

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



Swimming, water polo and diving captains at the National Aquatics Festival

From the headmistress' desk

Dear parents

School car parks are notoriously difficult to manage and navigate. Ours is no exception. In fact, it causes much frustration and concern. We are aware that our car park is inadequate at peak times and that this causes delay to parents, whose time is precious. Strategies and personnel have been put in place in an attempt to maintain orderly parking arrangements and the flow of traffic. We request that you please follow the directions of our security personnel and that you keep to the designated parking. Patience and courtesy should make the car park a better place for all.

We are investigating opportunities to improve on current parking arrangements, but this is a process that will not see an immediate solution.

The Fresh Culture Café has proven to be extremely popular among both St Mary's

parents and our girls. It has provided a much-needed opportunity for our community to interact socially, while assisting with the funding of Foundation bursaries.

I request that parents utilise the outside tables and chairs when enjoying their coffee at various times of the day, rather than sitting inside SMOGS cottage. SMOGS is reserved for the use of the Anglican Board of Education and the St Mary's Foundation, as their offices are situated in this building. I apologise for any inconvenience that this may cause, but I remain optimistic that you will continue to support the Fresh Culture Café and enjoy our lovely gardens.

Yours sincerely

Deanne King Headmistress

Dates to Diarise

•••	Fri 13	14h30	Squash (at home)
	Sat 14	06h45	B inter-high tennis
		08h00	Roedean/Old Mutual
			water polo finals
		08h00	AISJ U16 basketball tournament
		09h00	Gauteng French teachers' meeting
		09h00	Peer counsellors' training
		10h00	Diving competition (away)
	Sun 15	17h00	Buffalo Regatta returns
	Mon 16	08h00	iPad summit
		15h30	Diving competition (away)
	Tues 17		Shrove Tuesday
		07h15	Muse Morning
		08h00	iPad summit
		08h05	FV focus day
		14h15	FIV Art prac
		14h45	Tennis (home and away)
	Wed 18		Ash Wednesday
		07h30	Senior School Eucharist
		08h45	FV focus day
		11h30	Middle School Eucharist
		15h00	Basketball (away)
	Thurs 19	08h05	FV focus day
		15h00	FV Art prac
		15h00	Basketball (away)
		16h30	Night gala (at home)
		18h00	Tour de Maths at
			King David Linksfield
	Fri 20	14h45	Squash (home and away)
	Sat 21		IEB regional UGC
			U14/U15 regatta
		10h00	Diving competition
		19h00	Matric dance

From the chaplain

What might we want for ourselves this year?

The final verses of Desiderata give us some ideas.

Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery.

But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism.

Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be critical about love; for in the face of all aridity and disenchantment it is as perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth.

Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue and loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself.

You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees and the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should.

Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your

labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

Perhaps in the business of the year we need to:

- Be ourselves
- Be gentle with ourselves
- Be at peace with God
- Be careful
- Be happy

Revd Gill Lee Chaplain

Meet the departments



French department: Carla Gordon (HoD), Jenny Bailey, Brigid Rawlings, Tinhiko Nkuna



Consumer Studies department: Lauren Frost (HoD), Clarise Dippenaar

Senior School annual photography competition

All Senior School girls are encouraged to enter the Senior School photography competition.

This competition is essential for school colours in Photography. Colours are a requirement for the Cultural Honours blazer, as well as for the Certificate of Excellence from the Photographic Society of South Africa. The best photographs will be printed in the school magazine.

Prizes

There are five prizes of R500 each for the five best photographers. These will be awarded at final assembly at the end of Term I.

The closing date for entries is Friday 6 March, and no late entries will be accepted.

Every pupil who enters will be given a mention. You may submit your entries to me at any time. Please ensure that you add your name to the competition entry list in my office to secure a mention.

The photographs may be black-and-white or colour prints on any subject. Photos may be enhanced with computer manipulation. Each competition finalist is required to submit her original photograph in .jpg format to me for final judging. The minimum size of each photograph is 15cm x 21cm, and the maximum size is 30cm x 40cm.

The photograph must be neatly mounted with a 5cm border of a single clean black stiff cardboard. Each photograph must have a title. Your name, Form, photograph title and full description of camera used must be clearly printed on the back. No writing may appear on the front.

All photographs must have been taken by you personally but printing, processing and mounting may be done commercially. There is no entrance fee. There is no limit to the number of entries you may submit. The photographs become the property of St Mary's and no responsibility is accepted for loss or damage. The judges' decision is final.

