

Sentinel



St Andrew's School
for Girls
SKILLED FOR LIFE

Monthly Online Newsletter

MAY 2011

HEADS' COMMENTS



Pauline Jackson

The best part about working at St Andrew's is being amongst a body of active and enthusiastic girls. They are the school. Assemblies have been particularly impressive, not only due to the wisdom imparted by Taki and Emma but the presentations and report-backs have also been inspiring. I watch with pride as girls demonstrate their skills of delivery, personal interaction and commitment to projects. Last Monday, a history group acted out the election process with verve. This was followed by a powerful appeal for the 'can drive'; a moving video followed by a well thought-out appeal to help feed others. The message from Chelsea was not to feel guilty about privilege, but rather use it for the benefit of others. St Andrew's is to be the venue for the laying out of cans to spell the word 'HOPE' on the 16 June – an initiative from the Johannesburg youth. Varied and entertaining messages have been delivered by a number of task teams, clubs and sports.

I recently attended a presentation by Baroness Susan Greenfield, world renowned neuro-scientist entitled 'The Future of the Brain'. So much of what our youth spend their time on is a form of multi-tasking ranging from computer games to the internet, Facebook, BBM and so on. It was interesting to learn that the corresponding brain activity leads to reduced listening ability and fewer prefrontal lobe connections. Whilst we may be raising young adults with higher IQs, we also could have a generation with less empathy and little understanding of consequence to actions and high risk taking. The 'magic' of an individual may arise from a person's unique perspective due to their own 'make up' and interaction with the world. No doubt, there are pros and cons to an exciting new world.

Nevertheless, personal significance and skills mentioned above will be required for many to succeed in the real global society. This has emphasized the importance of a varied education, the role of the teacher, books and dialogue. I was again impressed when I watched public speakers and observed the girls not only participating, but organising and chairing the functions on their own and to wander amongst a group choreographing their movements to the music on the lawns in the evenings, others performing PR on Open Day and different age groups supporting one another at sport. How good it is to hear the noise and connectivity from laughter and conversation from my office window.

Term 2 is well underway and running well. It is with great confidence that I hand over the school to Sue Tasker and her team as I go on leave from the 20 June.



Cathy Fry

The hockey and netball seasons have started with a flourish and the girls are doing well! We have managed to field some C and D teams in the netball and all the age groups have an A and B team for hockey.

Both of our Mothers' Services were very well attended and we thoroughly enjoyed being back at St Margaret's. The mothers were told that the work they do as mothers is like the work done by people many years ago on the huge cathedrals in Europe. It is work done by people who are unnamed and who do not see the end result; who made great sacrifices and expected no credit and that the passion of their building was fueled by their faith. As mothers we are building great cathedrals, we cannot see if we're doing it right but it is very possible that one day, the world will marvel not only at what we have built, but at the beauty that has been added to it by mothers..

We had Open Day on 13th May and the junior school girls worked around the Eco-School theme. The girls had a presentation by Miss Earth who spoke to them about the importance of frogs in our eco-systems and "not to stomp on frogs but to shoo them". (This was told to me with great gusto by some of our grade 2 girls!) The rest of the morning was spent doing a variety of Eco activities in the Bird garden, the Butterfly garden and using the Tree Trail. We had a lot of visitors to our school and we received many compliments about our facilities, gardens and classrooms. Our recycling initiative is going very well and the girls are more conscious of what is recyclable and what is not.

The Junior School Parents Forum are about to launch their raffle and the money raised will go towards the playground upgrades as well as more technology for the junior school. We have also had a visit from a school in Limpopo where children and teachers came for the day to see what we do at St Andrew's. May has been a busy month and a successful one. Thank you to all the staff for the work they have done and to our parents for all of their support.

CONGRATULATIONS!

We are proud of all our achievers



We congratulate **Ms Sue Tasker**, deputy head in the senior school, on being appointed to the position of Lady Principal (Headmistress) of The Wykeham Collegiate, Pietermaritzburg, commencing in January 2012.

GRADUATES



Well done to **Mrs Marion dos Santos**, **Mrs Deidre Lewis**, **Mrs Annie Rudolph**, **Mrs Bev van Niekerk**, **Mrs Natascha Williams** on being awarded their Honors BEd (Specializing in education management), all from UNISA.

Mrs van Niekerk and **Mrs Lewis** received theirs with distinction.

SS NETBALL FESTIVAL



We hosted another superb annual Easter Netball Festival at the end of term two. Twenty-three schools from all over South Africa participated. St Andrew's played St Stithian's in the finals which we won 19-13.

Well done to these girls who were selected for District D13 teams:

- U15 Lesego Mtsolongo
- U16 Jordan Seach, Tyla M'Crystal
- U17 Jade Tachie-Menson, Karen Oliver, Raquel Rodrigues
- U18 Jenna Wing

The following girls then went to provincial trials and were selected for a Gauteng team:

- U15 Lesego Mtsolongo
- U17 Jade Tachie-Menson
- U18 Jenna Wing

Jenna has already attended the interprovincial championships in her age-group
Jade and Lesego will be attending the interprovincial championships in their age-groups at the end of June.

