



The Mothers' Day service was well attended and the girls loved having their moms with them

## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

### Dear parents

At last, after many weeks of preparation, discussion, organisation and hard work, the PTA Fun Day is upon us. Our thanks and praise go to Candice de Bruin and her team of class representatives and other parents who have given so generously of their time and resources to ensure that the event runs smoothly and that it offers all our Junior School and Little Saints families a day of entertainment and community togetherness in a safe and familiar environment. Thank you also to the St Mary's staff who contributed to the success of the day: Carol Shutte, for co-ordinating and overseeing the auditions leading up to the *Saints Factor* performances; and to our service staff, for the support and technical assistance they always provide at school events of this nature.

It would be remiss of me, also, not to mention the Little Saints Sports Day and the team of people, including the Little Saints staff, the sports staff, the service staff, the Grade 7 girls, and the parents, who worked together to create a delightfully versatile morning of exercise and gentle endeavour. I look forward to disclosing the names of the winning contestants in the hotly contested parents' race in the next edition of the *Just Junior!*

Fun Day, and other community events like it, demonstrate the impressive capacity of a group of people united by a common purpose and collectively imagined outcome. There are a few Junior School projects under way at present which, while lacking the glamour and immediacy of a one-day event like Fun Day, would benefit hugely from our co-ordinated effort as a community. First among these is our litter project, spearheaded by Mrs Richmond and her environmental club, which has implications for the St Mary's campus and beyond. The initiative was conceived as both an individual and house-oriented activity, and Mrs Richmond has urged the girls to give their support to it by taking up the Swedish-inspired workout

known as plogging (picking up litter while jogging. For those, like me, who prefer to walk, I suggest plalking as a respectable alternative). Please encourage your daughters to participate in this school initiative by actively plogging and plalking at every available opportunity with them.

Another outwardly tedious but ongoing school issue desperately in need of our concerted and sustained attention is lost property. While our on-campus lost property store might not boast the variety of unusual items listed by railway and underground stations worldwide (glass eyes, drum kits, whole raw fish, life-size Spiderman dolls, prosthetic limbs, mannequin heads, rocking horses and jackhammers), we accumulate an impressive number of items every week, including a disproportionate number of single shoes, takkies, slops and ballet slippers. We have appealed to the girls in assembly to take care of their possessions and to be more conscientious in tracking the whereabouts of their clothes and equipment as they change venues, but the prevailing mood of apathy is proving hard to shift.

Not that St Mary's is alone in this: a quick search of international school internet postings on lost property yields very similar observations to those made closer to home. Unnamed, unclaimed clothes, odd shoes, water bottles and lunchboxes are piling up in lost property offices all over the world. For our part, we have devised what we hope will be a more effective approach to processing the lost property that we are inundated with daily. Please assist us in the following practical ways: label your daughter's clothes and equipment clearly; encourage your daughter to take responsibility for her possessions; do not replace lost items too readily.

Thank you, and see you at the Fun Day.

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

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

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Recently I re-read the chapter in Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*, entitled "The Piper at Dawn". Using exquisite imagery, and the good friends Rat and Mole who go in search of their friend Otter's missing little boy, Portly, Grahame describes an encounter with the Piper, the "Friend and Helper":

"Mole felt a great Awe fall upon him, an awe that turned his muscles to water, bowed his head, and rooted his feet to the ground. It was no panic terror – indeed he felt wonderfully at peace and happy – but it was an awe that smote and held him and, without steering, he knew it could only mean some august Presence was very, very near." (P.108)

Having located little Portly, safe and asleep in the Friend and Helper's care, Mole and Rat return Portly to his father and gently make their way up the river again, sleepily, listening to the words of the Piper:

"Lest the awe should dwell  
And turn your frolic to fret  
You shall look on my power at the helping hour  
But then you shall forget!

"Lest the limbs be reddened and rent  
I spring the trap that is set  
As I loose the snare you may glimpse me there  
For surely you shall forget!

"Helper and healer, I cheer  
Small waifs in the woodland wet  
Strays I find in it, wounds I bind in it  
Bidding them all forget!" (P.113)

The book is well worth reading or re-reading for children and adults alike, and the chapter in question aptly describes an encounter with the love of God.

**REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS**  
CHAPLAIN



## MUSE MORNING

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Parents of children of all ages are welcome to join us at Muse Morning on Tuesday 5 June.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Seminar room, The Edge

Speaker: Anita Decaires-Wagner, social worker and educational psychologist

Topic: "Girls and Friendship – Myths and Magic"

The talk will focus on recent research into tween and teen girls' friendship patterns. It will consider the problems and benefits of friendship and will provide parents with suggestions on ways to help their daughters.

Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Refreshments will be available at the back of the Seminar room.

