



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

20 OCTOBER 2023

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Ros receiving an Old Girls' Honorary Blazer at Old Girls' Day

## FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

The school hosted our annual Old Girls' Day last Saturday. It was the third gathering of the Old Girls in recent months, following get togethers in London and Cape Town.

The day began in our chapel where we celebrated the Eucharist, followed by tea and tours of the school, which were led by the marketing girls in the Senior School. The jazz and marimba bands entertained the gathering where the class of 2013 broke into spontaneous dance and song. This created a celebratory atmosphere which continued on the sidelines of the sports field with basketball, hockey and tennis matches.

The year groups from 1973, 1983, 1993, 2003, 2013 were gathering to celebrate anniversaries and our class of 2023 were welcomed as the newest members of the association. What emerged in the speeches and focus of the day is how St Mary's School maintains a keen sense of tradition and yet embraces innovation in education. A highlight of the day was a farewell to Ros Howell as she retires from her role as senior deputy head in the Senior School. Ros joined the staff of St Mary's in 1986. Laura Dube (2013) interviewed Ros - an interview which elicited amusing anecdotes and a strong sense of the love that Ros has for the school and all who have attended over the decades.

Ros will assume a position as advancement co-ordinator next year working with the Foundation and leading the Old Girls' Association to encourage stronger financial support for our Foundation and to further the network of the SMOGS association for the benefit of generations of women to come.

DEANNE KING  
HEAD OF SCHOOL

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

The year-long journey of Confirmation ended last week, when we held our Confirmation service. The Confirmation service is a special occasion for the confirmands and their families. In confirmation, we are not just joining a club, becoming a church member or being given a name. In Baptism and Confirmation, we are given the strengthening gift of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit as described by Paul in 1 Corinthians 12. These gifts are reflections of God's grace expressed through individuals by the power of the Holy Spirit. Bishop Steve Moreo was the president and presider at the service. In his homily, he spoke about the joys of life in Christ with the girls.

The service of confirmation is a reminder that we will never be without any of the gifts of the Spirit.

Congratulations:

Emily Alston

Tannica Di Lembo

Grace Faber

Sarah Hewat

Suline Koning

Rachael Mang'ana

Bonolo Mndebele

Ramadimetja Montjane

Georgina Setzkorn

Maxine Teasdale



**RAKGADI KHOBO**  
CHAPLAIN

## MEET THE self-eSTEAM DEPARTMENT



Jane McMurray  
HoD: Technology BHuishEd (Stellenbosch)



Charlene Buddingh  
HDE (CTTC)



Emily Dingle  
BA Hons (UCT), PGCE (NWU)



Themba Ndimande EdTech  
BEEd 4<sup>th</sup> year student (Wits)



Lynn Northmore  
BA Hons, HDE (Wits)



Simon Idema  
MA Hons (NWU)



## NATIONAL ACCOUNTING OLYMPIAD

On Wednesday 2 August, the following accounting girls from Form III to Form V wrote the second round of the National Accounting Olympiad: Yana Cai (Form V), Kylie Goncalves (Form V), Tara Hammond (Form V), Bianca Kritzman (Form V), Kirsten Roome (Form V), Carla du Toit (Form IV), Grace Faber (Form IV), Nombuso Mathabela (Form IV), Sthabile Mphahlele (Form IV), Lee-Elle Oakley (Form IV), Alexis Troskie (Form IV), Emily Jennett (Form III) and Olwethu Ndlovu (Form III).

Congratulations to the following girls who were St Mary's top performers in their respective grades.



Yana Cai



Carla du Toit



Emily Jennett

**WENDY IEVERS**  
HEAD OF ACCOUNTING

## DEBATING NEWS

Our senior and junior teams participated in the break rounds of the Gauteng Provincial Debating Championships where our junior team, Thabisile Dube (Form I), Thabisa Hadebe (Form I), Owami Msomi (Form I), Bontle Shuenyane (Form II) and Jemma Tresling (Form II) beat St David's in the open break finals, making them the top junior debating team in Gauteng.

We extend our congratulations to our senior team, consisting of Juhi Baboolal (Form III), Francesca Lewitton (Form IV), Kgaugelo Makgato (Form III), Reitumetse Molapo (Form III) and Danika Neuhoff (Form V) (in absentia) for reaching the semi finals.

