



St Mary's School
Waverley
Founded 1888

JUNIOR SCHOOL NEWS

7 JULY 2017

Tel: 011 531 1880 | smjunior@stmary.co.za
www.stmaryschool.co.za



Creativity generated beautiful work and big smiles at the Grahamstown Fringe Festival

FROM THE HEADMISTRESS' DESK

Dear parents

For a few weeks now I have been thwarted in my attempts to present an assembly on the unexpected benefits of messiness to the girls in the Senior Primary. English economist and popular *Financial Times* columnist Tim Hartford is one of many journalists, educators, psychologists and social commentators recently to devote time and thought to the topic of mess in its various forms: failure (or its proposed euphemism, "deferred success"), less than perfect conditions, unpromising beginnings, and unexpected outcomes.

Among the many examples of "messy" that Hartford relates in his new book, *Messy: How to be Creative and Resilient in a Tidy-minded World* (and not all of them are equally convincing), the anecdote that resonated with me features American pianist Keith Jarrett and his unforgettable performance at the Köln Opera House in 1975 for an audience of 1 400 people.

As Hartford reveals, few people realise how close Jarrett came to cancelling the improvised jazz concert altogether owing to the near-unplayability of the piano supplied for the occasion: it was smaller than the one Jarrett had requested, it was out of tune, the black notes in the middle did not work, and the pedals stuck. To make up for the size of the piano (once Jarrett agreed, reluctantly, that he would go ahead with the performance) he had to play the instrument very hard; he pummelled the piano into responding in order to compensate for its shortcomings.

"But then," in Jarrett's words, "something interesting happened. It just seemed like everybody in the audience was there for a tremendous experience, and that made my job easy. What happened with this piano was that I was forced to play in what was - at the time - a new way. Somehow I felt I had to bring out whatever qualities this instrument had." The Köln concert album has sold more copies, 3.5-million, than any other solo piano album. Hartford observes that "handed a mess, Keith Jarrett embraced it, and soared".

Few people would argue against the educational benefits of making mess for pre-school children; what many of us fail to see in our eagerness to smooth our children's passage as they grow older is the life-affirming and joyous knowledge that mess (in the sense of not getting something right the first time, making mistakes, encountering uncertainty) is not some unavoidable downside to learning: it constitutes the very process by which we learn.

While this is not an invitation to students of any age to conduct themselves sloppily, or to adopt a glibly sentimental attitude to failure, it is a reminder

that being open to experience and change, learning to adapt to unfavourable conditions, to improvise with what you are given, and to see opportunity in imperfection is a deeply satisfying way to live your life. It forces us to redefine the grounds for success and failure of all our endeavours and, with Jarrett, to learn to play in a new way.

DR SARAH WARNER
HEADMISTRESS: JUNIOR SCHOOL

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

This past week we have focused on so-called "Doubting Thomas" in our chapel assemblies (see John 20:24-29).

Did you know...

- ... that the first four books of the New Testament are called Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John?
- ... that these are called "Gospels" from the Greek "euangelion" or "good news" of Christ?
- ... that Mark's Gospel was likely the first Gospel to be written. The authors of Mark's and Luke's Gospels used Mark's Gospel as one of their sources and expanded on what Mark had to say
- ... that three of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) are synoptic Gospels - they provide a synopsis or summary of Christ's life and work?
- ... that John's Gospel is not a synoptic Gospel. The author of John's Gospel is someone who clearly loved Christ dearly and who had a burning desire to show others that Christ is the Son of God. Thus, there is much symbolism in this beautifully - written Gospel: darkness to light, and blindness to sight (belief and faith)

Thomas has come to be called "Doubting Thomas" because he could not believe that Christ was risen from the dead, unless he saw it with his own eyes and touched Christ's wounds with his own hands. However, the author of John's Gospel upholds Thomas for Thomas' statement of profound faith: "My Lord and my God!"

Thomas embodies the fulfilment of the author's purpose: for all to be filled with awe and wonder at the work of God in the person of Christ, God's Son. Thomas is called the "Twin", and John Suggitt emphasises that Thomas is therefore the twin of each of us (see Suggitt's 2006 book, *Down to Heaven and Up to Earth*).

