

28 JULY 2017

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Lelentle, Khanyi Dhlomo, Khanyi and Thandeka Gqubule at *Studium Apertum* 

# FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

Studium Apertum was a significant day of thinking, learning and discussion for our community. It is a rare occasion to have access to so many thought leaders on one day and the St Mary's girls are privileged to have had such exposure to important conversations. Our girls embraced the spirit of the day, involved themselves in the discussions, and displayed their enthusiasm for learning. I thank Ms Mittendorf and Mrs Mark for leading this valuable experience for our community and the staff who helped to organise and run the event.

In the same week, the Form Vs were hosted by the Old Girls' Association to their first St Mary's Old Girls' function. Evening Prayer was followed by a cocktail party and a presentation by Maria Stacey, class of 1984. Maria's message to the matrics was about her time at St Mary's which was characterised by disorganisation and a lack of direction and how she has found a most fulfilling career as a psychologist consulting on pertinent social and health development issues in South Africa. Her message encouraged the matrics to answer these questions for

themselves and find the point at which they intersect (your *ikigal*): What you love?
What the world needs?
What you can be paid for?
What you are good at?

As the term draws to a close, our community looks forward to a valuable time of rest. The last weeks of winter allow for a time of quiet and rejuvenation in August, which will equip us for the energy of spring. I wish all our families a restful and peaceful holiday. We say good-bye to some members of staff and to girls who leave us – our best wishes go with you all.

DEANNE KING HEAD OF SCHOOL

### FROM THE CHAPLAIN

O, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?"

"Or who has given a gift to him, to receive a gift in return?"

For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God — what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Romans 11:33-12:2 (NRSV)

As we all look forward to the August holidays, God's words to us in the letter to the Romans, quoted above, are apt. We look forward to a time of resting in God, whether in prayer in our quiet time, or while spending time with others or completing chores we never get to in term time. The metaphor is of presenting our bodies as sacrifice points to our surrendering ourselves to God, allowing ourselves to be vulnerable for God our Creator to work within us, loving us and renewing our awareness of God in us and in each other. "Sacrifice" is an uncomfortable word for many in our society today, however, having given over ourselves to God, effectively saying "over to You, Lord", we find the "sacrifice" we have made to be a relief.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS CHAPLAIN

#### LEADERSHIP FESTIVAL

Lebone II College hosted their annual Leadership Festival with the theme of Greed versus Sustainability. Lucy and Hannah, both in Form III, participated in the festival and had to prepare research reports, which were used as points of discussion. They also had to identify a problem in our school or community and work on finding solutions before arriving at the festival. The theme created an opportunity for the participants to explore and grapple with the following ideas: capitalism, people living below the breadline, the effect of greed on the environment, ethics and morality, greed and the corporate world and the origins of greed.

Hannah had the following to say about her experience, "Growing up, I always believed that I lived in a diverse community. At the Lebone II College Leadership Festival, it was made clear to me that my St Mary's community is a bubble. The festival hosted young leaders from around the country and the world, from a range of economic and social backgrounds. I was given the opportunity to connect with people with whom I had absolutely nothing in common."

Lucy eloquently shared her experience in the following manner: "My experience at the Lebone II College Leadership Festival 2017 is one I hope never to forget. Not only was it an excellent platform for the young leaders of today, all passionate about bettering the future of humanity, to interact and form bonds, but it was also an experience

that challenged the way I viewed myself and my role in society. I have come to view, more critically, the natural human tendency to be greedy, to understand the importance of approaching a topic with an open mind, and I have developed my ability not only to hear but to listen to others. The opportunity to interact with a Harvard professor over a Skype call was a privilege. The professor, Michael I Norton, has done extensive research into the psychology of greed. Our discussion was based around an experiment where Norton had tested the notion that people are more likely to pass on greed rather than generosity. There is one aspect I should like to pass on to the St Mary's pupils. This is the realisation that we, as a body of young people with a high educational advantage, possess the power for change in our society. A quotation to which we were exposed is: 'Young people are not the leaders of tomorrow. They are the leaders of today and tomorrow.'"

The week-long leadership festival gave Hannah and Lucy the opportunity to use the skills they have acquired in a meaningful manner. I am extremely proud of the way in which they engaged with the subject matter and with their ability to draw on their knowledge and skills from a wide array of subjects.

**TINHIKO NKUNA** 



Hannah and Lucy at the Lebone II College Leadership Festival



Lucy with pupils from Ghana



At the Lebone II College

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

e4 is the innovative, uniquely St Mary's curriculum followed by our Form I girls. After a full year of planning led by Dr Sally James, this integrated curriculum was first implemented in 2015 and is currently in its third year of operation. Recently e4 was nominated into the Learning Innovation Africa Learning Idol Awards and Dr James and I presented this curriculum to a panel of judges at GIBS business school, where the programme was shortlisted as one of the top three entries. The following week saw us present again, this time with another member of our team, Jane McMurray, for more than 200 delegates at the annual Learning Innovation Africa conference. Our presentation was well received and St Mary's was placed third overall.

