



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

1 DECEMBER 2015

JUST JUNIOR



So long, farewell, we will miss you Revd Canon Gill Lee

From the headmistress' desk

Dear parents

Only one month left to Christmas is my first thought as I write this final newsletter for the year. As we plan our Christmas celebrations, are we reflecting on the days that have passed and considering our new year's resolutions?

As one year rushes into the next, the passing of time is evident, particularly in schools as we witness the growth and development of children. Each phase of a child's life brings with it many highlights and some challenges, but mostly memories.

As we bid our Grade 7s of 2015 farewell and wish them well on their path to Senior School, we pray their time in the Junior School has enabled them to live the values of the school: love, community and integrity. During my weekly Grade 7 tea conversations with groups of girls, they are eager to recount to me the lessons they have learnt.

We reflect on these memories and discuss how they can be embroidered into their futures.

One conversation we shared was about how our behaviour can impact people's lives and how those memories of kindness or indifference can last a lifetime. We need to be cognisant of the impact we make on others, as we never know when in the future our paths may cross under different circumstances. For what do we wish to be remembered? What messages do we wish to leave with people we meet about our values? Were our interactions positive?

This tea-time chat applies to any of us – is our self-awareness guiding our conversations and relationships? The girls highlighted the Fruits of the Spirit as lessons they will take away with them:
But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,

Dates to diarise

JANUARY		
Wed 13	07h20	Girls return in full summer uniform
	13h30	Choir auditions
Thu 14	08h26	Grades 4 to 7 swimming trials
Mon 18		Junior School co-curricular activities begin
	18h00	PTA AGM - Junior School auditorium
Tue 19		Individual school photos
	10h18	Grade 7 tea with headmistress
	17h30	Junior School meet the teachers - chapel/ The Edge/classrooms
Wed 20		Individual school photos
	07h30	Senior Primary Eucharist
Thu 21	07h30	Eucharist: chaplain's installation service
	14h00	Tennis matches
Fri 22	14h00	Galas
Sat 23	08h00	Summer Splash
Mon 25	18h00	PTA meeting - boardroom
Tue 26	10h18	Grade 7 tea with headmistress
	14h00	Fincom meeting
	16h30	Board meeting
Thu 28	07h30	Old Girls' as present parents' breakfast - SMOGS
	10h18	Grade 7 tea with headmistress
	14h00	Tennis matches
Fri 29	14h00	Galas
Sat 30		Grades 4 to 7 tennis festivals



peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.
Galatians 5:22-23

In challenging times, in prosperous times and at all times, we should endeavour to remain cognisant of these "fruits" and embed them in our personal brand.

The reflection of teaching and learning is highlighted in the achievements of the children in the classroom and beyond. The recent celebration assemblies acknowledged the efforts of all the girls and we look forward to continuing to develop our programmes to meet the needs of every child, in order to experience success. We look forward to the new year, when your children will meet new teachers, encounter different experiences and build new

friendships. The Valedictory service and leavers' dinner marked a farewell; the carol services across the school reminded us of the birth of our Saviour and according to the *Canticle of Zechariah*, (Luke 1:68-79):

A saviour who would free us from our foes, from the hands of all who hate us, so his love for our fathers is fulfilled, and his holy covenant remembered.

As each family enjoys time together, may we keep Shelley Crawford and her family in our prayers.

We wish Revd Canon Gill Lee a blessed retirement and may Gill and Bishop Peter Lee enjoy all they have planned. We will miss Annie Eckhart and look forward to hearing of her adventures in her retirement, and

may Margie Fussell enjoy her teaching in a supportive role at H A Jack.

Congratulations to Revd Jenny Mabin and Paul Krige on their beautiful wedding celebration on 11 November.

I thank all the staff, teachers and families of the school for their support and for the well wishes and thanks for the past year.

My best wishes are with the St Mary's community for safe travels and a peaceful holiday over this festive season. God's richest blessings to you all!

Des Hugo

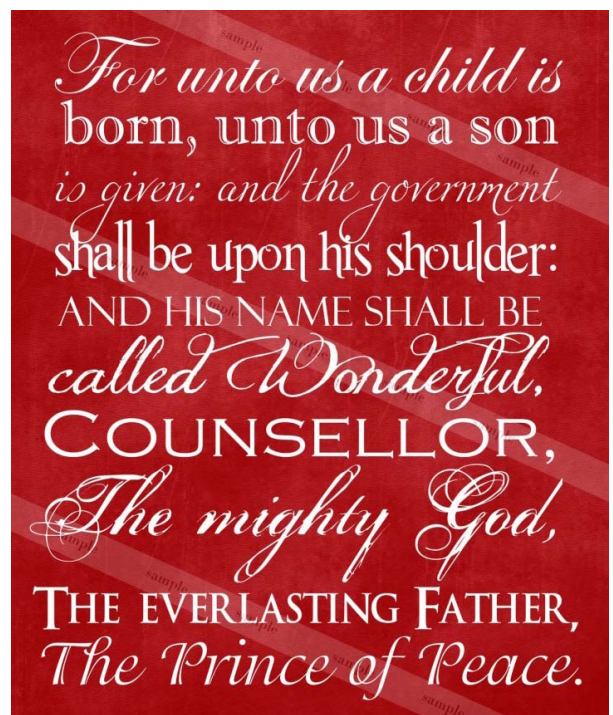
Headmistress: Junior School

From the chaplain

In the final newsletter of last year I also used this quote from Dr Seuss. This is a different picture, one that reminds us that Christmas is all about the baby in the manger.

