

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



Celebrating Mandela Day by knitting squares for Warm The World

From the head's desk

Dear parents

Professional development is a key focus area at St Mary's. One aspect of our programme sees teachers allocated to groups who meet once a week to learn, read and share together. These sessions are valued by teachers because we are able to focus on the real issues of our profession. In a recent meeting with my professional development group our conversation centred on current affairs. The conversation turned to our girls, as teachers ultimately relate everything to their students, and how unaware they are of local and international news. This is of real concern to us.

Education is not successful in a bubble. Rather, it is enhanced through context: an understanding of world-views and social, political and economic trends and changes. As a school we attempt to introduce current affairs in classroom discussions, in assignments, in activities such as debating and at specific assemblies. Most recently, the diversity committee led an assembly and all the girls were involved in making a contribution to Mandela Day. But so much more is required if our girls are to be fully aware of the challenges that confront their generation.

Our girls should be reading newspapers, watching the news and taking an interest in current affairs programmes. Technology makes this easily accessible but it is a choice. Please encourage your daughters to exchange some of their time on social media for time reading and accessing current news and events. Their education will be enriched through a greater and more complex awareness of local and international issues.

Deanne King Head of school

Dates to diarise

July		
Fri 22	15h00	Squash at home
Sat 23	07h30	Form II bush school departs
	07h45	Howell Pullen at St Mary's
Sun 24	07h30	Rowing open day at VLC
Mon 25		Form V English orals begin
	18h30	Subject Music students' concert
Tues 26	15h00	Howell Pullen quarter-finals
		at St Mary's
	16h30	Board meeting
Wed 27	14h15	Form V Accounting Olympiad (2 nd round)
	15h00	Drama prelim practical examination
	15h30	Careers @ The Edge
	16h00	Career sessions
		(compulsory for Form IIIs)
	16h30	Hockey at home
	16h30	Netball at home
	18h00	Guest speaker: Form IV parents and girls
Thurs 28	14h15	Form V Art prac
	15h00	Howell Pullen semi-finals
		at St Mary's
	15h00	Drama preliminary practical examinatio
Fri 29		Form V English orals end
	07h00	Basketball tour departs for
		Pietermaritzburg
	10h00	Form V Maths camp departs
		for Wag 'n Bietjie
Sat 30		Form V Maths camp
	10h00	Howell Pullen finals at St Mary's
Sun 31		Form V Maths camp returns
		Basketball tour returns
	15h00	Jazz on The Edge
August		
Mon 1	18h00	Old Girls and Form V chapel service
		and cocktail evening
Wed 3		National holiday (municipal elections)
Thurs 4	07h30	Eucharist: Form I and Form III
	07h30	Inter-house quiz: Form IV and Form V
	09h00	On The Edge STAMP festival
	12h55	House plays
	17h15	Boarders' chapel
	18h00	Eclipsed (2016 FEDA winning play)
Fri 5	07h30	Final assembly
	10h00	Depart for OMS top 12 hockey
		tournament
	10h30	Eucharist: Form IV and Form V
	10h30 10h30 12h30	Inter-house quiz: Form I and Form V Senior School closes

From the chaplain

In Joshua 6 we are told the bizarre story of the Israelites, led by Joshua, who followed God's instructions to walk around the outside of Jericho's city walls once a day for six days, blowing their trumpets. On the seventh day they walked around the walls seven times blowing their trumpets; the Israelites gave a great shout and voilà, the walls of Jericho fell down flat. In that way, God gave the city of Jericho into the hands of the Israelites.

Surely the Israelites walking around the walls making a tremendous racket would have intimidated the inhabitants of Jericho – a psychological weapon in itself? Perhaps structural faults within the city walls were weakened by an entire nation walking alongside them repeatedly, especially with the added pressure of strong sound waves. No doubt God had a hand in the Israelites' victory, irrespective of the explanation for the strangely successful attack strategy.

Yet, perhaps God knew the repeated march around the city walls was just what the Israelites needed: to build their confidence in themselves and in God, to unite them as a nation, and for their own thoughts and emotions to filter and evolve.

