

# JUST JUNIOR



The Mothers' Day service was well attended and the girls loved having moms with them

## From the head's desk

#### Dear parents

St Mary's is honoured to welcome new members to the St Mary's Board of Directors. Bruce Patience joins us in his capacity as the PTA representative, and Mary Vilakazi joins us as a board member.

Bruce has taken over from Yvette Bowden as the PTA chairperson. After matriculating from Dale College in King William's Town, Bruce went on to study a Higher Diploma in Education at Wits University, majoring in Science and Mathematics. After teaching at Dale College for a year, he moved into IT and has worked in IT for the past 23 years. Bruce currently works at BMC Software. He has one daughter, Nina, in Form II at St Mary's. Bruce is driving the PTA's project of purchasing two school buses for St Mary's.

Mary is a chartered accountant and group FD of MMI Holdings Limited. She served her articles in the financial services sector at PwC where she was admitted to partnership in 2005. In 2008, she exited the auditing profession and joined an entrepreneurial business where she became CFO of the Mineral Services Group. Subsequently, Mary spent a number of years providing consulting services to various private companies in the areas of finance and tax, as well as serving as a non-executive director on the MMI Holdings Limited, Kagiso Media Limited and Holdsport Limited (Sportsman and Outdoor Warehouse) boards.

Mary duly resigned from her role as nonexecutive director of these boards to take up the position as CEO of the Balance Sheet Management unit at MMI Holdings Limited. Later she was named group FD of MMI Holdings Limited and still plays this role within MMI.

Outside of her work life, Mary is married to a scientist and is a mother of four girls. She enjoys reading, socializing, the arts and

#### Dates to diarise

20 MAY 2016

MAY		
Sat 21	08h00	Netball – Grade 5-7
		A and B tournament
		at Holy Rosary
	09h00	Reggio workshop –
		Senior Primary hall
Mon 23	16h00	Chess matches
Tue 24	09h00	Little Saints and
		Grade 0 incubators
	401.40	arrive
	10h18	Grade 7 tea with
	14h00	headmistress
	141100	Squash away Fincom meeting
	16h30	Board meeting
Wed 25	101150	Grade 7 MATCH exams
WCG 25	14h30	Exco meeting
Thu 26	07h30	Grade 0C and Grade
	071100	OT assembly
	14h00	Netball – Grade 4-7 at
		home and away
	18h00	St Mary's eParent
		workshop
Fri 27	07h30	Grade 7 assembly
	10h18	Grade 7 cake and
		candy
	14h00	Netball – Grade 3 at
	4.41-00	home
	14h00	Hockey at home and
Sat 28	09h00	away Little Saints sports
Sat Zo	091100	day
	11h00	Junior School family
	111100	fun day
	12h30	The Saints Factor
		finals
Mon 30	16h00	Chess matches
Tue 31	10h00	Patronal Festival
		Eucharist and picnic
JUNE		
Wed 1	07h30	Grade 0 and
		Grade 1 conversations
	40-40	with parents – SMOGS
	10h18	Grade 5 and 7 buddy
	12h12	picnic Junior School HoD
	121112	management meeting
	18h00	Foundation cocktail
	101100	evening
Thu 2		Grade 6 and 7 formal
		assessments begin
	07h30	Grade 1F assembly
	10h18	Grade 7 tea with
		headmistress
	14h00	Netball – Grade 4-7 at
		home and away

outdoor life. She is passionate about making a positive contribution towards building a better society through various ways and sees the role she plays in the Thuthuka Bursary Fund and the Zenzele Development Trust as key areas where she can directly influence access to education in South Africa.

Mary is excited to join the board of St Mary's and views this as another way to add value to the education sector whilst serving in an environment that focuses on the continuous development of teachers, as she firmly believes in the impact great teachers can have in the life of a learner.

Bruce and Mary join Nigel Carman (Chairperson), the Rt Revd Steve Moreo (alternate: Revd Jaques Pretorius), Thandi Chaane, Dr Graeme Codrington, Rob Dow, Dr Azar Jammine, Flavio Maraschin, Andile Mazwai, Dawn Mokhobo, Professor Loyiso Nongxa and Alan Pullinger as members of the board. Les Vercellotti sits on the board in her capacity as the Old Girls' representative.

The St Mary's Board of Directors is integral in the effective running of the school. This group of experts in their fields provides a diverse and relevant view on educational issues, social and economic trends, and good governance.

Yours sincerely

Deanne King Head of school

## From the Junior Primary department

We are well into the swing of things for Term II. The girls are already getting better at all the uniform requirements. Please help them to look smart by making sure that the top button of their shirts is fastened in the mornings and that red or white hair ties and clips are used to keep hair out of their eyes.

Rehearsals for the Junior Primary play have begun and all is going well. Well done to the Grade 3 girls for learning their words so quickly. The classmoms will be meeting to discuss costumes for the play. I will be asking for assistance with ticket sales and make-up closer to the time. Thank you to all parents for their help in advance.

We had a visit from a dentist, Chelsea Cahi, last week. The girls had many interesting questions and shared some of their experiences. A fun hour to start the day!

