



Grade 6 and 7 "Girls and Galz" netball festival



Getting soup packs ready for Mandela Day

## FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD'S DESK

The self-help gurus are right about one thing: a simple break in routine can be revelatory. For the Junior School staff, this opportunity came in the form of a Saturday netball tournament, "Girls and Galz", organised and devised by Mrs Mshengu, and attended by the Grades 6 and 7 girls, their mothers, older sisters, or significant women figures in their lives - and an assortment of teachers.

And what a morning it was. The beauty of events that involve as few frills and as little fuss as this one (a ball, a court, some refreshments and a few hours to play with) is that you have no idea beforehand how well it's going to go. There's no gimmick, no enticement, and nothing to show for it afterwards - unless you count grazes, stiff joints, and some mostly unprepossessing photographs.

Mrs Mshengu, bemused by the outrageous success of her event, but coolly philosophical about the benefits of playing netball - something she's known all along - has agreed to arrange more of these get-togethers in the future. There is talk, I'm told, among some mothers, of putting together a side and arranging regular practices. They could do worse; so could the teachers who (and I speak for myself here as well) just loved the morning: we got to hang out with each other, shoot the breeze, mix freely, and -

without the contrived ice-breakers or other corporate devices to "get you out of your comfort zone" - see another side to each other. Woohoo!

The girls, as far as I could tell, enjoyed the morning too, but not with the same, er, intensity as the older women in their lives. That doesn't mean the girls don't surprise us and themselves with moments of ordinary contentment. Aside from the usual list of activities guaranteed to please (outings, school tours, most things that require missing lessons) girls of different ages take surprising delight in performing activities that would be described as onerous under any other circumstances. We discovered this to our detriment when we assigned chores to the Junior Primary girls as a way for them to earn back their lost property and watched in amazement as they argued over whose turn it was to sweep the floor.

The Senior Primary Mandela Day soup packing initiative is a more recent example of this phenomenon. I am not sure Mrs Jennett realised how much fun (and I use this word advisedly) the girls would have sorting dry soup ingredients and packing them together in teams while working outside on tables in the Junior School Close. The simple - that word again - pleasure of measuring, filling, working alongside your peers, chatting

companionably, and finding joy in repetition took everyone by surprise. Music teachers and occupational therapists, among others, might be nodding their heads in approval.

We are glad and fortunate to be at a school that gives us opportunities to do things differently several times a year. While the girls took pleasure in the circumscribed activities of packing and sorting in the Senior Primary, the younger girls hosted morning tea for the support staff in the Junior Primary playground. They provided food and entertainment and served the people who serve our community and tend to our campus most days of the year. In the tradition of Nelson Mandela and his old friend, comrade and birthday twin, Adelaide Tambo, we dedicated the morning of 18 July to taking tea and breakfast together.

SARAH WARNER  
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEADMISTRESS

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

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The act of remembering is an important part of celebrating the Eucharist. In the Eucharist we are tasked with remembering and locating ourselves in the story of redemption. According to An Anglican Prayer Book (1989:101-102):

Each celebration [of the Eucharist] is a fulfilment of our Lord's command to do this in remembrance of him [ ... ] In the Eucharist there is a twofold movement: the call to come, 'draw near and receive'; the summons to move out into a needy world,' go in peace to love and serve the Lord'. These are the hallmarks of the Eucharistic community.

Our Mandela Day celebrations in their own way were an expression of our school being a Eucharistic community. We were able to draw near and receive through our chapel service, and by gathering together for various activities. Our response to the summons to go out into a needy world was expressed differently in the different phases: the Senior Primary packed meals while Little Saints focused on animals, reminding us that we are called to be stewards of all of creation. The tea that the Junior Primary hosted for our support staff was a reminder that the fundamental character of the Eucharist is thanksgiving. In our different ways, we thanked God for the many blessings we have received.

