



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

# SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



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14 FEBRUARY 2020



Butterflies in our midst – arts and crafts made on entrance day by prospective Form I 2021 girls

## FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

St Mary's Form I 2021 entrance day, coincided with a significant downpour which drenched not only Gauteng but many parts of our country. We hosted 150 girls and their parents on a flooded campus, however, all echoed "the blessing of rain".

Prospective parents are keen to identify a school's foundational principles and ours – an Anglican, independent, girls' school – provides our strength and stability.

In the presentations and Q&A session, the Form V leaders and the senior management team highlighted the international research which supports the benefits for women when their adolescent years are spent in an all girls' environment. The St Mary's girls made an impact on our guests through their willingness to engage in serious topics of conversation, their understanding of the responsibility that leadership carries, their self-confidence and exuberance. Many parents complimented me on our impressive girls and, particularly, on their maturity and authenticity.

To continue this topic, I have engaged in lunchtime discussions with groups of Form V girls and our conversations have often turned to the experience

of an all girls' school. Without fail, the girls have expressed their gratitude for this experience, citing the focus placed on leadership, on building self-confidence and the innovative nature of a school which develops out of an "anything is possible" environment.

Each week, the teachers gather in professional learning groups to further their professional development and, last week, we discussed two articles which presented the benefits of girls attending school in an all girls' environment. These articles are taken from a repository of readings about the benefits of girls' schools, which the National Coalition of Girls' Schools curates. St Mary's has become a member of this American organisation that promotes advocacy, research, professional development and networking for its schools. Please view a video on the school app which advocates the spirit and advantages of girls' schools. This video can be found under Whole School notices/ Why are girls' schools relevant.

DEANNE KING  
HEAD OF SCHOOL

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

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

*One thing have I asked of the Lord,  
and that alone I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
to behold the fair beauty of the Lord,  
and to seek his will in the temple.*

– Psalm 27: 4-5 (NRSV)

