



Supporting Slipper Day on Friday 7 May

## FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD'S DESK

There is no doubt that the relaunching of a fuller co-curricular programme brings with it a sense of renewal and optimism. Obviously, with every relaxation of regulations, however limited, comes an element of risk - something we are monitoring carefully with our reintroduction of inter-school sports matches. The girls' hunger for this kind of encounter reminds us how much some aspects of school life have been missed. Parents, regrettably, will have to wait a while longer before resuming their spectatorship at such events. Thank you for your restraint - at a time like this, when our primary goal is to keep our schools open, it is a radical act.

Smaller things in the Junior School are gaining momentum too. The girls are rediscovering the library and the habit of research through the combined efforts of our Geography, History and Natural Science curricula, and the Grade 7s are establishing connections with the Senior School library as the relationship between libraries and librarians across our school strengthens, providing our girls with valuable access to shared resources. (All of this against the backdrop of the devastating burning of the Jagger Reading Room at UCT, home to the significant African Studies Collection and an important collection on Southern African languages, among other treasures.)

The Science lab is fully inhabited and humming with activity while women scientists and healthcare workers worldwide lead the global health security effort in developing and designing Covid-19 vaccines and ensuring their fair distribution. Not to mention that 70 percent of health and social care workers are women, which, according to one mainstream website, "puts them at the heart of the Covid-19 response." Women are tending to their patients' physiological needs, but also, in the words of Albanian physician, Dr Entela Kolovani, "staying as close as possible to them."

"Staying close" - a strange choice of words when we are reminded daily of the life-saving advantages of keeping our distance. What

sense can we make of them? As I watch your children return to a whole experience of school, albeit on a different scale - through their participation in assemblies, chapel, singing, dancing, playing sport and charity drives - I ask that you stay as close as possible to us. I know you feel cheated not being able to walk onto campus, see your child's classroom, and engage in the hundreds of daily, incidental exchanges that make up the social fabric of our lives and give our rising every morning, getting dressed and even brushing our teeth meaning. I know how much you feel you are missing.

Please take the hand, or elbow that we are extending to you, however imperfect. Read the app, attend our webinars, take our virtual tours, follow us on Facebook, return our calls.

Stay as close as possible.

SARAH WARNER  
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEADMISTRESS

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

*Then [Jesus] said to [his disciples], "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."*

*Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.*

- Luke 24:44-53 (NRSV)

On Thursday 13 May, the church celebrated Ascension Day - the occurrence which the Bible reading above depicts, within the Easter season. The season of Easter is, for me, God's provision of a gentle consolidation period, in which we absorb the reality and meaning of Christ's death and resurrection in the light of Christ's teachings and as the fulfilment of the law and the prophets. It is also a reminder that Easter comes with a missioning of us as disciples. We are to tell, in our lives and in our words, the reality of Easter, each day. Christ's Ascension, specifically, is an occasion for our awe and wonder, and a gift to "strengthen our witness", in the words of the Collect for Ascension Day:

Sovereign Lord,  
your ascended Son fills the entire universe:  
strengthen our witness that all may acknowledge his reign;  
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
for ever.  
Amen.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
CHAPLAIN



# LITTLE SAINTS NEWS

The Little Saints children have been exploring autumn leaves through different mediums. They studied the shape, margins, veins and the beautiful warm colours in autumn leaves. They completed a 10x2 thinking routine where they looked carefully at the leaves and described what they could see. Following this, the children completed a scientific observational drawing and they were encouraged to include all the elements that they saw in their leaf.

The children watched and discussed the valuable clip on peer critique called “Austin’s Butterfly”. The children worked in pairs, critiquing each other’s work, and suggesting improvements to each other’s drawings of the leaf. They drew three drafts of their autumn leaf over the week. They painted their best leaf, chosen from the drafts they had done, using watercolour paint. The children paid very close attention to mixing the hues that they could see in their leaf.

**CELIA DIANA**  
**HOD: LITTLE SAINTS**



# GRADE 1 NEWS

This term's enquiry is about the earth. The Grade 1 girls enjoyed drawing their theories about how the earth turns and why we see different phases of the moon.

