

# SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

21 SEPTEMBER 2018

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This morning, our Senior School girls celebrated Heritage Day with a moving Eucharist

### FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

The end of another school year looms as we enter the fourth week of the Michaelmas Term. In an effort to ease some pressure on the demands of the usual schedule and to facilitate opportunities for experiential learning, we began this term with a special programme. The Form V girls have been writing preliminary examinations, the Form IV girls completed a leadership course, the Form III girls have been engaged in designing and planning their fashion show, the Form II girls were at bush school for a fortnight and the Form I girls had an integrated programme for three days. The teachers were also involved in a number of professional development opportunities.

You will notice that work has progressed on the new sports facility. This may cause some disruption during the next months but we are managing the construction schedule in relation to the school's needs. The facility will provide much-needed basketball courts on campus and will serve as a second AstroTurf in winter and an athletics facility in summer. St Mary's has limited space and there is much pressure on facilities to accommodate both the Junior and Senior Schools' co-curricular programmes. The multi-functional field will ease our scheduling woes and provide more equitable access for all sports teams. The next area of focus for upgrade will be the Consumer Studies classrooms and kitchens.

Today, we marked Heritage Day with a Eucharist in The Edge. It was a spiritual and deeply moving service that celebrated the transformative power and value of diversity in our school.

May I remind parents that the St Mary's School app is continually updated with schedules and information which should help you in planning your daughter's schedule. It also features a list of all staff and their email addresses for ease of contact.

> DEANNE KING HEAD OF SCHOOL

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGES 14, 15 AND 16 FOR ALL OUR IMPORTANT NOTICES

#### **FROM THE CHAPLAIN**

<sup>10</sup> And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"<sup>12</sup> But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

Matthew 9:9-13

This text describes a gathering which would not ordinarily be found eating together. Christ's was a ministry of drawing in and welcoming each, creating the kingdom of God on Earth. Tax collectors, women, children, foreigners, and those with skin diseases feared to be contagious – all these Christ drew in.

As we celebrate Heritage Day, I reflect on my experience of celebrating the same day a year ago. In my interactions with members of our St Mary's community, some felt Heritage Day was about what we have in common. Others felt that Heritage Day is a celebration of the beauty of how different we all are – the richness of our diversity which must not be lost in our celebration of what we have in common. It is part of the identity of South Africa that there is such diversity present. These two interpretations of Heritage Day are not that different: a celebration of our diversity is a celebration of what we have in common.

The Eucharist, as a re-enactment of the last meal Christ shared with those around him, is just such a celebration. It is also a vision of the kingdom here on Earth which we are called to co-create, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Each time we go out from the Eucharist, we need to be aware that we commit to bringing this vision about in our everyday interactions and surrounds.

#### REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS CHAPLAIN

#### MEET THE BOARD

The Venerable Moses Thabethe



I was brought up as a Catholic and my formative years were spent in a monastery training towards the ordained ministry. After about nine years of formation, after completion of a Diploma in Philosophy, while studying towards my theological degree at St Joseph's Theological Institute at Cedara, Pietermaritzburg, I decided to leave the Catholic Church and was employed by the Anglican Diocese of KwaZulu-Natal to work in the Vocational Training Department. I was ordained a deacon in the Diocese of KwaZulu-Natal in 2002 and a priest in 2003. During this time, I completed an Honours Degree in Theology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and later, a Master's Degree in Education while being rector of Greyville, Durban, and subsequently rector of Westville. My move to Johannesburg took place in 2012 when I became the chaplain at Bishop Bavin School in Bedfordview. In 2014, I was appointed rector of St Thomas, Linden. My interest in vocational formation led to my appointment as rector of the School For Ministries for the Diocese of Johannesburg. This involves leading a team that oversees the process of discernment for the ordained ministry from exploration of a vocation to post-ordination training and placement of curates - a ministry that is very close to my heart. I am currently, the Archdeacon to the Ordinary (to the Bishop of Johannesburg).

My interests are: reading, studying, listening to music and on my day off you will find me cycling at the Cradle of Humankind. My children, Hope and Lungelo, live with their mother in Durban and we get to spend time together during school holidays when they come to stay with me. I look forward to getting to know the rest of the Board members of St Mary's School and participating in the life of the school as the Bishop's Representative on the Board.

