



St Mary's School  
Waverley  
Founded 1888

## SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS

06 OCTOBER 2017

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## FROM THE HEAD'S DESK



Head girls elect for 2018: Shreya (deputy head girl), Reatlilwe (head girl), Teagynne (deputy head girl)

The news highlight of the past week was the election of the head girl and deputy head girls for 2018. The senior girls in Forms III, IV and V elected the leaders from a list of 14 girls. Congratulations Reatlilwe, Shreya and Teagynne. At the announcement, I spoke to the senior girls about the significance of our leadership approach at St Mary's, as being one of servant leadership. When the girls put their names forward for consideration, they are offering themselves in service to the community. They will be expected to give up their personal interests and goals and make a commitment to furthering their fellow pupils' interests and the interests of the school.

St Mary's School is blessed to have teachers, administrative and support staff, together with a Board, parents and Old Girls who serve our interests and the school selflessly. It is the hard work and effort of all stakeholders that ensures the beautiful, secure, successful and happy environment which the girls enjoy.

A well-maintained campus with facilities that enhance the girls' daily experience is one of our priorities. The latest upgrades include:

- Renovations to the kitchen and dining room, which are areas that cater for the boarders and the myriad of functions that we host
- A tiled floor in the chapel, which has enhanced the acoustics greatly
- Floodlights for two netball courts to allow more effective scheduling for the senior teams during winter
- A water-harvesting/ hydration management system for the Desmond Tutu science block

We are in the process of planning an upgrade to the Consumer Studies classrooms and reviewing the Pitt block and how we could use the building and space around the building to accommodate flexible learning areas for both the Senior and Junior schools.

DEANNE KING  
HEAD OF SCHOOL

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN



Girls who were confirmed on Tuesday 3 October

At 18h00 on Tuesday 3 October, 32 St Mary's girls from Forms III to V were confirmed by the Anglican Bishop of Johannesburg, the Rt Revd Dr Steve Moreo. The service took place within the context of a formal Eucharist attended by the girls' families, friends and teachers. Ven. Michelle Pilet, our Archdeacon, also attended to support the girls.

The confirmation service was a culmination of an almost year-long process which began in January. The girls and I met for weekly confirmation classes on Sunday evenings during term time. The girls had input into what was to be discussed each week. Topics ranged from the nature of our triune God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) and the nature of the Bible, to the problem of pain and suffering in the context of faith, forgiveness, and the history of the image of Christ. As individuals we each bring a different perspective on matters of our Christian faith – I enjoyed the diversity this year's group evidenced in our discussions and in our prayers together. Confirmation is one of the official sacraments of the Anglican

Church – one of the visible and outward signs of the inward and invisible grace that is God's gift to us. Confirmation is an important step in the journey that starts at baptism: it is the individual's opportunity to commit for herself that she wants to walk closely with God in her life. Confirmation should therefore not simply be undertaken in order to "tick a box", so to speak – rather, the confirmation service is a profound moment in a person's journey with Christ, with Christ's light shining every more brightly in the life of that person as she journeys on.

Thank you, girls, for allowing me to journey along with yourselves and with Christ this year. I wish you every blessing in this journey in the days and years to come.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS  
CHAPLAIN

## THE "HOPE" COMMITTEE – WHERE DIVERSITY MATTERS

"HOPE" would like to introduce itself to the St Mary's community.

Holding true to its name, Hearing Other People's Experiences, the committee's goal is to raise awareness and to encourage our parent community to engage one another in conversations with the purpose of understanding and embracing the very things that define each of us. By doing so, we hope to create a safe space where conversations can take

place and diverse voices can be heard; all in the spirit of discovery and acceptance.

Through ongoing communication and informal engagement, HOPE intends to support, inform and align ourselves with the school and its diversity initiatives in our shared vision of helping to create an environment of inclusivity and contentment for all. We are a sub-

committee of the PTA and our vision is grounded in the Anglican Christian identity and aligned with the South African Constitution.

We have some exciting things in the pipeline, so please keep a look out for our news of upcoming activities and events in the school newsletters and on the school app.

To end in the spirit in which we intend to go forward, an excerpt from the book *Confluence* by Piers Cruickshanks: "I know your name but I don't know your story." We look forward to meeting you and hearing your story.

The HOPE committee: chairperson – Melanie Steeneveldt, deputy chairperson - Debbie Lee, PTA representative – Bruce Patience, secretary – Clare Kerchhoff, marketing – Sarah Quiding and Malwande Dumeko, research – Gaynor Paradza, Junior School liaison – Chola Makgamathe, Other school matters – Melody Giwa-Nyahoda, Di Crossman, Verity Hawarden, Joy Payi-Dhlomo, Fredelene Elie, Buhle Masithela, Deanne King and Sarah Warner.

