

# Sentinel



St Andrew's School  
— for Girls —  
SKILLED FOR LIFE

Monthly Online Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2011

## HEADS' COMMENTS



**Pauline Jackson**

The spring gardens and breeding birds on the property are signaling the approach of the final weeks of lessons. Grade 12 prelims, camps for grades 8-11 and Spring Expo all ran successfully. Music is filling the school as the girls participate in Eisteddfods, Soiree, the IEB choir festival and individual practical examinations. New sport seasons are well underway with rowing, athletics, cross country and squash keeping girls busy. It's hard to believe that the time has again arrived for the grade 11s to prepare to lead our school in 2012.

The matrics are undergoing moderations, practical examinations and final preparations. I would like to thank them for what they have given to St Andrew's and congratulate them on their achievements. Taki Makhuvha and Emma Smith, head and deputy respectively, have been remarkable in their leadership. They are fine role models who display respect and clarity of thought, courage and gentleness, yet tenacity in holding on to a vision, in putting this school and its people first. A pressurised period will soon be here for all girls as the year-end approaches. The theory goes that one needs to have started preparing by the time the jacarandas on the tea lawns flower. And moreover, if a blossom falls on one's head, that's a positive sign for success!

Nevertheless, for everyone it's a period of excitement at the prospect of achieving to potential and completing the year. On the other hand there will be a fear of how their individual performances will be judged by those close to them. Will they be affirmed or feel valued or be motivated to make the most of new opportunities? Research shows that what is most important to a child is a parent's reaction – our expression, then words. It is important that we delight in who our unique children are when busy responding to issues such as marks, status and achievement. St Andrew's is filled with wonderful individuals all contributing to ethos and culture in their own way.

It's a pleasure to work amongst them all and I look forward to seeing you at summer celebrations, in particular Speech Night.



**Cathy Fry**

Spring Expo on Saturday 17th September was a resounding success. Well done to Chris Boshoff, Allan Groenewald and their teams and thank you to all the parents who supported it. Thank you to all the teachers who were involved and to the Foundation Phase girls who worked so hard on their Spring Hats! Spring Expo just gets better every year and I know it is a date that the St Andrew's Community will look forward to in 2012.

The Parents' Forum Raffle was drawn and the winners of this raffle have been published in the Junior School Snippets. The prizes are ready to be collected from the Foundation Centre. Thank you to Greg Kettles, Jeanette Oosterlaak and the Forum for all the work they did to make this raffle the resounding success that it was. Congratulations to the prize winners!

The School has celebrated many diverse achievements this term. Savannah Ireland (grade 7) has been chosen to be a finalist in the Val Whyte Bursary for 2012. Sinead Watters (grade 7) is a finalist and Sharessa Naidoo (grade 5) is a winner in The Star "Design an Ad" competition. Throughout the year we have had children achieving excellent results in karate, judo, ballet, dancing and horse riding. St Andrew's has multi-talented children in its community and we acknowledge and celebrate all their many achievements in Snippets and in Assembly whether these take place in or out of the School. Congratulations to all the girls concerned.

The term has also started with the Heads' Conference in Milnerfontein in the Cape as well as the Deputies Conference in Pretoria. Both conferences were inspiring and thought-provoking and the presentations, networking and informal conversations have provided food for thought for our planning for 2012.

Enjoy the rest of spring. The gardens are just coming into bloom and the fragrance as you walk through them is intoxicating!

# CONGRATULATIONS!

*We are proud of all our achievers*

## CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to **Mrs Gina Johnstone** who has been appointed as the new Head of the Junior School at St Mary's DSG, Pretoria. She takes up her position in April next year.

## MATHS OLYMPIAD



Well done to **Samhaa Seedat** (Junior Section) and **Vuyo Makhuvha** (Senior Section) who were placed in the top 101 in the province in the second round of the Maths Olympiad.

## National Eisteddfod Academy

Good luck to all the girls participating in the Bedfordview NEA this month. We are proud of the following excellent results: Cantori Choir – Diploma, Intersen Choir – Diploma, Senior Choir – Diploma, Senior orchestra – Diploma, Intersen orchestra – Silver and SS Marimba Band – Gold.

Well done to **Jessica Breet** who won 10 dance items, as well as the Senior Shakespeare Drama item at the Alberton Eisteddfod.

## Music ABRSM Theory Results

**Michelle Hawksworth** passed grade 5 theory with merit.  
**Bulelwa Klaas** passed grade 2 theory with distinction.  
**Nicole Dzenga** passed rockschool grade 1 guitar with merit.

