



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

5 OCTOBER 2018



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Head girls-elect for 2019: Lucy (deputy head), Anqi (head), Khanyisile (deputy head)

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

St Mary's School is a competitive environment, which often inspires the girls to achieve beyond their expectations. It is inspiring for the teachers to observe the individual development of the girls and I am always so proud when we review academic results or I support the girls in their co-curricular activities and observe their talent, ability and the pleasure that they take in their personal development. The other side to this competitive environment is that individuals compare themselves to others. We need to caution our girls against comparative success as a measure of individual learning because it often results in a fear of failure, which in itself can be paralyzing, and in low self-esteem.

We must encourage our girls to focus on their unique selves. Their learning and development should be an individual journey of challenge and reward. One that is intrinsically motivated and worth doing for the benefit of their personal well-being and not because it will be valued by others. Learning offers a full experience that will build confidence and self-esteem if it is undertaken for both the self and for the present, instead of for comparison and some future reward.

John Dewey, philosopher and psychologist, wrote that if schools relied on extrinsic motivations and competition to frame pupils' learning then society would pay the price.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

¹⁷ As [Jesus] was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"¹⁸ Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: 'You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honour your father and mother.'²⁰ He said to him, "Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth."²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

- Mark 10:17-22 (NRSV)

Wednesday 3 October marked the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. Francis lived in the 13th century CE, and was born into a family with much wealth. As an adult, his carefree lifestyle was interrupted by an illness, during

which he felt called by Christ to give up his wealth and serve God. He therefore started an order of friars – now known as the Order of St Francis of Assisi – vowed to absolute poverty. An order of women religious, known as the Order of the Poor Ladies or Poor Clares, also follows the Franciscan rule of life. The Franciscan spirituality, modelled on that of St Francis, is characterised by a love of all creation, which is why St Francis is often depicted, in art, with undomesticated animals eating out of his hand.

The life of St Francis reminds us to place love for God and neighbour above all, and to live an incarnational spirituality, in awe of the beauty of God in everything around us and in everyone we meet.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

MEET THE BOARD



Nigel Carman chairperson, (1993 to present)

In the corporate world, Nigel Carman practises as an employment and pension fund lawyer with Fasken (previously Bell Dewar & Hall). In the world of St Mary's, he heads the school Board.

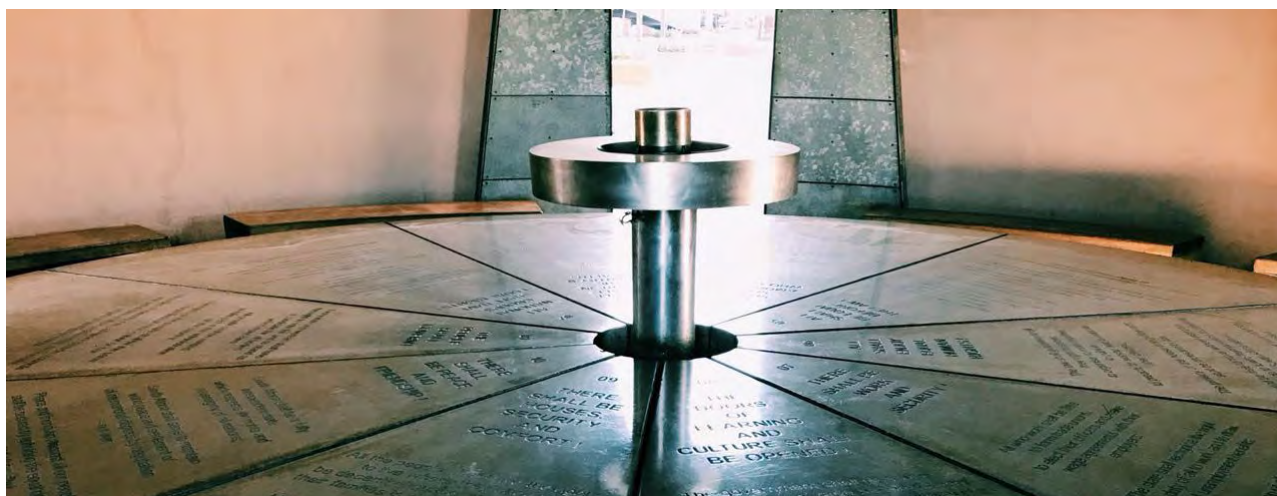
Nigel has traced his firm's association with the school back to at least 1924. His own association with the school began nearly 30 years ago as legal adviser. He joined the Board in 1993 and has been chairperson since 2007.

During his tenure as a Board member, Nigel has seen a number of long-term projects come to fruition: the AstroTurf hockey pitch, the Desmond Tutu Natural Science Centre, reinstatement of boarding, the building of The Edge and the Aquatic Centre, and more recently, the upgrades to the Junior School and the Health Centre and Open Door department.

Nigel says the challenges, pressures and demands placed on the school leadership, and particularly on the head, have increased significantly over the past 20 years.

"A school is a very complicated organisation that requires a leader of integrity, vision, resilience and courage. As legal adviser, Board member and as chairperson, it has been my privilege to work with impressive, inspirational people, and to see the energy, enthusiasm and optimism of the girls in their charge."

