



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

7 OCTOBER 2022



Tel: 011 531 1800 | info@stmary.co.za | www.stmaryschool.co.za



THOUGH YOU SLIPPED FROM OUR GRASP, WE HAVE NOT LET GO
Gifted by the Matric class of 1982, in memory of those St Mary's Old Girls no longer with us.

HANDS

Installation by Debbie Farnaby

Within the circular embrace of family, friendship and community, two hands clasp, symbolising not only the strength and support we derive from one another, but the transformative power of kindness and human connection.

A special gift from the class of 1982, presented to the school at Old Girls' Day on Saturday 1 October

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

The St Mary's Arts Festival and Old Girls' Day were featured together on our calendar, which required an earnest effort on the part of teachers, support staff and parents. These events drew wonderful support for the girls who were performing or exhibiting works.

The day delivered a most enjoyable and celebratory time for our community from Little Saints to the Senior School, our children revelled in their performances and parents enjoyed time to mingle, relax and soak in what is unique about community. The buzz on campus was something that we have not experienced in a long time. What made the day even more special was that we had women on campus who had matriculated 60 years ago, 30, 20, 10 and 5; in other words, every age group across the school's stakeholders were on campus.

The Arts Festival was a fitting tribute to culture and the arts at St Mary's School. Thank you to the Foundation team, the art, music, drama, dance, oratory teachers and students who lifted our spirits.

The cycles of life, tangible last weekend, continued this week with the matric rites of passage which highlight the transient nature of school. We celebrated the matrics at their Valedictory on Tuesday and tonight we host the annual prizegiving to recognise the class of 2022's achievements, which are noteworthy. The final NSC examinations lie ahead for the matrics and then, the exciting world of tertiary education.

DEANNE KING
HEAD OF SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

This week our head of chapel and sacristan for 2022 shared with us some parting words, as they come to the end of their time at St Mary's:

As we come to the end of our Senior School career, we have had some time to reflect. We realise the significant role which the church has played in our personal growth, both spiritually and emotionally and these have made us better people. We feel deeply enriched as this has complimented other areas of growth that St Mary's has evoked in us.

Scripture encourages the St Mary's community to grow together in a safe space, which acknowledges and celebrates both our uniqueness and our difference. The inclusion of multiple languages in chapel services, has played a major role in the creation of this space of diversity. SOCS (Sisters of Christ Society) is another space which offers enrichment. Every single person in our community is welcome to gather during second break on a Friday to end the week with some quality time, acknowledging the presence of God in their lives.

St Paul urges us to live *"with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace"* (Ephesians 4:2-3). We are proud to be part of a school which embodies these values and know they have been deeply planted in our lives forever.

ALEXA PAPPERITZ AND PALESA MOKOTJOMELA
HEAD OF CHAPEL AND SACRISTAN



MEET THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT



Lilian Southey
BSocSc (UKZN), PGCE (UNISA)



Thabo Kunutu
BSc (ASE)

CAMPUS SECURITY

The welfare of all children, staff and visitors on our St Mary's campus is a priority and informs our planning and decisions relating to safety and security arrangements.

The school makes use of a security company, 24/7, which is registered with the Private Security Industry Regulatory Authority (PSIRA). Appropriately graded security officers provide 24-hour guarding. Guarding activities are monitored through a formal guard track software system. This guarding presence is augmented through the presence of a dedicated armed response vehicle, radio connectivity is available both on campus and to an offsite control room, and fixed and mobile panic buttons link to armed response, medical and fire services.

A comprehensive camera system is accessible from multiple device platforms. Proactive offsite CCTV monitoring and videoed alarm systems link through to the armed response control room.

Alarmed electric fences are positioned on the perimeter of our campus. Vehicle access onto the campus is monitored through access control scanners and software. Specific areas on the campus are fitted with biometric and coded access control.

A dedicated crisis management team is in place. This team is responsible for formulation, practice and review of emergency and response plans. Response plans include the use of emergency sirens and dedicated channels allowing for swift emergency communication.

The school maintains close links into the broader Waverley community through our support of CAP patrols, involvement in community WhatsApp groups, road closure and other security initiatives, and through the review of monthly crime statistic reports. Security breaches are thoroughly interrogated and external risk assessments and reviews are undertaken on a bi-annual basis.

ROGER YOUNG
OPERATIONS MANAGER

IKUSASA LETHU



IKUSASA LETHU
PROGRAMME

The Ikusasa Lethu Saturday School programme is very excited to reveal our logo. It strengthens our bond with St Mary's through the imagery and colours, as well as encapsulating the energy, growth and integrity of our common ethos.

