

# JUST JUNIOR NEWS

14 June 2019



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## FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

#### Dear parents

I was pleased to discover at a recent Heads' breakfast that, come winter, I am not alone in dedicating sustained thought to the topic of uniform and tracksuits and that its introduction into conversation produces a strenuous response across a surprisingly diverse range of schools. I hesitate, even here, to devote space to something that can seem quite frivolous in relation to other more pressing subjects, but school uniform, as a point of discussion, does have this going for it: everyone has an opinion.

While few people at St Mary's would argue against the wearing of uniform, many seem to favour a more permissive approach to what constitutes uniform and the combinations it allows. Others believe wholeheartedly in the improving effects of uniform on moral character and offer mostly anecdotal evidence to support the claim that uniforms boost student performance and create a school culture that fosters seriousness about learning. Researchers who have expended even more energy grappling with the phenomenon of uniforms than your average school head reach spectacularly inconclusive conclusions about the ability of uniform to foster a sense of belonging, to blur class lines and decrease peer pressure. The facts remain difficult to discern.

At St Mary's, we agree, in principle, to wearing a uniform. Even the Grade 7 girls, who feel the injustice of every decision that comes between them and their desire to wear the non-compulsory grey hoodie, are affronted by the suggestion that we wear tracksuits daily in winter and reserve the uniform for special occasions only.

The issue that excites us as a community is best described as seasonal and relates to the perceived inadequacies of our winter uniform in response to colder temperatures. Again, the evidence that is offered in support of this claim is difficult to verify: some parents insist their children are cold in their uniform, but our observation of girls removing layers of clothing before break and choosing not to wear the school jersey, the thicker tights, gloves and scarves tells a different story. The girls' choice of clothes for a civvies day in the depths of winter is equally instructive; similarly, outfit choices at Little Saints on any day provide food for thought. Children who present with sensory issues account for the unpopularity of certain items – the tights and Grade 0 polo necks spring to mind – while the general distaste for the long grey socks among the older girls, in particular, could justify a lively panel discussion of its own.









Christ's Hospital school in Horsham, England has a uniform of breeches, knee socks and frock coats that dates back to 1556. The school claims that it is the oldest uniform in existence

So where does this leave us? In the uncertain territory described by perception, half-truth and desire, which means that whatever approach we adopt to the wearing of our uniform will be the result of good-natured, value-based discussion and not a triumph of empirical fact over stubborn tradition that some imagine. School uniforms, by their very nature, are never simply about practicalities. I suggest, therefore, that

we return to first principles: we have a school uniform, which will require adjustment over time. Prototypes of a long-sleeved polo shirt for the Grade Os and a warmer cardigan for the rest of the Junior school are already under review. The photograph on the first page is one in a series that will be posted on the app, another initiative to have emerged from ongoing conversation with our class representatives – conversation that draws on a shared willingness to make the school uniform work, instead of foregrounding the impulse to assert one's own preferences.

Please join the conversation.

DR SARAH WARNER HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

## YOUTH DAY

To mark Youth Day on Sunday 16 June, Deanne King, Revd Claudia Coustas and I will be attending a Youth Day Eucharist at St Mary the Virgin Anglican Cathedral in Johannesburg.

At the service, we will celebrate the young people of 1976 who made an indelible contribution to the fight against injustice in the apartheid education system. While lamenting the challenges facing young people today, the service will be focused on inspiring our youth to seize the opportunities available to them under the new dispensation. The service will be preceded by the Walk of Hope around the Cathedral at 08h30. Wherever you are on Sunday, we urge you to remember this significant historical event with your families.

DR SARAH WARNER HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

### FROM THE CHAPLAIN

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

— John 16:12-15 (NRSV)

On Sunday 9 June, the church celebrated Pentecost: God's gift of the Holy Spirit to Christ's disciples appearing as tongues of flame, and enabling each to speak the message of God in various languages such that listeners could all understand God's message in their own languages. It was, and is, the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church – to us – the body of Christ here on Earth.

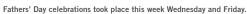
Sunday 16 June is Trinity Sunday, on which we celebrate our Triune God: God the Creator; God the Son and Redeemer; and God the Holy Spirit who sustains the people of God. These together are three persons, yet one God, such that our God is in essence God-in-relationship, and God invites us into the intimacy of this relationship.

One of the first stances of prayer (which became known as the orance position) entailed standing face uplifted, arms raised with hands upturned as if to embrace the Holy. How better to welcome the Spirit of God as the Spirit weaves us together with God, the three-in-one? Surely the words the Spirit declares (John 16: 12-15) can only be words of love, of comfort – words for which we yearn, all be they words that also challenge us and whittle our character into that which our God who is love imagines for us and created us to become, in relationship with God?