AFRICAN LANGUAGES



In July this year, the Form IV African Languages girls were privileged to travel to Soweto for a day. This outing was a great opportunity to submerge ourselves in the vibrant atmosphere that pervades this culturally rich area.

We went on a guided tour of Nelson Mandela's house, where we were able to gain a deeper understanding of our past. We visited the iconic Jabulani Theatre where the words of PJ Powers' song *Jabulani* ("You can sing, and dance, and love, and feel in Jabulani") were encapsulated in the atmosphere around us. Upon our arrival at Regina Mundi Catholic Church, we took some time to appreciate the awe-inspiring surroundings and to understand its historical significance.

We ended our day with lunch on the bustling Vilakazi Street.

From the dancers on the street corners to a monument representative of our Constitution, it was evident that this atmosphere was one of community and love.

A huge thank you is extended to MaNgobese, MaNgubo and MeMahasa for making this enriching and entertaining day possible.

ISABELLE
FORM IV

ATKV AFRIKAANS OLYMPIAD



Victoria

During Term II, 35 St Mary's girls from Form III to Form V wrote the ATKV Olympiad (Senior Afrikaans First Additional Language), together with more than 1 700 students from all over South Africa.

Victoria achieved a distinction with 82% – an exceptional result. Well done, Victoria!

The following students achieved results of 60% and above:

Form III
Emma

Form IV
Jaeger
Victoria
Angelique
Kelsey
Nina
Bianca
Michaela
Kara

Form V
Eleanor
Katleho
Rethabile
Kaylyn

Well done to all pupils who wrote the Olympiad this year. Senior School girls are encouraged to participate in the 2019 Olympiad. Entries will close at the end of February 2019.

ESMALET VAN ZYL
AFRIKAANS TEACHER

DANCE

On Thursday 20 September, the St Mary's dance crew performed at the annual inter-high dance competition held at St Peter's College.

St Mary's won the voluntary section of the competition, shared the award for best choreography with Parktown School for Girls and placed second overall in the competition.

This competition has highlighted both the talent and dedication, which the girls have shown. They were also commended on their strong teamwork.

CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK
WWW.5678PRODUCTIONS.CO.ZA



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call 083 226 2871



INNOV@TION HUB



Next week, the Form I girls will be taken on an outing to Alexandra township. The day will be a cross-curricular opportunity for them to experience an area very close to our school and to areas where many of them live and through which they travel, but into which few have ever ventured.

While in Alexandra, they will investigate and extend their understanding of concepts such as population migration, service delivery, degeneration and regeneration, formal and informal economy and land use, which have been investigated in e⁴ in various ways throughout the year.

The outing also holds an opportunity for our girls to go beyond the role of mere spectator or tourist and to have an authentic and mutually beneficial experience of the township and its people, and to make a contribution to the community. To this end, we shall be stopping at two creches in Alexandra where the girls will play and interact socially with the children and, thereafter, they will have an opportunity to sample some of the local food specialties. We will also be stopping at

East Bank High School, which is one of our partner schools from our Ikusasa Lethu Programme. While at East Bank High School, our girls will be ambassadors for Side by Side South Africa, an NGO that distributes sanitary items to girls who are desperately in need of them.

Our last stop, before having lunch at the new Alex Mall, will be on the banks of the Jukskei River. Here, another NGO, Shomang, will explain to the girls how the lives of jobless women have been changed by being employed to keep the river clean, and some of the challenges they and the surrounding community face, in this regard.

We look forward to exposing our girls to a meaningful and authentic learning experience where aspects of the past, present and implications for the future are considered, while they interact with fellow South Africans from a different community.

CLARE SEARLE
CURRICULUM INNOVATION LEADER

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

SQUASH



Tayla, Panashe and Jemma each received medals from SA Schools for placing in the top 10 in their respective age groups



St Mary's squash team

The Gauteng Junior Squash Awards – 19 September

From January to March, St Mary's squash achieved one of the most successful season results. St Mary's entered 10 teams from U14 to U19 age groups. We won nine sections and were runner-up in one. We won the Castle Aggregate Trophy for the best overall results for girls' league. Our U19A girls' team participated in the U19A boys' league in which we were runners up. Well done to all captains and squash players. Keep striving to be the best.

JENNIFER FOX
HEAD OF SQUASH

GOLF



Samantha

Congratulations to Samantha who has been selected to represent the Gauteng Ladies' Golf A team, earning full senior provincial colours. She has competed in the Ladies' Inter-Provincial golf tournament held at Devonvale golf course in Stellenbosch from 1 to 5 October.

QUIX
HEAD OF SPORT

ATHLETICS



Caroline and Tannah (captains of athletics)

It has not been an easy start to the season as we began with all Form II athletes away at Bush School and then the vast majority of them were ill the week after they returned. Last week, owing to the Form III Fashion Show, none of the Form III girls were able to participate. We have managed to hold our own each week as we have a large group of Form I girls who have helped to fill in many of the races, as well as other athletes trying times for different events. We have two weeks left to put in some solid training and iron out some of our technical weaknesses.

