



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

19 MAY 2017

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www.stmaryschool.co.za



FROM THE HEAD'S DESK



Our congratulations are extended to Khethiwe, who was awarded a Victrix Honorum blazer last term. Khethiwe has achieved Academic, Service and Cultural Honours blazers. She is only the third pupil in the history of this prestigious school to have received three Honours blazers, and this is an outstanding achievement.

St Mary's is committed to excellent education and to the importance of a happy community. We believe that good relationships are very much part of an excellent educational environment.

Relationships require generosity of time, effort and commitment. Good relationships form when those involved respect one another, when they listen to one another and place emphasis on loyalty, mutual obligation, appreciation, forgiveness and reconciliation. A range of relationships exists within the school and includes girls, parents and staff. Relationships among the girls and between the girls and the teachers are the priority, but those between the teachers and parents and among all the staff are also important.

St Mary's subscribes to the spirit of ubuntu, a bond of sharing that connects humanity. This is a school where transformation and diversity are valued. We believe that changes and development in this area are more successful if they take place within a relational environment,

where the well-being of each person is considered in interactions and decisions.

The girls are actively encouraged in thinking and discussions about their relationships. Mentor groups, Life Orientation lessons, house and head assemblies, and meetings of the diversity committee and GIRLS are often aimed at enhancing the relational behaviour of the girls. The teaching staff are not exempt. They are presently engaged in a number of courageous conversations around race relationships, which are being guided by external facilitators.

Please diarise Thursday 6 July to attend a screening of the film *Beyond the River in The Edge*. This film offers an opportunity to follow a remarkable relationship within the context of our country.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Jesus to his disciples, in John 14:15-17:

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”



It is tempting to summarise faith in Christ as keeping Christ’s commandments or as being a good person, particularly if we read Jesus’ words out of context. We must remember that Jesus is talking to his beloved disciples – those who have lived with him, watched his deeds and listened to his every word for three years. Jesus’ listeners are those who love Christ dearly, and who are anxious at what Christ has to say, as the above words form part of Christ’s farewell discourse, en route to his death on a cross and his resurrection.

Christ’s words to his disciples cannot be understood except within the loving relationship he has with his disciples. Thus, keeping Christ’s commandments flows out of an intimate relationship with Christ. That relationship is absolutely central to our faith: like the disciples, we, disciples today, will be led by the Holy Spirit – “Advocate” and “Spirit of truth” – because we know Christ. If we spend time in prayer, just being in God’s loving presence, the Spirit will work within us to slowly change us into Christ’s likeness.

We do not need to know what to say in our prayers: reading the Bible as the words of our God, whom we love so dearly that we yearn to hear God’s words for us in the here and now, will lead us into an awareness of God’s presence. Oftentimes, such an awareness has no words at all.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

THE FOLLOWING GIRLS HAVE BEEN AWARDED HONOURS BLAZERS



Cultural Honours blazers: Khethiwe, Sophia



Service Honours blazers: Nandi, Zenni, Saskia, Claire, Caitlin, Maya, Atlehang, Lelelente
Not in picture: Khanyisile

FORM I E4 PROJECT-BASED LEARNING WEEK

UBUNTU IS AN ANCIENT AFRICAN WORD MEANING "HUMANITY TO OTHERS".
IT ALSO MEANS "I AM WHAT I AM BECAUSE OF WHO WE ALL ARE".



FORM I E4 PROJECT-BASED LEARNING WEEK

Project-based learning is a pedagogical approach in which pupils gain knowledge and skills through working at school for a period of time, around investigating and providing a creative response to a complex, integrated topic or theme. In the current educational landscape, the development of content knowledge and conceptual knowledge are regarded as insufficient when standing alone. We all agree that children need to be granted sufficient time to explore, to plan, to create and solve problems in an integrated fashion, in a supported and nurtured environment with teachers present.

During the project-based learning week, Form I girls worked in groups of five to plan and create an ubuntu meal. This project involved girls working to one another's strengths, areas of interest and preference, as a differentiated approach to learning was adopted. Each group was supported and guided through the learning process by a supervising teacher, who also monitored the ability of each pupil to work effectively at school within the allocated time.

Each group designed and created a menu for the meal, based on the principles of ubuntu and the nutritional guidelines that girls have explored in the Healthy Me component of the e4 course. In addition,

a paper tablecloth runner was designed using the various elements of art and portraiture skills girls have adopted in the art "selfie" component of e4.

