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Edition 10, Spring 2012

## Welcome to the Spring 2012 Edition of the StareheFuture Newsletter!

If you would like more information about the work that we do please don't hesitate to contact Malin:

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### Starehe Triumphs in KCSE Exams



The Starehe Centres achieved fantastic results in the Kenya Certificate for Secondary Education (KCSE) 2011 examinations, with both schools ranking in the top 10 nationally. Starehe Boys' Centre ranked fourth and Starehe Girls' Centre ranked tenth. One Starehe boy was number six out of the top 10 candidates in the country. Lavender (pictured) scored a phenomenal **seven A** and one A-, making her the top student at Starehe Girls'.

The results of the KCSE exams are a true testament to the hard work and dedication of the students and the results also demonstrate the quality of teaching offered at the centres. All students at both schools qualified for university and 42% of the girls and 61% of the boys achieved an overall mark of A or A-. Every student takes eight subjects with English, Kiswahili, Mathematics and at least two natural sciences (Chemistry, Biology or Physics) as compulsory subjects. The additional three subjects can be chosen from arts/humanities or practical/applied subjects such as music, agriculture or computer studies.

We here at StareheFuture are very proud of the former Form IV students and we would like to congratulate them all on their achievements. We would also like to send our warmest wishes to the directors, staff and teachers that have encouraged and supported these students throughout their time at Starehe.

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### **Medics Day at Starehe Boys' Centre**

#### **Health screening of Form I students as they embark on their Starehe journey**

As the Form I students are settling in at Starehe Boys' Centre the school's efforts to ensure their health and well being has only just begun. On Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of March approximately 30 doctors, most of them former Starehe students, arrived at Starehe Boys' Centre to help carry out health screenings of the students who started their secondary education at Starehe in January 2012.

During Medics Day all new students are given a general physical examination, a dental examination, a vaccine against typhoid and a general health talk. The dental examination is an important part of the health screening as boys from rural areas often are unaware of the importance of oral hygiene and the Medics Day at Starehe Boys' Centre is their first encounter with a dentist.

Senior cadets support the doctors and medical staff by recording weight, body

temperature and blood pressure of their fellow students. This eases the workload for the medical team and gives the cadets valuable first-hand experience.

Numerous Starehe boys have their mind successfully set on a career in medicine and 30% of all trainee doctors in public university in Kenya are former Starehe students.



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### **New Computers Thanks to Reed Elsevier**

#### **The current computer facilities at the boys' centre are insufficient and dated, but thanks to Reed Elsevier the school is taking a step towards better facilities and access to global information**



StareheFuture is thrilled to announce that Reed Elsevier has donated £3,125 towards the improvement of the ICT facilities at the school, the funds are being used to purchase additional computers and monitors.

Starehe Boys' Centre currently has 20 computers that serve the entire student community of over 1,000 boys including senior students doing Computer Studies for their KCSE exams and higher education students studying for an IT diploma. In order to teach the students essential IT-skills and how to access global information, an improvement of the inadequate and outdated computer facilities is needed, and this is a great step in the right direction.

The news of the donation was gratefully received at the school and both staff and students are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the new computers.

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### Sports in Focus

**The London 2012 Olympics are just around the corner, and StareheFuture would like to highlight the vibrant sporting community and the myriad of sports activities available at the Centres.**

Starehe Boys' Centre offers a wide range of sports activities, from football, which is the most popular, to swimming and taekwondo. All boys are encouraged to take part in at least one physical activity and there are over ten different sports available for students' recreation at the school.



*practice in March 2012*

On the weekends the Starehe Boys' Centre bus whizzes across the city taking the teams to tournaments, competitions and matches. The football team and the basketball team are doing very well and the handball team has also proven to have potential. The most successful team at the school is the athletics team. They have done the school very proud and are currently the provincial champions of Nairobi.

Starehe is also proud to have the first tchoukball team in Kenya, for you who are unfamiliar with this sport it is a 7-a-side ballgame combining elements of handball, volleyball and squash. The boys hope that the tchoukball team will do well and develop to an international level.