In an era that values instantaneous results, the story may be God's reminder to us that sometimes we need to take time, together, before making a decision or taking action. Are we of one mind on a matter, and do we feel ready, or not quite yet? Let's go around the walls of Jericho together another time, then rest and reflect. And another time. And so on, until finally we know as a unit, deep within us, that this is the time God has given us to make the decision or take the action that God has placed before us.

Revd Claudia Coustas

Chaplain

Allan Gray Orbis Foundation



St Mary's Allan Gray scholarship girls

From the head girl

St Mary's is a school that prides itself on tradition. With its 128-year history, it has accumulated many customs and practices that contribute to St Mary's rich ethos and unique identity. Many of these traditions are apparent and well-known, such as our school song, our well-loved war cry "Oh when the Saints", Patronal Festival celebrations and the Queen's Path.

When I became head girl, I became a part of other traditions that seemed to be known only by a few people ... and so I thought it would be interesting to share them with you.

As you know, the matric girls wear a blue belt with their summer dresses and blue-and-red tie in winter to distinguish the matrics from the rest of the school. At the beginning of my term of office, my predecessor, Bongi, gave me a belt and a tie which had been owned by the previous 17 head girls. Their names had been sewn inside the belt and tie and many previous head girls considered it lucky to wear the belt or tie when delivering a speech. Similar items passed down over the years can be found in the school museum.

There are a few traditions associated with the matric dance too. The head girl is encouraged to wear either red or white on this occasion and should incorporate the school flower, the white lily, into her outfit. This could be a motif on the dress or a piece of jewellery. I chose to carry a single lily at the matric dance fashion parade.

School traditions are important as they establish the school's identity and the values that it wishes to uphold. Traditions bind a school of individual and diverse students, staff and parents into one community. I am proud, as the head girl, to perpetuate our traditions at St Mary's as they affirm our common interests and make us a strong community.

Shayna Head girl

Dance

Bronwyn, Form IV, participated in the solo performance examination for Modern on 12 June at the Roodepoort Promusica Theatre.

This examination is undertaken by participants who have passed their Advanced Modern exam with distinction.

Of the 12 candidates who took part from different parts of the country, six received their diplomas (passed the exam), including Bronwyn.



Bronwyn

South African Championships of the Performing Arts



Demi

National Arts Festival

From 2 to 5 July, the St Mary's Form IV Dramatic Arts and Visual Art students went on their annual excursion to the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown.

Each day was packed with artistic adventures, plays and performances, which varied from lectures to one of the highlights of the trip: a concert by *The Kiffness*. Brief moments in between that became "The Amazing Race Grahamstown" were spent taking photos in front of vintage cars, nostalgic shops and beautiful scenery.

We experienced the miracle and wonder of Brett Bailey, the alluring smell of the freshly-baked French pastry of Jemma Kahn, the simplicity and complexity of the narrative in which we were captured by Pieter Dirk-Uys, eerie humour which left us screaming: "Father, father, father!" being poisoned by blondes, and the dry beauty of the Karoo and its moose, courtesy of Lara Foot. Demi, Form I, was selected to go to the finals of the South African Championships of the Performing Arts, where she performed several acting, dancing and modelling items.

Demi did exceptionally well and won three gold medals, one silver medal and four bronze medals.

Owing to Demi receiving gold medals at the national finals she has been selected as part of Team South Africa and is eligible to represent her country in the World Championships of Performing Arts, happening in Los Angeles this month. This is the second time that Demi has qualified for Team South Africa. Last year she represented her country in Los Angeles and returned home with 11 medals and was selected for the World's Showcase placing her as one of the top three junior actors of the world.

Demi currently holds the title of Junior Classical Actress of the World.

Well done, Demi!



The group of St Mary's girls and staff members who went to the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown

Each play was intense, specific and highly entertaining. Everything we saw was different and unforgettable.

An exciting part of the St Mary's experience in Grahamstown included our very own St Mary's-grown show, *Eclipsed*, which was performed and directed by a group of drama girls who won the Best Play award at FEDA. This holistic, cultural experience provided a glimpse of what it would entail to be a part of the dramatic arts community and being an actor in South Africa, especially to girls who are considering pursuing a career in the arts. We thank Mrs Baylis for providing us with this opportunity. This tour would not have been possible without the patience of Ms McMurray, Mrs Harrison and Mrs Wood-Morris who managed to herd us into auditoriums and disperse tickets, give directions and life advice; Lwando, our taxi on speed-dial and, of course, our parents who gave us this amazing opportunity. Thank you to St Mary's for giving us this experience and to Grahamstown for the many memories.