JS Netball festival

The festival started with a festive atmosphere and the St Andrew's girls showed good commitment and sportsmanship, but unfortunately due to rain, the event was cancelled.

CONGRATULATIONS!

ROWING



Rowing Full Colours were awarded to:
Catherine Tayler,
Cara Eddey,
Melissa Correia,
Emma McBride,
Leighann Norton.

Catherine Taylor (gr 11) and Bruce Morris (opens coach) have both been selected to represent South Africa at the World Junior Rowing Champs in Eton, England in August 2011.

Cara Eddey (gr 11) has been selected to attend the SASRU Development Squad at Bosbaan in Amsterdam in June.



Catherine Taylor

HOCKEY



At the end of last term our first team played superbly at the St Mary's hockey festival where they reached the finals only to lose 1-0 to St Mary's in a penalty shoot out. Our captain, Stephanie Baxter, was selected as Player of the Festival. The girls then played in the St Stithian's Easter festival which they won without losing a game.

Provincial selection:

Well done to these girls who have been selected for the provincial teams:

- U18A: Stephanie Baxter, Rachel Maroun
- U18 C: Jessica Hards, Calley Jansen, Bergen Morland
- U16A: Carmen Smith, Charne Martell
- U14B: Katie Hugo, Thato Matlou
- U14C: Jessica Grose
- U14D: Kelly Ellis

SWIMMING



Greer Alison



Roh-Anne Coetzee

We are very proud of the following girls who have been selected for the SA National Squad:

Greer Alison (gr 12), **Roh-Anne Coetzee** (gr 8), **Oneida Cooper** (matric 2010 and current assistant coach).

Kayla Shortt (gr 10) competed in Cape Town's Cadiz Robben Island Freedom Swim in aid of disabled swimmers. The swim was held to raise funds for the disabled children from the Vista Nova School in Rondebosch. Kayla was the 7th female home in this gruelling 9.3km race in a time of 2 hours 54 minutes.



Only 44 of the original 140 solo swimmers completed the race, in icy 11 degree water and 3m swells.

Full Colours for open water swimming: **Kayla Shortt**
Junior Honours for swimming: **Tasha Francis**
Full Colours for swimming: **Greer Allison** (gr 12) and **Sarah-Ann Bouwer** (gr 12).



Sarah-Ann Bouwer

EVENTS

TENNIS



Full Colours for tennis awarded to **Bianca Raves**.



Nicole Dzenga (gr 8) won both her tournaments in Kenya and she has been invited to play in the World Junior Tennis Championship qualifiers in Egypt. Winners will play in the finals in Italy later this year. Nicole is currently ranked 2nd in Africa in the U14 age group.

MUSIC



Jessica Elston (gr 11) has been chosen to be a member of the South African Youth Orchestra.

JS KARATE

Rhiannon Baker (gr 6) & **Kiara Boyd** (gr 4) participated in the South African Karate Championships. Rhiannon came second in the Kumite and fifth in the Kata. Kiara came first in the Kata and third in the Kumite.



JS DIVING



Fae-Siri Keighley (gr 6) took part in the Central Gauteng Diving Championship earlier this year where she won four gold medals as well as the Overall Winner Trophy in the 11 & 12 year old age-group. She then went on to compete in the South African Nationals held in Pretoria. At this competition Fae won gold on the 5m platform, silver on the 3m board in the U14 category and bronze on the 3m board in the synchro U16 category.

EVENTS

GOLF



Kirsten Campbell (gr 10) is part of the Ernie Els & Fancourt Foundation. She played in their annual Championship on the Montagu and Outeniqua Golf Courses, finishing fourth. Over and above this, they played a 4hole competition on the Albertinia Golf Course (Home course of Louis Oosthuizen), where they met Louis Oosthuizen and received coaching from him. She also played in the strokeplay Gauteng Championships held at Randpark Ridge.

Humayra Saloojee (above) and in gr 11, was also selected to play in the Gauteng Golf Championships.

NATIONAL EISTEDDFOD AWARD



Katia Dias (gr 7) received the following awards during the recent NEA Awards event. English Monologue Comic semi-finalist 10th place; item winner English Poetry Lyric; item winner English Monologue comic and item winner English Lyrical Prose.

DANCE



Maxine Walch passed the Silver Higher Preliminary Examination at the Association of International Dance Teachers, with Honours with Distinction(90%)



Sarah Hawksworth was awarded 6th place in the top 10 for Junior Classical Music.

PRESCHOOL NEWS



The Preschool children have been enjoying an autumn theme. They have spent time in the main school gardens playing in the autumn leaves and raking them, as well as creating beautiful autumn art.