The arts and crafts girls had lots of fun making and decorating flowers.

PHILIPPA DI BENEDETTO  
GRADE 1 TEACHER



## GRADE 3 NEWS

5, 4, 3, 2, 1....Blast off! Welcome to Term II Grade 3s. This term we are exploring space and finally landing on planet earth. We had fun looking at different planets and their properties.

In English, we focused on creative writing and Cinquain poetry. We also celebrated "World Math's Day" by discussing the importance of Mathematics and playing Mathematics games. We look forward to learning more about our environment.

ANESHREE NAICKER  
GRADE 3 TEACHER



Using dice to write three digit numbers



Writing in shaving foam



Writing in shaving foam



Discussing three digit odd and even numbers

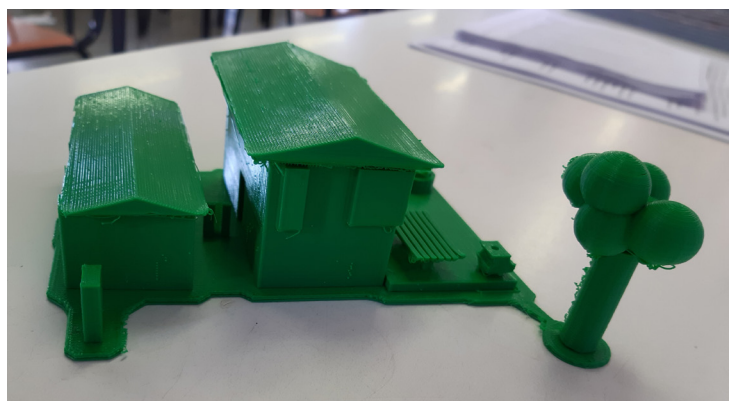
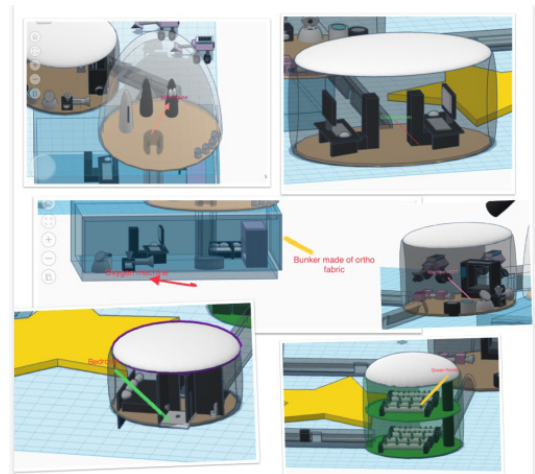
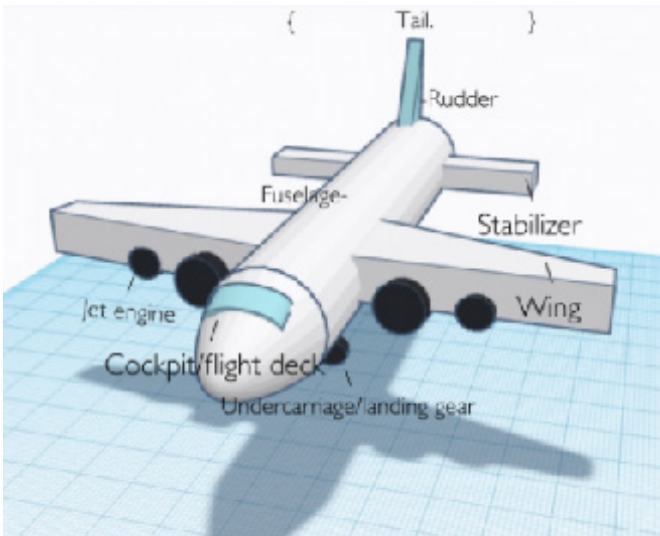
# GRADE 6 NEWS

Last term, the Grade 6s had an interesting experience being part of a four-week online programme facilitated by The Airbus Foundation. Thank you to the Tech department, Ms Shuping and Mr Ndimande for their support.

