



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS



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27 FEBRUARY 2020



The girls looked beautiful at the 2020 matric dance

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

In recent years, the teachers and I have debated the expense and display that accompanies the matric dance. We witness the tension of the girls, the demands on parents and are cognisant of the economic climate where excess is uncomfortable. In this spirit, our approach has been to manage and limit the fundraising, the décor and general hype around the matric dance, although attempting to maintain the essence and experience for the girls.

"In the best interests of the girls" is the guiding principle for all we do at St Mary's and it informs all our decisions. I understand that, as adolescents, the girls may not necessarily agree with our decisions or believe that they ultimately benefit them but I remain hopeful that, with time and discussion, we may find agreement.

Last Saturday, our matrics attended their dance and I am delighted to record that it was a happy and celebratory evening. One, which on reflection, I should not like the girls to miss. Their excitement, sense of occasion and sheer pleasure at celebrating this milestone in their education, were delightful to witness.

The girls and their partners enjoyed the meal, they socialised, danced and delighted in the experience – they were young people enjoying a party in the best sense of the word. The Form IV girls, under the guidance of Lynn Northmore and Sarah Rogans, who hosted the dance, were challenged to ensure that the dance ran smoothly and was a success.

At the end of the evening, I left the dance encouraged by the happy atmosphere and with a sense that this rite of passage had been appropriately celebrated.

Today, we bid farewell and extend our best wishes to Penny Mullan as she takes up the role of headmistress of Springfield Convent School in Cape Town.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

*You desire truth in the inward being;
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Let me hear joy and gladness;
let the bones that you have crushed rejoice.
Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my iniquities.
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and put a new and right spirit within me.*

– Psalm 51:6-10 (NRSV)

Ash Wednesday fell on 26 February and marked the beginning of the 40-day season of Lent, preceding Easter. On Tuesday 25 February, girls and staff celebrated Shrove Tuesday with pancakes. Shrove Tuesday came about in order to facilitate utilising all the ingredients for sweet, baked goods that one might not eat during a period of fasting over Lent.

On Ash Wednesday, girls and staff had the opportunity to receive a small cross of ash gently rubbed onto our foreheads, to the words, “Turn away from sin, and believe the Good News”. This is because the attitude of Lent is penitential: it is about prayerfully identifying that which we allow to get in the way of our drawing closer to Christ, of

committing to a different way of living such that these obstacles are overcome.

Thus, what we choose to fast during Lent is not necessarily a food type. Fasting is not dieting. It is facilitating our spending more time in prayer each day, such that God can “create in [us] a clean heart”, as per the Psalm cited above. It could be a way of living that we do not take up again, after Lent. Importantly, Lent is also about remembering that Christ calls us to look after the poor, the weak and the lonely. Therefore, Lent could be about living more simply such that we can give more, or it could be about giving up time we spend on an activity so that we are able to spend that time helping those in need.

Sadly, one of our Ikusasa Lethu students, Khensani Tindleni, passed away in her sleep unexpectedly and was discovered by her family on Friday morning, 21 February. Khensani was in Grade 11. Please keep Khensani’s family and friends in your prayers at this difficult time. While funeral arrangements have not been finalised, it is likely that the funeral will take place at the family home on Saturday 29 February.

Rest eternal grant unto Khensani, oh Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon her.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

DEBATING

Debating has always been an exciting and open environment in which girls are taught to express themselves formally in a logical and persuasive manner. This forum exposes the girls to relevant local and international events, learning how to analyse and present well-formed opinions on fundamental issues. Though very demanding, our teams face every complex debate and challenge ferociously and this is evident in our early success in the SACEE league. With the appointment of our new debating coach, Itumeleng Mohanoe, we are certainly destined for greater heights.

SACEE SENIOR ROUNDS 1 to 3

ROUND	MOTIONS	TEAM	SIDE	OPPONENT	RESULT
1	THBT Thanos was justified in killing half of the global population	SMS 31314	Prop	Brescia House School	Won
		SMS 35050	Opp	St David’s	Lost
2	THW implement a global tax system that taxes countries of highest income and redistributes to those of lowest income	SMS 31314	Opp	Parktown Girls’	Won
		SMS 35050	Opp	Jeppe Girls’	Won
3	TH regrets the glorification of sports stars	SMS 31314	Opp	St John’s College	Won
		SMS 35050	Prop	Nang’tatako	Won

