



Grade 7 girls enjoying their last sunset of a wonderful camp at Dimalachite

FROM THE ACTING HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

Last week, the Grade 5, 6 and 7 girls all returned safely from their camps which took place at various venues. The selected camps were geared towards outdoor education for girls of their ages.

So why do we send girls on camp?

The benefits of camps are numerous:

Camps allow the teachers to see the girls in a different light – the studious girl may suddenly become the boisterous one or the quiet, reserved girl becomes the one who confidently shows others how to rock climb. A varied outdoor educational programme allows a break from categorisation. Girls get to know their teachers and the teachers are provided with the opportunity to learn more about the girls in their care.

The outdoor experience is structured to encourage the girls to take risks and face challenges. There is opportunity for personal growth as activities boost independence and decision making.

There are opportunities to form new friendships and several social circumstances present themselves. Socialising in a new and neutral environment makes it easier for some girls to reach out to others and they learn to rely on one another.

Camps foster teamwork and the activities often result in an appreciation of each other's efforts. The demands encourage resilience and several

leadership skills are nurtured. The girls realise that being the sportiest or loudest does not necessarily result in the most successful outcome for the group, and they learn that collaborative and creative thinking often leads to finding solutions.

Being busy outdoors forces the girls to communicate and socialise without the influence of electronics. Time away from the city allows for an appreciation of nature as well as physical activity. The days and nights spent away from home may provide the time for reflection on family values and they hopefully allow the girls the time to be grateful for all they have in their particular environments. Last but not least, camps provide fun experiences!

I take this opportunity to thank the teachers who took time away from their families to accompany the girls on camp. The Grade 4s will go on their camp in Term II as we like them to be settled into the Senior Primary phase.

The choir camp at school for Senior Primary girls commences on Friday 15 February and ends on Saturday 16 February. This promises to be a happy and worthwhile experience. The girls will be sleeping in the Senior Primary hall or in the library. Schools are exciting places after dark!

DI GORDON
ACTING HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

The Stations of the Cross

Last year, St Mary's commissioned a new set of unique Stations of the Cross, painted by South African artist, Joseph Capelle. Capelle, a committed Christian, has created several sets of Stations of the Cross, for Roman Catholic Churches such as Holy Trinity in Braamfontein, St Martin de Porres in Soweto, and in St David's Marist Brothers chapel in Sandton.

Capelle's use of bright colours (which he employs to depict emotion) and his abstract style are what drew us to his work. To the traditional set of 14 Stations, we asked that Capelle add a 15th Station, depicting Christ's resurrection. We also asked Capelle to emphasise the role of women in his work for us, and to depict Christ and the people around Christ such that peoples from various backgrounds and cultures would be able to find themselves within the artworks.

During the December holidays, our new set of Stations of the Cross went up inside our chapel, where they can be viewed beginning at the bell pull next

to the vestry door, and ending with the last Station behind the piano next to the angel stained-glass window. They are beautiful, and have been well received by those who have viewed them to date.

It should be noted that our new and unique set forms the third set in our school. In the 1990s, then-headmistress Judith Brown put up a set of prints of the Stations, identical to those in St Mary's DSG in Pretoria. These replaced the black-and-white set of Stations that had been up in the chapel. Both these sets have now been hung along the corridor on the upper level just above the Senior School reception, between the accounts offices and the Ross & Darragh classrooms.

Over the coming weeks, the chaplain's message in both the Junior and Senior School newsletters will focus on individual Stations of the Cross.

**REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN**

FROM THE FOUNDATION

We are delighted to announce that Lisa Grobbelaar has been appointed as the St Mary's Foundation manager. Lisa is a professional with more than 25 years' experience. She spent over five years working as a business consultant for Anderson Consulting (now Accenture), primarily in the financial service industry. Following that, she worked in various roles for Rand Merchant Bank for more than 15 years, focusing mostly on transformation programmes. For the past six years, she has focused her efforts on development programmes for various charitable organisations including Third Thursday and Surgeons for Little Lives, as well as working for the Foundation and PTA. Lisa is married with two daughters at St Mary's.



Lisa Grobbelaar: St Mary's Foundation manager

LOVE, COMMUNITY, INTEGRITY

You are cordially invited to attend a

STRATEGIC PRESENTATION TO PARENTS BY GRAEME CODRINGTON

Date: Tuesday 19 February
Time: 17h30 - 19h00
Venue: The Edge

Refreshments will be served at 17h30

RSVP: Lynsay Young: Lynsay.Young@stmary.co.za by Friday 15 February



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

We are delighted to have a growing music department here at St Mary's. In the next couple of newsletters, we will be introducing you to the different instrumental teachers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to develop your daughters' musical education.

