

# JUST JUNIOR



Discovery bottles made by the Grade 0s for the upcoming Reggio conference

### From the headmistress' desk

#### Dear parents

#### Condolences

It was with great sadness and shock that I informed you of the untimely and tragic passing of Mathumo Mapaya, loving husband to Modiane and caring father to Khumo, Lesego and Mofenyi. I thank the class reps and community for their support of the family during this time and in the future.

#### Staff news

Mr Brian Morton has been appointed as the locum Grade 7 teacher for the Michaelmas term while Mrs Kerry Gibbons is on maternity leave. Brian has relocated from the United Kingdom and he has a wealth of teaching experience, particularly in Mathematics. He will be with us prior to taking on a deputy head role at an independent school in January 2016. Mrs Shelley Crawford continues to teach while her treatment schedule is being planned. Mrs Angie Jennett is the Afrikaans support teacher who will work alongside Shelley.

The staff have been involved in many learning experiences and to mention but a few: we have five teachers completing the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Making Thinking Visible - online learning; a team of teachers participated in the ISASA ECD curriculum workshop; teachers continue to meet in SAHISA subject clusters: Daniel Hutchinson will be attending and presenting a paper at the Pan African PASMAE conference in July; and I will be attending the biennial ICP Global Convention of Heads in Helsinki in August.

### Dates to diarise

Ν

IUNE		
Non 22	08h45	Betty Button visits
		Little Saints
	13h00	Netball at home
ūe 23		Reggio conference
		- The Edge
	14h00	Squash at home
		and away
Ved 24		Reggio conference
		- The Edge
	18h00	Magic of Music at
		Linder Auditorium
<sup>-</sup> hu 25		Reggio conference
		- The Edge
	14h00	Netball playoffs - to
		be confirmed
ri 26	07h30	Grade 5M assembly
	08h00	Grades 4-7
		St Mary's community
		Commonwealth Games
	10h15	Little Saints closes for
		half-term
	11h00	Junior Primary and
		Senior Primary close
		for half-term
IULY		
Non 6		Grade 7s return from
		Grahamstown
ūe 7	07h30	Grade 7s Senior
		Primary play blocking
		day - The Edge
	14h00	Squash at home
		and away
Ved 8	10h18	Grade 6 and 7
		buddy picnic
	13h30	Junior Primary
	(2) 20	parent interviews
Thu 9	13h30	Junior Primary
	071.00	parent interviews
ri 10	07h30	Senior Primary parent
		reading with girls
	14h00	Hockey at home
	0000	and away
at 11	0800	Studium Apertum -
		The Edge
		Grade 4 hockey
		festival at St Mary's
		Grade 5 hockey festival at St Stithians
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#### Events

The Red County Fair was once again a superb community-building event and I thank Yvette Bowden, Di Jenkins and all the class moms and families who supported the event to ensure its success.

Emma Sadleir's presentation on negotiating the social media landscape for ourselves and our children was certainly informative and worthwhile. We are grateful to the PTA for supporting these talks for the girls and parents.

Golden's Fairytale Adventure showcased the confidence and enthusiasm of the Junior Primary girls. The Grade 3 girls were eloquent, spontaneous and energetic in their portrayal of beloved traditional fairytale characters. The team, ably led by Mrs Di Gordon, who directed and managed the production, must be congratulated and special mention must be made of Mr Daniel Hutchinson for preparing the script. Once again our supportive class moms stepped in and created costumes and applied the necessary make-up.

The many squash, netball and hockey matches and tournaments have made this an exceptionally busy term for the girls. They have consistently given of their best; I am impressed with their commitment, fitness and improvement in team play and skill. Special thanks to Jane Samson, Toni Mshengu and the coaches for leading the development of winter sport.

As reported in the *Just Junior*, our rhythmic gymnasts have excelled in our local and provincial selection competitions. Congratulations to Zeinab Kone, Sophia Babaya, Reece Williams, Amy Levick, Zalika Methula and Venus Chow on their selection to represent Gauteng at the nationals.

We wish our equestrian girls well as they prepare for regional competitions next week. Their dedication to the sport is commendable.

#### Academic information

The Grade 6 and 7 formal assessment results reflect thorough preparation by many of the girls. The review of assessments provides an opportunity for us to reconsider our teaching and learning programme, and make changes if necessary. This will ensure a curriculum that is relevant.

I congratulate our isiZulu girls who participated in the National isiZulu Olympiad. Their results were excellent and three girls were selected to participate in the second round.

