



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888



• SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS •



St Mary's water polo players who will be representing Gauteng at nationals this December. See page 8 for more information

From the head's desk

This year has seen much turmoil and change in the global political landscape. In our own country the "fallisms" will force us to confront the socio-political structures that have mostly existed unchanged since 1994. Institutions of learning have come under the spotlight, and there is a need for us to reassess institutional culture and relevance.

On the morning of 8 November, I was surprised at how much of the conversation on the corridors was about Donald Trump's winning the US presidential election. It pleased me to hear the girls' interest in global politics, and their ability to discuss the issues in an informed and interested manner. We certainly do want St Mary's girls to be informed citizens with knowledge and understanding of current affairs, and the ability to express their opinion on such matters.

In this same spirit, it is necessary for our girls to be engaged in learning, listening, thinking and talking about the issues that confront our country. There are a good number of girls who are aware and have become

involved in GIRLS, the diversity committee and other conversations, but they remain in the minority. The work of nation building is for all of us and the school's expectation is that each individual girl will take the opportunities to join conversations, listen to speakers and commit to furthering the spirit of *ubuntu* in our school.

"It is not the things we have in common that usually cause misunderstanding, tension and conflict, but the things that we have as differences if they are not mutually understood and respected. We need to celebrate what binds us and act on what divides us." Stanley Bongwe, *100 Lessons in Diversity*, 2010

Deanne King
Head of school

Dates to diarise

November

Fri 18	08h30	e4 planning workshop
Sat 19	09h00	French regional meeting
Tues 22	18h00	New parent iPad workshop
Wed 23	07h30	Senior class reps' meeting
Mon 28	17h00	IEB NSC examinations end

December

Fri 2		Form I to Form IV examinations end
	11h00	Combined carol service rehearsal
Sun 4	17h00	Boarders' end-of-year chapel and Christmas dinner
Mon 5	11h00	Final carol service rehearsal
	11h00	Inter-house programme
	17h30	Carol service 1
	19h00	Carol service 2
Tues 6	07h30	Middle School Eucharist
	08h45	Inter-house programme
	12h55	Inter-house music SA Schools
		Boat Race departs
Wed 7	07h30	Senior School Eucharist
	09h15	Final assembly
	11h30	School closes for pupils
Thurs 8	10h30	Reports to be collected
	11h00	Boarding houses close
Fri 9		SA Schools Boat Race heats
		School closes for staff



From the chaplain

Much of what is happening on both a local and international front could be said to be motivated by, or result in, fear: Brexit; anti-immigration electioneering rhetoric by President-elect Donald Trump, prior to his election; the fear of a downgrade by international ratings agencies on behalf of South African economists; fear of what the future holds for South African universities and schools.

I am reminded of 2 Timothy 1:7: "For God has not given us the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." What words would leaders led by a spirit of power, love and a sound mind, be saying? What actions would nations and communities led by such a spirit be taking? How would our own plans and discourse change, if we allow ourselves to be led by the spirit God has given us?

On a related, yet different note: the flash floods across Gauteng last week have struck fear in the hearts of South Africans, particular those directly impacted by the extreme weather patterns. Our hearts go out to these families, particularly known to us within our community. The St Mary's family (including girls, their families and our staff) have been incredible in reaching out to those in need in this regard - thank you.

Revd Claudia Coustas
Chaplain

President's Award

Our congratulations are extended to Caitlin and Saskia for being awarded bronze, and Rea for being awarded silver.

Melanie Blair
President's Award co-ordinator

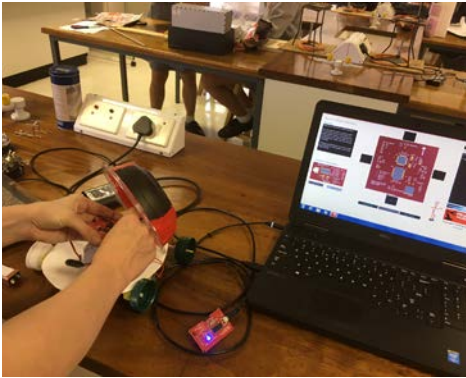
Young Biologist course

Jordyn was one of only 50 selected for a Young Biologist course at the Two Oceans Aquarium, in April this year. Jordyn represented St Mary's and, two weeks ago, flew to Cape Town for her graduation, where she received the highest status: diamond.



