



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

1 MARCH 2018



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St Mary's head girl, Reatlilwe with Deanne King at this year's matric dance

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

St Mary's has been a hive of activity over the past weeks.

The Form IV girls, under the guidance of Mrs Northmore, conceptualized and presented an exquisite matric dance with the theme *Quartz of Roses* for our matrics. The matric girls and their partners danced the evening away in a spirit of fun and great elegance.

Our girls have participated in numerous sporting, cultural and service activities that are recorded in this newsletter. Their success is as a result of discipline, hard work, perseverance and support from family and the school. When parents and schools share the same vision, together with mutual respect and trust, our children reap the rewards.

I should like to reflect on the individuals who form the group that I refer to as the school. They are the teachers and coaches who dedicate themselves to developing the girls in their care. These individuals are passionate about their vocation and their area of expertise; their own professional development remains a priority; they share their knowledge and skills with others through professional interaction at conferences and meetings; they believe in the potential of the young people with whom they interact; they stretch themselves to offer

opportunities for all our girls; they have high expectations and are committed to maintaining standards of excellence. Their working hours are long and all-consuming.

The St Mary's girls are the focus of all our efforts and they are the ones whom we want to celebrate and praise, however, it is worth remembering the teachers and coaches who work with the girls, as their enthusiasm and motivation is often the key factor in our school's success. Relationships between pupils and teachers and coaches and players are often complex, but they can also be the inspiration that forever determines an individual's choices and goals.

I want to thank the St Mary's staff for their dedication to creating a dynamic, rigorous and rich experience for the girls at St Mary's School.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGE 10 FOR ALL OUR
IMPORTANT NOTICES

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

³⁴ [Jesus] called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

- Mark 8:34-37

This passage reminds me of Jesus' Beatitudes, particularly Matthew 5:3: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Poverty in spirit is gripping on to nothing but Christ; knowing deeply that everything we have and are is because of God alone and holding lightly that which God gives us. To be poor in spirit is to be amazed, bowled over, because we have found ourselves in the kingdom of

heaven. It is, we find, not poverty at all. Surely this is what it means to pick up our cross and follow Christ, and to lose our lives for Christ's sake, thereby to save our lives?

This Lent, may Christ show us the ways in which we hold on to our lives – in which we are not poor in spirit. May Christ help us to let go of whatever we are trying to lug around with our cross – the cross is enough.

For our country, we pray that our leaders, together with ourselves, may lead in poverty of spirit.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

FROM THE PEER COUNSELLORS

Today is more amazing than *someday* will ever be.

Ambition is a powerful motivator and without it our lives would be meaningless, but people seem to be controlled by their ambition. As weird as it may sound, we learn more from our future than our past. For example: we learn how to treat others based on how we would want to be treated or we learn our motherly qualities from the ways we want to raise our children.

Many St Mary's girls are driven by ambition. We push ourselves to do our very best academically, culturally and in sports. We study hard so that our final marks are high enough to enable us to become successful

and vital members of society. We use our time here to collect tools for the future because we think that life starts only *later*.

But *later* is not a definite action. It's a season and it creeps in until one day that's where you live: *later*. We plan our "*someday*" specifically and we don't recognise when that "*someday*" has become *today*.

We should live for the present instead of that "*someday*". We should cherish the simplest and smallest things that happen.

NIVIA
FORM IV

"You don't get
the same moment
twice in life."

FORM I PICNIC IN THE PARK



The annual Form I Picnic in the Park became the Picnic in the Library as a result of Johannesburg's enviable soft, soaking rains. Each class came to school dressed in picnic-worthy outfits, which included sunhats, sunglasses and slops. Some girls enthusiastically embraced the out-of-class opportunity and arrived laden with picnic baskets and blankets. The best-dressed girl in each class received a St Mary's picnic blanket.

The purpose of the picnic was to expose the Form I girls to the wonderful range of teen fiction genres available. Mrs Douglas piled the library tables with tantalising titles to meet the diverse and discerning reading palates. The girls were encouraged to browse through the selection thoughtfully before choosing a novel.

The drinks and food tables groaned under the weight of the delicious picnic treats provided by the girls. Watermelon slices, meringue clouds and chocolate – everything was on offer. With an icy cup of juice, a plate of food and a good book, the girls explored the nooks and crannies of the library to find a perfect reading spot. The Form I



teachers hope that this is the beginning of a long and lasting love of the library.