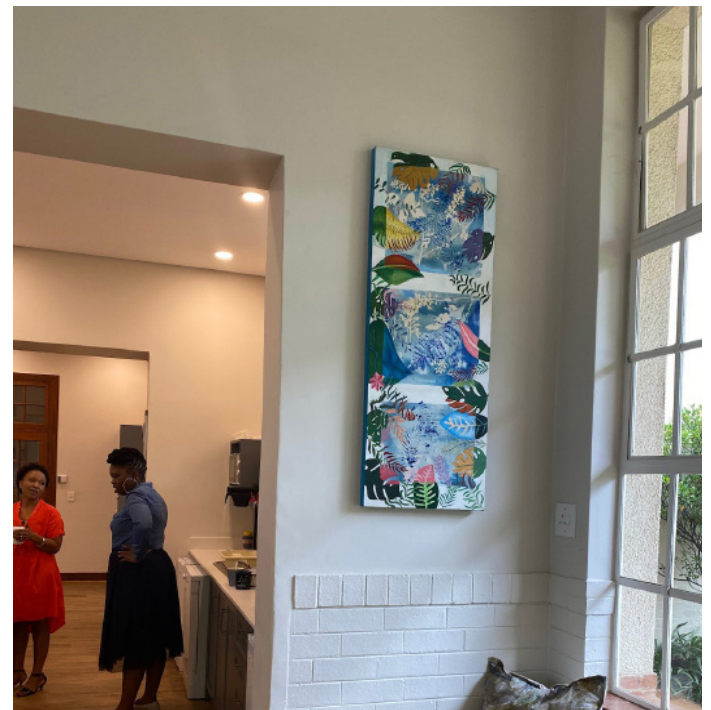
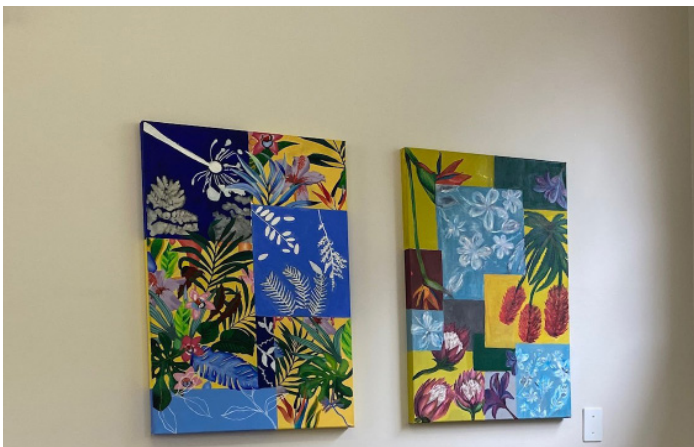
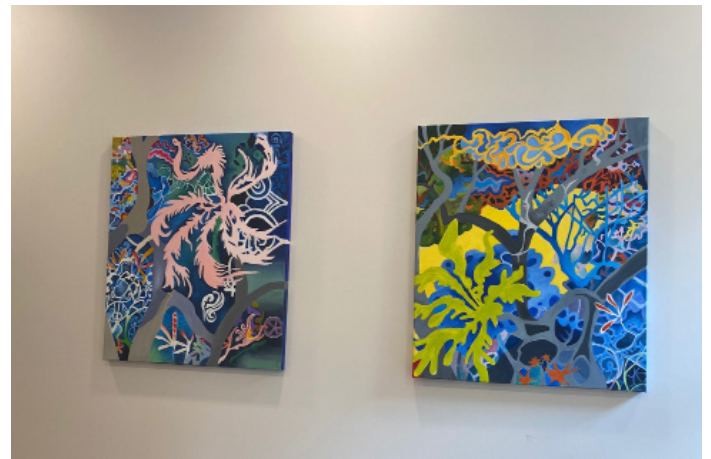
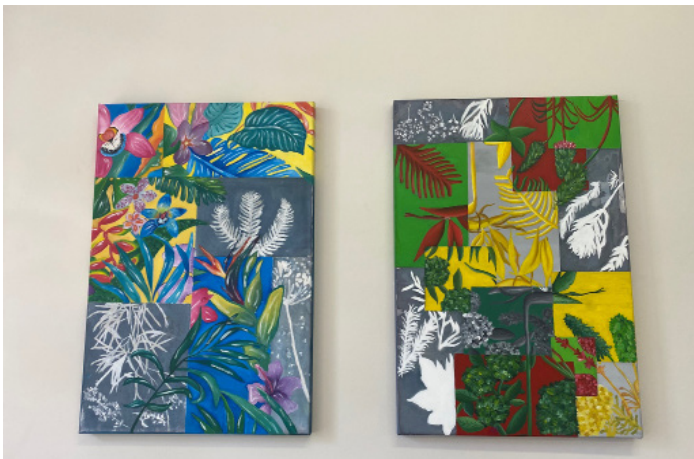
Psalm 27, well worth reading prayerfully in its entirety, is a beautiful psalm, in which the psalmist asserts his or her confidence in the Lord who protects and who is our strength, our "light and our salvation" (v.1). Verses 4-5 quoted above may refer to the physical house of the Lord, however, because God is incarnate in Christ, and all the world is made holy by our Creator, the house of the Lord and God's temple is not only a physical space.

It is wherever we are and to "dwell in the house of the Lord" is therefore to be aware that we are in God's presence, guided by God's light, seeking God's will, at all times. To ask that we "may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of [our lives]", is to ask for the comfort of the awareness of God's presence and of ourselves in God's holiness.

May we, with the Psalmist, hear our hearts tell of God's word saying, "Seek my face", and respond as the Psalmist does: "Your face, Lord, will I seek" (v.10).

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
CHAPLAIN

## VISUAL ARTS



During 2019, the present Form IV and V Visual Arts girls worked collaboratively to produce paintings for the staffroom. The girls considered the colour scheme of the furnishings and set about designing botanical-themed compositions to enhance the wall space. We are very proud of the end result.

SUE HEYDENRYCH  
HOD: VISUAL ARTS

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

### IKUSASA LETHU

Robyn Knowles, St Mary's Old Girl from the class of 2005, has been appointed to run the Ikusasa Lethu Programme.

