



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

## JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

15 SEPTEMBER 2017

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Senior Primary girls welcoming spring by delivering flowers to the elderly at Waverley Gardens

## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

### Dear parents

Last week, when I welcomed everyone back to school in assembly, many of the younger girls indicated that the holiday had been too long by raising their hands – the older girls were conspicuous in their silence, joining in only when the conversation turned to what we had learnt or read over the August break.

After I had related my story of planting a vegetable garden (probably more accurately described as a patch) at my house and uncovering startlingly well-fed rhino beetle larvae in the process, I spoke a little about what I had read. I began with the picture book version of Albert Einstein's life that I looked at several times with my daughter over the past few weeks. She liked the part about his not wearing socks the most and has been citing "Albert" as an authority for all kinds of sartorial delinquencies ever since. The other book I mentioned is a memoir written by siblings Jonathan and Naomi Jansen in which they pay tribute to their mother, Sarah.

The book, *Song for Sarah: Lessons from my Mother* is offered by Jonathan Jansen, former vice-chancellor of the University of the Orange Free State and respected public intellectual, as a corrective to "the well-worn stereotype" of the Cape Flats mother; it is also something far less didactic, namely "a praise song to mothers everywhere who still raise families and build communities in difficult places". Jansen's acknowledgement that parenting attitudes have shifted quite significantly since his childhood is accompanied by a delicate assessment of familial relations at that time:

"While parents like Sarah did not say 'I love you' at every turn, or ever, this did not mean you were not loved. Quite the opposite; love was what parents did for their children, not the words they used." Or, in Naomi's words, "Sarah's love was demonstrated in what she did. Love to her was a verb."

I am glad that we as parents are less reticent about expressing our love for our children, and that we live at a time in which the open encouragement and vocal support of children by parents and teachers alike is viewed as an essential part of raising and educating the next generation. At the same time, I do have reservations, both as a mother and as an educator, about relying too heavily on words to tell our children how to navigate their way through what can seem like a bewildering network of expectations and demands. Reading to our children, playing with them, walking alongside them remains the most powerful way for us to demonstrate our love for them, however time consuming it might seem.

I look forward to an energetic and rewarding third term and extend a very warm welcome to the new girls who have joined us: Keabona Mhozya (Grade 0), Cissy Zhang (Grade 3), and Kirsten Roome (Grade 6). Spring is sprung!

**DR SARAH WARNER**  
**HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL**

# FROM THE CHAPLAIN

I hear a voice I had not known:  
 "I relieved your shoulder of the burden;  
 your hands were freed from the basket.  
 In distress you called, and I rescued you;  
 I answered you in the secret place of thunder;  
 I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

Psalm 81:5b-7a

This Psalm, for me, is always one that makes me pause to appreciate the beauty of the words and to reflect on its profundity. There is something deeply resonant in the words "I answered you in the secret place of thunder", and yet I cannot put that resonance itself into words. I struggle with "I hear a voice I had not known", because I do know that voice intimately; but it is a voice that, despite my best efforts, I allow to be drowned out by the "thunder" the day brings.

Of course, the Psalm contains, through the eyes of the psalmist, God's retrospective account to the Israelites of how God worked, unnoticed, in freeing the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Yet the Psalm speaks to each of us in a deeply personal way. Always, the Psalm describes what I can hold on to and find rest in – even on the busiest or most tumultuous day.

To welcome us all into Term III, a busy term in many ways, I give you this Psalm. Really the Psalm makes us pause and listen, and rest deeply in that secret place that is to be in God, in the midst of the "thunder" that is our busyness. "I tested you at the waters of Meribah." For me knowing that it is God doing the testing, God in whom I can rest and God I love, helps me embrace times of challenge as holy, set apart and God-filled.

**REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
 CHAPLAIN**

# FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## Junior School music evening

The *Saints Musical Magic* concert took place during the second half of last term and what a wonderful event it was. All the Junior School music ensembles were showcased, including the Junior Primary choir: the Singing Angels, the Senior Primary choir and chamber choir, Junior orchestra and the marimba bands.

The girls sang and played their best and showed their enthusiasm in the combined items where we all performed together. A highlight was definitely the poignant piece called *Stand in the Light* sung by all the girls from Grades 2 to 7 where they created a palpable atmosphere of musical magic. A favourite, as always, is when everyone on stage and in the audience joins together to sing the school anthem, *Oh When the Saints*. Thank you to all who supported, the St Mary's music girls really did us proud!

## Mandela Day

A big thank you is extended to the Chapel band which performed for our support staff at this year's Mandela Day tea. The Little Saints boys and girls also showcased some of their wonderful music, and the event was enjoyed by all.

**CAROL SHUTTE  
 JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD OF MUSIC**

### Dates to Diarise:

Date	Time	Event	Venue	
20 September, Wednesday	14h45 – 16h00	Senior Primary choir boot camp	LG11 in The Edge	SP choir (Grades 4 to 7 choir girls)
2 October, Monday	18h30	The Sound of Children	The Linder Auditorium	Singing Angels (All Grade 2 and 3 girls)
10 October, Tuesday	19h00	The Ridge Festival	The Ridge School	SP choir (Grades 4 to 7 choir girls)
30 October, Monday	18h30	Senior Primary ensemble evening	The Edge	Junior orchestra



Chamber choir



Combined choir



Singing Angels



# DANCE

## 5678 Productions

This is an exciting term for ballet, dance and drama as we have all our end-of-year performance opportunities.

