

# SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

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Navigating the swing bridge in Ghana with Ms King and Miss Mason

Photo taken by: Kara

# FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

Before half-term, I travelled to Accra, Ghana, to visit St Mary's Senior High School to develop our exchange programme further with them and to meet up with four St Mary's girls who had spent a fortnight at the school. St Mary's Senior High School is a Catholic school for girls, established in 1950. It is a well-run school with a welcoming atmosphere and the clear purpose to educate women for a changing world. Although the school has limited resources, I was impressed by the professionalism and energy of the teachers.

Ghanaian hospitality is warm and generous and the school treated us to a trip down the coast to visit the rainforest and one of the historic castles, which is a Unesco World Heritage Site. I had time to observe our girls as they navigated the delights and challenges of travelling. They showed a deep interest in and respect for the history and the culture of Ghana. One of the girls had a keen photographer's eye. I was aware that their classmates were back in South Africa writing mid-year examinations but I was never in doubt that the learning and experience of the exchange was significant and valuable. Not only was it an opportunity to find the best within themselves, but also to value and respect a different culture and perspective. Ultimately, it was an experience that will equip the girls for their future studies and work, more effectively than any examination scores.

Activities beyond the classroom offer opportunities for self-discovery, for encounters that help to breakdown stereotypes, for developing deep and mutual connections and for balanced learning which includes mental, physical, social and spiritual development.

In Benjamin Franklin's words: "Tell me and I forget; teach me and I may remember; involve me and I learn."

DEANNE KING HEAD OF SCHOOL

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGE 8 AND 9 FOR ALL OUR IMPORTANT NOTICES

## **FROM THE CHAPLAIN**

 <sup>1</sup> How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
<sup>2</sup> My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. – Psalm 84:1-2

We are blessed to have a chapel at St Mary's, placed physically at the heart of the school. Girls and staff are encouraged to view the chapel as "holy" – set apart for God who welcomes us into God's presence for the purpose of worship, reflection and prayer. In order for us to be sensitive to one another within the chapel and to facilitate our worship and prayer, we ask that you remind your girls to:

Kindly refrain from bringing food or drink into the chapel. Please

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS** 

dispose of your food or drink containers in the bins placed at various locations throughout the school

- Please ensure that you are seated five minutes prior to the scheduled start of a chapel service
- Cellphones should be placed on "silent" or on "airplane" mode while you are in the chapel
- Please do not text or talk on your phone in the chapel
- Note that taking photographs or filming videos are not permitted in the chapel
- Kindly refrain from talking during the chapel service

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS CHAPLAIN



A group of Waverley girls working with rhythmic hoops

Waverley girls enjoying an art lesson in The Edge with Sue Heydenrych

Waverley Girls' High School projects

This year, pupils from Waverley Girls' High School have attended art lessons, dance classes and rhythmic gymnastics training at St Mary's on a weekly basis. A group of 10 Waverley girls participated in the St Mary's Rhythmic Invitational in May. Three rhythmic gymnasts qualified for the Central Gauteng team. They have done well at the competitions, winning gold and silver medals. Senior girls and René Plant have assisted with tennis coaching at Waverley. Pupils have been invited to the annual St Mary's careers expo on 26 July.

LINDA GIURICICH DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

### **INNOV@TION HUB**

After curation and conversation, correction is the next level in Dr Belwett's ACTivated pedagogy. The pedagogy of correction represents a fundamental shift away from the traditional approach to education that advocates an emphasis on being presented with and consuming correct content, towards an approach more suited to the digital age. The information overload associated with the "wiki world" requires different skills to manage than were necessary before the age of the internet. Not only is there information everywhere but much of the information on the internet has not been vetted and edited in the way information in a published book has been; it only represents one aspect or perspective on a topic or is perhaps out-dated. Furthermore, as the field of philosophy teaches us, the facts are only the facts until they change. In an era where the rate of discovery is unprecedented, content is not so much correct, as always correcting. Unlike offline spaces, digital media makes correcting easier and more desirable.

The pedagogy of correction links strongly with the 21<sup>st</sup>-century growth mindset made popular by professor of Psychology at Stanford University, Dr Carol Dweck. Adopting a growth mindset removes the



binary view of success from "pass" or "fail" to continuous progress. In a similar way, Dr Blewett's pedagogy of correction, when used in conjunction with the other layers of curation and conversation, advocates drafting, sharing, discussing and incremental continuous improvement.