Each girl created an individualised placemat as a part of appreciating and understanding "Our Story" at the ubuntu table. A music playlist also complemented the meal, while table décor and the personification of décor items formed a part of the final presentation of the project. It proved to be a fun and entertaining morning in every respect!

Effective communication, collaboration and self-regulation are the key elements that were monitored and assessed during this project. The groups demonstrated the importance of teamwork and motivation, and worked hard to achieve unique and interesting interpretations of the notion of ubuntu. The unintended success of the project was revealed in pupils learning more about themselves, and one another's heritage and culture, through the process.

SALLY JAMES
DEPUTY HEADMISTRESS

FORM IV LIFE SCIENCES CAMP



Girls helping to remove crofton weed from the riverbanks

In the April holidays, the Form IV Life Sciences girls went on camp to Maretlwane. It was a successful camp, as we applied our classroom knowledge of animal and plant diversity and classification to the reality of the bush. We participated in many activities, including estimating the population size of a grass species and measuring the biomass of the invasive alien, crofton weed.

The highlight of the camp was the Eco Hunt. In our study groups, we tried to find as many items as possible on the list as we went about our other tasks each day. The objects included spoor we had identified, and sightings of different mammals, birds and, of course, types of plants. Aided by the expert knowledge of Mr Douglas, we competed



All the Life Sciences students with Mrs Page and Mrs Ellis

enthusiastically for the prize of chocolates.

The Form IV girls had the most incredible time, and enjoyed our final Life Sciences camp to the fullest! We thank Mrs Ellis and Mrs Page for the wonderful organisation, which ensured that we were kept busy throughout the three days. In addition, thanks go to Mr Douglas, Mr Nel, Mr Lindeque, Mrs Barlow and all the Maretlwane staff for taking care of us, and teaching us many new things we wouldn't have learnt in the classroom.

JORDYN
FORM IV

IKUSASA LETHU

Dineo featured in the Alex News, Caxton newspaper, on Tuesday 9 May.
Please see the article below.

Hard work pays off

SIPHO SISO

siphos@caxton.co.za

The school journey of Alexandra's Dineo Mashamaite (16), has been an inspirational one – from attending a Saturday school to being awarded a bursary to attend one of the top private schools in Johannesburg.

Mashamaite's journey has been marked by nothing else but hard work in which she was one of the students who worked her way up from Ikusasa Lethu Saturday School [our future] to finally being awarded the bursary.

Mashamaite grew up in one of the country's poorest townships, Alexandra, where she was raised by her single mother with significant financial constraints.

After struggling with limited resources at her local high school, Mashamaite went in search of opportunities in her Grade 10 year – and enrolled in the Ikusasa Lethu programme.

After one year in the programme, with marked improvement and excellent academic results, Mashamaite was awarded a St Mary's Foundation Scholarship. It was the Ikusasa Lethu programme that set in motion the course of events that were to change her life.

Established by St Mary's School, Waverley in 1990 and funded by the St Mary's Foundation, the programme supports underprivileged pupils with mentorship and tuition to supplement limited resources at high schools around Johannesburg.

The programme not only provides a short-term need – giving students the chance to better their academics – but invests long-term in students by providing the facilities and guidance to help them apply for tertiary education.

For worthy and talented students like Mashamaite, it's a chance at a bright future and the results of the programme speak volumes.

In 2016, the 91 programme participants achieved a 99 per cent pass rate, with 65 per cent of the students obtaining a 'bachelor's pass', meaning they can study towards a Bachelor's degree at university.

Every Saturday morning, 275 eager high school learners are bussed from Alexandra and surrounding areas to study



Dineo Mashamaite's hard work pays off as she is awarded a bursary to study in a top private school.

sessions held at St Mary's Waverley, and one of those pupils was Mashamaite.

Through the programme, students like Mashamaite receive extra lessons in mathematics, physical sciences, life sciences, English, business studies, accounting, geography and computer skills. The classes are taught by a dedicated team of teachers from St Mary's Waverley and surrounding schools.

Mashamaite was one of the top pupils in the Ikusasa Lethu programme in 2016. At her previous school, she witnessed so many of her peers dropping out of school for various reasons, from financial difficulties to increasing family demands and responsibilities.

