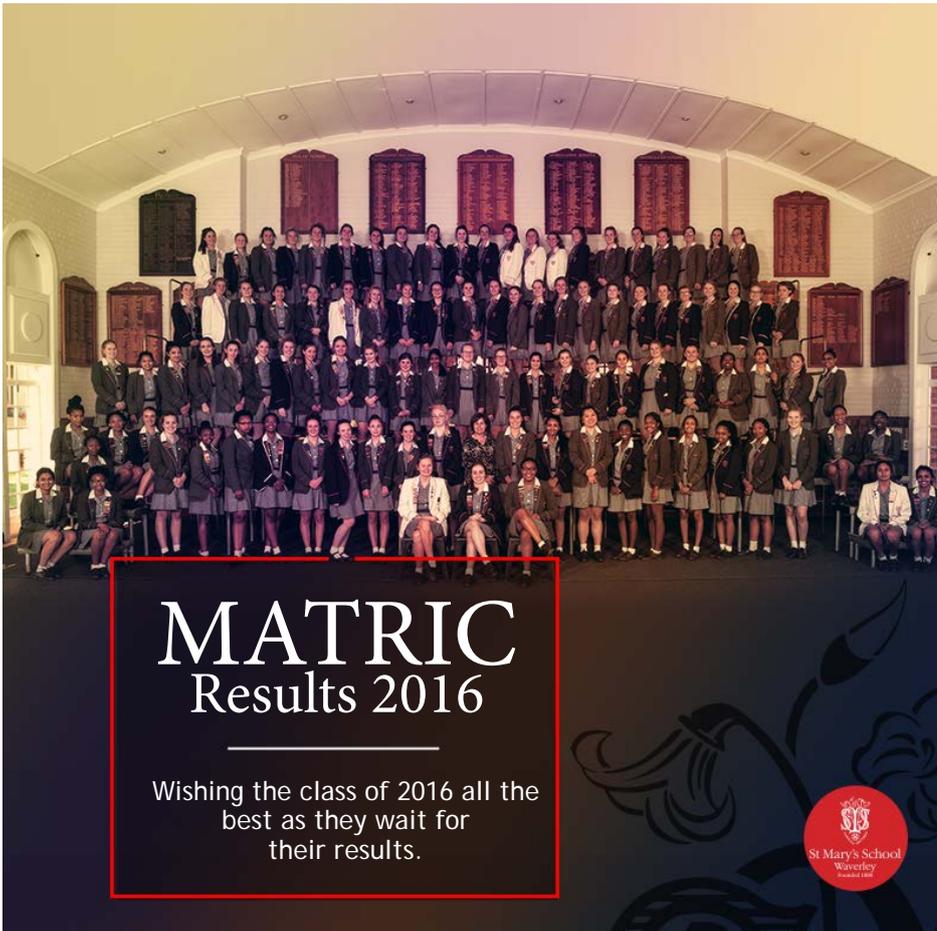




St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

• SENIOR SCHOOL NEWS •



MATRIC Results 2016

Wishing the class of 2016 all the best as they wait for their results.

Matric results will be announced at midnight on 29 December (00h00 on Friday 30 December).

This year, as part of our commitment to celebrating all our matriculants, we plan to use our social media platforms (St Mary's website, St Mary's app, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) to profile each of our girls leading up to the 29 December announcement, as well as, thereafter, reporting on the outstanding results we confidently expect from the class of 2016.

See our 2016 head girl and deputy head girls on our social media platforms today.

