



# JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

11 MARCH 2022



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## FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD'S DESK

It is March, what poet Emily Dickinson called "the Month of Expectation." The day this newsletter is published will mark our return to the Senior Primary hall for assembly after months of using the chapel and, before that, accommodating one grade at a time in the hall while the rest of the girls participated remotely.

This is big news: not being able to assemble - a right enshrined in our constitution - has made it that much harder for us to foster a sense of solidarity and belonging among the girls. On a more fundamental level, it has also kept us from the visceral act of seeing each other and recognising the abnormality of our enforced separation. As Luke Lamprecht observed in a recent online discussion with our Grade 5 parents, calling what we and our children have experienced over the last two years "the new normal" is grossly misleading in its suggestion that there was anything consistent or sustainable about the upheaval we have been trying our best to manage.

Next week also marks the beginning of Book Month for the Junior School - a celebration of the power of reading and storytelling that used to be contained in a week, but which now extends over four. (Little Saints, with its own sense of proportion, enjoys a fortnight of literary immersion.) Book character days, author visits and cultural outings are staple fare at many independent schools and, like our colleagues at other institutions, we make our support of reading, and the centrality of reading to learning and education, explicit.

In our eagerness to endorse reading and the instructive role, both academically and ethically, that it plays in our children's lives, we sometimes miss the opportunity to acknowledge other, equally significant aspects of children's literature. I am thinking in particular of what editor Patricia Lee Gauch, recognising the long struggle of children's book authors and illustrators to "unhitch their books from the schoolroom and the pulpit", describes as the "mischief" of children's literature. The exhilarating and subversive nature of some of the best picture books in our library reminds us, rightly (or, as Dr Seuss expresses it, "And it should be, it *should* be, it SHOULD be like that!") that children, even the preadolescent and adolescent variety, need to play.

In the words of author Katherine Paterson, a "story may very well (and often does) include commentary in one form or fashion on how to live and behave in this world - all stories teach, and many impart wisdom - but it first and foremost sets out to tell a tale." And the quality of the tale, its ability to delight, dazzle, amuse and comfort the children who are hearing it, is just as important as the message it might be imparting.

My wish, my expectation (in keeping with the month of March) for the Junior School, in Book Fortnight, Month, and far beyond is that we approach reading and books not in the spirit of a medicinal intervention (sometimes unpleasant, but demonstrably good for you) but in the spirit of discovery, intellectual adventure, and play. Writing for children and adults that is inspired by deep conviction and the desire to tell a good story is so much more than instructive: simply put, it makes life better.

SARAH WARNER  
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEADMISTRESS



## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Last week in our Junior School and Little Saints Ash Wednesday chapel service, we spoke about what Lent means and some of the things we do in Lent.

Following Christian tradition, we put away the flowers and the Alleluia. Traditionally, the act of burying the Alleluia is symbolic, a solemn way to say goodbye to the joyous word until Easter. This ritual helps us mark the change in the liturgical season tangibly. The practice of not having flowers in the chapel and saying or singing Alleluia is part of simplifying our worship.

In our services, the children shared what they would be giving up for Lent. These practices remind us by giving up something, we make space for something else.

We looked to the Junior Primary teachers to help us fill the space left by our putting away the flowers and the Alleluia. The teachers suggested that we take-up:

- Being kind
- Being considerate
- Being helpful to one another

On Monday, after the first Sunday in Lent, our theme for the chapel service was God’s creation, our relationship with creation. We looked at what it means to be kind, considerate and helpful in relating to creation.

I walked away from the service believing we can trust children with holy things: creation, stories, liturgy, and truth. There is no need to dumb things down or take something out. Ask questions and be

prepared to be surprised by how insightful and knowledgeable the children are.

When children see that even the precious things belong to them, they rise to the occasion. We see this with Grade 2s and Grade 3s who have led us in prayer in chapel. They pray for things one might think are too heavy for children, praying for the alleviation of suffering in the world and cancer. To them, this is what is important. By involving them in chapel, children learn to trust themselves - they learn that they are full members of the community. When we act like children are holy, intelligent, and reverent, more often than not, they act this way.

REVD RAKGADI KHOBO  
CHAPLAIN



## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thank you to everyone who participated in Flip Flop Day 2022. We raised the amazing amount of R6 015.00 for CHOC.

