

# SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



Some matric boarders looking glamorous at the matric dance

### From the headmistress' desk

#### Dear parents

The matric dance is an annual and muchanticipated highlight in our school, and the event this year was no exception. It was a special and beautiful occasion.

Such an event runs the risk of being labelled superficial and even excessive. It was with such a frame of mind that I anticipated the dance this year; however, the staff and girls ensured that my cynicism was unfounded. The Form IVs worked diligently for many months to create a memorable function, with admirable attention to detail. They enthusiastically hosted the matrics and were serious about providing an evening in the Moroccan desert. Mrs Lynn Northmore and Mrs Melanie Blair facilitated many learning experiences for the Form IV girls in the planning and execution of this function. The girls learned about budgeting, the challenges of collaboration and the

rewards of hard work.

The matric girls were most impressive in their individuality. They were stylish and elegant. A real sense of occasion was evident in the behaviour of the girls and the young men who accompanied them. It was made a special and enjoyable evening for all because of the matric girls' excitement and reverence for the dance.

Thank you to the parents and siblings who attended the parade, and contributed to a worthwhile charity collection for Jumping Kids.

Yours sincerely

Deanne King Headmistress

#### Dates to Diarise

•••••		
February		
Thurs 26	12h00	Limpopo community service trip departs
	12h30	School closes for half-term
		Senior School play practice
	14h00	Rowing camp departs
	18h00	Old Petrians and Shaun Fuchs
		water polo dinner
Fri 27		St Mary's tennis tournament begins - Kloof
	09h00	Senior School play set building
Sat 28	09h00	Senior School play set building
	17h00	Limpopo community service trip returns
March		
Sun 1		Old Petrians and Shaun Fuchs
		water polo tournaments end
	10h00	Rowing camp ends
Mon 2	09h00	Senior School play set building
	10h00	St Mary's tennis tournament returns - Kloof
Tues 3	09h30	Inter-high diving
	14h15	Tennis away
	14h30	English Olympiad
	14h45	Senior inter-house basketball
	19h00	Public speaking
Wed 4	15h15	Basketball (away)
Thurs 5	09h00	Inter-high premier gala (FI, FIII and FV attending)
	13h30	Inter-high A gala (FII and FIV attending)
Fri 6	05h45	SA Rowing Championships begin
	14h30	Redhill basketball tournament
	14h45	Squash (home and away)
Sat 7	07h00	A inter-high tennis
	08h00	Redhill basketball tournament
Sun 8		SA Rowing Championships end
Mon 9		Senior School winter sports begin
	18h30	St Mary's and St John's
		ensemble concert
Tues 10	08h05	FII EMS workshop
	18h00	Parents' meeting: diversity (Wantage auditorium))
Thurs 12	08h05	FV Accounting workshop
	14h15	FV Art prac
Fri 13	12h00	GIS teachers' workshop
	14h45	Squash (home and away)
Sat 14		Senior School play technical rehearsals
	08h00	St Mary's inter-schools' chess tournament
	08h30	GIS teachers' workshop

### From the chaplain

What have you decided to do for Lent this year? So often we focus on giving something up. It almost becomes negative rather than something positive.

Instead, this year perhaps look at committing yourself to 40 acts of generosity or kindness. Some questions to ask ourselves:

- Have I given away something I no longer need?
- Could I go without something today so that someone else might be able to enjoy a meal?
- Have I hugged someone today?
- Is there a need I could meet today?

#### A Franciscan Benediction for Lent

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer pain, rejection, hunger and war so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain into joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in the world so that you can do what others claim cannot be done to bring justice and kindness to all our children and the poor.

#### Revd Gill Lee

Chaplain



### Meet the departments



English department: Back row: Athambile Masola, Nina Nathanson, Michelle Ridley, Janet Milasinovich, Lynn Knowles, Belinda Williams Seated: Jaclyn Paules, Linda Mark, Felicia Tobias (HoD)



Geography department: Megan Devine, Glennis Ravenscroft (HoD), Jaclyn Paules, Cindy Len, Sally James

### SAMS matric dance fashion parade

Together with the matric dance committee, SAMS hosted the matric dance fashion parade on Saturday evening. Many members of the St Mary's family braved the rain to watch our stunning Form Vs gliding from the top

of the Queen's Path towards the beautifully decorated marquee. Just over R3 700 was raised and this will be donated primarily to Jumping Kids, as well as to supplement various house-driven charity initiatives this

term. Many thanks to everyone for their support!