Dates to diarise

December

Fri 2	11h00 12h30	Form I to Form IV examinations end Junior School carol service rehearsal Senior School carol service rehearsal
Sat 3		Peer counsellors' training
Sun 4	17h00	Boarders' end-of-year chapel and Christmas dinner
Mon 5	11h00 11h00 17h30 19h00	Final carol service rehearsal Inter-house programme Carol service 1 Carol service 2
Tues 6	07h30 08h30 12h55 14h15	Middle School Eucharist Inter-house programme Inter-house music Auditions for school play
Wed 7	07h30 08h00	SA Schools' Boat Race departs Senior School Eucharist Junior and Senior Primary final assembly
	09h15 10h00 10h30 11h00 11h30	Senior School final assembly Junior School meet class teacher Little Saints closes Junior and Senior Primary closes Senior School closes
Thurs 8	10h30 11h00	Senior School reports to be collected Boarding houses close
Fri 9		SA Schools' Boat Race heats School closes for staff
Sat 10		SA Schools' Boat Race finals
Sun 11		SA Schools' Boat Race returns

January

Tues 3 to Mon 16		Swimming training camp
Mon 9 to Sat 14		Rowing camp
Sat 14 to Tues 17		Water polo training camp
Tues 17	11h00	Junior School orientation day (new pupils)
	12h30	Boarding houses open for new boarders
	14h00	Form I and new girls' orientation
	14h00	Boarding houses open for all boarders
	18h15	Boarders welcome dinner
Wed 18		Term I commences
	08h15	Leaders' induction
	09h25	Form V parents' tea
	10h45	Junior School choir and chapel band rehearsal
	13h30	Choir auditions
	17h30	Form I and new girls' welcome service
Thurs 19	07h30	Form I and Form V Eucharist
	07h30	Senior School individual photographs
	08h26	Grade 4 to 7 swimming trials
	09h00	Form II, Form III and Form IV Eucharist
	13h00	Junior School choir auditions
Fri 20	08h05 09h00	Form II garden workshop and outing Installation of new Junior School headmistress
	17h30	Form I and Form V get-together

From the head's desk

On 23 November, Ros Howell and I hosted a meeting for parents to discuss matters of discipline, how and where the girls socialise, and the partnership between school and parents on these matters. I want to thank the class representatives for encouraging so many parents to attend. Ros and I were pleased with the open and informal conversation, and with the willingness of all those present to participate in the discussion and to share their experiences. The resounding outcome of the discussion was that parents need to interact with one another about their children's plans and confirm arrangements together with other parents. Families should try to provide more opportunities for children to socialise at their homes.

Our children are exposed to many dangers when they socialise in public places and it is our responsibility, the school together with parents, to educate them about these dangers and to protect them from making mistakes that could have a lasting impact. The school's approach to discipline is one of corrective intervention instead of punishment. Matters are kept confidential and assessed on an individual basis, but there are always consequences. The school holds girls who are leaders or aspiring leaders to account for behaviour outside school because of their influence as role models.

The class representatives have distributed more detailed feedback through the house networks. Ros and I will also host similar meetings next year. The question to guide thinking is, do you know where your daughter is and are you comfortable with her arrangements?

This busy year is almost over. The girls have completed their examinations and are preparing themselves for the end-of-year events. They are encouraged to relax and enjoy the December break, to reflect on their year and to return ready for all that 2017 has to offer.

I wish all our families a restful and peaceful holiday. If you are travelling, go well and safely. May you enjoy a Christmas that is filled with God's blessings.

Deanne King

Head of school

From the chairperson



Many of you will have noticed the large RMB advertising banner that is displayed against the gym wall facing SMOGS cottage. Some questions have been asked and I should like to provide some information about it.

St Mary's, together with other rowing schools, RowSA, and with RMB as the financial sponsor, have started a project to develop rowing in schools that have not previously enjoyed the benefits of this sport, but where interest and potential have been shown.

At the same time, part of the sponsorship will be used in St Mary's to develop the sport within the school. Rowing is and has been a major sport at St Mary's, and there is growing interest in it. I am firmly of the view that the project should be supported, both for the benefit it will have for rowing at St Mary's and in the wider schools community.

The message, "Thinking. Pulling. Together. For our future," seems most appropriate for a South African school with a long and successful rowing tradition.

The school is committed to keeping commercial advertising opportunities limited to what we regard as worthwhile projects, and to limiting the areas in which we shall permit advertising, namely, the AstroTurf area, the swimming pool and the SMOGS cottage area. This particular RMB advertisement replaces the one previously at the swimming pool.