Well done to the following girls for ranking in the top 20 of the tournament overall:

Junior top 20:

Owami Msomi placed 13<sup>th</sup>

Jemma Tresling placed 7<sup>th</sup>

Senior top 20:

Juhi Baboolal placed 17<sup>th</sup>

Francesca Lewitton placed 4<sup>th</sup>

**SIMON IDEMA**  
TEACHER IN CHARGE





## FROM THE LIFE SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

On Thursday 5 October, the (Form IV) Life Sciences girls completed a practical in preparation for the final IEB Practical Assessment Task that will take place in 2024. Their practical investigated the ability of bromothymol blue Indicator to detect different concentrations of ethanol in a milk solution. The girls were assigned the intricate task of performing a ten-fold serial dilution to create different concentrations of ethanol in the milk samples before adding bromothymol blue Indicator. Colour changes of blue, green and yellow in the respective solutions represented the amount of ethanol present in each milk sample. Throughout the practical, the girls were assessed on their ability to follow instructions in the method provided to them, as well as measuring various solutions using the correct apparatus with care and precision. While this is a vital assessment in Life Sciences which is completed under test conditions, the girls always embrace the challenge have fun in the process.



During the Wednesday morning cultural session, the Form II girls have been assigned the task of crafting a recyclable and eco-friendly parachute. The project's objective is to design a parachute that can take the longest to reach the ground when dropped from the second floor of the Desmond Tutu Science Block.

While completing this project, the girls will develop two extremely important twenty-first century skills - collaborative problem solving and effective communication, thus preparing them for an ever-changing work and school environment.



**CARMEN ELS**  
LIFE SCIENCES TEACHER



# FROM THE GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

## St Mary's Sports Event Map - Tannica Di Lembo



### A foray into GIS map making

The Form IV Geography learners took their first steps into practical GIS map making in class this week. They began with GIS programming on a basic level and were able to visualise what a career as a GIS specialist or analyst might entail. The girls enjoyed the practical exposure and were keen to go home and make maps of their homes and other experiences with their new skill set.

**JULIA PAHL**  
HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY





## FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music examinations were held in-person at St Mary's School on Thursday 5 October. We are proud of our girls who achieved splendid results!



Thando Msane  
(Flute grade 7)



Milla Morse  
(Flute grade 6)



Xena Zephyrine  
(Flute grade 5)



Retshegofaditswe Seobi  
(Alto Saxophone grade 5)



Adetoyin Adetunji  
(Alto Saxophone grade 2)

**DUDLEY TROLLOPE**  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

### Orchestra and jazz band at prizegiving

The Music department once again formed an integral part of the proceedings when we celebrated the matric class of 2023 at the annual prizegiving event held on Friday 6 October. The ceremony commenced with a moving performance by the orchestra, which played a captivating rendition of the Old Irish hymn *Be Thou My Vision*, arranged by Sue Cock as the processional hymn. As the awards ceremony unfolded, the choir delighted the audience with an energetic arrangement of *Siyajabula* by Bongo Maffin, arranged by Nomvula Mehlomakhulu. Lastly, the jazz band, showcased their talent with an upbeat *Mi'casa Medley* arranged by Benjamin Jephta. We, as the Music department, extend our heartfelt wishes to the class of 2023 as they prepare for their upcoming final examinations.



### Marimba ensembles and jazz band at Old Girls' Day

The junior and senior marimba ensembles began the festivities in The Edge foyer, providing upbeat music for the Old Girls to enjoy. The jazz band was also delighted to perform at this year's annual Old Girls' Day. As one of their final performance opportunities of the year, the band marked the occasion by showcasing the repertoire they had diligently crafted throughout the year. Their repertoire included special arrangements gifted to the band by Benjamin Jephta, featuring songs like *Cold Heart* by Elton John and *Dua Lipa, Grazing in the Grass*, made famous by Hugh Masekela, and a captivating *Mi'casa Medley* by Mi casa. In addition, the band explored various genres, delving into Latin jazz and techno with performances of songs like *Blinding Lights* by The Weeknd, *Oye Como Va* by Tito Puente and others. The jazz band thoroughly enjoyed entertaining the audience at Old Girls' Day, making it a memorable celebration of their hard work and musical talent.



