



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

# JUST JUNIOR



Grade 00K Special persons visit

## From the Pre-Primary department

Dear parents

We wish you a warm welcome back after the August holidays. We are amazed by how well the children have adjusted to our temporary venue and the time we have already spent in the Junior School has been very productive. We have focused on our Little Saints Sings concert and delved into different painting techniques. The children have enjoyed being located in the heart of the school.

The Junior School girls and staff thoroughly enjoy the natural awe and candour with which the Little Saints children view the world around them. They greet everyone with enthusiasm and joy, and have embraced their temporary lodgings with their customary curiosity and excitement, so much

so that we have had to close the doors until 07h15 lest our charges stream in and begin the day far too early.

Our temporary classrooms have brought us many exciting benefits, not least of which is our proximity to the Junior School hall. We held our first Betty Button concert of the term there. The concert was, as always, a great success and the children danced with delight to the music of Doc McStuffins. A number of the children sat cautiously close to their teachers, only to get up eagerly and move to the music.

We will most certainly continue to host these concerts in the Junior School from now on. The space affords Little Saints the

## Dates to diarise

### OCTOBER

Sat 10	08h00	Junior Primary inter-house athletics
	10h30	Senior Primary inter-house athletics
Mon 12	13h00	Junior Primary and Senior Primary parents' afternoon
Tue 13	19h00	Senior Primary choir at Ridge choir festival
Wed 14	07h30	THRASS workshop for Grade 1 F parents
Thu 15	07h30	THRASS workshop for Grade 1 D parents
	10h18	Grade 7 tea with headmistress
	14h00	Tennis at home and away
	14h00	Diving at home
	14h30	Chess at home
Fri 16	10h18	Grade 1 market day
	14h00	Athletics away
Sat 17		Latin Dance grading - dance studio - The Edge
	08h00	Grade 4 tennis festival at St Teresa's
		Grade 5 tennis festival at Roedeau
Mon 19	18h00	Little Saints sings - Senior School hall
Tue 20	07h30	Grade 3 C assembly
	10h18	Grade 7 tea with headmistress
Wed 21	07h30	Senior Primary Eucharist and admission to communion
	14h00	Grade 7 SPCA visit
	18h00	Dance showcase - AV room
Thu 22	09h00	Little Saints braai day
	10h30	Little Saints closes for half-term
	11h00	Junior and Senior Primary close for half-term
		U13 and 1 <sup>st</sup> water polo tournament at St Stithians begins
Fri 23		Half-term
Sat 24		Half-term
Sun 25		Half-term
Mon 26		Half-term
Tue 27		Half-term
	07h20	School opens
	18h30	Senior Primary Ensemble evening

opportunity to copy the actions and dance to the songs. The general theme of the concert was focused on animal life and the children learnt, among other things, that a number of unexpected creatures that look similar to one another lay eggs, such as crocodiles and tortoises.

We look forward to another Betty Button concert later on in the year, on Wednesday 18 November.

Great progress is being made on the renovation of our own Little Saints venue. The builders are working incredibly hard to meet their deadlines, and the initial gutting and building work is complete. We look forward to moving back into our beautiful new classrooms. At this stage it is not possible to set a date for our move, but we will keep you posted on the progress.

A very big thank-you for all the delicious food you contributed towards our Heritage Day celebrations. The children really embraced the spirit of the day with their charming costumes, and enjoyed parading them around the Close. During our class discussion time each child had the opportunity to share information about their particular heritage, and this was undoubtedly the highlight of the day. One child indicated that she belongs on the family farm and that this is her special family place, even though they live in "Joburg". They all had the chance to taste some food from different heritages, some familiar and some new. A host of heritages were represented during the day, such as Portuguese, Indian, Cuban, British, Scottish and American, to name a few. A fun day was had by all.

On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 5 to 8 October, Grade

00 and Grade 000 held their special persons visit. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting the special guests, and were intrigued by the children's different introductions. While many could not contain their enthusiasm, expending huge amounts of energy, many felt a tremendous responsibility to introduce their visitor correctly to Little Saints. The breakfast picnic was a great success, with many of the boys devouring both their and their guest's food. The highlight of the morning was undoubtedly the story reading, as nothing captivates the heart of a child quite like having a story read by a person they hold dear.