The Grade 0s will be spending the term learning about interesting spaces in our city while Grades 1-3 will be increasing their knowledge about the Olympics.

We look forward to seeing parents at the Grade OC and OT assembly, which takes place in the Senior Primary hall on Thursday 26 May at 07h30, and at the Grade 1F assembly, which takes place on Thursday 2 June at 07h30.

The fun day for Junior Primary girls will be held on Saturday 28 May from 11h00. The girls enjoy meeting their friends and immersing themselves in the various activities that are on offer. Thank you ahead of time to all the moms and dads who give so freely of their time and energy to make this day such a success.

Tuesday 31 May will be a special day for St Mary's as it is our Patronal Festival. All Grade 2 and 3 girls are to wear their formal uniform. Grade 0-3 girls will enjoy a picnic on the grass. Co-curricular activities continue as normal.

Parents' afternoon for Grades 0-3 will be held on Monday 6 and Tuesday 7 June. Booking sheets will be placed on the pin board between Grade 0 and 1 from Tuesday 31 May.

The Mothers' day service was well attended and the girls were excited to include their moms as they worshipped and enjoyed refreshments. The Fathers' day service can be enjoyed by dads on Monday 13 June at 07h30. Please do join us at this special occasion. The last special event of the term will be the grandparents' morning. Owing to voting, Grade OC and Grade OT will hold this event together on Thursday 4 August from 09h00. We look forward to welcoming these special people to St Mary's, where they will observe some lessons and share tea with their granddaughters.

I wish you all a warm and healthy term.

Warm regards

#### Di Gordon

Deputy headmistress: Junior Primary



A visit from the dentist

## From the chaplain

The Sunday gone by was Pentecost Sunday – the day the Holy Spirit first inspired the disciples to speak to a diverse crowd about Jesus Christ, such that each person heard the message in his or her own language (Acts 2). A couple of years ago on Pentecost, I had the privilege of being part of the altar party in Canterbury Cathedral – an experience I will never forget. I stood as one among several representatives of Anglican clergy and ordinands from countries all over the world, partaking of the Eucharist together. When we came to the Lord's Prayer, each prayed in their own languages - reminiscent in a way of that first Pentecost, portraying once again the message of Pentecost: that God's intention is for us to be one in Christ, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Yet we know that reconciliation is a continuing work in our country, particularly when we look at the vastly different resources and opportunities available to our country's children. We at St Mary's, together with many at other private and some government schools, are in a situation of great privilege. As we know, however, there are

so many children who have inadequate resources to be given the opportunity to realise their potential.

We are part of the Body of Christ, the ekklesia, or community in Christ. To each of us is given the continuing work of reconciliation. To help our girls be aware of our responsibility in this regard, the chapel collection this term will go toward two of our St Mary's educational outreach initiatives – specifically towards the sports facilities at Waverley Girls' High School, and towards the Alexandra High Schools' Programme. These initiatives are part of our community, and reminders will be sent out periodically on the St Mary's app.

Please let us also keep our country's education systems, and our responsibilities in this regard, in our prayers this term.

*Revd Claudia Coustas* Chaplain

## Meet the departments



Grade 2: Sallie Pettit and Jenny Saunders



Grade 3: Fungayi Dendere and Jacky Cacioppo

#### Please remember to download the St Mary's app

- The app is available from the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store. Search for it by using St Mary's School
- Once you have located it, click Download or Get icon. When the app has downloaded and been opened, a window will pop up, which requires an access code to be entered. Enter the access code **stmary16** and click OK
- You will then be taken to the loading screen, and to a screen which will ask about push notifications. Please allow for push notifications to be sent through
- In the menu you will see an icon button that reads: My school profile. Email kathy.mittendorf@stmary.co.za
  to get your unique personalised access code. This will allow you to bookmark pages, create a personalised
  schedule and lots more. Remember also to click on notification settings to select the areas of the school
  that are applicable to you. This will ensure that you only get urgent notifications that are relevant to you and
  your child.

## Parent Corner

They say that one of the most stressful jobs in the world is that of an air traffic controller, but there is many a mother who would dispute this.

"Mum, please will you read through this submission for my varsity project? Mum, please can you help me with my English speech? Mum, I've lost my shoe. Mum, please can you take me to apply for my ID book? Mum, I've got an extra hockey match this week, please will you let my tennis coach know I won't be able to make my lesson? Mum, your child is Bakerman this week. Please will you make 18 items to fit in with the insect theme we are doing in class for this Friday. Mum, my blazer button has fallen off. Mum, my feet have grown and my shoes hurt. Mum, I'm hungry and there's nothing to eat in the fridge. Mum, the printer has run out of paper. Mum, I've got no friends. Mum, why is my head itching so much? (And then you spot the lice!)"

I am sure you may be familiar with some, or all, of the above. The demands on our time and attention are incessant, but we fit them into our busy schedules, come what may. We become masters of logistics, juggling many balls at once. There are days when everything works out and we think we are supermum, and others that can turn into your worst nightmare.