"Through the power of programmes like Ikusasa Lethu and being given the opportunity to study at St Mary's, I learnt I didn't have to follow the same path and I could overcome the barriers of poverty," she said.

Mashamaite is excited about her future and grateful for the chance to receive a world-class education. She hopes to use the opportunity to impact the lives of other young girls in underprivileged communities – and one day dreams of building her family a new home.



STAFF NEWS

Our congratulations are extended to Olivia Douglas, our Senior School librarian, on receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Information Science (BINF)



FEDA



Scenes from The Dean Play

The Original Works section play, *The Dean Play*, was warmly received last Tuesday night at FEDA, and after the semi-finals, have made it through to the overall finals of FEDA 2017.

The cast and backstage crew are congratulated on their superb work. The adjudicators said it was "sensitive, fragile and beautiful, and that they held us beautifully on their journey".

JANET BAYLIS
HOD: DRAMATIC ARTS

ST MARY'S EXCHANGE UPDATE



Emma from Fahan School, with Melissa

Exchange opportunity – Fahan School, Tasmania

We still have an opportunity for a Form II girl to visit Fahan School in Tasmania, on a boarding exchange. The exchange will take place from mid-October until the end of term. Fahan School campus is situated in the Hobart suburb of Sandy Bay – a 10-minute drive from Hobart's CBD.

St Mary's has had a very successful exchange with Fahan for many years, and this exchange is often the highlight of a pupil's school career. We are very lucky to have Emma visiting us from Fahan at the moment, and we wish her a very happy exchange experience.

Melissa visited Fahan in 2016 and is currently hosting Emma. If you have any questions relating to the exchange, you are welcome to speak to Melissa, Emma or me.

Please see the link below if you would like to visit the school website for any more information: <http://www.fahan.tas.edu.au/>

Any Form II girl who would like to apply for the Fahan exchange is to collect an exchange application form from Sharon San in the Senior School reception, and submit this form to me. Applications must be submitted by Friday 26 May.

EXCHANGE WITH NIGHTINGALE-BAMFORD SCHOOL, NEW YORK CITY

At the end of last term St Mary's was very fortunate to host Mr Paul Burke, the headmaster of Nightingale-Bamford School in New York City. Mr Burke's visit was arranged after Ms King and Dr James visited the school last year, in an effort to develop a relationship and partnership between our two schools.

Mr Burke addressed the girls at a school assembly and, in addition, had a discussion with the girls who have recently had the opportunity of participating in one of the many exchange opportunities available.

Dr James and I have been in discussion with Mr Burke, and are in the process of sorting out the final logistical arrangements around a reciprocal exchange between our two schools.

We are very excited to announce that applications for this exchange are now open. After much discussion and consideration, it has been decided that current Form III girls are eligible to apply for this exchange. The exchange will be a home-hosted exchange, where pupils will stay with a family in New York and will be expected to home-host their exchange sisters thereafter.

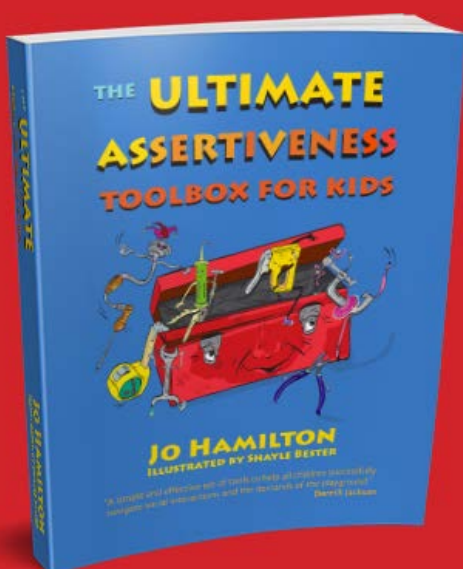
The exact dates of this programme are still being finalised, as we are awaiting final confirmation from Nightingale-Bamford School. However, the proposed date options are as follows: departing Johannesburg on 1 December and returning 22 December, or departing 4 January and returning 25 January.

It is likely that exchange students from Nightingale-Bamford School will come to Johannesburg during March/April 2018.

Please visit the Nightingale-Bamford School website (<http://www.nightingale.org/>) for further information about the school itself. Please collect an exchange application form from Sharon San in the Senior School reception. Application forms must be completed, together with the motivational essay and supporting documentation, by Friday 26 May.

Please speak to me for further information.