**DANIELLE MCKINNON**  
MUSIC TEACHER



## DANCE CLUB

The St Mary's dance team competed at the American Dance Awards regional event in Centurion. They won a gold for the contemporary and an up mate gold for the hip hop routine. This is a week long event which highlights a growing partnership with the South African Dance community.



The Hip Hop group received an ultimate gold in the competitive section



The contemporary group was awarded gold



Khumo Mochela performed a Morden solo and was awarded gold



Another group of St Mary's performers who are not part of the dance crew, competed in the novice section of the competition. The following girls danced a modern dance tilted *Rain* and were awarded a high silver.

Back row: Cora Slade, Emily Adelaar, Natalie Maher and Nyamikha Mousse  
Front row: Gomolemo Moeng, Katherine Davidson and Malakhiwe Vanda



Our new heads of dance for 2024 both took part in the competitive section for Hip Hop. Yanda Magudumana (Form IV) performed a Hip Hop solo and earned an ultimate gold as well as a special award and Venus Chow (Form IV) earned a gold for her solo performance.

**CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK**  
TEACHER IN CHARGE



## IT SHOWCASE

The IT Showcase at Assumption Convent School which brought forth a wave of innovation and creativity from young tech enthusiasts. The event which took place Wednesday 4 October, served as a platform for senior school girls to showcase their talent in Information Technology, offering a sneak peek into the future of digital innovation.

From application development to artificial intelligence projects, 14 students from various schools around Gauteng exhibited their programming skills, pushing the boundaries of what is possible in the world of technology. Bianca Kritzman (Form V) and Danika Neuhoﬀ (Form V) represented our school.

The IT Showcase garnered attention not only from the school community but also from industry professionals who were invited as judges. Their feedback provided valuable insights to the students, encouraging them to pursue their passion for technology beyond the school walls. In addition to the impressive displays, the IT Showcase facilitated mentorship opportunities for students interested in pursuing IT careers. Networking sessions allowed students to connect with professionals in the field, creating a bridge between the classroom and the industry.

From apps designed to streamline school life, to those addressing broader societal issues, the creativity displayed was nothing short of remarkable. Although this was not a competition, some remarkable comments were directed at our girls. Bianca was praised for having a real-life application, which can be of great use in the business sector. On the other hand, Danika delved into a gaming project. She was commended for the appropriate use of IT tools and use of machine learning algorithms (Artificial Intelligence).

As we reflect on the event, it is evident that the future of technology is in safe hands with these young minds driving the next wave of digital transformation.



Danika Neuhoﬀ and Bianca Kritzman

**BONGINKOSI GININDZA**  
IT TEACHER

## FORM I AMAZING RACE

On Tuesday 10 October, the level of excitement was tangible as 16 Japanese rugby teams (St Mary's girls) embarked on the annual Amazing Race. The Form I Geography classes have been studying a section on world Geography with a specific focus on Japan's demographic trends, economic status, climatic data and natural disasters. The thinking behind this activity was to keep the girls engaged in fun challenges while drawing from a multiple set of mapwork and graphicacy skills to aid and accelerate the learning process. A spirit of friendly competition, collaboration and effort were at the forefront as each team decided on which route to pursue.

The girls interacted with a world culture as challenges included performing a Kung Fu dance, basic karate moves, creating an Origami Koi fish, dressing a geisha in a kimono and applying their make-up, sumo wrestling and making Onigiri and Wagashi. The challenges entailed the use of devices as various apps were needed to complete the race. Google Earth allowed the girls to appreciate the metropolis of Tokyo. Each team had to upload a video of their race onto the Form I Geography platform.

Gauging from the favourable feedback received, the girls thoroughly enjoyed the educational value of this experience. Congratulations to the Sungoliath team on winning this race in record time and to the Red Sparks for winning the best war cry.

