



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019

### IKUSASA LETHU PROGRAMME





Our vision is to share the skills and resources we have at St Mary's School with senior school pupils from schools in Alexandra and elsewhere who show academic potential. Equally, our vision is to develop a proactive and sensitive approach within the St Mary's community to issues of historical inequality.



The St Mary's community of staff, parents and pupils are given the opportunity to participate actively in the Ikusasa Lethu programme and

help others succeed. Academic and social skills developed on the programme enable the pupils to achieve the marks required to attain access to the faculties of their choice at universities and colleges.



## Finances

The programme director and head of the St Mary's Foundation source donations and funding to ensure the sustainability of the programme. We are grateful to those companies and individuals who have made donations in the past. The major cost incurred is the payment of experienced and qualified teaching staff. Members of St Mary's staff teach Mathematics, Physical Science, English, Geography, Computers, Coding and

run the library. The other teachers are drawn from Johannesburg independent and state schools. Other costs include books, stationery, notes, study guides, sandwiches, fruit and drinks and the transport of the pupils to and from the teaching venues. Our buses are partly funded by the PUTCO Foundation.

## St Mary's scholarship



Fhatuwani Nyathela, the top Ikusasa Lethu 2019 Grade 10 pupil will join St Mary's in 2020 on a Foundation Scholarship.

Fhatuwani Nyathela receiving The Eric Young Charitable Trust trophy for English from Professor Loyiso Nongxa.

## 2018 Matriculation Results

The class of 75 pupils in 2018 achieved a 98.6% pass rate. Six As were achieved by Khathutshelo Mashiane and Lebohang Ramokonopi. Four As were achieved by Shatadi Maake and three As by Batseana Makgamatho. Sixty-one pupils achieved Bachelor degree passes and 13 achieved Diploma and Higher certificate passes. A total of 60 distinctions were achieved with 126 Bs and 131 Cs for various subjects.



From left to right: Shatadi Maake, Batseana Makgamatho, Lebohang Ramokonopi and Khathutshelo Mashiane

## Some of the courses being studied by the 2018 Ikusasa Lethu matriculants

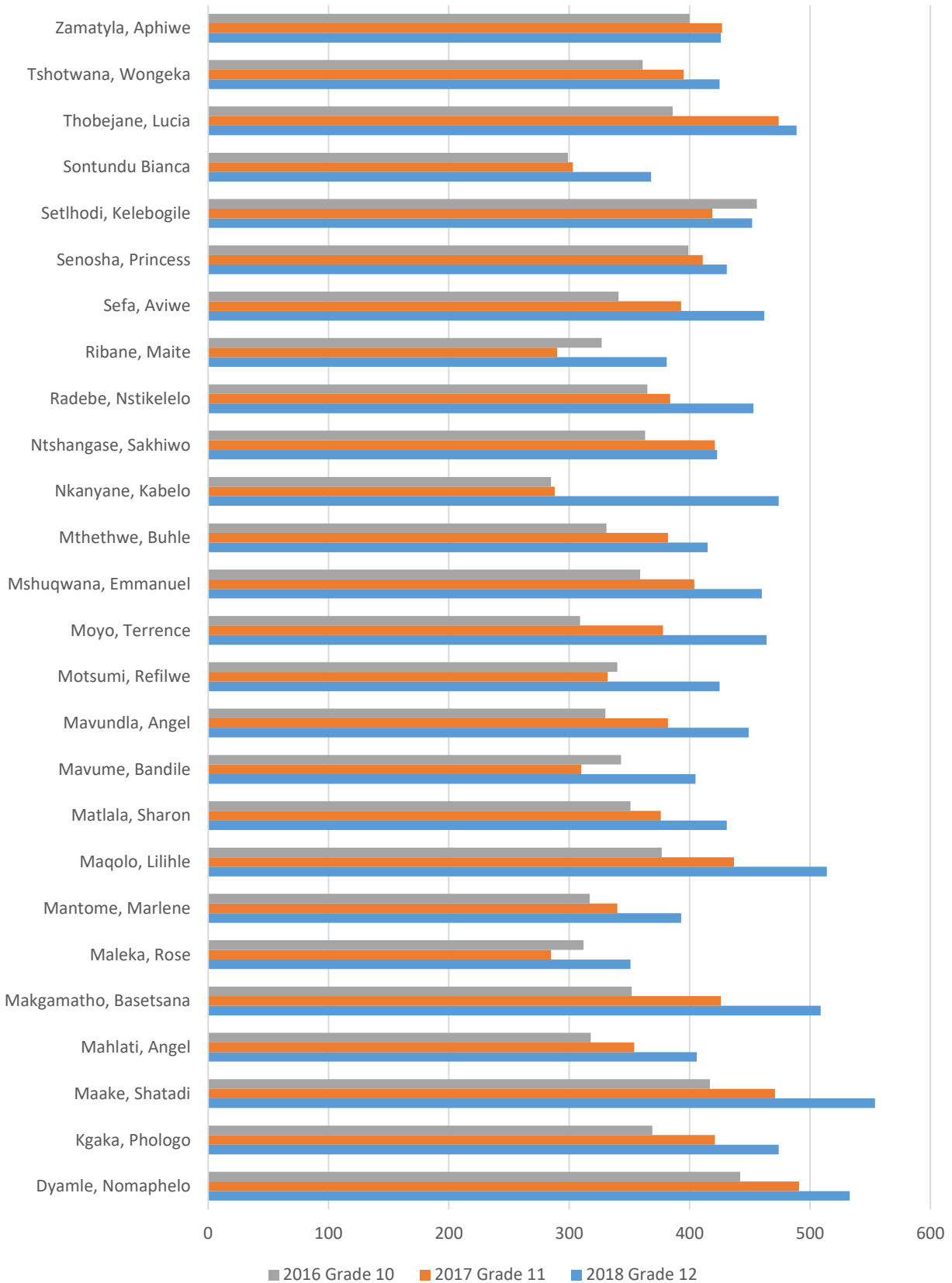
### Degrees in:

- BSc Construction
- BCom Economics
- BCom Accounting
- BA Sport Psychology
- Chemical Engineering
- BSc Life and Environment
- BA Film and Television
- BCom Marketing
- BCom Logistics
- BCom Finance

### Diplomas in:

- Electrical Engineering
- Accountancy
- Public Management and Governance
- Credit Management
- BioTechnology
- IT
- Commerce
- Communication
- Food Technology
- Nature Conservation

## Results achieved from 2016 to 2018 for Grade 12 pupils who attended the Ikusasa Lethu programme for three years





## Grade 12 academic programme

The Grade 12 pupils received an average of 200 hours of extra tuition during the year. Subjects included English, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Geography, Business Studies, Economics and Accounting. They attended both Saturday school and classes in the school holidays at the Jabula Recreation Centre in Sandringham. St Mary's Physical Sciences and Life Sciences laboratories, with equipment and interactive whiteboards, were at their disposal on Saturdays.

The Grade 12s attended the St Mary's senior play in March. They completed university applications on-line in April and attended the project Talent Show in July.



Some of the 2019 Grade 12s



Grade 12s being helped by mentors to do on-line applications to universities

## Grade 11 academic programme

The Grade 11 pupils were also given an average of 200 hours of extra tuition. Extra Mathematics Physical Science and Accounting were offered during the week at Kwa-Bhekilanga taught by Isaac Wilmot, Andrew Murewa and Herbert Mudzingwa.

This group enjoyed the St Mary's Senior School play, the project Talent Show and the Life Orientation sessions focusing on careers and speakers giving motivational talks and talks on a variety of health issues.

A group of Grade 11 pupils did a Tech course at St Mary's with the St Mary's Tech manager, Sasha Ellis, and assisted with the Sizanani Talent Show, the St Mary's Battle of the Bands and lighting and sound for various St Mary's events.



Some of the Grade 11s



A Grade 10 Robotics class



The Ikusasa Lethu library



## Grade 10 academic programme

Study skills, computer skills, public speaking, music and Life Orientation sessions were available in addition to lessons in English, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Geography, Accounting, Business Studies and Economics. The pupils were encouraged to begin thinking about possible career choices and study at tertiary institutions. The Grade 10 pupils were also encouraged to read novels from our Ikusasa Lethu library. This library is well stocked with donated novels.

The Grade 10s enjoyed the St Mary's cultural festival in September. Pupils who did not do Geography did Robotics. One of our Grade 10 pupils, Amina Alaoui, represented South Africa in the Alliance Explorer Soccer Camp in Munich, Germany.



Some of the 2019 Grade 10s



Grade 10s at a coding course organised and sponsored by Telkom and held annually at Waverley Girls' High School

## Excerpts from the Grade 10 class magazine



### **I, attending at St Mary's School by Zimazane Mabunda**

St Mary's is a huge school that helped me with my schoolwork; this school helped me to achieve higher marks at my school. St Mary's helped me by computer sessions. It helped me to know more about computers and helped me to know many things like life science and physics. Attending at St Mary's was a good thing for me because St Mary's has a free Wi-Fi that allows you to enter in an internet but not during learning hours. I would like to thank all my teachers who taught me at St Mary's like my English teacher, because she taught me about verbs, adjectives and many more.

