



St Mary's U17 netball team (see page 8 for more details)

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

As we head towards the end of Term I, the teachers and mentors are in the process of reviewing their students' progress, which will culminate in marks and comments recorded on Term I reports. I am certain that parents are also reflecting on the term and how their daughters have fared. These reports will be available on the portal on Thursday 6 April.

The teachers and I often talk about our expectation that the girls should be organised and independent. This is an important aspect of being a successful student and developing confidence, but it does not mean that parents should not approach the school and form relationships with teachers and the management. It is of such value to the St Mary's girls that their parents and the school are in partnership.

The Form Is and IIs each has a grade co-ordinator, Ms Quix (Form I) and Mrs Frost (Form II), both of whom are in touch with the daily experience of the girls. The house tutors liaise regularly with the mentor teachers and subject teachers, and this gives them a sound knowledge of the girls in all Forms, within a house. The management team and the deputies are also available, and they welcome meeting with parents. The school app under staff profiles, Senior School, has the profile and contact details for all members of staff.

We are looking forward to welcoming all our families onto the St Mary's campus for the annual hockey festival from Thursday 30 March to Sunday 2 April. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience our community and socialise with other parents. Importantly, we also host parents from across the country. I thank all the parents who have signed up to work at the festival and support our community.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN



On Thursday 16 March, the Senior School held a special chapel in commemoration of Human Rights Day. The theme for the chapel was taken from the *Declaration on Interfaith and Intercultural Dialogue*:

Acknowledging that despite the many...theological and religious differences and disagreements between Judaism, Christianity and Islam, there is nevertheless a central and essential common ground of faith, hope and love between these three monotheistic and Abrahamic religions -... - **in the greatest Two Commandments of Love of God and Love of the Neighbour** (Matthew 22:34-40 and Mark 12:29-31), however differently they are understood;

And from *St Mary's statement on the Christian identity and ethos of St Mary's*

The overall development of each girl will be based on the values and virtues of the school's Christian tradition, summed up in the first two Biblical commandments: **to love God and to love one's neighbour**. These commandments encompass the values of truth and justice, service and duty, respect, trust and forgiveness.

Although the declaration is focused on the three Abrahamic faiths, we recognise that Africa is a continent of many faiths. As this was our first chapel in this format, we limited our focus to the messages from Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and African Traditional Religion(s).

A recurring theme in the reflections was how the love of God is expressed in the love of neighbour and the importance of being good stewards of creation.

The school is committed to embodying Jesus' love for all and his refusal to treat as "other" those whom the society of his day marginalised. Thus, and in line with the school's commitment to be a South African school, St Mary's seeks to encourage respect for and understanding of a rich and vibrant diversity within its community, on the part of girls, parents and staff.

REVD RAKGADI KHOBO
CHAPLAIN

MEET THE DRAMATIC ARTS DEPARTMENT



Klaus Jansen van Vuuren
HoD: Dramatic Arts Department
BA, PGCE(UP)



Sasha Ehlers
BA Hons (Wits)

FORM II ACCOUNTING DAY

On Wednesday 8 March, Form II Accounting pupils participated in a business simulation day facilitated by the Johannesburg School of Finance.

The girls were divided into teams and formed their own businesses. They competed against each other to gain the most profit.

The “weather” plays a very important role, a dice is rolled to determine what the weather will be like for the next round. Supply and demand is evident to ensure that each business will make a profit and sell all their products.

In each round of the simulation game, the teams make important pricing, marketing and purchasing decisions. After each round decisions are fed into a computer program that has been designed to recreate a “real life” market environment and produce instant results. Based on their results, teams had to make adjustments to their strategies for the next round.

The winning team is the one that can out-strategise the competition over the four rounds played.

The girls had a fun-filled day.

Congratulations to the overall winning team *Freezy Breezy* who made a R39 424 profit.



