

Sentinel



St Andrew's School
for Girls
SKILLED FOR LIFE

Monthly Online Newsletter

MARCH 2011

HEADS' COMMENTS



A delighted spectator at Interhigh

Pauline Jackson

March has brought closure to the academic term and co-curricular seasons. It is always a period during which memories and traditions are created. "Tradio" meaning "to pass on" would be appropriate to describe what the senior girls have prepared for those who will come after them.

This has been illustrated in the leadership and performances in all their endeavours. There has been huge spirit and school pride shown by supporters, courtesy and good behaviour at events, commendable sportsmanship especially when there has been a loss, and affirmation for one another after a win. After winning interhigh swimming, Caitlin Hanck announced in her speech "How proud I am of you girls and I am truly honoured to be your captain".

The sense of honour and collective pride has been prevalent in the running of the task teams, activities and in personal pursuits: there is a long list. I am sure you will enjoy this edition of Sentinel, so packed with enthusiastic participation. A highlight has been the public speakers who have enjoyed a season of growth. This was also a season that culminated in the swimmers winning the interhigh event. War cries of togetherness and pride have resonated through the school. It is a pleasure and a privilege for me to work amongst such spirit. Memories and traditions have been created and everyone now deserves a rest and time for reflection and restoration. May I take this opportunity to wish you quality family time and a joyous Easter.



Cathy Fry

The end of term is just around the corner and the last month has been particularly eventful with our evening to mark World Maths Day and our interhouse music competition.

On Wednesday 9th March Mrs Johnson and Mrs Heymann organised an evening of Maths for our junior school parents. Mrs Johnson invited Ass. Prof Hamsa Venkatakrisnan, who currently leads the Division of Mathematics Education within the School of Education, to come and speak to parents about Mathematics in primary schools and the focus that we have on Mathematics at this level. Mrs Johnson also organised for Mathletics to come and talk to parents about the programme they have for this level. The girls have enjoyed a trial period of two months to find out more about the programme and we are very keen to join this programme and use it as part of what we do in Mathematics at St Andrew's. Mrs Heymann organised a DVD showing excerpts of the teaching of Mathematics that is done at this level – showcasing the methodology and equipment used in the foundation phase.

On Tuesday 29th March we had our interhouse music competition. Mrs Chalmers put together a very varied and interesting programme which showcased the class music that is taking place at this level as well as individual and house performances. There were musical items ranging from voice, to mixed ensembles, to marimbas to a variety of instrumental music. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Chalmers for all she has done for the junior school music over the last 21 years and to wish her much happiness and success in her new role at St Benedict's.

Thank you to all our parents who have helped us in the junior school by being part of the Parent's Forum, helping in the reading room or with the library. Thanks too to all our class mums and class committees who have done a really sterling job this term.

Have a blessed Easter with your families. If you are travelling, travel safely and enjoy the break with your girls. I look forward to welcoming you all back next term.

CONGRATULATIONS!

*Wonderful results this month in so many different areas.
Our girls are so talented.*

Public Speaking

50th High Schools' Public Speaking Festival

The ability to speak in public is a life skill. The Speech and Drama College of South Africa runs the high schools' public speaking festival competition and this year 98 schools and 3500 speakers took part. Our teams are to be congratulated for preparing thoroughly and speaking so beautifully. **St Andrew's beat Rand Park High School and St Teresa's School in the finals.** **The Best Individual speaker,** Taki Makhuvha, spoke brilliantly and was the master of ceremonies at the Gala prize-giving evening.



The Grade 12 Trophy team: Mrs Alison Chambers, Chelsea Tucker, Emma Smith, Carla Smit, Ms Lisa Hosking.

"While Carla, Emma, Chelsea and Taki have loads of natural talent, they have honed their skills over the years, training and polishing their delivery skills and vocal techniques. This is the pinnacle of their achievement and they have been working towards it over the years. What is most impressive is that these girls have also given back, and over the past two years they have been involved in training the younger teams, passing on the benefit of their experience," said a very proud Mrs Alison Chambers, the teacher in charge of public speaking, at St Andrew's.

More public speaking competition results:

Grade 8:

Team 1: Deborah Aderibigbe, Emma Johansson, Nicole Voutsas and Dineo Matloga received an A-.

Team 2: Maxine Mchunguzi, Ruvimbo Chiswo, Refiloe Madela and Tshili Makhuvha received an A+.

