



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

21 JULY 2017

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Mandela Day celebrations

FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

Last week in assembly, two Senior Primary girls, Taylor Kirchmann and Tinotenda Chirimuta, presented speeches they had given previously in class. Both girls spoke confidently and compellingly, and they seemed to enjoy their time in front of an audience. As someone who is unusually preoccupied with numbers – though my fascination continues to be more esoteric than strictly mathematical – I found myself returning to Tinotenda's speech topic, *Count to Ten*, on and off for days afterwards. Her mention of her 10th birthday reminded me of a memorably poignant poem by Billy Collins (American Poet Laureate from 2001-2003) called *On Turning Ten*; the speech also made me think of the significance of numbers in our lives in general.

July has had its fair share of noteworthy numbers: in addition to Wimbledon providing a memorable statistic for Roger Federer this year, Chinese Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo (a man often compared to Nelson

Mandela) died on the 13th of the month; joint Nobel Peace Prize laureate Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, was born on the 18th, an occasion that is recognised and commemorated by people in South Africa and all around the world. What fewer people realise or acknowledge is that Mandela shares his birthday with a heroine of the liberation struggle, Adelaide Tambo, and that 2017 is an auspicious year to make this connection as it marks a century since her husband, Oliver Reginald Tambo, was born.

Auspicious or not, however, my point is that the connection between Mandela and Adelaide Tambo is worth making any year. The website of the foundation established in the Tambos' names tells us that, to celebrate their shared birthday, it was customary for Mandela and Adelaide Tambo to meet for morning tea – a modest and companionable tradition that I like to think we all honoured at the Junior School and Little Saints' gratitude tea on Tuesday. The occasion gave the girls an opportunity to acknowledge the support staff and the work they do at school every day; it was also, perhaps, an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the daily goodness of

many South Africans working in uncelebrated jobs at institutions across the country.

Putting Mandela and Mama Tambo's annual tea-drinking ritual at the centre of the day restores some of the domestic ordinariness of history that monumental public narratives tend to exclude; it also serves to remind us that, however spectacular the achievements and legacy of one person, it

is the relationships between people, the communities and traditions they create together, that really count.

DR SARAH WARNER
HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

When Elijah the prophet fled into the wilderness, fearing for his life (Jezebel had vowed to kill him), he sat under a tree, exhausted, hungry and having lost all hope. God gave Elijah food and time to rest before sending him to Mount Horeb to listen to God. Having ascended Mount Horeb, Elijah found a cave in which he waited. Read what happened next:

Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (1 Kings 19:11b-13)

Sometimes that wind, earthquake and fire are the storms of busyness and noise in our own lives, and in the clamour of our thoughts together with others' voices in our minds. Sometimes we discover in hindsight that the aspect we focused on and acted upon was the "wind" or "earthquake",

as opposed to being the aspect to which God so gently directed us. It takes time - waiting on the Lord - to discern whether the Lord is in that clamour and where. Waiting on the Lord is a letting go: of our agendas, our intended outcomes, our fears - all the "what ifs". If we wait on the Lord, not yet finalising a decision or taking action, God works in us and stills the clamour within. This takes time and patience. Then, in the silence, we can hear the voice of God in our lives. Waiting on the Lord is a letting go: of our agendas, our intended outcomes, our fears - all the "what ifs".

Note that throughout Elijah's conversation with God, Elijah's life was still in danger - that had not changed. There was thus another "storm" happening around Elijah throughout the discourse. However, Elijah came away from the time in silence empowered by a clear assurance of God's will for him, such that Elijah could address this additional storm.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

One of the challenges we as parents have is trying to decide whether our children are genuinely ill, or if they are just trying to fake it. At a Junior Primary level, it is even trickier as emotional problems often present as physical problems. This does not necessarily mean that these issues are not real to our children and we, as parents, need to find the underlying cause.

If your child has had a fever in the past 24 hours, vomiting/diarrhoea, undiagnosed skin rashes or infected eyes, please do not send her to school. It would be in your best interest to have your daughter assessed by your GP and treated accordingly, especially if the symptoms last for longer than two days. This will also help us to contain infections and prevent them spreading to other girls.

I have included a link to an article, which deals with this topic. If you have a chance, it is really worth the read:

<https://www.parentmap.com/article/mommy-im-sick-how-to-tell-if-your-kid-is-faking-it>

Thank you for your assistance in keeping our school a healthy place.

LEIGH SULLIVAN
SCHOOL NURSE

DANCE

The year got off to a busy start, as the girls went straight into preparing for the upcoming ballet exams. The Royal Academy of Dance ballet examinations took place on 27 and 28 May, with Dianne Cheesman as the examiner. All the hard work the girls and Michelle had put in before the examinations paid off, as they all passed, with some very good results.

Our Dance Mouse (Grade 0-3) and Dance Madness (Grade 4-7) girls will be performing at the annual Dance Mouse Festival at the Rivonia Barnyard in October this year, affording the girls an opportunity to perform outside the school in a competitive environment alongside 800 other dancers, from across three other franchises of Dance Mouse.