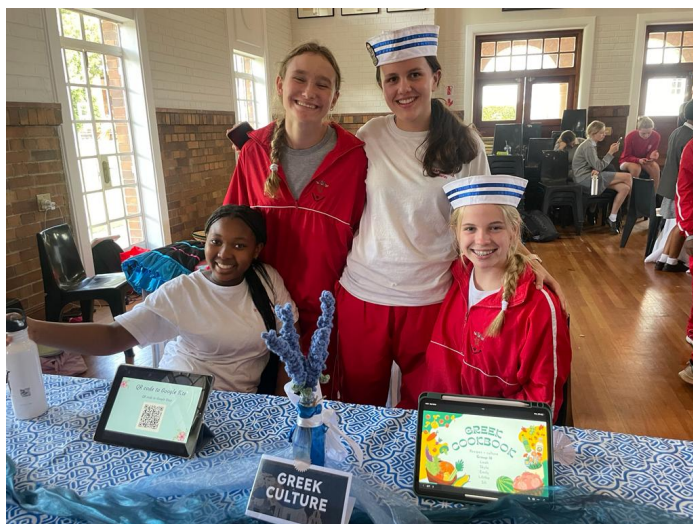
**ZIMKHITHA RAOLANE**  
TEACHER IN CAHRGE





## FORM I self-eSTEAM

The Self-Esteem project for the Form 1s culminated in a successfully produced digital cookbook, on a culture of their choice. Their tables were appropriately decorated, tastings were enjoyed and there was a general buzz of excitement in the hall as they showed their stop-start motion, Google sites and cooking videos. A big thank you to Ms Quix for supporting her Form 1s and to all the teachers who mentored a group and came to view the final product. The self-Esteem team appreciates your support.



self-eSTEAM TEAM



## FROM THE VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT: MATRIC ART EXHIBITION

On Monday 2 October, the St Mary's Visual Arts department hosted an art exhibition celebrating the work of the matric class of 2023. Parents, students and visitors had the opportunity to feed their imaginations and explore worlds beyond the one we live in. At the exhibition, the matrics provided their viewers with different interpretations of their examination theme: *Resonance*. We were also privileged, to have one of South Africa's leading artists, Frances Goodman, to open the exhibition. This internationally acclaimed artist explores the feminine identity using unconventional mediums such as acrylic nails, eye lashes, sequins and jewellery. Her talk reflected on her own journey as an artist, and the sense of hope that the arts can provide us with. Overall, it was a memorable night, celebrating beautiful art and wonderful music.



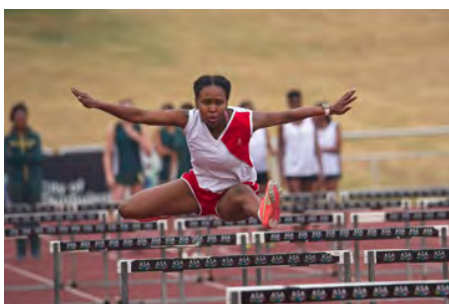
**KAOLIN THOMSON**  
VISUAL ARTS TEACHER

## ATHLETICS

H*i fgXUm% 'CVtCVf* was a big d*UmZcf 'hY'Uh'YHrg*"K hen'k e'V*ta dYred 'Uh'hY'ibhYf!* \J[\ 'Yj Ybh'Uh'; Yfa ]g*rcb*"H*Yfy* was g*hZZ*  
V*ta dYhjcb Zfca 'hY'cd Vta dYhjrcfgUh'hJgYj Ybh' 'hY'hYUa 'hfUjbyX'UX'UbX* brought back home the inter-high shield" Well done!



Amy Ireland and Christina du Plessis running the junior 1500m



Khumo Mochela in the U165 hurdles



Tea-Simone Hutchons winning the U16 400m



Captains with the inter-high shield



The happy team

**QUIX**  
DIRECTOR OF SPORT



# BASKETBALL

The term III basketball season has been busy, full of fun and filled with promise. Although we had to deal with some unfortunate injuries the results and the progress made by the players has been quite remarkable. Some junior players were forced to step up and take responsibility and they did so admirably. These players took the opportunities that they were given and made the most of them.

Having our own hard courts gave our players a reason to celebrate and bring out the best that they have to offer. Thank you to Ms King and the school management team for their foresight and their support.

