



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

# JUST JUNIOR NEWS

1 NOVEMBER 2019



Tel: 011 531 1880 | smjunior@stmary.co.za | www.stmaryschool.co.za



US astronauts Christina Koch and Jessica Meir completed the first all-women spacewalk on Friday, 18 October 2019



LEGO's women of NASA

## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

On Tuesday, 22 October St Mary's hosted an open day for the parents of Grade 0 2021 or, as these girls will be known to us on the other end of their passage through the school, the class of 2033. There is an elegant significance to the numbers involved: not only will the girls matriculate in 2033, but they will arrive in Grade 0 at St Mary's in the school's 133<sup>rd</sup> year.

The year 2033 is significant for other reasons too: it is the year that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the European Space Agency projected sending a human mission to Mars which is why I have come to think of this particular group of Grade 0s, or "naughties" as the rest of the Junior Primary calls them, as the "astronaughties". My hope is that the world they inhabit and shape as women will no longer be celebrating events like the one that took place a fortnight ago on Friday, 18 October when US astronauts Christina Koch and Jessica Meir ventured outside the International Space Station to complete the first all-women spacewalk.

What the celebration of Koch and Meir's seven-hour mission to replace a failed power control unit highlighted is that, even though it is the 221<sup>st</sup> spacewalk performed in support of space station assembly, it's the first in five decades to be undertaken entirely by women – an historically important detail that was lost on President Donald Trump when he congratulated the pair on "conducting the first-ever female spacewalk". With her first spacewalk, Meir becomes the 15<sup>th</sup> woman overall and the 14<sup>th</sup> woman from the US to spacewalk; Russian astronaut Svetlana Savitskaya became the first and only Russian woman to spacewalk when she ventured outside the Salyut 7 space station for three hours and 35 minutes in 1984.

These figures will change, are changing, through the intentional education and empowerment of girls. As a NASA press release explained: "The all-woman spacewalk wasn't something we purposefully planned, though, it was bound to happen eventually because of the increasing number of female astronauts. Koch and Meir's 2013 class of astronaut candidates was 50% women." It seems fitting that this historically significant step for women should occur in 2019, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing – talk of the first moon landing leads to speculation about NASA's return expedition, the Artemis program; in Meir's words: "I would love to be the first woman on the moon. That would be my ideal mission."

Standing in the Junior School amphitheatre addressing the parents of the class of 2033, my thoughts turned to gifts from the past to the future. The plaque from the Grade 7s of 2011 dedicates the amphitheatre to future girls and describes it as, "A place under the sky, to meet, to play, to dream, to perform and to grow." In 2017, my first year at St Mary's, LEGO launched its women of NASA set with the celebration of five notable women pioneers: computer scientist, Margaret Hamilton; mathematician and space scientist, Katherine Johnson; astronaut, physicist and educator, Sally Ride; astronomer, Nancy Grace Roman; astronaut, physician and entrepreneur, Mae Jemison. These women, like the generations of girls who have attended St Mary's, have given our daughters space (and the pun is intended) to grow. We thank them for this extraordinary gift.

**DR SARAH WARNER**  
**HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL**





Past St Mary's Junior School girls from the classes of 2009 and 2011 celebrating the opening of the new amphitheatre on 5 October 2012

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

### The Sixth Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus



*Veronica reaches out from the crowd to wipe the face of Jesus, which is a brave act of love, amidst the hostile crowd. She points to Jesus as a reminder that, when we reach out to others in need, we are reaching out to Him. The cloth becomes transparent as Christ's face is imprinted on it.*

*"And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'*

*– Matthew 25:40 (NRSV)*

Lord, as Veronica did,  
 help me to reach across the invisible divide between 'us' and 'them'.  
 Show me your face in the "other", anguished.  
 May a part of me be forever changed by my interaction  
 with you-in-another.  
 Amen.

Joseph Chaane, husband to Thandi Chaane who is the Chairman of our Board of Directors, passed away in hospital on Thursday 17 October. He had been unwell for some time. A Requiem Mass for Joseph Chaane was held at St Michael's Anglican Church in Bryanston on Saturday 26 October. We continue to hold Mme Thandi and her family in our prayers.

Xolani Gwala also passed away in hospital this morning, Friday 1 November, following a long battle with cancer. Please keep Nobuhle (Grade 4) and her mother Peggy-Sue Khumalo in your prayers at this time. (Note that we are not yet aware of funeral arrangements.)

*Rest eternal grant unto Joseph, Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon him.*

**REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
 CHAPLAIN**



## GRADE 5 TANKA POEMS

### Fiery Autumn by Ella McCormack

Leaves fall from dead trees  
A rainbow mess of colour  
Crunch under my feet  
Cold weather and stormy clouds  
Fiery leaves and bare trees

### Owl with White Wings by Jennifer Pringle

An owl with white wings  
Soaring through the starry night  
Flying silently,  
As the sun begins to rise  
The owl shuts its amber eyes.