#### HONOURS BLAZERS

Our congratulations are extended to the following girls who were awarded honours blazers at the end of Term II:

CULTURAL

#### ACADEMIC





#### Georgina

SERVICE





Tanatswa

#### **SPORTS**

Keara





Jemma



Kiara





#### India

### **OXBRIDGE**

In July and August, a number of Form II and Form III pupils participated in the Oxbridge Academic Programs' offerings at Barnard College in New York, US, and Cambridge University and Oxford University in the UK.

Nicola

The programs are designed to allow students to immerse themselves in their new hometowns while experiencing authentic university life in these iconic academic institutions. Law students in Cambridge were exposed to the proceedings of the Crown Court as they reflected on the justice system, while students in the Oxford Tradition Neuropsychology class visited the Oxford Centre for Human Brain Activity. These are just some examples of the experiential learning opportunities afforded to our students who also studied subjects such as Architecture, CSI Oxford, Espionage, Fashion, Filmmaking and Medical Science.

Beyond exploring the cities from the perspective of their major and minor classes, students in the UK were also given the opportunity to go on field trips to London and Stonehenge. When not in class, they were afforded a range of opportunities to extend their learning further. With guest

speakers on topics ranging from hostage-negotiation to photojournalism, information sessions on international college admissions, college tours and visits to museums, the opportunities for learning were endless.

There was still time to play and students played as hard as they worked. Whether supporting Cambridge United Football Club or The Mets baseball team, dancing at the weekly themed bops, trying their hands at punting or simply exploring the cities with their new friends from more than 60 different countries, there was never a dull moment.

It is certain that each girl had an experience she will carry with her forever.

For anyone interested in participating in the 2019 programs, there will be an information session on Tuesday 25 September at 18h30 in the Wantage Auditorium. Details of the programs as well as the application process will be discussed. Please contact Nina Nathanson

(nina.nathanson@stmaryschool.co.za) should you require further information.

#### **OXBRIDGE**





Adda at The Telegraph in London

Shivani modelling in the programme fashion show at Barnard College

Activity



Sedibelo in her Oxford Tradition filmmaking class

5 1

Ande, Emma, Hannah, Tali and Claire outside Oriel College, Oxford

#### **INNOV@TION HUB**

Ande, Claire and classmates at The Royal Court of Justice



#### e<sup>4</sup> Research Quest 2018

Research is a key skill in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The importance of this skill cannot be overstated in a world that is changing exponentially. Whichever path our girls choose to pursue in life, they will have to continuously access, select and evaluate information, and synthesise their thoughts to create new understanding.

This year, we have taken our e<sup>4</sup> research module to new heights by creating and designing our own Research Quest website. Embracing a fully digital format allows several benefits: all research-related tasks from selecting and analysing a topic, locating and assessing the usefulness and reliability of information, through to producing a fully referenced research essay are centrally located and managed through the website. Additionally, we have used the website to embrace and infuse the 21<sup>st</sup>-century digital-age pedagogies of collaboration, conversation, curation and amplification through links to tools offered by several different platforms.

Furthermore, the move to a completely digital set-up offers more opportunity to engage the current generation of "digital natives" through a format that appeals to them but also by making use of the opportunity to gamify the process. To this end, pupils are awarded digital badges for completing each stage of the process, and can earn additional stars for excellent work. They are able to view their progress and accrued badges on a leader board. On the leader board they are individually represented by an avatar of their own creation, thereby maintaining their anonymity within the group. Their chosen avatar embodies a specific research superpower and is designed to activate their imaginations and inspire them on a different level. The adoption of a gamified approach engages pupils by bringing a sense of fun and making what is really a very challenging set of tasks less daunting and more appealing.

Many of the pupils' chosen avatar names have in turn inspired us as educators and provided a point of conversation between teacher and pupil that encourages the development of a more personal relationship. I thank our Ed-Tech leader, Linda Bradfield, for the many hours she has spent creating the Research Quest website, and the e<sup>4</sup> teachers for being willing to try something new, as always.

