

16 MARCH 2018



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Congratulations to the basketball 1st team that remained unbeaten this season!

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

The summer sports season ended with inter-high diving and swimming galas. The spirit squad led the school in a delightful show of support and St Mary's girls thoroughly enjoyed their chanting, singing and dancing. I was struck by our spectators' enthusiasm and it was obvious that the experience would become a special memory of school days for many of the girls.

It is often the simple aspects of school life which hold enjoyment and inspiration for the girls. This is one of the reasons why we value participation at St Mary's School. A full experience of school life is as important as achievement.

It is a concern for me when I hear the younger girls speak of Senior School as a mere stepping-stone to tertiary education. Secondary education offers so much more than a particular outcome. It is a time of significant possibility, of personal growth and formation. Intellectual

challenge, physical endeavour and social activities all provide opportunities to know oneself, to test potential and to realise fully, one's personal development. School also plays a role in supporting adolescents through the tension of teenage years. It is a known environment and a stable routine in which to learn about the complex world we inhabit.

The outcome of schooling is only one aspect of the rich experience, personal fulfilment and memories gained in senior school.

DEANNE KING HEAD OF SCHOOL

NOTICE BOARD – PLEASE SEE PAGE 14 FOR ALL OUR IMPORTANT NOTICES

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Immediately after Christ had been arrested, Peter was asked three times if he were one of Christ's disciples: three times, out of intense fear, Peter denied any association with Jesus (John 18:15-27). How that must have broken Peter within. Denying Christ meant abandoning a dear friend, mentor and Saviour; it also meant Peter's denying his identity as a disciple of Christ.

After Christ's resurrection from the dead, Jesus revealed himself to his disciples. Once they had all shared breakfast together, Jesus spoke to Peter: "Simon Peter, do you love me?" How desperately Peter must have needed to answer, as he did, "Lord, you know that I love you." Three times, Jesus asked the question, and three times Peter answered in the affirmative, each time healing a little more the brokenness within Peter (and Jesus?) resulting from Peter's denial (John 21:1-19).

As we continue in Lent, let us prayerfully reflect on the times in our lives when we might not live our identity as those who love Christ, for whatever reason. Perhaps it is out of fear of not being accepted by others. Conversely, it may be that living our identity means taking a difficult moral stand in a situation, or possibly it means living in a way that is less than convenient in our busy lives, or giving up something we enjoy ... or admitting that we were wrong.

Let us bring those times before God, and ask God to continue God's work within us, so that at Easter we may know that we too rise a new person at Easter, reconciled with Christ and sent out once again to "feed [Christ's] lambs", as those who love Christ.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

LIMPOPO SERVICE TRIP

Over half-term, 24 girls accompanied by Linda Giuricich, Jenny Bailey, Sue Heydendrych and Thembi Ngobese assisted the primary school in Alma, Limpopo, teaching art and making teaching aids for the classrooms. The group also planted fruit and nut trees on the school property. The group enjoyed staying at the Nylstroom Lodge, preparing all the meals and swimming in the hot pool.

LINDA GIURICICH DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS



At Alma

FORM I SRC REPS

The following Form I girls have been elected as SRC reps:

Clayton: Lesedi Furse: Ntando Karney: Nyakallo Phelps: Mahlatse

AMAZING RACE





On Tuesday 27 February, 16 teams of St Mary's girls ran around in a frenzy. Just exactly what were they doing? The annual Amazing Race! The Form II Geography classes have been studying a section on world Geography and development with a specific focus on Russia's demographic trends, economic status, climatic data, geology, space travel and map literacy. The thinking behind this activity was to keep the girls engaged in challenges while drawing from a multiple set of mapwork and graphicacy skills, experiences and sources to aid and accelerate the learning process. A spirit of friendly competition, collaboration and effort were at the forefront as each team decided which route to pursue and which creative strategies they could use to complete the tasks.