The BSI Football Academy is proud to partner with the Ikusasa Lethu and [@wwfcfoundation](#) to welcome their learners to the Wolf pack!

On Friday, our committed young players were invited to train with international coaches from Wolverhampton Wanderers FC (known as Wolves) at the BSI Academy campus. It was an enriching experience for all involved. There are plans to make this an ongoing event and grow our relationship with both BSI and Wolves.

Please join us at Ikusasa Lethu prizegiving on Saturday 8 October to celebrate our learners.

Venue: The Edge

Time: 12h30 - 14h00

Follow the link to RSVP: <https://jberning911.wufoo.com/forms/wpvqjta1how1c5/>



ROBYN KNOWLES
HEAD OF IKUSASA LETHU

HERITAGE DAY

As the newly elected heads of diversity 2023, we dedicated Heritage Day to the girls of the school. After presenting a short presentation, introducing our new committee members, the importance of our national holiday and the benefits of celebration, we then had the girls entertain us. Our isiZulu poems and dances, our Afrikaans 'Sokkie' dance and our Irish dancing made the assembly enjoyable, interactive and beautiful. We truly believe the best way to recognise this day was to engage with it as we did, displaying a showcase of traditional talent. - Thiya Kalan, head of diversity

We were really pleased with how the assembly went on Friday 23 September. The different performances conveyed the point that we were trying to make in our presentation more than any long speech could have. Every poem and dance showed us the diverse backgrounds and cultures in our school and gave us a chance to come together and celebrate them as a community, united in our celebration and admiration for our differences. Multiple vibrant attires added to a sense of common pride as each person had the opportunity to show something about themselves through traditional dress. Olivia Smith, deputy head of diversity

Being in a school environment filled with students from many different cultural and religious backgrounds, it is important that, as heads of the diversity committee, we allow students the ability to share this part of themselves. We are very grateful for the opportunity to lead the school and intend to make a difference. - Lebone Tsetlo, deputy head of diversity



LEBONE TSHETLO, OLIVIA SMITH, THIYA KALAN
HEADS OF THE DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

FRENCH



Zoé Cheenne (Form V) has accomplished what no St Mary's girl before her has done: she obtained the DALF C2 qualification, set by the French Government's Department for Foreign Affairs, with an outstanding 89%.

We congratulate her on this memorable achievement and wish her the very best in her future endeavours.

CARLA GORDON
HOD: FRENCH

GOLF DAY

Congratulations to the winning four-ball: Bruce Main, Mitchell Morrison, Laverne Kersten and Malcom Harris. Thank you to everyone who supported and contributed to making the St Mary's golf day a success. A special thank you to our parents Vicky Harris, Karien Alberts and Kate Rodrigues for all their help in organising the golf day.



Please support our wonderful sponsors:



FOUNDATION

SIZANANI MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

The Sizanani Mentorship Programme has arranged company visits for learners during the October government school holidays. They will be visiting Puratos Chipkins, Cliff Dekker Hofmeyer (CDH), Danone and Sanofi Aventis (Pty) Ltd. Priority for the visits is given to Grade 10, 11 and 12 students before they finalise their tertiary study choices and start their applications. During visits, employees in different positions talk to the learners about their role in the company and the study requirements for their positions. Learners also take a tour to see the different processes and/or departments within the company to expose and educate them about the various career paths available.

We have also recently introduced an Enviro Club, where they learn about conserving nature. They have had five sessions. They were awarded certificates of attendance and will be ending this year's sessions with a visit to Dinokeng Game Reserve on Sunday 16 October. Thanks to the 'Lessons In Conservation' (LIC) facilitators for volunteering their time to make this possible!

KIMBERLY MKHUSHULWA
PROGRAMME MANAGER



Enviro Club

UNCONVENTIONAL FASHION



On Friday 23 September, the Form III group hosted the first St Mary's Fashion Show since 2019. The theme was *Unconventional Fashion*, and it was a whirlwind of activity and brainstorming that led to a fantastic event.

This year, the show took place twice: once as a matinee performance, and then again as an evening event. Both performances were exceptional, featuring not just fun and fashion, but also performances by Form III singers, dancers and musicians.

Models were privileged to practice with two veterans in the fashion industry: Ms Peggy-Sue Khumalo, Miss South Africa (1996), and Ms Shudufhatzo Mashida, Miss South Africa (2020). Both imparted wisdom to the girls and inspired them with their confidence. Natasha Joubert, runner-up Miss South Africa (2020) provided the models with couture dresses she designed. These were beautiful and the Form IIIs created a new segment, 'Ethereal' to showcase her work.