Further thanks are extended to Deanne King for allowing me to attend the Learning Innovation Africa conference recently where I presented this concept to the delegates

> CLARE SEARLE CURRICULUM INNOVATION LEADER

#### DEBATING



Marubini, Felicity, Nyasha, Ande, Ameerah, Folasade

Following a successful run at the SACEE Championships in the previous terms, the junior team was one of the 40 schools invited to participate in the Gauteng Provincial Schools' Debating Championships on 15 and 16 September. The demanding six rounds of predominantly policy debates were spread out over two days at Parktown High School for Girls and Pretoria High School for Girls. The team soldiered on and adjusted well to the new format of seven-minute debates, securing a spot in the Gauteng Provincial Schools' Debating Championships Plate Break trophy rounds in October.

Thank you to all the staff who came along to support the team over the weekend.

#### SEIPATI MOHAPI HEAD OF DEBATING

| ROUND | OPPONENT                           | SIDE | MOTION  | RESULT |
|-------|------------------------------------|------|---|--------|
| 1     | Jan de Klerk High School           | орр  | THW ban home-SCHOOLING IN RSA   | Won    |
| 2     | St Teresa's School                 | opp  | THS sports awards systems that focus on participation rather than success   | Won    |
| 3     | HeronBridge College                | prop | THW allow individuals under the legal age to vote in elections based on their performance in a political knowledge test | Won    |
| 4     | Woodlands International<br>College | prop | THW allow pupils to elect the principals of their schools every five years  | Lost   |
| 5     | Parktown High School for<br>Girls  | prop | THW criminalise the payment of ransom   | Lost   |
| 6     | Randfontein High School            | opp  | THB that government-funded schools<br>should not offer art-based subjects such as<br>art, drama and music               | Lost   |

### FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Our congratulations are extended to Veneka who achieved a distinction for her Rockschool Grade 8 Popular Vocals examination recently. She is also commended for achieving the highest marks nationally for this examination.

DUDLEY TROLLOPE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

### SOUNDING CITIES

An exciting collaborative project called Sounding Cities was performed in Johannesburg in August, organised by South African clarinettist, Luke Newby. Now living in London after postgraduate studies in Birmingham, Newby secured funding from the South African Music Rights Organisation to commission a piece by Johannesburg-based composer Clare Loveday, called City Deep. The work premiered at William Kentridge's Centre for the Less Good Idea in Maboneng on 16 August with Luke Newby (clarinet) and Naomi Sullivan (saxophone), accompanied by a film by artist Nandipha Mntambo. Loveday and Mntambo have collaborated before to critical acclaim. Newby and Sullivan also gave two recitals of pieces inspired by location and dislocation, which evoked the affect of cities on the people who live in them in provocative and exciting sonic ways, at the Wits Atrium in Braamfontein and The Bioscope in Maboneng. These works by South African composers Loveday and Andile Khumalo were performed alongside those by Birmingham composers Rob Jones, Howard Skemptom and others. Mntambo's fast-paced visuals of iconic Johannesburg architecture intertwined with suggestive, sometimes fractured images of lives lived alongside, was a stunning accompaniment to the performers' artistry and Loveday's simply brilliant piece, City Deep.

It was with delight that I accepted Luke Newby's request to organise some masterclasses and workshops during the *Sounding Cities* tour. On 17 August, St Mary's hosted a morning of teaching and playing with Newby and Sullivan, who is an extremely accomplished saxophonist, recording artist and Professor of Saxophone at the Birmingham Conservatoire (UK). Several St Mary's clarinet and saxophone students participated with great enthusiasm alongside students from other institutions including the National School of the Arts and Tswane University of Technology. I also facilitated a workshop at Wits University where I tutor saxophone and clarinet, which was a wonderful experience for all. In the photograph, you may recognise 2016 head girl Shayna van Vüren, who is still studying the clarinet as she reads a Bachelor of Arts at Wits. Newby and Sullivan also worked with students at the MIAGI Music and Community Centre in Soweto.

Attending masterclasses and workshops can be a fun and stimulating experience for young musicians. The St Mary's students have had some particularly exciting opportunities recently in this regard, which included the tour to the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival, National Saxophone Symposium and attending masterclasses with Doug Masek, Head of Saxophone at UCLA (US), and Matthew Lombard (SA) in the second term.

Sounding Cities is an ongoing project with performances in Birmingham (UK) planned for this November. We wish the artists involved well in this exciting collaboration, and are grateful to Luke Newby and Naomi Sullivan for the inspiring morning they spent with our students.

#### CERI MOELWYN-HUGHES HEAD OF WOODWIND STUDIES



Wits students Shayna, Lerato, Jemma and Lesego performing with Luke and Naomi



Wits students Lerato and Shayna with Luke

### FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

#### TENNIS



The Form I girls in the GH tennis team who beat St Stithians CD in a convincing manner

Results 11 September

St Mary's A Bye St Mary's B Bye St Mary's C lost to Holy Rosary A 13-50 St Mary's D beat Holy Rosary B 34-29 St Mary's E lost to Assumption Convent A 21-42

#### I welcome all the tennis players back to a term jam-packed with fixtures, tours, festivals and junior inter-high competitions. Congratulations to Ruth Moore (captain), Tamsin Hart and Nina Patience (vice-captains) on being selected to lead the tennis teams. I know that the team standards of "sportsmanship", for the "love of the game" and "being a team player" will be upheld throughout the season.

It has been a rapid start to the term with our first fixtures being played after just one practice. Well done to the G and H tennis team for beating St Stithians C and D in a convincing manner. This result is very promising as all the players in these two teams are in Form I.

Good luck to the 1<sup>st</sup> tennis team that will be participating in the annual Hilton/St Anne's doubles and mixed doubles festival from 22 to 24 September.

Congratulations to Tamsin Hart who reached the semi-finals of the singles in the ITF U18 tournament in Mauritius and who won the doubles event.

St Mary's F beat Assumption Convent B 38-25 St Mary's G beat St Stithians C 40-23 St Mary's H beat St Stithians D 57-6

RENÉ PLANT HEAD OF TENNIS

#### BASKETBALL



Team with Shekinah

Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School Tournament

The 1st basketball team played in the Pietermaritzburg Girls' High Tournament from 3 to 5 August. The team was excited and well prepared after a successful season at the beginning of the year and they were looking forward to the challenge of playing against other top schools from around the country.

Our girls went on to win all their pool games. This included positive results against The Wykeham Collegiate, St Anne's, Carter High School, The Glen



Team with medals and trophy

and St John's which secured us a semi-final against The Heritage School from Zimbabwe. They were tough opposition but our girls played exceptionally well and went on to win 34-24.

We played against Lereko Secondary School, from Bloemfontein, in the final. Lereko are a very smart and capable team and they outplayed us. Our girls did their very best, but Lereko were well-deserved winners in the end.

All in all, we had a successful weekend away.

This was the last school fixture for the matrics in our team and their contributions have been invaluable. They have led by example. The team as a whole displayed exemplary behaviour off the court and they had great fun together. We were very happy with our results and we look forward to an exciting season this term.

Fixtures against Michael Mount - 12 September

Our U14, U16 and 1<sup>st</sup> teams played against Michael Mount in the first round of fixtures this season. The junior teams lost their matches against very well equipped and physical opposition. The 1<sup>st</sup> team match was extremely exciting. Michael Mount took an early lead but our girls remained composed and consistent throughout the match and went on to win 21-18.

#### St Peter's Tournament

A new look 1<sup>st</sup> team played in the St Peter's Tournament from 14 to 16 September. We played seven pool matches, winning five and losing two. These results secured us a place in the quarterfinals where we played a physically dominant team from the Dominican Convent School. The match could have gone either way but our team held on to win by one point in the end. We then came up against Norkem in the semi - finals. They are an excellent basketball team and were well - deserved winners in the end.

Our girls played well throughout the weekend. We had to work hard for each win, making the semi – finals was an achievement in itself. We would like to commend the players, especially the new ones, on creating a good team attitude and having a willingness to fight to the end. Many valuable lessons were learnt, experience was gained and much fun was had.

#### TARYN DE WINNAAR HEAD OF BASKETBALL



1st team - St Peter's Tournament

#### DIVING



Towards the end of last term, Michaela Bouter, South African's number one ranked diver, came to train and coach the St Mary's divers. To the girls' excitement, Michaela had recently returned to South Africa from competing in the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games.

Michaela has been diving in the US for the past four years. She has competed in multiple World Senior Championships as well as in World Cup and is hoping to qualify for the 2020 Olympic Games.

Michaela is moving to England to coach and train in the world-class facility in London and will be coached by Jane Figueiredo, the coach of world-renowned Tom Daley.

It was a privilege to have such a motivational person work with the divers. The girls were inspired by her presence and learned a great deal.

> KATE SHEPHERD HEAD OF DIVING

### SWIMMING

Our congratulations are extended to Jade on winning a bronze medal in the 50m breaststroke at the South African Short Course Championships held in Durban during August. She also had some other excellent swims and some new personal best times. It is also most exciting to hear that Jade has been awarded an athletic scholarship to the University of Arizona where she will further her education and her swimming.

Well done, Jade.

QUIX HEAD OF SPORT



Jade on the podium with her bronze medal

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Congratulations to Jenna Kimber who was selected to compete for the Gauteng U16 team. On Saturday 8 September, she ran in the South African Cross Country Championships in Port Elizabeth.

QUIX HEAD OF SPORT

### WATER POLO

Some of the past and present water polo stars of St Mary's have been busy over the school holidays.

Courtney (matric) represented South Africa at the U18 FINA World Championships in Belgrade, Serbia. Courtney won Most Valued Player in her team's match against Argentina where they won 11-8.

Old Girls, Daniela (2017) and Amica (2010), as well as St Mary's coach Kelsey, played for the South African Ladies' water polo team in Sergut, Russia. This was Daniela's first appearance in the South African Ladies' team and Amica was made one of the vice-captains. Water polo made a splash this past weekend when the U14 girls won three out of four of their festival matches at St Peter's College and Kingsmead.

The 1<sup>st</sup> team participated in round one of the Old Mutual Cup hosted by Roedean School. The results were a 9-1 loss to St Stithians and an 18-3 win against Parktown Girls' High School.

> KELSEY WHITE WATER POLO COACH



Courtney – U18 South African team at U18 Fina World Championships in Belgrade, Serbia



Daniela and Amica (Old Girls in the South African ladies' team at the Fina Women's Water Polo World Cup in Surgut, Russia)



Nicola in the goals for the 1<sup>st</sup> team

### HOCKEY



Two of our successful Grays league teams (U14 A and 1st team after their annual match)

We received the results of the Grays hockey league this week and congratulate all the A and B team players. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, U16 A, U16 B, U15 A, U15 B, U14 A and U14 B teams all participated in the Grays League. The U15 A team placed second in their section. We won all other leagues and were 73 points ahead of second-placed St Stithians (see results table below).

| GRAYS LEAGUE |              | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | U16 A | U16 B | U15 A | U15 B | U14 A | U14 B | TOTAL<br>POINTS |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| 1            | St Mary's    | 22              | 24              | 24    | 24    | 19    | 22    | 24    | 24    | 182             |
| 2            | St Stithians | 21              | 14              | 11    | 19    | 3     | 11    | 18    | 13    | 110             |
| 3            | Kingsmead    | 11              | 5               | 9     | 12    | 22    | 15    | 3     | 12    | 89              |
| 4            | Helpmekaar   | 0               | 1               | 10    | 12    | 16    | 21    | 9     | 17    | 86              |
| 5            | Roedean      | 3               | 7               | 6     | 14    | 15    | 4     | 17    | 19    | 85              |
| 6            | St Andrew's  | 12              | 13              | 3     | 3     | 12    | 11    | 16    | 12    | 82              |
|              | Northcliff   | 9               | 14              | 21    | 14    | 13    | 3     | 3     | 5     | 82              |
| 7            | Fourways     | 11              | 17              | 13    | 10    | 15    | 2     | 3     | 9     | 80              |
| 8            | Brescia      | 15              | 5               | 1     | 4     | 1     | 8     | 9     | 4     | 47              |

The Grays league has been running for 11 years and this is the 11<sup>th</sup> year that St Mary's has won the A league. Congratulations to all coaches and players who have been involved over this time.