Please set aside the date for Little Saints Sings, at 18h00 on Monday 19 October. We have ordered cheese and wine so please join us after the concert. The concert, in keeping with the relevant concentration spans, will not be long and this will afford us all the opportunity to gather on the lawns outside the Senior School hall and enjoy a glass of wine or soft drink together.

Please also diarise our Junior School Art Exhibition on Thursday 12 November.

We look forward to the next few busy weeks together. The warm weather certainly makes it easier to get up in the mornings, and the children delight in playing outside in the spring sunshine.

Yours sincerely

**Brigitte Taylor**  
Little Saints teacher



Grade 000 T celebrating Heritage Day



## From the chaplain

In a recent weekly reflection from the Jesuit Institute Fr Russell Pollitt, SJ wrote:

“Any leader worth their salt will display one absolute key quality: the ability to listen to their constituents. People who feel that they are not heard, it seems to me, will resort to attention-seeking behaviours. We know how children do this when they feel unnoticed, unheard, or not affirmed. Adults do the same; they find ways of getting the attention of those in power so that their voices are heard. I wonder how much suffering could be avoided if we took time out to listen to the joys and struggles of others? Listening costs nothing, except time, but it will be time well spent.

“If only parents, teachers, religious leaders and politicians would listen more deeply to the struggles and aspirations of those under their care, I am convinced this empathy would go a long way to improving things. It would help leaders to be in ‘touch’ with where their people are ... How can we all listen better this week? It’s a rare gift we are invited to cultivate.”

Perhaps we could all learn to listen more to God and one another.

*Prayer*

*Lord God*

*Give me a listening heart*

*Free from the noise within and the noise I create.*

*Help me to create spaces to listen to others, deeply and authentically.*

*May my careful listening change my heart.*

*Amen*

*Revd Canon Gill Lee*

Chaplain



## Heritage Day celebrations





## St Mary's Foundation

**From One Girl to Another plaque unveiling**  
Friday 18 September marked an occasion to celebrate and recognise the contribution the Grade 7 class of 2014 made to girls' education at St Mary's.

Education is the one thing in life that will never be taken away from you. Education is something that will form the foundation for the rest of your life. Your education will determine whether you are successful in life, and that success will be determined by how you embraced your education.

Gilbert Chesterton, an English writer and journalist from the 19<sup>th</sup> century, said, "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."

By creating this legacy, the Grade 7s of 2014 are providing access to education for those who have great academic ability, but who are not able to access a top-class education for reasons beyond their control.

The From One Girl to Another campaign signifies a tremendous gesture of generosity

and kindness. The 2014 Grade 7 class demonstrated an example to others, in supporting their school in its endeavours to educate young women from different backgrounds to be leaders in their respective communities. Funds from the campaign will be invested, and girls may wish to continue to add to these funds as they progress through school and become St Mary's Old Girls.

We are hopeful that future Grade 7 classes will follow this example in supporting education for young women at St Mary's by adding to the From One Girl to Another campaign. As this fund grows from the investment and from future contributions, the money will be used at the school's discretion to fund deserving girls.

There are seven girls in Senior School who are recipients of a bursary from the St Mary's Foundation. Some of these girls began their journey here in the Junior School and it is through the generosity of donors that they are embracing an education at St Mary's. All of these girls realise the opportunities being afforded to them, and are excelling in various

aspects of school life.

The St Mary's Foundation extends an overwhelming thank-you to all the pupils and parents of the Grade 7 class of 2014. You are proudly St Mary's girls, and we are equally proud of you for beginning this legacy.

**Gillian O'Shaughnessy**  
Foundation manager



Deminkha Pillay, Taahira Shanmugan and Jocelyn Otto

## Work in progress at Little Saints







## From the Music department



“If you please, sir, I...I want some more.”