LAUREN FROST
EXCHANGE CO-ORDINATOR



MUSE MORNING

All parents are welcome to join us at the Muse Morning on Tuesday 30 May. Refreshments will be available from 07h15, for a prompt start at 07h30.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Senior Auditorium, Resource Centre

Speaker: Jo Hamilton, educational psychologist

Topic: "The Ultimate Assertiveness Toolbox for Kids" – Jo shares important insights and provides guidance for parents and teachers

Jo will have copies of her book available for R200; cash or credit cards accepted.

RSVP: sharon.san@stmmary.co.za

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



SINGING SISTAS



Combined choirs at Singing Sistas

Singing Sistas is an annual choral music festival that is hosted by the St Mary's Music department. Last term we enjoyed two evenings of music, which allowed choirs from various girls' schools to share their choral programmes. The philosophy of the Singing Sistas festival is not to compete, but to present each school's talent and nurture camaraderie

between the sister schools. This is always a vibrant, unifying cultural event that feeds the soul.

On the first evening, St Mary's was joined by Assumption Convent School, St Andrew's School for Girls, Brescia House School, and the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls. On the second evening St Stithians Girls' College, Kingsmead College, St Teresa's School and St Mary's featured on the programme. Each school brought its own unique approach and spirit to the music performed. The final items on both nights were two combined choral pieces.

Unongqawuse, a traditional isiZulu song, and an arrangement of the Celtic song The Sky and the Dawn and the Sun, were performed. St Mary's string and flute ensemble and two pianos accompanied with vigour.

This occasion allowed all to demonstrate their talents, and the girls showed great support for one another. All in all, it was a most memorable experience for all involved!

CWENGA
FORM V – HEAD OF CHOIR

JAZZ BAND WORKSHOP WITH VUMA LEVIN



Bernard van Rossum



Vuma Levin's quintet



Rising jazz star Vuma Levin

On 5 May, the jazz band was treated to a workshop by South African guitarist Vuma Levin and two of his colleagues, tenor saxophonist Bernard van Rossum and pianist Xavi Tores Vicente.

The trio performed Charlie Parker's Now's the Time and then asked to hear the St Mary's girls play. Sadly, our full rhythm section could not attend the workshop but the girls, nonetheless, launched into Abdullah Ibrahim's Soweto Is Where It's At.

Our guitar and bass teacher, Nick Rumpelt, picked up the school's double bass and held down the groove while the girls improvised. Vuma, Bernard and Xavi made gentle, helpful suggestions for ways of improvising and learning a song, and the workshop flew by with

everyone wanting another one soon!

Thank you to these amazing musicians for coming to our school, and sharing their musical knowledge and expertise with our young musicians. Catch Vuma's European band for a last time in Johannesburg this month, at The Orbit in Braamfontein on 23 May. They are really worth hearing!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMv2ejlJzA&feature=youtu.be>

CERI MOELWYN-HUGHES
MUSIC TEACHER

The South African Suzuki Association presents



*The National
Suzuki Concert*

2017

Sunday 21 May 2017
Linder Auditorium
11:00



Tickets available from WebTickets 086 111 0005
<http://www.theviolinacademy.co.za/sasaconcert2017/>



CAR PARK RAFFLE

Can you imagine the sheer pleasure of driving into school and not having to look for a parking?

ENTER OUR RAFFLE AND WIN YOUR OWN PARKING BAY

Please support the Grade 7s and buy a Raffle ticket

Contact Sally Faber on 082 897 5975
or fabersally@gmail.com

WINNERS OF THE GRADE 7 CAR PARK RAFFLE

The draw for our inaugural car park raffle was done by Dr Sarah Warner.

Congratulations to the following winners:

Term II 2017: Cheryl Buss
Term III 2017: Cath Davies
Term I 2018: Kirsten Benfield

We wish you many happy hours of stress-free parking!

To all the other parents, au pairs and designated drivers, please refrain from parking in the VIP bay. It is the first parking bay next to the bay for disabled drivers. Fines will be issued for parking in the VIP bay, and all monies will go to the school.

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



WATER POLO



In the April holidays, Courtney competed for the U17 SA girls' team at the EU Nations Junior Cup in Prague, Czech Republic. The team placed 2nd against England, losing 12-7 in the final.

Amber, class of 2015, has been competing for Fresno Pacific University in the Golden Coast Conference, and was named the Golden Coast Conference Newcomer of the Year.