BELINDA WILLIAMS
FORM I ENGLISH TEACHER

POETS IN TRAINING



The beginning of 2018 heralds the introduction of slam poetry and Split Image to St Mary's. The Split Image initiative is intended to create a poetry community where school children can express themselves freely. By meeting on a weekly basis with local poet and CEO of Split Image, Dali Luthuli, each girl's writing and performance potential is nurtured. In addition to this, professional and seasoned mentors who have performed globally as well as locally host workshops biweekly. This past weekend the girls had the privilege of working with Xabiso Vili, who is an award-winning writer and performer who has toured South Africa, India, the US and the UK performing poetry and running

workshops in schools, universities and juvenile detention facilities. He believes that art is a vehicle for social change and internal growth and is constantly developing theories to develop and aid the South African spoken word scene. The girls have displayed fantastic initiative and courage in their writing thus far. There is little doubt that these poets in training are going to wow audiences at our annual STAMP festival in July.

JANE MCMURRAY
HEAD OF CULTURALS

INNOV@TION HUB



Instead of teaching our children to learn and remember facts and content that can be accessed from a hand-held device in a fraction of a second, we aim to raise 21st-century pupils with the ability to engage with and leverage information. According to the Partnership for 21st Century Skills (P21), the most important skills required for a 21st-century education are referred to as the "Four Cs": critical thinking, creative thinking, communication and collaboration.

Caring thinking complements this picture. Advocates of caring thinking hold that analysis of subject matter through critical thinking alone is inadequate. Simply expressed, caring thinking is about thinking while engaging your personal values, beliefs and ethics. Caring thinking is about understanding and valuing oneself as well as others, and respecting other viewpoints even if those views are not in line with your own.

Caring thinking asks the thinker to examine and identify her own emotions while, at the same time, recognising that her feelings about herself and the world around her may be complex. The caring thinker must grapple with questions of what she values in herself and others and see beyond the superficial value to intrinsic value. The caring

thinker must understand the difference between what is "real" and what is "ideal" and begin to find ways to bridge that gap. All importantly, the caring thinker asks, "What actions can I take?" thereby turning her awareness into something tangible and becoming a change-agent in society.

In e⁴ girls have made a humble start on their journeys to becoming caring thinkers by creating an e⁴ Code of Care. Through the construction of this document, the girls were encouraged to think about and express the way in which they would like to be treated as a member of a group, and, by extension, how they should treat others. Ideas such as respecting others' views, encouraging one another and listening and taking turns featured prominently. Setting these expectations for themselves and others laid the foundation for group dynamics inside and outside the classroom. In addition, it will provide a valuable point of departure as we delve into morally complex academic themes during the course of the year.

CLARE SEARLE
CURRICULUM INNOVATION LEADER

STREET ART

Recently, the Form II girls had the pleasure of being taught street art by Werens Puig, a street artist from Sebedell, Barcelona. Puig has been practising graffiti since before he knew that it was graffiti. Coming from an industrial city that was devoid of any colour, beauty and nature, he began to paint flowers on old buildings. The authorities removed the flowers regularly so he created a book that was a document of those flowers and sent it to the city council to show them that it was not about making a place ugly but about making a place beautiful and alive. Since then, he has received commissions to paint his art all over the world.

During his visit to South Africa, Puig taught our girls the importance of responsible street art and how it is a possible career choice that can be legal and enjoyable. Street art has a far-reaching influence to share an appreciation for a great talent with the world. The girls made their own stencils and were regaled regarding the implications of being a street artist. They learned about the importance of passion and the courage to keep doing what they love until they succeed.

BIANCA PARIRENYATWA
ARTS AND CULTURE TEACHER

SCHOOL PRODUCTION



"Stronger than lover's love is lover's hate. Incurable, in each, the wounds they make."

Euripides, *Medea*, 431 BCE

The 2018 St Mary's major production is a modern interpretation of *Medea*. The story may be old but the message is as relevant today as it was all those years ago. Set in a post-apocalyptic wasteland, this community of disenfranchised women is having to fight and fend for survival. Medea is an enigma to the chorus of women who want to support her but realise her grief has become dangerous and obsessive. They echo the audience's fears of what may happen.

Euripides' *Medea* has become the most performed Greek tragedy of modern times. Crimes of passion are common in our society and so this play resonates strongly with contemporary audiences. Ben Power's translation for the National Theatre production in 2014 brings a fresh

and modern perspective of a woman struggling to find her place and her voice in a patriarchal society. Euripides often grapples with the darker side of existence, with plot elements of suffering, revenge and fate. His characters were often motivated by strong passions and intense emotions. Medea is no exception. Enraged by being betrayed by her husband, for whom she sacrificed so much and was banished by the king, Medea plots the darkest and most incomprehensible revenge.