Thomas' story from doubt to faith is often our story, and we can identify with "Doubting Thomas" in various circumstances of our lives, and as Thomas be awestruck as we find ourselves able to recognise God in various situations.

REVD CLAUDIA COUSTAS
CHAPLAIN

FROM THE FOUNDATION

The St Mary's Foundation auction evening is sold out! Thank you to the community for the overwhelming support of the 2017 auction evening.

Guests at this year's auction, who do not wish to participate in the auction but still wish to contribute to the Foundation, will have the opportunity to purchase lucky mystery boxes. These boxes will vary in value from R500 upwards and will contain items such as weekends away, salon vouchers or sports match tickets, to name a few.

We look forward to a fun evening out at the Rand Club.

GILLIAN O' SHAUGHNESSY
FOUNDATION MANAGER



STUDIUM APERTUM

SAVE THE DATE: STUDIUM APERTUM

Saturday 22 July

Choose from 20 speakers, who include:

Khanyi Dhlomo - editor and CEO of *Destiny* magazine

Patrick Conroy - author, journalist, motivational speaker and 1996 702 Everest crisis climber

Dr Corrin Varady - author, journalist and entrepreneur, educator working with rescued children in Tanzania

Revd Dr Vicentia Kgabe - Anglican priest and academic

Christa Kuljian - freelance writer and author of *Darwin's Hunch: Science, Race and the Search for Human Origins* and *Whistle Stop* - National Arts Festival play

For the full programme, please visit the St Mary's App and to purchase tickets, please click here: <https://www.quiket.co.za/events/31628-studium-apertum/>

ADMISSIONS

We would appreciate your assistance with our admissions process:

- Should you have a daughter whom you would like to be admitted to St Mary's in 2019, please ensure that a completed application form is sent to Tracy Hagen at tracy.hagen@stmary.co.za so that we can prioritise a place
- Please remember that if your daughter is leaving St Mary's, at least one term's notice is required in order to avoid being levied fees in lieu of this notice

Thank you.

TRACY HAGEN
ADMISSIONS SECRETARY

MUSE MORNING

All parents are welcome to join us at the Muse Morning on Tuesday 11 July. Refreshments will be available from 07h15, for a prompt start at 07h30.

Time: 07h15 to 08h30

Venue: Seminar room, The Edge

Topic: Insights into Anxiety

Speaker: Francesca Chetwin, clinical psychologist.

Francesca provides psychotherapy to children, adolescents and adults, as well as parental guidance and psycho-educational assessments. In addition to clinical practice, Francesca is a member of The Day Clinic Adolescent DBT team and the Bellavista Remedial School SEEK assessment team.

RSVP: sharon.san@stmary.co.za

FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT



RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS

Caitlin Miller, Romy Len and Jessica Shames took part in the Level 8 competition at Wierda at the beginning of June, and will also compete in the South African Invitational in Stellenbosch in July.

Zeinab Kone, a Grade 4 pupil, got the highest score at the Wierda competition.

Twelve Junior School gymnasts represented Central Gauteng at the rhythmic inter-provincial competition at the end of June.

Luciana Mordoh, a St Mary's rhythmic gymnast from Grade 2 to Form II, moved to live in France two years ago. Luciana has taken part in the French nationals both in 2016 and 2017.

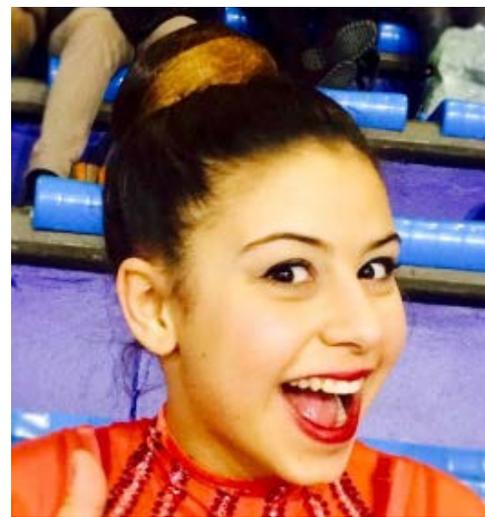
LINDA GIURICICH
RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS COACH



