




## FROM THE HEAD'S DESK



 A service of Nine Lessons and Carols  
Monday 2 December 2019  
The Edge  
18h00

St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

Entrance is free - unreserved seats

Please join us for a celebratory carol service on Monday 2 December

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGE 7 FOR ALL OUR IMPORTANT NOTICES

In conversation with a colleague who leads a school in another province, I found myself saying, "What was she thinking?" when he relayed a story about a pupil in his school.

Neuroscience informs us that our girls still have a number of years ahead of them before their brains are fully developed. This provides satisfactory reason why their behaviour is often not aligned with their academic performance or their ability to discuss and debate issues of our world. Girls vociferously discuss the climate crisis but seem not to notice when they litter the campus. A key factor in raising our girls is guiding their behaviour by putting clear boundaries in place.

St Mary's girls make mistakes and, at times, they find themselves in difficult circumstances. We choose to approach discipline and the girls' transgressions in private, which allows them to deal with the sanction and consequences out of the public eye, however, there are always consequences. Girls in compromised disciplinary situations have a chance to make amends, to alter their behaviour and to reflect on their misdemeanours. We believe that teenagers learn and benefit from a restorative justice approach.

The world in which our children live is one where the explosion of information and the exposure to knowledge, opinion and experience are unlike anything we have experienced before. It is important that our girls engage with global issues and difficult subject matter that may confuse older generations. The challenge for the adults in their lives is to provide support, guidance and boundaries, underpinned by our values. I want to reassure parents that the boundaries are firmly in place at St Mary's whether these relate to aspects of conduct, identity and behaviour, or substance abuse. The school's expectation is that parents share the same values and support our boundaries. Together the school and parents can insure our girls' safe and secure passage to adulthood.

DEANNE KING  
HEAD OF SCHOOL

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

*As [Jesus] approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet; but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him; and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.*

– Luke 18:35-43 (NRSV)

It strikes me that Christ did not assume what the man needed from

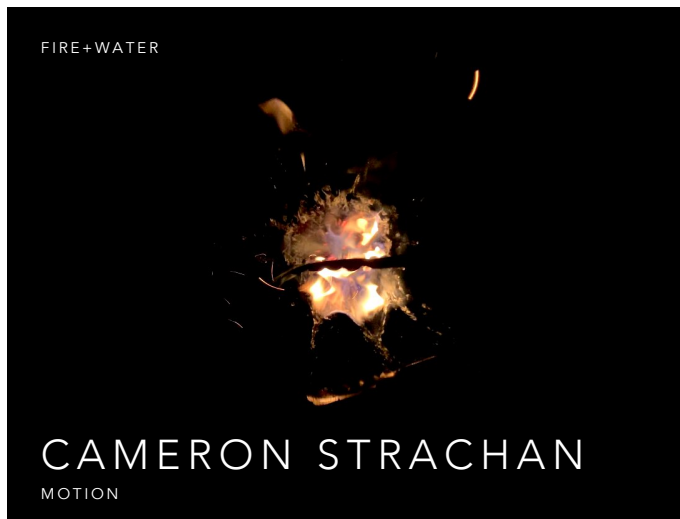
him; Jesus created the opportunity for the man to put his need in words and to be heard. It also strikes me that the man knew what Jesus could do; the man did not ask Jesus for food or for money, but instead asked for a miracle. This also explains why the man was so adamant that Jesus should hear his cry.

Similarly, Christ does not assume what we need, but gives us the opportunity to put it in words. We do so in faith, knowing the full identity of Christ who listens

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS

CHAPLAIN

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION



This year's intra-school photography competition had five different categories: flora photography, night-time photography, abstract portraiture, action photography and architecture photography. The standard this year was impressive with many remarkable photos being entered. I congratulate all the winners.

KATE NORTHMORE

TEACHER IN CHARGE: PHOTOGRAPHY





## FORM I READING



A few of the proud conquerors of the reading challenge



Olivia, Erin, Tara, Dimona and Gabbi enjoying the perks of the first-class lounge



The beverage station

Every year, the Form I classes are presented with a reading challenge to complete by the end of October. The quest includes reading a poem, short story, a prize-winning young-adult title, a graphic novel, a book recommended by someone else and a magazine. To start the year, we explored a diversity of authors with an emphasis on female stories and previously-marginalised voices. The girls were provided with an ever-growing poetry pack and a Kurt Vonnegut Jr short story to add a sweet kiss to Valentine's Day. A library day offered the girls a chance to browse through the teen-fiction prize-winning novels housed in the Wantage centre. The case study on Hergé's *Tintin in the Congo*, led to thought-

provoking conversations and provided each class with excellent sources for investigating colonialism in graphic novels.

The reading class is divided into premium-economy groups. Once a student has completed the Reading Race, she is upgraded to the comfortable first-class lounge where she may enjoy the lessons ensconced on the sofa with a hot beverage. Well done to all the girls who completed the 2019 challenge. Congratulations are extended to Form IR which had the most students who completed the Reading Race.