REVD RAKGADI KHOBO  
CHAPLAIN

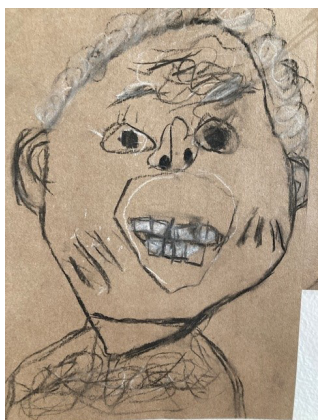
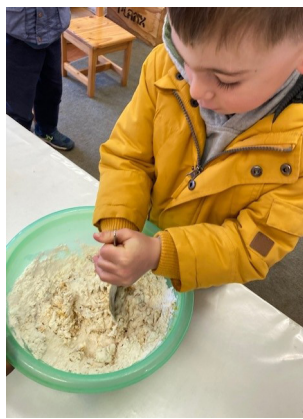




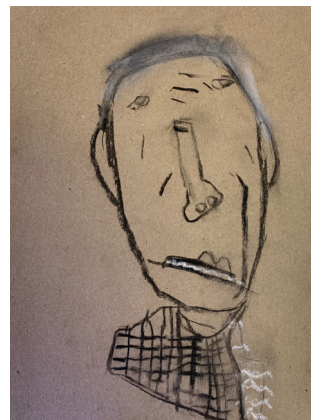
## LITTLE SAINTS NEWS

Leading up to Mandela Day, we read the story of *The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein. The Little Saints children studied pictures of Nelson Mandela, shared what they know about him and discussed the rich legacy that he left for the people of South Africa and the world. Using charcoal and chalk, the Grade 00 children sketched portraits of Madiba. We chose to support Gideon's Animal Outreach this year. Families were invited to donate dog or cat food and any blankets or items that Gideon can make use of in his animal outreach programme. As the response from our community has been overwhelmingly positive, we decided to share the donation with Maltese French Poodle and Yorkie Rescue. On 18 July, the pupils of Little Saints spent their 67 minutes baking dog treat cookies for the Sandton SPCA. The boys and girls drew pictures of dogs that were then used to make a collaborative label for the dog treat jars.

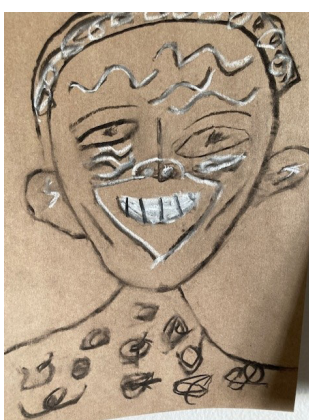
### THE LITTLE SAINTS TEAM



Leru Moshoeshoe



Madison McKenzie



Alice Cilliers



Sloane Ncala



Gideon with his rescue dog, Hagrid





# KINGSMEAD YOUNG WRITERS' COMPETITION

## Creative writing

Many of the pupils in Grade 1D and Grade 1M participated in the Kingsmead Book Fair Young Writers' Competition earlier in the term. We worked together on their stories and the girls tried to find ways to bring their wonderfully creative ideas to life on the page.

### Birds can't dance

This morning in the cold freezing Antarctica there was a penguin. But not just any penguin. A penguin who wanted to dance but couldn't. But that all changed on this cold ordinary day. She was waking up to the sound of her caring best friend pounding on her rusty wooden door. She moaned and groaned but knew she had to wake up. She opened the door but to her surprise it wasn't her best friend at all! It was a dance flyer. And it said Dear dancers we are having dance team tryouts from Monday to Friday those who want to join can come. She was so thrilled to be a part of the breathtaking dance team but there was one problem. She couldn't dance! She was panicking!

It hit her why don't I look for dance lessons. She went to a mysterious park that always gave ideas, to think of something fast, the team tryout was only in two days! She started going to every house in Iceville. Every door she knocked on they all said Birds can't dance! At that sad unforgettable moment, she went home crying. She thought that she would never conquer her dream of dancing □

So she decided to teach herself. For several days she practiced her heart out. She wouldn't give up.