Below, please find a YouTube video on privilege:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hD5f8GuNuGQ>



FOR MORE INFO:  
CALL 083 226 2871

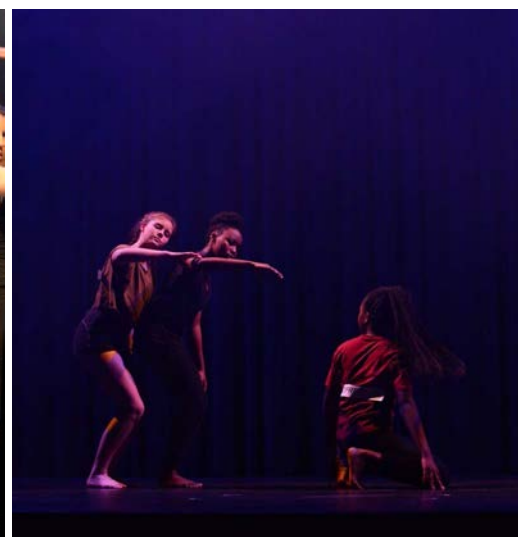


Dance crew

The dance crew performed at the annual inter-high dance competition held at Queens High School on Tuesday 26 September. Although they performed extremely well, they did not make it through to the finals. Well done, girls.



Jazz class dancers performing at Stamp Festival



The girls who choreographed an original piece especially for the festival: Shannon, Ruvarashe, Khanyisile and Jessica (not in picture)

CLAIRE VAN NIEKERK  
WWW.5678PRODUCTIONS.CO.ZA

LOVE.COMMUNITY.INTEGRITY

06 OCTOBER 2017

## VISUAL ARTS



Sue Heydenrych receiving the winning prize, on behalf of the girls



Three of the fancy dance dresses

The Form IV Visual Arts girls worked collaboratively to create a fantasy dance dress entirely out of mixed types of paper. This was for a competition for the launch of the Fashion Academy Network (FAN), a fashion college located at the Design District building in Rosebank. The dresses were judged by a panel of judges and were displayed at a special cocktail evening on 19 September.

Justine, Jemima and Jessica won first prize for their lovely floral paper dress. Herbert Evans sponsored the wonderful prize of art materials to the value of R20 000 for St Mary's first prize and for our participation in this project. Well done, girls!

**SUE HEYDENRYCH**  
HOD: VISUAL ARTS



## Form I e4 outing to watch the Joburg Theatre production of *King Kong*

*King Kong* is an iconic, quintessentially South African musical which was first performed in Johannesburg in 1959. The musical tells the true story of the life and times of Ezekiel Dhlamini, a heavyweight boxer who lived in Soweto and was known as "King Kong". It went on to be an enormous international success in the United Kingdom and United States, boosting many musical careers including those of Miriam Makeba and Hugh Masekela. As the first all-black musical, it also represents a lesser-told and lesser-celebrated story for South Africans.

A key aspect of innovation at St Mary's is the integrated approach to learning. This means that themes and concepts are investigated comprehensively, marking a move away from silo-based learning and affording our girls a broader and deeper understanding and appreciation of academic topics. As importantly, our approach to teaching and learning aims to create an experience for the pupils, making learning more meaningful and interesting, and engendering a sense of empathy and connectedness.

Over the course of the year in e4, we have been exploring the "full" story of Johannesburg, including many of the issues that the production *King Kong* brings to life. The desired impact of this experience is that the girls will be immersed in the cultural, political and economic climate of the day, and be able to extrapolate links to



the modern day Jo'burg in which they live. Through this imaginative and creative journey, a greater sense of empathy and compassion is encouraged, while the girls tap their feet to the incredible music that defied history and is still enjoyed today.

JANE MCMURRAY, MICHAEL WATT AND CLARE SEARLE

## FROM THE FOUNDATION

Love, integrity and community are three founding principles that St Mary's girls and the community uphold. The class of 1987 certainly demonstrated all three of these by gathering to celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup>-year reunion and paying it forward to the St Mary's Foundation.

"For our class, it was an unforgettable time of laughter, sharing memories, reforging bonds, some tears, lots of champagne and a loud abundance of 80s music.

"Some had not been back for 30 years. What we found was a better school (especially the boarding and facilities like The Edge!), but also each other again, and a rediscovery that we are all an integral part of a wider St Mary's family.

"I am immensely proud of my class for raising more than R30 000 for the Foundation, thus paying it forward." – Tara Turkington, class of 1987.

We are extremely grateful to the class of 1987 for their kindness and generosity in supporting education for young, less-advantaged girls at St Mary's. This gesture will make a contribution to changing the life of a young girl, enabling her to embrace an education and all that St Mary's teachers and facilities are able to offer.

There are currently 28 girls enrolled in St Mary's Senior School who receive financial assistance and who are truly grateful for the opportunity provided to them.

GILLIAN O'SHAUGHNESSY  
FOUNDATION MANAGER





HA JACK DEVELOPMENT SWIMMING PROGRAMME



Gopalang

On Friday 15 September, Roedean School (SA) hosted a cocktail evening to open the Old Mutual Prestige Water Polo Tournament for 2017/2018.

It is through this tournament that we are able to fund the HA Jack Development Swimming Programme. Gopalang, one of our swimmers from HA Jack, spoke eloquently at the event.

