



*Shakespeare Rocks!*

## FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD'S DESK

Last night, the Junior School girls from Grades 1 to 7 finished a four-night run (plus two matinee performances) of our play, *Shakespeare Rocks!* Two casts, two directors (Khanyisa Magokwana and Palesa Panyane), and a long list of makers and shakers brought the script to unforgettable, unsurpassable life on stage at The Edge theatre - all the moving parts were overseen and held together by our unflappable producer, Claire van Niekerk, with musical direction by George Potgieter (supported by his merry band of players) and choreography by Willemien Jerling.

The production seemed to gather momentum with every performance, and while the late nights took their toll on our midsummer fairies and mini minstrels, the Grade 7s hit their stride and took more creative risks as the run ran on, finishing with performances that were brimming with personality and spontaneity. All the girls, however young and new to theatre, looked like consummate performers by the end: with their numbers depleted by illness and fatigue, the remainers held the stage, performing dances without their partners and filling the gaps with bravura and brio - bravo to them, and their staying power...

Productions on this scale, as well as other big events we hold at St Mary's, always bring into focus the work being done behind the scenes by teams of people who do not make it onto stage. Our support staff look after the campus, inside and out, manage the parking lot, tidy up after us and our girls, and shut the doors long after we have called it a night. The teachers spend hours with the girls backstage, entertaining and containing them, shepherding them onto stage for their cues, and celebrating them at every rehearsal and performance. Other staff look after bookings, arrange photographers and videographers, post on the events app, work as ushers, make props, and design programmes - even helping with the girls onstage. Special thanks in this regard to Lunga Seele and Sibongile Nkosi for their preparation and presentation of Lira's *Ngiyazifela* as a showstopping duet between our Grade 6 vocalists, Nomfundo Dlamini and Thikho Marageni.

Other things, thankfully, carry on: in addition to answering a multitude of questions about co-curriculars, uniform, parking, venues, times and dates, the staff in our Junior School reception, Eva Fleming and Sandiswa Tyalana, worry about trying to find latecomers seats

at every performance, arrange gifts and cards for people who need to be thanked, direct people *everywhere* and look after our girls. And then there's Mirka Glyptis, Little Saints receptionist, who labours patiently every fortnight to put the Junior School newsletter (articles, photographs, captions and all) to bed.

It seems fitting in a week that celebrates performance and presentation and all that jazz to draw attention to people, *all the people*, and process, and the many parts we play: "All the world's a stage..." as someone who had a way with words once remarked...

Happy holiday wishes to all our families in the Junior School. Travel safely, enjoy uninterrupted time together, read, relax and rewind. We look forward to seeing you next term.

SARAH WARNER  
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEADMISTRESS

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

This week's Junior Primary end-of-term chapel service was a heartwarming occasion. The chapel aimed to celebrate the beauty of nature and promote environmental awareness. The girls created compass point posters, led the prayers, and gave us insight into some environmental issues we could address. Here is an example of one important lesson from the service:

Our actions during the Season of Creation are essential. Celebrating creation, participating in clean-ups, planting trees, and reducing our carbon footprint are some of the immediate actions we can take (notes from Mrs Naicker).

The Season of Creation Chapel, led by Grades 2 and 3 girls, left a lasting impact on everyone involved. It raised awareness about environmental issues and empowered the girls to take action. The chapel was a combined effort on the part of the environmental club run by Mrs Naicker and Ms Koikoi, together with Mrs Sithebe, who teaches IsiZulu. Thank you to the girls and teachers who contributed to making the chapel so successful.

REVD RAKGADI KHOBO  
CHAPLAIN



iNyakatho



iNingizimu



iNtshonalanga



iMpumalanga



## LITTLE SAINTS NEWS

The Little Saints children have been investigating our oceans. We studied provocations on pollution in the sea. This led to conversations and show and tell about recycling. The children brought different types of plastic packaging from home. Each child drew a sea creature and collaged it with pieces of the packaging. This helped to create awareness and empathy for marine life and the effect human negligence has on it.

THE GRADE 00 TEAM





# SHAKESPEARE ROCKS

Putting on a play of this magnitude, one that involved Grades 1 to 6 and two casts of Grade 7s, is no easy feat. It is no wonder that the entire rehearsal process spanned two whole months! My sincere thanks to every member of the Junior School staff, the technical crew from The Edge, the music department, support staff and ever-willing class parents. I am also grateful to my co-director, Khanyi Mangokwana, as well as Willemien Jerling and Claire van Niekerk from 5678 productions for their choreography. Though it was a significant undertaking, every member of the team shared a common goal - to provide the girls with a top-tier theatre performance experience.