Back: Morne Meiring - Johannesburg School of Finance
Front: Yuxi Zhang, Dina Badat, Amy Ireland, Tiffany Mbizi, Phatsimo Mugodi, Mrs Wilford
Playing netball at time of photo - Georgia Plagis

Round 1 winners - *Golden Fruit* made R8 672 profit



Jessica Green, Lulibo Koza, Elizabeth Chilima, Belicia Tshidibi, Abigail Phillips, Grace Morris

Round 2 Winners - *Cono di Neve* with a profit of R21 675



Jordine Obidike, Christine Mihigo, Nolwazi Siziba, Christina du Plessis, Esihle Blose

Round 3 winners - *Shining Suns* with a profit of R25 424



Reese Egberink, Clarissa Papperitz, Zenzi Madondo, Angelina Wang
Playing netball at time of photo - Luyanda Mshengu

WENDY IEVERS
HEAD OF ACCOUNTING

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

Pupils from the environmental club came together on Human Rights Day to plant a new vegetable garden. The girls planted cauliflower, pumpkin, aubergine, cabbage and spinach alongside the shared space with our support staff.

The garden, which will be tended by the girls in the club, is designed to provide fresh produce for those in need and foster a sense of community. There are further plans to expand this venture by growing in recycled crates and pots. We also plan to add fencing around the designated areas with signage to create more character. This garden is about more than just growing food, it's about building relationships and supporting each other. It is exciting to see things grow and know that we're helping the community.



DEAN DU TOIT
PHYSICAL AND NATURAL SCIENCES TEACHER

FROM THE VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

Seminar room artwork

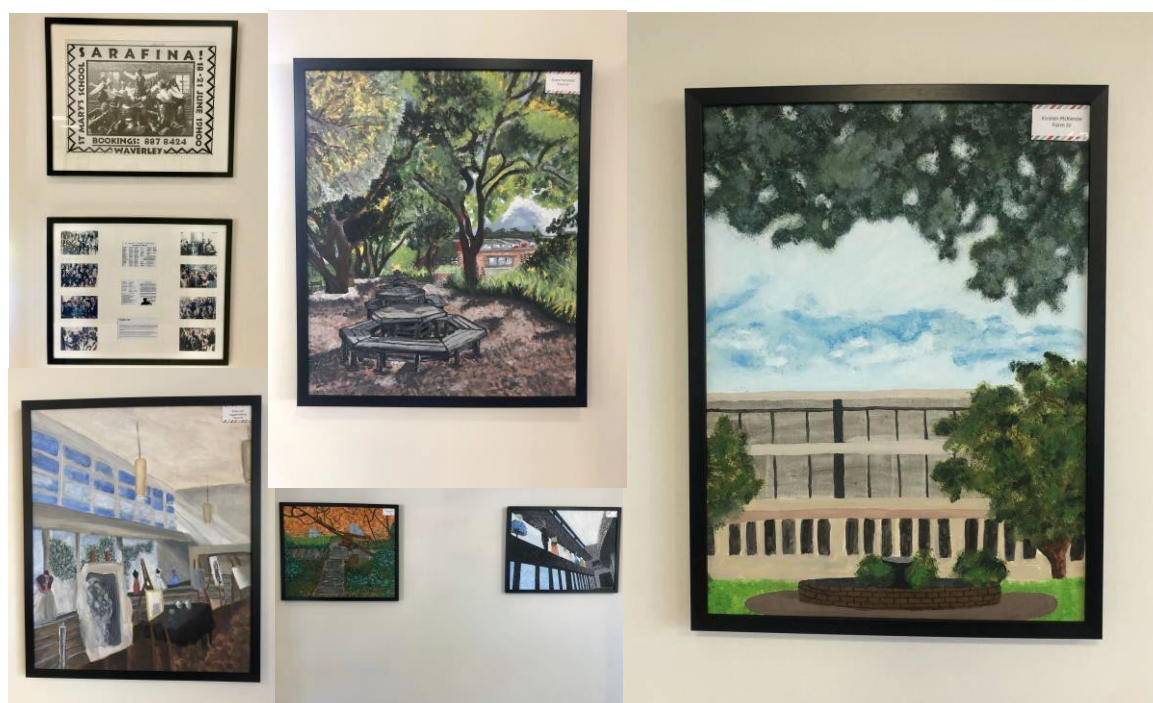
The seminar room in The Edge has recently been redecorated with new artwork. The school uses the seminar room to teach lessons, and host meetings and presentations from external guest speakers. The artworks used were painted by the Form IV class of 2022.

After studying the Impressionism movement in class, they chose different scenes from around the school campus that resonated with them and painted these scenes in an Impressionist style. The artworks display the beautiful buildings and grounds of the St Mary's campus.

In addition to the new paintings, a poster has been put up that is dedicated to St Mary's school play, *Sarafina*, that was held in 1996. The play demonstrated the conditions of being a student at school in 1976, during the apartheid years in South Africa. The play's focus was on the theme Bring back Nelson Mandela and "We are here today...to build the future, where all of us, black and white can come together, forget the past and work to liberate our land."

The late Nelson Mandela visited St Mary's to attend an assembly dedicated to the play. Many photographs of Nelson Mandela with St Mary's pupils have been displayed. We hope these new artworks and posters will be examined and appreciated by everyone using the seminar room and inspire all who enter.

REBECCA TRICKETT
FORM V



MODEL AFRICAN UNION

Over this past weekend (15-19 March), 15 St Mary's students participated in a Model African Union conference hosted by African Leadership Academy. The students called "delegates" during the conference, represented the countries of Ivory Coast, Burundi, Tunisia and Zimbabwe. The delegates were divided into committees and then debated issues and solutions currently experienced by the African continent.

There were a number of special events, mostly in the evenings, designed to recognise and celebrate African heritage, including a cultural night, a gala dinner, and an outing to Constitution Hill.

This conference really pushed our students in terms of their public speaking, debating, and critical thinking skills. They were, quite simply, exceptional. They were brave, passionate and collaborative in a space that was wholly unfamiliar to many of them. All of them deserve credit for simply signing up for this conference, let alone participating with the flair and excellence with which they did. A few pupils were recognised by their committee chairs and the secretariat for outstanding engagement in committee sessions: Well done to all the students - you represented St Mary's with excellence.

Honourable mentions:



Maryam Khan: Press Corps



Kganya Kodisang: Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development

Best speaker:



Orefile Motsukunyane: The specialised committee on Trade, Industry and Minerals

Best delegate:



Dimona Wa Mukenyi: Pan-African Parliament

Best delegate:



Reitumetse Molapo: The Department of Infrastructure and Energy



St Mary's delegates on cultural night

Dimona has been awarded the Secretariats' choice award, which is one of the most prestigious awards given to a candidate selected by the secretariat of the MAU conference.

EMILY DINGLE
TEACHER IN CHARGE

FROM THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT

House plays were held on Thursday 23 March. Well done to Phelps house for winning and Entle Sepeng who was named the best actress. Results:

1. Phelps
2. Karney
3. Clayton
4. Furse



Best Actress: Entle Sepeng (Phelps)

KLAUS JANSEN VAN VUUREN
HEAD OF DRAMATIC ARTS

SPEECH AND DRAMA COLLEGE FESTIVAL

The Trophy Team and Individual Best Speaker achieved excellence in this year's Speech and Drama College Festival. The Trophy Team of Dimona Wa Mukenyi, Megan Kench and Kylie Goncalves achieved an A and the Individual Best Speaker, Tessa Dagut, achieved an A+.



Dimona Wa Mukenyi Megan Kench Kylie Goncalves Tessa Dagut

The Trophy Team's topic was *Bazinga* and the girls spoke about their own moments of epiphany. The team spoke with confidence and nuance and delighted the audience with their wit, teamwork, humour and insights. Although the thoughtful 'impromptu speech' by Tessa Dagut for which she only had 10 minutes to prepare is not available, her profound 'prepared speech' is shared for you to enjoy.

Our grateful thanks to Thiya Kalan for chairing the St Mary's event with such aplomb.

LINDA MARK
ENGLISH TEACHER

"We shall not cease from exploration. And the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time."

These lines from TS Eliot's poem *Little Gidding* were first uttered to me through my computer's tinny speakers. It's April 2020 and the only exploring I'd been doing was falling through Internet rabbit holes. I came across a channel entitled "*Garden Congregation*". When public worship was suspended, morning prayers were streamed from the garden of the Canterbury cathedral. It grew from daily religious readings to reciting famous pieces of secular literature such as *The Wind in the Willows*, *How the Leopard Got Its Spots*, and of course, *Little Gidding*. Eliot's lines implore us to continue the human compulsion of exploration and to come back to our origins, with a better sense of the self. 2020 was a sad time, a seminal time. A time in which I thought I would be stuck at 15 forever, only to come out of it feeling a hundred years older and driven to answer the question raised by Eliot, how do the physical places we inhabit affect our sense of being and belonging later on? Humans are not static creatures and have always possessed a desire to travel. As a matric student, I approached my English set work, *The Theory of Flight* by Zimbabwean author Siphiwe Ndlovu with a mixture of curiosity and dread at having to read another set work novel during my December holiday. The book explores the way in which genealogy and stories of heritage intersect and move from home to home and generation to generation. Ndlovu specifically writes about the wisdom that is gained when we see ourselves as part of a vast cosmos. She tells us that there is wonder and liberation when you become aware of your place in the world as not much more than a tiny speck in the grander scheme of things. Closer to home, the UMSUKA project, a local anthropological project, provides ethnically diverse South Africans from diverse backgrounds access to our common hominin heritage, to engage with our collective ancestral origins in ways that unite us in the present. This a true testament to TS Eliot's desire "to come back to where we started".

However, a sense of place is just as strongly evoked in poetry as it is in novels and academia. After all, the inspiration for this speech is Eliot's poem *Little Gidding*, a secluded church in the remote English countryside. To exemplify the power of poetry through a South African example, Adam Schwartzman's poem *Westpark* is a glimpse into the cyclical nature of generational immigration patterns, specifically that of the Johannesburg Jewish community. The title *Westpark* refers to the cemetery located within the dusty north of the Melville koppies where, Schwartzman claims, "sons come to bury their mothers very far away from the Old Country". I wonder how much "home" is enmeshed in our identities and whether new citizenship for immigrants ever confers national belonging and attachment - how the physical places we inhabit affect our sense of being? Or as Rumi, the 13th century Islamic scholar and poet wrote "Whoever left marooned from his origin; *Shall seek the day of his return*"

Time too affects perspective. After attending the same school for 15 years, it's hard for me not to notice the little, insignificant things that have changed. A faded classroom poster was finally taken down after half a decade, a new teacher behind an old desk, and even the way the light falls on certain afternoons now differs depending on the state of the construction of a new building. And while I would like to keep the school, I've called home for as long as I can remember safe in the snowglobe of my nostalgia, I know the day that I will soon have to let it go is slowly looming.

We are hard-wired for exploration and in this process of searching for something outside of ourselves, we ultimately reveal the truth within ourselves. And maybe then, after reflection, we will really know the place "for the first time."

TESSA DAGUT
FORM V

ST MARY'S JAZZ BAND - SINGING SISTAS

On Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 March, the Jazz Band performed at the Singing Sistas Choir Festival. We were all excited to finally get to showcase our newest repertoire, that had been in the works since our very first rehearsal in January. We performed a variety of pieces, all hailing from different time periods, countries, and genres. *Superstition* by Stevie Wonder was an upbeat introduction to the ensemble, *Cold Heart Remix* by Elton John and Dua Lipa was a melding of two generations, which found common ground in a pop-funk soundscape. Lastly, *Grazing in the Grass* was a homage to South African Jazz legend and anti-apartheid activist Hugh Masekela.

The band highly enjoyed both nights of the festival, many girls had the opportunity to perform a solo for the first time. The energy was truly contagious and electrifying and added to two wonderful evenings of music-making. We are extremely grateful to have been given this opportunity to share our love of music with such an enthusiastic audience.

Special thank you to Ms McKinnon for leading us as a band, to Ms Moelwyn-Hughes and Elliott Rogers for lending their talent to our ensemble over these past few months.

TESSA DAGUT
FORM V



SPORTS

NETBALL FESTIVALS

This past weekend was a netball-filled weekend. The U15, U16 and U17 netball teams all participated in netball festivals. The U16 netball team participated in the St Andrew's hockey, netball, and squash festival. The U17 netball team participated in the Kingsmead U17 Netball Festival and St Mary's hosted the St Mary's U15 Netball Festival.

The U16 netball team had a competitive weekend with the festival having 16 teams, but the team stuck together and played good netball.

The U16 team lost to Redhill in the quarter finals and ended up in positions five to eight.

The U17 netball team had a very successful weekend, ending at the top of their pool in pool stages, but lost in the semi-finals to Roedean School. The team won the bronze medal match against Brescia House to end 3rd in the festival.