The aim of the programme was to introduce pupils to the aerospace industries and to the role of 3D modelling and printing. The girls designed a house as an introduction to the 3D modelling programme, TinkerCad. They were then led through the design of aircraft and space rockets. Armed with this knowledge, they worked on their own designs. A highlight was having a 3D printer in the lab and watching as each design was printed.

An extension to the programme was the opportunity to enter an international Moon Camp Challenge. Katherine Deacon and Sihle Mbuyane submitted their work in the hopes of winning a 3D printer - good luck to you both!

ANGIE JENNETT  
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



# MUSIC NEWS

The girls in the Junior Primary have been busy in their music lessons. The Grade 0s were introduced to percussion instruments and they had to use the instruments to tap or shake out the rhythm to songs such as “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.” The Grade 1s learnt the song “One bright and Sunny morning.” They then learnt body percussion to the song. The following lesson they played different parts on claves (rhythm sticks), triangles and hand drums. The Grade 2s enjoyed a lesson on reflections and they interpreted the different music to various tracks from *Star Wars*. The Grade 3s also explored *Star Wars* using the Music staff to find BB8. They completed challenges by placing coloured glass gems on the staff on Sol - Mi and La.

JOANNE SEQUEIRA  
JUNIOR PRIMARY MUSIC



Grade 0T shakers and claves



Grade 1C hand drums



Grade 1D claves



Grade 1C reflections lesson to *Star Wars* music



Grade 2 reflections mirroring lesson to *Star Wars* music



Grade 3 M Staff Wars May the Fourth be with you

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

The environmental club is a new addition to the Grades 2 and 3 co-curricular timetable. The girls collected used plastic bottles and wooden spoons to build bird feeders for the St Mary's bird life during the winter months. These eco-conscious girls are working on some informative posters which will be displayed in the Junior Primary playground. The posters will teach the girls all about our environment and how to take care of it.

CARON LAWRENCE  
JUNIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



Elizabeth Desilla working intently on her bird feeder



Leah Mudaly and Reabetswe Mahlare designing a poster for the environmental club



Zia Habib and Maya Bagoon decorating wooden skewers

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

The children from Little Saints and the Junior School participated in *Slipper Day* on Friday 7 May. *Slipper Day* is *Reach For A Dream Foundation's* most celebrated fundraiser making the dreams of children with life-threatening illnesses come true. The purchase of a *Slipper Day* sticker allowed our children to wear their slippers to school in support of the event. We raised the amazing amount of R9 610. Thank you to all who participated.

LINDA MAISHMAN  
GRADE 3 TEACHER





# TENNIS

Congratulations to Botshelo Diseko on her outstanding achievement on placing 7<sup>th</sup> in the U12 singles out of a 64 player draw in both the Super 8 and TSA National Tennis Tournament as well as making it to the TSA National semi- finals doubles. Well done, what an amazing result.

Congratulations to all the tennis girls who played in the BNP Rising Stars tennis event over the past weekend. The A team lost to St Peter's A to finish in second place while the B team beat St Stithians A team to finish in fifth place. The A team girls will be going through to the regional finals where they will play the top two teams from Gauteng East and Gauteng North. We wish them all the best.

**KAREN CORBETT**  
ASSISTANT TENNIS COACH



Botshelo Diseko



Rising Stars A team



Rising Stars B team

# SWIMMING

Congratulations to our Junior School Swimmers

Over the last few weeks of the first term, some of our swimmers swam in Swim South Africa Regional Galas. They all fared exceptionally well, swimming several ‘personal best’ times in the various events in which they participated.

Hannah Rigby competed in Level 3 Regionals in U13. Hannah won gold medals in 200m Individual Medley, 200m Backstroke and 200m Breaststroke. She won silver in 200m Freestyle and she won bronze in 50m Breaststroke and 100m Breaststroke. Hannah qualified for her 13-year-old SA Junior national time in 200m Individual Medley, 100m Breaststroke, 200m Breaststroke and 200m Freestyle. I congratulate Hannah on these fantastic achievements.