Kendra Hendry SAMS co-ordinator



### JSE Investment Challenge

The JSE Investment Challenge is an investment game for pupils in Form I to Form IV, where they learn the basics of investing on the JSE (Johannesburg Stock Exchange).

Each team gets R1 000 000 to manage a virtual portfolio on the JSE. Isn't that so cool? A team consists of four team members who work together, buying and selling shares. Each team will pay a registration fee of R120 to gain access to the game. The game commences on 1 March and runs until 1 September. Teams test their share-trading skills through a simulated game in which their performance is tracked and measured over six months. There are five cash prizes up for grabs per month.

For success, each team needs access to the following sources:

Newspapers

- Internet facilities
- Radio/TV market updates
- Annual reports of companies listed on the JSE
- The JSE website

If you are interested in playing the game, please sign up on the Mathematics notice board by Wednesday 4 March. Remember that you need four members to make a team.

Myself, Ms Marx and Mr Jeenah will be available to mentor your team.

If you would like more information on the JSE Investment Challenge, scan the QR code to the right.

Wendy levers HoD: Accounting



SECURITIES EXCHANGE SOUTH AFRICA



### Form IV Visual Arts

The Form IV Visual Arts students have been busy honing their drawing skills this term. They started off doing a large-scale life drawing in Copic markers of Jarred Parenzee, who kindly posed for the class. This was followed by a carefully observed object drawing in charcoal.

Sue Heydenrych

HoD: Visual Arts



Nkhensani



Aerin





Zoë



Julia B





Zoë



Julia H



Julia B



Jessica

# From the Music department





## From the Sports department



### B inter-high tennis 2015

The Southern Gauteng Girls' High School Tennis Association held the annual B inter-high tennis competition on 14 February. Twentyfive schools participated in this event at four different venues across Johannesburg. This competition is for players ranked from numbers 5 to 8 in their school teams. St Mary's B beat Trinity House in the semi-finals while St Mary's C beat Roedean School in the other semi-final. In an exciting final, the St Mary's B team beat our C team by 10 games to 6.

#### B inter-high tennis results

St Mary's B
St Mary's C
Trinity House
Roedean School
St Stithians
Brescia House
Northcliff
Kingsmead College

The A/B teams played in their final league matches of the season, beating St Stithians, Trinity House and St Andrew's convincingly. The A/B teams have emerged worthy winners of the Premier League. I wish Imaan, Maja, Adetayo and Naima the best of luck for the upcoming international junior tournaments, which are being held in Potchefstroom. The St Mary's team consisting of Kathryn, Tegan, Cara, Roxanne and Ruth will be participating in the St Mary's Kloof Festival over half-term. Good luck to all the players.

#### League results

9 February St Mary's A bt St Stithians A 52-23 St Mary's B bt St Stithians B 64-11

10 February St Mary's A bt St Mary's C 62-1 St Mary's B bt St Mary's D 52-11 St Mary's E lost to HeronBridge A 29-52 St Mary's F bt HeronBridge B 58-23 St Mary's E bt St Mary's G 51-12 St Mary's F bt St Mary's H 41-22

#### 17 February

St Mary's A bt St Andrews's A 67-14 St Mary's B bt St Andrew's B 73-8 St Mary's C lost to St Stithians A 21-60 St Mary's D bt St Stithians B 47-34 St Mary's E lost to Redhill A 52-11 St Mary's F bt Redhill B 53-10 St Mary's G lost to De la Salle A 62-19 St Mary's H bt De la Salle B 45-36

*René Plant* Tennis coach



The St Mary's C team that lost in the finals of B inter-high



The winning B inter-high team

### Diving

The divers did an excellent job at the competition on Saturday 21 February at St Andrew's. Aerin performed a solid dive list and earned 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Open division. Simone earned 5<sup>th</sup> in the same age group. In the U16 event, Emma came in 3<sup>rd</sup> and Claire, 6<sup>th</sup>. For the U15s, Isabelle faced some tough competition, but managed to secure 1<sup>st</sup> place.