SACEE JUNIOR ROUNDS 1 to 3

ROUND	MOTIONS	TEAM	SIDE	OPPONENT	RESULT
1	THW replace teachers with computers	SMS 31314	Opp	Jeppe Boys'	Won
		SMS 35050	Prop	Brescia House School	Won
2	THW impose salary caps in professional sports	SMS 31314	Prop	St Stithians Boys'	Won
		SMS 35050	Opp	Parktown Girls'	Lost
3	THW ban fairy tales	SMS 31314	Prop	Parktown Girls'	Won
		SMS 35050	Opp	Brescia House School	Won

SEIPATI MOHAPI
HEAD OF DEBATING

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH 2020
St Andrew's School for Girls
Assumption Convent School
Kingsmead College
St Teresa's School



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

THURSDAY 5 MARCH 2020
St Stithians Girls' College
Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls
St Mary's School, Waverley

Singing Sistas



The Edge
4 and 5 March 2020
18h30

VIEBZ CONTEMPORARY MUSIC COMPETITION



Congratulations to Elliott for winning the senior category of the VIEBZ contemporary music competition for soloists hosted by Lovemore Music and St Andrew's School for Girls. She presented a spectacular performance of an own composition for guitar and voice. The competition is one of very few that provides secondary school students studying contemporary music with the opportunity to showcase their talent. Lovemore Music very generously sponsors the prizes in each category – Elliott won R3 000 to spend on music equipment.

DUDLEY TROLLOPE
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

CHOIR AND JAZZ BAND WORKSHOP DAY



On Saturday 1 February, all the senior choir, traditional choir and jazz band members participated in a fun day of workshops and rehearsals at school. The choir girls began the day with some fun exercises and a relaxation to music followed by a vocal warm-up. Nomvula Mehlomakhulu led the thoroughly enjoyable first choir session, while Danni McKinnon and I worked with the jazz band's rhythm section and Hannah Foster led an exciting jazz vocals workshop.

The choirs also worked with the conductor of the Wits Choir, Dalene Hoogenhout, and Eugene Joubert, while further jazz band sectional rehearsals ensued. It was very encouraging to hear new repertoire start

to come together this early on in the school term.

After lunch, there were full senior choir and jazz band rehearsals, and the girls and music teachers finished this day of music-making feeling the joy of accomplishment, anticipating exciting musical performances in the Music department this year.

CERI MOELWYN-HUGHES
JAZZ BAND DIRECTOR

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

TENNIS



The St Mary's 1st team won silver medals at the St Mary's Invitational Festival



U15 team

St Mary's has had an extremely busy two weekends on the tennis courts. The top five players participated in the St Mary's Invitational Tennis Festival, Mrs Lowndes took five U15 tennis players to participate in the U15 tennis festival at Roedeane and the league and St Mary's championships continue.

The St Mary's Invitational Tennis Festival was held from 14 to 16 February and St Mary's played host to teams from Menlo Park, St Mary's Kloof, St Cyprian's, St Andrew's School, Somerset College, The Wykeham Collegiate and Curro Hazeldean. The tennis was of an extremely high standard throughout the festival. The St Mary's team consisting of Sarah, Annika, Lilitha, Hannah and Alexis did extremely well, beating Somerset College, Curro Hazeldean, St Andrew's School, St Mary's Kloof and St Cyprian's to reach the final of the event. In the finals, St Mary's won one singles and lost one singles to be tied at one match all before losing the last two singles matches in nail-biting games, losing in the third set championship tiebreakers. Hoërskool Menlo were the worthy winners and the standard of tennis in both the semi-finals and finals was extremely high. Thank you to all the staff, parents, tennis captains and teachers who came out to support the players.

Thank you to all the sponsors, catering staff and ground staff who ensured that every detail was taken care of and that the festival was such a success. A special thank you is extended to the captains, Julianne, Sarah and Simone for all their help, support and assistance off the court. I thank Mrs Corbett for all her help and assistance in running the festival. All the players and coaches from the visiting schools were amazed by the facilities and St Mary's hospitality. The festival was a wonderful way to showcase our school.

The U15 team, comprising of Natasha, Tayla, Tisanke-Anna, Alexis and Aashi won the U15 festival at Roedeane in a convincing manner. The team from St Mary's beat teams from Kingsmead, Fourways High School, Randburg High, Roedeane and St Andrew's. Thank you to Mrs Lowndes for taking the players and for your encouragement throughout the weekend.

Congratulations to nine St Mary's players who were selected for the Gauteng Central U15 and U19 teams respectively.