Jordyn

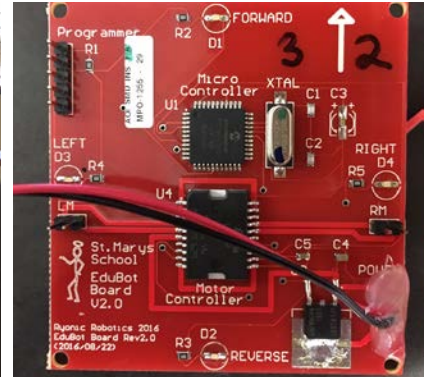
Form II Natural Sciences robotics project



How the programme appears on the board



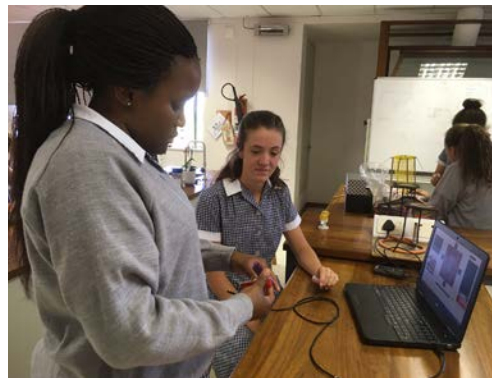
Consulting the rubric



The Saints motherboard



Gluing the front wheel to the chassis



Programming the circuit board



Testing the programme



Measuring the circumference of the wheels

Over the past few weeks, our Form II girls have been designing and programming robots in Natural Sciences for their examination project. They were given a circuit board and a compiler, two motors and a USB cable. From this they had to design the robot chassis and casing, and imagine a function for their robot. Their brief then asked them to programme the robot to manoeuvre in a one-metre-square path.

This project has been a year in the making. Mrs Huysamer and myself had approached a robotics company and we worked together to create a kit that would allow the girls to design their own robots, using identical working parts. The electronic components and programme were custom-made for us by Ryonic Robotics.

The girls have even had to create their own wheels to attach to the motors, and solve multiple problems, such as maintaining a frictionless attachment and realising that the wheel circumferences cause different drive distances. They found the project challenging, and each pair of girls experienced some failures. The project, however, ended successfully.

Melanie Blair

HoD Physical and Natural Sciences

From the Foundation



The St Mary's Foundation wishes to extend a sincere and enormous thank-you to the generous St Mary's community.

This is how you have helped to change lives this year:

- An opportunity for a young woman to achieve a St Mary's Cultural honours blazer became a reality
- A young girl of 15 is now ranked number 53 in the world junior women's rankings at squash and number one in the South African U19 age group, because she has had access to our squash facilities and coaches
- A Form II provincial athlete and 1st team netball player has excelled through access to coaching
- An up-and-coming hockey player, who travelled abroad with the St Mary's hockey team for international coaching, is on her way to achieving hockey success
- Two hundred and seventy-five Grades 10, 11, 12 pupils from Alexandra and surrounding communities were enrolled in the Saturday school at St Mary's, to receive tuition in core subjects
- Forty-two pupils from Alexandra, who matriculated from the St Mary's Ikusasa Lethu Saturday school programme in 2015, are studying at university this year. Four pupils excelled, and collectively achieved 16 As
- Twenty-three teachers from Alexandra participated in the Science teacher training programme

Should you wish to support the education programmes funded by the Foundation, we invite you to make a contribution to the St Mary's Foundation annual Christmas appeal. A gift, no matter how big or small, can change the trajectory of the life of a young person.