The evening performance was sold out and the Form IIIs are congratulated on a very successful event after a three year hiatus. We thank all the technical support and teachers involved who made this event happen. Well done, girls!

ESMALET VAN ZYL
TEACHER IN CHARGE

FROM THE LIBRARY CORNER

We celebrate Heritage Day on 24 September annually to mark our nation's diverse culture and heritage. The celebration has created a conducive environment for all to embrace and celebrate what we inherited or bequeath to us by our forebears. St Marys Senior School library is using Heritage Day to call on all pupils and staff to support the culture of reading, to incorporate it into their daily lifestyles.

OLIVIA JOHNSTONE
LIBRARIAN



ARTS FESTIVAL

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself," Henry Ford

The inaugural St Mary's Arts Festival has finally come and gone and while we take a collective sigh of relief, there are many key players that need to be thanked.

The journey started way back before Covid-19 reared its ugly head, derailing plans and upsetting dreams. The blueprints were set aside and focus was shifted to a digital platform. You may recall our efforts to host a virtual festival that parents and guardians could access on the app and get a glimpse at what the girls were getting up to in the cultural arena. The year 2022 and the lifting of restrictions brought a renewed sense of purpose. Plans were revived, bold, fresh ideas were brought to the table and the stage was set to finally hosting the event live and inperson.

Arts festivals are an unequivocal opportunity to celebrate the richness of our cultural diversity and creativity. The range of art, drama, music, dance, poetry, public speaking and even AI on display captured the depth of talent of the individuals that attend our school.

The creative arts help us to make sense of the world around us. When we watch a performance, listen to music, connect with an art work, our emotions are awakened. A light shines on questions we did not even realise we had. As for the performers and creators, the catharsis experienced is essential in letting go, feeling calmer and renewed.

I commend the team that kept on moving forward, kept on supporting the vision of St Mary's having their own Arts Festival. Lisa Grobbelaar, Brinay Oertel-Snyman, Sasha Ehlers and Roger Young were the real heroes of the day. Along with their teams, venues were allocated and equipped, signage was mounted, security was prepped and the lights went on. The list of thanks is very long - from marketing to the kitchen, the class teachers and heads of various departments who managed to get work ready for presentation. Events of this calibre, and in particular events that showcase the work of students, requires the entire 'village' to be in loco parentis. Thank you to you, too, the community who came out to support the markets, the food and drinks stalls and the students.

Cheers to the St Mary's community, with love and integrity we move forward.

JANE MCMURRAY
HOD: CULTURALS



The St Mary's Arts Festival held on Saturday 1 October was a wonderful display of hard work and talent from our students. The music picnic showcased a variety of ensembles from the Junior and Senior School on the day. As the Junior School began the entertainment, the Senior School orchestra followed with an energetic Miriam Makeba medley followed by a wonderful Mango Groove selection of songs. This was followed by *Back of the Moon*, a South African jazz number sang by Hannah Foster (contemporary vocal coach at St Mary's). The orchestra ended their performance with a beautiful Abdullah Ibrahim medley, which brought nostalgia and a Ghoema beat reminiscent of the Cape. The jazz band followed the orchestra's performance with an upbeat and engaging performance. Their repertoire included crowd favourites such as *Man in the Mirror*, *It's Only a Paper Moon*, *Pick Yourself Up*, *Libertango* and *Sunday Strut*. The jazz band certainly got the crowd moving with their lovely playing and improvised solos. To round off the music picnic, a jazz trio formed by our music staff, Hannah Foster (vocals), Daniel de Wet (piano), and Danni McKinnon (saxophone) played a beautiful set of popular jazz standards - a real treat and a wonderful way to end the musical offering to the Arts Festival.

DANIELLE MCKINNON
MUSIC TEACHER

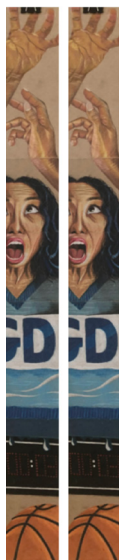
VISUAL ART

Reddam House drawing competition

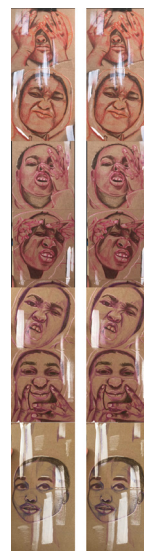
At the beginning of the year, our Visual Art students entered into the national brown paper drawing competition at Reddam House Umhlanga. The girls were each given a booklet of brown paper on which they had to draw something in response to the theme *Unfold Me* or *Art Accidents*. The adjudication took place at Reddam House, Umhlanga, and we are pleased to announce that three of our matric students had works featured in the Top 10 across the country. Congratulations to Sally Mohlakola, Mahlatse Chocho and Lesedi Mochela on this notable achievement!



