



Well done Springboks – you have made us so proud! (source: ewn.co.za)

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

The final weeks of the school year are focused on examinations and the assessment that they offer us about how each girl has progressed. These results bring closure to the school year, but they do not predict future progress or achievement for any individual. This is important to remember given that examinations cause stress and tension for the girls and their families.

When I spoke last week to the parents and the girls who will join St Mary's in January 2020, I observed that development is incremental and staggered. It requires patience and is often only observed with hindsight. The path to matric holds challenges, experiences and personal development and so it is beneficial to focus on how we navigate the path rather than merely contemplating the destination. At the same function, our head girl of 2020, Tlou Duba, spoke of lessons learned and the enjoyment of experiencing the highs and lows within the supportive pupil body of St Mary's School.

It is a delight to hear from the girls who offer honest and personal accounts of their adolescent journeys. The extract below is a personal reflection written for an English creative writing task:

Life is not a shuffle or a race, but a journey that is ours alone to travel. Its success demands that we move freely, at our own pace and in our own

direction. It is not only about the destination, but also about the twists and turns, the hurdles and hardships, and our unique challenges and victories along the way. All of these make us the person we are created to be. Comparisons are joy bandits that rob us of our blessings and progress along the road.

... It is through my faith I can be content and joyful because I trust in God's plan for my life, I do not have to fear missing out or feel inadequate. I will never strive to be someone I am not. I will not let envy rob me of the joy of each blessing and once-off opportunity God has given me in my amazing life ... even if it is not always perfect.

– Hannah Moore, Form III

I am grateful to Hannah for allowing me to share her writing with our community.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGE 6 FOR ALL OUR IMPORTANT NOTICES

FROM THE CHAPLAIN



On Tuesday 22 October, 27 confirmands were confirmed by Bishop Steve Moreo, Bishop of Johannesburg, at a Eucharist held in our school chapel

[Jesus] entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much."

Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

– Luke 19:1-10 (NRSV)

Zaccheus, as an Israelite tax collector for the cruel Roman authorities, likely also claimed greater amounts of tax for himself such that he could take a cut of the taxes he collected. He would thus have been viewed as a traitor to his people. Jesus invited himself to Zaccheus' house, thereby extending the invitation to himself that Zaccheus

may not have thought Jesus would or should accept, nor dreamed he would have the opportunity to make. By doing this, Christ created a moment in which Zaccheus faced his community and had the opportunity to repent, thereby being reconciled with his community. It would have been much easier for Christ to walk on by the strange spectacle of a small, wealthy-dressed man, clinging onto a tree branch. Yet, how movingly like Christ it is to reach through the walls between peoples to create such a grace-filled moment.

Joseph Chaane, husband to Thandi Chaane who is the Chairperson 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.

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

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

IKUSASA LETHU



Ikusasa Lethu prizegiving

The Ikusasa Lethu Saturday school ended for the year with the annual prizegiving on 12 October. Professor Nongxa addressed the pupils and we were delighted to welcome Sarah Mthintso, the head of the Telkom Foundation, parents, mentors, staff and pupils to this auspicious occasion.

LINDA GIURICICH
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



ATHLETICS



Congratulations to Holly-Rose Brady who won the U15 high jump with a magnificent leap of 1,65m at the Central Gauteng meeting on Saturday 2 November.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

SWIMMING



Congratulations to Isabelle Barrow who was selected for Gauteng Schools' swimming team to participate at the SA Schools' Summer Games from 8 to 13 December.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

TENNIS



Furse and Phelps

Well done to all the tennis players for the commitment shown over the past term. Unfortunately, the last event of the season, the junior A and B inter-high competition, had to be cancelled owing to inclement weather.

The 1st and 2nd teams lost the final match of the league to a very strong team from Helpmekaar. Congratulations to the St Mary's E and F team for beating King David Linksfield AB in their final match of the league. I thank Ms de Winnaar for her help with the junior practices and Mrs Lowndes, Mrs Ingersent and Ms Johnson for all their assistance with the teams on Tuesdays. Your help is much appreciated.



Clayton and Karney

Well done to all the players who participated in the inter-house tennis competition. The tennis was of a high standard and much fun was had by all. Thank you to the all the Form III girls who organised their house teams for the event. Congratulations to Phelps for winning the event by one point from Furse, followed by Clayton and Karney.

Congratulations to Simone Banducci, Alexis Banducci and Amukelani Mokone for winning the U14, U16 and U18 singles titles respectively in the mini-series event that was held in Atteridgeville over half-term. Well done and keep up the hard work.

RENE PLANT
HEAD OF TENNIS

WATER POLO



St Mary's 1st team – Ros Howell (manager)



Dalila Spinazze U14 Roedean Tournament



Abigail Milella at St Stithians Invitational 2019



Emma Morley U14 Roedean Tournament



Hannah Henry shoots for goal



Nicola Watt having some fun

The U14 and 1st team water polo players played in national schools' water polo tournaments over half-term.

The U14 team competed in the U14 Roedean Water Polo Festival and the 1st team in the St Stithians Invitational Water Polo Tournament.

The U14 team placed 12th in the tournament. The team did well considering that, for five members of the team, this was their first ever water polo tournament.

The 1st team had an excellent tournament despite finishing 14th out of 20 teams. Having lost only one match by one goal in the pool matches to Crawford Lonehill, drawing two pool matches to Clarendon and Durban Girls' College and then beating Kingswood College, the team was sadly bumped to fourth in the pool. They continued to play great water polo, beating St Mary's Kloof 5-1 and St Anne's Diocesan College 5-4 in the relegation matches. Their final match for 13th/14th place was another nail-biter and the team lost in a penalty shootout to Kingswood College.

Scores were as follows for the 1st team at the St Stithians Invitational 2019:

Win: St Mary's Waverley 9-5 Kingswood College

Draw: St Mary's Waverley 5-5 Clarendon

Draw: St Mary's Waverley 4-4 Durban Girls' College

Loss: St Mary's Waverley 4-5 Crawford Lonehill

Win: St Mary's Waverley 5-1 St Mary's Kloof

Win: St Mary's Waverley 5-4 St Anne's Diocesan College

Loss: St Mary's Waverley 6-6 Kingswood College (Lost 3-1 in penalties)

KELSEY WHITE
HEAD OF WATER POLO

BASKETBALL



1st and U16 teams vs Pretoria DSG

Our final two fixtures of the season included matches against Pretoria DSG, St Dunstan's and Saheti. Pretoria DSG are a strong basketball school and although the results didn't go our way, we enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of basketball against talented opposition. Our U14s and U15s played matches against St Dunstan's. Both matches were closely contested affairs and our girls fought hard until the end. Both teams enjoyed narrow victories. Our U16 team played against Saheti. The match was a very physical one where our team handled themselves well and also enjoyed a win.

An additional highlight for the season was our participation in the JBA U18 and Senior Women's Basketball Tournament held at Kibler Park.



U15 team vs Pretoria DSG

This tournament showcases the high standard of some of the top senior and U18 teams in the province. St Mary's entered a mixed age team that played against teams from Michael Mount, Soweto Academy, JBA U18 and Raiders. Our girls benefited from playing against such strong teams and, as the weekend progressed, the level of improvement was evident.

Thank you to the coaches, players and other officials for the season. The higher level of commitment and the growing interest in basketball is positive. We look forward to a happy and successful 2020 season.

TARYN DE WINNAAR
HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL SPORT

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



WEBPROTECT

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.