



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

## JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

24 NOVEMBER 2017

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The Grade 0s performed the Nativity play with heartwarming sincerity

## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

### Dear parents

In my last *Just Junior*, I alluded to some of the changes that would be effected in the Junior School next year. This article is an edited version of a letter sent out to you yesterday in which I elaborated on those changes, just in case the letter passed you by.

Firstly, changes in staffing and class allocations: with the sad departure of Ms Phakathi from St Mary's Junior School to join Grayston Preparatory, we welcome Mrs Lawless to Grade 5 as a class teacher. In addition, we are pleased to be welcoming Mrs Mthembi to the Grade 0 teaching team in the role of class assistant. She will also be teaching isiZulu in Grade 1. Mrs Murewa will take on a more administrative role in the Junior School in line with her recent studies in Information Science.

Grade 4 will be organised along similar lines to Grade 3, so that the girls can spend more time with their class teachers and be eased more gradually into the Senior Primary expectations. Mrs Dendere will move up from Grade 3 to Grade 4 as class teacher so that the altered approach in Grade 4 can be informed and guided by her experience as a Grade 3 teacher. She will be partnered by Mrs Jennett who has taught Afrikaans in Grades 1 to 5 over the past few years. Mrs Bonorchis will join the Junior Primary department as a Grade 3 class teacher and Mrs Lowndes will continue to offer us her expertise as a Grade 4 Mathematics teacher, as well as taking over other responsibilities in the Senior Primary. Grade 7 will revert to two form classes led by Mrs Richmond and Mrs Smith, with Mrs Gibbons taking on a supporting role next year.

In connection with curriculum changes, we are excited to introduce a new

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integrated and team-taught subject in Grades 6 and 7. The subject, which we are calling Integrated Studies for now, encompasses skills and content from Natural and Social Sciences, Design and Technology and Information Technology, and will be led by Mrs Richmond and Mrs Thom, with input from Mrs Bradfield, Ms Shuping, Mrs Gibbons, Mrs Dunkley, Mrs Wells and me. The curriculum in this learning area will be research-driven and the emphasis will be on developing skills that include reading for information, understanding context, good research practice in relation to a wide variety of sources (in particular, the skills of selection and comparison), and problem-solving.

One of the most exciting developments in the Junior Primary is our introduction of a third, fully qualified facilitator into the Grade 1 class next year. She will be shared equally between both classes and our intention in creating the post is to provide in-classroom support for girls needing consolidation and extension. She will assist the Grade 1 teachers with their documentation, collection of data, and general classroom observation. Lastly, we are also delighted to be integrating coding into the ICT curriculum next year. It will form a quarter of the skills covered in the ICT lessons, and coding as a co-curricular activity will continue, with more focus on robotics.

This is also the last edition of the *Just Junior* for this year, so I would like to take the opportunity to wish all our families well over December and a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year in advance. Please enjoy the time with your daughters and take advantage of the long weeks that stretch ahead to catch up on some reading!

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

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

*Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.*

Matthew 16:13-17

Sunday 26 November, the last Sunday of Ordinary Time before the start of the season of Advent, marks the feast of Christ the King. This feast day is a reminder to us that Jesus is not merely a prophet or an especially charismatic person, but Christ – and that Christ leads a kingdom which begins here on Earth. Jesus' question to his disciples is his question to us: "Who do you say that I am?"

Advent is a season of expectancy: almost a month of preparing our hearts to receive Christ anew in our lives at Christmas, just as parents or parent-figures prepare a space at home prior to the arrival of a new child in that home. As we draw closer to Advent, the feast of Christ the King gives us occasion to reflect on how our thoughts, speech and actions towards God and others, reveals how we answer that question: "Who do you say that I am?" What are the implications of our answer to that question, for the decisions we need to make and the conversations we should have? Most importantly, what do we need to do to make sure the time we spend with God reflects our answer to Jesus' question?

On the occasion of the feast of Christ the King, we pray also that Christ's Lordship over his kingdom will be revealed in our country. We pray this for every nation in need of our prayers: Zimbabwe, Kenya, Syria, to name a few.

**REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
CHAPLAIN**



## SACEE ORIGINAL WRITING COMPETITION

On Saturday 11 November, Gabriela De Toledo, Samantha Faber and Tinotenda Chirimuta were invited to attend the annual awards ceremony for the SACEE Original Writing Competition. The girls were awarded certificates and prizes for their poetry. They are congratulated on the high standard of their writing.

Gabriela won the overall prize for Grade 5. Samantha won a gold certificate and Tinotenda was awarded a silver certificate.