A huge thank-you to all involved in this year's SP play with a twist. To all the moms for organising the costumes and make-up, you are invaluable, thank you. Thank you to the fabulous creative team for tackling the challenge and for all the effort you put in during rehearsals. Most importantly to the girls; you were all fabulous. The girls have already begun asking what the play is for 2016!

### ABRSM High Achievers' Concert

The Music department is proud of Mira Kathawaroo's selection to perform at the ABRSM High Achievers' Concert. Only the very top candidates are considered for this event, which is by invitation only. Well done, Mira!

**Carol Shutte**

Head of Music: Junior School



Well done, Mira!

“I was invited to play the piano at the ABRSM High Achievers' Concert, which was held at the World of Yamaha Theatre in Midrand on 8 August. I played one of my Grade 4 pieces, *Cancion para Dormir una Muneca (Lullaby for a Doll)* by Antonio Estevez. It is a beautiful piece of music and I enjoyed performing. The other performances, across all the grades, were also very good.”

**Mira Kathawaroo**

Grade 5 M

## Reminder

If you have a child and wish to apply for St Mary's Senior or Junior School in 2017, we urge you to complete an application form urgently to avoid disappointment. If you have any questions, please contact Leigh-Anne Hinton on 011 531 1904 or leigh-anne.hinton@stmary.co.za.

## Parent Corner



### YOUR CHILD'S DIGITAL POTENTIAL

In the digital world every child has the potential to become many different things online and as parents, we need to be awake to the fact that life today consists of both real life and virtual life. Whether your child is naughty or nice, trustworthy or a boundary-pusher, a leader or a follower, becoming any of the below is entirely possible owing to the power of connectivity and technology, long before they leave school:

#### Perpetrator

- Victim
- Upstander
- Bystander
- Trickster
- Celebrity/superstar
- Social activist
- Community builder
- Porn addict
- Porn star
- Hacker
- Programming whiz
- Video gaming star
- Coach potato
- Top scholar
- Copycat
- Terrorist recruit
- Solutions-finder
- Thought leader

While this is far from an exhaustive list, it consists of both positive and negative outcomes based on how children use technology and the choices they make. What our children will become will be determined by factors such as:

- How we educate them about the digital world
- Using teachable moments they can identify with, to help them to learn how to make the most positive choices for themselves online
- How we stay connected to them, both online and offline, as their

parents (tip: eat dinner together at the table, not in front of a screen - you will learn so much about each other, and be able to pass on insights and advice)

- How big their emotional void is, whether we are able to spot the void or whether they are able to bring it to our attention before trying to fill it in dangerous ways online or offline
- How secure their self-esteem is, and whether they know they are valued and are adding value to the world
- What agreements and consequences we have in place regarding the responsible use of technology
- What family values we instil in our children so that they can measure other value offerings against them in the offline or online world
- What filtering, monitoring and on-device safety software decisions we decide to implement, or not
- How well we work together as a community to support our children in becoming "healthy switchers" - people who are able to enjoy their time online as much as they enjoy their life in the real world
- Helping our children to learn how to make good choices for themselves

All the above is a team effort between parent, child and school, and it requires knowledge, insight and commitment to keeping the human in the middle and encouraging responsible use of technology. We, as a society, have never been here before. The digital world is new turf and we are discovering how it works in new ways every day. We need to bring our children up to believe that people are more important than screens, and understanding that the very powerful digital devices they use every day can be used either as a weapon or a tool, and that this is a choice - their choice. And every choice has consequences.

#### **Nikki Bush**

Creative parenting expert, inspirational speaker and co-author of *Tech-Savvy Parenting* (Bookstorm, 2014), *Future-proof Your Child* (Penguin, 2008), and *Easy Answers to Awkward Questions* (Metz Press, 2009)

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## From the Sports department

### JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK AHEAD: 12-18 OCTOBER (WEEK 6)

Date	Sport	Teams	Venue	Time	Transport	Teacher
Thursday 15 October	Tennis	A team vs St Andrew's A B team vs St Andrew's B C team vs St Teresa's C D team vs St Teresa's D	St Andrew's St Andrew's St Mary's St Mary's	14h00	Bus Bus	Mrs Lowndes Mrs Lowndes Mrs Plant Mrs Plant
Thursday 15 October	Diving		St Mary's	14h00		Ms Glinzman
Friday 16 October	Athletics A and B team		St Stithians	14h00		Mrs Mshengu
Saturday 17 October	Tennis	Grade 4 Festival Grade 5 Festival	St Teresa's Roedean	08h00	Parents Parents	Mrs Plant Mrs Lowndes

### JUNIOR SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK AHEAD: 19-25 OCTOBER (WEEK 7)

Date	Sport	Teams	Venue	Time	Transport	Teacher
Thursday 22 October	Water polo	St Stithians Festival - A team	St Stithians	TBA	Parents	Mrs Samson
HALF-TERM						

## Gymnastics



On Friday 18 September Rebecca Jenkins took part in the Gauteng Regional Competition for gymnastics. She received a gold medal on bar, a bronze on vault and a medal for coming 1<sup>st</sup> overall. Congratulations, Rebecca!

## Diving

The St Mary's diving team took on its biggest rivals, St Stithians, for the first competition of the season on Thursday. Caitlin Kersten gave a stellar performance that earned her 1<sup>st</sup> place for Grade 4. Teammates Alexia Bakos, Lara Kuehnemann and Michaela Lotto came in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively. In the novice division for Grade 4, Georgina Spalding took 2<sup>nd</sup> place. In the Grade 3 competition, Holly Davidson narrowly missed 1<sup>st</sup> place and earned the silver medal. In the novice division, Mackenzie Coakley-Eager earned 3<sup>rd</sup>, Zalika Methula came 4<sup>th</sup>, and Tasha Jenkins came 6<sup>th</sup>.

For Grade 6, Kerry-Leigh Morrison performed beautifully and earned the silver medal, while teammate Ashley Murning also gave a solid performance and came in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Athina Prokus competed for the first time in the novice division and did a fantastic job. Alexandra Kirstein ended in 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Grade 7s, with teammate Romy Len not far behind in 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

The St Mary's divers all gave impressive performances, and look forward to taking on St Andrews and St Dominic's next week.

### *Chelsea Glinzman*

Diving coach



Grade 3 divers: Zalika Methula, Holly Davidson, Mackenzie Coakley-Eager and Tasha Jenkins

## Athletics

The athletics season is always an exciting one, and the meetings are exhilarating and highly competitive. On Friday 18 September the athletics team participated in the first meeting of the season, which was hosted by St Stithians.

The results were as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> Stithians - 321½

2<sup>nd</sup> St Mary's - 320

3<sup>rd</sup> St Peter's - 287½

4<sup>th</sup> Kingsmead - 258

5<sup>th</sup> St Andrew's - 212½

6<sup>th</sup> St Mary's DSG - 171½

### *Antoinette Mshengu*

Athletics coach

## Tennis

The summer tennis league is in full swing on the courts. Despite the hot weather, all the players are working hard on their games. Apart from the league matches all the players are participating in the school singles and doubles championships, which are also being played this term. Congratulations to the St Mary's AB teams, which had excellent wins over APPS AB and Roedean AB. The CD teams have played well to beat Roedean CD and St Andrew's CD. Well done to all the players, and keep up the enthusiasm and hard work.

Results

17 September 2015

St Mary's A beat APPS A 61-20

St Mary's B beat APPS B 65-16

St Mary's C beat Roedean C 50-13

St Mary's D beat Roedean D 56-7

St Mary's E lost to APPS C (friendly) 21-24

1 October 2015

St Mary's A beat Roedean A 46-35

St Mary's B beat Roedean B 62-19

St Mary's C beat St Andrew's C 37-26

St Mary's D beat St Andrew's D 58-5

St Mary's E beat St Andrew's E (friendly) 40-5

### *Teena Lowndes*

Tennis coach



**UPSTANDER**

Informed is empowered

Help keep us informed.

Report bullying. At St Mary's we encourage our girls to be upstanders.

Contact cybercell: 074 402 3905

Or approach your house tutor or mentor