



JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

8 OCTOBER 2021



Tel: 011 531 1800 | info@stmary.co.za | www.stmaryschool.co.za



World Teachers' Day celebrations

FROM THE JUNIOR SCHOOL HEAD'S DESK

Earlier this week, Tuesday to be exact, we acknowledged World Teachers' Day, which commemorates the adoption in 1966 of the ILO/ UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. According to the Unesco website, "The Recommendation sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers, and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions." World Teachers' Day has been celebrated since 1994.

The theme of this year's celebrations - "Teachers at the heart of education recovery" - reflects concerns worldwide about the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on teaching and learning. A World Teachers' Day Fact Sheet published on the same website provides data on vaccination rates among teachers, the size of the teacher workforce, pupil-teacher ratios (also referred to as learner-educator ratios), teacher training (on pedagogy and effective use of technologies, along with professional, psycho-social and emotional support) and the status of the profession. Most worrying for our continent is the information on teacher shortages and the fact that they remain most acute in sub-Saharan Africa.

In an article published online in September this year, education economist Martin Gustafsson and Tsekere Maponya (deputy director at the Department of Basic Education's Human Resource Planning, Provisioning and Monitoring unit) analysed the projected effects of a large wave of retirements among South African teachers - peaking around 2030 and ending in 2040 - on the educational landscape in the country. While acknowledging this as an opportunity for younger teachers to enter the profession, Gustafsson and Maponya questioned the capacity of universities to rapidly increase the output of teacher graduates and identified the consequences of an undersupply of teachers for class sizes in the already over-burdened public sector.

While the situation in independent schools is demonstrably easier at this stage, it is clear that the general outlook for education in our country will be improved only through careful planning and consultation among different bodies, including tertiary training programmes and primary and secondary schools in both the private and public sectors.

In the meantime, we remain grateful to our teachers for the care and guidance they give our children, and for the small, daily acts of kindness and recognition they extend beyond the classroom, to their colleagues at St Mary's and other schools, to our parents, and to teacher interns training on our campus, visiting from outside institutions, or learning from them online.

The acknowledgement and support of our teachers by the St Mary's community over the last 18 months of adjusted learning and teaching has been vitally important. What the class reps in the Junior School did on World Teachers Day with their magnificent display of flowers and festive bunting in our staff rooms (like the famous scene in *The Great Gatsby* when "a greenhouse arrived [at Nick Carraway's house], with innumerable receptacles to contain it") and the provision of platters of sweet and savoury food prepared by Olives & Plates and spread across the tables was wonderfully, outrageously uplifting.

Their gesture, accomplished while the teachers were busy in their classrooms, and discovered by them at different stages of the day, felt like "a brisk symbol of optimism," or poet Philip Larkin's "enormous yes" - thank you to Donna Vance and her team for a magical day.

SARAH WARNER
JUNIOR SCHOOL HEADMISTRESS

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

In our Junior Primary Monday morning chapel service on the memorial of St Francis of Assisi (4 October), we took the opportunity to write our version of *The Little Flowers of St Francis*, by sharing stories about our pets. The girls shared with us stories about their pets and how they care for them, and we also took the opportunity to admire the beauty and the colours of the flowers in the school gardens that surround us when we gather for worship in the chapel.

St Francis is remembered for taming the wildest of beasts with gentleness, captivating the birds in the air with his praise of nature, singing songs of love to the sunshine, moving the very stones to cry the praises of their common creator.

In thanksgiving for the rain and the beauty of all creation,
we pray:

O God, you created the heavens and the earth: bless the produce of our land and the works of our hands

Lord hear us

O God, you created us in your image: teach us to honour you in all your children

Lord hear us

O God, in your steadfast love, you provide for your creation: grant good rains for our crops.

Lord hear us

REVD RAKGADI KHOBO
CHAPLAIN



LITTLE SAINTS NEWS

SPECIAL PERSONS DAY

Little Saints was filled with the excitement generated by our special person's week. The children from each class invited two special adults onto campus to share the morning with them. The morning started with the usual greeting outside and morning ring followed by music with Mrs Quinn. The children then moved onto an art activity, making a bandana as part of our pirate exploration. The big garden was filled with wonderful things to explore, including, coloured spaghetti, soap slime, woodwork and painting at the easel. The children loved showing their special people around their school. The morning ended with everyone sharing a delicious picnic. Before the adults left, they were presented with a special drawing and note made by the children. Thank you to all the teachers, staff and parents for a truly special week.