Make a donation by going to <http://www.stmaryschool.co.za/foundation>, or by processing an EFT to:

St Mary's Foundation, Standard Bank, account number 20-015-588-1, Bramley branch, Ref surname/Christmas appeal

We wish you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas, and safe travels over the festive season.

Gillian O'Shaughnessy
Foundation manager



From the Music department

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to the following girls who passed their music examinations recently:

ABRSM results

Jocelyn	Piano	Grade 7	M
Zaneli	Piano	Grade 7	M
Lucy	Clarinet	Grade 6	M
Eloise	Clarinet	Grade 2	M
Emma	Flute	Grade 7	P
Alexandra	Alto saxophone	Grade 7	P
Yashmiri	Alto saxophone	Grade 7	P
Fiona	Piano	Grade 6	P
Julia	Alto saxophone	Grade 4	P
Nicola	Piano	Grade 3	P
Jamie	Flute	Grade 3	P
Wanjiru	Flute	Grade 2	P
Shreya	Flute	Grade 2	P
Harriet	Flute	Grade 2	P

RockSchool results

Dikeletso	Vocals	Grade 3	M
Lorena	Vocals	Grade 2	M
Mikaela	Vocals	Grade 1	M
Dominique	Vocals	Grade 4	P

Dudley Trollope

Director of Music





St Mary's School
Waverley

Children of Peace

A service of Nine Lessons and Carols



St Mary's School
The Edge

Monday 5 December
17h30 and 19h00

*Reserved complimentary tickets
can be collected at the Junior
and Senior School receptions
from Monday 28 November*

From the Sports department



U14 quad waving to supporters



Captains being awarded the overall trophy with Olympic medallist Shaun Keeling



Teamwork



Victorious St Mary's team

St Mary's rowing club won the Gauteng Championships. The rowers were exemplary during the course of the event, with several records tumbling under Saints' onslaught.

The U14s, who started rowing in September, took the gold medal in the octuple, quad and double. The U15s continued their winning streak, winning the scull, double and octuple. The U16s outdid their previous achievements, winning silver in the four and bronze in the quad. The Opens were superb, securing top three positions in the sculls, top two in the double, and bronze in the four. We had two crews entered into the 2nd quad event, winning gold and bronze. The finale of the women's event is the first quad; our St Mary's girls easily won this race.

Congratulations to Alexandra, Caitlin, Jessica, Megan, Reitumetse and Paige, who have been selected for the boat race squad. The squad will compete at the 16th Annual Boat Race fighting to retain the title for the 10th time.

January rowing camp

If your daughter is interested in rowing or would like to try something different, join us on our rowing camp in the new year!

Date: 9-14 January 2017

For more information contact me on caitlin.dace@stmary.co.za.

Caitlin Dace

Head of rowing

Water polo

Congratulations are extended to the following St Mary's water polo players, who have been selected to the respective Gauteng teams for nationals this December.

Gauteng U19 A

Catherine
Brittany

Gauteng U19 B

Jordan
Nicole

Gauteng U16 A

Courtney

Gauteng U16 B

Robyn

Gauteng U15 A

Kayleigh
Nicola
Francesca

Gauteng U15 B

Zoë
Kiara

Gauteng U15 Reserve

Emily

Gauteng U14 A

Rebecca
Hannah
Tatum

Gauteng U14 B

Sarah
Nicola

U14 Reserve

Angela

Kelsey White

Water polo coach



Two of our 1st team water polo players have been selected to play for the SA U18 team. Daniela and Lace will participate at the FINA Youth World Championships in New Zealand from 12 to 18 December as well as the Tri-Nations Tournament from 19 to 23 December. They are two of three Gauteng girls to be selected for this team.

PTA - Club 100 winners for Term I 2017

Gauta	100%	R26 700
Fiona	20%	R8 260
Alexa	10%	R4 130

Bruce Patience

PTA chairperson

App

As of 2017, there will no longer be a printed red calendar. As a result, the St Mary's app will be your major source of information about all upcoming events. We urge all parents to download the 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 that 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 obtain 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 receive urgent notifications that are relevant to you and your daughter only.