The girls also interacted with a world culture as challenges included performing a *Swan Lake* dance, a Cossack dance, assembling

and decorating Matryoshka dolls, completing a chess challenge, weightlifting, making soviet kartoshkas and decorating Fabergé eggs. The challenges entailed the use of iPads and phones as various Google apps and the iTunes U course were needed to complete the race. Google cardboard and Google streetview allowed the girls to appreciate physical landforms. Each team had to upload a video on to the St Mary's YouTube

Gauging from the favourable feedback received, the girls thoroughly enjoyed the educational value of this experience. Congratulations to the Krasnodar team on winning this race in record time.

CINDY LEN GEOGRAPHY TEACHER

HOPE – JUSTICE EDWIN CAMERON

At the invitation of the HOPE committee, on the evening of Wednesday 28 February, Justice Edwin Cameron engaged the St Mary's community on the term "diversity". Against the backdrop of the title, *Diversity, a Constitutional Imperative; a Human Enhancement,* he posed the question "Why do we value diversity?" and expanded on this with a threefold response.

Aesthetics – it is difference that creates beauty as opposed to uniformity, which would be bland and uninteresting.

Intrinsic features – our unique identity, be it male or female, ethnic origin or culture, faith or sexual orientation, contributes to our "human-hood".

South Africa's exciting story – when we respect diversity we all flourish versus the potential for inviting catastrophe when we don't, playing out in hatred, ignorance and fear.

He shared that diversity is an unspoken founding value of South Africa's Constitution and acknowledged the remarkable resilience of our Constitution over the past 24 years, briefly discussing the deeper values of the Constitution, which were put in place to protect the very essence of diversity.

Justice Cameron explained that, to ensure our Constitution survives in South Africa, a commitment is needed by each of us to make our country less unequal and more inclusive. He expanded by saying that every one of us has a responsibility to make our South African choice

real; not only in actions that make us feel good but in actions that may also be uncomfortable or challenging; this in particular context to the shifts in parliament that took place during the week and the brewing discourse about the theme of land expropriation. Bringing the theme back to the St Mary's community, he briefly explored how we need to value and support diversity in all its forms: race, gender, sexual orientation, class, culture, economic status, body art preferences and that, quite simply, we all had to "do more".

The talk was concluded by inviting questions from a few of the attendees in the near-capacity venue, the 500-seat The Edge auditorium. The questions and resultant conversations touched on B-BBEE, land expropriation, use of offensive and wounding terms, judicial intervention in politics, internalised oppression and "victim blaming". Justice Cameron reiterated that in order to make our environment friendly to diversity, there was work needed on all sides.

To conclude, the conversations were shared in an environment that felt inclusive, empathic, respectful and open and the closing impression was that, even if the conversations may have felt confrontational to some, the guests left feeling richer for the experience.

HOPE is most grateful to Justice Cameron for successfully bringing the St Mary's community together in conversation on this relevant and important topic.

HOPE COMMITTEE

FROM THE PEER COUNSELLORS

A world of beauty

What is the definition of beauty? Is it luscious hair or sunsets? Is it a courageous heart or thunderstorms? Maybe it is the person who can smile brightly after she has cried.

In my search for the meaning of beauty, I came across the following: beauty means the aggregation of qualities in a person or thing that brings pleasure to one's senses. I think it is our individual personalities and upbringings that bring pleasure to our senses.

For me, beauty is captured in the smell of cooked tomatoes, onions and garlic my mother stirs in the pot on lazy Sunday afternoons, the sounds of my sister's fingers flying across the piano and the sight of lightning running across the sky. But beauty also applies to our nonvisual senses. The blind, for example, experience it in the warmth of someone's personality and the gentle raindrops on their skin.

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder" gives us the ability to find what beauty means to us personally. Modern day society has taught us to view beauty materialistically. We are taught to see clothes and money as a priority. We aspire to be Kendal Jenner thin, Gigi Hadid beautiful and to have Cara Delavigne eyebrows. We have forgotten to make our personalities beautiful, to have a beautiful heart and to pluck away the detrimental judgements.

My take on the idiom is that it's an appeal for tolerance of different ideas and embracing diversity rather than exclusivity and dominance. In an age when we have become interdependent on one another, a lack of tolerance will take us back to the dark ages, where segregation and inequality will convert from dreaded possible outcomes to our painful reality.

There are too many things of beauty in this world for us to make one generalised definition that is imposed on everyone. There is beauty in a child's innocence and a father's love. In the capricious oceans and the lusciously green trees. It's also in you and me. As much as we can argue about the different standpoints in this idiom, I encourage us to recognise that beauty is not one dimensional, and neither are we.

UNDREYA FORM IV



INNOV@TION HUB



The value of creativity in the 21st century

Of the "Four Cs" of 21st-century skills and thinking, creative thinking is the aspect that is currently being spoken about the most. Previously, a hierarchy of subjects existed that saw the more creative subjects placed at the bottom of the hierarchy, with subjects such as Mathematics and Science at the top. This thinking was a result of the Industrial Age, where developments in machinery and production were new and were seen to be vital to bringing about progress in society at the time.

More than two centuries later, can we still say that the same logic applies? In a world where economies are largely moving away from resource- and manufacturing-driven growth, ideas are becoming the new commodity. Creativity is the process of generating ideas that have value. It is ideas that are expected to drive our economies into the future, and therefore creativity should be infused into all traditional

subject areas at school.

Economic growth is not the only reason that creativity must be emphasised and nurtured. In many cases the thinking of the past has created social and economic problems on a large scale. We cannot expect the thinking of the past to solve the problems we will face in the future. New thinking that creates viable and valuable ideas is more necessary now than ever before. For the most part, schools do not emphasise creativity, and thought leaders on the subject go as far as to suggest that schools might actually destroy creativity in children. Nurturing creativity in our pupils is not a "nice-to-have" or an added extra. It is something we at St Mary's seek to make central to what we do and who we are.

CLARE SEARLE CURRICULUM INNOVATION LEADER

MEDEA



The Dramatic Arts department at St Mary's looked to the classics this year for the major school production. The story of *Medea*, a Greek tragedy written by Euripides in 431 BCE, surprisingly remains as relevant today as ever. Ben Power revives this old classic, providing rich and provocative material for an all-girl cast.

Drawing inspiration from *Mad Max Fury Road* for a post-apocalyptic world, this production is set in a refugee camp where women are displaced, disenfranchised and struggle to find their voices and be heard. This exacerbates Medea's difficulties. She is betrayed by her love, Jason, as he leaves her and their two daughters for a younger and more beautiful woman. She is subsequently banished by the king and judged by the women of Corinth, the chorus, which cause her to turn to the most incomprehensible crime to solve her heartache. The chorus members in Greek Theatre play an important and fascinating

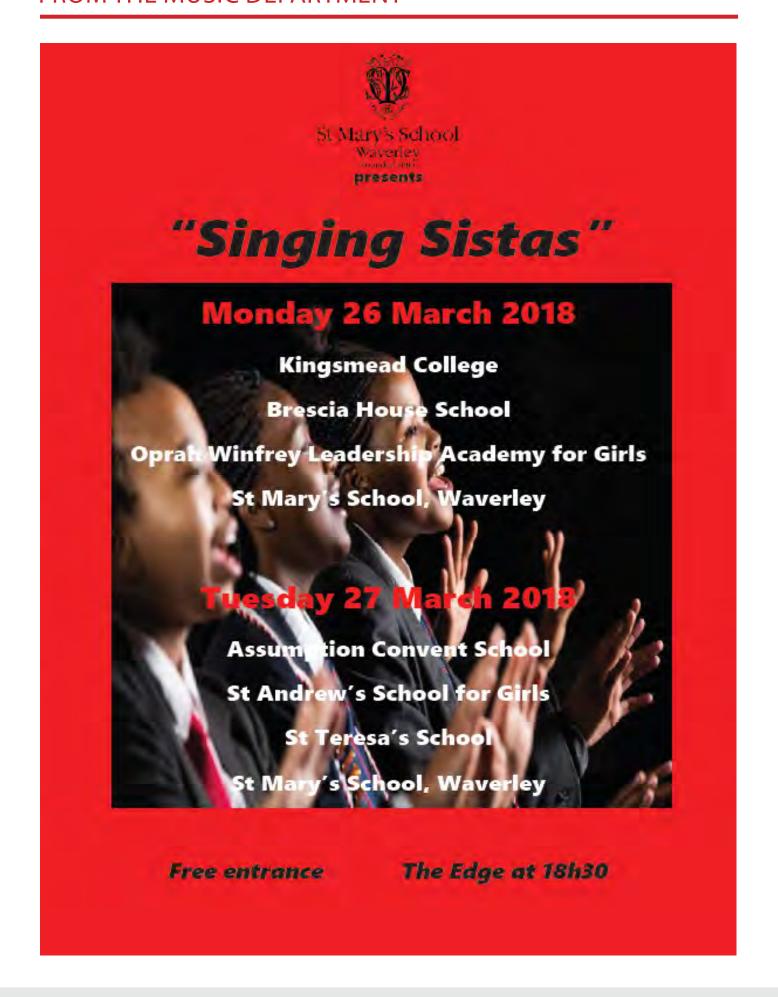
role. They build a bridge between the audience and the actors, voicing what the audience should think and feel and so become commentators on the actions within the play.

The Greeks never showcase violence on the stage as the messenger or messengers must relive the story for the audience, creating verbal images that only the imagination can comprehend, heightening the devastation of it all. Christo Doherty, the photographer, said of this production: "Wow, but these ancient Greeks wrote powerful plays, hey?"

We hope that "power" was conveyed to you all in this production.

KUTLWANO FORM IV

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT



FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

SWIMMING









Sport Snails with their medals

Academic Alligators support crew

Emma and Jade

Inter-house gala

The inter-house gala was swum on Thursday 1 March. It is a largely fun gala encouraging participation from as many house members as possible, and so it is disappointing to note how many competent swimmers gave feeble excuses and let their teams down. That aside, once at the pool, the spirit was awesome and the cheering continued throughout the gala.

We have no doubt that the spirit was set by the opening event:

"The Great Race – Academic Alligators, Sporty Snails and the Part-time Piranhas"

The Senior School staff (Academic Alligators) challenged the full-time sports staff (Sporty Snails) to a race, a 4x25m medley relay. The part-time sports staff felt hard done by and so entered themselves (Part-time Piranahs). The rules were set by the assistant coach and chief administrator of the Academic Alligators, Nina Nathanson. She saw reason to handicap the Part-time Piranahs severely. This may have affected the final outcome of the race, which was swum in great spirit and resulted in a narrow victory for the Sporty Snails.



Houses

The gala was won by Phelps, although the five trophies for the championship races were won by Jade and Emma from Karney.

Inter-high galas

The A gala was swum in pouring rain for the entire morning. We commend all swimmers and spectators for giving of their best

throughout the morning. Fortunately, the spectators and the spirit squad were able to keep relatively dry and their cheers and continued singing helped our swimmers' spirits to remain high.



The gala was won by Assumption A and St Mary's B placed second. This was an excellent result, as seen below, as the next best achievement by a B Team was St Andrew's in sixth position.

1 st	Assumption A	376
2 nd	St Mary's B	346
3 rd	Potchefstroom A	321
4 th	St Catherine's A	320
5 th	Jeppe A	253
6 th	St Andrew's B	198
7^{th}	Holy Rosary B	172
8 th	Kingsmead B	163

9 th	Parktown B	109
10 th	Assumption B	107

The Premier inter-high gala was held in near perfect conditions on Saturday. Our girls swam superbly. There were a great number of season's best times and, once again, the support from all team swimmers, spectators and the spirit squad was awesome. We were well beaten by St Stithians but we refused to let that put a dampener on our outstanding showing.



Supporting our girls!



 $\label{eq:missing} \mbox{Miss Nathan, Mrs Zumpt, Mrs Howell and the swimming captains}$

It was a special morning for the swimming captains as they were introduced to Miss Nathan. Miss Nathan was the head of sport and the deputy head at St Mary's from 1962 to 1997. Mrs Howell worked with Miss Nathan for many years and Mrs Zumpt was the vice-captain of her swimming team in her matric year. Miss Nathan is still an avid supporter and critic of St Mary's sport and had come to watch the gala to check whether we still swam as well as the teams, which she coached.

This table of results over the past nine years makes for interesting reading. Please bear in mind that St Andrew's do not swim at the National Aquatics Festival and St Stithians do not enter a team into the A inter-high gala.

QUIX HEAD OF SPORT

Year	National Aquatics	A inter-high gala	Premier inter-high
	Festival		gala
2010	St Mary's 1 st	St Mary's B 1st	St Andrew's 1 st
	St Stithians 10 th	St Andrew's B 6 th	St Mary's 2 nd
			St Stithians 4 th
2011	St Mary's 4 th	St Mary's B 1 st	St Andrew's 1 st
	St Stithians 10 th	St Andrew's B 5 th	St Mary's 2 nd
			St Stithians 3 rd
2012	St Mary's 4 th	St Mary's B 1 st	St Andrew's 1 st
	St Stithians 10 th	St Andrew's B 7 th	St Mary's 2 nd
			St Stithians 3 rd
2013	St Mary's 3 rd	St Mary's B 2 nd	St Andrew's 1 st
	St Stithians 8 th	St Andrew's B 7 th	St Mary's 2 nd
			St Stithians 3 rd
2014	St Mary's 2 nd	St Mary's B 2 nd	St Andrew's 1 st
	St Stithians – did not	St Andrew's B 6 th	St Mary's 2 nd
	swim		St Stithians 3 rd
2015	St Mary's 2 nd	St Mary's B 1 st	St Stithians 1 st
	St Stithians – did not	St Andrew's B 6 th	St Andrew's 2 nd
	swim		St Mary's 3 rd
2016	St Mary's 3 rd	St Mary's B 1st	St Andrew's 1 st
	St Stithians – did not	St Andrew's B 6 th	St Mary's 2 nd
	swim		St Stithians 3 rd
2017	St Mary's and St	St Mary's B 1 st	St Stithians 1 st
	Stithians tie 3 rd	St Andrew's B 6 th	St Mary's 2 nd
			St Andrew's 3 rd
2018	St Stithians 1 st	St Mary's B 2 nd	St Stithians 1 st
	St Mary's 5 th	St Andrew's B 6 th	St Mary's 2 nd
			St Andrew's 3 rd
	We have been out of	We have been 1 st or	3 rd once and 2 nd
	the top four only	2 nd every year	every other year
	once		

The consistency of these results is outstanding. Well done to all St Mary's swimmers over the years.

HOCKEY

As the curtain comes down on the summer sports and rises for the winter sports, I thought we should introduce you to the newest hockey player at St Mary's. This little blacksmith lapwing was born on the grass field last week.

St Mary's Investec Hockey Festival and the rhino raffle Find more information regarding this raffle in the previous newsletter and on the school app.

2018 save the rhino raffle

R100 per ticket

Win one of three magnificent prizes:

- A three-night stay for two guests at MalaMala Game Reserve, valued at R65 000
- A three-night stay for two guests at Mashatu Game Reserve, valued at R46 000
- A two-night stay for two guests at Camp Jabulani, Kapama Game Reserve, valued at R72 000

There are still tickets available (please contact Quix; quix.quicke@stmary.co.za). I am delighted to report that the ticket sales reached R65 000 this week. We are seriously hoping to reach the R100 000 mark.



QUIX HEAD OF SPORT

WATER POLO



U15 Shaun Fuchs Team

The water polo girls were busy over half-term with our U15 and 1st teams competing.

The U15 team played at the Crawford Lonehill Shaun Fuchs Tournament. This tournament consists of 24 teams from all over the country.

Our team placed 13th overall out of 24.

The 1st team played at the St Peter's Old Petrians Water Polo Tournament. This tournament consists of 28 teams also from all over the country. Our girls had a tough draw in the pool games and, while sitting second in the pool for most of the tournament, were sadly bumped down to fourth.

This then placed the 1st team into the Bowl section and best to play for was 13th. They competed hard and won the Bowl Trophy.

Four of the 1st team members competed for South Africa in their respective age groups in Durban.

Courtney competed for the U18 SA team for the Fina Africa Qualifers section. The team won all their games and have now qualified to compete at the U18 Fina World Championships in Serbia later this year.

Zoë, Kayleigh and Francesca competed for the U17 SA team for the CANA Zone IV Water Polo Championships section.

Well done to all the water polo girls in all the age groups.

KELSEY WHITE WATER POLO COACH



Kayleigh, Francesca, Courtney and Zoë

ROWING



Sarah and Caitlin in the double



U14 medalists



U16 winning quad

Half-term arrived and with it, the SA Schools' Rowing Championships. The St Mary's rowing club was ready to race and dominate. The culmination of our hard work during technical training sessions, strength training and fitness was rewarded with great success. The St Mary's rowing club placed second behind St Andrews Girls' School losing by only a few points. We achieved a staggering nine gold medals, five silver medals and three bronze medals.

There were some standout performances over the three days of racing with the U14 girls winning the gold medal in the octuple and the silver medal in the double event.

The U15 girls won the gold and bronze medals in the scull, the silver medal in the double and the gold medals in the quad and the octuple events.

The U16 girls won the silver medal in the scull, the bronze medal in the pair and the gold medals in the quad and four events.



U14 oct on the go!



U15 quad racing



Open quad

The Opens placed well with the gold and silver medals in the scull, the gold in the double event, and gold and silver medals in the quad and four.

Success is not only measured by great results. Teamwork and participation play a major role as everyone is focused on the main goal: to come together for one another. The St Mary's rowing club is successful because we row for ourselves as well as the team. Our club is also fortunate to have great coaches and head coach, Caitlin Dace, to lead us.

Congratulations to Juliet and Sarah for their invitation to attend Gauteng Junior Trials and as U16 girls who were selected for SASRU. We wish them the best of luck.

One spirit, one club, one love.

CATHERINE FORM IV

TENNIS

A very successful tennis season has ended and well done to all the players on the tennis ladder for their commitment and enthusiasm throughout this season. The energy, excitement and anticipation for the tennis tour to Spain is palpable and I hope that it will be a tour filled with experiences that will last for a lifetime.

Our congratulations are extended to Maja and Tamsin who reached the finals and semi-finals respectively of an international U18 tournament that was held in Potchefstroom from 19 to 24 February.

League results

27 February

St Mary's A beat St Andrew's A 62-19

St Mary's B beat St Andrew's B 42-21

St Mary's C lost to Northcliff A 10-53

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

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

St Mary's F beat St Andrew's B 36-27

St Mary's G lost to St Stithians C 29-34

St Mary's H beat St Stithians D 45-18

6 March

St Mary's A versus Brescia A rained out

St Mary's B versus t Brescia B rained out

St Mary's C versus St Peter's /Beaulieu A rained out

St Mary's D versus St Peter's/Beaulieu B rained out



The matric girls' last tennis match

St Mary's E lost to Bryanston A 35-28 St Mary's F beat Bryanston B 46-17

> RENÉ PLANT HEAD OF TENNIS

BASKETBALL



Defending

In the final fixture of the season, our teams played against Sacred Heart College.