The following girls were also awarded certificates for their poetry:

Lihle Molefe  
Megan Kench  
Robyn Stainforth

Danielle Grobbelaar  
Cholinga Chakwawa  
Olivia Haselau  
Emma Shuttleworth  
Sebenya Dube  
Heather Welchman  
Anna Shaw  
Isabella Shaw

**LINDA SMITH  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER**

# FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

## Marimbas

On Thursday 9 November, the marimba girls performed at the new parents' evening held in the St Mary's Junior School close. The girls created a wonderful vibe while the new parents congregated with the St Mary's community to network and meet the staff. Their daughters (and sons) will become part of our community in 2018 and we welcome them to our St Mary's family.

A special thank you is extended to the marimba girls who performed and to their moms and dads for fetching and carrying them at this busy time of year.

The marimbas can be so much fun and so I decided to play alongside the girls when there was a spare instrument on which to play. The girls were experienced and managed to improvise when necessary to keep the music going. They taught me the chords really quickly and fun was had by all. Well done to the girls for performing so well.

I encourage girls to consider joining the marimba bands in 2018. They are easy to learn and lots of fun and no previous musical knowledge or experience is necessary. There will be a new schedule and times for 2018, so please look out for the new cultural timetable which will be uploaded on the school app.

As this will be the last *Just Junior* of the year, I wish you a wonderful holiday filled with much music and entertainment. I encourage you to have a cultural experience and try something new. Go and see the pantomime, or a live show, or attend one of the diverse carol services held in many venues across Johannesburg, including our on services on Monday 4 December. Travel safely and may it be filled with great road-trip tunes for you to enjoy the ride.

Please see below for dates to diarise.

**CAROL SHUTTE**  
**JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD OF MUSIC**

**Dates to diarise:**

Date	Time	Event	Venue	
Monday 27 November	17h00	Senior Primary celebration evening	The Edge	Senior Primary choir and Junior orchestra
Tuesday 28 November	07h00	Junior Primary celebration morning	The Edge	Junior orchestra
Thursday 30 November	16h45	Grade 7 valedictory service	Chapel	Chapel band
Monday 4 December	16h45	Carol services	The Edge	Senior Primary choir and invited orchestra members



# MUSIC NEWS

Congratulations to the following girls who passed their music examinations recently:

## ABRSM

Mira Kathawaroo	Violin	7	M
Xena Zephyrine	Flute	2	M
Kayla Smith	Violin	1	M
Anna Shaw	Piano	1	M
Tenjiwe Sithole	Piano	1	M
Caitlin Kersten	Flute	3	P
Chanté Louw	Treble recorder	3	P
Tessa Dagut	Clarinet	2	P
Tumelo Masithela	Violin	1	P
Kelly Hulett	Violin	1	P
Chiwoneso Mupita	Violin	1	P

## ROCKSCHOOL

Reece Williams	Vocals	1	P
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The remaining results from Trinity College have not yet been received. These will be published in the newsletter next year.

**DUDLEY TROLLOPE**  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



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# Christ Be Our Light

## A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

St Mary's School  
The Edge  
Monday 4 December 2017  
17h30 and 19h00

Reserved complimentary tickets can be collected at  
the Junior and Senior School receptions  
from Monday 27 November

## STOP-AND-DROP

This article featured in the *Senior School News* in 2012 and we felt it appropriate as a reminder for our parents to be mindful when driving in the stop-and-drop.

### LETTER FROM GRAEME CODRINGTON - PARENT AND BOARD MEMBER

On many occasions over the past few months, and again at the start of the new school term, I have noticed a disturbing trend in the school car park and drop-off zone. A few parents clearly feel that the traffic instructions are mere suggestions and that the security personnel can be ignored or even abused.

This is unacceptable for at least three reasons. The first is most important: as parents, we have selected St Mary's to partner with us in raising good women. Among other attributes, this includes developing a respect for authority, decency towards fellow human beings regardless of their rank or status, and obeying society's rules. When parents can't, and won't, demonstrate these basic traits themselves, they jeopardise the development process of not only their own daughters but of all our daughters. Our daughters

learn more from our example than from our words, and it would be good to ensure we all set the best example for one another's daughters, too.

Secondly, the traffic rules are there for good reasons, most notably our safety. The "left turn only" rule out of the drop-off zone in the morning and at lunchtime is not only for traffic flow, but also for safety. The allocation of parking bays for "staff only" and for the disabled are not suggestions and need to be adhered to at all times. The traffic system has been carefully designed for maximum effectiveness for the whole school community.

Finally, there is the matter of common decency and good humanity. I have witnessed too many incidents of parents verbally abusing both security personnel and teachers who

have tried to advise them to adhere to the regulations.