To view the article, please click here:
<http://www.fpuathletics.com/news/2017/4/25/womens-water-polo-penny-tabbed-the-gcc-newcomer-of-the-year.aspx>

KELSEY WHITE
WATER POLO COACH

HOCKEY

The St Mary's hockey girls are in full swing with Term II hockey matches. The hockey girls participate in two leagues. The Grays League features the A and B teams, while the Mailk League has the C teams battling it out against many schools' A and B teams. In addition, the teams engage in friendlies against many other sides.

An exciting aspect of our hockey this year is the enthusiasm and eagerness from the Form I age group. After weeks of trials, we are happy to be able to select four teams, A to D. This shows the depth of talent and enthusiasm for playing hockey at St Mary's.

We were lucky enough to start our preparation in March with two friendlies. We travelled to Pretoria to play the tough Voortrekker Hoërskool, Hoërskool Waterkloof, and then hosted Beaulieu College. The start of Term II saw us playing Fourways High and HeronBridge College in our first league fixture, and a friendly against Voortrekker from Bethlehem.

The results are as follows:

	Wins	Losses	Draws
Grays League Fourways (only 1 st , 2 nd and U14A/B)	4	0	0
Mailk League HeronBridge	1	1	2
Friendlies Waterkloof	6	3	4
Voortrekker	0	0	2
Beaulieu	3	0	0
Fourways (3 rd)	1		

ROXY COETZEE-TURNER
HEAD OF HOCKEY

NETBALL

The 2017 netball season began with a bang! On the day of our return to school, the girls had league matches scheduled against St Stithians on their grounds. In preparation for these league matches, some of our teams had practices on Monday 1 May and Tuesday 2 May. Though the score does not reflect the fight the girls showed on court, we are very optimistic about the season ahead.

The match results for league matches against St Stithians were as follows:

U14 A: 22-12 to St Stithians
U14 B: 13-4 to St Mary's
U14 C: 12-0 to St Stithians
U15 A: 29-9 to St Stithians
U15 B: 23-9 to St Stithians

Owing to the Form III Life Sciences camp, the senior teams played their matches against St Stithians on Thursday evening. The results are as follows:

U16 A: 22-15 to St Stithians
U16 B: 11-7 to St Stithians
1 st team: 26-21 to St Stithians
2 nd team: 23-4 to St Stithians
St Mary's DSG, Pretoria

The following week, Wednesday 10 May, with a bit more practice time, we played against St Andrew's on their campus. The results were better and reflected the improving performance for our teams.

The match results for league matches against St Andrew's were as follows:

U14 A: 12-17 to St Andrew's
U14 B: 17-5 to St Mary's
U14 C: 24-3 to St Mary's
U15 A: 4-11 to St Andrew's
U15 B: 13-4 to St Mary's
U16 B: 21-9 to St Mary's
1 st team: 25-19 to St Mary's
3 rd team: 7-12 to St Andrew's

Well done to all the teams that have played matches thus far.

PALESA MASINGA
HEAD OF NETBALL

SAVE THE DATE

Date: Thursday 6 July

Time: 18h00

Venue: The Edge

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

beyond the river

TWO LIVES. ONE JOURNEY.

LEMOGANG TSIPA

GRANT SWANBY

HEARTLINES and QUIZZICAL PICTURES in association with THE NLC, THE NIVE, THE KZNFC, THE DOL and M-Net present "BEYOND THE RIVER"
STARRING LEMOGANG TSIPA, GRANT SWANBY, ISRAEL SIPHO, MAISEKY ZULU with EMILY CHILDI, KOOSI MONGAKE, GARTH BRIVIANBACH, NDOUHLE ZWANE, PAUL DU TOIT, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY MOONVEENN LEE, PRODUCED BY FLO BALLACK
WRITTEN BY TREVOR CALVERLEY, DIRECTED BY NICHOLAS COSTARAS, EDITED BY CHRIS LETCHER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CRAIG FREIMOND, ROBBIE THORPE, PRODUCED BY GARTH JAPHET, JENNIFER CHARLTON, BRAD FISHER, JAN DU PLESSIS
CASTING BY ROBBIE THORPE, HARRIET GAVSHON, RONNIE APTEKER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CRAIG FREIMOND



f/BeyondTheRiverMovie #BeyondTheRiverMovie @BeyondRiverFilm