Sally Mohlakola



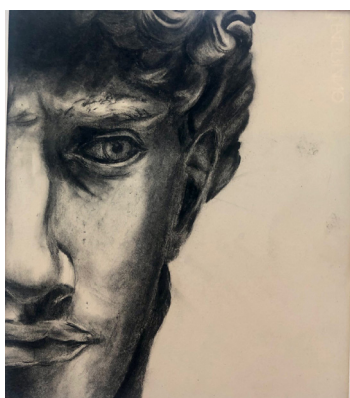
Mahlatse Chocho



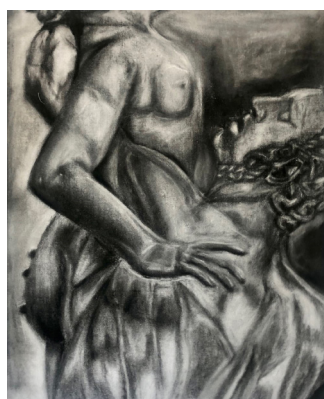
Lesedi Mochela

Form III charcoal drawings

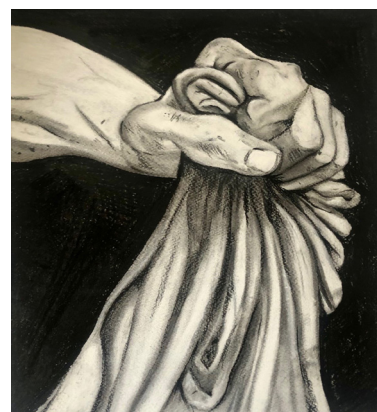
The Form III Visual Art students have been studying the Renaissance art movement in art history. They produced beautifully rendered charcoal drawings of Renaissance sculptures to show how the technique of chiaroscuro (light and dark) can be used across multiple media. These stunning drawings were featured in our inaugural Arts Festival and were met with wonderfully positive feedback from our St Mary's community.



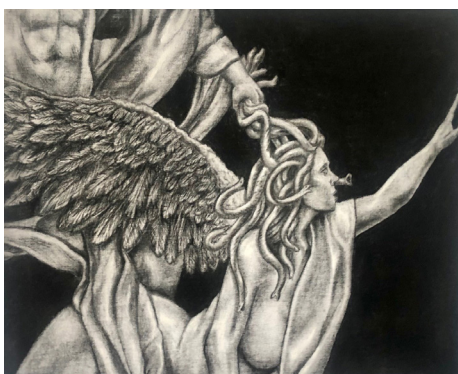
Anastasia Clark



Reabetswe Naledi Mntambo



Heather Welchman



Nalenhle Mbatha



Siân Henning

DANIELLE MOWATT
HOD: VISUAL ARTS

ECOBICKS BUILDING

On Heritage Day, a group of girls from the eco club went to the GWFM church school in Diepsloot. Once there, the girls collaborated with some boys from St David's College to pick up litter in the surrounding area. The girls then made Ecobricks to set specifications and added these Ecobricks to the construction of the walls of the school being built on the premises. The enthusiasm and the resilience in which they tackled these tasks was lovely to witness. The community preceded to demonstrate their thanks through poetry and dance. Being able to give back to the community on such a special day in our country made the day a truly rewarding and humbling experience.

DEAN DU TOIT AND JANE MCMURRAY
TEACHERS IN CHARGE



TENNIS

The St Mary's first team participated in the Hilton/St Anne's doubles tournament and played tennis of an extremely high standard winning both the doubles and mixed doubles events.

St Mary's beat Helpmekaar Kollege, Roedean and The Wykeham Collegiate without dropping a match to reach the finals of the doubles event where they beat St Anne's Diocesan College in the final.

St Mary's teamed up with St Stithians Boys' College to defend their mixed doubles title. The combined team beat Helpmekaar Kollege, Roedean/St John's College, The Wykeham Collegiate, Westville Boys to reach the final. In the final the St Mary's/St Stithians team played excellent mixed doubles to beat a strong combined team from St Mary's DSG Kloof and Clifton College.