Dineo Mashamaite, who joined St Mary's from the Ikusasa Lethu Programme on a Foundation bursary, matriculated with two A symbols and five B symbols and is studying at the University of the Witwatersrand.

The Ikusasa Lethu 2019 matriculation class achieved a 95% pass rate with 58% of the class achieving Bachelor Degree passes. Yanga Prusent was the top pupil with five A symbols. Nine of the top pupils have been awarded bursaries from the Vincent Tshabalala and the Hegarty Educational Trusts. Thirty-two pupils have enrolled at colleges and universities.

This year, 320 pupils are enrolled in Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11 and Grade 12.

Thank you to all the parents who donated money towards calculators for this year's intake. Clothing will be collected around Mandela Day and given to the pupils for their families and to distribute in Alexandra. Reading books suitable for 13 to 15 year-olds are needed for the Ikusasa Lethu library.

Girls are encouraged to help on Saturdays with the preparation of food, in the library, tutoring Mathematics and in the Science and computer rooms.

Parents who would like to mentor pupils from the project can contact Valerie Hirsch on 083 750 7725 or [valou.hirsch@gmail.com](mailto:valou.hirsch@gmail.com)

### SERVICE TRIPS

During half-term in February, service trips will be going to Alma in Limpopo and Dundee in KwaZulu-Natal. A fun day for girls from Waverley Girls' High School is also being arranged on Friday 28 February at St Mary's. Donations of primary school library books and toys will be most welcome for the schools in Limpopo and Dundee.

LINDA GIURICICH  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### FORM II EMS DAY



On Friday 7 February, the Form II girls participated in a business simulation day facilitated by the Johannesburg School of Finance. The girls were divided into teams and formed their own businesses to compete against one another in order to gain the most profit. A dice is rolled to determine what the weather will be for the next round as the "weather" plays a very important role. Supply and demand are evident to ensure that each business will make profit and sell out all products.

In each round of the simulation game, the teams make important pricing, marketing and purchasing decisions. After each round, decisions are fed

into a computer programme that has been designed to recreate a "real life" market environment and produce instant results. Based on their results, teams had to make adjustments to their strategies for the next round. The winning team is the one that can out-strategise the competition over the four rounds played.

The girls had a fun-filled day.

WENDY IEVERS  
HOD: ACCOUNTING



Congratulations to the winning team "A Peeling" who made a whopping R42 781 profit for their business

## SENIOR SCHOOL PLAY REHEARSALS



Rehearsing for *Remote*

The Senior School play rehearsals are well underway. *Remote*, written by Stef Smith, is a play about power, protection and apathy, towards each other, the future and the state of the environment. The action takes place in a park that boasts the last remaining tree in a built-up, urbanised area. In this setting, the characters grapple with their places in the world and how difficult it can be to take a stand when all we desire is to be protected. *Remote* is stylistically unconventional in the use of a large chorus who give a voice to the character's inner monologues and subconscious thoughts. The play opens on Wednesday 25 March with further performances on Thursday 26 and Saturday 28 March.

JANE MCMURRAY  
HEAD OF CULTURALS

# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

## TENNIS



A inter-high tennis team

The annual inter-high tennis competitions took place on Saturday 1 February. The St Mary's A team played excellent tennis throughout the morning to beat all teams in their round robin pool. The St Mary's A team beat St Andrew's in a convincing manner in the semi-final to reach the finals where they lost to a very strong team from Helpmekaar. The team from St Mary's competed well against the defending champions but lost narrowly in a nail-biting tiebreaker by 7 points to 5.

Congratulations to Sarah, Annika, Hannah and Lilitha on their high standard of play throughout the morning. Twenty-five schools competed in the inter-high event.

The B inter-high was played at the same time and this event is for players ranked from 5 - 8. The St Mary's B team competed well and placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations to Alexis, Simone, Julianne and Sarah Roy on their good play.