Major themes of the conference were a move towards the personalisation of learning, more focus on the process and less focus on the product of learning and the need for mobility, creativity and flexibility which is enabled by the use of technology. This last aspect coincides with our "high tech, high touch" approach at St Mary's,

where the focus of technology is to enable and enhance greater connectedness among individuals. A memorable statement made at the conference was that recruiters in many companies are already hiring based on characteristics of applicants and not based on their knowledge or qualifications, and that self-discovery should be a greater focus of learning.

These elements mirror much of what our team has currently implemented in the e4 curriculum, and plans to develop further in the future.

This term we say farewell to Dr James who is moving on from St Mary's and we extend our heartfelt thanks for her phenomenal contribution to innovation at the school.

**CLARE SEARLE** 



Clare Searle, Sally James and Jane McMurray at the Learning Innovation Africa conference

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#### **NOTICES**

#### **BLOOD DRIVE**

A reminder to the St Mary's Community about the blood drive that will take place on Thursday 3 August in the Senior School chill room from 09h30 to 14h30. Anyone who is 16 and older can donate blood. Please participate in this life-saving initiative as it gives such an invaluable gift to someone in dire need.

ALEXIS FORM IV

#### PTA CLUB 100

The Term III winners are: 100% Gabriella Bakos (Form I) R37 800 20% Kutlwano Moremi (Form I) R7 560 10% Azola Dingaan (Grade 0) R2 180

BRUCE PATIENCE
PTA CHAIRPERSON

#### **NEXT BIOSCIENCES LABORATORY TRIP**

Six Form IV girls recently spent a day at the Next Biosciences Laboratory. We were joined by two girls from England, a girl from Ireland and a boy from Durban. The day began with presentations on the future of medicine and where medicine is today. This was followed by an insightful talk into the role that Next Biosciences plays in biotechnology and genetics. Emphasis was placed on the importance of developing new technologies. Towards the end of the day, we had to form an argument based on a topic that we were given and, helped by the staff who had talked to us throughout the day, were expected to use what we had learnt to formulate our argument. Our allocated topic was embryonic stem cell research and it forced everyone to debate the pros and cons of scientific research. We ended our day with a tour of their laboratories and enjoyed watching a technician process blood and cells. It was a wonderful experience.

MEG FORM IV



At the Next Biosciences laboratory

# FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

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#### **MUSIC**

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

ABRSM results			
Tessa	Theory	Grade 5	Merit
Clara	Theory	Grade 5	Merit
Nicola	Theory	Grade 3	Merit
ROCK SCHOOL			
Veneka	Vocals	Grade 6	Distinction

DUDLEY TROLLOPE
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



#### **SOCCER**

Ynez

Our congratulations are extended to Ynez who was selected to attend the U17 Bantwana soccer camp.

QUIX HEAD OF SPORT

# **HOCKEY**



First team vs Roedean

The hockey scene at St Mary's has been overwhelmed with excitement since half-term. The first challenge was completing a successful league with one last fixture against Roedean. After the first team's drawing 1-1 to St Stithians, a win against Roedean was imperative in order to take the league title. The first hockey team accomplished this by winning 4-0 with all other seven teams following suit.

LOVE.COMMUNITY.INTEGRITY 28 JULY 2017

#### **HOCKEY**



Julia and Kiara

The U18 and U16 Southern Gauteng teams took part in the annual inter-provincial tournament. In each of the four provincial teams, a St Mary's player was captain. U18 A was captained by Julia, U18 B by Carly, U16 A by Kiara and U16 B by Sarah. At the conclusion of the tournament, Kiara was selected for the South African U16 squad, which remained in Bloemfontein for a three-day hockey camp. Julia was selected for the South African U18 B team. This is a great achievement for both players and we congratulate them on their selection.

In the U14 provincial teams we also had a number of girls in leadership positions. Ghita was the captain of the U14 A team and Sarah and Ashley were the vice-captains of the U14 B and U14 C teams respectively. We have welcomed two touring teams from the UK. The U16 A team played Wakefield, beating them 8-0 and drawing 0-0 to Kings School

Canterbury. The U15 A team played Kings School and drew 1-1 in a tightly contested match.

With the World Hockey League taking place at Wits, the opportunity to expose our hockey players to international games was essential. Over the course of the two weeks, all St Mary's teams were given the opportunity to attend the games. The U14 players watched the South Africa vs Argentina game and were photographed with South African players and St Mary's Old Girls, Shelley Jones (Russell), Lisa Deetlefs and Lilian du Plessis. The U15, U16, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> teams accompanied their touring team, Kings School, to the semi-final matches.