Despite the challenges encountered along the way, the shared sense of purpose kept us all motivated. Especially heartening were the hushed laughs and whispers of excitement emanating from the girls as they eagerly awaited their cues backstage. These reactions served as confirmation of our success in creating an extraordinary experience for them.

Putting on a play offers invaluable benefits for junior school children. Apart from being an arduous endeavour, it presents a unique opportunity for students from various grades to come together and learn from one another. Interacting with older peers fosters a sense of camaraderie and enables younger children to gain valuable insights and guidance. The collaborative nature of a play encourages teamwork, creativity, and self-expression among the pupils, contributing to their holistic development.

Our choice of the play, *Shakespeare Rocks!* by Steve Titford, served as an ode to the great bard, William Shakespeare. We are confident that he would have been impressed with the dedication and passion our girls demonstrated in bringing his work to life on the stage.

PALESA PANYANE  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER

## GRADE 1s



## GRADE 2s





## SHAKESPEARE ROCKS (CONTINUED)

### GRADE 3s



### GRADE 4s





## SHAKESPEARE ROCKS (CONTINUED)

### GRADE 5s



### GRADE 6s





# SHAKESPEARE ROCKS (CONTINUED)

## GRADE 7s



## GRADE 7 NEWS



The Little Saints children enjoying early morning storytime with Grade 7 mentor, Erin Hayes.



## BALLET

The ballet girls took part in a Performance Medal Examination on 15 July. This was an opportunity to dance in The Edge for an examiner who awarded the girls a medal and scored their technique as well performance ability.

CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK  
DANCE AND DRAMA TEACHER



### Grade 2

Back: Giuliana de Boni, Emmy-Rose Roman, Nala Moshoeshoe, Juliet Bromfield

Front: Erin Gibbons, Melissa Jooste and Annabelle Benney



### Grade 3

Lethabo Mashile, Boikanyo Mophosho, Mohau Mokhutswane-Mashaba, Rotakala Mamathuba



### Grade 4

Jade Landman, Ava Molyneaux, Lethabo Maponya



### Grade 5 and 6

Katlego Mashile, Azola Dinga, Qianyi Liu, Nancy Wood



## POTTERY

The girls in Grades 0, 1 and 2 have enjoyed a very productive and creative term in co-curricular pottery classes. The girls have learned to pinch, work with slabs, attach details to create a variety of items. They have got to understand the process of wedging and handling clay, bisque firing, then underglazing and glazing to complete the final product. They can all be proud of their final results!

**SUE HEYDENRYCH**  
POTTERY TEACHER



Grades 1 and 2 frogs



Grades 1 and 2 mice and tortoises



Grade 0 butterflies and mice



Grade 0 cats



Unfired tortoises



Frogs being loaded into the kiln



A flock of sheep



# TENNIS

Congratulations to all the St Mary's Tennis teams that participated in the BNP Rising Stars Gauteng Central District event. Twenty primary school teams entered the event.

The St Mary's A team, which consisted of Sophie Kent, Gabriella Illgner, Isabella Molyneaux and Emma Simpson beat Trinity House Rand Park Ridge in the finals to win the gold medals; they now qualify for the provincial finals later in the year.

The St Mary's B team, which consisted of Julia Potter, Courtney Van Wyk, Paige Roper and Catherine Pearce also played excellent tennis to beat St Stithians A to take seventh place.

The C team also competed well and gained valuable match play experience. Well done to Salma Baccus, Micaela Ostoya-Giles, Realeboga Mphahlele and Maia Stout.

The St Mary's A and B team will be playing in the Sun City tournament during the holidays from the 25 to 28 August. We wish them all the best.

KAREN CORBETT  
ASSISTANT TENNIS COACH



Rising Stars A team



Rising Stars AB team



Rising Stars B team



Rising Stars C team



# EQUESTRIAN

The equestrian tam participated in the regional finals where Gauteng Central competed against four other Gauteng regions for a place at the national finals which will be held in October. We are so proud of all the girls who contributed to the team and rode so amazingly well. Congratulations to all the girls, parents, ponies and everyone who helps in the background.