THE LITTLE SAINTS TEACHERS



GRADE 0 NEWS

The Grade 0s have been excitedly watching the silkworms in their classroom grow bigger and bigger each day as they eat through many mulberry leaves. On Monday, they were delighted to find that the silkworms had started to spin cocoons.

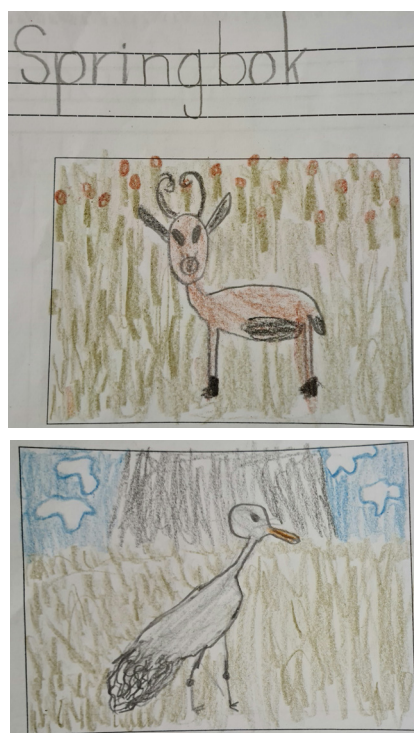
LYNN TROLLIP, AGOHA CLARKE AND BRIGITTE TAYLOR
GRADE 0 TEACHERS



GRADE 1 NEWS

After celebrating Heritage Day and discussing what they love about South Africa, the Grade 1s drew pictures of their 'top five' favourite things.

JACKY CACIOPPO, PHILIPPA DI BENEDETTO AND NATASHA DE BONI
THE GRADE 1 TEAM

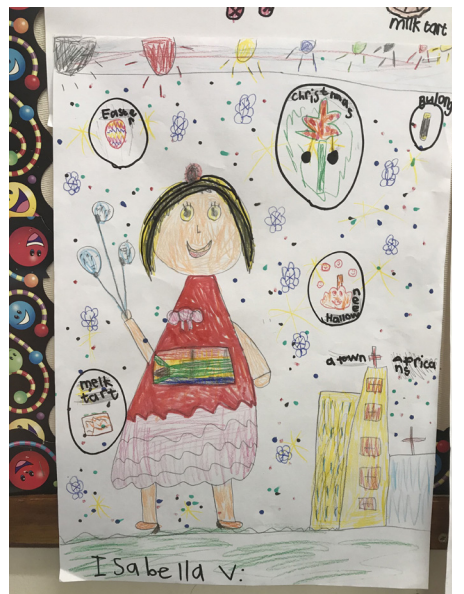
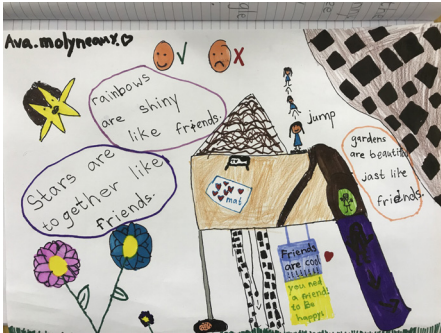


GRADE 2 NEWS

Grade 2L are focusing on Friendship for their assembly this week. Below are pictures of what friendship means to some of the girls.

Following Heritage Day, Grade 2P highlighted their heritage in relation to the foods they eat.

CARON LAWRENCE, SALLIE PETTIT AND LAUREN SPENCER
THE GRADE 2 TEAM



GRADE 4 NEWS

NATURAL SCIENCES

The Grade 4s had an opportunity to experience the world of taxonomy. Their task was to classify Liquorice Allsorts into the groupings of kingdom and phylum. Judging by the characteristics that were debated, we have some budding taxonomists in our midst!

ANGIE JENNETT
SENIOR PRIMARY TEACHER



GRADE 5 NEWS



Some Maths moments with the Grade 5s.

NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

External examination results

We extend our congratulations to the following pupils who have excelled in their external music examinations.

Trinity College Practical Examinations

Astrid Blair	Piano	Grade 2	Merit
Jessica Maher	Piano	Grade 2	Merit

ABRSM Practical Examinations

Tebello Lijane	Violin	Grade 1`	Distinction
Kimaya Shah-Naidoo	Piano	Grade 3	Merit

Well done, girls!