#### **Reggio conference**

The Africa Reggio Emilia Alliance and St Mary's will welcome more than 450 teachers from a range of settings to the annual conference. The theme for this year is "Perspectives from Reggio: A deeper exploration of teaching and learning". This opportunity for professional learning within our school will see education specialists from Italy, Mexico, Austria, UCT, Wits and St Mary's share their expertise with the teachers and childcare providers. More than 13 countries are represented in the delegate cohort. St Mary's contribution to the event is appreciated and far reaching in our educational community.

We once again thank PUTCO for its generous support, which allows delegates from various schools to attend. Our vision is to record and report on the significant shifts in classroom practice after teachers have participated in this worthwhile learning opportunity. This, alongside the teacher development workshops we hold on Saturdays, can make a difference not only in the lives of the teachers, but in the enhanced learning opportunities the children in their classrooms will experience. We aim to give all children hope and a future.

If you wish to learn more about the work of the Africa Reggio Emilia Alliance, please visit our new website: www.reggio.co.za.

I thank the supportive PTA and class reps for their assistance at the registration and bookshop during the conference.

#### **Community Projects**

I invite you to support Iphutheng School's Mandela Day plans. I have included details at the end of the Just Junior.

#### Building

Our creative Art, Design and Technology room renovation is well under way and is reported to be on schedule. It has been a seamless project thus far, and we look forward to accommodating Little Saints in this new space when their renovation commences shortly after half-term.

I once again thank parents for the support of your children with transport to fixtures and events during the cold winter term. I invite you to come in and chat, whether to share concerns or give me feedback on any aspect of the Junior School programme.

Yours sincerely

#### Des Hugo

Headmistress: Junior School

### From the chaplain

### Isaiah 12:2

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid. The Lord, the Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation.

#### 26:4

Trust in the Lord for ever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock eternal.

Every day there is news that rocks our security and sense of wellbeing. As a school community over the past few weeks we have been rocked by violent death and personal tragedy or bad news about illness.

It may be we are more concerned about the state of the country and

the lack of service delivery, the crisis in education, corruption.

It may be that exams and assessments are stressing us.

Of course we may feel fine and untouched by many of those things.

We all need to learn, however, to put our trust in God whatever our situation. He is our rock on whom we can always depend.

### Revd Canon Gill Lee Chaplain

### Meet the departments



Health Centre: Tessa Ruysenaar, Leigh Sullivan



The Foundation: Gillian O'Shaughnessy (Foundation manager), Lisa Grobbelaar

### **Studium Apertum**



A thirst for lifelong learning and intellectual debate is at the heart of the ethos of St Mary's and it is to this aspiration that we are responding with our third Studium Apertum symposium, which will take place on Saturday 11 July.

Studium Apertum provides an opportunity to listen to stimulating and exciting talks by dynamic speakers on a wide range of topics from panel debates on political or religious topics to talks on philosophy, science, art, archaeology, literature and even ancient healing. Participants select a talk from five presentations scheduled concurrently. This wonderful dilemma is part of the attraction of the symposium.

The Latin "studium", in addition to meaning "study" is equally commonly used to mean enthusiasm and earnestness. The adjective "apertus" means "open, transparent". Hence the combination of these two words, as a phrase, reflects an open learning experience and debate, infused with enthusiasm.

Participants will have time between talks to further debate and engage around the issues presented.

Twenty-fifteen is the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Freedom Charter and its core principles are the umbrella that will determine the focus of our forthcoming event.

We should be delighted if you would join us in our exciting venture of discussion, debate and discovery.

### Parent Corner



### Four golden rules for homework

While am sure that if homework was pasted up on Facebook it wouldn't necessarily be "shared" or "liked", you can still make it as hassle-free as possible by following these four simple golden rules:

Homework rule #1: After extra-murals comes homework and only then comes time watching TV, playing games on devices and the like. If you put this boundary in place from the very beginning you won't be fighting, nagging and arguing later on.

Homework rule #2: If you have a very busy child who does a lot of extramural activities they may also have to learn how to get bits of homework done on the run, such as reading, spelling or times tables that can be done in between activities or in the car. While it is not ideal, whatever you can get done before getting home is always a bonus, so be homework-savvy and teach them how to use up little pockets of time to get ahead of the game. An app called Spell Board is very useful here.

Homework rule #3: Encourage the effort that is going in to the homework. It is the daily reality of life for a school-going child and is supposed to perform the role of reinforcing what was learned in class. However, you are a helper, not a doer. You do not need to pass grade 2, 4 or 6 for the second time - just as well, as some of the work our kids do today seems much trickier than when we were at school!

Help if you need to and then pull back. If you find you are helping too much, you may need to engage the help of the teacher if your

child is not grasping a concept. Some schools are also providing online tutorials so that parents are in the picture or learners can take a second look if they need to go over the work again (this relatively new tool is quite handy and I have heard many parents making very appreciative remarks about it).

Homework rule #4: When at home, encourage your children to do their homework in the same place every day, whether in their room at a desk or at the kitchen or dining room table. It becomes a positive emotional anchor that turns the homework switch on and helps to keep them organised and focused.

By taking a disciplined and structured approach now to creating a healthy daily homework habit, you are preparing your child to cope with a much heavier workload in the future, and you will save your own sanity in the long run - you won't regret it.

### Nikki Bush

Creative parenting expert, inspirational speaker and co-author of *Tech-savvy Parenting* (Bookstorm, 2014), *Future-proof Your Child* (Penguin, 2008), and *Easy Answers to Awkward Questions* (Metz Press, 2009) nikki@nikkibush.com

www.nikkibush.com

### isiZulu news



The above girls joined the siZulu Olympiad: Eva Mustapha, Samantha Collins, Zanele Msimang, Belusi Simelane, Rebecca Duffy, Malaika Khumalo, Pepukai Mushayabasa, Tarumbidzwa Chirume

# From the Sports department



Dort  Teams    etball  Grade 3 A-D vs HeronBridge	<b>Venue</b> St Mary's	<b>Time</b> 13h00	Transport	Teacher
	St Mary's	13h00		
				Miss Wood
uash A team vs St Stithians Boys C B team vs St Stithians Boys D St Mary's C vs St Peter's C St Mary's D vs Reddam C	St Stithians St Mary's Bryanston CC Wendywood CC	14h00	Bus Bus Bus	Mrs Fox
etball Playoffs - teams to be advised		14h00		Mrs Mshengu
etball	Playoffs - teams to be advised		Playoffs - teams to be advised 14h00	Playoffs - teams to be advised 14h00

### Hockey

St Mary's hockey girls have had a busy few days with matches against St Andrew's and Holy Rosary. They are congratulated on their efforts in this bitterly cold weather. The Grade 6 and 7 B and C festival is going to be held on Saturday 20 June and we look forward to a fun morning of hockey.

St Mary's vs St Andrew's Friday 5 June Grade 4 A lost 0-3 Grade 4 B won 6-0 Grade 4 C won 4-0 Grade 5 A won 1-0 Grade 5 B won 3-0 Grade 6 A drew 0-0 Grade 6 B drew 0-0 Grade 7 A drew 1-1 Grade 7 B won 1-0 Grade 7 C won 3-0

St Mary's vs Holy Rosary Tuesday 9 June Grade 4 A drew 1-1 Grade 4 B drew 0-0 Grade 4 C won 5-0 Grade 4 D won 4-0 Grade 5 A won 3-0 Grade 5 B won 1-0 Grade 6 A won 1-0 Grade 6 B won 3-0 Grade 7 A won 4-0 Grade 7 B won 6-0

### Sports matches reminder

It is important that the girls stay and support every team at all matches. It is also important that they tidy the area in which they have been playing or sitting, and return all teacups to the pavilion. Items of school clothing must be returned to their owners or placed in lost property. Your ongoing support in upholding the school's ethos and encouraging the girls to be responsible is valued.

Jane Samson HoD: Junior Shool sport

### Netball

Grade 3 - Holy Rosary netball festival The Grade 3s took part in the Holy Rosary netball festival held on Saturday 6 June. All players gathered on a cold but bearable morning. Each game was 12 minutes one way. We started off with the first game and before we knew it we were getting ready for the next game, and so the morning went on. The girls played well and improved a great deal as the morning progressed. The team spirit of the girls was high and they were a really fun and enthusiastic group to have at the netball festival. It was lovely having Mrs Hugo and Mrs Gordon there supporting the girls. The parents did a good job supporting and encouraging their daughters. As always, Holy Rosary hosted a well-organised and enjoyable festival.

