



The Senior Primary girls enjoyed listening to Matshidiso Mohajane, a London-based musician and composer. She is an inspirational and accomplished woman.



Little Saints sports day and Junior Primary fun day



FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

It is not always easy to make connections among the different events happening at and around school, and last week was no exception: the culmination of our IQAA evaluation (as described in the Senior School newsletter by Deanne King), the inaugural Maxeke-Mgqwetho annual lecture hosted in The Edge on Thursday, the SAGSA conference offsite, Friday's Senior Primary assembly with a visiting speaker, and Saturday, Africa Day, with its packed programme of Little Saints sports day, the Junior Primary fun day, netball matches and rhythmic gym competitions – not to mention the presidential inauguration. This week's Patronal Festival Eucharist and picnic, at which we commemorate the school's 131st birthday, could be viewed as an opportune moment to catch our breath and give thanks for what has gone before, as well as to look forward to what is still to come.

It helps that the number the school is turning this year is significant, but odd: it lends itself to celebration of a more unusual nature. Like the women whose largely unheard voices Gcina Mhlophe conjured on stage last Thursday, 131 is "too much"; on the wrong side of 130. It seems exorbitant, as if its sole purpose were to point to the more symbolically forceful numbers we choose to highlight on either side of it. At the risk of sounding absurd, it is precisely this notion of the extraneous, the superfluous and the digressive that I wish to bring into sharper focus now.

It is easy to lose sight of the value that such interstitial activity brings in a programme of planned events: the discussions that happen in the classroom but that do not have a measurable outcome in homework or assessments; the rehearsals and training with teachers, coaches and peers that narrow into performances and matches; the work done by staff, parents and girls before and after the main event, as well as the spontaneous play between children of all ages that runs parallel to

everything we do. What place do we give to these before, after and by-the-way interludes that constitute the daily life of the school and extend beyond it in ways we cannot articulate with ease?

The thought crossed my mind several times last week, but one example drawn from a packed itinerary will do: in Friday's Senior Primary assembly we were fortunate (through the welcome interventions of a parent in the Junior School) to host accomplished South African-Jamaican London-based musician and composer Matshidiso Mohajane, whose academic background is in human rights law. Matshidiso addressed the girls, showed us a music video, answered questions and performed part of her latest single. She enjoyed a natural rapport with the girls and their admiration for her musical gifts was obvious; what stayed with me was the picture of them sitting in the hall, eyes trained on the screen, as she transported them, through soulful music and black-and-white imagery, to their own city. The video, *Running*, features Matshidiso jogging through various parts of Johannesburg, more or less familiar to the girls. Watching the video in her presence, seeing their city as a location for stories and as a place of storytelling, is something I wish they will take from this experience, and never forget.

Before closing, I want to extend my thanks to all the staff and parents who supported the Little Saints sports day and the Junior Primary fun day, especially those of you who gave your time on fun day, before and after, to ensure that the event ran smoothly, looked beautiful and made our families happy. The rag-tag group of children who played on while their parents, including teachers, tidied up and took stock of the day, long after all the stalls had closed and as the shadows lengthened across the Junior School Close, deserve our thanks as well – they had such fun.

DR SARAH WARNER
HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

The Fourth Station: Jesus meets His mother



Mary, a grieving mother, bows towards her Son in an effort to comfort Him. Anguish is expressed on Jesus' face as He looks down at His suffering mother. His mental suffering is greater than His physical pain at this moment. The two figures in the background represent the executioner, in a red hood, and a member of the hostile crowd.

– Joseph Capelle

Then Simeon blessed [Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus] and said to His mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed – and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

– Luke 2:34-35 (NRSV)

Today marks our Patronal Festival, and the celebration of the Annunciation, the occasion on which the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was with child, the Son of God. Christ looks up from His cross, and is deeply moved by the suffering of His mother, Mary. It is fitting that we should look back, during this Easter season, first to Christ's walk to the cross, further back to Simeon's blessing the Holy Family, and finally even further back in time to Mary's response to the angel Gabriel: "Let it with me according to your word" (Luke 1:38b). Let us look up from what occupies our minds and notice Mary, as Christ does in this Station, and spend some time marvelling at the faith and courage of this woman of God.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

VISITING AUTHOR



Author Lori-Ann Preston gave an entertaining and interesting talk to the Grade 2 to 4 girls. Lori spoke about her life as an author and what inspires her to write. She also told the girls about her books: *Thabo the Space Dude Log Book*; *Last Days on Earth*, *Thabo the Space Dude Log Book 2*; *Destination Mars* and *Trixie the Mischief-Maker*. This was Lori's second visit to St Mary's and we look forward to hosting her again.