## BALLET



**Savannah Ireland** (gr 7) was chosen as one of eight finalists for the Val Whyte Bursary award. The winner will be announced at the gala performance in May 2012 at the Roodepoort Theatre. She is the second St Andrew's pupil to reach the finals of this prestigious competition.

## The Star 'Design an Ad' Competition

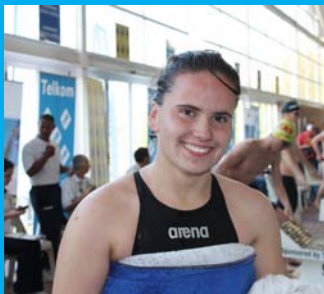


Well done to these girls: **Ljiljana Vasic** (gr 11) came 2nd and **Sharessa Naidoo** (gr 5) came 1st in The Star Design-an-Ad competition and **Sinead Watters** (gr 7), **Kayla Molino** (gr 11) and **Ashlyn Atkinson** (gr 10) who were finalists. The winners collected their prizes at a special awards function. They were also featured in The Star newspaper.

# CONGRATULATIONS!

## SWIMMING

Well done to our swimmers who participated in the SA Short Course Swimming Champs which were held in our Aquatic Centre. The event was televised and broadcast during the August holidays.



**Tayla Sinclair** U10 represented Central Gauteng in the Highveld Inter-Provincial Gala. She competed in the backstroke, freestyle & medley relay events winning 2 Gold medals and a Silver medal.



## TENNIS

### Independent High Schools' Tennis competition

The St Andrew's A and B tennis teams participated in the annual Sun City tournament during the August holidays. There were 12 teams and our B team won their section with the A team coming second in the final to St Mary's. Well done to all the players: Kelly Robinson, Nicole Robinson, Nicole Dzenga, Lara Prinsloo, Nicola Martins, Bergen Morland, Cassidy Morland, Tanna Löser, Sheila Tavares and Loshnee Moodley.



**Eva Rolland** and **Nandini Chunilal** won their match against Jeppe.

## ATHLETICS



**Gasela Nyati** (athletics captain) and **Raquel Rodrigues** (vice-captain) are hoping that the St Andrew's parents and girls will be at the Germiston stadium on the 15th October to support our athletes and the school as we are hosting the interhigh athletics competition this year.

Well done to **Daniella Browne** who won the 100m U16 A race and **Charne Martel** who won the 80m Open hurdles event at the first meeting of the season.



Our junior school athletics captains are **Clarissa Leo** (vice-captain) and **Revana Laljith** (captain).



Winners of events at the junior school meeting at St Mary's were **Jocelyn Cosmatos**, **Nicola Rainsford**, **Emily Pollock**, **Keke Morare**, **Kirsten Leo**, **Sharessa Naidoo**.



The U10B Relay Team won their event at the St Andrew's meeting: **Shriya Thaansen**, **Sanele Mitimunjje**, **Phillipa Griffiths**, **Haydee Moos**.

# EVENTS

## EQUESTRIAN



**Michelle Bradford** (gr 12) won the Victor Ludorum at the 2011 President's Cup. Up to June this year she was no 1 in the junior 1.3m SA rankings and was chosen again this year as a member of the Gauteng Central 1.3m team.

## HOCKEY



The hockey girls are delighted that they have been sponsored for the next three years by Supa Quick.

## KARATE



**Eleni Aplas** received her Black Belt in Karate.

## INTERHOUSE SQUASH



The senior school interhouse squash competition was played during the Spring Expo. After combining the junior and senior scores Farrar House emerged the winners, followed by Milner, Athlone and Selborne. Some of the players waiting for their games: **Teri McAlpine, Zjene Schmidt, Nandini Chunilal, Kelly Ellis.**

## SCIENCE TOUR TO AUSTRALIA

Mrs Angela Yatt was awarded the ISASA Staff Development Fund Sponsorship for an overseas visitorship. She chose to visit Australia. She was hosted by the Dean of the Education Faculty of Melbourne University.



She investigated the training provided for both senior and primary school physical science teachers. She also visited two senior schools that are considered leaders in both their approach to science teaching and the use of technology in their classrooms.

# EVENTS

## IN THE GRADE 1 CLASSROOM



The girls had to create a hat that could serve a purpose! Very creative and innovative hats were made by the gr 1 D girls who were delighted to wear them at the Spring Expo.

## IN THE GRADE 3 CLASSROOM



The grade 3s have enjoyed studying insects. Grade 3J worked in groups and made up various insect riddles. They compiled a book, illustrated it and handed it over to Rembrandt Park Primary School. Their pupils thoroughly enjoyed guessing what the insects were in the book when they discussed insects.



## GRADE 6 HERITAGE DAY



The grade 6s joined a number of schools at the Kyalami Heritage day celebrations.