RSVP: [Lynn.moony@stmary.co.za](mailto:Lynn.moony@stmary.co.za)



## GRADE 3 NEWS



The Grade 3 girls went on an exciting outing to the *Yebo Gogga* exhibition where they learnt about creatures such as rats, mosquitoes, hedgehogs and snakes. The girls had an opportunity to hold these animals and they discovered new and interesting facts about our world. Fun was had by all!

**JACKY CACIOPPO**  
**JUNIOR PRIMARY TEACHER**

## GRADE 5 NEWS



The Grade 5s are learning about flowers, pollination and seed dispersal. They enjoyed completing a flower dissection lab this week.

**LINDA MAISHMAN**  
**SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER**

# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



## NETBALL

On Friday 4 May, all our netball teams participated in their first friendly mini-festival for this season. The results were as follows:

### St Mary's teams

Grade 4A  
Grade 4B  
Grade 4C  
Grade 4D  
Grade 4E  
Grade 4F

Grade 5A  
Grade 5B  
Grade 5C  
Grade 5D  
Grade 5E  
Grade 5F

Grade 6A  
Grade 6B  
Grade 6C  
Grade 6D  
Grade 6E  
Grade 6F

Grade 7A  
Grade 7B  
Grade 7C  
Grade 7D

### St Peter's

Drew 3-3  
Won 6-1  
Won 7-0  
Lost 2-3  
Drew 3-3  
Lost 3-12

Drew 5-5  
Won 9-1  
Lost 2-6  
Won 6-0  
Won 3-2  
Won 6-5

Won 5-2  
Won 10-2  
Won 4-2  
Won 5-3  
Won 5-2  
Won 2-1

Lost 1-7  
Won 6-3  
Lost 4-5  
Lost 3-5

### St Stithians

Won 3-2  
Won 4-2  
Won 3-0  
Lost 1-2  
Won 4-1  
Lost 0-9

Won 5-3  
Lost 4-5  
Won 4-2  
Won 5-0  
Lost 0-4  
Won 3-1

Lost 8-4  
Won 5-2  
Drew 3-3  
Won 11-3  
Won 3-1  
Lost 2-6

Lost 16-2  
Lost 1-14  
Lost 6-8  
Lost 3-13

**ANTOINETTE MSHENGU**  
**NETBALL COACH**

### Netball festivals

Saturday 5 May was a lovely morning filled with netball. St Mary's hosted their first netball festival which was for the Grade 6 and 7 players in the C, D, E and F teams. We hosted 12 schools and all the teams gave of their best. The festival was a success and all the players had a great time.

The Grades 3, 4 and 5 C, D, E and F teams played in a netball festival at St Peter's Girls' Prep. The Grade 3s were particularly excited to take part in their first netball festival. They rotated their positions in the different games, improving their play throughout the morning and getting a better understanding of the game. The girls had the chance to use a multi-purpose surface when they played netball on the AstroTurf for the first time.

The morning of match play against various participating schools was exciting and the girls enjoyed some fierce competition.

Well done to all the players who participated and made St Mary's proud with their enthusiasm on the netball courts.



Grade 4 girls at St Peter's Girls' Prep

**TRACEY WOOD**  
**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: JUNIOR PRIMARY SPORT**



## NETBALL continued

On Friday 11 May, the netball team played against Holy Rosary and Brescia House and the results were as follows:

### St Mary's teams

Grade 4 A  
Grade 4 B  
Grade 4 C  
Grade 4 D

Grade 5 A  
Grade 5 B  
Grade 5 C  
Grade 5 D  
Grade 5 E

Grade 6 A  
Grade 6 B  
Grade 6 C  
Grade 6 D

Grade 7 A  
Grade 7 B  
Grade 7 C  
Grade 7 D

### Holy Rosary

Drew 5-5  
Drew 3-3  
Lost 1-2  
Lost 2-3

Drew 8-8  
Won 5-3  
Lost 3-4  
Won 3-0  
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Won 10-2  
Drew 3-3  
Won 6-0  
Drew 2-2

Won 8-2  
Lost 3-5  
Lost 3-4  
Won 6-2

### Brescia

Won 7-1  
Drew 3-3  
Drew 1-1  
Won 3-2

Won 8-3  
Won 7-2  
Drew 2-2  
Won 2-0  
Won 8-0

Lost 2-5  
Lost 2-4  
Won 4-1  
Won 8-1

Lost 4-5  
Drew 4-4  
Won 6-5  
Won 3-2

**ANTOINETTE MSHENGU  
NETBALL COACH**

### St Andrew's Indoor Netball Tournament

On Saturday 12 May, the Grade 7 A and B teams participated in the St Andrew's Indoor Netball Tournament at the Edenvale Action Sport Centre. This was a completely new and exciting experience for us – it was only our third match on an indoor court. Even though it is very similar to normal netball, there were a few rules that took some getting used to. Both teams supported each other and learnt from one another's mistakes. We were introduced to a much quicker game where the ball never stopped moving.