Our U14 team was unbeaten this season. A notable achievement given the fact that not all the players had been exposed to basketball until their high school careers begun. We are very proud of our juniors, and we are very excited to see what more they will bring to basketball as they get older. This group has tremendous talent and energy. This coupled with the right management has made for a super season!

Our U15 and U16 teams were so much more competitive this season. They won some of their matches and narrowly lost others. The improvement that they have made has been significant. Well done!

Our pool of senior players is filled with potential. Although the team differed from week to week, we were able to compete with the best. I look forward to having all the players back at full strength, the competition will be elevated and so will our standard of play. Our senior team lost only one match this term. We are looking forward to an unbeaten season of our own!

Thank you to our coaches who have worked tirelessly to bring out the best in our players. Coach Emma and Coach BK are committed wholeheartedly to the growth and success of basketball at St Mary's, and we are most grateful!

Thank you also to Ms Makhalanyane and Mrs Masinga for their support and their interest in basketball. Your input is greatly valued! Mr Ngubane and Mr Koketso have umpired our weekly fixtures. They never miss a game, and we thank them as well, for their time and their contribution.

Personally, I cannot wait to see what the 2024 basketball season brings. There is so much to look forward to and so much to be pumped up about!



We are thrilled to announce that Taleah Naicker, Abigail van Zyl and Jael Tirkaso were selected for the City of Johannesburg U15 Girls Basketball Team that participated in the 6th Annual OR Tambo Soncini Social Cohension Games in Soweto.





## GOLF

Gia Raad (Form III) has always been an A team hockey player and athlete but as she develops into one of the best junior golfers in South Africa, her other sports are taking a back seat.

This year Gia has won:

- South African Junior U16 and U19 amateur championship
- The English U16 and U19 amateur championship
- The North West Open
- The Boland Open
- Recently she was part of the Central Gauteng winning inter provincial team
- The Gauteng champions of champions

Gia, this is an outstanding array of results for a young player. We wish you all the best on your golf journey and will watch your play and progress with interest.



**QUIX**  
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

## SWIMMING

Over the weekend of 5 to 8 October, a number of St Mary's girls attended the Seagulls winter short course gala in KwaZulu-Natal. They had many good swims including some personal best times and some national qualifying times. It is fantastic to see so many girls competing early on in the season.



Congratulations to Kiera Cloete (Form IV) and Grace Morris (Form II) who have been invited to swim at the BRICS Games being held at Kingspark from Wednesday 18 to Saturday 21 October. They are racing as a development squad against international competition. This is a wonderful opportunity and they will gain valuable experience.



Grace Morris



Kiera Cloete

**QUIX**  
DIRECTOR OF SPORT



## TENNIS

The St Mary's tennis team comprising of our top Form III players took part in the tennis at the Parktown Spring Festival. Both teams fared exceptionally well with St Mary's (1) beating Parktown Girls, Jeppe High School, St Dominic's and St Mary's (2) to take the top spot and the trophy. Congratulations to Kirsten Hادياريس, Emma Shuttleworth, Jamey Forrester and Lucy Viljoen on their high standard of play. Lucy also won the trophy and a prize for the player who won the most games in both her singles and doubles matches. St Mary's (2) beat both Jeppe High School and St Dominic's to take 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Well done to Kate Leishman, Annabel Schreuder, Bayley Lord, Lai Yi Pinkney and Ruby Hawarden. The team obtained valuable match play experience and exposure and they are commended on their sportsmanship on the court and the wonderful camaraderie off the court.

Much fun was had at the junior inter-house tennis that was held on 3 October. Well done to all the houses for fielding full teams. Congratulations to Karney for winning the event.

League results 10 October:

St Mary's A beat St Stithians A 35-28  
 St Mary's B beat St Stithians B 49-14  
 St Mary's C lost to Northcliff A 7-56  
 St Mary's D lost to Northcliff B 30-33  
 St Mary's E beat St Mary's F 35-28  
 St Mary's F beat St Mary's G 35-28