The pedagogy of correction encourages important academic and life skills such as reading for meaning, comparing and contrasting information, and attention to detail, perseverance and selfmotivation. Furthermore, it aids mastery as students are arguably never as thoroughly engaged as when they identify their own mistakes, take ownership of them, and become actively involved in rectifying them

> CLARE SEARLE CURRICULUM INNOVATION LEADER

## FROM THE PEER COUNSELLORS

A friend is someone who knows everything about your life and still loves you!

Why friends are important:

Different friends with diverse personalities help you to discover who you are as a person. I have always been told that the people with whom you are friends, reflects directly on whom you are as a person. For example, I have always surrounded myself with happy, caring and energetic friends.

It is important to remain true to yourself. With good friends that do not care about your social status and that truly love you, it becomes easier to be yourself. It is easy to put on a fake persona for acquaintances but being a genuine version of you is stress-free.

Friends create joy in your life. Imagine going to school and not having friends to motivate you and make you laugh. Laughing and smiling

make you and everyone around you happy. From personal experience, I have enjoyed the occasional singing exercise with which my Math's partner openly hates but secretly loves. The main reason why girls are excited to return to school after the holidays is to see their friends.

The most important aspect of having friends is that they will be that shoulder to lean on. As peer counsellors, it is our duty to comfort. We have all experienced the ups and downs of senior school and, individually, been through something different. We all are caring and confidential and we try to be someone else's comfort.

> KATHERINE FORM IV

# **FROM THE FOUNDATION**

Thank you to everyone who attended the sixth St Mary's Foundation auction evening. You have helped us to fund a year's fees for two girls on the Foundation scholarship programme. Since the inception of the wine auction evening in 2013, a total of more than

R1.8-million has been raised to fund education for girls and the youth

from surrounding communities. Together, we have helped to realise dreams of attending a school and joining a community such as ours.

#### GILLIAN O'SHAUGHNESSY FOUNDATION MANAGER



Graeme and Jane Codrington with Mary Vilakazi



Phumzile Hlongwane (left), a St Mary's Foundation scholarship programme alumnus, with a fellow Wits student, giving back by helping at the auction evening

# FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### **MUSIC NEWS**

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

Rockschool			
Emma	Electric guitar	4	D
	1	1	
ABRSM theory			
Lara	Grade 5	Р	
	1		
ABRSM practical			
Tessa	Clarinet	6	М
Mpho	Piano	1	М
Tatenda	Violin	3	Р
Niamh	Flute	3	Р

### ST MARY'S JAZZ BAND ON TOUR

All the girls in the St Mary's jazz band enjoyed an intensive immersion into jazz over half-term at the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival. This festival runs annually, in conjunction with the Standard Bank National Jazz Festival, at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. From morning until night, the girls played in big bands or sang in a vocal ensemble, and watched local and international jazz artists rehearse, perform and give workshops to the eager young musicians. This festival is the country's most dynamic jazz festival because of the teaching that takes place and mingling between artists and students, affording young musicians an educational experience difficult to replicate elsewhere.

Veneka and Lucy spent the first day auditioning for the National

Schools' Big Band – a highly stressful and competitive process! On

Friday 29 June, the St Mary's band performed alongside Bergvliet from Cape Town, and gave a strong, fresh performance. In particular, the audience loved Tessa's deejaying with the band. Moses Sebula, who guested with our band, got into the National Youth Band (for tertiary students and young professionals), an incredible achievement in his first year of university.

I am grateful to my colleagues Nicholas Rumpelt and Danielle McKinnon for chaperoning the girls with such care. We all had a wonderful experience at this year's Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival!

> CERI MOELWYN-HUGHES JAZZ BAND DIRECTOR



Tessa with 2018 Standard Bank Young Artist for Jazz, Thandi Ntuli



Lucy and other jazz festival participants in a sax workshop with Benedikt Resing (Switzerland)



Participants and artists of the Standard Bank National Youth Jazz Festival 2018

## CHORAL CONCERT IN CELEBRATION OF MANDELA DAY

St Mary's Senior School choir and Neuer Kammerchor Berlin (visiting South Africa for the World Choir Games 2018) will be presenting a choral concert in celebration of Mandela Day.