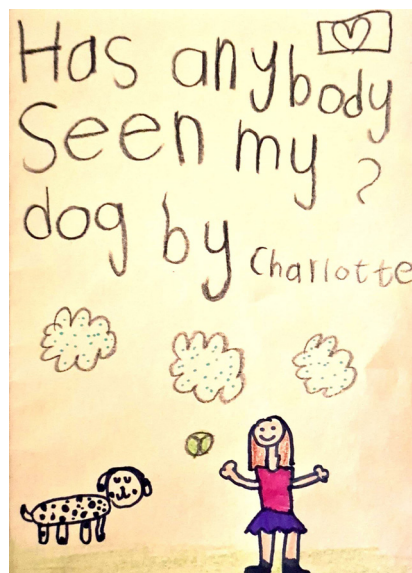
And guess what she made the breathtaking amazing dance team.

My mom always says - IF YOU DON'T TRY YOU DON'T KNOW!

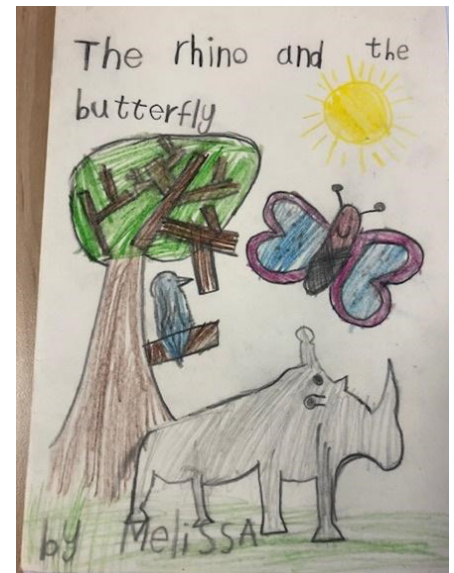
Sophia Nienaber



Mila Naiker



Charlotte Ferreira



Melissa Jooste

Congratulations to Sophia Nienaber in Grade 4 and Erin Kydd-Bennett in Grade 2 whose stories were Highly Commended.

Here are their two lovely contributions!

### I have lost my dog

There once was a girl named Mia who had lost her dog.

"Have you seen my dog, Lion?"

"What does he look like?" asked Lion.

"He's this big" said Mia holding her hand way up in the air.

"I've never seen one of those dogs. Sorry, I can't help you."

Mia saw Cheetah by the rocks. "Have you seen my dog?"

"No" said Cheetah "what does he look like?"

"He has a long scaly tail".

"I've never seen a dog like that!" said Cheetah.

Mia went to the animals at the waterhole. "Has anybody seen my dog?" asked Mia. "He is this big, has a scaly tail, giant wings and can breathe purple flames."

"Listen Mate" said Hippo, "you're not describing a dog - you are describing a dragon!"

Mia and Hippo went to check the caves and saw a ginormous dragon. Mia said, "Come Fluffy! Let's go home for dinner."

Erin Kydd-Bennett

MISS ELK AND THE GRADE 1 TEAM



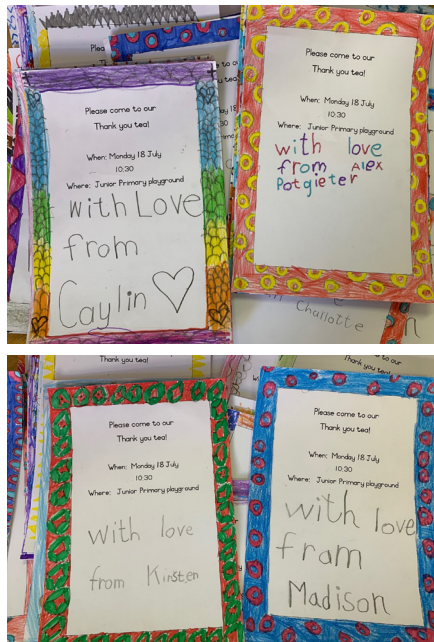
# JUNIOR PRIMARY NEWS

The Junior Primary girls hosted a tea for the support staff to express their appreciation for all that the staff do for them on campus. The tea was a great success and the girls performed some music and an energetic Jerusalema dance to end off the morning.

AGOTHA CLARKE  
ACTING HoD: JUNIOR PRIMARY



Grade 0 girls preparing decorations for the support staff tea



Preparing food for the support staff to enjoy at the tea



Jerusalem!