As much as we love our children (and we do) the occasional moment of being able to go to the loo alone, having a quiet cup of tea, being able to read at least 20 pages of a novel without interruption, and generally not being asked for anything or having to do anything, is rare, but important. And, don't forget all the gazillion decisions and choices you make regarding your children every single day that also chew up your mental energy.

Having time out to think about and contemplate life for a while is a very important part of holding on to your sanity and keeping your energy up. There is a saying to comfort you: "This too shall pass," and, when it does, the weird thing is that you will miss quite a lot of what actually stressed you out. One of the greatest gifts you can give a mother is time out. Mums, if you got the gift of time for yourself this Mother's Day, embrace it and don't feel one little drop of guilt. You deserve it!

To all the fabulous mothers out there, and particularly my own wonderful mum, I hope you had a very happy Mother's Day. Don't forget that you really do make the world go round.

#### Nikki Bush

Creative parenting expert, inspirational speaker and co-author of *Tech-Savvy Parenting* (Bookstorm, 2014), *Future-proof Your Child* (Penguin, 2008), and *Easy Answers to Awkward Questions* (Metz Press, 2009)

nikki@nikkibush.com www.nikkibush.com

> Any mother could perform the jobs of several air traffic controllers with ease.

Lisa Alther

www.nikkibush.com

## From the Sports department



JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK AHEAD: 23 TO 29 MAY (WEEK 4)							
Date	Sport	Teams	Venue	Time	Transport	Teacher	
Tuesday 24 May	Squash	A team vs St Peter's B B team vs Reddam House C team vs St Stithians Girls B	Bryanston C Club Woodmead C Club St Stithians	14h00		Mrs Fox	
Thursday 26 May	Netball	Grade 4 A -D Grade 5 A-D Grade 6 A-D Grade 7 A and B	St Mary's St Mary's Saheti Saheti	14h00	Bus Bus	Mrs Mshengu	
Friday 27 May	Hockey	Grade 4 A-D Grade 5 A-C Grade 6 A and B Grade 7 A-C	Kingsmead Kingsmead Kingsmead Kingsmead	14h00	Bus Bus Bus Bus	Mrs Samson Ms Roos Mrs Coetzee-Turner Ms Quix	
Friday 27 May	Netball	Grade 3 - teams 1 and 2	St Mary's	14h00		Ms Wood	

JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK AHEAD: 30 MAY TO 5 JUNE (WEEK 5)							
Date	Sport	Teams	Venue	Time	Transport	Teacher	
Thursday 2 June	Netball	Grade 4 A-D Grade 5 A-C Grade 6 A-D Grade 7 A and B	Roedean Roedean St Mary's St Mary's	14h00	Bus Bus	Mrs Mshengu	
Friday 3 June	Hockey	Grade 4 A-D Grade 5 A and B Grade 6 A and B Grade 7 A and B	St Stithians St Stithians St Mary's St Mary's	14h00	Bus Bus	Mrs Samson Ms Roos Mrs Coetzee-Turner Ms Quix	
Friday 3 June	Netball	Grade 3 - teams 3 and 4	St Mary's	14h00		Ms Wood	
Saturday 4 June	Netball	Grade 3 A and B festival Grade 4 A and B festival	Holy Rosary Holy Rosary	14h00	Parents Parents	Mrs Mshengu	

## Netball

The netball season has begun and our first matches were played against Holy Rosary on Thursday 12 May. Well done to all the girls who played. The results were as follows:

U10 A lost 3-7 U10 B lost 1-2 U10 C won 3-0 U10 D won 2-0 U11 A won 6-4 U11 B lost 5-7 U11 C drew 1 all U12 A lost 8-14 U12 B lost 4-11 U12 C won 12-2 U12 D won 4-2 U13 A won 15-13 U13 B lost 3-16 U13 D won 18-2 U13 D won 10-0

The U13 A team played against the Durban Girls' College U13 A team and they won 24-8.

Antoinette Mshengu Netball coach

## Netball cont.

#### DISCOVERY NETBALL CAMP

The U12 and U13 netball teams attended the Discovery Netball Camp at Camp Discovery in the Dinokeng Game Reserve from 28 March to 30 March, and it was a great experience. The aim of the camp was to learn new skills, and we practised hard with the Tuks netball team, which lead the training sessions. Although most of the time was spent on the netball court, we also enjoyed swimming, watching movies and dancing. We are hoping to put all the netball skills we learn to good use during the season.

#### **Tasmin Meadows**

U13 netball captain



U13 Camp Discovery squad



U12 Camp Discovery squad

# A NIGHT WITH THE STARS

### **The Johannesburg Youth Orchestra**

in collaboration with Born to Perform

featuring Samantha Peo and Timothy Moloi

Conducted by Eddie Clayton

Produced and Directed by Bryan Schimmel

WHEN:

Friday 27 May 2016 @ 19:30 Saturday 28 May 2016 @ 14:30 and 19:00

#### WHERE:

UJ Arts Centre Theatre University of Johannesburg Kingsway Campus

For enquiries, email info@orchestracompany.org.za or phone 011 484 1257. Book at Computicket.