Chelsea Glincman Diving coach

### Water polo



Holding the winner's cheque

The Old Mutual Cup finals took place on Saturday 14 February. The St Mary's water polo 1<sup>st</sup> team were up against St Peter's College in the semi-final and beat them 6-2, which put them in the final against Roedean School. After a long day of play-off games and a mini swimathon for the development swimming programme, the girls were ready to take on Roedean in the final.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team went down 2-0 in the first quarter of the Old Mutual Cup final. They pulled it back and started to take the lead in the second and third quarters. Going into the fourth quarter, the score was 5-3 to St Mary's. It was a close battle between the two teams and the result after game time was a 6-all draw, resulting in a penalty shootout. The end result was 10-8 to St Mary's.

The St Mary's water polo 1<sup>st</sup> team have now won the Old Mutual Cup for two consecutive years, and have received another R30 000 from Old Mutual to donate to our development swimming programme.

The following girls were selected for the Old Mutual tournament team: Daniela, Amber, Kirsty, Sasha and Lace.

Well done to the St Mary's water polo 1<sup>st</sup> team.

*Kelsey White* Water polo coach



Captains with the Reef Cup

### Squash

I love:

- Packing my squash bag in anticipation of a match
- Planning the game, and how to counter my opponent's strengths and attack possible weaknesses
- The pre-match change room banter some bold, some brave, others quietly confident
- · The tightness and tension of the stretch as mind and body synch into preparation for battle
- The whack-smack of the ball as it warms, waiting to be hammered
- The floated lob serve, high, no pace, tantalising, dropping as opponent flounders, and mutters silently
- A fired hard serve, straight at opponent's heart and the jabbed response. With me, waiting
- That drilling drive, clinging to the wall, dying in the distant corner
- The exhilaration of the volley, zinging into the nick, and rolling
- The softness of the dropshot, teasing ... whispering
- · The lift and lilt of the lob, the outstretched racquet reaching ... not quite
- My opponent chasing, fetching, stretching herself into a dribble of sweat
- The tussle of mind, out-thinking. Body, out-muscling. The ebb and flow of concentration conflicting
- The relief and joy, eyes closed, as the final point is won, body tired
- · The handshake and friendly meeting of eyes between two who have competed, and forgotten frustrations of the day
- The shared refreshments, cold and comfortable in hand ... analysis, advice and commiserations

Well done to Cara, who won the girls' U14 Northern Junior Open in a round robin tournament in Pretoria.

To date we have completed 69 challenging matches, comprising four players per match. In other words, 276 matches played with a percentage of 90% won. This has been a fantastic effort with great sportsmanship, albeit sometimes in the dark!

Opponents: St Stithians St Andrew's St Dunstan's St Teresa's Bryanston Greenside Marist Brothers Beaulieu College Helpmekaar Roedean School MacCauley House Northcliff King David Victory Park Linksfield The 135 team and social squash girls are dedicated to improving their game and entering many tournaments over the busy squash season.

Thanks to Jaime (captain) and Julia (vicecaptain) for all their support.

Jennifer Fox Squash coach

### Basketball



U16 team - 2<sup>nd</sup> at AISJ

The girls are having an excellent season thus far. I have been impressed by the performances of all age groups but, more importantly, by the team spirit, support and camaraderie shown by the girls. We have had huge interest this term, and now have over 75 girls playing this fun and fast game!



game and the final.

different.

and the International School of South Africa,

but lost to Michael Mount in both the pool

They put up an excellent fight in the final,

losing 24-30; had we converted a few more

opportunities, this would have been very

Tinyiko in action

We selected our best U16 team to attend the tournament at the American International School Johannesburg, and they did us proud by placing 2<sup>nd</sup> and earning our first basketball silverware! They beat the American International School Johannesburg, American International School Mozambique, Herschel

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#### Other results are as follows:

Vs Redhill
1 <sup>st</sup> team won 28-7
U16A won 17-8
U15A won 18-6
U15B lost 4-28
U14A won 12-4
U14B lost 8-12

Vs Saheti 1<sup>st</sup> team won 72-7 U15A won 34-4 U14A won 12-0 U14B won 25-6

**Quix** Head of sport

### Swimming



#### St Mary's swimmers

The girls have been pushing hard and working long sessions in preparation for inter-high, which is the culmination of the school swimming calendar.