St Mary's, thank you for letting me attend at this school.

### **Letter to a foreigner by Busisiwe Hlatshwayo**

Dear Chidema

I write this letter to share my feelings or to let you know that I feel your pain and I wish I was able to change all those situations our country gave you.

I might not be the one burnt your home but I take the blame, I take the blame because my mother was there, my uncle was there, my granny was there, my brother was also there. My whole family was there, when you cried for your mom who was in the house. They just watched and continued to sing while burning other shacks, so I take the blame.

I am sorry for the pain they caused you and your family. If I was brave enough I would have stopped them but us little ones are useless, our voices are not heard. How will I even still call you friend when I know very well that my family killed your brothers and sisters, your family or friends. I am ashamed of our country.

Your friend

Busisiwe



## Just a woman

She is raised out of respect taught to love and cherish herself  
She was taught to always cherish her worth  
As she is the foundation of her family name  
She grew up to be a proud African petal  
A definition of Mother Nature  
Then came a time when she had to leave  
Not this world but leave for her husband's family  
She had to build a bond full of respect and affinity  
At first she was the princess, she felt she was in England  
Her feelings were a rubber band expanding her femininity  
She grew from being a shy bride, she saw her future from  
A distance, it was shining so bright, everyone saw her presence  
Her husband raised with pride, he never saw the potential  
He thought of her as just a wife who is just there for him as an essential  
She began to notice changes, the marriage turned into a mortgage  
He told her how he bought her and how he is the one to release her  
She wet her pillow with a pool of tears that were greater than her fears  
He hit her like a tennis ball and forcefully invaded her body,  
My body is a temple of god she would pray but to him it was a hobby  
Eventually his aggression killed her and faded all she could have been  
This is a quick reminder of how we are just women.



## Terrified of my future by Lebogang Mootane

They want me to be prepared for the future that is near  
but the truth is I'm scared Because mine is unclear.

What does the future hold for me?

I do not change my future on my own God has been doing that for me till now,  
I had a good innings time that left me grey.

The future belongs to me, the youth of today Never get scared of your success

When people say negative things about you,

Do not mind them.

Be the hustle and bustle of modern living A new breed of child reaches out of the day

A future time, a future place The doors are open if you choose

To learn the skills that you can use.

## Annual prizegiving

The annual prizegiving was held on Saturday 12 October. Sarah Mthintso, the head of the Telkom Foundation attended and the main address was given by Professor Loyiso Nongxa. Certificates, trophies and cash prizes donated by Andrew Aitken were awarded for outstanding effort and achievement.



From left to right: Linda Giuricich, director Community Partnerships with Sarah Mthintso, head of Telkom Foundation and Professor Loyiso Nongxa

### The Grade 10 Trophy Recipients



From left to right: Fhatuwani Nyathela, Vutumi Mbezi, Sikhona Gwiliza and Mzurele Magophe

## The Grade 11 Trophy Recipients



Top: Promise Dube, Olwethu Khumbuza,  
Bottom: Anna Rakoma, Roslyn Sefara,



## The Grade 12 Trophy Recipients



Top: Yanga Prusent, Mimi Ndlovu Sthembile Thusi

Bottom: Mketshane Kheswa, Lindoh-Mason Ndlovu



# Pupils at work





## Some of the teachers in the classrooms





## Professional development

Eighteen educators from the high schools in Alexandra attended monthly Mathematics and Physical Science workshops at St Mary's. Herbert Mudzingwa, our Science facilitator, visited the schools and assisted the educators with practical work. The Mathematics educators enjoyed a day observing Mathematics classes at St Mary's. The Mathematics workshops were facilitated by Cecilia Chigumba and Ingrid Zlobinsky-Roux from St Mary's.



## Sizanani Mentorship programme

This non-profit organisation was established 13 years ago and has a B-BBEE Level 1 certificate. The 85 mentors on the programme assisted 106 pupils by organising individual and collective outings, life skills development, career guidance and job shadowing opportunities. The Careers Fair was sponsored by Total. Past pupils and staff from Total helped with the organisation.

Collective outings for mentors and mentees were organised to Science-Bono and Acrobranch. Presentations were made by motivational speakers during Life Orientation lessons. Topics covered included speakers discussing birth control, depression, addictions and domestic violence and information on a variety of careers. A child author and an activist both did excellent presentations.

