



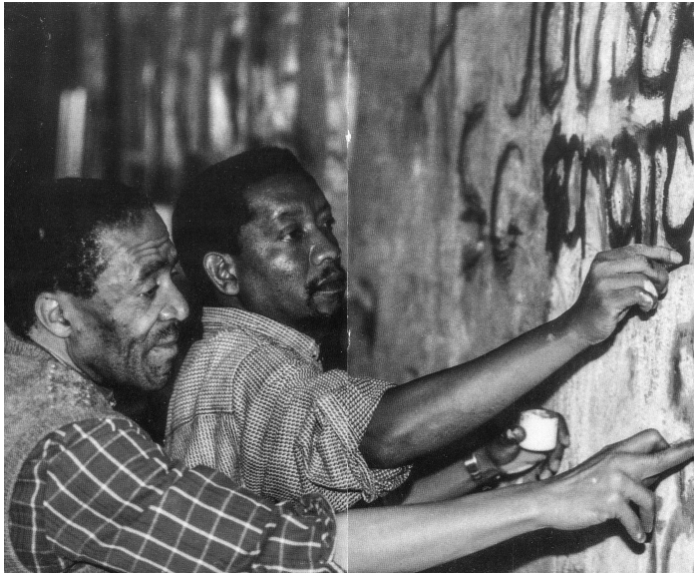
St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

# JUST JUNIOR NEWS

15 NOVEMBER 2019



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David Koloane and Pat Mautloa: "It is within every artist [...] to enliven and revive what most people see as nothing."



"All children draw. I just didn't stop." William Kentridge

## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

November is a busy month, made even busier at schools with year-end rites of passage, including academic assessments and valedictory ceremonies. Nationally, we celebrated the last of the Springboks' victory parades on Monday 11 November when the 2019 Trophy Tour made its way through the streets of Cape Town. Various posts about the Boks have been doing the rounds, including one describing an outing by members of the winning squad to Johannesburg tattoo parlour Fallen Heroes to commission indelible, wearable memories of the Rugby World Cup. Internationally, Remembrance Sunday brought to mind other fallen heroes – those who died in wars. This year's ceremony in Central London, the 100<sup>th</sup> of its kind since its inauguration in 1919, is also the first to honour the Gurkha regiments with the laying of a wreath in recognition of their contribution to the British war effort by the ambassador of Nepal.

In the *Just Junior* last year, I mentioned the massive performance piece created by South African artist, William Kentridge and commissioned by UK art programme 14-18 NOW in commemoration of the centenary of the First World War. Kentridge's production used dance, projected images, speech, song, pantomime, shadow play, and music to chronicle the hidden history of black African porters in the First World War, those who worked "hauling cannons, munitions, provisions, and even ships across the continent." According to Kentridge, "This piece, *The Head and the Load*" was a way to answer an ignorance in myself."

One way to understand the daily significance of what we do in schools is the answering of an ignorance in ourselves, a far more delicate, dialectical process than the simple provision of information that some imagine happening in classrooms – to truly answer an ignorance, instead of shutting it down, one first has to recognise it and engage with its contours.

I became aware of the girls' ignorance of Kentridge in a Senior Primary assembly a few months ago when I referred to his retrospective exhibition at the Zeitz MOCAA: some of the girls knew about the museum; only two had heard of the artist. This lacuna told me less about Kentridge specifically, and more about our general perceptions of art, especially contemporary art, produced in South Africa. The girls' seeming unfamiliarity with local artists is worthy of exploration in an environment like St Mary's with our Reggio-inspired interest in visual art and its centrality to the process of learning and knowledge construction. I was delighted, therefore, when our Grade 3, 4 and 5 girls attended an exhibition of contemporary art hosted by the Southern African Foundation for Contemporary Art at Villa Arcadia in Parktown earlier this week.

The girls were exposed to the depth and diversity of local art through the exhibition of the work of 50 established and emerging artists, including: Willem Boshoff, Deborah Bell, Dr Esther Mahlangu, Sizwe Khoza, Philemon Hlungwani, William Kentridge, Blessing Ngobeni, Usha Seejarim, and Banele Khoza. Thirty percent of the proceeds from the live auction concluding the exhibition will go to non-profit fine art organisations like The Bag Factory Artist Studios.