Anneli Silvennoinen

Senior School librarian

The following girls were awarded Honours Blazers in Term III 2014



Cultural Honours blazer: Liesel, Robyn



Service Honours blazer: Natale



Sports Honours blazer: Imaan, Kathleen, Jaime, Aerin



Academic Honours blazers: Front row: Rachel, Amy, Hayley, Shanté, Angela, Katherine, Katelyn Second row: Carolina, Nicole, Jessica, Roneque, Samantha, Andrea, Liesel, Victoria, Jenna Third row: Tshepang, Megan, Julia, Nicole, Catherine, Emily Back row: Jessica, Kylie, Gabriella, Kayleigh, Caitlyn, Gabriella, Roxanne, Tasmyn Not in picture: Kathryn, Robyn

Head monitors introduce the Form Is to the Resource Centre



A general chat about the system of resource monitors



Concentrating on how to find items via the OPAC



Caroline and Roneque introduced the print and digital libraries



Caroline and Roneque with Form Is about to be shown the Resource Centre Facebook page and website



Juice and muffins made it all worthwhile!

What happens to your old clothes?

In early January, I went to a farm in Mpumalanga, close to Swaziland, where the farmworkers live in a rural community around a school. This is a poor community and so, whenever possible, we try to help them with clothing and sports equipment for their school. Once again, we approached St Mary's for old clothes which we could distribute and we collected several big boxes of clean and neatly packed uniforms.

Word got out that we had clothing for the children and so, when we arrived at the farm school on the Saturday morning, we were inundated by mothers and children hoping for a little something. Everyone drew a number from a hat. One by one they came up to choose something for themselves, and were very pleased to come away with at least three items each.

Thank you Mrs Page and St Mary's. These clothes are a big help, and very much appreciated by the community.

Tessa Shorten Form V



Three children of the Athole farm and Nsephe school community who were happy recipients of old clothes from St Mary's



Tessa making friends with a shy member of the community

From the Sports department



Basketball



The basketball girls at St Dunstan's College

On Saturday 31 January, the basketball girls played against St Dunstan's College and the results were as follows: the U14A team played their first match of the season and lost 10-12 to St Dunstan's. The U15 team won 13-11. Lastly, despite two of our players being absent from the Saturday game and a shuffling of positions, the 1st team managed to win 52-7 against St Dunstan's 1st team.



Taking a shot at goals

On Wednesday 4 February, the basketball teams went on to play our strongest competitor, Michael Mount Waldorf School. Owing to the fact that we have 42 Form Is playing basketball, we are now able to field four teams. This is not easy, as most schools have only two teams in the school. Fortunately, on the same day that the two A teams played Michael Mount, the U14B and C team played Crawford Sandton U14s.

The results were as follows: St Mary's U14A beat Michael Mount 16-7, the U14B team beat Crawford



Defending the opposing team

Sandton 24-8 and the U14C team beat Crawford Sandton 18-8 St Mary's U16 lost to Michael Mount 12-24 St Mary's 1st team lost to Michael Mount 12-16

Ntebatse Rachidi Basketball captain

Water polo

Three St Mary's water polo players were selected for the South African U17 team, to compete at the 1st CANA Zone IV Women's Youth Water Polo Championships in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 30 January to 1 February. Sasha and Lace were selected for the A team and Kirsty was selected for the B team. Kelsey White, our head of water polo, was selected as the assistant coach for the A team.

Only four girls from Gauteng were chosen to

represent South Africa at the tournament so we are very proud that three of these girls are from our school.



Kirsty in the SA Youth Women's B team



Gareth Samuel (coach), Sasha, Kelsey White (assistant coach) and Lace

takes place tomorrow, Saturday 14 February.

St Mary's A bt Northcliff A 55-8

St Mary's B bt Northcliff B 48-15

St Mary's A beat Trinity House A 64-17

St Mary's B beat Trinity House B 61-20

27 January

3 February

Tennis

The tennis season is in full swing despite the thunderstorms and lightning disruptions. All the teams are faring well and the A/B teams have posted emphatic wins against Northcliff and Trinity House. There is a fantastic and enthusiastic group of Form I tennis players this year. This new intake has increased our ladder to a total of 88 tennis players. I wish the B and C teams all the best for B inter-high, which

Rowing

VLC Sprints

The St Mary's rowing club raced at VLC Sprints on 31 January and 1 February. Our U14s raced in the octuple for the first time this season. The octuple is a sculling boat with eight rowers and one coxswain (driver). This was a fantastic race, as our girls broke a blade and still come in 2nd overall, racing with seven girls rowing through the finish line. The U16s and Opens raced against

broke multiple records over the weekend. St Mary's rowing club claimed two trophies from the regatta: the Ian McGregor Trophy for best juniors racing in senior events, and the VLC Girls' Trophy for the best girls' club.