Sadly, the Valentine Gala at Kingsmead College had to be cancelled owing to lightning but last week we swam the Night Gala here at St Mary's. Our B team did well to end 4<sup>th</sup> out of 10 schools.

1st St Mary's A 419 2<sup>nd</sup> Brescia A 361 3<sup>rd</sup> Roedean School 345 4<sup>th</sup> St Mary's B 336 5<sup>th</sup> Assumption Convent 300 6<sup>th</sup> Parktown Girls 274 7<sup>th</sup> St Catherine's 267 8<sup>th</sup> Jeppe 229 9<sup>th</sup> Brescia B 207 10<sup>th</sup> Potch Girls' 190

Congratulations to the following girls who have qualified to swim at the Level 3 Championships:

Gabriella Ashleigh Carly Daniela Jeanri Jade Gabriella has also qualified for Youth Nationals and Carly, Jade and Jeanri have all qualified for Senior Nationals.

#### Quix

Head of sport

### Rowing



Wet and chilly racing conditions for Selbourne Sprints



'Big Red' supporting our racers

The senior rowing girls attended the Buffalo Regatta and Selbourne Sprints two weekends ago. The regattas are held on the Buffalo River in East London. This river is heavily affected by the tide and the wind. Our girls raced in very challenging conditions and overcame some technical encounters. Our 1<sup>st</sup> team brought home five gold medals and two bronze medals. Our  $2^{nd}$  team placed  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  in the doubles, and  $2^{nd}$  in the pair. Our  $3^{rd}$  team came  $3^{rd}$  in the quad event. It was a fantastic experience for the team and the coaching staff. We are proud of the girls. The overall approach to the regatta, the mature response to the day's events and how they conducted themselves throughout the weekend were exemplary.



St Mary's U14s taking the lead at the Jeppe Regatta

On 21 February, the St Mary's rowers participated in the Jeppe Regatta. The regatta was for the U14 and U15 rowers. The girls had to race in a strong wind and are congratulated on their fantastic results. The U15 girls came 2<sup>nd</sup> in quads and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in doubles. The U14 girls came 1<sup>st</sup> in the quads and raced in the new octuple



The U14 octuple preparing to place their boat in the water

Winners of the Buffalo Regatta first quad race

event, winning a silver medal. Well done to all the girls, and good luck to the rowers for their rowing camp this weekend.

The South African Championships is taking place between 6-8 March at Roodeplaat Dam. If you are interested in attending this championship event, we shall have a bus available on Saturday and Sunday, departing from school at 10h00 and leaving Roodeplaat at 14h00. Please contact Caitlin on caitlin@cinet.co.za for more information.

Caitlin Reed and Nicola Rowing coach Form IV

### Photo alert



It was been drawn to our attention that some parents may be unhappy with their daughter's individual photograph, which was taken at the beginning of the year. We have been in contact with the photographer and she has assured us that she did not airbrush/touch up any of the photographs. She has let us know that she uses a portrait filter whereby an "action" gets run when downloading the images. This gives a softer look to the photograph. The odd pimple that is really prominent may be removed in this process, but birthmarks and beauty spots remain.

Should you wish to return your daughter's photograph and have it replaced with the "raw" images - the photograph that has not been given the softer look - please do so to Kathy Mittendorf in the Marketing department.

### Join the St Mary's Foundation For Girls club

"There is no tool for development more effective than the education of girls" - Kofi Annan, former secretary-general of the United Nations

Did you know that the Foundation bursary programme provides seven talented young

girls with the opportunity to develop their academic aptitude at St Mary's? Did you know that the Old Girls teaching bursary is developing girls to be teachers for our girls? Did you know that 280 learners from Alexandra benefit from the St Mary's Alexandra High Schools' programme? Be a part of making a difference and join the For Girls club. R100 per month makes an enormous difference. Our target is 1 000 people. Sign up now and make a meaningful difference in the life of a young girl. Email foundation@stmary.co.za to activate your monthly giving.

### **Diversity evening**

On Tuesday 10 March, the diversity committee is hosting a diversity evening aimed at parents. The guest speaker for the evening is Roy Gluckman.

Venue - Senior School Wantage auditorium Time - 18h00 to 19h30 RSVP - Senior School reception office via telephone at 011 531 1800 Topic - Celebrating difference

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