St Mary's also entered a C team in the B inter-high and this team achieved an excellent sixth placing. Well done to Simone, Jessica, Isha and Jessica R. Thank you to Mrs Corbett and Ms Brown for taking the time to look after all the B and C teams respectively. Thank you to all the parents for your support as well as Ms Howell for supporting the A team from the semi-final stage.

Two weeks of league matches have been completed with all the teams competing well. Both the St Mary's "firsts" and "seconds" are currently unbeaten. St Mary's fielded a record 60 tennis players this past Tuesday, participating in five matches at different venues. There is a great deal of depth and competitiveness amongst all the players. Keep up the enthusiasm.

Congratulations to Lilitha who was selected in the U16 age group to attend the national training camp which was held at the High Performance Centre at the University of Pretoria. Only ten players per age group were invited to attend this prestigious camp.



B and C inter-high tennis teams

### League results

28 January

St Mary's A beat St Andrew's A	53-38
St Mary's B beat St Andrew's B	46-35
St Mary's C drew with St Mary's E	54-54
St Mary's D beat St Mary's F	61-21
St Mary's G lost to St Andrew's C	40-41
St Mary's H beat St Andrew's D	54-27

### League results

4 February

St Mary's A beat Northcliff A	68-13
St Mary's B beat Northcliff B	52-29
St Mary's C beat HeronBridge A	31-20
St Mary's D beat HeronBridge B	38-8
St Mary's E lost to St Peter's A	31-50
St Mary's F lost to St Peter's B	32-49
St Mary's G lost to Crawford A	16-47
St Mary's H lost to Crawford B	28-35
St Mary's reserves lost to Rand Park High A	26-55
St Mary's Reserves lost to Rand Park High B	36-45

St Mary's is proud to host the St Mary's Invitational Tennis Festival starting from today and ending on Sunday 16 February. Eight top schools from all over the country will be participating in this event. The teams participating in this festival are The Wykeham Collegiate and St Mary's Kloof from KwaZulu-Natal, Die Hoërskool Menlopark and Curro Hazeldean from Gauteng North, St Cyprian's and Somerset College from the Western Cape and St Andrew's and St Mary's Waverley, from Gauteng Central. Come and support the St Mary's tennis players as they compete against some of the top players in South Africa.

**RENÉ PLANT**  
HEAD OF TENNIS

# WATER POLO



St Mary's 1<sup>st</sup> team at the Brian Baker Tournament

The 1<sup>st</sup> water polo team travelled to the Eastern Cape to compete in the annual Brian Baker Water Polo Tournament hosted by Kingswood College. It was the team's first time at the tournament, and they gained game experience and tournament fitness.

Whilst playing polo, the girls also took the time out of their schedule to visit Siyazama Pre-School to donate school supplies of which the school was in dire need. They visited the school between games and spent time with all the students, dancing, singing and using the new equipment which had been donated. Our thanks are extended to Donne Duffy and the 1<sup>st</sup> team parents who were most generous in their donations.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team were not the only ones in the water the weekend of 31 January to 2 February. Our future water polo stars competed in the Junior Warriors Festival hosted by Reddam Helderfontein. This tournament hosts over 30 teams of U13 - U14 boys and girls. The U14s lost two games and won four. Mikayla and Amy were selected to play in the "All Star" exhibition match and received medals for their selection.

The St Mary's water polo 2<sup>nd</sup> team are competing in the Gauteng B League which consists of mostly B Division 1<sup>st</sup> teams. So far, they have won two matches against Rand Park High School's 2<sup>nd</sup> team and St Dunstan's 1<sup>st</sup> team and they have drawn to Fourways High School 1<sup>st</sup> team.

Next up on the water polo calendar is National Aquatics, Old Mutual Prestige Finals, Old Petrians Water Polo Tournament and the U15 Shaun Fuchs Tournament.