Grade 9

Team 1: Frances Chappel, Bronwyn Britz, Tayla Stephen and Lisa Wang received a B+

Team 2: Joanne Pieterse, Killoran Kettles, Amy Carrington and Rafaella Migliore received an A.

Grade 10

Team 1: Lerato Melato, Amma Boateng, Mashudu Rembuluwani and Jessica Breet received a B.

Team 2: Brittany Lawton, Lorena Tafur, Loshnee Moodley and Amy Pieterse received a B.

Grade 11

Team 1: Lesego Digolo, Jessica Hards, Melissa Wear and Skye Harris received an A+.

Team 2: Mary-Beth Makokera, Zamalisa Mdoda, Alex Patterson and Sibongile Majija received an A+.

Grade 12

Team 1: Lebogang Moloko, Maame Boateng, Adeline van Rensburg and Leanne Young received an A. Team 2: Jordan du Toit, Tshogofatso Phethle, Tyler Williams and Tambudzai Chiswo received an A+.

MATHS OLYMPIAD

Well done to the girls who entered the annual Mathematics Olympiad and congratulations to all those who have made it through to the second round.

Grade 8: 20, grade 9: 7, grade 10: 7, grade 11: 4 and grade 12: 14

NETBALL TRIALS



Jenna Wing (Gr12) made the U18 District team and the Gauteng U18 team. **Jordan Seach** and **Tyla M'Crystal** have also been selected for the District U16 team and will be attending Gauteng trials next term.

SS Netball festival 7-10 April

24 schools, 260 players from as far as KZN, ECape, WCape, Mpumalanga will be competing at St Andrew's for the championship title. Family and friends are most welcome to support our team.

EQUESTRIAN

Nine riders have been participating in the following divisions in the first two legs of the Interschools competition: jumping, dressage, equitation, performance riding and working hunter.

Well done to all these girls who have achieved top placings in many of the events: Michelle Bradford, Zaandre Bredenkamp, Claudia Bragazzi, Julia Clucas, Erin da Silva, Kate da Silva, Olivia de Luca, Erin Miller and Nicola Williams. Michelle Bradford will be riding in the President's Cup at Maple Ridge Equestrian Farm, Cradle of Humankind next week.

CONGRATULATIONS!

SWIMMING



Girls' Interhigh 'A' Gala

Well done to the team on their 5th placing in the 'A' Gala on the 9th March.

Girls' High Schools' Premier Interhigh Gala

Wow. Awesome. Fact: We have the best swimmers in Gauteng! Our premier team won the trophy for the 8th successive year.

Diving

With limited access to diving facilities this season our divers deserve high praise for their 5th spot

And well done to our reserve team who won their Reserve Team event.

Open Water swimming

Kayla Shortt has been selected to participate in the Central Gauteng team to compete at the SA National Open Water Championships at Jeffrey's Bay.

Lifesaving

Kayla Hoey and Lyndall Smith both competed in the National lifesaving competition where they were both awarded a bronze medal for their event.



TENNIS

Our top tennis sisters, **Kelly and Nicole Robinson** have both been chosen for the Gauteng East High Schools' Team (u17 and u15) to part-take in the National Interhigh Tennis Tournament in Pretoria from 26 - 29th March. Thereafter they will play in a SATA ranking tournament in Pretoria.

Nicole Dzenga will be playing in the Africa Jnr Tennis Championships in Botswana.

EVENTS

SA ROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS



Exciting racing, 2nd place overall and winner of the Open section.

SASRU Trophy – Girls' Open Championship Pair: *Leighann Norton* and *Melissa Correia*.

The Munich Plate – Girls' Open Championship Quad: *Catherine Tayler*, *Leighann Norton*, *Michelle McBride*, *Cara Eddey*, *Melissa Correia*.

The Ravens Trophy – Girls Open Championship 2nd Quad: *Shayna Yardley*, *Stacey Bruce*, *Justine Abrahamse*, *Samantha Philips*, *Demi Davidow*.

The Allan Francis Trophy – The Best Girls' Open A final winners: *Shayna Yardley* and *Leighann Norton*.

GRANDPARENTS' TEA



Olerato Sibandze with her granny, *Mrs J Mahuma*.



Trinity Contats with her grandparents *Deowald Droskie* and *Iris Droskie*.

WRITERS' CONFERENCE

We are proudly hosting our second Writers' Conference on 28 May. Please refer to our website for the amazing line-up of top writers who will be sharing their ideas and tips with delegates. Participation is open to non-St Andrew's students and parents. Pre-registration is essential and can be done online.