One hundred and seventy-nine pupils visited the #Professionista, MA Automotive, Anglo American, Standard Bank, Sunninghill Hospital, System Air, Decathlon, Dentons, Saint-Gobain, Deloitte, Tutuka, Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyer, World Bank, Investec and the Gautrain Operating Company.

An outing to the Kingsmead Book Fair, a Soccer Tournament at the French school and the annual Talent Show were enjoyed by mentors and mentees. Praize Mhalazi, a grade 11 poet, won the 2019 competition.

*“At first, I thought she was going to be serious but, as I learnt to communicate with her, I noticed that she is a fun and talkative person to be around. She always encourages me to achieve good things and also dream big.”*

***Tamia Khupai, grade 10 (mentee)***

*“My mentor is an understanding person and very open. Every time I feel free to tell him about my school work and he is always here to give me advice, and with that advice, I managed to use some of it as a motive in my life and my performance at school became a lot better.”*

***Modiehi Mokoena, grade 10 (mentee)***

*“I actually learnt a lot about life and the mistakes we make as teenagers and I’m determined to avoid those mistakes as they might be obstacles.”*

***Selaelo Motokwe, grade 10***

*“As a young adult, the programme empowered me to be a woman with stature and not only think of my current life but to also think about my future.”*

***Kgotlelelo Ramapuputla, grade 10***





*“It was very fun, especially with the trains we saw at Bombela operating company (picture left). I got advice from people who understand me as a teen. One of them told me: ‘Don’t let anything, such as funds, stop you from going to varsity and reaching your dream’. They also guided me as to which career will be best for me.”*

**Mdumata Avela. grade 11**



Fernanda Mendoza with mentees including Precious Monyela who is on Scholarship at St Mary’s.



*Five used laptops were donated to our students from the French company, Pernot Ricard, and 20 by Absa bank.*







A visit to MA Automotive

*“I learnt more about different careers and companies. I learnt about life skills and how I can protect myself myself from early pregnancy.”*

***Khutso Maselela, Grade 10***

*“The sessions empowered me to have more self-confidence, work very hard and set goals for myself.”*

***Kgotso Tsoai, Grade 10***

*”The sessions empowered me to not give up on my dreams and that all things are possible if you give them your all and believe that you can do it.”*

***Nyeleti Baloi, Grade 10***

*“I got to think about myself and start letting things out rather than bottling them in, as that affected my studies. I now know how to deal with personal problems.”*

***Kgotlelelo Ramapuputla, Grade 11***

## Sponsors and donors



*“I had a wonderful experience learning more about Tutuka, how it works to change the lives of ordinary people like me, learning about finance, accounting, technical, legal and communications and a wonderful coaching session about the power of the word and leadership embodiment. I learnt that I should always follow my passion and not what people would like me to do.”*

*Zanele Mashele, Grade 12*

*“We got to explore what engineering is all about and we got a lot of inspiration to work hard and become future engineers.”*

*Malazi Praize, Grade 11, job shadowing at MA Automotive*

*“I got to find out about the way they treat their workers, in terms of their safety and the values that their company has. The most fun part for me was engaging with the coordinator and getting to ask her questions. The experience was super nice and pointed me in the direction that I’ve been looking for.”*

*Chantel Mashele, Grade 12, job shadowing at Anglo American*

*“They gave us a well-defined difference between law departments and that a lawyer can be an attorney, judge or an advocate and that attorneys spend a lot of time in court and advocates spend a lot of time with paperwork. Tania taught me to use every opportunity I get and never underestimate my position because it can turn me into something great if I stay focused and determined. Bontle taught me not to give up and always push for what I want in life.”*

*Pertunia Makola, Grade 12, job shadowing at Dentons law firm.*



# St Mary's girls help with catering, registration and science practical work





# St Mary's School

St Mary's pupils assist with packing stationery, making and serving sandwiches and covering books. Girls also assist in the computer room and the library. St Mary's girls give new pupils tours of the campus, assist with registration and offer their services at the annual prizegiving.

The programme director communicates with the Alexandra schools and funders. The venues, resources and accounting services are provided at no cost by St Mary's School.

The St Mary's Community Affairs department and Foundation acknowledge all the generous contributions received over the past 29 years. We thank the donors.

## Sponsors and Donors

### Donors 2019

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### Sponsors 2019

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Jabula Recreation Centre  
St Mary's School, Waverley







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**Link to Ikusasa Lethu video:**  
**<http://www.stmarysschool.co.za/foundation>, the video is on the home page**

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