The play runs from 15 to 17 March. Booking can be made through Quicket.

JANET BAYLIS
HOD DRAMATIC ARTS

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



TENNIS



St Mary's Invitational team



St Mary's 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 and Ms Murray took five U15 tennis players to participate in the U15 tennis festival at St Mary's DSG, Pretoria.

The St Mary's tennis festival was held from 16 to 18 February and St Mary's played host to teams from Hoërskool Menlo Park, St Mary's Kloof, St Cyprian's, St Andrew's School, Somerset College, The Wykeham Collegiate and Pretoria High School for Girls. The tennis was of an extremely high standard throughout the duration of the festival.

The St Mary's team, consisting of Sarah, Ruth, Amukelani, Nina and Hannah, did extremely well, beating The Wykeham Collegiate, 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 lost three of the four singles matches in a close and nail-biting manner, losing in the third set championship tiebreakers. Hoërskool Menlo were the worthy winners and tenaciously defended the title won in 2017.

Thank you to all the staff, parents, tennis captains and teachers who came 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. Thank you to Ms Murray for her assistance in running the festival. All the players and coaches from the visiting schools were amazed by the facilities and overwhelmed by the St Mary's hospitality. The festival was a wonderful way to showcase our school.

The U15 team, comprising of Sarah, Hannah, Mia, Lexi and Isha, also impressed with their play in the St Mary's DSG, Pretoria, festival. St Mary's beat St Mary's DSG, Pretoria, Roedean, St Andrew's and Uplands in a very convincing manner. None of the players lost a match in the duration of the event. Thank you to Ms Murray for taking the players and for the encouragement and coaching throughout the weekend.

The tennis season is drawing to a close and well done to all the players on the continued effort given at practices, in the school championships and in the league matches.

League results

13 February

St Mary's A beat Trinity House A 52-11
 St Mary's B beat Trinity House B 32-31
 St Mary's C lost to Roedean A 12-51
 St Mary's D beat Roedean B 35-28
 St Mary's E lost to St Dominic's A 29-34
 St Mary's F lost to St Dominic's B 29-34
 St Mary's G lost to Randburg A 9-54
 St Mary's H beat Randburg B 34-29

20 February

St Mary's A beat St Stithians A 42-21
 St Mary's B beat St Stithians B 42-21
 St Mary's C Bye Holy Rosary cancelled
 St Mary's D Bye Holy Rosary cancelled
 St Mary's E lost to Redhill A 23-39
 St Mary's F beat Redhill B 43-20
 St Mary's G lost to St Dunstan's A 9-54
 St Mary's H beat St Mary's I 27-23 friendly match

RENÉ PLANT
 HEAD OF TENNIS

WATER POLO



Abigail



Amy

This past weekend, St Mary's water polo sent an U15/U16 team through to the Reef Cup 1st Team Water Polo Tournament, hosted at St Stithians.

The junior team competed against first teams from around Gauteng and placed eighth out of 16 teams. They came very close to beating Rand Park High School to qualify for the fifth and sixth place game,

however, lost narrowly by one goal in the last minute of the game. Well done to all the junior water polo players who competed for St Mary's. It was great exposure for the young players and exciting to see what is in store for the future of St Mary's water polo.

KELSEY WHITE
WATER POLO COACH

BASKETBALL

Traditionally, our fixtures against Pretoria Girls' High are tough. This season was no different and the 1st team result could have gone either way. St Mary's led for most of the match but Pretoria fought back and ultimately the result was determined in the last 10 seconds of play.

Our juniors had mixed results with the U15 girls winning their match and the U16 and U14 girls losing theirs.

14 February vs Pretoria Girls' High

U14: 8-11

U15: 10-6

U16: 6-26

1st team: 24-22

Both the U15 and 1st teams had a successful afternoon of basketball against Crawford Sandton. The U15 girls fought back well for their draw. The 1st team put in a structurally sound performance in the both offence and defence and this accounted for their win.

21 February vs Crawford Sandton

U15: 8-8

1st team: 25-6

TARYN DE WINNAAR
HEAD OF BASKETBALL



Team talk

SWIMMING



Micaela in action for the red team

Most of the swimmers have continued to crawl out of bed and make it to morning training despite the weather being dull and gloomy.