Have a wonderful holiday with family and friends. Travel safely, and wherever you are as you celebrate, find time to remember the real meaning of Christmas.

Revd Canon Gill Lee
Chaplain



Environmental Club's community service at Cosmo City Primary School

School Aid approached the environmental club and asked if we could assist making hot dogs at Cosmo City Primary School.

School Aid has been responsible for upgrading the school library as well as supplying books and computers for the library. This wonderful opportunity took place on Tuesday 10 November, when we were involved in the formal opening of the school library.

The girls were required to make 1 400 hot dogs for the primary school children. We cannot thank Spar enough for their generous donation of all 1 400 hot dogs, rolls, serviettes, mustard and tomato sauce.

It was quite a feat making so many hot dogs and the girls had never seen

so many sausages and rolls before. They had a fantastic day and were inspired by the excellent manners and appreciation shown by the pupils of Cosmo City Primary School.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Ruimsig SUPERSPAR for the hot dogs and the Bel Air SUPERSPAR for the donation of a fruit juice for each child. We certainly could not have done it without them.

I would also like to congratulate the girls on their excellent behaviour and manners displayed on the day. They were stars.

Robyn Richmond and Annie Thom

Senior Primary teachers



ICT news

Grade 3: Ape story

Using Google Forms on their iPads, the girls created a collaborative story with the Grade 4 girls at Roedean School. In this project, the girls first examined the fundamental features of a story: the introduction, main event, supporting event, climax and end or moral. The story was written in groups (made up of a combination of girls from both schools) with each child writing only one part to create a hilarious story in the end.

Grade 4: Planet trek

The Grade 4 girls have done an extensive project-based activity on the "Solar System" in Natural Sciences. The activity included the use of two "Visible Thinking" routines viz. I SEE, I THINK, I WONDER to develop their knowledge on the topic and to write their scripts to create a "green screen" movie. The other thinking routine was THINK, PAIR, SHARE, in which girls, studying the same planet, came together to build their knowledge by discussing and sharing their findings with each other.

As captains of their own spaceships, the girls developed a script to entice fellow travellers to come aboard and experience "life" on their planet. This was done using the "green-screen" filming room and an app called Green Screen by Do Ink which allowed them to create a green-

screen movie. They selected images from the internet and used their own drawings as the background to the movie.

Grade 4: Coding club

The coding club was introduced to Grade 4 this term and was well attended every Thursday afternoon by 15 enthusiastic "coders". The girls worked at a practical level using the BeeBots to navigate through numerous problems. They then tried their hand at the BeeBot app and towards the end of the term they had progressed to chunk coding with the Tynker app.

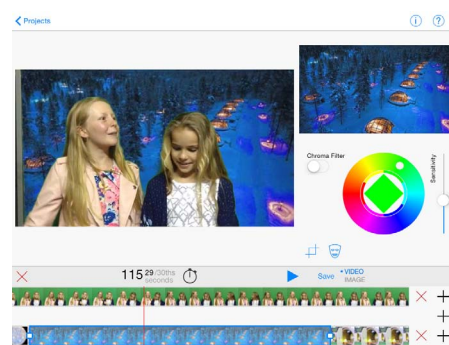
Staff development: iOS creativity

All the Foundation Phase teachers attended a six-hour workshop on the use of the creativity apps on the iPad. They were taken through the use of the camera, iMovie and GarageBand in a practical, fun-filled way.

SAHISA ICT cluster workshop:

The title of the workshop this term was "Digital Citizenship" in which I outlined nine tenets of digital citizenship and provided practical tips so teachers could immerse the children in these aspects to foster adept digital citizens.

Linda Bradfield
ICT co-ordinator



Compiling their green-screen movie



Hard at work practicing the script for their green-screen movie

From the Sports department

Swimming

The final galas of the term were particularly successful and I should like to congratulate all the swimmers. The hard work put into training throughout this short season has paid off and the girls looked strong and slick in the water.

A continual reminder for them to work on and practice their streamlines during the holidays would make all the coaches extremely happy!

Results:

A team - St Mary's A 174, St Andrew's A 150½, St Stithians A 125½,

Kingsmead 128, APPS 115, St Teresa's A 93, St Stithians B 54.

B team - St Mary's B 119, St Katharine's A 109, St Andrew's B 99, Kingsmead B 91, Assumption Convent A 46.

C and D team - APPS b 174½, St Mary's C 166, St Teresa's B 136½, Kingsmead C 115, St Katharine's B 94, St Stithians C 77, St Mary's D 52, APPS C 44.

Jane Samson

Head of Department: Junior School sport



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ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2016

EASTER TERM - TERM I

Wednesday 13 January to Friday 8 April

Half-Term

School closes on Thursday 18 February and re-opens on Tuesday 23 February

Public holidays

Easter holiday week:

School closes on Friday 18 March (at end of school day) and re-opens on Tuesday 29 March which includes Monday 21 March (Human Rights' Day) Friday 25 March (Good Friday) and Monday 28 March (Family Day)

TRINITY TERM - TERM II

Wednesday 4 May to Friday 5 August

Half-Term

School closes on Friday 1 July and re-opens on Monday 11 July

Public holidays

Thursday 16 June (Youth Day)

Friday 17 June (School Holiday)

MICHAELMAS TERM - TERM III

Wednesday 7 September to Wednesday 7 December

Half-Term

School closes on Thursday 20 October and re-opens on Tuesday 25 October

Public holiday

Saturday 24 September (Heritage day)

At the end of each term and half-term:

Senior School closes at 12h30

Junior School closes at 11h00

Little Saints closes at 10h30

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