St Mary's School Waverley Founded 1888

presents

# A Choral Concert in celebration of Mandela Day

### with

St Mary's Senior School Choir and Neuer Kammerchor Berlin

> Tuesday 17 July 19h00 The Edge St Mary's School

> > Entrance free

# FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

### HOCKEY FESTIVAL AND THE RHINO FUND

As many of you will recall, we held a raffle with three awesome prizes, along with a few other smaller ventures, before and during the St Mary's Investec Hockey Festival in an effort to raise funds for rhinos, the charity which the festival has supported since 2013. For the past two years, Investec has added to our efforts by paying R200 per goal scored during the four days. It is with extreme gratitude and pride that I report back on the success of this year. We collected R131 085 and, as a result of the 287 goals scored during the festival, Investec contributed a further R57 400. A total of R188 485 will be deposited into the Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC) account. This is by far the largest contribution of any year. Since 2013, this venture has raised R446 620. We have to aim for half a million in 2019.

> QUIX HEAD OF SPORT

# HOCKEY

The Grays league ended the season with three tough matches over the course of two weeks. Results were positive from all teams and we now await the final league results. The 1<sup>st</sup> team fought back after trailing 1-0 at half time to secure a one all draw against St Andrew's 1<sup>st</sup> team. This was the first league game the St Mary's 1<sup>st</sup> team had not won. All age groups followed suit for the league matches, with the odd draw and one loss for U15A team.

The 1<sup>st</sup> hockey team enjoyed a rather tough and entertaining fixture against the St John's 1<sup>st</sup> rugby team. We managed to secure a 3-2 victory with a little help from the umpires.

The annual Spar Challenge held at Kingsmead College took place on 16 June where the 1<sup>st</sup> team finished third, beating Parktown Girls'. Unfortunately, with points tied after our pool fixtures, the girls had to do a shootout to determine who would end top of their pool. Beaulieu won in sudden death. This meant St Mary's found themselves playing in the third and fourth playoff.

Most teams will continue with friendly fixtures for the remainder of the term. We look forward to hosting two UK hockey teams as well as the Howell/Pullen tournament.



1<sup>st</sup> hockey team with St John's 1<sup>st</sup> rugby team



	vs Kingsmead	vs Helpmekaar	vs St Andrew's	vs Dainfern
U14B	4-0	4-0	6-0	
U14A	6-0	6-0	4-0	
U15C				1-0
U15B	4-0	1-0	4-0	
U15A	0-0	0-1	4-2	
U16B	7-0	4-0	4-0	
U16A	4-0	2-0	9-0	
3 <sup>rd</sup>				1-2
2 <sup>nd</sup>	6-0	5-0	4-0	
1 <sup>st</sup>	3-0	6-0	1-1	

#### ROXY COETZEE-TURNER HEAD OF HOCKEY

# NOTICES

#### **MUSE MORNING**

Parents of children of all ages are welcome to join us at Muse Morning on Tuesday 17 July.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Seminar room, The Edge

Speaker: Vanessa Gaydon, educational psychologist

Topic: "Raising Emotionally Resilient Girls in the Millennial World"

Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Refreshments will be available at the back of the seminar room.

RSVP: lynn.moony@stmary.co.za

### CAREERS AT THE EDGE

Thursday 26 July: 14h30 to 20h00

We all want to be able to assist and guide our daughters through life, especially during the tempestuous shift from school into the tertiary and working worlds. Careers day will consist of three consecutive events: the careers expo, career sessions and a guest speaker in the evening. Careers day is designed to encourage your daughters to explore opportunities, while helping them to decide which field would best suit their individual skills, personalities, goals and dreams.

14h30-16h30: All Senior School girls and interested parents are welcome to visit the stands at the careers expo outside The Edge any time between 14h30 and 16h30 on Thursday 26 July. Representatives from tertiary institutions will be present to answer your questions on skills-based courses such as business management, information and communication technology, fashion, design and hospitality. Invitees include representatives from Education USA, agencies representing overseas institutions and South African universities – Rhodes University, and the universities of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, Free State and Pretoria. 16h30-18h30: The expo will be followed by two concurrent speaker presentations from 16h30 to 18h30. Both sessions are compulsory for all girls in Form III and Form IV. St Mary's girls will be joined by pupils from Waverley Girls' High School, NovaPioneer and the Ikusasa Lethu programme. Many of the speakers are St Mary's Old Girls. We trust that the girls will gain valuable insights from their presentations.

19h00-20h00: The evening closes with an address "#YouToo? Girls Meet the World of Work" by Judith Ancer, clinical psychologist and popular speaker, and all girls in Form IV and their parents are encouraged to attend.

Should you have any queries, please contact me via email at <a href="https://www.upun.moony@stmary.co.za">www.upun.moony@stmary.co.za</a>

LYNN MOONY CAREERS COUNSELLOR

# Careers @ The Edge



St Mary's School, Waverley, does not endorse, neither take responsibility for, the institutions / service providers present at this Careers Expo