Maya Form IV

From the Music department







Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival



Kate soloing in her mixed-ability band's performance under the baton of Justin Sassman

Callandra Youngleson, member of the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band for 2016 and a St Mary's Music staff member, with Aphelele and her vocal students Veneka and Ancke

Continued on next page





Callandra sings with the Standard Bank National Youth Lucy, Jemma (Roedean) and Alexandra after an inspiring saxophone workshop



Zaneli enjoys Meg's piano improvisation

Callandra sings with the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Band under the direction of South African jazz legend Carlo Mombelli



A festival workshop



Veneka with bass player and composer extraordinaire Benjamin Jephta

The Standard Bank National Jazz Festival in Grahamstown is undisputedly one of the most exciting annual events on the South African musical calendar. The Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival runs in conjunction with the jazz festival and is a six-day all-you-can-eat feast of jazz for young musicians. Their enthusiasm and participation really give the jazz festival its buzz.

This year, 13 St Mary's music students were offered the coveted opportunity to participate, chaperoned by Ms Malinga and myself. We joined 337 other school and university students, 38 teachers from all over South Africa and 90 professional jazz musicians from 16 countries, for a jam-packed line-up of workshops, lectures, rehearsals and innovative jazz performances. Every participant at the youth festival played in one of the mixed-ability bands. These bands rehearsed every morning and performed at two lunchtime concerts in the auditorium. This "mixed-ability" title is slightly misleading, for the band I joined sight-read three pieces in our first rehearsal in full-throttle big band mode, replete with phenomenal sax, trumpet and drum solos.

Top school-age players were chosen to play in the flagship Standard Bank National Schools' Band, while the eight best young musicians at the festival were hand-picked to play in the 2016 National Youth Jazz Band directed by Carlo Mombelli. We are extremely proud that one of St Mary's own vocal coaches, Callandra Youngleson, was selected to be the National Youth Band vocalist this year! Callandra raised the roof on Monday night with her sensational performance of Carlo's extraordinary music and we look forward to hearing her perform with the band again at the Standard Bank Joy of Jazz Festival in Johannesburg on Saturday 17 September.

We thank Ceri Moelwyn-Hughes and Dudley Trollope for arranging every aspect of the trip so effectively. Thanks are also owed to DSG Grahamstown who annually grant this festival access to their picturesque school campus and comfortable boarding houses. Most importantly, we would like to congratulate Alan Webster and the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival production team on a superbly organised, memorable week of outstanding music. The 2016 St Mary's jazz band leader, Natasha (Form V), had this to say of the festival: "Being able to go to Grahamstown and be part of the jazz festival is really an incredible experience. Not only did we experience and learn about jazz from many different countries but we had the opportunity to be part of making a difference to jazz in our own country."

Michael Watt Music teacher

Careers at The Edge



Careers @ The Edge: Wednesday 27 July

15h00-17h30 All welcome to browse the Expo - Senior girls and parents 16h00-18h00 Form IIIs and IVs attend career sessions as listed below 18h00-19h00 Form IVs attend talk by Ursula Fear in the Senior School hall. Form IV parents welcome.

*Choose ONE TOPIC from each of the following sessions. Note that you must be seated in your first venue by 15h55 and remain for the full session, before moving on to your second session at 17h00. You attend a total of TWO sessions. TAKE NOTE OF YOUR VENUE.