St Marv's C lost to Northcliff A 22-59

St Mary's E lost to De la Salle A 14-67

St Mary's F lost to De la Salle B 39-42

St Mary's D beat Northcliff B 54-27

St Mary's G lost to Jeppe A 37-44

St Mary's H beat Jeppe B 65-16

René Plant

Tennis coach





Close up of the U14s and Opens

The U14s in an octuple

St Stithians Regatta

The St Stithians Regatta was originally scheduled to be an U16 and Open regatta only, but this was changed and U14 and U15 quads and doubles were invited to participate. Our U14s raised their standard yet again and raced with all their might in every event. The quads claimed 2nd and 7th place, with the doubles securing 2^{nd} , 9^{th} , $12^{\text{th}},\,13^{\text{th}}$ and 15^{th} places.

The U15 guads claimed 2nd and 4th places in their event. This was an outstanding sprint

for the line from both quads. The U15s are extremely competitive during training sessions. This age group will be a must-see at the South African Championships in March.

The U16s dominated in all their events. The sculls secured 1st, 2nd, 4th and 7th places. The quads raced hard to place 1st and 4th.

The Open girls raced well in the sculls and doubles, racing home to beat the lightning that threatened to cancel the regatta.

Unfortunately, we had to abandon the remainder of racing owing to a massive storm system moving in from Johannesburg.

Best of luck to the Opens, who will be racing at the oldest regatta in the country this weekend, the Buffalo Regatta, and Selbourne Sprints.

Caitlin Reed

Head coach

the university women. Our senior rowers

Aquatics

On Thursday 5 February, a group of 42 girls departed for the National Aquatics Festival, hosted by Durban Girls' College. The action began at midday on Friday with St Mary's putting on superb performances in all three disciplines. Last year the final gala points were:

1 st Durban Girls' College 2 nd St Mary's	490 366			
Z ^m St Mary S	200			
This year the final result was:				
1st Durban Girls' College	432			
2 nd St Mary's	422			

We are delighted with this improvement, and the girls are beginning to believe that all their hard work at training is worth the effort. We medalled in 18 out of 28 races, winning nine golds, six silvers and three bronze medals. In the gold medals were two individual events: Jade won the Junior 200m individual medley and Jeanri won the Junior 200m freestyle. Jeanri also won the junior dash for cash, but there are no points for that event.

Sadly, the diving took place at the same time as the gala, so it was impossible for the swimmers to support their teammates. Our divers were in a class of their own, taking seven of the nine available medals.

U15 1st Isabelle 2nd Amy U16 2nd Nonceba 3rd Emma

U19 1st Aerin 2nd Kate 3rd Shanté

After the swimming and diving at the Kings Park pool, we headed up the hill for the water polo competition at the school. The 1st team played extremely well, beating Pretoria High School for Girls, Durban Girls' College and Durban Girls' High in the pool matches, and St Stithians in the semi-final. They played superbly in the final against Durban Girls' College, beating them 7-3.



Quix and Kayleigh before event 1

Kayleigh and I tested our swimming endurance by swimming the 8 Miles at Midmar. Our chosen charity was the Wildlands Trust, with our money going towards saving the rhino. Between us we raised nearly R30 000 for this venture.

Quix Head of sport

MUSE MORNING

You are all most welcome to join us in the Wantage Centre for our Muse Morning on Tuesday 17 February. Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Please note that the venue has moved to the Senior School auditorium in the Wantage Centre, with access from the tennis pavilion, where refreshments will be served.

"How to talk to children about things that are hard to talk about" Speaker: Ruth Ancer, clinical psychologist

The St Mary's Foundation changes lives

Changing lives is easy with the St Mary's Foundation. In fact, it's what we do. The St Mary's Foundation has created an endowment aimed at building a capital base to support education for South Africa's girls and young women. This is done through various bursaries, scholarships, community development programmes and teacher development initiatives, all of which work to improve the state of education in our country. Learn more about us at www.stmarysfoundation.co.za and change a girl's life today.

Photo alert



All Senior School girls should have received their individual photograph packs this week. The cost per pack is R100 and this amount will be charged to your school account.

Should you not want the photograph pack, please ensure that your daughter returns it to her house mentor by Thursday 19 February.

Within each photograph pack is an envelope that gives you instructions of how to order more copies of your daughter's photograph should you wish to do so. The photographer also offers added extras: coffee mugs, cellphone holders, pencil boxes, etc. Samples of these can be viewed in the Marketing office.

Should you want to order any of the above mentioned, please complete the envelope and ensure that this is handed to your daughter's house mentor by Thursday 19 February. Proof of payment must accompany this order.

Please direct all queries to DCM's photographers at dcmphotographic@worldonline.co.za.