LINDA MAISHMAN  
JUNIOR SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE CO-ORDINATOR





# LITTLE SAINTS NEWS

During the course of last week, the Little Saints children were given the opportunity to paint with their bodies and to explore various messy painting techniques, which led to their gaining a greater understanding of how the different forms of paint behave when we use tools like hairdryers, stamping techniques, gravity and various media in conjunction with the paint.

Our messy play week provided a multi-sensory stimulating experience and a fun time of exploration as the children bounced paint covered tennis balls off the wall, dripped paint in interesting ways, and slid their bodies around in slimy paint.

The messy play week ended with the children immersing themselves not only in water play activities but also with two big slip and slides.

Please click on the link to view a short video of the messy play week.

<https://youtu.be/evpWk0WQye0>

CELIA DIANA  
HOD: LITTLE SAINTS



## GRADE 6 NEWS



The Grade 6s enjoyed their visit to the Wits Art Museum where they engaged with the exhibition *Seen, Heard and Valued*. This exhibition celebrates 40 years of the Standard Bank African Art collection and included both historical and contemporary African art.

The girls had to ponder difficult questions:

What does it mean to remove an object from its everyday life? Is it now functionless?

Why are some artists' names unrecorded?

How and why do we place value on something?

Why do we preserve artworks and artefacts?

Why is it important to celebrate African artworks?

We spoke about materiality as we explored the exhibition, and considered how this show related to our studies of artefacts from Mapungubwe.

"I am attracted to this piece because it reminds me of my mom. She looks very strong and independent and I can tell she is a mother because she has a child on her back." Tadiwanashe Shoko on an *Epa Mask*

I used to think museums were "nothing but old things stored in glass." Now I think museums are "amazing places that hold artefacts that have a story to them which gives meaning to them." Zoleka Bungane

"Why did the artist make this? Do you think it could have been a vision of the future?" Atheerah Joosub

I used to think that art museums were "a place that kept old art." Now I think art museums are "a place that store history. Life from the past. An expressive place." name unrecorded

I used to think that museums were "a place that random people keep art." Now I think art museums "are a place full of different cultures, and full of items that have a lot of meaning." name unrecorded

A huge thank you to the teachers who accompanied us and the girls for for engaging with the exhibition with genuine interest and curiosity.

**ROSA ELK, LIZ GRAWEZ, LAUREN HOWDEN AND LUNGA SEELE**  
THE ACCOMPANYING TEACHERS



# GRADE 6 NEWS CONTINUED



Kaylee Verster examines Job Kekana's *David*



Mia-Ann Terblanche looks at a Xhosa tapestry



A group engages with a video about Johannes Maswanganyi



Boikanyo Kakurupa reflects on her personal response to Sipho Ndlovu's *Amasumpa Patina* (2019)



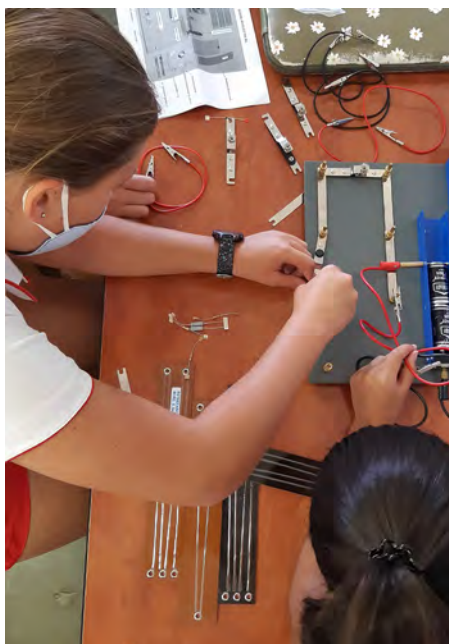
Tshireletso Mmusi, Janel Msebenzi, Phenyio Mabona and Annabelle Chen examine various child figures from South Africa (*Ntwana, Gimwane and Udoli*), Ghana (*Akua Ba*), Angola (*Ovambo*) and Namibia (*Ovahimba*)



## GRADE 6 NEWS CONTINUED

The Grade 6s are investigating energy. They enjoyed constructing circuits as part of learning about current electricity.

ANGIE JENNETT  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



## GRADE 4 NEWS

The Grade 4s were given the task of constructing a table to document the living, non living and once-alive items around the Junior School Close. The discussions led to deciding what makes something 'living', which is our next theme.