We learnt to work better as a team and to keep our heads up no matter the score. The Grade 7 A team ended in ninth place after beating St Teresa's in a very tight game. We were very grateful to our coaches for giving us the opportunity to play indoor netball. We all enjoyed ourselves immensely!

**GRACE FORRESTER: NETBALL CAPTAIN AND  
SAMARA MAYET: NETBALL VICE-CAPTAIN**



Grade 7 A netball team at the St Andrew's U13 Tournament



Grade 7 B netball team with Kelsey White at the St Andrew's U13 Tournament

## RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

### Central Gauteng Level 1, 2 and 3 team

Congratulations to the following 13 girls who were selected for the Central Gauteng team:

Oagile Tema	Grade 2	Gold
Nomi Mark	Grade 2	Gold
Kaylee Verster	Grade 2	Gold
Akani Nkuna	Grade 2	
Imogen Gunning	Grade 3	
Valentina Giuricich	Grade 3	
Zamanangwane Hlongwane	Grade 3	
Clarissa Papperitz	Grade 4	Gold
Maya Marsden	Grade 4	Gold
Xena Zephyrine	Grade 4	
Georgia Plagis	Grade 4	
Gabriella Anastassopoulos	Grade 4	
Katie Davidson	Grade 4	

This group won five gold and eight silver medals and will compete in the Gauteng competition on 9 June.

### St Mary's Invitational on 12 May

Thank you to all the parents who assisted in the tuck shop and to those who donated muffins and cupcakes. Funds raised in the tuck shop will be used for the new rhythmic banners used at the competition. Thank you to all the parents and siblings for your support at the event.

A special thanks to Danika Neuhoff, our rhythmic captain, Marelise Neuhoff and all the Neuhoff family for helping in the tuck shop, arranging tea and lunch for the judges and arranging girls to assist with the running of the competition.

A total of 320 gymnasts entered our competition.

The following St Mary's gymnasts were placed in the top four in their sections:

- Kaylee Verster 3
- Clarissa Papperitz 4
- Oagile Tema 1

**LINDA GIURICICH**  
RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS COACH





## TENNIS



Our congratulations are extended to Aashi Madhu who played in the U13 Inter-Provincial Tennis Tournament. Aashi was part of the Gauteng Central team and played excellent tennis. Aashi played six matches and won four of the six. Well done on the great results, Aashi.

**CECILE MURRAY**  
TENNIS COACH

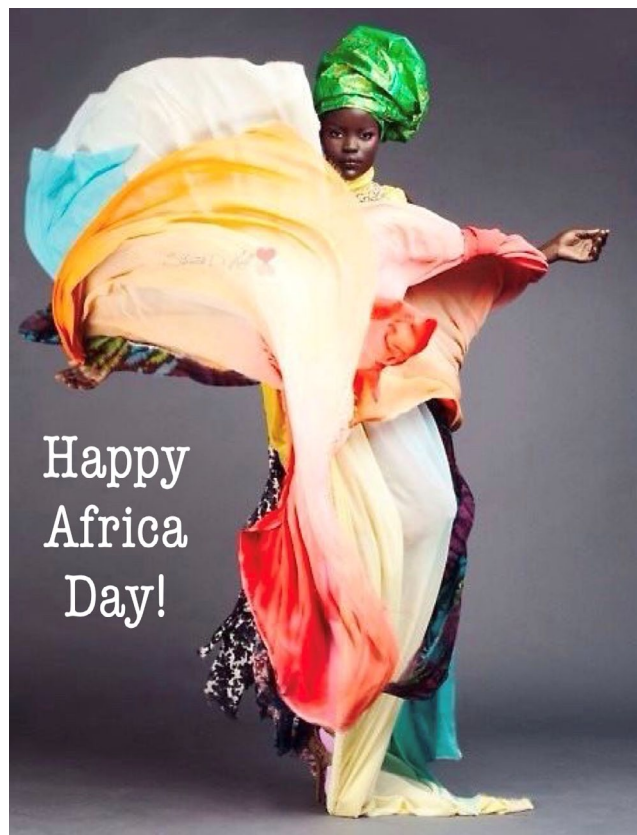
## KARATE



### A fighting stance!

Jayden de Bruin, in Grade 3C, was awarded her purple belt in karate. We congratulate her on her excellent achievement.

## AFRICA DAY



Happy  
Africa  
Day!

Africa Day is celebrated on 25 May and commemorates Africa's unity. Originally celebrated on 15 May – the date of the first conference of independent African states in 1958 which called for a day to "... mark each year the onward progress of the liberation movement and to symbolise the determination of the people of Africa to free themselves from foreign domination and exploitation" – it was changed to 25 May to coincide with the founding of the Organisation of African Unity.

