



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

29 SEPTEMBER 2017

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The Grade 0 and Little Saints children enjoyed celebrating Heritage Day

FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

In a recent article on Jane Austen ("Which Jane Austen?" 28 September 2017, *The New York Review of Books*), writer Ruth Bernard Yeazell makes reference to the Bank of England's unveiling of a new £10 note this July to mark the bicentenary of Austen's death: it is only the second image of a woman to appear on British currency - the other, obviously, is of the queen.

Two aspects of the Austen bill resonate with themes raised at the ICP conference Deanne King and I attended in Cape Town last week. Allow me to explain. The bank decided to use a prettified image of Austen created by her nephew, as well as a quotation from *Pride and Prejudice* (1813) - "I declare after all there is no enjoyment like reading!" - that, in Yeazell's words, "is actually spoken by one of the novel's snobs, Caroline Bingley, as she yawns and flings aside a book picked up only because it's the second volume of one Darcy has chosen. Miss Bingley, in fact has been 'quite as much engaged in watching Mr Darcy's progress through his book, as in reading her own.'"

These two choices, the cosmetically pleasing image, the quote taken out of context, capture what I would identify as the less overt themes explored in conference sessions. Firstly, the time for cosmetic change is over. In order to create authentic and sustainable schools, it is imperative that we effect real, considered change, and do not just talk about progressive-sounding trends and knee-jerk technological innovation. Secondly, context

matters: what was apparent in a number of sessions presented by speakers from across the world was that there is no one solution or magic formula that can be used in every school to address or further questions about curriculum, sustainability and transformation. Even when the founder of the African Leadership Academy, Fred Swaniker, exhorted school principals to "do hard things", he wanted us to understand that the directive can be pursued intentionally only by our first engaging with the particular educational context in which we find ourselves.

Without taking both of these points into serious consideration, we risk spoiling the very initiatives through which we mean to point the school in a promising direction - without, in other words, refusing solutions that sound and look attractive, and being mindful always of our responsibility to maintain a balance of continuity and change, we risk provoking the disappointment that taints potentially significant projects like the £10 note intended to honour a great woman writer. The unrecognisable image and the poor choice of quote sells the vision short by appearing expedient and insensitive: we need to do much better.

DR SARAH WARNER
HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

“No one after lighting a lamp hides it under a jar, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a lampstand, so that those who enter may see the light.”
- Luke 8:16

Like a lit lamp, Christ's light within us cannot help but shine. This is the effect of our relationship with Christ; evidence of the Holy Spirit at work within us. It is not about our becoming someone we are not, or about our avoiding how we feel when we experience sadness. Rather, it is about letting go: being transparently and completely ourselves so that the effect of Christ's work is not hidden, and such that others in contact with us are also empowered to be completely themselves, to the same effect.

**REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN**



FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



TENNIS

League match

St Mary's played against Brescia in the first match of the season. All the teams won by a comfortable margin. Well done to all the girls who played in these matches.

Results

14 September

St Mary's A beat Brescia 50-13

St Mary's B beat Brescia 44-19

St Mary's C beat Brescia 48-15

St Mary's D beat Brescia 41-22

21 September

St Mary's A lost to Holy Rosary 35-46

St Mary's B beat Holy Rosary 60-21

St Mary's C beat St Stithians 38-26

St Mary's D beat St Stithians 54-9

Grade 5

St Mary's beat St Stithians 35-10

Parents and daughters' tennis

On Saturday 9 September, the Junior School hosted a fun tennis day, where the players could come to play doubles with their moms or dads. There was some fierce competition and many close matches were played during the afternoon. Thank you to all the Grade 4 to 7 girls who took part, and also to the parents who came and enjoyed the day with us.

The winners of the day were:

Kevin Anderson Group - Teachers

Serena Williams Group – Simon and Abigail Rigby

Rafael Nadal Group – Jamey and Ryan Forrester

**CECILE MURRAY
TENNIS COACH**



Kevin Anderson Group



Serena Williams Group



Rafael Nadal Group

WATER POLO

St Dominic's Festival

Our U13 water polo team played in the St Dominic's Festival on Saturday 16 September and had a wonderful start to the season.

The team played against U13 and U14 teams and recorded some excellent results:

vs St Stithians U14: 2-2

vs St Stithians U13: 6-1

vs St Dominic's U13: 9-1

vs St Dominic's U14: 5-7

TARYN DE WINNAAR
HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL



Samantha Faber and Olivia Haselau celebrate as the U13 team score

ATHLETICS

On Friday 15 September, with only a week's training, the athletics team had a great start to the season at the first weekly athletics meeting.

The results were as follows:

St Mary's 411

St Andrew's 349

Brescia 315

St Peter's 290

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU
ATHLETICS COACH

CONGRATULATIONS

Nakita Hacker represented Gauteng in the provincial artistic gymnastic championships in Pretoria on 16 September. She received a gold medal for bar, and silver for vault and beam. She came 2nd overall, and has been selected to represent Gauteng at the SA Games Championships on 7 October.



MUSE MORNING

All parents are welcome to join us at the Muse Morning on Tuesday 3 October.

Time: 07h15 - 08h30

Venue: Wantage auditorium, Resource Centre

Speaker: Alison Bentley, medical doctor specialising in sleep research

Topic: Sleep or studying – are they mutually exclusive?

Sleep is often considered to be a waste of time, particularly when it comes to examinations and time needed for studying. Tales abound of the all-night studying. Evidence regarding learning and memory would indicate that sleep is essential for good learning not only during examinations but every day. Many children are diagnosed as having attention deficit disorder, when they may simply have a sleep deficit, as the daytime symptoms look very similar.

Dr Bentley is a medical doctor who has been involved in sleep research and sleep disorders in babies, children, adolescents and adults in South Africa for the past 30 years. She believes that often the sleep of patients is ignored when they complain of problems during the day but the two are closely linked. She gives many talks each year to doctors and the lay public on various topics including the management of insomnia and other sleep disorders.

Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Refreshments will be available at the tennis pavilion, outside the auditorium of the Senior Resource Centre (Wantage).

RSVP: sharon.san@stmary.co.za

The Book People

REACHING PEOPLE THROUGH BOOKS

BOOK SALE

WHERE:

St Mary's Junior School library

WHEN:

3 October: 09h00 - 15h00

4 October: 07h30 - 15h00

5 October: 07h30 - 15h00

The Book People are going to be making their children's and adult books, fiction and non-fiction, available to you the parents. They have a wide range of amazing children's books, many of which are exclusive to them. The Book People pride themselves on quality books, supplied from top publishers throughout the world. So come to take advantage of the lowest prices in the country and support our school at the same time. A large percentage of the sale and stock goes directly back to the school.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Credit cards and cheques accepted
ALL welcome!



The Discovery St Mary's Golf Day

- Date: Friday 6 October
- Venue: Parkview Golf Club
- Format: Four ball alliance
- Time: Shotgun start at 12h00

For further information, to book your space and for sponsorship details please contact Estelle du Toit:

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- 082 490 2274
- edutoit@bopamoruo.co.za

<http://www.stmarysschool.co.za/news/entry/the-discovery-st-marys-golf-day-2017>