Curator, teacher, mentor, visionary, founding member of the Bag Factory Artists' Studios and fallen hero of the local art scene, Dr David Koloane (he died in June this year) is credited with bringing black and white artists together, as well as carving out a space for black artists in the global art world.

Two exhibitions of his work are running in Johannesburg now and are well worth a visit: another way, perhaps, for us as parents and teachers, to answer an ignorance in ourselves.

DR SARAH WARNER  
HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL



Grade 5 girls at the SAFFCA exhibition at Villa Arcadia.

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

*On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."*

- Luke 17:11-19 (NRSV)

Given the fear of contagion in Jesus' day, those suffering from dreaded skin diseases were relegated to the outskirts of towns and not permitted to approach those who were not similarly infected. To re-enter society, sufferers were first required to be declared "clean" by the priests. One of the 10 who call out to Jesus is also identified as a Samaritan. Owing to profound differences in beliefs, many of those who were Samaritan and those who were Jewish did not hold each other in high regard, to say the least.

In this story as in many others, Christ heals those in the in-between spaces who are relegated to the margins, whether such relegation is established by law, by perception and fear, or by disagreements as to beliefs. Christ reminds us to give thanks to God who heals us. Let us be mindful of giving thanks to God for each moment through which we are made whole, in whatever way, each day.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
CHAPLAIN





# FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## St Mary's ensemble evening

The St Mary's Junior orchestra hosted our annual Senior Primary ensemble festival on 16 October. We were joined by five other schools, namely Pridwin, St John's, Kingsmead, The Ridge and the Phela Re Phele Music Academy. The evening was filled with different ensembles including flute ensembles, woodwind bands and orchestras. The evening culminated in a performance from the combined orchestra of more than 170 junior school children. The massed items that this orchestra performed were well presented and it was an absolute sight to behold.

## The Ridge Choir Festival

The St Mary's Senior Primary choir attended this year's Ridge Choir Festival on 22 October. The festival took place at the Linder Auditorium and included seven schools, allowing for more than 500 children to perform on stage.

together. Our girls presented a polished programme, showcasing a piece by well-known choir conductor Ashley Botha called "Lord Make Us Instruments of Your Peace"; the choir also performed the ever-moving *Amazing Grace*, which the girls have really come to love.

## New parents' evening

A special thank you to the marimba girls who performed at the new parents' cocktail party on 30 October. They were well prepared and hit just the right note at the outdoor event. Thank you to the girls from the Grade 5 and 6 music classes who volunteered to perform our class presentation pieces. These were great fun to play.

CAROL SHUTTE

HEAD OF MUSIC: JUNIOR SCHOOL



## Upcoming events

Date	Grade	Time	Venue
Tuesday 19 November	Grade 6 and 7 piece playing	07h30 to 08h30	Junior Primary hall
Wednesday 20 November	Grade 2 and 3 piece playing	07h30 to 08h30	Junior Primary hall
Thursday 21 November	Grade 4 and 5 piece playing	07h30 to 08h30	Junior Primary hall
Please note date change	Grade 5 piece playing		



## JUNIOR PRIMARY NEWS



The Junior Primary girls exploring, collaborating, building houses and creating a marble run in our loose parts garden

## LITTLE SAINTS NEWS



Little Saints children enjoying the learn-to-swim pool



## KLETS IS PRET

On 21 October, Sophia Babaya, Lauren Benfield and I participated in the Afrikaans chatterbox competition, *Klets is Pret* at Holy Rosary Convent in Edenvale. Sophia and I chose the topic, "How to irritate our parents." Lauren chose the topic, "How to teach your granny to use an iPad". We all did very well and won gold certificates. We had so much fun preparing for this competition and, even though although we were quite nervous, we thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would love to do it again!

AVA ECONOMAKIS  
GRADE 7



Lauren Benfield, Sophia Babaya, Ava Economakis

## IKUSASA LETHU

The Ikusasa Lethu Saturday School programme 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: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Ikusasa Lethu prizegiving

## FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



### SWIMMING

It was a cold morning as the Grades 1, 2 and 3 girls left on the St Mary's bus to go to the gala at APPS. The format changed, which enabled a few more girls to participate. There were mixed relay races with two schools competing as one team, individual races and ordinary relay races of the different strokes. The girls did a stretch and a warm-up in the pool before the gala began. Every girl who swam in the gala gave of her best and I was very proud. Our thanks are extended to Mrs Zumpt who trained the girls for the

gala. Also, a very big thank you to all the staff from St Mary's who came to support the girls and assist at the gala.