CAROL SHUTTE
HEAD OF MUSIC: JUNIOR SCHOOL

Meet the departments: piano

The St Mary's School piano department celebrated its pupils' progress with concerts throughout 2018 and we are looking forward to another year of delight in making music together. There will be numerous opportunities to

perform during 2019 and we encourage all piano pupils to participate in these concerts, both as pianists and audience members.

Apart from playing solo pieces for concerts and examinations, we encourage pupils to explore the joy of playing in duets or trios together at one piano, and to this extent we have decided to schedule a concert in Term II specifically with this in mind.

The school is fortunate to have piano teachers on the staff who are invested in the musical growth and development of their pupils.

EUGENE JOUBERT
HEAD OF PIANO STUDIES



Piano concert 2018



Eugene Joubert



Carol Shutte



Dudley Trollope



Astrid Small



Beverly Green



Cynthia Bilchitz



Denzil Weale



Mary Anne Donohue



Sophia Wu

GRADE 5 TOUR



The Grade 5s spent four days at Lapalala Wilderness School and enjoyed their time in the bush. They went on nature walks and game drives, had mud fights, swam in the river, completed team-building exercises and met a variety of creatures

GRADE 6 TOUR



Konka – the Grade 6 girls had a fabulous time at Konka. There were a number of team-building challenges involving water, word games and getting through the spider's web. The girls also enjoyed some down time and managed to cool off in the pool. The mud obstacle course brought out the best in the girls as they coped with crawling through the mud, climbing up and down various obstacles and racing to the finish line.

GRADE 7 TOUR



Grade 7s camp at Dimalachite

NOTICES

MUSE MORNING - ALL PARENTS WELCOME

Date: Tuesday 19 February

Topic: Conscious parenting

Time: 07h15 to 08h30 – refreshments served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30

Speaker: Wayne Katz is a clinical psychologist practising at the Child and Family Centre in Parktown and consultant to FNB's Bank City Wellness Clinic

Venue: Wantage auditorium

RSVP: lynn.moony@stmary.co.za



Shop Back to School essentials & give back to what matters to you

MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet supporters we need YOU!
Help our school win a share of R10 000 in Loot.co.za vouchers.
 PLUS MySchool will give the same amount in cash to a school or charity in need!

How? Shop Back to School essentials at Loot.co.za and save up to 30%
 Don't forget to use your MySchool card at checkout.
 Everytime you shop you boost our chances of winning.

Not a MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet cardholder? Sign up today at www.myschool.co.za
Ts and Cs apply

If you do not yet have a MySchool Card or need a replacement card, please contact Cindy Jackman via cellphone at 082 852 2997. We would so appreciate either the Foundation or St Mary's School being the beneficiary of your MySchool card.

Celebrate Valentine's Day with the St Mary's Rose

*Butterfly kisses and chocolate hearts, the joys of love that always lasts
The quiet whisper that speaks so loud,
The dreamy feeling of floating on a cloud.
The magic of love the heart that glows,
To say I love you so the whole world knows. Support our gorgeous valentine fairies,
Buy a red rose at St Mary's.*

The **St Mary's Rose** was propagated to celebrate the school's 120th birthday. It has proven to be popular both as a part of St Mary's School in gardens and as a gift. The rose is a red hybrid tea, which produces an abundance of medium to long stemmed, shapely blooms in bright velvet-red.



The PTA is proud to offer you the opportunity to pre-order the rose in time for **Valentine's Day**. The St Mary's rose is selling for R200. Our Valentine's stock will be sold on a first come first served basis, so please place your order by completing the order form and handing it at the Senior and Junior School receptions by Monday 11 February. The roses can be collected on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 February in the St Mary's car park (stop-and-drop).

ORDER FORM

Parent full name	
Child's name	
Child's class	
Contact number	

Item description	Quantity	Total	Payment method	Parent's signature
St Mary's rose (R200)				

Payment Options:

1. Exact amount Cash.
2. Direct Deposit/EFT into ST MARY'S SCHOOL PTA ACCOUNT:

BANK	Standard Bank	
	Bramley	
BRANCH	Branch	44005
ACCOUNT NO	002988143	
REFERENCE	"Your child's name, grade and Rose"	

Please email proof of payment to Masemarag@gmail.com