

KUCETEKELA FOUNDATION

Student Profile

Name: **Justin Mushitu**

Gender: Male

Date of Birth: 15th September, 1995

Place of Birth: Lusaka, Zambia

Father: Mr. Mushitu

Profession: Cab driver

Mother: Mrs. Mushitu

Profession: Housewife

Primary School: Northmead Basic School

Secondary School: **Chalo Trust School**

2012 Level: **Grade 12**



Family Background:

Before attending Chalo Trust Secondary School, Justin lived with his aunt and uncle who assumed guardianship of Justin out of concern for Justin's education. His uncle, Mr. Kajoba was the sole provider and his income, in view of other expenses, would not have been able to sustain Justin's education needs at secondary school level.

He has since moved back in with his mother and father. Justin's father is a taxi driver. His business was doing very poorly, and the family had to take all of their children out of school. The KF sponsorship has removed an enormous burden from the family—they said, with the help of KF, that they can now afford to send their younger children to school. Justin spends his holidays at home with his parents, and reflected that KF has helped bring his family together again. Justin's mother is currently attending a computer-training course at the Worthington Center in hopes to find a job to add to the family income. While their lives have improved, they continue to face challenges. They have recently move homes, since the previous rent was too expensive.

Justin's Educational Background:

Primary - Northmead Basic School

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Justin had always been outstanding in his academic performance. He was always at the top of his class. When he first attended Northmead Basic School, he attained the highest score on the very first test he took. Justin also had the highest test scores of any Kucetekela Foundation scholarship applicant. Justin switched schools several times, but regular tutoring helped him maintain good grades.

At Chalo Trust School

Grade 8

Justin's teachers commented on how intelligent he is. Usually Justin finished among the top five students in his overall academic standing, and sometimes scored 100% on tests when he put in the right amount of effort.

Achievements from grade 8:

- One of the best students during term one
- Second overall in the class

Grade 9

Justin's academic results were outstanding in grade 9. He attained above 90% in both science and math. He also began to excel creatively, receiving 95% in his art class—he said that he especially enjoyed drawing still life. Art helped him to balance the hard work of his studies. Justin also took his grade 9 national exams at the end of the year, attaining impressive results.

Grade 9 Academic Achievements

- 2nd Position in Grade 9
- Best student in Information and Computing Technology for 2009

Grade 10

Justin has been jostling for the top spot in his class throughout grade 10. At the end of term one, Justin finished with first position with seven As! At the end of term two, Justin finished with second position, again earning seven As. He finished the year in second position, earning top grades in five subjects. His teachers say he has been competing with a friend to be the best in the class. "Justin has a very good tendency of competing with his classmates academically," they wrote. "This helps him to research more and more. By so doing, his intelligence keeps on growing and his problem solving skills also strengthen." Justin continues to excel in science and math, even in the very difficult subject of additional mathematics. Justin is looking forward to competing for the top spot in his class during grade 11!

Grade 11

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Justin has seen more of the same success in Grade 11. Earning 3 A+'s and 3 B's he secured the 2nd position in his class in Term 1. In Term 2 he improved to 5 A+'s and 2 A's, keeping his spot at 2nd in his class. He is especially proud of his results in Additional Maths, Geography and Development Studies. Justin has also had an eventful and successful year outside of class. Recently, he was appointed as a Prefect at Chalo. As President of the Plastics Project community service project at Chalo, he has been highly involved in the advancement of its goals. In this role he was invited to attend the "Plastics are Forever" Youth Summit in Los Angeles, USA put on by The Algalita Marine Foundation. He also had the honor of speaking at the annual UNICEF Children's Climate Change Conference, and was later appointed a UNICEF Climate Change Ambassador. Justin is looking forward to continuing his success in and out of the classroom in Term 3.

Interests and Hobbies:

Justin is a strong athlete, though he admits that his focus is more upon school than on sports. "I like sports," he says, "but I find it just as satisfying to compete with my grades." Justin participates in basketball and cross-country. He placed fifth in the inter-house cross country race but hopes with training to move up in the ranking in grade 11. He pushes himself hard in his athletic endeavors, always striving to improve his time and ranking the school cross-country competitions.

Off the field, he is a part of Jets and Math club. He especially enjoys solving math and science problems under pressure and working in teams to construct experiments. He has learned to cooperate with others and work towards a common goal, a skill which he applies in class and sports.

He is also highly involved with the service project entitled African Students Against Plastic (ASAP). The aim of the project is to spread awareness about environmental issues, especially climate change. This project has successfully surveyed Zambians about their plastic awareness, and has recently begun work on products made from recyclable materials and a book intended to spread awareness about environmental concerns. Through this passion he was invited to attend a Plastics Awareness conference in the USA and has been appointed a UNICEF Climate Change Ambassador.

Justin had the opportunity to do two weeks of work experience this past August, which allowed Justin to explore two different careers he has expressed interest in. He spent a week at the Showground Veterinary Clinic, helping to clean and groom the animals, assisting with surgeries, and more. The second week he worked at Grandad Digital Printing, where he learned about the advertising and graphic design industries.

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Justin's Career Interests:

Justin is interested in being an accountant or veterinarian. He is interested in accounting because he would like to learn how businesses run efficiently, but he is also interested in becoming a vet because of his love for science and animals.

What others think of Justin:

"Justin is a hard working student. He has worked very hard throughout the year. His academic prowess is shown by grades obtained in the 9 subjects he is taking. Justin is very cooperative. He endeavors to participate in all school programs."

Justin's Role Model

Justin looks up to Donald Trump because he is a successful businessman. He admires his drive and entrepreneurship. "He is smart and hard-working. I hope to work as hard as he did and be successful in life and work."

Justin's Thoughts

"I am thankful for the good things KF has done for me. I have come to this good school all because of KF. KF has helped my parents to provide us with things that I never used to have and for that I say thank you."