EVENTS

PRESCHOOL NEWS



Madison enjoying holding a newborn chick.



The hatching incubator came to school from Monday to Thursday. The children watched excitedly as the chicks hatched in the miracle of new life. They listened to a talk on the process of the life cycle and were all able to hold a newborn chick. We also had loads of fun playing in the mud and some of the children created mud print art by playing in the mud and then running over paper. Such 'squishy' fun!

Bus experience



The three year olds enjoyed singing songs on the school bus.



CAREERS EXPO



We combined with St Benedict's to host a Careers Expo for our students.

CANSA SHAVATHON



EVENTS

THE JOHANNESBURG JUNIOR COUNCIL FOR 2011/2012



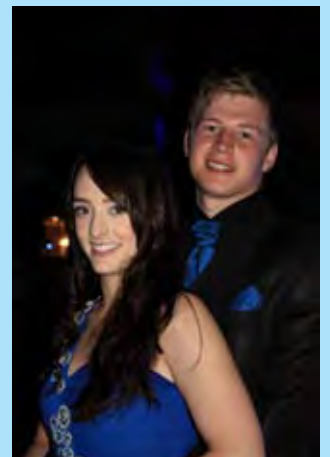
Zamalisa Mdoda and **Gasela Nyati** have been selected to the JJC where Gasela is on the Contacts committee and Zamalisa is on the Arts and Culture committee.

Accountancy outing to Rosebank



The grade 12 Accountancy class were each assigned a shop in the Mall of Rosebank to audit. They spent time interviewing employees and auditing the shops' financials and stock.

Matric Dance



The rains could not spoil the much-awaited matric dance. The dance committee are to be congratulated on arranging a wonderful 'Greek' evening for the matrics. The marquee was beautiful and the girls looked stunning in their colourful dresses.

Writers' Club

Nokuthula Msimang gave an inspirational talk about her novel, *Freedom Song*, (published by Maskew Miller Longman) to the Writers' Club. Nokuthula writes youth novels, documentaries and scripts for television. In 2003, she was awarded the Bessie Head fellowship.



EVENTS

Grade 3 Creative Movement Workshop

The Grade 3s were exposed to a creative movement workshop presented by Beyond the Stage Door Performing Arts Academy. The topic covered was Mini Beasts. The girls moved like insects and made sounds of various mini beasts in the introductory games. They broke up into groups and each group was given a verse from an insect poem which they had to present, incorporating sounds, movement and actions.



Jordan Blignaut, Tatiana Dias, Carina Wen and Kerstin Ho.

Grade 3 Bug Ball

To complete their theme on insects the girls enjoyed an Ugly Bug Ball feast.



EARTH HOUR

As a school with Eco Flag International status we continually strive to be an environmentally aware school. The philosophy behind Earth Hour is that one person has the power to make a difference. Owing to the official time of Earth Hour (March 26, 8:30 – 9:30 pm) being outside of school time, we decided to make a difference anyway by having its Earth Hour at the inconvenient time of 8 – 9am on Friday 25th March – at the beginning of the school day.

We not only switched off our lights, but all computers, photocopiers, cell phones and electronic equipment that we use daily to educate. Academic and non-academic staff creatively accommodated this interruption: it was interesting to see the many ideas that came out of not being able to use electricity.



NEWS

Open Day 13 May 2011

Please spread the word that our open day will be on Friday 13 May. The preschool will be open for visitors between 09:00 and 11:00, the junior school hours will be 11:00 to 15:00 and the senior school hours will be from 09:00 to 16:00. Visitors will be able to see the school in action, meet the teachers and watch the different activities that have been planned for the day. School tours will run from the information tables.

Moms' prayer group



If you would like to join these moms on a Thursday morning please contact: **Elaine Haber** 072 132 5072 (Senior School) or **Jenny Holtzhausen** 082 389 5594 (Junior School). They would love to hear from you.

Uniform shop



The renovation to the uniform shop is making good progress, but it is recommended that parents purchase the winter school uniform this term.

The shop will be open on 28 & 29 April & 3 May between 10:00 and 15:00.

MySchool Card



How many times have you swiped your MySchool card this month? Your card can be used at stores displaying the logo anywhere in South Africa.

DIARY



St Andrew's School
for Girls
SKILLED FOR LIFE

May

- 03 Boarders return to school
- 04 Term 2 begins
- 06 Hip Hop Road Show
- 13 Open Day

Happy Easter &
happy
holidays.

