



Deanne King (centre), head of school, cutting the 134th birthday cake at our Patronal Festival celebrations on Thursday 26 May. On the left are Sarah Warner (Junior School headmistress), Mahlatse Chocho (head girl) and Charlotte Stott (Grade 00). On the right are Danielle Grobbelaar and Marubini Koka (deputy head girls). Charlotte celebrated her fifth birthday on Thursday 26 May.

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

A birthday celebration is thrilling and, when you are celebrating 134 years, it deserves an occasion. Yesterday was such a celebration of St Mary's School. Our Patronal Festival is an annual celebration of our patron saint, Mary, the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. As the beautiful mosaic above the angel doors denotes, we have in Saint Mary a patron saint who, while a young girl, showed great faith and courage in order to say "yes" to God.

The Patronal Festival marks another year in the existence of our school. Our festival traditionally takes place in May, as close to the Festival of the Blessed Virgin Mary as possible in our calendar. This year we chose to celebrate on Ascension Day, a high and holy day in the Christian calendar.

St Mary's School celebrated its birthday for the first time when it turned three in 1891. In 2022, our faith remains the lodestar of the school.

The service is traditionally held in The Close and it was led by Revd Rkgadi, with our guest, Revd Cynthia Botha delivering the sermon. Pupils from across the school were included in reading and leading the congregation in prayer. The service was enhanced with music and singing which lifted us all spiritually, and its mosaic rooted us in the Anglican faith and our South African context.

The celebration then moved to the Howell Hub where the entire school enjoyed a picnic. The exuberance and the ability of St Mary's girls to have fun, commune with one another, and revel in celebration has always made the Patronal Festival a memorable occasion. These festivities reminded us of how much we had missed during the pandemic and how important it is to gather in community.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

After two years of being online, yesterday Patronal fever was in the air. We returned to the familiar.

Our preacher and celebrant at this year's Patronal Festival was Revd Canon Cynthia Botha, convener of the liturgical committee currently revising the prayer book. In her reflection on *The nature and purpose of worship: a local South African perspective* (2004), she describes herself: "I belong to the so called-coloured population group in South Africa, which during the apartheid era in our country formed part of the oppressed people and was discriminated against...we are a people caught between a strongly western tradition on the one side and an African tradition on the other side...this being between two worlds is reflected in our life and worship." She closes her reflection by saying, "...part of the wonder of Anglican liturgy - it is adaptable yet very recognisable as being "Anglican", and one soon feels at home in new surroundings."

The theme of Revd Cynthia's sermon was *Endings and Beginnings*. The celebration of our Patronal Festival on Ascension Day is the coming together of beginnings and endings- a collision of joys. The beginning is marked by Mary's 'yes' to carrying in her womb God Incarnate whose birth, life, death and resurrection would irrevocably change all of creation. The ending marked by the ascension of Jesus offers us a chance at a new beginning that can give us a new lease on life and contribute to our renewal. She also reminded us that God loves us and wants us to be happy.

As we celebrated our Patronal, we followed in the footsteps of those who came before us as we sang.

*Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure:
tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!*



REVD RAKGADI KHOBO
CHAPLAIN

MEET THE ARTS AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT



Sasha Ehlers
BA Hons (Wits)



Danielle Mowatt
HoD Visual Arts
BA Hons, PGCE (Wits)



Jane McMurray
HoD Culturals
BA Hons (Wits)



Klaus Jansen Van Vuuren
HoD Dramatic Arts
BA, PGCE (UP)



Bianca Parirenyatwa
BA (Wits), PGCE (UJ)

VISUAL ARTS

Form IV mannerist drawings

The Form IV art students created dynamic, monochromatic figure drawings based on an exaggerated pose. They had to include a background based on an interesting texture which they had photographed themselves. The girls felt challenged using such an unpredictable medium, however, the final products were complex and bold.

DANIELLE MOWATT
HOD: VISUAL ARTS



DANCE

Congratulations to the dance crew who were awarded 1st place at the South African Body of Dance (SABOD) competition held at the Roodepoort Theatre on Friday 13 May. SABOD is the only dance body in South Africa affiliated to the International Dance Organization (IDO).

The girls pictured below, performed a lyrical jazz routine choreographed by Shelley Innes.

JANE MCMURRAY
HOD: CULTURALS



Left to right: Agape Mhlanga, Khumo Mochela, Naomi Quinn, Talsia Rossini, Christine Nyamaropa, Caitlyn Govender, Venus Chow (absent from:photo Mpho Mudau)



Congratulations to Agape Mhlanga for placing 2nd for her solo in the lyrical jazz section choreographed by Courtney Sanders.



DRAMA

Last week, the Drama department hosted a theatre week: our first foray into live theatre after more than two years of empty stages. Two productions, *BU21* and *The Story of Alkebulan* graced both the AV Room and The Edge, respectively.

Audiences were met with two shows that could not be more contrasting: *BU21* provided laughs, tears, and pondered questions on the possibility of an alternate future in South Africa, while *Alkebulan* showcased the multiple talents and skills of its cast, all the while celebrating African culture and heritage.

It's been a refreshingly exciting experience to venture back onto the stage after such a long period of silence. The Drama department looks forward to a new chapter of theatrical excellence at St Mary's.

KLAUS JANSEN VAN VUUREN
HOD: DRAMATIC ARTS



The cast of *BU21*



The cast of *The Story of Alkebulan*

PASTORAL CARE

“I hope that something good can come out of something bad”: Berdine Fourie-van der Watt HoD: Afrikaans

On Friday 20 May, we were privileged to host Professor Carol Benn as a guest speaker. Professor Benn is known throughout South Africa for her work on breast cancer, whether as a surgeon, lecturer or founder of breast care clinics.

Professor Benn, in a down to earth, factual, empathetic manner was able to educate our students about breast care. Not only were they able to learn lessons related to health, but her insights were also life lessons. She encouraged our girls to look after the planet, to always be honest with medical professionals, to challenge life when the answer given to them is no, to have their HPV vaccinations and not to judge others.

The money that was raised through the civvies day that was held in conjunction with Professor Benn’s talk, was over R9 000. The funds raised were donated to the Breast Cancer Centre of Excellence to support the incredible work that Professor Benn does.

CAROLYN HUYSAMER
HEAD OF STUDENT LIFE



Zoé Cheenne, Berdine Fourie Van Der Watt, Professor Carol Benn, Chanté Louw

IKUSASA LETHU



Ikusasa Lethu would like to thank the St Mary’s Community for the lent donations. We were able to make over 225 food packs and have some supplies for families in crisis. Your generosity is immensely appreciated and has changed many lives.

ROBYN KNOWLES
HEAD OF IKUSASA LETHU

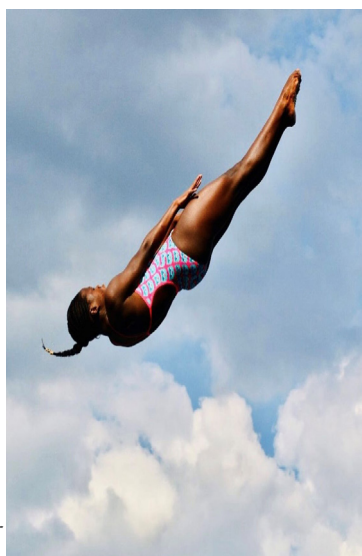
DIVING

Zalika Methula (FIII) has been selected to compete for the South African aquatics team which will be going to the 19th FINA World Championships to be hosted in Budapest, Hungary, from Saturday 18 June to Monday 4 July.

FINA World Championships is a senior event and is the 1st of three opportunities to qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

Zalika qualified for the event at nationals in April and will be competing on the 1m board. The team is comprised of four girls, one of them being Old Girl, Kerry-Leigh Morrison who was the 2021 diving captain. She will be competing in the 3m synchronized diving event.

We would like to extend our congratulations to both Zalika and Kerry-Leigh and we wish them the best of luck for their respective competitions.



Zalika Methula



Kerry-Leigh Morrison with her diving partner

KATE SHEPHERD
HEAD OF DIVING

RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

After months of meticulous planning and rigorous training, the St Mary's rhythmic gymnasts were given the spotlight at the 10th annual St Mary's Invitational on Saturday 14 May. This fundraising competition, hosted by the school, is a highlight in the rhythmic gymnastics calendar as other gymnastics clubs are invited to compete and showcase their routines in preparation for the upcoming season.

resources and skills, the coaches and judges who allowed each gymnast to shine, all those who came to show their support and the many generous helping hands who brought this event to life.

Best of luck for the upcoming season, gymnasts!

LESEDI MOCHELA
CAPTAIN

Congratulations are extended to each St Mary's gymnast as each gave of her best. It was a superb start to the competition season. The buzzing atmosphere of the day was elevated by the previously missed spectators and parent-run tuck shop. Being able to host the Invitational in all its glory this year, within the new normal, was a pleasant experience.

No production would be possible without careful planning and organisation from behind the scenes. Huge thanks and appreciation are extended to every member of the St Mary's rhythmic community who willingly volunteered their time,



NETBALL

Term II began with the D13 league and we have played two fixtures thus far. The first fixture was on Wednesday 11 May against Marist Brothers and the results were as follows:

- U14 A: 9 - 15 to Marist Brothers
- U14 B: 21 - 1 to St Mary's
- U15 A: 17 - 8 to St Mary's
- U15 B: 10 - 5 to St Mary's
- U15 C: 8 - 4 to St Mary's
- U16 A: 16 - 7 to St Mary's
- U16 B: 13 - 6 to St Mary's
- U16 C: 4 - 7 to Marist Brothers
- U17 A: 11 - 8 to St Mary's
- 2nd team: 11 - 3 to St Mary's
- 1st team: 30 - 7 to St Mary's



On Wednesday 18 May, we played against Holy Rosary and the results were as follow:

- U14 A: 20 - 10 to St Mary's
- U14 B: 14 - 2 to St Mary's
- U15 A: 14 - 13 to St Mary's
- U15 B: 15 - 2 to St Mary's
- U16 A: 20 - 22 to Holy Rosary
- U16 B: 16 - 7 to St Mary's
- U17 A: walk over to St Mary's
- 2nd team: walk over to St Mary's
- 1st team: 12 - 21 to Holy Rosary



PALESA MASINGA
HEAD OF NETBALL

ROWING

We are so proud to announce that Kerry Grundlingh (FV) has been selected to race for South Africa at the Under 19 Rowing World Championships taking place in July, in Italy. Congratulations to Clare Keegan, Reece McGregor, Sinead Erasmus and Tessa Brugman who have been selected for the Gauteng team. All our girls will be racing for their respective teams at this weekend's South African Championships!

In more exciting news, we will be hosting a rowing open day on Sunday 10 July at the Victoria Lake Club. If anyone is interested in learning more about rowing, please contact Caitlin.Dace@stmary.co.za to attend the rowing open day!

CAITLIN DACE
HEAD OF ROWING



ROWING
What's this?

Now is your chance to find out!

Come visit our rowing open day and experience this amazing sport first hand.

Date: 10 July 2022 Venue: Victoria Lake Club
Time: 09h00-12h00 RSVP: Caitlin - Caitlin.dace@stmary.co.za

HOCKEY

May has been a busy month for the hockey players with various derbies and local matches being played. The results have varied across the teams, but the most important thing is that the girls are back on the turf enjoying themselves again.