QUIX
HEAD OF SPORT

ROWING



Support from the banks of the dam



Resting before the regatta



Preparing to race

St Mary's hosted the first outdoor regatta of the season. Preparations began at 06h00 on a Saturday morning: the newly returned U16 and Open girls were scattered around Roodeplaat dam – either assisting parents with carrying cartons of beverages or placing motorboats on the water. After the preparations for the regatta were complete, it was time to rest before preparing for the races: our coaches emphasise that sufficient time must be reserved purely for rest and eating.

Our famous war cries were especially vital when the U16 girls were competing, as it was the first time many of them raced a 2km-course. St Mary's hosted a successful and exciting regatta.

On 29 September, the U14 girls raced at their first regatta. Of course, with training – which is prioritised throughout the club because every session makes you faster – we will watch the U14s progress to faster times and better performances. The regatta was a great opportunity to note the potential of the U14s that, with commitment and effort will become real skill. Additionally, the regatta was a chance for the U15s, who are familiar with the lively atmosphere of Roodeplaat, to connect with the U14s by sharing their experiences and leading and rowing by example.

TARUMBIDZWA
FORM III

EQUESTRIAN



Junior Open Compleat Horse derby winners: Nicola D placed first, Erin placed second and Nicola B placed third



India SANESA Gauteng *Victrix Ludorum* 2018

Our team riders have received a number of accolades. I congratulate India on being awarded Gauteng SANESA *Victrix Ludorum* 2018 at the recent SANESA Gauteng Provincial Awards.

Nicola D is also commended on winning The Junior Compleat Horse Derby, with Erin placing second and Nicola B (on an unwell horse) third.

Erin is congratulated on winning the 90cm Championship and show *Victrix Ludorum* at the Spring Fair Youth Extravaganza.

Well done girls, you have done St Mary's proud!



Spring Fair Youth Extravaganza 90cm *Victrix Ludorum*: Erin



Equestrian team pre-dinner photo

I extend my thanks to Ms Wood for her commitment and support of the team this year and for hosting an extremely successful equestrian year-end team dinner, which the team and their parents thoroughly enjoyed.

LIA
EQUESTRIAN CAPTAIN

TENNIS



Nina, Ruth, Izabela, Annika, Hannah, Amukelani and Sarah

The St Mary's A tennis team once again participated in the annual Hilton College/St Anne's Invitational Doubles and Mixed Doubles Tournament.

Unfortunately, the inclement weather caused a whole afternoon of scheduled play and the mixed doubles final to be rained out. In the doubles event, the St Mary's team did extremely well, beating St Mary's DSG and St Mary's Kloof to reach the finals of the event. In the finals, the team lost to a very strong Helpmekaar College team by two matches to one. In the mixed doubles event, St Mary's teamed up with St Stithians to beat St Mary's DSG/St Alban's College, Roodean/St John's College to reach the final. Unfortunately, the mixed final against the team from Helpmekaar was rained out.

Doubles results

- 1 Helpmekaar
- 2 St Mary's, Waverley
- 3 St Mary's, Kloof
- 4 St Anne's
- 5 St Andrew's
- 6 Roodean
- 7 St Mary's, DSG
- 8 Durban Girls' College

The league matches are continuing and all the teams are faring exceptionally well. Special mention is made of the league results on 25 September when all the teams won their matches beating the AB teams

from the respective schools.

18 September

- St Mary's A beat Northcliff A 50-13
- St Mary's B beat Northcliff B 56-7
- St Mary's C lost to Brescia House A 44-19
- St Mary's D beat Brescia House B 33-30
- St Mary's E lost to Randburg Hoër A
- St Mary's F beat Randburg Hoër B 45-18
- St Mary's G lost to Jeppe A 28-35
- St Mary's H beat Jeppe B 59-4

25 September

- St Mary's A beat St Stithians A 52-11
- St Mary's B beat St Stithians B 52-11
- St Mary's C beat HeronBridge A 34-29
- St Mary's D beat HeronBridge B 49-14
- St Mary's E beat Redhill A 33-30
- St Mary's F beat Redhill B 52-11

Congratulations to Tamsin who has been chosen to participate in the elite U18 Masters event, which will be held in Potchefstroom from 5 until 8 October. Good luck, Tamsin!

RENÉ PLANT
HEAD OF TENNIS

WATER POLO



St Anne's tour team



Tamsin



Girls in action



Georgina player of the match vs Kingswood



Nicola at the Reddam Tournament



Courtney at Reddam Tournament



U15 Collegiate tour team



Siphosethu

Well done to the more than 35 water polo players who participated in three water polo tours during the past two weeks: they have gained optimal exposure and valued experience.

They participated in the following water polo tournaments;

- St Anne's Water Polo Tournament
- U19 Reddam House Water Polo Tournament (placed 10th)
- U15 Collegiate Water Polo Tournament (won three games and lost three games, placed 11th overall). Georgina won the player

of the match award for the game against Kingswood College.

On Wednesday 26 September, the St Mary's 1st team took on the fifth-ranked Gauteng team, St Dominic's, in their Wednesday league match and won 7-5.

KELSEY WHITE
HEAD OF WATER POLO