Sizeka Benya, Sonia Bopape, Precious Magudulela



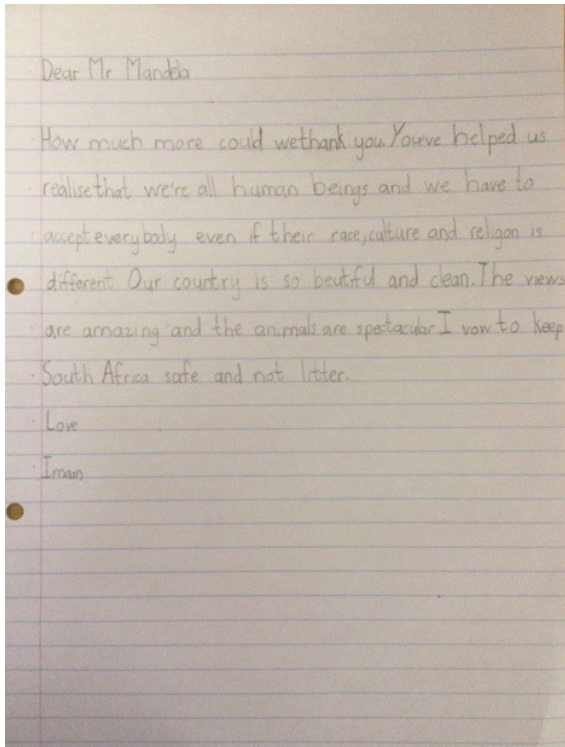
Lebo Kwele enjoying the tea



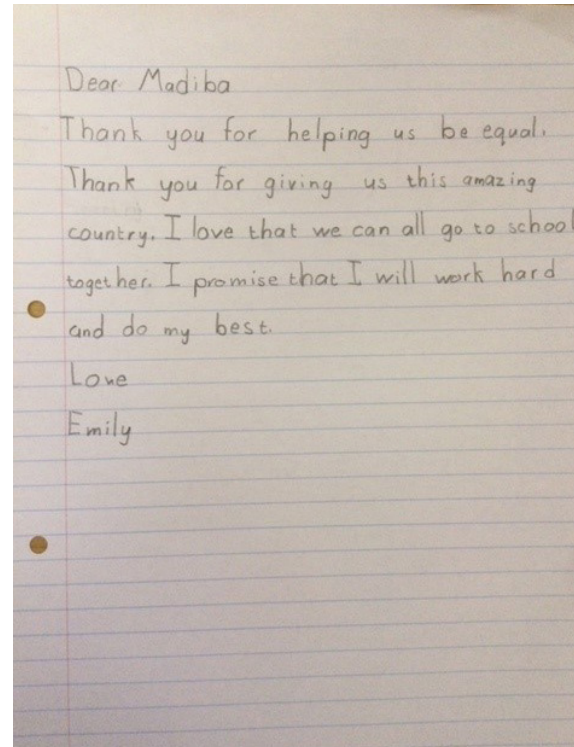
## GRADE 3 NEWS

As part of our chapel service to honour the late Nelson Mandela, the Grade 3s were asked: "If I could write a letter to the late Nelson Mandela, I would say..."

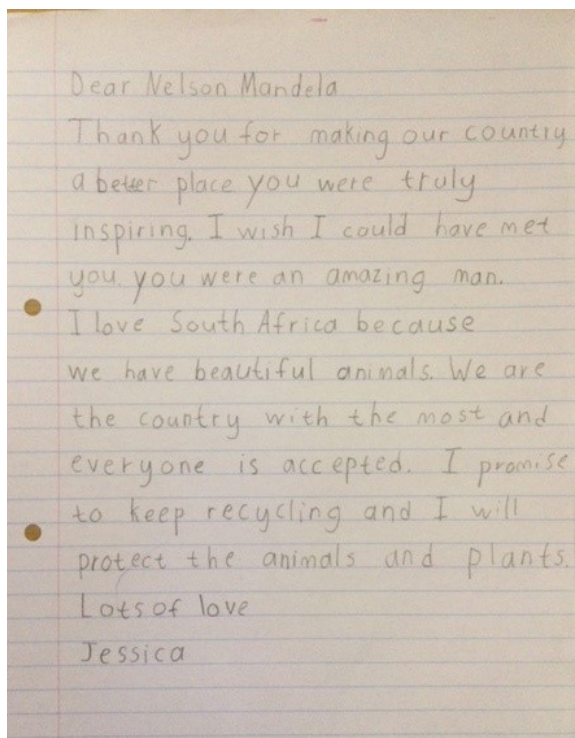
THE GRADE 3 TEAM



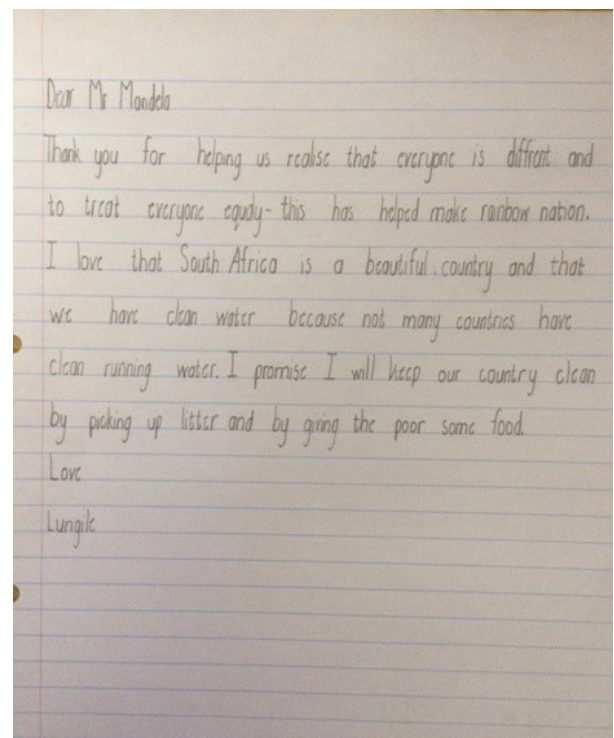
Imaan Kara



Emily Lawrence



Jessica Arnott



Lungile Ndaba



## GRADE 5 NEWS

The images below show the Grade 5s learning about the structure of a water molecule and the arrangement of the molecules in their different phases.

ANGIE JENNETT  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



Constructing water molecules



Frozen - the molecules arranged into a solid



Melting - the molecules moving away from each other to form a liquid



Evaporating - the molecules forming water vapour



## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Ten Grade 7 girls spent an afternoon at the Maria Kloppers Children's Home. It was an unforgettable and humbling experience. Thank you to Mrs Maishman for organising this special outing.

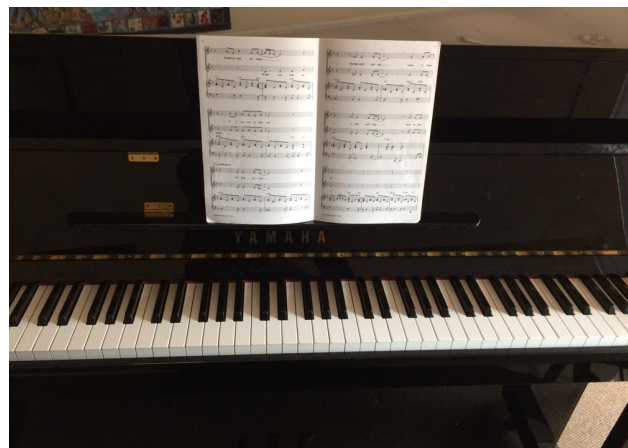
ANGIE JENNETT  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The piano department was very excited to hold a concert in the Senior Primary hall on Thursday 14 July. After two years of mostly digital performance, the young pianists embraced the opportunity to perform in front of a live audience on the newly acquired Yamaha piano. Their audience clearly enjoyed the beautiful playing and supported them with generous applause. Please keep an eye out for the next concert in the third term!

EUGENE JOUBERT  
HEAD OF PIANO STUDIES





## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONTINUED

### Piece playing

The piece playing concert series were a roaring success. The girls' talent and dedication were evident in their beautiful playing and singing. Well done to all our soloists!



Grade 2



Grade 3



Grade 4



Grade 5



Grade 6



Grade 7

Congratulations to the following girls for superb external examination performances.

GEORGE POTGIETER  
HoD: JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC



Emma Frahm-Arp  
Grade 5 Piano  
Distinction



Caelen Buchanan  
Grade 2 Violin  
Distinction



Elli Gerakaris  
Grade 2 Violin  
Merit



## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT CONTINUED

### Grade 3 piece playing

On 6 July, our Grade 3 instrumentalists demonstrated the progress they have made in their individual music lessons. Well done to all our budding musicians!

LAUREN SPENCER  
LEARNING SUPPORT FACILITATOR



Kltso Vilakazi



Langalezwe Zulu



Jade Landman



Ava Molyneux



Keira Gordon-Bennett



Anopa Mhlanga



## BALLET NEWS

On 20 May, some of the ballet girls in Grade 2 to 6 entered their formal Royal Academy of Dance ballet exams. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have been unable to enter the girls into a live ballet exam, so this was an exciting opportunity.

We are extremely proud of the work the girls produced as well as the results they achieved: all our dancers passed with silver merits, high merits or gold for passing with distinction. All the dancers have moved on to the next grade's work as well as a group dance for the St Mary's Art Festival and South African Dance Schools Championships, which will take place in October.

COURTNEY SANDERS  
BALLET TEACHER



Grade 2 ballet girls  
Lethabo Mashile, Mohau Mokhutswane-Mashaba, Boikanyo Mophosho, Rotakala Mamathuba with Courtney Sanders



Grade 3 ballet girls  
Kitso Vilakazi, Ava Molyneaux, Jade Landman, Olivia Weerts



Grade 4 ballet student  
Nancy Wood with Courtney Sanders



Grade 5 ballet girls  
Luthando Mahlasela, Azola Dingaen, Katlego Mashile



Grade 6 ballet girls  
Lesego Mapaya, Caelen Buchanan, Boipelo Mophosho

# HOCKEY

## Grade 7B hockey festival at St Stithians

On Saturday 9 July, our Grade 7B hockey team participated in a hockey festival at St Stithians. Various schools attended this festival making it a day filled with lots of exciting hockey. The Grade 7s played a total of six matches which resulted in four draws and two loses. Well done to all the girls who participated in the festival.

## Grade 6B and C hockey festival at St Mary's

On Saturday 9 July, our Grade 6B and 6C hockey teams participated in a hockey festival at St Mary's. Both our teams played a total of four matches each and improved with every game. The results were as follows:

### Grade 6B

St Mary's B vs Kingsmead A and drew 1-1

St Mary's B vs APPS A and lost 1-0

St Mary's B vs St Katharine's and drew 1-1

St Mary's B vs Brescia and drew 0-0

### Grade 6C

St Mary's C vs St Teresa's and drew 0-0

St Mary's C vs Kingsmead B and drew 0-0

St Mary's C vs St Stithians and drew 0-0

St Mary's C vs Holy Rosary and won 1-0

On Saturday 16 July, our Grade 5 hockey teams participated in a hockey festival at St Andrew's. All the teams played and improved with every game. The results were as follows:

### Grade 5A

Won 1-0 vs St Peter's

Won 4-0 vs Assumption

Drew 0-0 vs St Andrew's

Lost 1-0 vs St Stithians

### Grade 5B

Won 3-0 vs APPS

Drew 0-0 vs Brescia

Won 1-0 vs St Katharine's

Won 2-0 vs Roedean

Won 1-0 vs Kingsmead

### Grade 5C

Won 1-0 vs St Andrew's

Won 4-0 vs St Katharine's

Drew 0-0 vs Roedean

Drew 0-0 vs St Peter's

On Saturday 16 July, our Grade 4A to D hockey teams participated in a hockey festival at St Mary's. All our teams played well and the results were as follows:

### 4D

Vs Brescia D won 1-0

Vs St Stithians D won 1-0

Vs St Peter's D won 2-0

Vs St Stithians E drew 1-1

### 4C

Vs St Stithians C drew 1-1

Vs Brescia C won 3-0

Vs ST Peter's C won 2-1

### 4B

Vs Bresica A lost 0-3

Vs APPS B won 2-0

Vs St Katharine's A won 2-0

### 4A

Vs APPS A drew 1-1

Vs Assumption won 4-0

Vs St Teresa's won 7-0

Vs St Stithians A lost 0-1

Well done to all the girls who participated in these festivals.