Session	EDGE THEATRE	GO1 Tobias	GO2 Nathanson	GO8 SEMINAR	WANTAGE AUDITORIUM
1 st session 16h00- 17h00	Marketing Industry: Marketing - Nokuthula Radebe Strategist - Rhiannon Rees	Allied Health Sciences: Dietician - Abby Courtenay Pharmacy ass - Jennilee D Chiropractor - Dr Kate Kelly	Allied Health Sciences: Homeopathy, Nursing and Psychometry - Drs Price and Deroukakis	Business World: Management Consulting - Nirvana Marini Making My Own Way - Laura Kennedy	Accounting: Kimberly McNamara
2 nd session 17h00- 18h00	Marketing Industry: Marketing - Nokuthula Radebe Strategist - Rhiannon Rees	Allied Health Sciences: Dietician - Abby Courtenay Pharmacy ass - Jennilee D Chiropractor - Dr Kate Kelly	Allied Health Sciences: Homeopathy, Nursing and Psychometry - Drs Price and Deroukakis	Business World: Management Consulting - Nirvana Marini Making My Own Way - Laura Kennedy	Accounting: Kimberly McNamara

We all want to be able to help and guide our daughters through life, especially during the tempestuous shift from school into the tertiary and working worlds. This year St Mary's has coordinated its annual Careers Expo sessions in and around The Edge.

These sessions are designed to expose your daughters to alternate fields worth exploring, while helping them to decide which field would best suit their individual skills, personalities, goals and dreams.

All Senior School girls and interested parents are welcome to visit the stands at the Careers Expo outside The Edge any time between 15h00 and 17h30 on Wednesday 27 July. Representatives from tertiary institutions will be present to answer your questions on skillsbased courses such as business management, information and communication technology, fashion, design and branding.

Invitees include representatives from the High Commission of Canada, Education USA, overseas institutions and South African universities including Rhodes and the universities of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Free State and Pretoria.

Form III and IV girls will attend concurrent career sessions from 16h00 to 18h00. These sessions are compulsory for all girls in Form III and girls in Form IV are encouraged to attend. Students from Waverley Girls' High School and the Ikusasa Lethu programme will be joining the sessions.

Ursula Fear, from the Deloitte Graduate Academy, will be addressing the Form IV girls and their parents in the Senior School hall from 18h00 to 19h00.

Should you have any queries, please contact lynn.moony@stmary.co.za

Lynn Moony

Careers assistant

From the Sports department



Hockey







Georgina SA U16 B

Hannah SA U18 A and Georgina SA U16 B at the closing ceremony

Emma in the Southern Gauteng U16 D team that ended third in the tournament and collected bronze

Sarah, Southern Gauteng U14 A team - won their tournament



St Mary's girls selected to represent South Africa: Julia F SA U17 A, Hannah SA U18 A, Roxy Coetzee-Turner (SG coach), Megan SA U18 B, Julia B SA U17 A



Emma and Hannah (front row), Southern Gauteng U14 A team - won their tournament



Rachel, Southern Gauteng U16 B team – winners of the B section



U16 D winners - Sarah (sixth from left at the back) was the top goal-scorer of the tournament, Reabetswe (fourth from left at the back) and Dominique (fifth from left at front)



Hannah in action



Hannah with the St Mary's coaches

The past three weeks have been all about our hockey players representing Southern Gauteng in their various teams and at their respective tournaments. Many have won medals and there were a few South African junior team selections.

Congratulations are extended to our 1st team captain Hannah who was selected to represent the South Africa U18 A team. She was then announced as vice-captain, a phenomenal achievement. Hannah took part in a three-test series against the Australian U17 team, where they lost 2 games and drew 1.

After a fantastic week at the inter-provincial tournament, Megan was selected for the U18 B South African team. Well done on your selection.

Julia F and Julia B were selected to represent the South African U17 team. They will be touring Zimbabwe in August. What a fantastic opportunity to travel and play for our country. We wish them good luck.

Well done to Georgina who was selected for the U16 B South African team. Directly after her inter-provincial tournament, Georgina headed to Pretoria to play in a tri-nations tournament, playing Namibia, Zimbabwe and SA U16 A teams. Georgina took part in the final playing the SA U16 A team and lost 4-3 to end second in the tournament.

This is a fantastic achievement for all the St Mary's hockey girls. They have represented their school with pride. Well done on your various selections.

The end of the term sees the U16 A and 1st teams take part in the Howell Pullen tournament. We wish all the players good luck.

Roxy Coetzee-Turner Head of hockey

Rowing



Attention all girls. The rowing club is co-hosting our open day with St John's College. We challenge you to come and try your hand at rowing and to meet some new and exciting people.