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Term II Music

Term II promises to be filled with fabulous music. We start the term off with our Patronal Festival, where the Senior Primary choir and the Singing Angels represent the Junior School Music department as part of our special school celebration. The Junior School music ensembles and choirs will be performing at the Junior School music evening, to be held on Wednesday 5 June, and we hope to see you there. We also look forward to our school play, which features all girls from Grades 1 to 7 and will be filled with music and dance.

Roedean flute day

The Roedean flute day took place on Saturday 18 May and was attended by one of our flute students, Xena Zephyrine.

"I went to the flute fay that was held at Roedean School. When I got there, we began to practise the piece Collide, which I had learned the day before. We then split up into separate groups to play our pieces. I made friends with a girl, Rosemary, who goes to Roedean. At break, we were treated to a big delicious burger and a treat for lunch.

Time went by so quickly because all of a sudden we were given good luck cupcakes before the concert. I loved playing the pieces with all my new friends, and I had so much fun." – Xena Zephyrine (Grade 5)

CAROL SHUTTE

JUNIOR SCHOOL: HEAD OF MUSIC



Roedean flute day



Xena Zephyrine, performing at the Roedean flute day

Junior School music evening

When: Wednesday 05 June

Time: 18h00 to 19h00

Where: The Edge

This event is for our Saints community and will showcase our St Mary's music ensembles, from Grades 2 to 7.

Performances will include the marimba bands, Junior School orchestra, Senior Primary choir and the Singing Angels (Grade 2s and 3s).

Come along and enjoy tea, coffee or sherry and biscuits from 17h00, while the girls rehearse together.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Grade 7s visited Waverley Gardens Memory Care on Thursday 16 May. The girls spoilt the residents with chocolates and sweets in celebration of Mothers' Day. In true St Mary's spirit, the girls sang a few songs, which the residents thoroughly enjoyed.



THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

RETHINK PLASTIC



<http://recyclingandplasticpollution.blogspot.com/2018/12/plastic-alternatives.html>

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



NETBALL

Grade 3 and 4 Holy Rosary festival

Our Grades 3 and 4 A and B teams participated in the annual Holy Rosary festival on Saturday 18 May. It was a great morning of netball and all the players enjoyed themselves. It was wonderful to see the girls' skills, and their understanding of the game, progress throughout the morning. All our teams played well and won the majority of their matches.



Grade 4 B team: Lara Teji, Claudia Cunningham, Holly Cairns, Caitlin Duggan, Uphwe Dlwati, Amara Mbanefo, Georgina Pearce, Sarah Silcock, Tyla David

On Friday 17 May the netball teams played in a triangular festival against Holy Rosary School and St Katharine's, and the results were as follows::

St Mary's teams	Holy Rosary	St Katharine's
Grade 4 A	Won 6-5	Won 10-0
Grade 4 B	Won 10-1	Won 5-3
Grade 4 C	Drew 1-1	Won 16-1
Grade 4 D	Won 2-0	-
Grade 5 A	Won 11-3	Won 20-0
Grade 5 B	Won 7-1	Won 10-0
Grade 5 C	Won 3-0	Won 11-0
Grade 5 D	Won 4-0	-
Grade 6 A	Won 8-6	Won 8-0
Grade 6 B	Lost 5-6	Won 12-0
Grade 6 C	Won 6-2	Won 7-0
Grade 6 D	Won 6-2	Won 6-2
Grade 7 A	Won 9-5	Won 10-2
Grade 7 B	Won 5-3	Won 10-2
Grade 7 C	Won 12-1	Won 11-0
Grade 7 D	Won 14-0	Won 8-0

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU
HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL



Ferdi the ribbon rhino



Horned rhino



De-horned rhino

As many of you are aware, since 2013 the hockey festival has used saving the rhino as its social awareness campaign. Over the years, we have used various different methods of raising this money. Each team that plays makes a contribution and Investec has always made significant contributions. In 2018 and 2019, St

Mary's ran a highly successful raffle. Up to the end of 2018, the total amount raised by the festival was R446 620. We were determined that this year we had to push past the half million mark. Investec came on board with a fantastic challenge. They said they would match whatever was raised by the festival up to a value of