KELSEY WHITE  
WATER POLO COACH

TENNIS



St Mary's beat St Mary's Kloof in the finals of the doubles at the Hilton/St Anne's tournament



Ruth and Tegan



Hannah, Sarah, Nina, Izabela, Tegan, Ruth and Amukelani with our team mascot, St Salsa

The St Mary's A tennis team once again participated in the annual Hilton College/St Anne's Invitational Doubles Tournament. All the players played outstanding tennis to win both the doubles and mixed doubles events in a convincing manner.

Unfortunately, the inclement weather caused a whole day of scheduled play to be rained out. The matches were shortened and, luckily, all the fixtures were completed in time. In the doubles event, St Mary's beat St Anne's, Durban Girls' College and St Mary's Kloof to take the title. I thank Tegan Scorgie for leading the team with enthusiasm and for setting such a good example to the younger players. Tegan has been a loyal member of the tennis team for the past five years and we will miss her presence on the courts of St Mary's. In the mixed doubles event, St Mary's teamed up with St Stithians to beat St Anne's/Hilton, Durban Girls' College/Clifton and St Mary's Kloof/Kearsney in the final. There were three Form I girls in the team and their competitive play shows much promise. All the players competed well and showed good sportsmanship at all times. The players were a credit to their school on and off the court.

#### Doubles results

- 1 – St Mary's Waverley
- 2 – St Mary's Kloof
- 3 – St Anne's
- 4 – Herschel School
- 5 – Durban Girls' College
- 6 – St Mary's Pretoria
- 7 – Roedeane School

#### Mixed doubles results

- 1 – St Mary's Waverley/St Stithians
- 2 – St Mary's Kloof/Kearsney College
- 3 – Herschel School /Westville High
- 4 – St Anne's/Hilton
- 5 – Durban Girls' College/Clifton
- 6 – Roedeane School /St John's College
- 7 – St Mary's DSG/St Alban's

The league matches are continuing and all the teams are faring well.

#### League results

##### Results 19 September

- St Mary's A beat St Stithians A 32-31
- St Mary's B beat St Stithians B 33-30
- St Mary's C lost to De La Salle A 29-34
- St Mary's D beat De La Salle B 44-19
- St Mary's E Bye
- St Mary's F Bye
- St Mary's G lost to King David Linksfield A 17-49
- St Mary's H beat King David Linksfield team 32-31

##### Results 26 September

- St Mary's A lost to Northcliff A 31-32
- St Mary's B beat Northcliff B 46-17
- St Mary's C lost to Roedeane A 22-41
- St Mary's D lost to Roedeane B 37-26
- St Mary's E lost to St Teresa's A 21-42
- St Mary's F beat St Teresa's B 38-25
- St Mary's G lost to Redhill A 12-51
- St Mary's H lost to Redhill B 30-33

Congratulations to Maja who did extremely well in the past two ITF U18 tournaments held in Stellenbosch. Maja reached the semi-finals of the singles and won the doubles title at the first tournament. Maja then followed up these excellent results with a quarter-final placing in the singles and the semi-final placing in the doubles of the second tournament.

RENÉ PLANT  
HEAD OF TENNIS

# SQUASH



St Mary's squash results for 2017 have been outstanding and we won the Castle Aggregate Trophy (Overall winner in Gauteng Junior Squash). St Mary's also won Top Schools' Gauteng

The results were as follows:

- U19A – First
- U19D – First
- U15B - Third
- U19A (Boys' league) - Second
- U16A – Second
- U14A – First
- U19B – First
- U16B – Third
- U14B – First
- U19C – First
- U16C – First
- U15A – First



Jemma (U16) and Panashe (U19) receiving their certificates from Gauteng Junior Squash for achieving in the Top 10 in their respective age group in South Africa

The cream of South Africa's U16 girls have been enjoying the training, skills and activities at the National Academies coordinated by Liz Mackenzie of TUKS Squash in Pretoria.

From 28 September to 2 October, Jemma and nine other girls were put through their paces: nutrition, training, refereeing, movement and particularly techniques were on the menu.



National U16 Academy

Well done, Jemma, for being selected by Squash South Africa.

**JENNIFER FOX**  
SQUASH COACH



## ROWING

### St Mary's rowing regatta

The embankments of Roodeplaat Dam were a haze of red and white from early in the morning at the recent St Mary's regatta. Hosts, parents, coaches and all rowers in the St Mary's rowing club helped to set up gazebos, merchandise stands, prepared food and beverages and rigged boats, all before the regatta began at 07h30.

There was much excitement and an air of anticipation for the first water regatta of the season and the first time drones would be used. Spectators could log onto the drone website and watch the races from the start in real time: a first for St Mary's rowing club.

The U14 girls rose to the challenge of their first ever regatta and had very pleasing results.

### St Andrew's rowing regatta

The St Mary's rowing club fared well at the St Andrew's regatta. The U16s placed first in the four, third in the sculls and second in the pair. The U15s placed first and second in the double. They dominated the top positions in the sculls, were first and second in the quad and first in the octuple. Well done to all the rowers on a very successful regatta.

We congratulate Kirsten McCann, who became the very first female lightweight World Champion in South African rowing history to win gold at the World Rowing Championship in Sarasota, USA.

CATHERINE  
FORM III



U16 four at the St Mary's regatta



Kirsten McCann