Tennis





Cara and two of her teammates at Wimbledon



Cara plays on the clay courts of the Sutton Tennis Academy

Cara and her teammates at the Fred Perry statue at Wimbledon

Cara on her trip to England and Wimbledon

On 23 June, I was one of a group of 22 boys and girls representing the South African High Schools' Tennis Team to go on a once-in-a-lifetime tennis experience to England. The first stop on the tour was to the clay courts of the Sutton Tennis Academy, followed by sightseeing which included Madame Tussaud's, the London Eye and Stonehenge. The highlight of the tour was two full days spent at Wimbledon. I was lucky enough to sit on the famous centre court and watch the Williams sisters, Roger Federer, Novak Djokovic, Garbine Muguruza and Milos Raonic in action. I was caught completely off-guard when I was approached by Novak Djokovic who asked me if I was from South Africa. All I managed was a "yes" in response, missing a golden opportunity for a selfie with my idol.

Cara

Form II

Congratulations to Tamsin on her excellent results in the Gauteng East U16 Key Health Tournament where she lost in the semi-finals after posting excellent wins in the previous rounds. Tegan is also congratulated on reaching the semi-finals of the doubles in the Gauteng Central U18 Key Health Tournament. Well done to Cara who reached the finals of the Gauteng Central U16 Key Health Tournament. Sadly, we say goodbye to Cara who is moving to Dubai in August. We wish her everything of the best and hope to see her playing on the green grass of Wimbledon in the future.

René Plant Head of tennis

Netball



Phelps versus Clayton





Furse versus Clayton







Furse versus Phelps

Karney versus Furse

Clayton versus Phelps

On Thursday 14 July, St Mary's 1st and 2nd teams played against Bloxham from the United Kingdom. It was exciting to come up against a team we had not played before. Both teams played very well and we enjoyed meeting the Bloxham girls. The 1st team won 29-7 and the Bloxham coaches and players were most complimentary about the performance. Our 2nd team lost a very close game 15-11. It was an exciting game which could have gone either way and was enjoyed by all players.



 1^{st} and 2^{nd} team girls from Bloxham and St Mary's

Inter-house netball

On Tuesday 12 July we held our junior and senior inter-house netball competition. We had two teams from each house in both the junior and senior competitions. This was a fun afternoon for all netball girls. The results were as follows:

Juniors		Seniors	
1 st - Furse	15 points	1 st - Clayton	16 points
2 nd - Phelps	12 points	2 nd - Furse	10 points
3 rd - Karney	9 points	3 rd - Karney	6 points
4 th - Clayton	0 points	4 th - Phelps	3 points

Rose Hallendorff Head of netball

PTA



Bruce Patience (PTA chairperson), Gloria Mamba (PTA secretary) and Yvette Bowden (previous PTA chairperson) with one of the new St Mary's 22-seater buses generously donated to the school by the PTA

Notices

An amount of R260 per family will be charged to your account in Term III for the annual school magazine. If you do not want a school magazine, please email Kathy Mittendorf at Kathy.mittendorf@stmary.co.za

APP

Please remember to download the St Mary's app

- The app is available from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. Search for it by using "St Mary's School"
- Once you have located it, click "download" or "get icon". When the app has downloaded and been opened, a window will pop up, which requires an access code to be entered. Enter the access code stmary16 and click "ok"
- You will then be taken to the loading screen, and to a screen which will ask about push notifications. Please allow for push notifications to be sent through
- In the menu you will see an icon button that reads: "My school profile". Email kathy.mittendorf@stmary.co.za to get your unique personalised access code. This will allow you to bookmark pages, create a personalised schedule and lots more. Remember also to click on "notification settings" to select the areas of the school that are applicable to you. This will ensure that you only get urgent notifications that are relevant to you and your daughter.





THE DISCOVERY ST MARY'S GOLF DAY 2016

GET YOUR SWING BACK INTO ACTION AT THIS YEAR'S FUN-FILLED GOLF DAY HOSTED BY DISCOVERY & ST MARY'S SCHOOL

Date Format Venue Friday 7 October 2016 Four-ball alliance: Shotgun start Parkview Golf Club

For more information or to sponsor a hole/prizes, please visit www.stmarysschool.co.za/news/entry/the-discovery-st-marys-golf-day or email golf@stmary.co.za

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