to Tom Devaney for cataloguing artwork and Shell Manchester for their ongoing support of the Starehe Centres.

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### **Big Give Christmas Challenge**

**We raised over £8,000 in our Big Give Christmas Challenge 2014.**



We would like to thank all our supporters who helped StareheFuture to raise over £8,000 in the Big Give Christmas Challenge 2014.

The total was the culmination of generous donations from individuals and companies who contributed to the pledge fund and the Christmas Challenge, alongside the contributing funds from our Charity Champion, which this year was The REED Foundation.

As with previous challenges, the Christmas Challenge was an excellent way to maximize on the potential of donations to leverage extra money.

We have the pleasure of thanking everyone who helped raise this fantastic amount.

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**Our special thanks go to the following Companies, Trusts and Individuals for their support:**

**Donations:**

Alan Britten  
Alison Greig  
Andrew Crerand  
Arup  
Bailcast  
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Belinda Spencer  
Beryl Duncan  
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Gustavo Di Gennaro  
Gwyneth Forrester Trust  
Horsell Rainbows, Brownies and Girl Guides  
HRH The Princess Anne's Charities Trust  
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Sir Peter and Lady Meryl Walters  
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St Mary's Church, Linton  
St Mary's Church, Lasham  
The Band Trust  
The Big Give and all who contributed to our Christmas challenge  
Tim Faithfull  
Tom Devaney  
Venance Milay  
Wellington College  
Westonbirt School

**Gifts in Kind:**

International Produce Limited  
Edgar Harborne

**Hosting Events:**

Eddie Day  
Shell UK

**We would also like to thank all other longstanding donors and benefactors and those who wish to remain anonymous.**

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**Thank you from StareheFuture!**



On behalf of Starehe Boys' and Girls' Centres, StareheFuture would like to thank you for your support. Please do get in touch if you would like one of our general or schools fundraising packs. We are happy to answer any questions so please do not hesitate to contact us.

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'Investing in the next generation of African leaders...'

[www.starehe.org](http://www.starehe.org)

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