The last gala before the grand finale of inter-high, was the night gala. This 10-team gala was held at St Mary's. We swam an equal strength red and white team to try to encourage some hard racing between our girls. By the sound of the cheers when we announced the final results, I think we achieved our aim. With two races to go, we were placed first and second with the red team on 294 and the white team on 293.

The final result is as follows:

1 st St Mary's Red	324
2 nd St Andrew's A	316



St Mary's passion

3rd Holy Rosary A 313

4th St Mary's White 311

We have a few sessions left before inter-high and hope that the girls make full use of them in order to hit peak performance on the day. Our B team will swim on Thursday 8 March at the A inter-high gala and our A team will swim on Saturday 10 March at the Premier inter-high gala. Both of these galas take place at the Ellis Park swimming pool. Good luck, swimmers

QUIX
HEAD OF SPORT

EQUESTRIAN



Nina



Hannah



Erin

St Mary's is establishing a proud tradition of striving for excellence in equestrian sport. This year, we started the season with a Senior School team of 10 riders. The first of the four Johannesburg Sanesa inter-schools' qualifiers was held on the weekend of 17 to 18 February at Eaton Farm, Midrand. Many thanks to Ms Wood for coming to support. I was very proud of how our riders performed despite the rough going in some arenas, which resulted in slips and falls, as well as clashes between classes. The second qualifier will follow on 17 to 18 March. If there is anyone who is interested in joining the team please can you contact either India or Lia.

The top five results from Qualifier 1 are as follows:

Level 1

Equitation: Hannah joint 3rd

In-hand Utility: Erin 4th

Working Hunter: Erin 3rd

Level 2

Dressage: Nicola 2nd and 3rd, Lia 3rd and 2nd

Level 3

Dressage: Nicola 5th

In Hand Utility: Hannah 2nd

Working Riding: Hannah 3rd, Erin 5th

Level 5

Dressage: India 3rd and 5th

Dressage Freestyle: India 2nd

Performance Riding: Nicola 1st

Level 6

Dressage: Lia 1st and 1st

Prix Caprilli: India 1st

Level 7

Performance Riding: Nicola 1st, Lia 2nd, India 3rd

Show Jumping: India 2nd and 3rd

Working Hunter: India 3rd

Working Riding: Lia 2nd, Nicola 3rd

LIA
CAPTAIN

NOTICES

MUSE MORNING

Parents of children of all ages are encouraged to join us at our next Muse Morning on Tuesday 27 March.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Seminar room, The Edge

Speaker: Pierre Brouard and Judith Ancer are clinical psychologists and popular speakers. They will be in conversation regarding gender issues.

Topic: "LGBTQIA+: a confusing alphabet soup or an appropriate

reflection of human complexity and variation?"

Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Refreshments will be available at the back of the seminar room. Space is limited in the seminar room so please remember to RSVP.

RSVP: Sharon.san@stmary.co.za

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Upcoming TPA events

- 3-8 Aug- Silver & Gold Adventure (Hike) – Kaapsehoop
- 7-11 Aug- Gold residential project- Hartebeespoortdam
- 21-25 Aug- Silver & Gold Adventure (Hike)-Drakensberg
- 28 Aug-2 Sept- Silver & Gold Adventure (River raft)- Orange river
- 1-3 Sept- Bronze Adventure (Hike) –Kingdom trails
- 2-7 Oct- Silver & Gold Adventure (River raft)- Tugela river

For more information on any of the programs, or if you are interested in a custom made adventure please contact our office on 072 275 0579 or info@chameleon-adventures.co.za

To find more documents, please see the app – general notices – Senior School or email Melanie Blair at melanie.blair@stmary.co.za

Our congratulations are extended to Lia and Rebecca on achieving bronze awards.

ST MARY'S INVESTEC HOCKEY FESTIVAL



2018 save the rhino raffle: R100 per ticket

Win one of three magnificent prizes

- A three-night stay for two guests at MalaMala Game Reserve, valued at R65 000
- A three-night stay for two guests at Mashatu Game Reserve, valued at R46 000
- A two-night stay for two guests at Camp Jabulani, Kapama Game Reserve, valued at R72 000

Since 2013, the St Mary's Investec Hockey Festival has contributed over R258 000 to this cause.

Please speak to Quix or any of the hockey coaches to purchase tickets.



Rhino being rehabilitated at HESC (Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre)