



Emma Gray (FV)



Kerry Grundlingh (FIV)



Tali Newman (FV)



Hannah Newman (FV)



Kelly Carreira (FV)

Congratulations to our newly-selected national junior rowing athletes, who will participate at the Junior World Championships in Plodiv, Bulgaria in August: Emma Gray and Kerry Grundlingh in the women's double and Tali Newman, Hannah Newman and Kelly Carreira in the women's coxed four. We look forward to watching their progress throughout the next few months.

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

Your adolescent daughters will identify with me when I state that I have battled against avoidance about writing this article. The deadline for submissions is usually lunch time on a Monday but by, close of school on Wednesday, Boniswa Matiwane was still waiting for me.

There are so many topics that I could address and there is an endless necessity for ongoing communication. Much in past weeks has been negative in nature. You would have received numerous letters this week about managing Covid-19 and concerns about general behaviour; it is likely that more will follow next week. Covid fatigue is ubiquitous and the stresses on our community are evident. One such stress is that our children are socialising on social media, and this is a challenging experience at best.

However, as this week comes to a close, I realised through my communication with several individuals - pupils, parents, and staff - that today was better than yesterday (as Sarah Warner wrote last week). Parents have been contacting the school leadership team directly with queries and concerns; senior girls have been grappling with the true meaning of accountability; pupils are engaging their teachers in meaningful discussions - our St Mary's community is communicating and doing so constructively.

A community such as ours is complex and complicated but "what I know for sure" as Oprah would say, is that we have a treasure in our school and we share a common purpose in wanting our school community, and especially our girls, to **THRIVE**.

**NOTICE BOARD - PLEASE SEE PAGE 11
AND 12 FOR OUR NOTICES**

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

We celebrated our Patronal Festival on Thursday 27 May, close to the feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (31 May), the patron saint of our school. The Patronal Festival is affectionately known as the school's birthday - 133 years old this year!

In years prior to Covid-19, Grades 2-12 and staff would gather in the Senior School Close for a celebratory Eucharist at which choirs and ensembles from across the school would lead the community in musical worship. Following the Eucharist, all the pupils would have gathered on the fields for a picnic.

Owing to lockdown regulations this year, it was not possible to gather such a large number of people together at a time, however, we were still able to celebrate in smaller groups. I led a Bible ring with the Little Saints on Tuesday, and gathered services in the chapel with the Junior Primary girls on Thursday, the theme of which was the Patronal Festival. The Little Saints asked to pray for beautifully coloured rainbows for the school's birthday, and for love for everyone.

Grades 4-12 watched a pre-recorded service, in which Bishop Steve Moreo, the Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, preached on Psalm 81:1-7 and Luke 1:39-49. Bishop Steve highlighted how God emphasised the value of Mary and Elizabeth in God's eyes, and citing our values of love, community and integrity, our Bishop encouraged us as the St Mary's School community "to never shame the other person but honour each other just like Mary and Elizabeth did". The prayers following the sermon were themed around the nurturing, motherly nature of God. Grade 7-12 girls assisted in leading parts of the spoken liturgy. The Senior School choir, instrumental ensemble, and Junior Primary Singing Angels all led choral or instrumental items throughout the service, including our school hymn, *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*. English, Sesotho, Afrikaans and isiZulu featured throughout the liturgy.

At different times of the day, different sections of the school held their picnics to celebrate the school's birthday. It was heart-warming to see children of all ages simply playing, their uniforms in various stages of disarray: ties around their heads, shoes off, shirts untucked. Our Senior School spirit squad moved across the school in order to lead smaller groups in the school war cry, *Oh When the Saints!*

I am grateful to Dudley Trollope, George Potgieter and the music staff and girls, for the wonderful musical items in the pre-recorded service, and to the girls who led the spoken liturgy so beautifully. I thank Sasha Ehlers and Thabo Kunutu for their assistance in recording the various components of the service and compiling the service as a whole. Thanks also to all who sought to ensure that the day was a special school birthday for our pupils and staff, including events, support and catering staff.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN



Bishop Steve Moreo

AFRICA MONTH

The month of May is recognised as Africa Month and is dedicated to celebrating the founding of the Organisation of African Unity. Africans celebrate Pan-Africanism, the beauty of Africa and the diversity of this wonderful continent. On 25 May 1963, Africa made history with the founding of the Organisation of African Union, the precursor to the African Union. Yes, it was a celebration and there were various celebrations happening across Africa. This year's celebration took place under the theme "Year for Arts, Culture and Heritage in the Year of Charlotte Maxeke".

To show solidarity, the St Mary's Resource Centre banded together and created a lovely display of books that reflected African authors and African literature. The display comprised of artefacts which are uniquely African as well as a variety of books related to the continent. We hope everyone enjoyed the display as much as we enjoyed putting it together and that Africa month was everything it promised to be.

DALILA SPINAZZE
FORM III



PUBLIC SPEAKING

JUNIOR AND SENIOR BEST SPEAKER COMPETITION 2021

WHO:
JUNIOR COMPETITION: FORMS I AND II
SENIOR COMPETITION: FORMS III, IV AND V
WHEN:
THE ARTS FESTIVAL - FRIDAY 30 JULY
WHERE:
THE WANTAGE AUDITORIUM
TOPIC:

PREPARE A SPEECH (JUNIORS - THREE MINUTES) AND (SENIORS - FIVE MINUTES) USING THE PREFIX *RE* AS YOUR STIMULUS. PLEASE REMEMBER TO HAND IN YOUR PROOF OF TOPIC TO MS BUCHER BY FRIDAY 16 JULY.

JESSICA BUCHER

ENGLISH TEACHER AND TEACHER DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

MUSIC

Congratulations to Zamantungwa Khumalo (Form IV) and Christine Nyamaropa (Form III) who passed their online ABRSM Grades 8 and 4 violin music examinations respectively with a merit result. Well done, Zamantungwa and Christine!



Zamantungwa Khumalo



Christine Nyamaropa

 DUDLEY TROLLOPE
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

ST MARY'S ARTS FESTIVAL

In great anticipation of the first ever St Mary's Arts Festival, the girls were tasked with coming up with a poster design that represents the Arts Festival theme, all things "Re..."

We would like to thank all the girls who participated.

The winner of the competition is Jemma Tresling in Grade 7!



VISUAL ART

“Almost all creativity requires purposeful play”
Abraham Maslow

The Form V Visual Art students collaborated to create an intuitive drawing. They were given soft pastels to use and were inspired by art gallery brochures and music. They drew while the music played and moved around the drawing when the music stopped. Once the music played again they had to stop at a different part of the drawing and respond to what was already there. This exercise allowed them to collaborate, innovate, play and, most importantly, have fun in order to re-ignite their creative impulses.

DANIELLE MOWATT
HOD: VISUAL ARTS



DRAMA

FEDA reflection: *Blood out of a Rock*

Performing at FEDA filled me with intense rapture and angst as it was my first performance on this renowned platform. I truly enjoyed the theatricality in portraying the story of women as a collective who share commonalities, yet each woman has her own narrative that co-exist in a patriarchal society. The musical element of the piece was made to draw a connection between the experiences of women and hold together a sense of camaraderie. In the context of my performance, my character is a self-obsessed woman of quality, status and stature. Becoming a woman consumed in an ostentatious lifestyle was a riveting experience, as my character did not only try to emit a sense of control and authority in her life, but she was also masking her emotions of denial as her career as a successful actress was coming to an end. The performance in and of itself was memorable, one that I felt was powerful and strong as the subtext of the piece spoke volumes.

NNEMA MAZWAI
FORM V



Nnema Mazwai, Nonkululeko Mcanyana, Tatenda Chigede



Nnema Mazwai

DANCE

The year 2020 demanded real grit from our dancers when it came to continuing their training with no performance platform in sight. The girls met on Zoom and learned choreography until they were able to meet in the dance studio once again.

Since our return to The Edge studio, there has been no end to the girls' enthusiasm to hone their skills, learn new choreography and rehearse in the hope that they can be ready for any live or online performance opportunity. We are hopeful that there will be live competitions for SA Dance Schools and the inter-high dance competition later in the year. Otherwise, we shall be prepared to compete on the online option.

In February this year, we held an intensive dance camp. This was aimed at inspiring and nurturing our newly-rebranded St Mary's dance team. The five workshop facilitators, who specialise in their respective genres of dance, gave of their time to uplift the girls and share their expertise, unique stories and excellent choreography.

The focus of our dance team this year has been to assist each dancer to develop in her own individual way. We aim to celebrate the diverse talent that we have in the group, allow the girls to recognise their strengths and utilise those in the works that are created for the performances. Dance has no barriers and my hope for the team this year is that the girls explore their unique dance talent and use this to strengthen their relationships within the team and support each other in their creative journey.

CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK
HEAD OF DANCE



Contemporary workshop



Classical ballet



Street dance



Body conditioning



Body conditioning

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THE SPORTS OFFICE

"The rule is you have to dance a little bit in the morning before you leave the house because it changes the way you walk out in the world" Sandra Bullock

Cultivating Laughter, Song and Dance

With gratitude to Brené Brown and her book *Gifts of Imperfection* for these thoughts:

Let us encourage more laughter more singing and more dancing because we all need this natural way of allowing ourselves to relax and let go and be free.

A good laugh, a gentle, beautiful song or a wonderful upbeat song that makes you want to dance lifts our spirits and make us feel lighter, happier and more connected to those around us. Whether we are searching for comfort, celebration, inspiration or healing; laughter, song and dance remind us of what truly matters that we have connections with our friends and family. As much as adults need this even more so do children and teenagers. Laughter, song and dance always give us joy and pleasure. A good belly laugh, singing at the top of your lungs, and dancing like no one is watching is unquestionably good for the soul.

This last year has been tough for everyone and cultivating more laughter, more song and more dance into our lives is essential for our soul care and for lifting our spirits and creating more connection.

Let's try to find space and time for these three with family and friends and as Sandra Bullock suggests "let's dance a little in the morning before leaving the house because it changes the way we walk out in the world."

ROSE HALLENDORFF

HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL SWIMMING



RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

The St Mary's Invitational was held on Saturday 15 May. Ten rhythmic clubs entered with gymnasts from Pretoria, Brits, Johannesburg, Witbank and the Vaal. Two hundred and fifty gymnasts participated with strict Covid-19 safety precautions in place. Thank you to the team of parents who assisted with the scoring, photographs, screening, catering and general organisation. Thank you also to Molebogeng Pitje, our junior rhythmic captain, her mother Nonkululeko Pitje and her family who worked hard to ensure the smooth running of the event.

Zeinab Kone in Form I participated in the South African rhythmic trial on Saturday 15 May. Zeinab now ranks in the top 8 junior rhythmic gymnasts in South Africa.

LINDA GIURICICH

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS



Bontle Kganyago (FI)



Caitlyn Govender (FI)



Lesedi Mochela (FIV) and Lebone Tshetlo (FIII)

EQUESTRIAN

SANESA inter-schools qualifier 2 took place on Friday 22 May and Saturday 23 May at Kyalami Equestrian Park.

It was another very successful show. Congratulations to all our riders and their horses.

12 riders

16 horses

58 classes entered

41 placings

13 first places

6 second places

7 third places

St Mary's is the leader after qualifier 2 in our pool and second overall.

Noticeable achievements of each rider.

Name	Horse	Place	Discipline
Robyn Gush	Baccarat Boy	4 th	Handy Hunter: Level 7 100cm
		5 th	Equitation: Novice 90cm
	Drakken's Ducallian	15 th	Show Jumping: 100cm A2
Riley Bate	Cocorico	1 st	Handy Hunter: Level 7 100cm
		2 nd	Prix Caprilli: Level 3 Novice
		4 th	Show Jumping: 100cm A2
Sienna Blaauw	Gondor UFO	1 st	Equitation: Intermediate 100cm
		1 st	Prix Caprilli Level 6 Advanced test a
		1 st	Prix Caprilli: Level 6 Advanced test b
		1 st	Show Jumping: 100cm A2
		3 rd	Level 7 Performance riding
		3 rd	Dressage: Elementary Medium test a
		3 rd	Dressage: Elementary Medium test b
	Kathmandu	5 th	Show Jumping: 100cm A2
Julia de Villiers	Gypsy Rose	1 st	Handy Hunter: Level 7 100cm
Katherine Franck	Bodenhausen la Chocoletier	1 st	Equitation: Novice 90cm
		3 rd	Show Jumping: 100cm A2
		4 th	Show Jumping: 100cm 2 phase
Bailey Gresty	Cinnamon Swirl	6 th	Working Hunter: Level 5 90cm
		2 nd	Show Jumping: 90cm A2
		3 rd	Show Jumping: 90cm 2 Phase
Juliana Haden-Smith	Silkwood Lickity Split	1 st	Handy Hunter: Level 7 100cm
		1 st	Show Jumping: 100cm 2 phase
		2 nd	Show Jumping: 100cm A2
		3 rd	Equitation: Novice 90cm
Erin Jackson	El Vanna	1 st	Dressage: Preliminary
		8 th	Show Jumping: 90cm 2 Phase
Emma Lowndes	Silent Night	4 th	Prix Caprilli: Level 3 Novice
Lunathi Mdlungu	Branic Cupidon	3 rd	Equitation: level 2 70cm
	Waterside Double Date	1 st	In-Hand Utility: Level 3
		1 st	Working riding: Level 7
		1 st	Dressage: Elementary test a

		2 nd	Dressage: Elementary test b
		2 nd	Performance riding: Level 7
Sydney Pollock	Voigtskirch Amarosso	2 nd	Dressage: Elementary test a
		4 th	Dressage: Elementary test b
		4 th	Performance riding: Level 7
	Voigtskirch Kastellan	5 th	Equitation: Intermediate 100cm
Olivia Sorour	Elite Force	6 th	Show Jumping: 120cm 2 Phase

Well done to all our riders!



MELANIE BLAIR
TEACHER IN CHARGE OF EQUESTRIAN

HOCKEY

We are privileged to have the hockey coaching expertise of Cindy Brown, former national player, on our campus. Cindy is an Old Girl and our current head of hockey. Four of the current national hockey team players asked her to take a session with them at St Mary's. Owing to no inter-school matches, Tuesday 25 May saw the turf free after 15h00 and Cindy ran a two-hour session with Robyn Jonson, Toni Marks, Kirsten Paton and Nicky Veto.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS



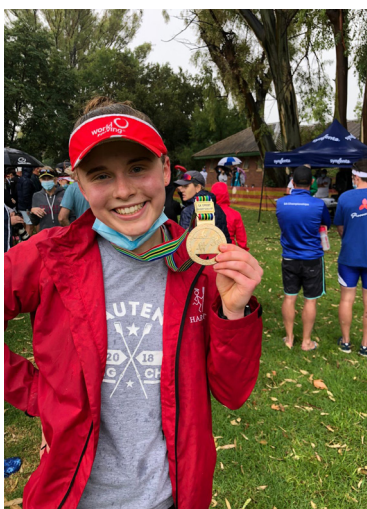
SWIMMING



Old Girl, Jade Nesar, who matriculated in 2018, has been swimming and studying in the United States. Jade has recently been named the co-captain of the University of Arizona's swimming team. They have two male and two female team captains.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS

SPRINT TRIATHLON



Recently, Old Girl Harriet Trubshaw who matriculated in 2019, participated in the SA Sprint Triathlon Championships in Bloemfontein. Harriet won the 20-24 year age category and has qualified to represent South Africa at the World Age-group Sprint Triathlon Championships. Covid-19 permitting, this event will take place in October in Hamilton, Bermuda.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS

ROWING

At the beginning of March, the selections for the South African Junior Development Squad were finalised. The U15 and U16 girls had to submit qualifying 1km and 2km ergometer times respectively. A total of 19 St Mary's girls were selected; 13 from U15 and six from U16. The aim of the squad is to develop the junior athletes from around the country, as there was no rowing season owing to Covid-19. The selected athletes from a variety of schools and clubs including Holy Rosary, St Andrew's and VLC, trained together, following a programme formulated

by the squad's head coach. Crews were selected and on the first weekend of May, the squad competed in the South African Senior Championship Regatta. It was a competitive weekend, several medals were won and great results were achieved.

"Rowing is a sport for dreamers. As long as you put in the work, you can own the dream." -Jim Dietz

CLARE KEEGAN
FORM III



U15 girls squad



U16 girls squad

TENNIS

Congratulations to the following St Mary's tennis players who have been chosen to represent Gauteng Central in the U19 and U15 teams respectively. Isha Madhu U19 A, Lilitha Ndungane U19 A, Alexis Banducci U19 B, Tyrah Cook U19 B, Aashi Madhu U19 B, Moroesi Tuoane U15 A and Natasha Jenkins U15 B. Simone Banducci has been selected as a reserve for the U19 B team. Well done to all these players and keep up the hard work.



Back row: Moroesi Tuoane, Aashi Madhu

2nd row: Natasha Jenkins, Lilitha Ndungane

Front row: Alexis Banducci, Isha Madhu, Simone Banducci

RENÉ PLANT
HEAD OF TENNIS

SQUASH



Tayla Rohana (FIV)



Sasha Steyn (FIV)



Megan Saunders (FIII)

The squash team has been hard at work since the beginning of the year, with very little to play for. Owing to Covid-19 all girls league matches in the first term were cancelled. They have managed to play and win both their first two fixtures in the U19 Boys B league. They beat Marist Brothers Linmeyer 14 - 0 and the Jeppe Boys team 14 - 2.

We extend congratulations to Tayla Rohana and Sasha Steyn who have been selected for the Gauteng U19 team and Megan Saunders who has made the U16 team. Well done , girls.

QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORTS

ED-ADMIN 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 this Ed-Admin St Mary's 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 portal, please click on the link below or visit the school website on www.stmarysschool.co.za and click on the portal login on the top right of the page.
<https://stmarysw.ed-space.net/pparentportal.cfm>
- 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 that 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.



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