Nigel Carman

Chairperson of the Board

From the chaplain

On Advent Sunday, Sunday 27 November, we welcomed in a new church year. Advent marks the four-week period leading up to Christmas Day, and is a season in which we prepare our hearts, our families, our lives and our communities to receive the Christ-child anew this Christmas.

Preparing for Christmas is usually an exciting time, marked by fun and anticipation of what is to come. On both a national and global level, the events of 2016 have left many feeling saddened, fearful, hurt and filled with a sense of dread as to what the future holds.

How do we marry these two realities: the excitement of preparing for Christmas, and the overall negative emotions as a result of 2016? Is it not when we most deeply feel fear, hurt, trepidation - that we best know how much we need God's gift to us in Christ: "Faith, hope and love [...]; and the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13)?

Christmas holds a renewed promise that God shows us another way by inviting us all into relationships with God, and that invitation comes in the form of a vulnerable infant. It is a time to remember all we hold dear, and that God holds all dearly beloved. This Advent, then, as we prepare to invite the Christ-child into our lives anew, let us each ask the question, "Lord, show me how I can let you love, through me."

God bless you, this Advent and Christmas-tide.

Revd Claudia Coustas

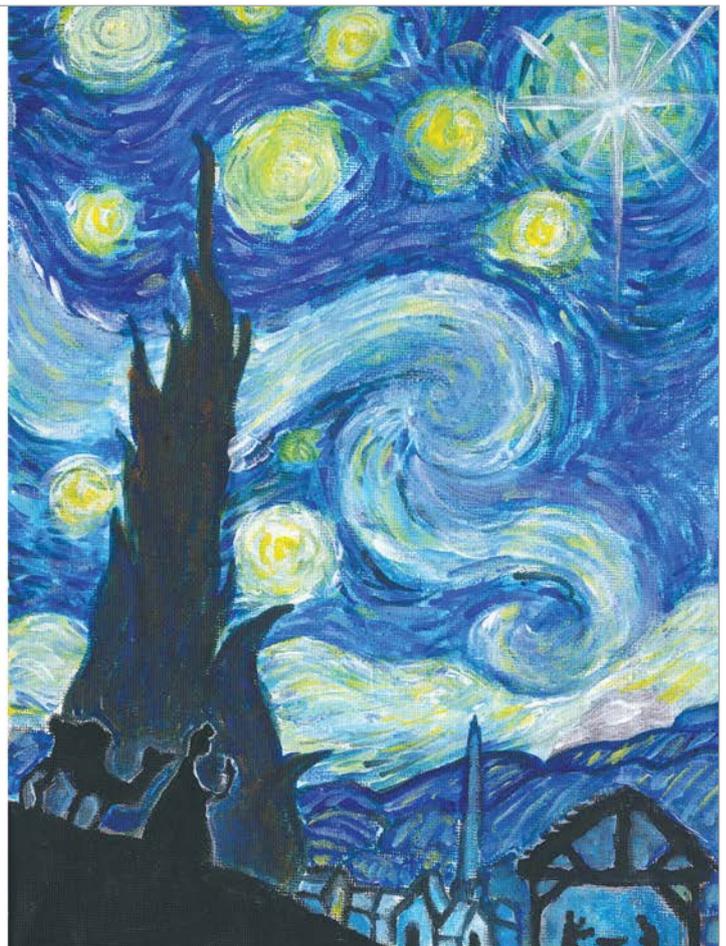
Chaplain

*May joy be your gift at Christmas
and may faith, hope and love
be your treasures in the New Year*

With our wishes

St Mary's School

Artist - Megan Hayes (Form I)





St Mary's School
Waverley

Children of Peace

A service of Nine Lessons and Carols



St Mary's School
The Edge

Monday 5 December
17h30 and 19h00

*Reserved complimentary tickets
can be collected at the Junior
and Senior School receptions
from Monday 28 November*