Some of the memorable performances in the past two weeks include the following: the 2nd team beating Parktown’s 1st team in the last 90 seconds of the game. The U15 B side managed a great 4-0 win against HeronBridge U16 A and Queens (3rds) managed to beat HeronBridge 1st team 2-0.

	v Parktown	v Affies	v Roedean	v HeronBridge	v Waterkloof
U14A		0-0	Rained out		0-0
U14B	1-2 v U14 A	0-3			0-1
U14C	0-0 v U14 B	0-1			
U15A		0-3	Rained out		0-1
U15B	2-2 v U15 A	0-2		4-0 v U16A	0-1
U16A		2-1	5-0		1-0
U16B	2-0 v U16 A	0-3			0-2
U16C	1-0 v U16 B	0-0			0-5
1 ^{sts}		1-0	5-0		1-1
2 ^{nds}	1-0 v 1 st team	0-0			2-2
3 ^{ds}	1-0 v 1 st team	0-0		2-0 v 1 st	1-0

The South Gauteng school’s hockey trials concluded last week. Congratulations are extended to the following players who were selected to represent the province at the various inter-provincial tournaments to be played in June and July:

U14 A
Bokamoso Swazi
Tanaka Matambo

U16 B
Amy Smith
Danelia Price-Hughes
Tayla Gibbs

U16 D
Ava Economakis

U18 B
Josephine Sabio
Zenande Mbatsha

U14 C
Emma Campbell

U18 A
Ella Babaya
Hannah White
Kristy Leonard
Zoë Christodoulou

U18 C
Mia Boscia

U14 D
Amy Ireland
Erin Krüger

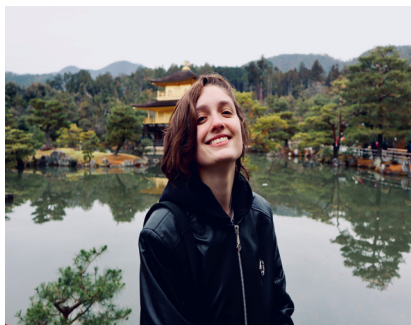


Back row (left to right): Amy Smith, Emma Campbell, Danelia Price-Hughes, Hannah White
 Second row: Ava Economakis, Josephine Sabio, Kristy Leonard, Tayla Gibbs, Zoë Christodoulou
 Third row: Zenande Mbatsha, Mia Boscia, Ella Babaya
 Front row: Tanaka Matambo, Amy Ireland, Bokamoso Swazi, Erin Krüger

CINDY BROWN
HEAD OF HOCKEY

OLD GIRLS NEWS

Lauren Tsafandakis, class of 2017, completed her studies at Stellenbosch University's Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences last year. She received a host of accolades for her academic achievements, the latest of which has just been announced - she is the winner of the CGW Schumann Medal for the faculty's best postgraduate student of 2021. Earlier this year, she placed first in the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants' Initial Test of Competence (ITC) exams, and at the end of last year she was honoured with the Rector's Award for Excellence in Academics.



Lauren Tsafandakis

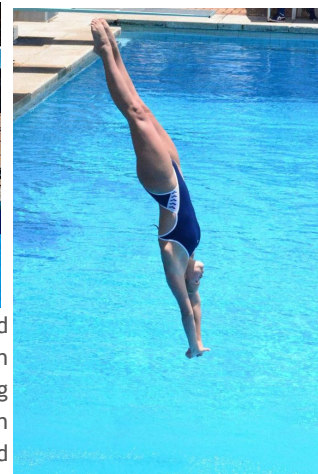


Dr Sam Fee

Dr Sam Fee (class of 1987) recently had an interview with eNCA where she spoke about 'Flurona'. Dr Sam Fee provided great insights on the respiratory viruses and encouraged people to get vaccines for both influenza and Covid-19. Click on the link to see this informative interview: https://www.enca.com/news/gp-says-practices-see-increase-respiratory-illness-cases?fbclid=IwAR2PbY8SKzmVV5xNsOcyerMIWUk5t4JbTnUKnwn_LHZP-1KInOuOkH2oXIA#l35eqs2rqvgvssyb7w



Daniela Passoni (above) (class of 2017 and representing water polo) and Kerry-Leigh Morrison (right) (class of 2021 representing diving) have made the South African aquatics team going to the 19th Fina World Championships to be hosted in Budapest, Hungary from the 18 June to 4 July.



Hannah Pearce (class of 2016), is Harvard's Sportswoman of the Year. What an incredible achievement! Hannah continues to keep the flag flying; she will be a member of the South African senior national team that will compete in the 2022 World Cup in Spain and Netherlands.

ED-ADMIN

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 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 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.