QUIX HEAD OF SPORT

### FENCING

Congratulations to Jessica who received a gold medal for U15 and a silver medal for U17 at the GFA Championships, during the August holidays.

QUIX HEAD OF SPORT



#### **EQUESTRIAN**





Erin: first place Working Riding Level 3

India: second and third places Show Jumping Level 7

SANESA Gauteng finals were held in the beginning of August. The top five results were as follows: Level 1 Handy Hunter: Robyn Joint 1<sup>st</sup> In Hand Utility: Erin 1<sup>st</sup>

Level 2 Novice Dressage: Nicola D 2<sup>nd</sup>, Lia 3<sup>rd</sup>

Level 3 Prix Caprilli: Erin 2<sup>nd</sup> Working Riding: Erin 1<sup>st</sup>

Level 4 Equitation: Nicola D 4<sup>th</sup>

Level 5 Dressage Elementary Medium: India 1<sup>st</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Dressage Elementary Medium Freestyle: India 1<sup>st</sup>

Level 6 Prix Caprilli: India 1<sup>st</sup>

### ATHLETICS

The athletics season got under way on the first day of the term although some girls attended the training sessions, offered by our new coaches, Anton and Monique Bouwer, during the holidays. It was wonderful to see many of the familiar faces back from last year's team and very exciting to welcome so many talented and enthusiastic Form I girls. We competed in our first meeting at the stadium in Germiston on Thursday last week. I was most pleased with the way in which we acquitted ourselves. Owing to Bush School, we had no Form II athletes but our girls willingly attempted different races and events where we had spaces.

> QUIX HEAD OF SPORT





Lia and Nicola D: second and third places Level 7 Working Riding

Nicola B: fourth place Working Riding Level 7

Level 7 Performance Riding: Lia 2<sup>nd</sup> Show Jumping: India 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Working Hunter: India joint 4<sup>th</sup> Working Riding: Lia 2<sup>nd</sup>, Nicola D 3<sup>rd</sup>, Nicola B 4<sup>th</sup>

I am extremely pleased with the passion and perseverance shown by all seven of the St Mary's Senior School riders who represented the SANESA Gauteng Johannesburg Region. The seven riders, including myself, who have qualified to represent SANESA Gauteng at Nationals in the beginning of October are as follows:

Nicola B Nicola D Robyn Erin Hannah India

Good luck for Nationals!

LIA EQUESTRIAN CAPTAIN



Ruth always focused in her middle distance events



Jade finishing strongly in the 400m

### **RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS**







Meadow

Jessica

The senior rhythmic gymnasts participated in competitions at Gold Reef in Johannesburg, Ocean in Durban, KSG in Klerksdorp, Central Gauteng in Johannesburg and Gauteng in Pretoria.

Five Senior School girls will represent Gauteng at the South African Games in October in individual competitions and the open dance group event. They will be joined by Felicia from our Waverley Girls' programme and five gymnasts from the Junior School.

The five senior gymnasts are: Romy, Jessica, Oke, Lesedi and Meadow.

Caitlin has been appointed as the first rhythmic gymnastics senior captain for 2019.



#### LINDA GIURICICH HEAD OF RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Romy



Oke

Lesedi

#### ROWING

The new rowing season began with St Mary's rowing club's finest, yet most gruelling training experience it has to offer: August camp. The entire club faithfully endured runs, the infamous ergo challenge, a mentally challenging quiz and, of course, our beloved water sessions.

As one of the newly initiated Opens, not only was the pressure to perform physically at a high, but the pressure to lead by example – as a rower with the St Mary's ethos imprinted in their hearts – palpable. The camping experience would probably be more daunting for the spry

U14s, new in such a competitive but family-centric sport such as rowing.

As for the rest of the club, camp was all-familiar. As Opens and leaders of the club, it was our duty to welcome the newcomers with a fitting welcome in which the U14s and the Senior Opens participated. Overall, August camp was undeniably physically challenging but, for the U14s, it was a new and, hopefully, fun experience.