The St Mary's U15 Netball Festival 2023 has doubled in size and consisted of 24 teams. The teams were divided into four pools of six teams each. Round robin match format was played during the pool stage, with the top two teams in each pool advancing to the quarterfinals, position one to eight: the middle two teams in each pool playing for positions nine to 16 and the bottom two teams playing for positions 17 to 24. The final festival standing was as follows:

1 st	Reddam Bedfordview
2 nd	St Stithians College
3 rd	St Mary's School
4 th	Roedean School
5 th	Redhill School
6 th	St Andrew's School
7 th	Cornwall Hill College
8 th	Crawford College Lonehill
9 th	Holy Rosary School
10 th	Trinityhouse Rankpark Ridge
11 th	St Anne's College
12 th	Steyn City School

13 th	Brescia House
14 th	St Mary's DSG Pretoria
15 th	St Dunstan's College
16 th	St Dominic's College
17 th	Parktown Girls High
18 th	Waterstone College
19 th	St Mary's School (2)
20 th	Kings School Linbro
21 st	St Peter's College
22 nd	St Teresa's College
23 rd	Kingsmead College
24 th	Fourways High



St Mary's netball congratulates the following girls for being selected as part of the D13 top 14 players in their age groups:

U14

U15



Sisekelo Buthelezi



Keira Beeton



Jenna Blaauw



Alexa Stylianou

PALESA MASINGA
HEAD OF NETBALL

DIVING

Diving is not only a physically strenuous sport or one that requires an insane awareness of one's body in space, but it is also exceptionally mentally challenging and involves a huge amount of courage and bravery. Four brave and courageous St Mary's divers took to the St Dominic's boards this past weekend to compete in the Central Gauteng Aquatics Championships which was a trial to qualify for the South African Youth Games and Senior Nationals.

Kristin Biggs (Form I), Emma Campbell (Form II), Keratile Manaka (Form III) and Zalika Methula (Form IV) competed in various events over the weekend. In order to qualify for the South African Youth Games and Senior Nationals, the divers need to meet various criteria. They need a relatively high degree of difficulty as well as to reach a certain overall score.

Kristin Biggs missed the qualifying score by only a few points. We are proud of her as she has only recently started diving and has come a long way to be able to even attend the trial.

Emma Campbell has qualified to compete for U16 on the 1m board and provisionally on the 3m board.

Keratile Manaka and Zalika Methula qualified to compete provincially for U18 for 1m, 3m, platform and synchronized diving. They also went on to compete in seniors and qualified to compete at Senior Nationals for 1m, 3m, platform and synchronized diving. An impressive achievement.

Nationals will be held in Durban from Tuesday 11 until Sunday 16 April. These will be trials for various South African teams such as the likes of the World Championships in Japan in July, the first of the Olympic qualifiers.



Kristin Biggs

Emma Campbell

Keratile Manaka

Zalika Methula

KATE SHEPHERD
HEAD OF DIVING

SWIMMING

Towards the end of February, Kiera Cloete and Hannah Rigby, both swam the Grand Prix gala in Durban. Kiera made the A final in 50m and 100m breaststroke. She swam a SA Nationals A qualifying time in the 100m breaststroke with a time of 1.14,98 and a SA Nationals B qualifying time in the 50m with a time of 34,46.

Hannah swam a SA Nationals B qualifying time in the 200m Individual Medley with a time of 2.31,23. She swam her personal best times in five events.

Grace Morris and Olivia Krüger have already qualified for SA Nationals A and will join two girls above at that gala in April. Well done and good luck with all your events.



Kiera Cloete

Hannah Rigby

Grace Morris

Olivia Krüger

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

HOCKEY

ST ANDREW'S FESTIVAL

A mixed U16 team was selected to participate in the St Andrew's Festival over the long weekend. The team comprised of some U16 players along with some of the U15s as well. This competition, at the very start of the season, provided an ideal opportunity to see our players perform against different opposition and perform under pressure. Along with this, it provided ideal exposure and a window of opportunity for learning and growth.

We played six matches in three days. Our team went on to win five out of the six and finished fifth overall!

While there is still much room for improvement, our girls are commended for the progress that they made throughout the weekend, their positivity, and their energy and for some great patches of play!

We look forward to seeing what the rest of the season holds for our teams!



TARYN de WINNAAR
HOCKEY COACH

EQUESTRIAN

Jenna Blaauw (Form II) competed in the International Equestrian Vaulting (CVI) competition from 18-19 March at the Kyalami Lipizzaner Hall. The event saw four top foreign judges officiate at this international selection show and not only did Jenna win the highest-level event for Juniors, but also received a qualifying score in order to compete at the Junior World Vaulting Championships in Sweden later this year. Despite being the youngest competitor, Jenna was the only female vaulter to achieve this qualification. Jenna also vaults and competes for the St Mary's equestrian team through SANESA.



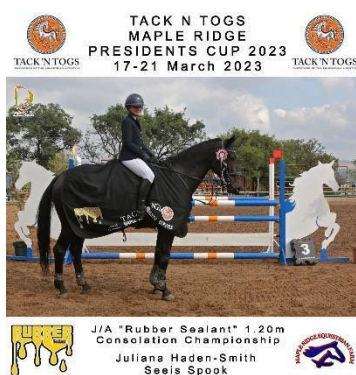
Gauteng Vaulting Midrand CVI
17 - 18 March 2023



PRESIDENT'S CUP SHOW JUMPING AT MAPLE RIDGE

Between 17 and 21 March, Julia de Villiers and Juliana Haden-Smith (Form III) took part in the President's Cup show jumping at Maple Ridge. Both girls competed against very experienced adults in their classes. Julia came 2nd and 8th in her 1.2m qualifier classes making her the joint highest qualifier for the Championship class. She had an unlucky four faults in this final class.

Juliana took part in the 1.2m consolidation championship class and won the class out of 85 competitors. Well done, girls!



MELANIE BLAIR
TEACHER IN CHARGE

ENSEMBLES IN CONCERT



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

Ensembles in Concert

An evening of musical camaraderie!

Kingsmead College
with
St Mary's School, Waverley
Monday, 27 March 2023
18h30
The Edge

HOCKEY FESTIVAL

celebrating the 22nd

ST MARY'S HOCKEY FESTIVAL

proudly sponsored by Standard Bank

29 MARCH - 2 APRIL 2023

500+

TALENTED PLAYERS

4955

MINUTES OF PLAY

188

EXCITING MATCHES

7500+

PASSIONATE SUPPORTERS



Competing in the 22nd prestigious St Mary's Hockey Festival in March and April 2023 are 32 TEAMS from Southern Africa

St Mary's School will be hosting more than 500 competitors and their coaching staff, as well as the many supporters expected during the course of the festival.

ST MARY'S SCHOOL IS LOOKING FOR THE FOLLOWING SPONSORSHIPS:

- Sponsored boards on the AstroTurf
- A dedicated St Mary's Hockey Festival app with links to social media platforms will be used throughout the festival. The app has exciting advertising opportunities with great brand positioning for companies wishing to reach our considerable visitor numbers

If you would like to contribute and show your support, kindly complete the form on the next page and return it to lisa.grobbelaar@stmary.co.za



HOCKEY FESTIVAL



SPONSORSHIP FORM

(Please check the appropriate box as required)

AstoTurf advertising board sponsorship

- Boards to be erected around the perimeter of the AstroTurf
- Sponsorship of board is for a full calendar year, starting 29 March 2023, ending 28 March 2024

Board sizes:

<input type="checkbox"/>	1.2m x 2.4m	R15 000
<input type="checkbox"/>	3m x 2m	R22 000

I/we _____ (name/name of company)

would like to sponsor an AstroTurf board as checked in the boxes above.

Display advertisement on the St Mary's events app

The St Mary's events app is dedicated to the Hockey Festival during the festival and is used throughout the year for St Mary's events, sport tournaments and festivals. A display advertisement on the St Mary's events app will be for one year from 29 March 2023, ending 28 March 2024. Annual cost for company details and a link to company website/social media on the app is **R5 000**.

I/we _____ (name/name of company)

would like to advertise on the St Mary's events app.

Kindly supply all artwork in jpeg or png format by no later than 28 February 2023.

Name _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Please return to lisa.grobbelaar@stmary.co.za



SAVE THE DATE - ST MARY'S ROWING GOLF DAY



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, 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 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 set up 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.