## Milner Road Parking



The junior school parking area with its lovely new garden was worth the wait. Thank you for your patience.

## MATRIC PRELIMS



Leanne Young and Carla Smit were very happy with their Prelim exams.

## SS Speech Night

A reminder that all senior school parents are invited to attend the annual Speech Night on Wednesday 5th October to celebrate the many successes of our girls this year. It is compulsory for all senior girls (the invitation was emailed to all SS parents).

# EVENTS

## GRADE 8 CAMP



The grade 8s had an exciting start to the term. The first day was spent exploring the Linksfield Ridge visiting Sir George Farrar's Grave site on the way. It is a cross-curricular project being run in classroom time and the pupils' own time using Obami (there is a portal on Obami with all info from the day plus worksheets, pictures etc.). The subject areas involved (LS, Geog, History (Heritage), Arts & Culture, Zulu/Afrikaans, Maths and English) will all be doing tasks with the girls this term.



The following day they left for Kingdom Farm, eMalahleni (Witbank) where they enjoyed a two day, one night hike. This camp qualified as the adventurous expedition for The President's Award youth development programme (Bronze level). The girls had to carry all their needs and cook their own food with some interesting 'Master Chef' moments.



## GRADE 9 & 10 TOUR TO UPENDI

On 7 September the grade 9 and 10 girls left for the Upendi Centre in Brits for the annual school tour. Over 3 days the girls completed activities such as canoeing, archery, hiking and going down the dreaded fufi slide. On the final evening a 'dance off' was held between the grade 9s and grade 10s. The girls learnt much about their surroundings and themselves and enjoyed themselves immensely.

## DANCE WORKSHOP

A group of 4 dynamic dancers from the Sibikwa Arts Centre group facilitated a dance workshop for the grade 8s & 9s.



## GRADE 11 LEADERSHIP CAMP

Grade 11s testing their skills.



# NEWS

## ART TOUR



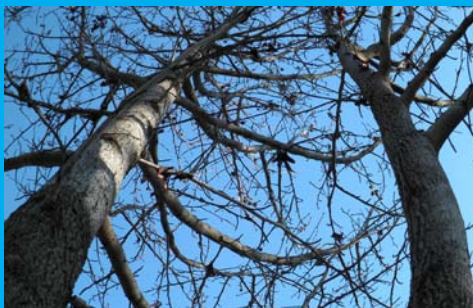
Mrs Gill Blair and Mrs Aziezh Essop accompanied a group of 17 art students on a tour of Barcelona, Paris, Milan, Florence and Rome.



The girls had their portraits drawn by local artists.

## Photography

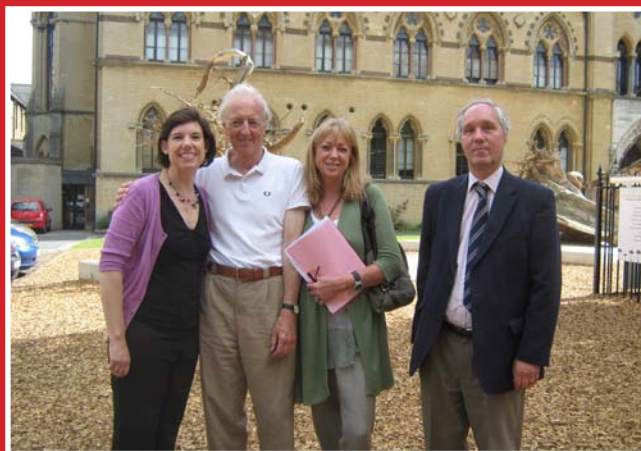
Future School of Creativity offers photography courses to our girls from grade 5-12. During the past few months they have concentrated on the architecture of the school, depth of field in photos, looking for that extra beauty in small details and the most important: understanding the camera.



## HERITAGE FOUNDATION

The Director of our Heritage Foundation, Bev Smith, recently paid a visit to the Bodleian Library at Oxford University to research the Farrar Papers. Our main school building, Bedford Court was home to mining magnate and Randlord, Sir George Farrar and his family from 1902 -1915. The school has recently made contact with members of the Farrar family due to our ongoing Restoration Project of Bedford Court.

Bev is currently searching for Corporate/Private Sponsorship so that the school can complete the restoration of one of our country's finest Heritage Buildings. She can be contacted on 083 297 8504 or bsmith@standrews.co.za



Bev Smith, Sir Andrew Watson (grandson of Sir George Farrar), Claire Crookenden (great granddaughter of Sir George Farrar) and John Pinfold of Rhodes House, Oxford University.