WHL – SA hockey players Shelley Jones, Lilian du Plessis and Lisa Deetlefts



St Mary's and Kings School at the WHL



U15A vs Kings School Canterbury



U16A vs Kings School Canterbury

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U16A team vs Wakefield (UK)

We have been privileged to have three-time Olympian Dutch player, Eva de Goede, address the hockey girls. With two gold medals and one silver medal at the Olympic Games, Eva had insightful messages and experiences to share with us.



Eva with St Mary's hockey players



Eva with St Mary's hockey coaches

ROXY COETZEE-TURNER HEAD OF HOCKEY

## **EQUESTRIAN**

The fourth and final SANESA Senior School Equestrian Qualifier was held in June. The four qualifiers are used to choose teams to represent Joburg Metro at the Gauteng Regionals at the beginning of August. It is at these Regionals that Gauteng teams will be chosen to go through to SANESA Nationals. The Senior School team has shown excellent resilience and positive team spirit throughout the season as reflected in the high levels of participation and commitment, as well the excellent results. Although mention was made in the newsletter of the top five individual results only, it must be noted that there are other classes in which our 14 riders have participated and that all these points contribute to the overall team standing. Each rider has made an important contribution to the team.

The fourth qualifier included a school parade. The positive team spirit and the bonding with the Junior School riders, not to mention the two lovely dog mascots decked out in their red attire, did St Mary's proud!



St Mary's Senior and Junior School equestrian team parade

#### **EOUESTRIAN**

The following riders have been selected to represent Joburg Metro at the Gauteng Core League Finals on various teams:

Robyn on Denis (Level 1 Show Jumping), Nicola on Hailey's Sword (Level 7 Handy Hunter), Kiara on Kouros (Level 6 Equitation), Nicola B on Prince Jaime (Level 7 Working Riding, Level 7 Performance Riding, Level 4 Equitation, Level 3 Working Hunter, Level 3 Show Jumping, Level 2 Dressage), India on Capital Azalia, AEA Maximillion and AEA Indigo (Levels 2 and 3 Dressage, Level 4 Equitation, Levels 4 and 5 Show Jumping, Level 5 Prix Caprilli, Levels 5 and 7 Performance Riding, Level 7 Working Hunter), Lia on Weyden Linrose and Mr Peppo (Levels 2 and 5 Dressage, Level 3 Show Jumping, Levels 3 and 7 Working Riding, Levels 5 and 7 Performance Riding, Levels 5 Working Hunter), Margaret on Kellow Blown Away (Level 7 Equitation and Handy Hunter), Coral on Embrace the Empire (Level 6 Show Jumping) and Caitlin Wheeler on Bella Donna (Level 3 Dressage, Level 5 Working Riding and Level 7 Performance Riding).

Some of our riders also participated in the recent Pony Rider and Junior Derby 2017, with excellent results. Nicola B achieved excellent first places in Junior Novice Equitation, Junior Show Hack and Novice Junior Working Hunter. She was second in Junior Show Hunter and Overall Reserve Champion Junior Show Horse. Coral had a splendid first in the two phase 1.1m Junior Show Jumping and a fourth in the 1.1m Show Jumping Junior Championship. India achieved fourth place in the Junior Dressage Derby and Lia Wheeler obtained Reserve Champion Junior Working Riding and Reserve Champion Junior Working Hunter.

KRISHA WALUK SENIOR SCHOOL CHEF D'EQUIPE



Coral at PR and Junior Derby



Michelle at Qualifier 4





#### **ROWING**

The St Mary's rowing club is very excited about the rowing season. Each age group has taken part in pre-season training (even ergo) in order to ensure our success in the following season, as well as to integrate us into "the swing of things". The major source of excitement for the girls is the countdown to camp, which begins on 28 August. The beginning of the new season brings endless possibilities to each member and allows for the creation of new goals, which each crew, age group, coach and team hopes to achieve. Camp, although difficult, is of great importance to club and allows each girl to integrate fully. It also allows the new U14 age group to develop their skills and increase their physical and mental strength.

It is less than a week to go until the girls begin their journey to Lithuania to compete in the World Rowing Junior Championships. The girls are excited to continue South Africa's success following the placing of the U23 SA rowers this past weekend.

"We all pull for something. You either pull for your family, your friends, your teammates, not to disappoint your coaches, but at some point you pull for yourself, to push, excel and prove to yourself that everything is possible. And that is why we row."

MALLORY FORM IV







Jessica, Caitlin, Megan with Sean Kerr (left - president of SA rowing) and Roger Barrow (right - national rowing coach)

# FROM THE FOUNDATION



Standing: Graeme Montgomery, Jon Patriclos, Craig Polkingnorne, Cheryl Polkingnorne, Marius de la Rey, Colette de la Rey Seated: Kita Malangulu, Koo Montgomery, Cindy Malangulu

Generosity and the spirit of love, community and integrity were evident at the recent St Mary's Foundation auction evening held on Friday 14 July.

The auction raised R300 000, which will contribute to the Foundation scholarship programme. Thank you to all guests and St Mary's parents, past and present, who attended and made the evening a success.