R150 000. The festival, taking into account the raffle, all donations and the Grade 7 face painting efforts, made R184 312, which Investec have now agreed to match, giving us a 2019 total of R368 624. Since 2013, our grand total now sits at R815 244, giving us no option but to push past the million mark at the 21st St Mary's Investec Hockey Festival in 2020.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



This term, the Junior School gymnasts have participated in the Central Gauteng and Gauteng championships. This team of 22 girls from Grade 2 to Grade 6 will represent Gauteng at the zone, inter-provincial festival on 14 and 15 June. The Gauteng gymnasts are: Amanda Wilford, Bemnet Worku, Zamangwane Hlongwane, Lonwabo Bingwa, Clarissa Papperitz, Akani Nkuna, Nomi Mark, Kaylee Verster, Mothibi Mokhatla, Katlego Mashile, Sierra Kumalo, Thikho Marageni, Addison Oldfield-Sammons, Keabona Mhozya, Moloko Masemene, Abigail Christou, Emma Home, Chloe van Rooyen, Kgalalelo Pitje, Riley Vance, Sarah-Jane Cowlard and Caelen Buchanan. The St Mary's Rhythmic Invitational on 18 May was supported by eight

rhythmic clubs and 250 gymnasts, which included gymnasts from Pretoria, Alberton, Kempton Park, Secunda, Vereeniging and Johannesburg. The junior and senior gymnasts will participate in competitions in Pretoria at Wierda and Toccata in the first two weeks of June.

LINDA GIURICICH AND COACHES
RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

TENNIS

Congratulations to Tayla Gibbs, who won the U14 singles title in the Gauteng Central mini-series tournament that was held at Ellis Park.

CECILE MURRAY
TENNIS COACH



Final opponent, Tayla Gibbs on the right.

EQUESTRIAN

The St Mary's Junior School equestrian team competed in qualifier 3 at Kyalami Equestrian Park on the weekend of 18 and 19 May. Riley Bate on Dreamer and Katherine Franck on Bodenhausen Le Chocolatier and Simply Sebastian did St Mary's proud, achieving excellent results.

St Mary's Junior School is coming 5th in their category, which is made up of 17 schools. Below are top 10 placings from qualifier 3:

Level 5

Show jumping: Katherine Franck on Bodenhausen Le Chocolatier – 1st and 6th

Level 4

Show jumping: Katherine Franck on Simply Sebastian – 1st placings in both classes

Equitation: Katherine Franck on Simply Sebastian – 5th



Riley Bate on Dreamer.

Hockey

Emily Nurse and Zalika Methula received their provincial colours for hockey at the Southern Gauteng hockey capping ceremony – a wonderful achievement.

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU
HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL



Emily Nurse and Zalika Methula.

Level 2

Show jumping: Riley Bate on Dreamer – 1st and 6th

Level 1

Dressage: Riley Bate on Dreamer – 5th

Equitation: Riley Bate on Dreamer – 9th

Handy hunter: Riley Bate on Dreamer – 5th

NICOLA DOUGLAS
SENIOR SCHOOL EQUESTRIAN CAPTAIN



Katherine Franck on Simply Sebastian.

NOTICES

Please join HOPE at
**A coffee morning to launch our
 BOOK CLUB**

*HoD of English, Felicia Tobias, to introduce
 Americanah*

Wednesday 5 June
Seminar room
07h30

"Many stories matter.

Stories have been used to dispossess and to
 malign.

But stories can also be used to empower, and to
 humanise.

Stories can break the dignity of a people. But
 stories can also repair that broken dignity."

*Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Author of
 Americanah*

The HOPE Committee

Hearing Other People's Experiences

A sub-committee of the PTA to encourage parent conversations around diversity

hope@stmary.co.za



**Transforming our schools
 Conversations with Bongani Bingwa**

*A panel discussion with St John's College, Sacred Heart College,
 Crawford Schools, Jeppe High School for Boys and St Mary's
 School*

SAVE the DATE
Thursday 27 June
 18h00
 at St Mary's School

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R150 000 FOR YOUR SCHOOL YOUR SHARE OF R150 000 IN VOUCHERS

With R150 000 up for grabs for the school and one of 10 x R15 000 vouchers for you, everyone is giving their all to win the challenge. Remember to swipe your MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet card to get your school a swipe closer to winning big and to bagging your share in vouchers from any of our partners.

Each swipe is an entry*, so the more you swipe, the more entries you get.

Competition closes 30 June 2019.

* Each swipe is one entry however MULTIPLE swipes done at the SAME partner store on the SAME day will count as one entry only.

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