A St Mary's welcome to our U14s to August camp, and the rowing season



U14s having fun on camp

The cocktail evening which took place on 6 September was a night when our new Swift boats were blessed by the school's Revd Claudia. The pride in the club was tangible. This year, we celebrate 25 successful years of St Mary's rowing. I was reminded at the cocktail event, slightly sprayed with the holy water that Revd Claudia so generously spritzed on to the girls, that such a feat could only be thanks to the school's



Camp moms

unwavering support, the dedication of the parents and the girls, as well as the numerous coaches and our head of rowing, whose commitment is unsurpassed by any in the country. We are thankful not only for rowing, the sport, but what St Mary's rowing means to us all.



Boat Blessing at the cocktail evening



One of a kind coxed pair, donated by Balwin Foundation and restored by Andrew Strachen

A successful and spirited start



St Mary's rowing club at the indoor ergo regatta

U14 girls warming up at the indoor ergo regatta



Opens single scullers waiting for the start of the piece

The first regatta of the season, the St Andrew's Ergo Regatta, took place on 15 September. Not only was this the first regatta of the new season, but it was also the first regatta for our U14s. Although this was an indoor regatta, the U14s had their first taste of competitive rowing in a racing environment. The atmosphere pulsed with excitement. The U14s rowed their best throughout their ergo trials and the relays. At the end of the successful day, in true St Mary's fashion, the Opens led in a spirited war cry of *Oh when the Saints!* 

TARUMBIDZWA FORM III

#### NOTICES

#### PRAYER REQUEST BOOKS

The St Mary's moms' Bible study would like to pray purposefully for families and girls in our school community. To this end, we have left prayer request books in the Junior and Senior School receptions, and invite you to write any specific prayer needs you may have in them. We shall collect them every Monday morning. If you would like to make contact with us for support, prayer, or to find out more about our weekly Bible study and prayer hour, please call/ message Rosie on 082 414 1762 or <u>moorerosemary534@gmail.com</u>. You are most welcome to join us on Mondays 07h30 to 08h30 in the physio room (ground floor of the Pitt block).

#### **MUSE MORNING**

Parents of children of all ages are welcome to join us at Muse Morning on Tuesday 2 October.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Wantage auditorium

Speaker: Dr Nick Davies, clinical psychologist

Topic: *A girl's development – What's Dad got to do with it*. Nick's research interest includes gender, fathering and the paternal function.

Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Refreshments will be available at the tennis pavilion.

RSVP: lynn.moony@stmary.co.za

#### DISCOVERY ST MARY'S GOLF DAY - booking now open!



We should like to get more ladies involved in the day as well so have organised an hour with a Golf Pro where the ladies can enjoy a glass of champagne with their friends while getting golf tips at the same time. More details are included in the attached picture above. All funds raised will go towards the building of the multi-purpose sports facility.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Date: Friday 28 September



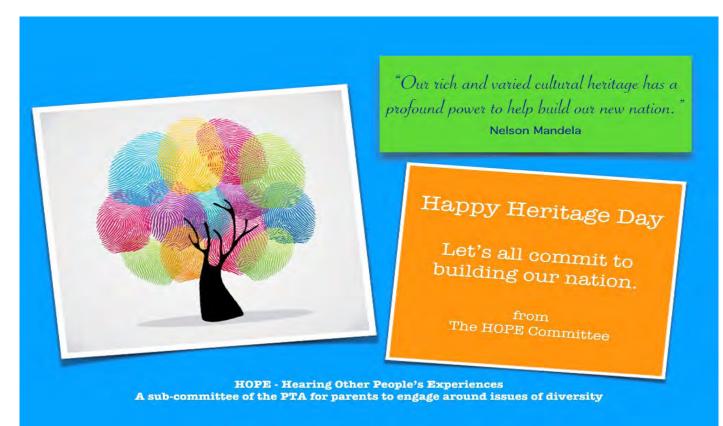
Venue: Killarney Golf Club

Format: Four-ball alliance

Cost: R4 000 per four-ball alliance

For further information, to book your space and for sponsorship details please see the school app: School notices/Discovery St Mary's Golf Day

#### HERITAGE DAY



### FORM III FASHION SHOW



## Tickets: General R150 VIP R200 18h30 for 19h00 ST MARY'S SENIOR SCHOOL HALL