#### Tracey Wood

Head of department: Junior Primary Sport

### Netball cont.

Netball results against Kingsmead College on 2 June are as follows: U10 A vs Kingsmead B won 11-0 U10 B vs Kingsmead A lost 0-4 U11 A won 8-3 U11 B lost 3-4 U12 A won 11-6 U12 B lost 10-16 U13 A lost 16-5 U13 B lost 3-14

Netball results against De la Salle on 4 June are as follows: U9 Pink team lost 1-5 U9 Purple team won 3-0 U9 Orange team lost 3-5 U9 Grey team lost 1-5 U10 A won 4-3 U10 B drew 4-4 U10 C won 9-1 U10 D won 5-1 U11 A won 12-6 U11 B won 7-3 U11 C won 13-6 U11 D won 8-3 U12 A won 11-7 U12 B won 8-4 U12 C won 4-2 U12 D won 9-2

U13 A won 12-1 U13 B won 16-3 U13 C won 21-0 U13 D won 23-1

Netball results against Redhill on 11 June are as follows: U9 Pink team won 3-2 U9 Purple team lost 11-0 U9 Orange team won 4-2 U9 Grey team lost 4-1 U10 A lost 0-5 U10 B won 4-3 U10 C won 9-1 U10 D won 5-3 U11 A lost 9-11 U11 B won 8-7 U11 C drew 5-5 U11 D won 5-1 U12 A lost 5-8 U12 B won 14-7 U12 C lost 5-1 U12 D won 15-0 U13 A won 11-6 U13 B won 14-7

Antoinette Mshengu Netball coach



U10 team with Mrs Lowndes against De la Salle

### Squash

Never before has St Mary's Junior School had so many girls interested in squash! We are running four league teams this term - a first for us and never before achieved by any girls school playing in the mixed league. Our Monday and Wednesday clubs are very full, with never less than 24 girls attending at any one time. The theme of the term is serving, as without an accurate serve the game of squash cannot be successfully played.

### Results week 4 - Tuesday 2 June

Our B team played Reddam House B and won 11-6. The entire team deserves a mention as it was a team effort to score the win. Romy Len just lost 2-3, Lelo Dumeko lost 1-3 in a match characterised by long games, and Megan Soll and Liyah Mayet both won 3-0, giving us an overall win on games won.

Our C team (Nicola Watt, Sasha Steyn, Ghita Economakis and Sarah Ellis-Clarke) all lost 0-3, but everybody tried hard and scored many points but not enough for a game giving St Stithians boys D a 14-0 win.

Our D team (Alexia Bester, Sayuri Moodley, Jo Philbrick and Esme Thornhill-Davis) also could not score a point against a much-improved St Peter's C, going down 14-0. For Sayuri, Jo and Esme it was their first proper match (and against a boy too!), so I commend them all for trying and smiling in defeat.

#### Results week 5 - Tuesday 9 June

Our C and D teams played each other at home and as I predicted, the C side beat the D 14-2. Player of the match must be Samantha Collins who lost 2-3 in a long match against Alexia Bester. Mikaela Kramer tried very hard, and both Mikaela and Esme are to be congratulated on their very good marking. Jo Philbrick, in only her second match ever, was forced into the No 1 position and made Nicola work for her win.

I should like to thank all the parents for their support at the matches. Yes, your daughters are improving and I am proud of the good sportsmanship, effort and enjoyment I have witnessed in the matches.

Keep squashing!

### Deirdre Ingersent

Squash coach

### **Muse Morning**

All parents are welcome to join us. Coffee is served from 07h15 at SMOGS Cottage, with the talk from 07h30-08h30.

Date:	Tuesday 14 July
Time:	07h15 to 08h30
Venue:	SMOGS Cottage
Topic:	The Anxiety Epidemic - Why our children are so anxious and how we can help
Speaker:	David Abrahamsohn, clinical psychologist
RSVP:	lynn.moony@stmary.co.za
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# **25 JULY 2015** MANDELA DAY AT IPHUTHENG PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Looking for something to do for Mandela Day?

The overarching objective of Mandela Day is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so, build a global movement for good. Ultimately it seeks to empower communities everywhere. **'Take Action; Inspire Change; Make Every Day a Mandela Day.'** 

Come and join us as we **paint classrooms and facilitate workshops** for the School and its' community members.

### **IPHUTHENG PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Cnr Vincent Tshabalala Rd (previously London Rd) and 18th Ave, Alexandra (off Arkwright from Louis Botha)

25 July 2015 08h00 – 12h00

For more information contact: Regan Berry 083 659 1804 Nicola Grootes 083 256 3752 Volunteer to help with:

- Painting a classroom OR
- Catering OR
- Art workshop
  OR
- Sport workshop
  OR
- Boys and Girls
  Workshop

Dress warmly and in clothes you can work in.