**RENE PLANT**  
 HEAD OF TENNIS



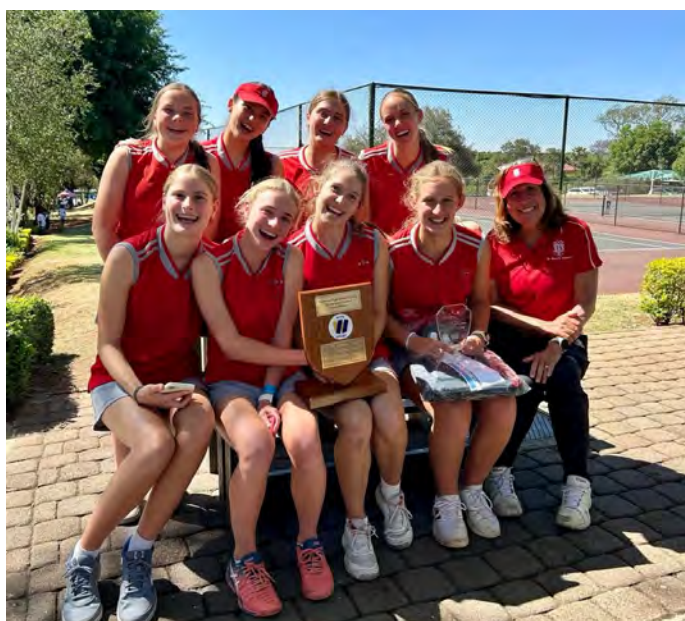
Clayton juniors



Furse juniors



Karney and Phelps juniors



Parktown Festival



## ROWING

The St Mary's rowers have been building a solid foundation for the season's racing with the senior Holy Rosary regatta (7 October) and the junior St Andrew's regatta (14 October). Our spectacular result highlights from both weekends are: Nicole Ledile (Form III) and Danelia Price-Hughes (Form IV) who placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> respectively in the 1<sup>st</sup> 1x, the 1<sup>st</sup> 4-+ who won gold, the U16 A 2x for claiming silver and huge congratulations to our juniors for stepping up and achieving gold in the U14 8x, U15 2x, U15 1x and U15 4x+ . We are all so proud of you girls!

The countdown to Gauteng Championships has begun and our girls are putting in both the quantity and the quality of training required to achieve remarkable results. With less than a month to champs, the club is getting excited about our October half-term camp coming up.

"Rowers...can do it all, and they can do it well. Joining the rowing team will be the greatest decision you will ever make, if you choose to accept the harsh realities of the sport. By doing so, you will understand the incalculable value of an indomitable spirit - and you will learn, above all, that your achievements in life are limited only by the magnitude of your drive to achieve them." - Amy Yao

**LILY van LOGGERENBERG**  
FORM III





# ST MARY'S OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

## St Mary's Old Girls' new teacher award recipient

Previously, the St Mary's Old Girls' Association sponsored a PGCE bursary for an individual who wished to pursue a career in teaching. Over the last decade, the many recipients of this award have gone on to become meaningful contributors to the education landscape in South Africa.

This year, the association decided to do something new to recognise and reward the St Mary's teachers who have added great value to the school's 135-year tradition of passionate and purposeful education.

We are proud to announce that Robyn Knowles, head of Ikusasa Lethu, was chosen as the 2024 recipient of this award. She will be attending Wits Language School next year to learn isiZulu. Congratulations, Robyn.