BELINDA WILLIAMS  
FORM I CO-ORDINATOR



For more info:  
call 083 226 2871

The St Mary's Latin dance team performed in a showcase of dance talent on 8 November at Knights Preparatory School. This was a wonderful opportunity to perform in front of an audience that was not the St Mary's community and the girls danced brilliantly.



The Latin dance girls just before their first performance of the year at the St Mary's Investec Hockey Festival showcase  
Back row: Tsweleng, Oralia, Lorena, Rethabile, Nyasha  
Front row: Nolwethu, Unathi

CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK  
[www.5678productions.co.za](http://www.5678productions.co.za)



## FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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

Rockschool  
Siphokazi Vocals Grade 5

ABRSM  
Megan Clarinet Grade 7  
Annika Piano Grade 5  
Caitlin Flute Grade 5  
Wanjiru Flute Grade 5  
Nicola Piano Grade 5  
Tessa Clarinet Grade 4  
Paige Clarinet Grade 4  
Dawn Flute Grade 3  
Tara Violin Grade 3  
Anna Piano Grade 3  
Mpho Piano Grade 2  
Hayley Flute Grade 2

Trinity College London  
Caitlin Piano Grade 6  
Danika Piano Grade 3  
Natalie Drum kit Grade 3

Trinity Rock and Pop  
Hailey Vocals Grade 6  
Tannah Vocals Grade 6  
Caitlin Vocals Grade 6  
Hanna Vocals Grade 5

Samantha Vocals Grade 5  
Kerry Vocals Grade 4  
Tawananyasha Drums Grade 4  
Jolien Vocals Grade 4  
Gabiella Vocals Grade 4  
Gemma Vocals Grade 3  
Jessica Vocals Grade 3  
Realebogahe Drums Grade 2

To become an all-round musician, students need a range of skills in performance, technique, notation, listening, musical perception, musical and contextual knowledge, understanding and creativity. To find out more about the various music examination boards that the Music department uses to further students' skills, please go to:

Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM)

<https://us.abrsm.org/en/our-exams/what-is-a-graded-music-exam/>

Trinity College London

<https://www.trinitycollege.com/local-trinity/south-africa>

Trinity Rock and Pop

<https://www.trinityrock.com/>

Rock School

<https://www.rslawards.com/rockschool/>

DUDLEY TROLLOPE  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

## FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



### SQUASH



Junior inter-house squash players

Junior inter-house squash took place on 24 October.

Final placings:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Phelps	428 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Clayton	421 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Furse	263 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	Karney	247 points

Well done to all the girls who participated and in ensuring a good measure of spirit prevailed.

JENNIFER FOX  
HEAD OF SQUASH

# GAUTENG SCHOOLS' ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Early morning start



Spirit team



U14 octuple ready to race



U14 girls in the spirit of racing



U15 girls preparing for the quad



First quad

The St Mary's rowing club competed and thrived in numerous events at the Gauteng Schools' Rowing Championships. From our newest members in the U14 age group to our oldest in the U19 age group, our rowers worked tirelessly with our coaches from September camp to achieve their goals for the first half of the 2019/2020 season.

After a weekend of high spirits and incredible racing, our club placed second in the girls' school category with numerous medals earned throughout each age group. We congratulate our U19 girls for placing third in the pairs event, first in the doubles event, first in the four event and second in the quad event. We also congratulate our U16 girls on placing second and third in the doubles event, third in the quads

event and third in the four event. Our U15 girls worked hard and are congratulated for achieving third in the octuple event. Our U14 rowers experienced their first Gauteng Championships with our club and earned third place in the Octuple event. With the determination and positive spirits displayed by our club this weekend, the next half of the 2019/2020 season is sure to be successful.

All the best to the girls as they embark on the boat race training. Let's keep the legacy afloat!

CLAIRE  
FORM III

# CROSSFIT



At the recent Worldwide Reebok CrossFit Open Games held over five weeks, Sophia participated in the 16 to 17 year Female Scaled Division and performed superbly. She placed second in South Africa in her age group and division, and 72<sup>nd</sup> worldwide. Considering that she

took up the sport only 10 months ago, this is a fantastic achievement. Congratulations, Sophia.

QUIX  
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

# NOTICES

**Join the HOPE Committee:**

Calling all  
Runners,  
Joggers,  
Plodders  
and Walkers!

Kick off December with the  
Mandela Remembrance Run/Walk



**Sunday  
8th December**

**5km walk/10km/21km**

**Enter:  
[www.mandelawalkandrun.com](http://www.mandelawalkandrun.com)**

**Contact Sarah for info:  
[sarahe@csiafrica.co.za](mailto:sarahe@csiafrica.co.za)**

**The HOPE Committee**  
Hearing Other People's Experiences  
A sub-committee of the PTA to encourage parent conversations around diversity  
[hope@stmary.co.za](mailto:hope@stmary.co.za)

## PTA CLUB 100 WINNERS – TERM I 2020

Thato (100%)	Grade 000	R7 260
Aanya (20%)	Grade 3	R6 774
Georgia (10%)	Grade 4	R3 830