ANGIE JENNETT  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER





## GRADE 5 NEWS

The lightning was a stroke of luck for the Grade 4TT2 and Grade 5J girls as they found themselves confined in the Science lab together. The Grade 5s explained the parts of the dissecting microscope to the Grade 4s and showed them how to use this important piece of apparatus in our lab. This is a much awaited experience for the Grade 4s! They all enjoyed looking at a variety of specimens together.

ANGIE JENNETT  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



### English

As part of their study of a variety of stories from different places and times, the girls enjoyed using the drama technique, *Whoosh*, to bring the Greek myth of King Midas to life.

THE GRADE 5 ENGLISH TEACHERS





## GRADE 1 NEWS

Grade 1 girls learning patterns and counting through fun activities.

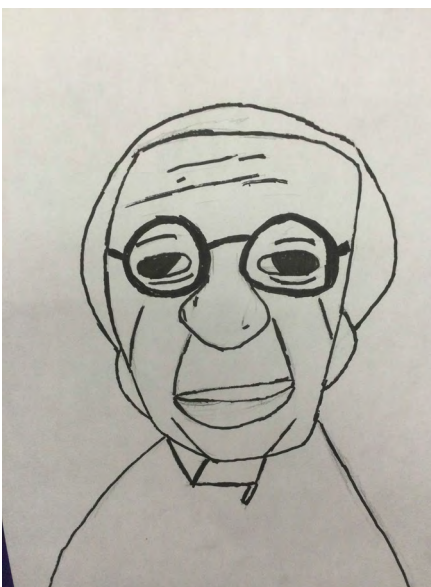
THE GRADE 1 TEACHERS



## GRADE 3 NEWS

We celebrated Twos Day on 2-22-22. The Grade 3s enjoyed drawing portraits of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

THE GRADE 3 TEACHERS



Sofia Von Knoblauch



Olivia Gooding



Rizqa Adam



# GRADE 2 NEWS

M - Mastering numerical skills

A - Adding and subtracting

T - Time to count forwards and backwards in 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s

H - Happy to learn about estimation

E - Equal to, greater than and less than, we practise every day!

M - Mixing operations in problem solving, we've just learnt a few

A - Always ready to learn about tens and ones

T - Time and calendar work are such fun

I - I love number patterns, can you think of one?

C - Calculating using different strategies, how will you work out your sum?

S - Suddenly I feel like completing bonds, see you soon again.

## THE GRADE 2 TEACHERS



# TENNIS

In our last tennis match of the season, St Mary's A/B team beat St Teresa's A/B team while our C/D team beat Roedean's A/B team. I extend my congratulations to the Grade 4, 5, 6 and 7 girls who participated in the tennis festival on 4 March. Well done to all the girls on a successful tennis season.

### 3 March results

St Mary's A beat St Teresa's A 36/27

St Mary's B beat St Teresa's B 49/14

St Mary's C beat Roedean's A 24/12

St Mary's D beat Roedean's B 28/20

**KAREN CORBETT**  
ASSISTANT TENNIS COACH



Grade 4 A/B festival tennis team



Grade 5 A/B festival tennis team



Grade 6 A/B festival tennis team



Grade 7 A/B festival tennis team



# SWIMMING

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## A team swimming

Congratulations to the A team girls on an amazing season. The girls trained hard and showed commitment throughout the season. The Grade 7 swimmers, especially Caitlyn Dube, team captain, led by example at training sessions and at the galas. They assisted the juniors and were enthusiastic and encouraging. I am extremely proud of all the swimmers and their dedication to the team. My congratulations to the whole team on winning the A50m Prestige gala at St Andrew's on Saturday 5 March.

The results were as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	St Mary's	121.5
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Brescia	87
3 <sup>rd</sup>	St Peter's	80
4 <sup>th</sup>	St Andrew's	78
5 <sup>th</sup>	St Stithians	72
6 <sup>th</sup>	Kingsmead	61.5

MICHELLE ZUMPT  
A TEAM SWIMMING COACH

## B team swimming

Our B team swam incredibly well this term. The girls placed first in all their galas, including the final A25m gala, which took place at St Mary's on 5 March. I am delighted with the whole B team, especially the captain, Sarah Silcock, and all the Grade 7 girls whose commitment to the team was exemplary. The girls encouraged and assisted the team in every way they could; they trained hard and gave their best in all their races. My heart was bursting with pride when I watched them swim in the final gala.