I know that we are all rushed and time is a precious commodity in Johannesburg, but take the extra two minutes to turn left out of the car park and drive the other way around the school. Take the time to thank the security team, who work tirelessly to ensure the safety of our daughters and the smooth working of the drop-off zone. And most importantly, recognise that your actions speak louder than your words: to your own daughters and to mine. Let us work together to create a community that raises the type of women we can be proud of, and into whose hands we can entrust the future of our country.

*Graeme Codrington*  
Parent and Board Member

# FROM THE FOUNDATION

## “From one girl to another” campaign plaque unveiling

The Grade 7 girls handed over heart-shaped money boxes to the Grade 6 girls as a part of the “From one girl to another” campaign. This is a way for the girls to become personally involved with the fundraising for next year. Handing over the hearts is a symbol of the responsibility the new Grade 7 girls have taken on as being the senior class of the Junior School and mentoring the younger grades in the art of giving.

Christine Fischer, from the Reaboka Foundation, helped to design and make the charming heart moneyboxes out of papier mâché. Each heart is individually made by women in rural communities. We are thrilled to be able to support one community and give back to another.

Our thanks are extended to Revd Claudia for blessing the 2017 Grade 7 plaque with all the girls’ names displayed.

We wish to thank the 2017 Grade 7 parents, girls and teachers for the fantastic work they have done in raising R35 000 for the “From one girl to another” campaign. Your hard you work at many school events to achieve this grand total is truly appreciated.

**GILLIAN O SHAUGHNESSY  
FOUNDATION MANAGER**



# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

## TENNIS

The St Mary’s tennis girls had an excellent tennis season this term. Well done to all the girls who played in the league matches.

- 10. Kingsmead
- 11. St Katharine’s

Teams C/D:

### Results

Teams: A/B

- 1. St Mary’s
- 2. St Stithians
- 3. Holy Rosary
- 4. Brescia
- 5. APPS
- 6. St Andrew’s
- 7. St Teresa’s
- 8. Roedean
- 9. St Peter’s

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- 2. Brescia
- 3. St Stithians
- 4. Holy Rosary
- 5. St Andrew’s
- 6. Roedean
- 7. St Teresa’s
- 8. St Peter’s
- 9. APPS/St Katherine’s

To end off the season, the girls took part in Junior inter-house. Well done to all the girls who played in these matches.

On 2 November, the Grade 2 and Grade 3 tennis players took part in a tennis festival at St Mary’s. Excellent tennis was played by the girls on this day. Congratulations to all the girls who took part in the festival.

**CECILE MURRAY  
TENNIS COACH**



A and B tennis team



C and D tennis team



Inter-house tennis



Grade 2 and 3 festival

# SWIMMING



We have had a short but enjoyable swimming season in the third term. We only swam in three galas but our girls worked hard in the training sessions and this gave rise to very good results especially in the last gala. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm of the girls in all the teams and to watch them progress each week. We would like to thank Mrs Zumpt for all her preparation and knowledge when doing our training sessions. She has done a fantastic job, with all teams benefiting greatly from her expertise.

Well done to all the swimmers for an excellent season. We are looking forward to 2018.

**Swimming results**

**3 November**

**A team at St Andrew's**

St Benedicts	118
St David's	116
St Andrew's	100
St Mary's	87
St Dominic's	40
Kingsmead	38

**B team at St Mary's**

St Mary's	199
St Andrew's	190
Pridwin	188
St David's	187
The Ridge	125
Kingsmead	123
St Johns	117
Roedean	104

**C and D teams at Kingsmead**

St Benedicts C	195
St Stithians C	178
St Mary's C	164
St John's C	118
St Teresa's B	110
Kingsmead C	101
St Benedicts D	75
Pridwin C	75
St Mary's D	63

**10 November**

**A team at Kingsmead**

St Benedict's	84
St Andrew's	79
St Mary's	78
Kingsmead	53
Roedean	43
KEPS	20

\*Gala was interrupted by rain

**B team at Roedean**

St David's	121
St Mary's	110
Pridwin	105
St Andrews	102.5
Kingsmead	70
Roedean	49.5
Assumption	30

\*Gala was interrupted by rain

**C and D teams at APPS**

St Benedict's B	108
St David's C	97
APPS B	95
St Mary's C	84

St Stithians	75
St Benedict's C	45
APPS C	44
St Mary's D	41

\*Gala was interrupted by rain

**17 November**

**A team at St Stithians**

St Mary's	139
St Andrew's	135
St Stithians	127
St Katharine's	86
Kingsmead	74
St Teresa's	71
St Stithians B	40

**B team at St Andrew's**

St Andrews	80
St Mary's	78
Kingsmead	47
Assumption	35

**C team at St Teresa's**

St Mary's C	117
St Andrew's	108
St Teresa's B	108
St Katharine's B	107
St Stithians	103
Kingsmead C	80
St Mary's D	54

**TARYN DE WINNAAR  
HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL**