

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

12 JULY 2019



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Heads from schools seen at The Edge: St Mary's, St John's College, Sacred Heart College, Crawford College Schools and Jeppe High School for Boys, with Bongani Bingwa, at the "Transforming our schools: conversations with Bongani Bingwa" evening, which took place on Thursday 27 June

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

The winter half-term provides a much-needed rest after mid-year examinations and a break in routine during the winter months. The girls returned to school on Monday looking relaxed and refreshed. Our terms have intense weeks and real demands on time but there is always relief with the half-term breaks and our long holidays.

A different pace, routine and focus give us all a time to shift perspective and to see our lives through a different lens. Although routine is vital and healthy for children, so too is its disruption to allow for rejuvenation. Our children stand to benefit from knowing how to balance the demands of study, co-curricular activities, recreation and rest. Knowing this balance and being able to apply it to life is a valuable life skill for our children to master.

The management team and I spend significant time reviewing the year calendar and reflecting on what events and scheduling contribute to the best possible experience for the girls. In the coming fortnight, there

will be some valuable disruptions in the school routine.

Studium Apertum is a welcome indulgence in the performing arts and intellectual extension for the girls. It is opportunity for curiosity and debate outside of the curriculum. I encourage parents to check the app for the schedule and list of speakers on Saturday. We look forward to parents joining us for the Saturday programme. In the week after, we will shift focus to social responsibility and service to the wider community as we celebrate Mandela Day, and reflect on the difference each one of us can make in our country.

DEANNE KING, HEAD OF SCHOOL

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGE 8 AND 9 FOR ALL OUR IMPORTANT NOTICES

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town."

- Matthew 10:7-15 (NRSV)

It is the sentence, "[you] received without payment; give without payment" that stays with me, in the Bible reading above. Like Jesus' disciples sent to minister to God's people, we have received Christ's grace and healing, a taste of the kingdom of heaven, for free and undeserved. It is for us to let God's Holy Spirit bring grace and healing to those we meet through us – for free, and undeserved – so that they too may experience the kingdom of heaven here on Earth.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS, CHAPLAIN



STUDIUM APERTUM



Please note this is a compulsory school day for all girls in Form I to matric (at no extra cost). Should parents wish to participate, booking is available on Quicket at a cost of R50 per person. There will be books by Rekgotsofetse Chikane and Fred Khumalo for sale. If anyone would like to purchase these books, there will be SnapScan, Zapper and credit card facilities available.

Programme 13 July 2019

09h00 to 10h00 Keynote speaker

 Rekgotsofetse Chikane: Our Generational Mandate: Breaking the Rainbow, Building a Nation

10h15 to 11h15

- Sarah Nuttall: Reimagining Schools
- Fred Khumalo: The Lion Speaks Tonight: Disrupting Established History Narratives
- Lady Skollie: Agitate, Agitate, Agitate
- Digby Ricci: Narratives and Truths: an Exploration of Antony and Cleopatra
- Bonita Meyersfeld: Disrupting and are We Reconceptualising Our Understanding of Violence?

11h15 to 12h00 Tea

12h00 to 12h45 Burning Rebellion

IKUSASA LETHU



For the past 30 years, St Mary's has run a successful Saturday school, which provides learning support for pupils from the five high schools in Alexandra and surrounding communities. The school is called Ikusasa Lethu which means *Our Future*.

Many of the pupils attending the Ikusasa Lethu Programme come from very poor Alexandra households, some are even shack dwellers; they have minimal, often inadequate, clothing.

For this reason, we are appealing to the St Mary's community to open your hearts and to clean out your cupboards and put no-longer-in-use clothes, linen, shoes, even blankets into the bags your children have brought home.

These clothes will be given to the pupils who attend to Saturday school for their own use and to distribute to the communities in which they live. Should we get a surplus of clothes (hopefully) we will send the extra bags to Alma Primary School in the Limpopo Province.

This month-long clothing drive will run from Tuesday 18 June, ending on Mandela Day on 18 July.

For further information on the Ikusasa Lethu Programme and to watch a related video, please visit the St Mary's website: Foundation/Communities in need.

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

With assistance from St Mary's School, Waverley, two of our Music department's violin teachers, Christine Geldenhuys and Louise Frahm-Arp, are currently studying towards their Level 2 qualification under the tuition of Lee Marais (SA), Christophe Bossuat (Fr) and Karen Kimmet (CA) through the South African Suzuki Association. Although I am a woodwind player and teacher in St Mary's Music department, I should like to share the personal experience of being a Suzuki parent of two little string players.

When he was five, my older son, Luke, then in Little Saints, begged me to let him start to learn the violin. Having no aptitude or skills for string instruments, I tried to steer him to the instruments I could play and teach him at this young age: the piano, the recorder, the clarinéo and even the pennywhistle. "Mum, they are very nice, but I'd rather play the violin." I expanded our research to Benjamin Britten's The Young People's Guide to the Orchestra, Sergei Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf and the wonderful Naxos app Beanie's Musical Instruments. Luke would effortlessly recognise instruments as we listened to music together but, eventually, he pleaded with me rather sternly: "Mum, I just really want to play the violin!"

Luke's friend Saahil was loving his violin lessons with Lee Marais, so I didn't look further for a teacher. I knew her wonderful teaching from her St Mary's student, Daniëlle, whose marvellous style and performance aplomb I had admired. Lee accepted Luke as a student. Two years later, Luke continues to love his violin playing which, along with a profound love of physics, cricket and Vikings, has a central place in his life. His little brother, Nicholas, also now five, has started the cello ("it's like a violin, but bigger") with Lee.

Despite a professional life as a musician and music educator, the Suzuki journey only recently begun in our family has been a wonderful experience. It has made me reflect on all the things I believe to be best about music education. At its heart, this teaching methodology believes in making music education available to all children, so that all children can learn music and will benefit from it.

Japanese violinist Shinichi Suzuki applied the basic principles of language acquisition in young children to the learning of music: children learn their native language with ease. In Suzuki's mothertongue approach, children learn to play instruments by hearing, watching and playing, not reading. That comes later and is easily assimilated into their music study, by which time the children have already developed the ability to use their ears in highly responsive and intelligent ways, to play with a rich and beautiful sound, and a remarkably sophisticated understanding of musical phrasing and styles. The Suzuki methodology believes that any child who is properly trained can develop musical ability. As all children develop the ability to speak their mother tongue, the potential of every child is unlimited.

If you are considering choosing a string instrument for your child or if you are simply interested in investigating the Suzuki method, do consider going along to the Linder Auditorium on Sunday 4 August to watch this year's National Suzuki Concert. It is an enthralling and inspiring event to see over 100 children on stage playing together in such a polished fashion. Sitting in this concert last year, I found it easy to see how Dr Suzuki believed all teachers and parents can develop under

caring instruction, and that hearing and playing great music helps children to become "good people with beautiful, peaceful hearts".

CERI MOELWYN-HUGHES, MUSIC TEACHER,
HEAD OF WOODWIND STUDIES

The South African Suzuki Association presents:

The National Suzuki Concert

'Man is the son of his environment'



Tickets available from Webtickets at https://www.webtickets.co.za or at the door Adults: R195, Pensioners and Children under 13: R100

https://suzuki.org.za



St Mary's Old Girl, Daniëlle, who was taught by Lee Marais. Daniëlle achieved a distinction in her matric year for Music

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Suzuki students performing at the 2018 National Suzuki Concert



Cello students performing at the 2018 National Suzuki Concert in the Linder Auditorium

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

HOCKEY

South African Schools' Hockey Representatives

Our congratulations are extended to the following girls who have recently earned their national selection:

Kiara – South African U18 B team

Sasha - South African U17 A team

Kristy – South African U16 High Performance squad

QUIX, DIRECTOR OF SPORT





FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



Jessica and Lesedi are in the South African team currently participating in the World Gymnaestrada in Austria



Recently, Lebone in Form I and Zeinab in Grade 6 won the competitions in pre-junior and Level 9 at Wierda in Eldoraigne, in Pretoria. They also achieved the highest scores in their sections

LINDA GIURICICH, HEAD OF RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

EQUESTRIAN



Nina and Callaho Tequila Gold



Robyn and Baccarat Boy

Over the weekend of 15 and 16 June, the Core League final qualifier of the year was held. Stadium Eventing took place on 17 and 29 June, and on 7 July the final Eventing qualifier of the year took place. The St Mary's equestrian team achieved outstanding results, which places St Mary's 1st in their division for the year in the Johannesburg District. The top five placings in each class were:

Level 3			
DRESSAGE	Admiral Camden	Erin	4 th and 5 th
Level 4			
JUMPING	Nexus	Nicola D	2 nd and 4 th
JUMPING	Baccarat Boy	Robyn	5 th
Level 5			
WORKING HUNTER	Lady Franchesca	Sydney	4 th
WORKING HUNTER	Baccarat Boy	Robyn	5 th
HANDY HUNTER	Baccarat Boy	Robyn	1 st
STADIUM EVENTING	Prince Jaime	Nicola B	2 nd
STADIUM EVENTING	Voigtskirch Silvano	Nicola B	3 rd
STADIUM EVENTING	Lady Franchesca	Sydney	2 nd
Level 6			
EVENTING	Nexus	Nicola D	1 st
Level 7			
WORKING RIDING	Lady Franchesca	Sydney	3 rd
WORKING HUNTER	Admiral Camden	Erin	2 nd

In addition, the following girls have qualified for the Core League Gauteng Finals from 9 to 11 August: Erin, Nicola B, Nina, Olivia, Sydney, Nicola D and Robyn.

The team is most appreciative of the support we received from the St Mary's staff, especially to Ms King, Ms Wood and Ms Mason, who came out to support us at our final core league qualifier.

NICOLA D, EQUESTRIAN CAPTAIN

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

TENNIS



Lilitha playing at the Growthpoint tennis tournament

Well done to Lilitha, who did extremely well in the Growthpoint tennis tournaments that took place over half-term. Lilitha reached the semi-finals of the singles in the Gauteng East leg and the finals of the singles in the Gauteng Central leg of the U14 section. Lilitha also won the U14 doubles title in the Gauteng Central tournament. This is an excellent achievement as these events form part of the top tier of

tournaments in South Africa.

Congratulations are extended to Annika, who ended 5th in the U18 singles of the Gauteng Central Growthpoint tournament.

RENE PLANT, HEAD OF TENNIS

NOTICES

MUSE MORNING - ALL PARENTS WELCOME

Date: Tuesday 23 July Time: 07h30 to 08h30

Speaker: David Abrahamsohn, clinical psychologist

David has been working in private practice for the past 18 years. He has extensive experience working with children, adolescents and adults who experience a variety of psychological difficulties. He also has worked in the corporate environment for many years, where he coaches and presents on a variety of psychological topics.

Topic: anxiety in children

If progress is measured in the mental health and happiness of young people in the world, then we have been going backwards since the

early 1950s. Statistics tell us that eight times as many children and teenagers meet the criteria for an anxiety disorder compared to during the Great Depression, World War I and World War II.

This presentation explores exactly what anxiety is, the variety of ways it presents, the possible causes of anxiety and why its prevalence has increased so dramatically of the past few decades, when to seek professional help for anxiety and, finally, effective strategies and management of anxiety.

RSVP: Lynsay Young at lynsay.young@stmary.co.za

CAREERS AT THE EDGE

Wednesday 24 July, 14h30 to 16h30

We all want to be able to help and guide our daughters through life, especially during the tempestuous shift from school into the tertiary and working worlds. The Careers Expo is designed to expose your daughters to alternate fields worth exploring, while helping them to decide which field would best suit their individual skills, personalities, goals and dreams.

All Senior School girls and interested parents are welcome to visit the stands at the Careers Expo outside The Edge anytime between 14h30 and 16h30 on Wednesday 24 July. Representatives of tertiary

institutions will be present to answer your questions on skillsbased courses such as business management, information and communication technology, fashion, design and branding. Invitees include representatives of Education USA and EduCanada, and South African universities: the Universities of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Free State and Pretoria.

Should you have any queries, please contact Lynn Northmore on lynn.northmore@stmary.co.za.

DATE: WEDNESDAY 24 JULY 2019 VENUE: THE EDGE TIME: 14h30-16h30

All Senior School pupils and parents are welcome to visit the Expo, which provides an opportunity to talk to representatives

from tertiary institutions and to explore a range of skills-based options available in the World of Work. **EXHIBITORS** BELGIAN CAMPUS ITVERSITY GREENSIDE DESIGN UNIVERSITY OF CENTER JOHANNESBURG Emma Laubscher Khutso Kangudia mokhele.t@belgiumcampus.ac.za emma@designcentre.co.za khutsok@uj.ac.za **BIRNAM BUSINESS** IMM GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MARKETING COLLEGE BIRNAM Grant Schaefer braamfontein@birnamcollege.co.za grants@immgsm.ac.za UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG 011 403 6631

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St Mary's School, Waverley, does not endorse, neither take responsibility for, the institutions / service providers present at this Careers Expo