While our U14 teams are still learning and adjusting to a new sport, there was evidence of improvement, especially in their defensive and offensive structures. With continued exposure and more playing time, the girls will achieve even better results.

The U15 girls have played consistently, ending the season unbeaten. They have played structured, disciplined basketball regardless of their



Caroline going for the ball

opposition and we commend them on this. This age group has shown great potential, which is very exciting for the future of basketball at St Mary's.

Although our U16 girls did not play against Sacred Heart College, they have also had a successful season. There are many exciting players in this age group and we look forward to seeing them progress in the future.

The senior age group has been a pleasure to work with. Although

the 2nd team did not have many matches, the players have remained committed, enthusiastic and they have continued to work hard.

The first team have had an outstanding season. Their commitment, energy and willingness to improve resulted in their ending the season unbeaten. We are incredibly proud of their efforts!

Results against Sacred Heart College:

U14B:	4-14
U14A:	0-21
U15A:	6-6
1 st:	27-5

TARYN DE WINNAAR HEAD OF BASKETBALL

DIVING



Emma

The Senior School diving team had a very busy and successful season. The season commenced with the annual National Aquatics Festival held in Bloemfontein this year. Being a national event, the divers were exposed to the top competitors from around the country.

Over the season, St Stithians proved to be our toughest competitor, consistently beating us to first place, including at the St Mary's Summer Splash. Our team managed to maintain their positivity and determination. Their perseverance showed in the quality of diving during training sessions and the consistently high scores earned in the weekly inter-schools' competitions. Their continued successes grew the girls' confidence in their ability as they prepared for the biggest competition of the year, inter-high.

The U15 competition began the day's events. The St Mary's U15 category was represented by Romy and Ashley. Their exceptional diving earned them both a spot on the podium, third and second places respectively. Alexandra and Kerry-Leigh then represented St Mary's in the U16 age group. The girls' diving was phenomenal and they both stood out throughout the competition as favourites for the podium. Alexandra placed third and Kerry-Leigh placed first to secure another two podium positions for St Mary's. The ultimate competition was that of the open age group. The competition in this age group is of a particularly high standard, as is the standard of judging. The St Mary's open divers exceeded expectations with their poise and focus. I was very proud of Emma and Isabelle for their eighth and fourth positions



Divers with the inter-high diving trophy

respectively.

Following such superb diving, the girls' effort and perseverance was awarded with first place overall for the inter-high diving competition of 2018, beating St Stithians for the first time this season. Congratulations to the divers on an exceptional season of tough competition and hard training. Your dedication, work ethic and team spirit paid off.

The results of the inter-high diving competition are as follows:

1st St Mary's Waverley	153
2 nd St Stithians Collage	141
3 rd Brescia House and	
Pretoria High School for Girls	119
5 th Kingsmead College	118
6 th St Andrew's School	108
7 th Roedean School	102
8 th Parktown High School	94
9 th St Dominics	65

KATE SHEPHERD HEAD OF DIVING







Isabelle

a

Romy

NOTICES

MUSE MORNING

Parents of children of all ages are encouraged to join us at our next Muse Morning on Tuesday 27 March.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Seminar room, The Edge

Speaker: Pierre Brouard and Judith Ancer are clinical psychologists and popular speakers. They will be in conversation regarding gender issues. Topic: "LGBTQIA+: a confusing alphabet soup or an appropriate

reflection of human complexity and variation?"

Coffee is served from 07h15 for a prompt start at 07h30. Refreshments will be available at the back of the seminar room. Space is limited in the seminar room so please remember to RSVP.

RSVP: <u>Sharon.san@stmary.co.za</u>

CLUB 200 WINNERS:

100% : Julia - Form II R40 800 20% : Rosanna - Grade 0 R4 740 10% : Zalike - Grade 6 R3 580