Congratulations to Lilitha Ndungane, Moroosi Tuoane, Bashali Phatshwane, Bailey Selvam, Tayla Gibbs, Tisanke-Anna Mwanza and Kirsten Hادياريس on their excellent play on the court.

Congratulations to Lilitha Ndungane who has been selected to attend the prestigious Wiphold Camp. Only the very top players in South Africa are invited to attend this event.

The St Mary's teams continue to fare well in their league matches. Keep up the hard work and enthusiasm.

League results

20 September

St Mary's A beat Trinity House A 41-22

St Mary's B beat Trinity House B 46-17

St Mary's C lost Kingsmead A 24-39

St Mary's D beat Kingsmead B 39-24

27 September

St Mary's A beat St Stithians A 49-14

St Mary's B beat St Stithians B 48-15

St Mary's C lost to Brescia A 25-38

St Mary's D lost to Brescia B 20-43

St Mary's E Bye

St Mary's F Bye

St Mary's G lost to Dainfern A 30-33

St Mary's H beat Dainfern B 24-39



RENÉ PLANT
HEAD OF TENNIS

WATER POLO

The St Mary's water polo first team has placed 13th with their final game vs St Mary's Kloof 5-3 at the St Anne's water polo tournament. The young team played some good water polo with tight matches against Collegiate, Reddam Constantia and Kingsmead all going into final chukkas on a draw. Well done to Isabella Rajak and Luca Botes being award MVP in two of the games played.

KELSEY THOMSON
HEAD OF AQUATICS



ROWING

The St Mary's rowing club tested the waters when competing in the first Roodeplaat regatta of the season. On Saturday 24 September, the U16s and U19s took part in the St Dunstan's GRSF Regatta and on Saturday 1 October, the U14s and U15s participated in the Holy Rosary School rowing club regatta. This was the first time the U14s rowed in a competitive regatta and congratulations are extended to those who participated. Hard work at Roodeplaat removing hyacinth allowed for the return of a 2000m course for this season.

All the girls put in their best efforts racing and there were commendable results across the age groups. It has been great for the club to be able to race again and the past two weeks kicked the 2022/2023 season off to a good start. Training will continue to improve strength and technique as Gauteng Champs approaches. Well done to all the athletes who participated on the weekend.

SOPHIA BABAYA
FORM III

St Dunstan's Regatta		
Race	Place	Crew
JW/GU16A 1x	4	Van Loggerenberg
	5	Shaw
	6	Ledile
	10	Mthombeni
	12	Kilian
JW/GU16C 1x	5	Motsukunyane
JW/GU16A 2-	1	Spencer
JW/GU16A 4+	1	Spencer
JW/GU19 1 st 1x	2	Price-Hughes
	6	McGregor (R)
	7	Brugman
	8	Keegan
	9	Erasmus
	10	Babaya
	13	Swingler (J)
	14	Pestana
	18	Goodman
	19	Gwamanda (Z)
JW/GU19 1 st 2x	1	Price-Hughes
	4	McGregor (R)
	6	Babaya
JW/GU19 1 st 2-	6	Impey
JW/GU19 1 st 4x+	2	Price-Hughes
	4	Keegan



Holy Rosary Regatta		
Race	Place	Crew
JW14B 1x	8	Roos
	10	Swingler (N)
JW15A 1x	2	McGregor (L)
	3	Illgner
	7	Mbizi
	8	Ninan
	11	Zulu
JW15B 1x	7	Wanblad
	12	Curtis (E)
	15	Selvam
JW15C 1x	2	Neilson
JW15A 2x	1	McGregor (L)
JW15A 4x	1	McGregor (L)
	5	Zulu
JW15B 4x	2	Zephyrine
	3	Curtis (E)

EQUESTRIAN



Jenna Blaauw on vaulting



Jenna Blaauw on vaulting



Awards evening

At the recent SANESA regional awards evening, the Senior School won their category for the 2022 equestrian season. We are in category C along with St Stithians College, St Peter's College and Helpmekaar College because our team has between 21 and 27 horse-rider combinations. Sienna Blaauw won the *Victrix Ludorum* trophy for the best Senior School rider. In addition, Jenna Blaauw is the national and regional vaulting champion. Congratulations girls!