TRACEY WOOD  
HoD: JUNIOR PRIMARY SPORT





## ATHLETICS

On Friday 1 November, the athletics team participated in the annual inter-schools' Prestige meeting hosted by St Stithians. The girls' performance has been consistent throughout the season and this meeting was no different. The girls' passion and determination was evident in their approach to each event. The girls' performance was outstanding and their hard work paid off. Each athlete brought her A game and I felt extremely proud to be part of the St Mary's team. At this Prestige, we earned more first placings than in previous years. Thank you to coaches Daniel Lagemang and Jeanette Rambuda for all their hard work and commitment.

Kyla Grobbelaar  
Jocelyn Appel  
Jocelyn Appel  
Kate Macfarlane

Grade 3  
Grade 6  
Grade 7

Grade 6 B 70m hurdles  
Grade 6C 100m  
Grade 6B 200m  
Grade 7A 200m

Relay  
Relay  
Relay

Congratulations to the following girls who placed first:

Emma Simpson	Grade 3D 60m
Isabella Lotto	Grade 3C 60m
Cayla Midlane	Grade 3B 60m
Maya Mgcina	Grade 3A 60m
Cayla Midlane	Grade 3B 80m
Maya Mgcina	Grade 3A 80m
Lucy Barrow	Grade 4A 80m
Jasmine Apps	Grade 4B 150m
Lucy Barrow	Grade 4A 150m
Lucy Barrow	Grade 4 long jump
Ella Meyer	Grade 5A 80m
Erin Krüger	Grade 5 long jump

The final results were as follows:

Assumption Convent	108
St Teresa's	140
Holy Rosary	250
Kingsmead	301
Brescia	314½
St Peter's	317
St Andrew's	336½
St Stithians	382
St Mary's	436

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU  
HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL





## TENNIS

The St Mary's Grade 6 tennis team competed in the provincial phase of the BNP Paribas Rising Stars tournament. Competing against the top schools from Gauteng Central, Gauteng North, Limpopo and Mpumalanga, St Mary's emerged victorious and qualified for the national finals to be held in February next year. St Mary's beat teams from Atteridgeville, Arthur Ashe Centre, Trinity House, Pietersburg East and Elardus Park to take the honours. Only eight schools - two teams from each provincial playoff - automatically qualify for the national finals. Congratulations to Maroesi Tuoane, Ilana Buck, Katie Franck and Nicole Ledlie on this amazing achievement!

Inter-house tennis was held and so much fun was had on and off the court. Well done to the Grade 7s who organised their teams so well and for creating a wonderful house spirit. The delightful, colourful outfits, worn by the players, added to the spirit. Congratulations to Springboks for winning the inter-house competition.

I extend my thanks to Natasha and Tayla for leading the tennis team with such diligence and enthusiasm and I thank all the Grade 7 tennis players for the huge contribution that they have made to tennis in the Junior School. They have been an amazing group of players with their high standard of play on the court and their exemplary spirit and behaviour off the court.

Thank you to Mrs Lowndes for all her help this term.

**RENE PLANT**  
COACH: TENNIS



Maroesi Tuoane, Ilana Buck, Nicole Ledlie and Katie Franck



'Rising stars' with Barbara Anderson, Kevin Anderson's mother, who handed out the winning medals on his behalf



Inter-house tennis

# NOTICES

## Join the HOPE Committee:



Kick off December with the  
Mandela Remembrance Run/Walk

Calling all  
Runners,  
Joggers,  
Plodders  
and Walkers!

Sunday  
8th December  
5km walk/10km/21km

Enter:  
[www.mandelawalkandrun.com](http://www.mandelawalkandrun.com)

Contact Sarah for info:  
[sarahc@esiafrica.co.za](mailto:sarahc@esiafrica.co.za)

### **The HOPE Committee**

Hearing Other People's Experiences

A sub-committee of the PTA to encourage parent conversations around diversity  
[hope@stmary.co.za](mailto:hope@stmary.co.za)