## U13 District 9 Hockey Tournament in Potchefstroom

Earlier this year, Laila Fowler, Caitlyn Dube and Holly Cairns were selected for the D9 hockey team which is also known as the Phoenix Girls. Over half-term they participated in a tournament where they competed against other district teams. The Phoenix Girls played exceptionally well, winning three out of their four matches and finishing top of their pool. Following that, they played a cross pool match and won, which meant they qualified for the semi-finals. In the semi-finals they played D12 and won 2-0 and then went on to play in the finals. In a very evenly matched game against Northern Blues the end score was 1-1, which led to an eight second shoot-out. The shoot-out also ended in a draw and then it was down to sudden death. Unfortunately, the Phoenix Girls lost.

**VICKI JONKER**  
SPORTS TEACHER



Laila Fowler, Caitlyn Dube, Holly Cairns



## HOCKEY CONTINUED



Grade 6B team



Grade 6C team



Grade 5B team



Grade 5C team



Grade 4A team



Grade 4B team



Grade 4C team



## RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

In various competitions in May and June, the Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 teams won 94 medals. These competitions were at the Gold Reef gym club, the St Mary's Invitational, Brits illusions, the Central Gauteng competition and the South African gymnastics Zone competition. We received 37 gold, 49 silver and eight bronze medals.

LINDA GIURICICH  
HEAD OF RHYTHMIC GYM



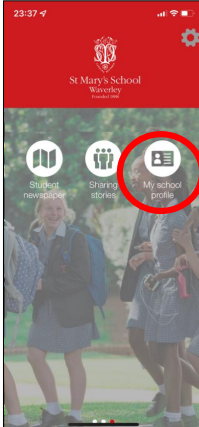
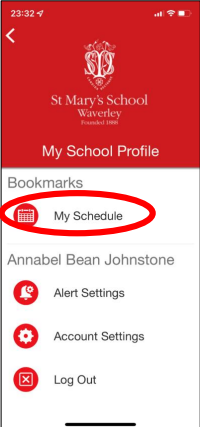
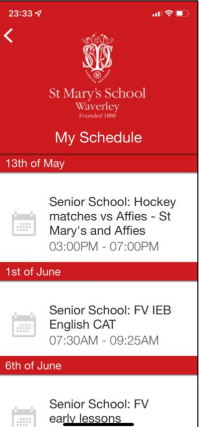
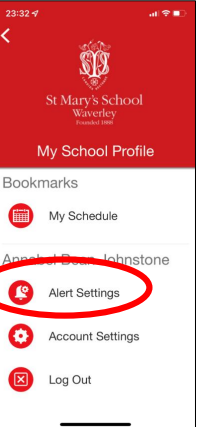
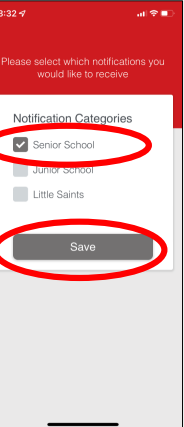


# NOTICES

## ST MARY'S SCHOOL APP

### Getting to know the St Mary's School App - Tip 2: Notifications setting

Our last tip looked at adding your daughter's relevant events to your calendar. However, so much more happens on the app that keeps you in the loop of what is happening in your daughter's school life. Help yourself to get all the important information relevant to your daughter, by setting up your notifications on the app.

				
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Open the St Mary's App on your phone.</li> <li>2. Click on the "My school profile" icon.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Click on "My Schedule" to see all the events that you have bookmarked (see Tip 1: Calendar).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Example of My Schedule view.</li> <li>5. If you tap on the event, you can select an event to add to your calendar.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Go back to the "My School Profile" menu.</li> <li>7. Click on Alert Settings.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. Select your daughter's school.</li> <li>9. Click on "Save".</li> <li>10. Notifications will pop up on your phone.</li> </ol>

*Please send questions or suggestions for future tips to [Kathy.mittendorf@stmary.co.za](mailto:Kathy.mittendorf@stmary.co.za)*

## ED-ADMIN PARENT 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.stmarysschool.co.za](http://www.stmarysschool.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).