MIA-ANN TERBLANCHE AND TAYLOR PRINSLOO  
EQUESTRIAN CAPTAINS

NAME	HORSE/PONY	CLASS	PLACING	No. of riders in class
Vivienne Chen	Destalsmit La Mas Bonita	Dressage Preliminary test 3 (Pony)	3rd	24
		Dressage Preliminary test 4 (Pony)	9th	24
Taylor Ruth Prinsloo	Tannenhof Bolero	Prix Caprilli Novice (Horse)	14th	20
		Equitation Intermediate 100cm (Horse)	1st	1
Mia-Ann Terblanche	Wakkaberry	Dressage Preliminary test 3 (Pony)	21st	24
		Dressage Preliminary test 4 (Pony)	13th	24
		Jumping 70 cm Speed class (Pony)	4th	30
		Jumping 70 cm Competition class (Pony)	18th	30
Lea Jackson	Franlaren Evonna	Equitation Rider Special 70cm (Horse)	1st	13
		Jumping 70 cm Speed class (Horse)	8th	22
Katleho Vilakazi	Pegasus Chalcedony	Jumping 50 cm Speed class (Pony)	23rd	36
Astrid Blair	Supernova	Dressage Preliminary test 3 (Pony)	11th	24
		Dressage Preliminary test 4 (Pony)	15th	24
		Equitation Novice 70cm (Pony)	2nd	17
		Jumping 80 cm Speed class (Pony)	8th	26
		Jumping 70 cm Competition class (Pony)	7th	26



## EQUESTRIAN (CONTINUED)



SANESA Gauteng Finals  
29-30 July 2023



Astrid Blair and Supernova



SANESA Gauteng Finals  
29-30 July 2023



Vivienne Chen and Destalsmit La Mas Bonita



SANESA Gauteng Finals  
29-30 July 2023



Mia-Ann Terblanche and Wakkaberry



Lea Jackson and Franlaren Evonna



SANESA Gauteng Finals  
29-30 July 2023



Taylor Prinsloo and Tannenhof Bolero

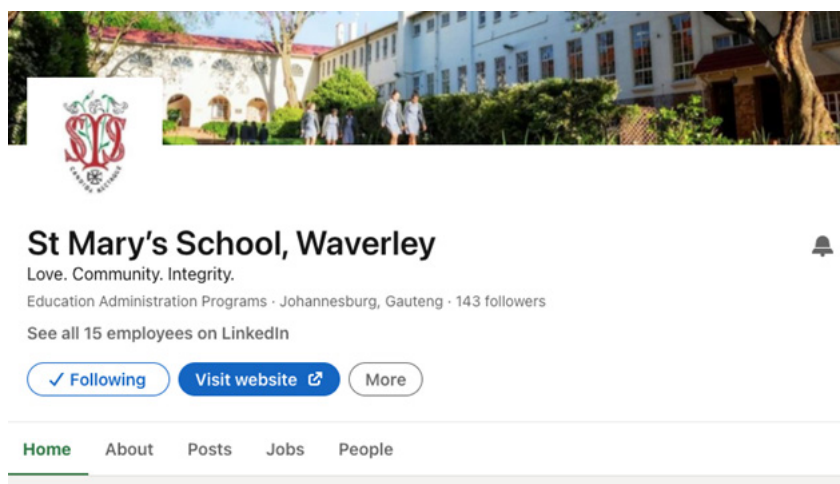


Katlhe Vilakazi and Pegasus Chalcedony



## NOTICES

### ST MARY'S LINKEDIN HANDLE



Account name: St Mary's School, Waverley

The modern generation requires modern innovations. We are pleased to announce that St Mary's recently added to our digital presence. LinkedIn is a platform used by employers and employees, but it extends beyond the world of employment. LinkedIn allows for better connection between members within an organisation. St Mary's has created a LinkedIn profile in order to help notify Old Girls, parents, and prospective students of upcoming events and current achievements. We hope to help present students find job shadowing opportunities, and to help past students with job placements through this digital community. Our profile will allow students from every decade to keep in contact, along with validating the claimed qualities seen on student profiles. The benefits of this platform can be reaped by all members of the St Mary's community.

Connect to our LinkedIn page, and help us to paint the metaverse red.

LUCA BOTES

Form V (and champion of the St Mary's LinkedIn account)

### 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).