The scores for the final gala were as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	St Mary's	116
2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Peter's	108
3 <sup>rd</sup>	St Stithians	86
4 <sup>th</sup>	Kingsmead	76
5 <sup>th</sup>	Brescia	66
6 <sup>th</sup>	St Andrew's	52

Well done to everyone for a wonderful and successful season.

A very big thank you to all the teachers who assisted at our final gala and made sure that everything ran smoothly.

ROSE HALLENDORFF  
B TEAM SWIMMING COACH

## Senior Primary - C and D team swimming

The C and D swimming team had an excellent season. Each and every girl showed great commitment and trained hard in training sessions. Despite not taking part in galas in the past two years owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, the girls stepped up to the plate and managed to perform well. Huge thanks to the captains Georgina Pearce and Holly Cairns on their excellent organisation skills and leading by example. Our final gala was on Saturday 5 March and the results were as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	St Mary's C	116
2 <sup>nd</sup>	St Teresa's	112
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Kingsmead	81
4 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Rosary	77
5 <sup>th</sup>	St Mary's D	58
6 <sup>th</sup>	St Andrew's	56

Well done to each and every swimmer on a great swimming season.

VICKI JONKER  
SPORTS TEACHER



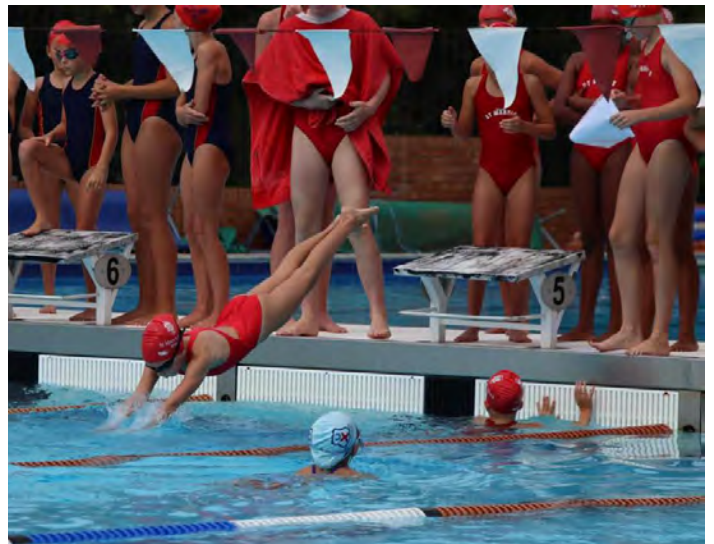
C/D Senior Primary swimming team



B team at the Presige gala



St Marys staff officials at the B team Prestige gala



B team gala at St Mary's



A team at the Prestige gala



# EQUESTRIAN

The first SANESA qualifier happened on 19 and 20 February. All the girls rode in many different disciplines and classes. We rode in disciplines like dressage, performance riding, working riding on the Saturday. The girls who rode on Saturday were Mia-Ann Terblanche, Katleho Vilakazi, Astrid Blair and Emma Frahm-Arp. We rode a range of dressage tests from the beginner Special Rider Tests through the Preliminary Tests to the Elementary Tests. We did fantastically well in the dressage with Katleho coming 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> in the Special Tests, Mia-Ann coming 5<sup>th</sup> in both her Prelim Tests, Astrid coming 6<sup>th</sup> in her one Prelim Test and Emma coming 1<sup>st</sup> in both her Elementary Tests. Emma also came first in Performance riding level 7 and Working riding level 7.

On Sunday we had even more riders. The girls who rode were Ella Mundell, Lucy Barrow, Mia-Ann Terblanche, Vivienne Chen, Astrid Blair and Emma Frahm-Arp. Mia-Ann and Vivienne rode the 50cm Equation class. Mia-Ann placed first and Vivienne third. Vivienne won her 50cm Show jumping class and Mia-Ann placed 8<sup>th</sup> in the 60cm Show Jumping class. Ella won the 60cm Equation class, Astrid placed 4<sup>th</sup> and Lucy placed 21<sup>st</sup>. Ella came 6<sup>th</sup> in the 70cm Show Jumping class and Astrid came 11<sup>th</sup>. Ella also jumped the 70cm A2 class and was placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. Emma rode in the 80cm Show Jumping classes and was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Ella rode in one Prix Caprilli Novice Test and she came 1<sup>st</sup>. Emma rode in the Intermediate Prix Caprilli Test one and Test two and won both of those.