### My Unforgettable Winter by Jessica Dyantyi

Frigid wintery air  
Icy snow lies on the ground  
My cold body shakes  
Tightly clutching my jacket  
As the frosty air hits my face

### Diving Competition by Daniella van der Berg

Shimmering water  
Board as rough as sandpaper  
Creaking as I stand  
Splash! The pool as cold as ice  
The water ripples gently

**CHRISTI LAWLESS**  
**TEACHER: SENIOR PRIMARY**

## TOUR DE MATHS



These girls attended Tour de Maths at St Peter's on 22 October. They enjoyed the experience.

Back row: Nalina Naidoo, Zeinab Kone, Riley Bate, Mrs Dendere, Lebone Ramakgopa, Shauna Stead, and Jamey Forrester  
Front row: Kate Williams, Natasha Jenkins, Adaora Mbanefo and Sophia Babaya



# LITTLE SAINTS NEWS

Over the past six months, the Little Saints children have come to understand the importance of bees in our environment. They have developed a love for bees and gained a rich and in-depth understanding of the different roles bees play inside the hive, different types of hives, why bees pollinate flowers and how honey is made. They have developed an empathy for these little insects and want to protect and look after them.

children have developed for bees. They sang their hearts out, recited their words with gusto and loved dancing the waggle dance.

Our enquiry into bees has ended this term with our artwork and documentation currently on display in the Norwood Mall.

**CELIA DIANA**  
**HoD: LITTLE SAINTS**

The *Little Bees Sing* production is testament to the compassion the





# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



## ATHLETICS

On Friday 11 October, the athletics team participated in an athletics meeting at St Andrew's and the results were as follows:

St Mary's	530
St Stithians	459
Kingsmead	452½
St Andrew's	387½
St Teresa's	133

On Friday 18 October, the athletics team participated in an athletics meeting at St Peter's and the results were as follows:

St Mary's	434
St Peter's	392
Brescia House	336

**ANTOINETTE MSHENGU**  
**HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL**

## TENNIS

### Junior tennis festivals

St Mary's top four players from Grade 4, 5, 6 and 7 played in tennis festivals on the 19 October. The girls played extremely well and gained good experience and match practise. Results are not recorded as the festivals are time based.

**TEENA LOWNDES**  
**TENNIS COACH**



Congratulations to Moresi Tuwane on winning the mini-series tournament that was held in Atteridgeville, over half-term

**Grade 4-7 mom/dad/sibling and daughters' social tennis afternoon**

Date: Thursday 14 November 2019

Time: 16h00 - 18h00

RSVP: [rene.plant@stmary.co.za](mailto:rene.plant@stmary.co.za) by Thursday 7 November

A light supper and refreshments will be provided.

# NOTICES

## MUSE MORNING - ALL PARENTS WELCOME

Date: 12 November

Time: 07h30 to 08h30

Venue: seminar room

Topic: Helping your child maximise the opportunities of social media and also navigate the challenges

Speaker: Luke Lamprecht

[RSVP: lynsay.young@stmary.co.za](mailto:lynsay.young@stmary.co.za)



### Luke Lamprecht Biography

“Working with children is walking on holy ground, be mindful of the footprints that you leave”

Luke Lamprecht is a Child Protection and Development Specialist, with 26 years of experience in the NPO field. He has worked with organisations including Lefika La Phodiso: The Art Therapy Centre, The Teddy Bear Clinic for Abused Children, Johannesburg Child Welfare, Childline, Bigshoes and the Johannesburg Parent and Child Counseling Centre. He is also a director at Fight With Insight: a boxing gym based at the Children’s Memorial Institute in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, where he coaches inner-city children.

As a Child Protection and Development Specialist, Luke works with children in conflict with the law, children with autism, and children with behavioural challenges and psychiatric diagnoses. As an expert and consultant, he convenes the Johannesburg Child Advocacy Forum, supervises Women and Men Against Child Abuse’s Alexandra Victim Empowerment Programme, consults to the founder of the South African Male Survivors of Sexual Abuse, and advises on child protection issues for the Shaken and Abused Baby Initiative. Lamprecht also compiled a protocol for Child Protection and HIV intervention (for children, adolescents and families) for child protection professionals.

Lamprecht regularly conducts talks and training sessions on social cohesion, servitude leadership, BEING MAN, child protection and development, health, mental health, disability, cyber-development and sexuality under Brain Mechanics. He is currently completing an MSc in Neurodevelopment at Wits and has an Advanced Health Management qualification from FPD and Yale University.