**KELSEY THOMPSON**  
HEAD OF WATER POLO



U14 team at the Junior Warriors Tournament



Mikayla and Amy



Siyazama Pre-School



Robyn on Baccarat Boy



Nina on Callaho Gold Tequila



Sienna on Gondor UFO



Stephanie on Saxony



Sydney on Voigtskirch Amarosso

# EQUESTRIAN

St Mary's had a successful first qualifier at Eaton Farm on 1 and 2 February. The girls were extremely competitive, and the horses were turned out beautifully.

Out of the 33 entries we had 25 top ten places:

Seven first places

Seven second places

Three third places

The results are as follows:

Rider	Horse	Discipline	Top 10 result
Nina	Callaho Gold Tequila	Show Jumping 1.00m - Level 4	5 <sup>th</sup>
		Working hunter 90cm - Level 5	3 <sup>rd</sup>
		Handy Hunter 90cm - Level 5	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Equitation 90cm - Level 4	8 <sup>th</sup>
Hannah	Galliano	Performance Riding – Level 3	6 <sup>th</sup>
		Working Riding – Level 3	5 <sup>th</sup>
Stephanie	Saxony	Show Jumping (1.00m) – Level 4	7 <sup>th</sup>
		Dressage – Level 5 (Elementary Medium)	3 <sup>rd</sup>
		Dressage – Elementary Medium	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Dressage – Elementary Medium Freestyle	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Prix Caprilli – Level 5	2 <sup>nd</sup>
	Pinecreek Vita Marie	Dressage – Level 6 Medium	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Dressage – Medium	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Prix Caprilli – Level 5 – Test 1	1 <sup>st</sup>
Olivia	Rebel XX	Equitation – Level 6	3 <sup>rd</sup>
		Show Jumping – Level 4	1 <sup>st</sup>
Sydney	Voigtskirch Amarosso	Performance Riding – Level 7	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Equitation – Level 6	4 <sup>th</sup>
		Working Hunter – Level 5	4 <sup>th</sup>
Sienna	Gondor UFO	Dressage – Elementary	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Dressage – Elementary	2 <sup>nd</sup>
		Show Jumping – Level 4	9 <sup>th</sup>
		Prix Caprilli – Level 5 – Test 1	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Prix Caprilli – Level 5 – Test 2	1 <sup>st</sup>
		Performance Riding – Level 7	2 <sup>nd</sup>

Well done to Robyn who competed in two dressage classes on her horse Baccarat Boy, back to light work after recovering from surgery.

**MELANIE BLAIR**  
HEAD OF EQUESTRIAN



# SQUASH

## League results

All the hard work at practice is paying off – keep up the excellent results.

### Results from 31 January

St Mary's U19 A beat Roedean	14-1
St Mary's U19 B beat St Teresa's	14-1
St Mary's U19 D 1 beat McAuley House	14-0
St Mary's U19 D 2 beat McAuley House	14-0
St Mary's U16 A beat Marist Brothers	14-0
St Mary's U16 B beat St Andrew's 2	8-6
St Mary's U15 A beat St Andrew's 1	14-1

St Mary's U15 A beat St Andrew's 2	14-0
St Mary's U14 A beat St Andrew's	14-0
St Mary's U14 B beat Roedean	10-3

### Results from 7 February

St Mary's U19 D 2 beat Kingsmead	14-1
St Mary's U14 A beat Kingsmead	14-0

JENNIFER SAWYER  
HEAD OF SQUASH



Squash captains 2020



U14 A team at Kingsmead

# NOTICES

## MUSE MORNING: ALL PARENTS WELCOME

Date: Tuesday 18 February

Time: 07h30 to 08h30

Venue: Seminar room

Topic: Let them be the master of their own world

Childhood (including adolescence) is a complicated and ever-changing challenge, not only for your child, but for you too. Understanding the psycho-social development which takes place during this time not only

helps you to understand your child, but it helps her to overcome the challenges before her more easily so she can develop the necessary skills to master her world.

About the speaker: Lloyd Ripley-Evans is a psychologist, coach, speaker and soon-to-be author. He strives to engage with the uniqueness of individuals and their environments, creating a space of growth and development which challenges their status quo and their mindset. Currently Lloyd is the Head of Wellness at St David's Marist, and operates an after-hours private practice.