## Old Girls' Cape Town Reunion

In spite of the miserable Cape weather a most successful Old Girls Reunion was held at Bishops College in Cape Town. Past staff and students networked and shared their memories.

### News from past pupils

- **Daniela Marelic** (matric 2003) is working in New York as a CA for PWC – everything paid for: flat, rent, etc.
- **Catherine McNulty** (matric 2005), daughter of Mark McNulty the golfer, has been selected to play hockey for the SA Women's team which is hoping to qualify for the Olympic Games.
- **Natasha Fagri** (2002) achieved her Masters in Strategic Marketing at Bond University in Australia (graduated cum laude). She now works for Lend Lease, a global property development company in London where she heads up and oversees all the marketing for a £60m events venue development for Lend Lease.



# NEWS

## MUSIC



The Rhodes Chamber Choir entertained the senior school girls at a recent assembly.



The Senior School Choir performed at the 25th Independent Senior Schools Choir Festival at the Linder Auditorium where they sang: *The Rose*, *Hlonolofatsa* and *Like an Eagle*.

## WORLD CUP RUGBY

We might be an all-girls' school, but we are definitely supporting the Bokke at the World Cup.

Catching the SA vs Namibia game during a tea break are Mrs Carla Esterhuizen, Mrs Anna Surmon, Mr Gavin Esterhuizen and Mr JD Mostert.



## UBAMBISWANO NEEDS YOU!



### Letsha Primary School: A call to anybody with a little spare time

Can you help on a Thursday morning to assist with a reading programme at Letsha Primary School in Daveyton which is part of the St Andrew's School Ubambiswano Outreach Programme?

No teaching experience is required, just your time, enthusiasm and a desire to help at an underprivileged school. A few St Andrew's mums have been involved in this rewarding programme for 3 years and we have already seen great improvements in the young children's reading ability and their spoken English which is not their first language; but we still need more help at Letsha Primary and to expand the programme into other schools within the local Daveyton area if numbers permit.

If you would like to help out on Thursday mornings between 8am and 12.30pm, a Letsha School visit will be arranged for anybody who is interested to see what is involved. Alternatively if you would like to look through your bookshelves at home and donate any children's books appropriate for ages 6 – 12yrs, as we are trying to build up a library for the children at the school, it would be much appreciated. Any books can be dropped off at either the senior or junior school receptions marked for attention: Joanna Grose.

For further details please phone Joanna Grose on 076 390 6889 or e-mail [thegroses@mweb.co.za](mailto:thegroses@mweb.co.za).

# EVENTS

## SPRING EXPO

Thank you to all the parents and staff who worked so hard to make the Spring Expo the success it was.



## EVENTS

## SPRING EXPO



## MySchool Card SEPTEMBER UPDATE



995 users raised a net amount of R10,400 in July which placed us 2nd in our region again. You are welcome to register family members online to increase our supporter base. MySchool envelopes with a R50 voucher for a MathPRO programme have been distributed to the girls.

**Thank you to these wonderful, July top supporting families:**

**Robinson, Baird, Wheeler, Larney, Bredenkamp, Yang, Ferretti, Liebenberg, Eastern, Jasprica.**

And remember, you can also use your card when you shop online at stores like kalahari.com, TonerTown, MySchool Travel, Woolworths, Waltons, Reggies, ToysRUs. Remember, every swipe counts!

## DIARY



## St Andrew's School — for Girls — SKILLED FOR LIFE

## October

- 05 SS Speech Night (compulsory)
- 06 SS Aardklop festival
- 07 SS IH public speaking  
Gr 3 Fathers' & Daughters' evening
- 08 JS IH Athletics (compulsory)
- 10 Gr 12 Academic Awards  
Gr 11 Parent Teacher meeting
- 11 Gr 10 & 11 Art Gallery outing  
Gr 4-7 Informal music concerts
- 13 SS IH diving & swimming gala  
SS Tour de Maths at St Peter's
- 14 JS Interschools' athletics
- 15 Old Girls' Moms' & Tots' tea  
SS IH Athletics  
Gr 0-7 High Tea  
Gr 4 & 5 tennis festival
- 17 SS Leadership Induction Service  
Preschool concert
- 18 SS Writers' Club Guest Speaker (all welcome)  
Gr 6 & 7 Confident Kids showcase
- 19 Gr 4 & 5 Confident Kids showcase
- 20 SS IH cross-country  
Gr 2 Medieval Banquet  
Midterm starts at 12:00
- 25 Start of second half of term 3
- 26 Gr 4-7 IH gala
- 27 Gr 0 -3 Informal music concert
- 28 JS Movie night
- 29 Gauteng rowing champs  
CHATT leadership day