Jessica Shames, Zeinab Kone, Romy Len and Caitlin Miller



Zeinab Kone



Luciana Mordoh

NETBALL

On Thursday 15 June, we played friendly matches against King David Linksfield, and the results were as follows:

Grade 4 A won 10-2
Grade 4 B won 9-2
Grade 4 C won 4-2
Grade 4 D won 9-0
Grade 4 E lost 3-6
Grade 4 F won 7-0

Grade 5 A won 2-1
Grade 5 B won 8-0
Grade 5 C won 4-1
Grade 5 D lost 1-2
Grade 5 E drew 6-6

Grade 6 A won 10-9
Grade 6 B won 9-2
Grade 6 C won 8-3
Grade 5 D won 13-0

Grade 7 A won 17-2
Grade 7 B won 8-4
Grade 7 C won 18-1
Grade 7 D won 7-2

The netball girls played their second quadrangular and the results were as follows:

U10 A won 9-3 vs Roedean
U10 A drew 3-3 vs St Peter's
U10 A won 8-7 vs St Stithians
U10 B won 3-0 vs Roedean
U10 B drew 2-2 vs St Peter's
U10 B won 5-4 vs St Stithians
U10 C won 7-3 vs Roedean
U10 C won 4-2 vs St Peter's
U10 C drew 4-4 vs St Stithians
U10 D won 4-3 vs Roedean
U10 D lost 1-3 vs St Peter's
U10 D lost 3-4 vs St Stithians
U10 E drew 0-0 vs St Peter's
U10 E won 3-1 vs St Stithians
U10 F won 5-2 vs St Peter's
U10 F lost 1-2 vs St Stithians

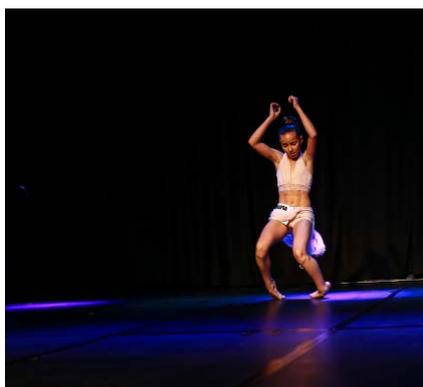
U11 A lost 3-4 vs Roedean
U11 A won 8-7 vs St Peter's
U11 A lost 8-12 vs St Stithians
U11 B lost 2-3 vs Roedean
U11 B won 3-2 vs St Peter's
U11 B lost 3-7 vs St Stithians
U11 C won 5-1 vs Roedean
U11 C won 5-2 vs St Peter's
U11 C lost 4-5 vs St Stithians
U11 D won 6-0 vs Roedean
U11 D won 3-1 vs St Peter's
U11 D won 5-2 vs St Stithians
U11 E lost 2-4 vs St Peter's
U11 E drew 1-1 vs St Stithians
U11 F lost 1-2 vs St Stithians E team

U12 A lost 3-4 vs Roedean
U12 A lost 2-5 vs St Peter's
U12 A lost 0-11 vs St Stithians
U12 B won 8-6 vs Roedean
U12 B won 6-2 vs St Peter's
U12 B lost 6-9 vs St Stithians
U12 C lost 3-5 vs Roedean
U12 C lost 3-4 vs St Peter's
U12 C lost 0-8 vs St Stithians
U12 D lost 2-4 vs St Peter's
U12 D lost 1-5 vs St Stithians

U13 A won 11-2 vs Rodean
U13 A won 8-5 vs St Peter's
U13 A lost 7-12 vs St Stithians
U13 B drew 3-3 vs Roedean
U13 B won 9-2 vs St Peter's
U13 B lost 2-5 vs St Stithians
U13 C won 8-5 vs Roedean
U13 C won 9-5 vs St Peter's
U13 C won 12-3 vs St Stithians
U13 D lost 2-6 vs St Peter's
U13 D won 7-5 vs St Stithians

ANTOINETTE MSHENGU
NETBALL COACH

CONGRATULATIONS



Sofia Bollo in Grade 6 competed in the Gauteng National Performing Arts Championships over the weekend at Wits University. She placed 1st and received a gold medal for her solo in the 12-15 Championship Female Jazz Solo section, as well as 1st place in the 12-15 Championship Jazz Duo section