Music enhances reading and speaking skills in preschoolers:

<https://musiceducationworks.wordpress.com/2021/08/27/preschool-children-who-can-keep-a-beat-are-more-likely-to-be-better-readers-and-talkers/>

Follow the link above to read a fascinating article on the correlation between beat and reading and talking.

Musical greetings!

GEORGE POTGIETER
HoD: JUNIOR SCHOOL MUSIC

TENNIS

Congratulations to the St Mary's A and B tennis team who participated in the Sun City Tennis tournament last weekend. Both teams played tennis of a very high standard. The A team finished second losing to St Peter's A in a nail biting final. St Mary's B finished fourth overall beating Pecanwood A and Reitz A. The tournament was a huge success. Well done to all the girls who participated!

The A, B, C, and D tennis team beat St Andrew's convincingly in their first school match of the term. It is wonderful to see all our players out there competing again. Well, done to all the girls!

7 October

St Mary's A beat St Andrew's A 65/13

St Mary's B beat St Andrew's B 48/12

St Mary's C beat St Andrew's C 41/1

St Mary's D beat St Andrew's D 24/13



Back row: Hannah Rigby, Emma Campbell, Jennifer Pringle, Bailey Selvam

Second row: Freya Pinnock, Lily Davidson, Amy Ireland, Amy Saunders, Charlotte Bowden and Megan Setzkorn

Front row: Erin Krüger, Mackenzie Summers

KAREN CORBETT
ASSISTANT TENNIS COACH

HOCKEY

U13 D9 and Southern Gauteng hockey

I extend my congratulations to Amy Ireland, Emily Dickinson, Emma Campbell and Erin Krüger on being selected for the U13 D9 hockey team. They went through a two-day trial process during which they competed against girls from schools that fall in the same district as St Mary's.

Thereafter, the U13 D9 team attended Southern Gauteng trials. These trials also took place over two days and the girls played matches against the other district teams. After a long selection process, the teams were finalised and announced. Emily Dickinson made the U13A Southern Gauteng team and Emma Campbell made the U13B Southern Gauteng team.

Well done, girls!

VICKI JONKER
SPORTS TEACHER



Erin Krüger, Emma Campbell, Emily Dickinson, Amy Ireland

EQUESTRIAN

The third Sanesa qualifier took place on the first weekend of the August holidays. Mia-Ann Terblanche, Astrid Blair, Ella Mundell, Harper Bate, Emma Frahm-Arp and Lucy Barrow represented St Mary's. Each rider needed to complete two out of three qualifiers this year in order to make it to the regional finals where the various Gauteng regional areas ride against each other to qualify for the national championships and the chance to represent Gauteng at nationals. Four of our riders - Astrid Blair, Ella Mundell, Harper Bate and Emma Frahm-Arp - successfully qualified to ride at regionals which took place on 11 and 12 September. They qualified for dressage, show jumping, prix caprilli, equitation, working riding and performance riding. They rode regionals at Maple Ridge Equestrian Farm, which was very dusty with red sand. The competition was stiff but everyone enjoyed themselves.

Well done to all our riders who have now qualified for nationals, which are taking place from 4 to 10 October. Thank you to all the teachers for their help and support. Good luck!

EMMA FRAHM-ARP
EQUESTRIAN CAPTAIN



Lucy Barrow on Cookies and Cream



Emma Frahm- Arp on Fidelio

NOTICES

JUNIOR SCHOOL: GRADE 000 TO 7 START AFTER HALF-TERM

Please take note from the live calendar that the Junior School will reopen on Wednesday 27 October after the Term III half-term owing to a transformation workshop for all staff.

LUKE LAMPRECHT

Please consult the school app - Junior School / Junior School notices / General notices - for a summary of the social media talk that Luke Lamprecht conducted online with our parents in the Senior Primary.

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 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 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.



St Mary's golf day
Booking now open

Thursday 14 October
Parkview Golf Course
Staggered T-off from 11h30

[Click here to book](#)

- **Format: Four-ball alliance (2 x scores to count)**
- **Price: R3 600 per four-ball**
 - ❖ Price includes arrival drinks, halfway house and a light dinner at prize giving
 - ❖ Golf carts, caddy and drinks for your own account

For any queries or sponsorship offers, please contact Lisa Grobbelaar at lisa.grobbelaar@stmary.co.za