Well done to all of the amazing girls, the results are fantastic! All the ponies looked amazing and behaved like superstars! Thank you to all the parents who organised the St Mary's tent, it was wonderful and thank you to all the teachers who helped! It was two spectacular days!

**EMMA FRAHM-ARP**  
EQUESTRIAN CAPTAIN



Katleho Vilakazi



Vivienne Chen



Astrid Blair



Lucy Barrow



## EQUESTRIAN CONTINUED



Ella Mundell



Emma Frahm-Arp



Mia-Ann Terblanche



## St Mary's rowing club golf day

Please contact Ronelle Price-Hughes on [rpricehughes@gmail.com](mailto:rpricehughes@gmail.com) for any queries or sponsorship offers



**Please click here to book.**  
**We look forward to seeing you there!**



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Waverley  
Founded 1888



## NOTICES

### MUSE MORNING - TUESDAY 22 MARCH

Date: Tuesday 22 March

Time: 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30

Venue: Seminar room

Topic: Parenting: what I think I thought I knew (see flyer)

Speaker: Lloyd Ripley-Evans

Lloyd is a psychologist and has worked extensively with schools and private clients, leading him to author a book on family dynamics. He was a teacher for many years and is a parent of two children. Lloyd's professional focus is on relationships and communication, which are critical to the parent-child dynamic. His talks and workshops with parents, as well as individual support sessions, within the school context have been met with great success over the past decade. Lloyd feel strongly about supporting and empowering parents, as their relationships with their children lay the foundations upon which children will build for the rest of their lives.

**Parenting: What I think I thought I knew**

**AWAKE SESSION WITH LLOYD RIPLEY-EVANS**

**PARENTING IS HARD!**  
You are always on the clock, and have the most important job in the world, laying the foundations for your children that they continually build upon for the rest of their lives.

**THE SCARY REALITY**  
For most of us, the only training, and experience that we are equipped with to do this job is from our own childhood experiences. To add to the challenge, there is no single set of rules, guidelines or directions that will apply all families, and more importantly, to each individual child. So we can read all the books in the world, attend all the workshops, courses and webinars available, and still not really have a clue what to do.

So, if you are a parent, you probably have, need, or will need some guidance and insights into what's going on, what we can, should and shouldn't do, some reassurance that you are not alone, and some sort of game plan.

**WHAT WILL BE COVERED**

1. Having a child vs raising a child - What is parenting actually?
2. The Long Game - What is the purpose of parenting?
3. The many hats of parenting - What roles does a parent fulfill?

**ABOUT LLOYD**

Lloyd is a psychologist, coach, facilitator, author and parent. He has a particular passion for relationships and communication, which are central to the parent-child dynamic, and has worked extensively with parents over the past decade.

**GET IN TOUCH**  
For more information on this talk, and other topics or to book Lloyd to speak, get in touch via the details below.

[www.redefineme.us](http://www.redefineme.us) | 060 983 8309 | [lloyd@ripleyevans.com](mailto:lloyd@ripleyevans.com)

**RE[define]**  
cultivating human potential

## ED-ADMIN PARENTAL PORTAL

St Mary's uses a school management information system called Ed-Admin to distribute termly school reports and to provide parents with an opportunity to inspect and amend personal information recorded in our database.

Below, please find details as to how to access this Ed-Admin St Mary's portal:

- You will require a Parent ID whenever signing into the parent portal. If you are unsure of your Parent ID, please email [portal@stmary.co.za](mailto:portal@stmary.co.za) with both your and your daughter's names and surnames for assistance.
- To access the St Mary's portal, please click on the link below or visit the school website on [www.stmaryschool.co.za](http://www.stmaryschool.co.za) and click on the portal login on the top right of the page. <https://stmarysw.ed-space.net/pparentportal.cfm>
- Enter in your Parent ID and choose forgot password. Please ensure that you enter the email address that St Mary's has on record and enter in the CAPTCHA code.
- You will then receive an email. Once received, click on the link in order to set up your password. Choose a secure password; you will then receive another email to confirm your password has been changed. You can now proceed to log into the portal.

If you experience problems logging into the secure portal, please contact [portal@stmary.co.za](mailto:portal@stmary.co.za).