U19 A
Annika, Amukelani and Hannah



Provincial tennis representatives

U19 B
Alexis and Isha

U15 A
Lilitha

U15 B
Simone, Natasha and Aashi

The tennis season is drawing to a close and all the players are congratulated on their continued effort at practices, in the school championships and in the league matches. Thank you to Mrs Corbett, Mrs Lowndes and Mrs Ingersent for their help with the league teams.

League results

11 February

St Mary's A	lost to Helpmekaar A	35-46
St Mary's B	lost to Helpmekaar B	33-48
St Mary's C	beat St Peter's A	39-24
St Mary's D	beat St Peter's B	54-9
St Mary's E	lost to Fourways High A	38-43
St Mary's F	beat Fourways High B	49-32
St Mary's G	lost to Redhill A	12-51
St Mary's H	beat Redhill B	47-16

18 February

St Mary's A	beat Trinity House A	59-22
St Mary's B	beat Trinity House B	59-22
St Mary's C	beat Fourways High A	43-20
St Mary's D	beat Fourways High B	45-18
St Mary's E	lost to Assumption A	29-34
St Mary's F	beat Fourways High B	49-32
St Mary's G	beat Little Falls A	12-51

RENÉ PLANT
HEAD OF TENNIS

ROWING



St Mary's 1st four claiming gold



St Mary's captains winning the 1st pair at the Buffalo Regatta



Twin turbo, Hannah and Tali, placing second in the 1st pair event

Last week, the St Mary's Open age rowing group travelled to East London to compete in both the Buffalo Regatta as well as the Selborne Sprints on the Buffalo River. After weeks of training and much excitement, the girls arrived in East London ready to race.

The weekend of racing began with heats for the Buffalo Regatta. The following day saw the girls set aside the usual 2 000m race for the 500m sprints in the Selborne Sprints Regatta where they achieved outstanding results, with multiple medal placings.

To conclude an intense few days of racing, in the finals of the Buffalo Regatta, the St Mary's teams achieved gold in the 1st quad event, 1st four event, 2nd quad event and 1st pair event and achieved many other medal placings.

CLAIRE
FORM IV

SQUASH

St Mary's attended a squash festival at St Mary's DSG, Pretoria on 15 February and played against many schools in the Gauteng area. Great squash was played and all the girls thoroughly enjoyed the day's outing and achieved superb results.

Squash results

13 February

St Mary's U19 A	lost to St Andrew's	3-14
St Mary's U19 A	beat Helpmekaar	14-0
St Mary's U19 B	beat Helpmekaar	14-0
St Mary's U19 C	beat King David Linksfield	14-0
St Mary's U16 A	beat St Andrew's	14-0

14 February

St Mary's U19 D 1	beat St Andrew's 1	14-2
St Mary's U19 D 2	beat St Andrew's 2	14-0
St Mary's U19 D 1	beat St Andrew's 2	14-1
St Mary's U19 D 2	beat St Andrew's 1	14-0
St Mary's U16 B	beat McAuley House	14-0
St Mary's U15 A	beat Northcliff	10-7
St Mary's U14 B	beat Northcliff	14-0

20 February

St Mary's U19 A	beat Kingsmead	14-0
St Mary's U19 B	beat St Dunstan's	11-8
St Mary's U16 A	beat Northcliff	14-0
St Mary's U16 B	beat St Andrew's	14-0
St Mary's U14 A	beat Northcliff	13-3

21 February

St Mary's U16 A	beat Roedean	14-0
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The Central Gauteng Junior Squash Open Tournament was held at Parkview from 21 to 23 February. Tayla placed 4th and Sasha 8th in the U16 age group. Megan placed 4th in the U14 age group.

Well done, girls, these are great results.

JENNIFER SAWYER
HEAD OF SQUASH

NATIONAL AQUATICS



Nicola - vice-captain water polo



Isabelle individual medley junior swimmer



Rebecca - captain water polo



Caitlin U16 diver

The St Mary's aquatics team made huge waves during the National Aquatics Festival 2020 hosted at St Stithians College on 14 and 15 February. The annual festival includes girls schools from all over South Africa which compete in the three aquatics codes: swimming, water polo and diving.

Our swimmers took to the water early on Valentine's Day and swam well as a team. The swimmers produced some excellent times on the morning and were extremely competitive throughout the gala. St Mary's won a total of 17 medals from the 28 events swum. Our senior swimmer, Emma, took part in the very exciting "Dash for Cash" 50m sprint race and placed first.