Our Dance Mouse (Grades 0 to 3) and Dance Madness (Grades 4 to 7) girls will be performing at the annual Dance Mouse Festival at Rivonia Barnyard on 28 October, affording the girls an opportunity to perform outside the school in a competitive environment alongside about 800 other dancers from across three other franchises of Dance Mouse and Dance Madness.

Our annual Dance Mouse fun day and assessments will take place on Saturday 18 November in the studio at The Edge from 08h00 and this includes our dancers from Little Saints Grade 000 through to Grade 7.

Our Junior drama showcase will take place in the AV room on Tuesday 24 October and will highlight the skills the girls have been developing.

Finally, our ballet concert will take place on Saturday 25 November on stage in the Senior School hall.

Any information you require regarding these co-curricular activities and details for registration can be found on the website, [www.5678productions.co.za](http://www.5678productions.co.za).



For more info:  
call 083 226 2871

**CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK**  
**5678 PRODUCTIONS**



Grade 6 and 7



Grade 4 and 5 learning their Michael Jackson jazz routine with hats



Our Grade 000 dancers hard at play

# CHATTERBOX

On Thursday 27 July, girls from the Senior Primary participated in the Chatterbox public speaking evening. They all delivered thoughtful and entertaining speeches with confidence.

Well done to the following girls:

### Grade 4

- Nicole Ledlie
- Kayleigh Liebenberg
- Kayla Smith

### Grade 5

- Rebecca Anderson
- Holly Davidson
- Muyamuri Sambaza

### Grade 6

- Tara Hammond
- Anna Shaw
- Jasmin Vermeulen

### Grade 7

- Mahlatse Chocho
- Nyakallo Kodisang
- Erin Pullinger

**LINDA SMITH**  
**SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER**



The Grade 7 girls enjoyed taking part in their final Chatterbox evening

# KNITTING CLUB

The girls put their fine motor skills to the test in knitting last term and created beautiful knitted owls. They were very proud of their achievement.



Chiara Bonorchis, Vidhi Soni, Angela Illgner, Lonwabo Bingwa, Nyeleti Baloyi, Leah Govender, Nadia Moosa

# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



## TENNIS

### Sun City Tennis Tournament

The A and B tennis teams played in the Private Primary Schools tournament held at Sun City during the August holidays. The teams were accompanied by Miss Murray and Mrs Lowndes.

The A team had a very successful tournament finishing second overall. Well done to our players!

The B team did extremely well as they played all their matches against A teams and they finished fourth overall.

The tennis girls showed great sportsmanship on the courts and had a memorable experience at Sun City.

Thank you to all the parents for their support.

**TEENA LOWNDES AND CECILE MURRAY  
TENNIS COACHES**



The A and B tennis teams at Sun City



# TENNIS Cont.



The A tennis team having fun at Sun City



The B tennis team having fun at Sun City



The A tennis team:  
From left: Georgina Hector, Isha Madhu, Victoria Dahl, Josie Apps, Danielle Grobbelaar, Jessica Lansdown



The B tennis team:  
From left: Robyn Stainforth, Samantha Pearson, Mahlatse Chocho, Tamsyn Parkes, Anna Patricios, Samantha Faber, Ella Babaya



# SQUASH

Springboks won the Junior inter-house at the end of the second term.

**JENNIFER FOX**  
**HEAD OF SQUASH**



Springboks  
Mpho Mudau, Sasha Steyn, Caroline Maskell,  
Front: Megan Saunders



Lions  
Grace Forrester, Tiana Serandos, Heather and Sarah Bowden



Zebras  
Back: Erin Pullinger, Hannah Sherman, Lara Kent  
Front: McKenzie Coakley-Eager



Hares  
Velisa Kuhla, Mira Kathawaroo, Stephanie Bergesen and Khethile Mukoki

## RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

In October, five Junior School girls will represent Gauteng at the South African Gym Games in Pretoria.

Olivia Kirsch, Reece Williams, Danika Neuhoff, Meadow Robson and Zeinab Kone are in the team.

Zeinab won Level 6 U11 and got the highest score of the Level 4 to 7 competition at the Gauteng competition. Olivia and Meadow both placed fifth and won a silver medal each.

The St Mary's team will also include four Senior School girls.

The St Mary's rhythmic prizegiving will be at 17h00 on 26 September.

**LINDA GIURICICH**  
**RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS COACH**



### The Discovery St Mary's Golf Day

- Date: Friday 6 October
- Venue: Parkview Golf Club
- Format: Four ball alliance
- Time: Shotgun start at 12h00

For further information, to book your space and for sponsorship details please contact Estelle du Toit:

- 010 900 2019
- 082 490 2274
- edutoit@bopamoruo.co.za

<http://www.stmarysschool.co.za/news/entry/the-discovery-st-marys-golf-day-2017>