Reabiloe Kodisang participated in Regionals in the 11 years and under. Reabiloe won gold in 50m Backstroke, 100m Backstroke, 200m Individual Medley and 200m Backstroke. She won silver in 50m Freestyle, and 100m Freestyle and she came 5<sup>th</sup> in 100m Breaststroke.

Caitlin Dube competed in Level 3 Regionals 12 years and under. She made 3 finals, 50m Butterfly, 50m Breaststroke, 100m Breaststroke where she placed 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> respectively. Caitlin swam six personal-best times.

Maya Mgcina competed in Regionals 10 years and under. Maya achieved nine personal-best times and won bronze medals

in 50m Backstroke, 50m Butterfly, 200m Breaststroke and 50m Freestyle.

We are very proud of our Junior School swimmers. Well done, girls.

**ROSE HALLENDORFF**  
HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING



Hannah Rigby, Caitlin Dube, Maya Mgcina, Reabiloe Kodisang

# RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

The St Mary’s Invitational will be held on Saturday 15 May in the gymnasium. Gymnasts from the following clubs will compete with St Mary’s gymnasts: Prima, Toccata, Rega, Emfuleni, Illusions, Empress, Visions, Summit, Dolfyne and Midvaal. The gymnasts are coming from Witbank, Pretoria, Brits, Johannesburg and the Vaal. Only gymnasts, coaches, officials and judges will be allowed in the gymnasium. Spectators are not allowed.

The gymnasts will be given a snack pack after their competition. All Covid-19 protocols will be followed.

Congratulations to the following gymnasts who qualified for Central Gauteng half colours last weekend winning gold and silver medals.

Gold medals: Ava Molyneaux, Rizqa Adam, Kailyn Viljoen, Amira Laher, Naledi Sekete, Beth Sullivan

Silver medals: Thikho Marageni, Addison Oldfield-Sammons, Lethabo Maponya and Jade Landman

**LINDA GIURICICH**  
RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS COACH



Thikho Marageni and Addison Oldfield-Sammons - Level 3 gymnasts



Kailyn Viljoen, Beth Sullivan and Amira Laher - Gold medal winners in Level 2

# EQUESTRIAN

SANESA inter-schools qualifier 1: 8 to 9 May 2021 at Eaton Farm

- Six riders
- Seven horses
- 24 classes entered
- 17 placings
- Three first places
- Three second places
- Three third places

Noticeable achievements of each rider:

| Name               | Horse                                | Place  | Discipline   |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Mia-Ann Terblanche | Bentley                              | 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>2 <sup>nd</sup>                                     | Equitation: Level 0<br>Dressage: Level 0   |
| Katherine Deacon   | Waterside Sea Whistle                | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Prix Caprilli: Beginner  |
| Harper Bate        | Dreamer                              | 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>4 <sup>th</sup>                                     | Show Jumping: 50cm 2 Phase<br>Show Jumping: 90cm A2  |
| Emma Frahm-Arp     | Waterside Fidelio                    | 1 <sup>st</sup><br>1 <sup>s</sup><br>1 <sup>s</sup><br>2 <sup>nd</sup> | Dressage: Novice test 2<br>Prix Caprilli: Intermediate<br>Working riding: Level 5<br>Dressage: Novice test 1 |
| Ella Mundell       | Zenzele Starstruck                   | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Equitation: Level 1  |
| Astrid Blair       | Pegasus Shiraz<br>Pegasus Chalcedony | 6 <sup>th</sup><br>15 <sup>th</sup>                                    | Dressage: Novice test 1<br>Equitation: Level 1   |

MELANIE BLAIR  
TEACHER IN CHARGE



Astrid Blair and Pegasus Chalcedony



Ella Mundell and Starstruck



Katherine Deacon and Waterside Sea Whistle



Mia-Ann Terblanche and Bentley



Astrid Blair and Pegasus Shiraz

# NOTICES

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## 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).

## TERM III CALENDAR CHANGE

Please take note of the following calendar change; Term III starts on Wednesday 8 September owing to staff attending transformation and diversity workshops.