*Pictured: The athletics team at Starehe Boys' Centre during*

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### Premier League Raising the Team Spirit at Starehe Girls' Centre!

**New sports pitch, changing rooms and sports kits for the students at Starehe Girls' Centre**



The students are on top form and the team spirit is high, so let's hope they will exceed previous year's achievements and push SGC to the very top!

Thanks to a very generous donation from Barclays Premier League, a new five-a-side sports pitch has been excavated and new changing rooms have been built for the students at Starehe Girls' Centre. The new sports pitch replaces the uneven sloping field formerly used as a playing field.

The donation also included sports kits that are used during games and at competitions, as well as equipment such as goal posts and balls. According to Doris, the Captain of ball-games at the school: *"the new facilities and equipment have really helped encouraged the girls to create teams and foster team spirit - with the most popular activities being football and athletics"*. Last year the girls reached Provincial level in football and the girls made it all the way to National level in athletics.

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**Westonbirt School Sings for Starehe!**  
Headmistress Mary Henderson tells us about the warm relationship between two very special schools:

"I had the privilege of visiting Starehe Girls' and meeting both staff and pupils. I was so impressed with the working atmosphere and also by the spirit and liveliness of the girls that I promised them all at their assembly that I would return to Westonbirt School and urge my girls to start fundraising for the Centre.

The Head Girl led the way by donating her sponsorship money from the Bristol Half Marathon which she ran in 2011. The girls were all keen to raise enough money to pay for a girl's education at the centre and last July they chose Starehe as their charity for our summer concert and barbeque. I matched the funds they raised and by the end of the year we had enough money to pay for 3 years of our sponsored student Grace's education. The girls are moved by the knowledge that they are

making such a difference to Grace's life and they are looking forward to the cultural enrichment that their friendship with Grace and with Starehe Girls' Centre will bring them."

*Mary Henderson, Headmistress, Westonbirt School*

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**Sewing the Seeds for Future Business Women!**

A post-secondary project (during the 'gap' year between final exams and taking up University places) teaching skills of embroidery and business is under way with 9 girls taking part in training at Starehe Girls' Centre. Elizabeth Elvin from the Royal School of Needlework generously gives her time for free and tutors the girls the intricate art of needlework & goldwork. The embroidery training is combined with business studies and the girls are also encouraged to develop their entrepreneurial skills. The Barber Trust has generously sponsored the project and we would like to say a big thank you for the amazing support and efforts of Elizabeth Elvin and Lady Meryl Walters, who was the inspiration behind the funding for this project.

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**Are You Ready to Sweat?**

**What better year and place than London 2012 to take part in sports events and challenges in support of Starehe?!**

The year of the London Olympics is filled with running and cycling events across the country to suit all abilities. In return for your training, commitment and fundraising for a great cause, we will provide you with a fundraising pack, a running vest, motivation and encouragement. In the past years committed Starehe supporters have helped raise thousands of pounds by taking part in sponsored walks, swims and marathons and we hope that the Olympics will encourage even more of

you to work up a sweat for Starehe. You'll be able to create your own fundraising page on BT My Donate which will make it easy for your friends and family to support you efforts.

To find out more about the running and cycling events available in 2012 please contact the Appeal Coordinator on [malin.rosenkvist@starehe.org](mailto:malin.rosenkvist@starehe.org) or call 0207 934 6930.

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

Beacon Equity Trust  
Cobham Hall  
Elizabeth Elvin  
HSBC  
Lady Meryl Walters  
Wellington College

**We would also like to thank all other donors and benefactors 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 during the last three months of the Appeal. 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)

Please respond to this email with '[unsubscribe](#)' as the subject title if you do not wish to receive further communication from Starehe UK. The StareheFuture campaign is being generously supported by Shell International which is funding material and administration costs, ensuring that supporters' gifts can be directed straight to both Starehe schools