MELANIE BLAIR
TEACHER IN CHARGE

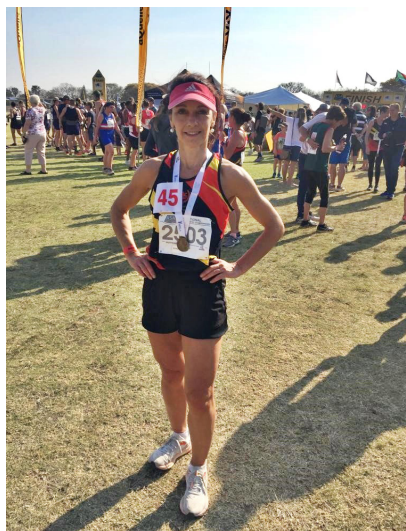
ATHLETICS



The athletes, under the guidance of coach Cobus and coach Philna, have been hard at work since the beginning of term. Owing to the business of the term and St Mary's girls we have yet to field a full-strength team. There has been an encouraging and talented contingent of athletes in Form I who have joined us this year. I am hoping that with inter-high looming, we shall be able to prioritise athletic sessions and spend some time working on technique and relay change-overs. I commend the captains for their contribution to the team so far.

Remember our quote for the week: "Your hardest times often lead to the greatest moments of your life. Keep going. Tough situations build strong people in the end." Roy Bennett

Congratulations to Steph Vermeulen (Mathematics teacher) who ran at the SA cross country championships held in Rustenburg at Bergsig Academy on Saturday 17 September. She placed 7th in South Africa for the 4km 45-50 age category and was the first Central Gauteng athlete for this category, in a personal best time of 17:09 minutes. Earlier this year, Steph also took part in the SA masters track and field championships held at Pilditch Stadium in Pretoria and finished second in the 5000m track event in her age group.



QUIX
DIRECTOR OF SPORT

BASKETBALL

We had an exciting start to our basketball season!

Our U14 and U15 teams recorded outstanding results in their first round of fixtures against St Peter's. These age groups have tremendous potential, and we look forward to watching them develop as the season progresses. They certainly have the ability to take basketball to new heights!

The 1st team match was a tightly contested competition between two determined teams. Both groups worked hard throughout and should be commended on their drive to succeed. St Peter's took advantage of their half-time lead and emerged as winners at the end.

Next week, our teams play a triangular against Redhill and African Leadership Academy. We look forward to seeing them compete in their second round of fixtures and we wish them all the best!

TARYN DE WINNAAR
HEAD OF SPORT: SENIOR SCHOOL



Some U15 players



U14 team

SQUASH



We extend our congratulations to Tayla Rohana (FV) for being ranked Top 10 in the South African Schools' squash ranking. Tayla is currently ranked U19 number nine in the country. Tayla, who was squash captain in 2022, also attained her Sports Honours blazer at the start of Term III.

PANASHE SITHOLE
SQUASH COACH

MUSE MORNING - TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER

Please join the Open Door for a morning of conversation with Coralie Trotte

This muse morning will explore various themes in an attempt to understand how best to motivate children and adolescents to achieve their potential.

Topic: True self-esteem

Date: 18 October 2022

Time: 07h30-08h30

Venue: Seminar room

RSVP: Lynsay.young@stmary.co.za

True self-esteem (as opposed to pseudo self-esteem) arises from a core, underlying image of oneself as worthy and deserving of respect based on one's ordinariness, uniqueness, potential and humanity.

Holding babies in high regard is their birth-right. Perfection is NEVER EVER the goal - self-esteem is based on acceptance of a whole, real person with all the different, contradictory parts, some of which work and some of which don't.

For a parent it demands loving, respecting and valuing a real child not a dream child. Perfectionists strive for high standards and goals, but regardless of the outcome, nothing is ever good enough and so the unrealistic expectations become tyrannical and persecutory

Coralie Trotte

Coralie Trotter has a BA (Dramatic Art), BA Honours (Applied Psychology) and an MA (Clinical Psychology). She is also a psychoanalyst with SAPA (IPA) and practises psychoanalysis fulltime in Johannesburg. She has extensive clinical experience in various settings focusing on crisis and trauma interventions particularly for the Detainees Counseling Service and the Trauma Clinic of the Centre for Violence and Reconciliation. She was a facilitator for racial conflict resolution groups leading up to the dissolution of apartheid. The supervision and teaching of other mental health professionals constitutes an important part of her work and she has facilitated several reading groups (GRASP) for the last 20 years. Coralie was the recipient of the IPA Community Award for the Law and Psychoanalysis in 2019.

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 you and your daughter's names and surnames for assistance.
- To access the St Mary's parent portal, please click on the link below or visit the school website on www.stmaryschool.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.