Our junior drama showcase will take place in the AV room in October, and will highlight the work the girls have been doing.

Any information you need to know regarding these co-curricular activities can be found on the website www.5678productions.co.za. Registration details can also be found on the website.

CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK
5678 PRODUCTIONS



For more info:
call 083 226 2871



Pre-primary dancers ready for their class award with teacher Michelle Emslie



Grade 000 Dance Mouse class at Little Saints with teacher Jaydene



Grade 1 and 2 Dance Mouse



Grade 4 and 5 Dance Madness

NOTICE: SCHOOL MAGAZINES

An amount of R280 per family will be charged to your school account in August for the school magazine. If you would like more than one copy or do not wish to have a school magazine, please contact Pritha Chetty via email at pritha.chetty@stmary.co.za.

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



HOCKEY

On Saturday 8 July, the Grade 7 B and Grade 6 B and C teams played in festivals at St Stithians and St Mary's respectively.

All three teams had a successful morning, with the opportunity to play several matches. Not only did this benefit their hockey, it also provided the girls with an opportunity to spend more time with their teammates and coaches.

On Thursday 13 July, our Grade 6 B and C teams played in a triangular against Roedean and St Andrew's. It was very pleasing to see the progress that the players have made this season. The coaches were very happy with

the tactical and technical improvements that the players have made, which showed in the results.

There is still a fair amount of hockey to be played this season, and we look forward to seeing our girls continue to improve their skills and end on a high note.

TARYN DE WINNAAR
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORT



The Grade 6 B and C teams that played in our tournament

NETBALL

Netball results 22 June and 6 July.

U10 A won 5-1 vs Brescia
 U10 A won 7-2 vs St Peter's
 U10 A won 4-3 vs St Stithians
 U10 B won 3-2 vs Brescia
 U10 B won 6-1 vs St Peter's
 U10 B drew 3-3 vs St Stithians
 U10 C won 2-1 vs Brescia
 U10 C won 7-1 vs St Peter's
 U10 C lost 3-4 vs St Stithians
 U10 D won 3-0 vs Brescia
 U10 D won 3-2 vs St Peter's
 U10 D won 3-1 vs St Stithians
 U10 E won 7-3 vs Brescia
 U10 E won 9-1 vs St Stithians

U11 A lost 4-5 vs Brescia
 U11 A won 7-2 vs St Peter's
 U11 A won 6-4 vs St Stithians
 U11 B won 5-2 vs Brescia
 U11 B won 2-1 vs St Peter's
 U11 B lost 1-7 vs St Stithians
 U11 C drew 2-2 vs Brescia
 U11 C won 4-1 vs S Peter's
 U11 C won 7-0 vs St Stithians
 U11 D lost 0-3 vs Brescia
 U11 D lost 1-2 vs St Peter's
 U11 D won 5-1 vs St Stithians

U11 E won 3-0 vs Brescia
 U11 F lost 0-1 vs Brescia

U12 A won 5-4 vs Brescia
 U12 A lost 4-5 vs St Peter's
 U12 B won 5-2 vs Brescia
 U12 B lost 1-7 vs St Peter's
 U12 B lost 1-7 vs St Stithians
 U12 C won 6-3 vs Brescia
 U12 C won 7-1 vs St Peter's
 U12 D drew 2-2 vs Brescia
 U12 D won 3-1 vs St Stithians

U13 A drew 6-6 vs Brescia
 U13 A won 6-5 vs St Stithians
 U13 B won 6-2 vs Brescia
 U13 B won 6-5 vs St Peter's
 U13 B lost 2-7 vs St Stithians
 U13 C won 13-2 vs Brescia
 U13 C won 3-1 vs St Peter's
 U13 C won 10-0 vs St Stithians
 U13 D won 8-0 vs Brescia
 U13 D won 3-1 vs St Peter's
 U13 D won 9-1 vs St Stithians

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU
NETBALL COACH

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



Nineteen rhythmic gymnasts, from both the Senior and Junior School, have been selected to be part of the Central Gauteng rhythmic gymnastics team
 Back: Danika Neuhoff, Romy Len, Jessica Shames, Meadow Robson, Hannah Jacobs, Caitlin Miller
 Middle: Kelly Hulett, Abigail Mahasa, Zama Gumede, Maya Marsden, Zeinab Kone
 Front: Molebogeng Pitje, Atlehang Magongwa, Georgia Plagis Gabriella Anastassopoulos, Oagile Tema, Katie Davidson, Olivia Kirsch

TENNIS



Mom/dad and daughters' social tennis afternoon for Grades 4 to 7

Date: 9 September 2017

Time: 13h45 to 16h45

Venue: St Mary's School, Waverley

Please email Mrs Plant at rene.plant@stmary.co.za to confirm your entry

Tennis coaching and round robin tournament for Grades 1-7

Date: 21, 22, 23 and 24 August 2017

Venue: St Mary's School

Time: 08h00-09h30 Grade 1 cost R560
09h00-12h30 Grades 2-7 cost R680

Please SMS Mrs Plant on 082 442 6413 to enter