In South Africa, Sunday 16 June is also Youth Day, the day on which we remember the agency of the youth in 1976 in standing against the evil that was apartheid, a regime that sought what God did not: separatism, not unity, and to the terrible detriment of so many. As we remember and celebrate all that the youth did, that day, let us uplift our country in prayer to receive anew God's Spirit who continues to weave unity in love, within and among us all.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS CHAPLAIN









### FROM THE MEDIA CENTRE

We have had a very busy and exciting time in the media centre. The year began with our mystery reads. Mrs Mbongwa and I covered approximately 60 books in newspaper and encouraged the girls to select one of the books. The aim of this was to introduce girls to different authors. This proved to be a great success as we continued covering more books for at least another two weeks. In line with the work the environmental club is doing, we recycled the newspaper covers. The girls have requested that we do this again.

Hooked on Books performed for the Junior and Senior Primary girls in the first term. I bought multiple copies of the titles that were part of the production. The girls are still queuing up to read these books. Over the years, Hooked on Books has proved to be a popular and effective way of encouraging the girls to read.

South African author, Lori-Ann Preston, visited us and spoke to the Grade 2 to Grade 4 girls. She discussed her new book *Trixie* and discussed her second book in the *Thabo the Space Dude* series. The girls enjoyed her presentation and I hope that she will be able to visit us again next year.

The Books2You book fair, which we recently hosted, was an amazing event. The girls loved browsing through the books and working out what they could buy with their money. What a wonderful life lesson! The quality,

prices and presentation of the books were very appealing to the girls. I thank all the families and staff who supported the book fair. I was able to select books to the value of R3 170 for the library.

It was a pleasure to welcome South African author Refiloe Moahloli to the school. Linda Smith and I heard Refiloe presenting at a Pan Macmillan function earlier this year. We both thought that it would be wonderful to get her to come to talk to the girls. Refiloe is the author of *How Many Ways Can You Say Hello? Tullula* and *Yes Yanga!* She came and read *Yes Yanga!* to the Junior Primary girls, and spoke to the Senior Primary girls about writing and being an author. The girls thoroughly enjoyed her presentation. We look forward to her next book and hope that she will be able to visit us again.

Readers Warehouse has very generously donated books to the school for me to use as prizes in a competition which I would like to run at the end of the term or at the beginning of Term III.

Happy reading!

ROBYNNE DUNKLEY
DEPUTY HEADMISTRESS: ADMINISTRATION



## FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

In the past few weeks, some St Mary's girls have participated in the Johannesburg Festival for the Advancement of Music which took place at Jan Celliers Skool. This event is run by the South African Society of Music Teachers and is an Eisteddfod where there are many different opportunities to perform, including categories from solo pieces to recitals as well as group performances. Well done to all those girls who took part in this Eisteddfod.

Our congratulations are extended to Kimaya Shah-Naidoo and Emma Frahm-Arp who received a diploma for their performance in the 14 and under ensemble section, and were invited to play at the gala concert last Monday evening.

#### Solo violin 8 years and under

Erin Hayes Silver

Elli Gerakaris Gold Honours
Mia Diana Gold Honours
Caelen Buchanan Diploma

#### Solo violin 10 years and under

Leah GovenderGold HonoursKimaya Shah-NaidooDiplomaEmma Frahm-ArpGold Honours

#### Violin recital 8 years and under

Erin Hayes Silver

Elli Gerakaris Gold Honours Mia Diana Gold Honours

#### Violin recital 10 years and under

Leah Govender Diploma

#### Piano recital 10 years and under

Emma Frahm-Arp Diploma

#### Concerto 10 years and under

Kimaya Shah-Naidoo Gold Honours Emma Frahm-Arp Gold Honours

#### Solo violin 12 years and under

Chiwonesa Mupita Silver

#### Junior School music evening

On Wednesday 5 June, The Edge was filled to the brim with performers and members of the audience for the Junior School music evening. The evening included performances from the Junior Primary choir (all Grade 2 and 3 girls), the Junior orchestra, marimba bands and the Senior Primary choir.

This event was held for our St Mary's families and was a great community building evening with enthusiastic audience participation. Thank you to all the girls for their smiley faces and wonderful musicianship, to the music staff who helped prepare the girls, to the Grade 7s for presenting the evening's programme items and to the audience who supported with loud cheers and uplifting applause.

If you would like to order a DVD of this performance, please send me an email so that I can organise one for you.











## FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONTINUED

#### Dates to diarise:

Please note that there will be no piece playing concerts this term owing to the play performance schedule. In consultation with her teacher, any girl is welcome to sign up for one of the studio concerts below. Should you need further information please contact troy.stead@stmary.co.za

Date	Time	Event	Venue
Thursday 20 June	17h30	String concert	LG05, The Edge
Thursday 27 June	17h30	String concert	LG05, The Edge
Monday 15 July	17h30	Piano concert	LG05, The Edge
Thursday 18 July	17h30	Woodwind concert	LG05, The Edge
Monday 22 July	17h30	Piano concert	LG05, The Edge

CAROL SHUTTE
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD OF MUSIC



For more info: call 083 226 2871

## **DANCE**





Our Grade 1 and 2 Dance Mouse children working on their modern technique as well as their jazz routine for the Barnyard dance festival later in the year.

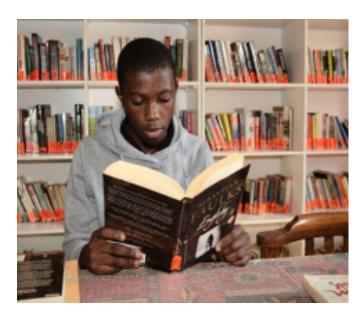


Katherine Deacon achieved a gold medal for her tap solo routine in the U11 championships category at The South African Body of Dance's Gauteng Performing Arts Provincial Competition.

Congratulations, Katherine.

## **IKUSASA LETHU**





The pupils on the Ikusasa Lethu Programme (Saturday school) have English, Mathematics, Physical and Life Sciences, Geography, Accounting, Economics and Business Studies lessons. All the classes also spend time in the computer rooms learning a variety of computer skills. Coding is taught to some of the pupils. All the pupils have access to the library which has been built up with donated novels.

LINDA GIURICICH DIRECTOR: COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

## FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



### **TENNIS**

Congratulations to Moroesi Tuoane who won the U12 TSA Growthpoint mini-series tournament that was held at Atteridgeville.

## CECILE MURRAY COACH: TENNIS



Moroesi Tuoane

### RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Lebone Tshetho in Form I and Zeinab Kone in Grade 6 won the competitions in pre-junior and Level 9 last weekend at Wierda in Eldoraigne in Pretoria. They also achieved the highest scores in their sections.

LINDA GIURICICH COACH: RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS



Lebone Tshetho and Zeinab Kone

### NETBALL

On Saturday 25 May, Holy Rosary School once again hosted the Grade 5 to Grade 7 A and B team netball festival. Each team played a varying number of matches. It was an opportunity for the teams to consolidate skills learnt in their weekly practices. The Grade 5 A team won all of their matches. Grade 5 B won three matches and drew two. Grade 6 A won three matches and lost three matches. Grade 6 B won two matches, drew two and lost one match. Grade 7 A won five matches and lost one. Grade 7 B won four matches and lost one.



Back row: Grade 5 A and B team at Holy Rosary Netball Festival

Coach Antoinette Mshengu, Olivia Kirsch, Erin Krüger, Sophie Macqueen, Lily Davidson, Jennifer Pringle, Ella Meyer, Abigail Mahasa, Chiwoneso Mupita, Tshiamo Khoele

Front row: Luyanda Mshengu, Amy Saunders, Charlotte Bowden, Hannah Rigby, Sentle Magongwa

On Thursday 30 May and Friday 31 May, the netball girls played friendly matches against King David Linksfield and St Peter's Girls' Prep respectively. These were the results:

St Mary's teams	King David Linksfield	St Peter's Girls Pre
Grade 4 A	drew 4-4	drew 6-6
Grade 4 B	won 3-2	won 3-2
Grade 4 C	won 4-1	lost 2-6
Grade 4 D	won 11-0	drew 9 all
Grade 4 E	-	lost 1-7
Grade 4 F	-	lost 0-4
Grade 5 A	won 13-3	drew 11 all
Grade 5 B	won 10-2	won 11-6
Grade 5 C	won 22-0	won 8-6
Grade 5 D	won 8-3	lost 2-7
Grade 5 E	-	lost 1-12
Grade 5 F	-	lost 0-8
Grade 6 A	won 16-7	lost 6-7
Grade 6 B	won 16-2	drew 8 all
Grade 6 C	won 6-5	won 11-5
Grade 6 D	won 23-3	won 9-8
Grade 7 A	won 27-7	won 13-12
Grade 7 B	won 21-3	won 7-3
Grade 7 C	won 16-0	won 16-3
Grade 7 D	won 26-1	won 28-2
Grade 7 E	=	won 16-2
Grade 7 F	-	won 10-3

### NETBALL CONTINUED

On Friday 7 June, the netball teams played in their last triangular festival against St Katharine's and St Teresa's and the results were as follows:

St Mary's teams	St Katharine's	St Teresa's
Grade 4 A	won 9-1	won 4-1
Grade 4 B	won 6-0	won 9-1
Grade 4 C	won 18-0	won 3-1
Grade 4 D	won 24-0	won 6-0
Grade 5 A	won 11-1	won 7-5
Grade 5 B	won 6-0	drew 3 all
Grade 5 C	won 16-0	won 3-2
Grade 5 D	won 12-0	won 16-0
Grade 6 A	won 22-1	lost 11-13
Grade 6 B	won 13-0	won 11-7
Grade 6 C	won 6-1	won 8-5
Grade 7 A	won 11-1	won 8-7
Grade 7 B	won 17-0	won 13-1
Grade 7 C	won 25-0	-

St Mary's hosted another successful Grade 6 and 7 C-F netball festival on Saturday 8 June. Forty-six teams from 11 schools participated in the festival. The morning had a vibrant and relaxed atmosphere and it was lovely way to end the netball season. All the St Mary's teams played very well.

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU HEAD OF SPORT: JUNIOR SCHOOL



Grade 7 C and D team at the St Mary's Netball Festival

Back row: Kate Williams, Julia Tonetti, Angelique Towell, Ashley Stainforth, Siphoesihle Makwe, Adaora Mbenefo, coach Tsakane Mbewe, Ramadimetja Montjane, Neeve Van Antwerpen, Andisiwe Rodolo, Sarah Hewat

Front row: McKenzie Coakley-Eager, Tenjiwe Sithole, Megan Saunders, Rebecca Anderson, Giana Govender, Tiana Serandos

### NETBALL CONTINUED



On Saturday 1 June, the Grade 4 and 5 C, D, E and F teams took part in a netball festival at St Peter's Junior School. The tournament is not motivated by results, instead the focus is on participation, experience and most importantly enjoyment of the game of netball. The St Mary's teams played well and showed how their skills have improved and most importantly how well they are combining as a team.

TEENA LOWNDES COACH: NETBALL



Only in the movies are superheroes born. In real life, people have to work consistently hard, climb the proverbial mountains, overcome many personal and professional obstacles and even then, only a select few reach superhero status. 24/7 Security Services is proud to introduce one of our own superheroes – Maureen Maluleke.

Maureen joined 24/7 Security on the 14th of November 2007. Nearly 12 years later, she embodies everything we as a company stand for. She has worked her way through the ranks and as current Site Manager at St. Mary's School, she is an inspiration and role model to many.

As a youngster, Maureen had her heart set on joining the police force or enrolling as a soldier with the army. Her dream did not quite materialise, and she decided to join the security industry. She started her career as a security officer, worked her way up to a controller and now proudly fulfils her role as site manager. It may sound like an easy journey, but for a woman to reach this milestone in a predominantly male-orientated industry is a massive achievement.

Maureen attributes her success to hard work and being blessed with many role-models on her journey. Her mother, a strong woman who encouraged her children to set goals and work hard, was her first role model. Her brother taught her the value of honesty from an early age, an attribute she endeavours to instil in her team. She believes that you can learn from everybody who crosses your path. Several clients have been role models over the years and currently 24/7 Security Manager Altus Geldenhuys inspires her to always do her best.

The recipe for success is not complicated. Maureen believes that life gives you a key – your job is to use it. Her main focus is to keep her clients happy and to help her team grow. She endorses consistency, honesty, continued personal development and learning, and most importantly, always doing the right thing. It is also important to share one's experiences with the team and nurture good relationships. By being humble and showing respect, negative situations become positives that result in success for everybody involved. A successful team is a happy team, and that is always the goal. There is no time to focus on the negative – it just holds you back.

What does the future hold? Maureen is focussed on continuing her calling to the security industry. By maintaining her upwards growth and learning curves, she is working hard to become an Area Manager within 24/7 Security – the company where she started her career.

Maureen believes that it is not always easy being a woman in the security industry, but mutual respect overcomes many obstacles, and once you show people that you excel at your job, acceptance and inclusion follows naturally.

Maureen Maluleke, you are a 24/7 Superhero, and we salute you!

## **NOTICES**

### **ADMISSIONS**

We would appreciate your assistance with our admissions process.

Should you have a daughter who you would like to be admitted to St Mary's in 2020, please ensure that a completed application form is sent to Tracy Hagen at <a href="mailto:tracy.hagen@stmary.co.za">tracy.hagen@stmary.co.za</a> so that we can prioritise a place.

Please remember that if your daughter is leaving St Mary's, at least one term's notice is required in order to avoid a further term's fees being levied.