Water polo placed fifth overall with an 8-2 win over St Mary's, Kloof. The water polo team fell short in the quarter-final against Durban Girls' College losing 6-4 in a closely played match. The water polo team had a good tournament overall and has shown their potential against some top 10-rated schools in the country.

It was the St Mary's divers who came in tops with their overall score of 97,00 that placed them first and won them the title of the National Aquatics Diving Winners 2020. Of 28 divers per event, all St Mary's divers placed within the top eight. In the U15 event, Zalika placed third. In the U16 event, Tannah placed third and, in the Open event, Kerry-Leigh placed third.

The St Mary's aquatics team look forward to working hard throughout the year to continue to succeed and, hopefully, win the whole event next year. The National Aquatics Festival 2021 will be hosted by St Mary's, Kloof, and we look forward to being part of such a prestigious girls' school event next year.

KELSEY THOMSON
HEAD OF AQUATICS



Zalika U15 diver

NATIONAL AQUATICS (CONTINUED)



Aquatics team captains and vice-captains



Emma

SWIMMING



Hannah



Georgina

Despite a few galas being cancelled owing to lightning, the swimming team has continued to impress. The B team swam at the Holy Rosary gala on Thursday 13 February, against many other schools' A teams. The girls swam extremely well and placed third at the gala. The results were as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Holy Rosary A | 250 |
| 2. Roedean A | 222 |
| 3. St Mary's B | 214 |
| 4. Parktown Girls A | 197 |
| 5. Potchefstroom Girls' High | 145 |
| 6. Holy Rosary B | 106 |

On Thursday 20 February, the annual night gala was held at St Mary's. This gala provides the girls with the opportunity to practice racing over 50m before inter-high.

St Mary's divided their team into a Red Team and a White Team for the gala.

Both teams fared extremely well and came out on top which shows the depth that St Mary's has. The official results from the gala are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. St Mary's Red | 375 |
| 2. St Mary's White | 348 |
| 3. Holy Rosary A | 333 |
| 4. St Andrew's A | 297 |
| 5. Kingsmead A | 277 |
| 6. Roedean A | 276 |
| 7. Kingsmead B | 136 |
| 8. Holy Rosary B | 123 |
| 9. St Andrew's B | 119 |
| 10. Roedean B | 59 |

CINDY BROWN
HEAD OF SWIMMING

WATER POLO



Abigail U17 SA Team



Aimee-Rose U15 SA Team



Amy SA U14 Team



Mikayla U14 SA Team



SA team selection

Abigail has been selected for the U17 Junior Women's Water Polo team which will participate at the EU Nations, Junior Women's Water Polo Cup to be held in Brno, Czech Republic, from 13 to 15 March.

Aimee-Rose has been selected for the U15 Girls' Water Polo team which will participate at the CANA Zone IV Water Polo Championship in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 11 to 15 March.

Amy and Mikayla have been selected for the U14 Girls' Water Polo team which will participate at the CANA Zone IV Water Polo Championship in Harare, Zimbabwe, from 11 to 15 March.

KELSEY THOMSON
HEAD OF WATER POLO



U15 basketball team



Supporters

The last few weeks have been busy for our basketball teams. We have played fixtures against HeronBridge College, Saheti, St Mary's DSG Pretoria and St Peter's. Many more of our teams have had an opportunity to play matches, which has been positive for the players.

Our teams have had mixed results but, overall, we are pleased with what we have achieved at this stage in the season. Our players are improving! The U14 girls are growing in confidence and their excitement is evident. The U15 and U16 age groups have developed a more realistic feel for the game as well as a growing understanding of the rules and structures of basketball. These two age groups have recorded some outstanding results and we look forward to watching them progress and move into the senior teams. The U15 team has been most impressive, winning all the league matches thus far. The senior girls have settled as a unit. Their maturity, experience and desire to compete against the best has set a solid standard for basketball at St Mary's.

Mention must be made of the coaches and the outstanding efforts that they have made. Their contribution to the interest and improvement of the players has been invaluable!

U15 basketball tournament

Our U15 team played in a tournament hosted by Crawford Sandton, on 21 and 22 February.

We won both of our pool games against St Dunstan's and Crawford respectively. The team had a convincing win against Bishop Bavin in the semi-final and ultimately lost to Redhill in the final.

We congratulate both the coaches and the team on an outstanding effort.

TARYN DE WINNAAR
HEAD OF BASKETBALL