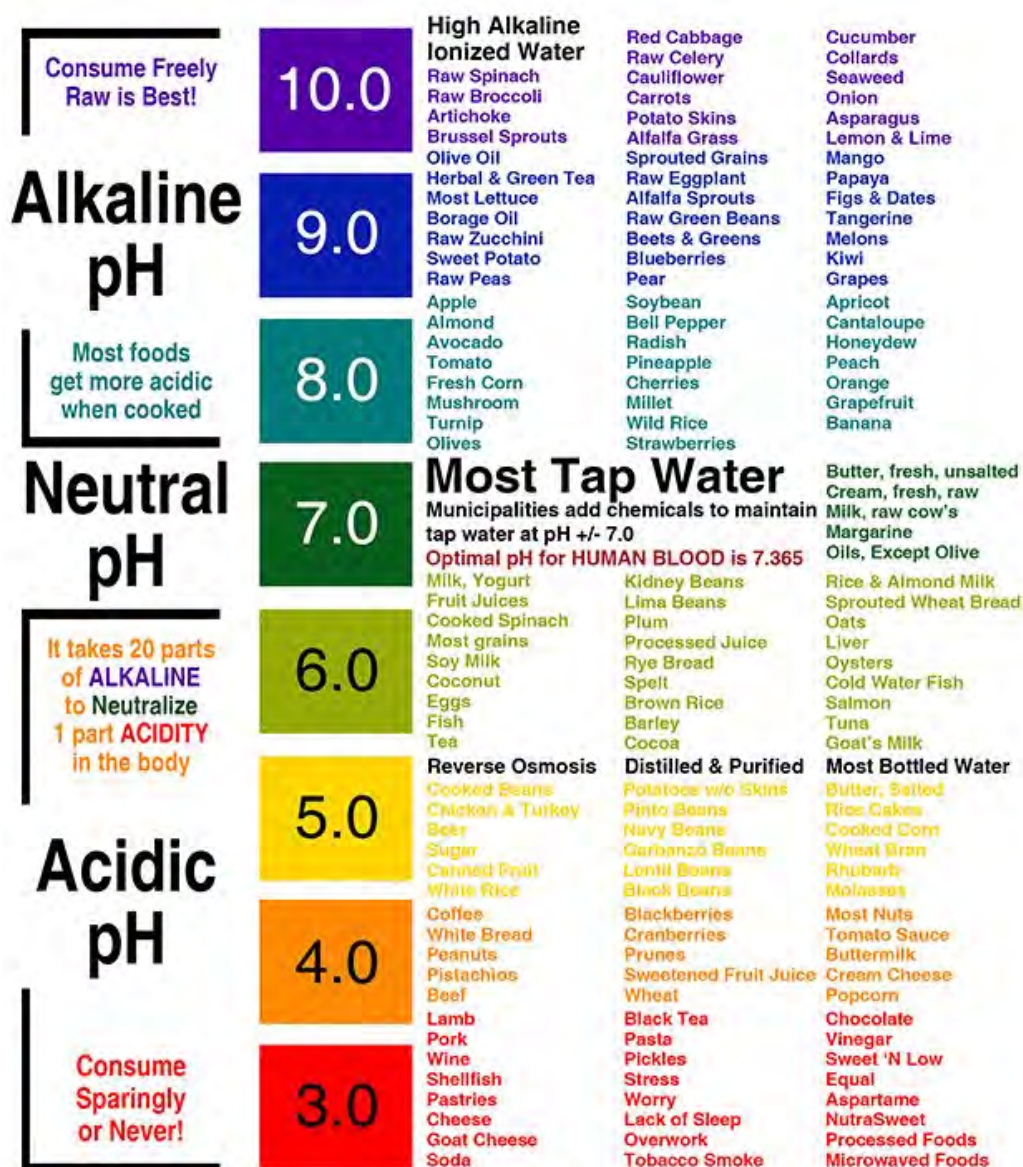


OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

## HEALTH CORNER

The way the body processes and utilises food is a complex and highly regulated process that involves multiple systems and organs. Here's a simplified overview of how food works in our bodies:

HEALTH TEAM





## ED-ADMIN PARENT PORTAL

St Mary's uses a school management information system called Ed-Admin to distribute termly school reports and to provide parents with an opportunity to inspect and amend personal information recorded in our database.

Below, please find details as to how to access the Ed-Admin St Mary's parent portal:

- You will require a Parent ID whenever signing into the parent portal. If you are unsure of your Parent ID, please email [portal@stmary.co.za](mailto:portal@stmary.co.za) with both your and your daughter's names and surnames, for assistance.
- To access the St Mary's parent portal, please visit the school website on [www.stmarysschool.co.za](http://www.stmarysschool.co.za) and click on the portal login on the top right of the page.
- Enter in your Parent ID and choose 'forgot password'. Please ensure that you enter the email address that St Mary's has on record and enter in the CAPTCHA code.
- You will then receive an email. Once received, click on the link in order to setup your password. Choose a secure password. You will then receive another email to confirm your password has been changed. You can now proceed to log into the portal.

If you experience problems logging into the secure portal, please contact [portal@stmary.co.za](mailto:portal@stmary.co.za).

## SUPPORTER GEAR FROM THE CLOTHES CUPBOARD