On Open Day, the older children had their faces painted as animals because their learning theme was wild animals.

Visitors from Limpopo



The junior school has built up a wonderful relationship with a school from the Limpopo Province. The headmaster, Mr Patrick Mogowe brings his pupils and teachers to St Andrew's on a regular basis. Our teachers have given great support to his staff and pupils and he is most grateful for all this assistance.

EVENTS

GRADE 4 NEWS



Outing to Maropeng



Practical Maths lesson

GRADE 5 NEWS



Visit to Lesedi Village



Honeydew Maze visit

The grade 5s have been studying Genealogy. They created their own family trees using any medium they preferred from decoupage trays, scrapbooked journals, wire trees to painted masterpieces! In their oral presentations, they enjoyed sharing grandfather's war-stories, granny's favourite sayings and mommy's childhood memories, to mention only a few!

COMMUNITY SERVICE



The Farrar grade 11 tutor group responded to a request from the Sandton SPCA for puppy blankets. The girls collected blankets and the matric dance committee donated money which they then personally delivered.

Jeanine Coghlan, Katia Scherf (MDC), Kayla Hoey, Tanna Löser (MDC)
Back: Kayla Molino, Maxine Walsch



Ashley Turner (gr 11), her mom and grandmother have spent many hours since November knitting beautiful baby jerseys and booties which she handed over to the Edenvale Methodist Church. They have a ministry called the Mother Teresa Vests that knit jerseys, booties etc and then donate them to Baragwanath.

EVENTS

JS Hooked on Books



CIVVIES DAY

The girls in the junior school supported Selborne's fundraiser which was in aid of the Maria Kloppers Children's Home in Observatory.



Selborne girls *Megan Tromp, Taryn-Lee Barlow, Christy Schulz, Jordyn Barlow, Garsin Ma, Simone Jeffrey, Nadia Teixeira* selling their items.

Farewell to Frans

Mr Frans Tala joined the St Andrew's kitchen staff in 1973. He retires at the end of this month and we will miss this wonderful gentleman. Past staff were invited to a special tea and they shared many happy memories. The boarders, who knew him best of all, held a special dinner for him in the dining room.



OPEN DAY

We had many prospective parents visiting our school and they were able to experience a day in the life of St Andrew's from preschool to senior school. A special thanks to the moms who helped at the information tables on Open Day.



Upgrade in Milner parking area

Thank you to our staff and parents for coping so well with the re-routing of traffic and parking to the main drive and Johnson Road car park. Your understanding is much appreciated. The council finally approved the upgrading of all the storm water drains and the contractor started, as promised, on Monday. We decided that as part of this project the school would incorporate the re-design of the Milner Road car park. We have been told that we will enjoy the benefits of this upgrade to our world class facility within 6 weeks.

NEWS

OLD GIRLS



The Annual Reunion: Old Girls from the 'one years' 1951 through to 2001, descended on the school recently to reconnect with their school friends and past teachers.

Race Day: Spoil yourself, your friends or your clients. Take a table at the Old Girls Race Day which is being held at the Turfontein Race Course on 23 July. Call Liesha Prinsloo on: 083 357 5673.

Durban Reunion: The Old Girls are hosting a High Tea at the Oyster Box on the 4th June. If you know any past pupils living in the Durban area please ask them to contact Giulia Cantarin on: 083 226 7493.

President's Award trip

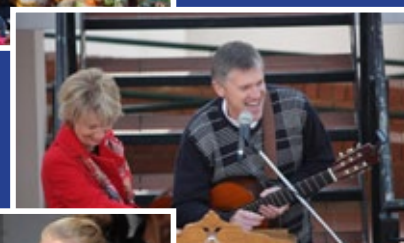


Twenty-one excited girls and 2 teachers travelled to Felix Unite in Namibia during the April holidays. Loads of fun, team work, capsizing boats, problems with currents, river golf, stalk the lantern, non-stop singing are amongst the memories that they will share for a long time. Thanks to Mr Mostert for arranging this amazing adventure on the Orange River.

What little ones say...

At the voting station there was a lady driving around in a car covered with the CNA colours. Someone stopped her and asked her why she was voting for the CNA and not the DNA.

Harvest festival & Africa Day



The school's annual Harvest Festival and Africa Day celebration was held in Bedford Square. The St Andrew's community is incredibly generous and we were able to provide Meals on Wheels with enough tinned food and non-perishable items to last them for a long time. Your kindness is much appreciated.

NEWS

ROADSHOW
BEDFORDVIEW NEWS

The Caxton newspaper entertained the girls with a Hip Hop Roadshow which had the girls clapping and dancing to the music. Generous prizes were won and the girls were encouraged to visit the Caxton website, www.looklocal.co.za

Prize-winners were: **Imameleng Keneiloe Morare** and **Lesley-Anne Bessit** in the junior school and **Gabriela Alves Nunes** in the senior school.

It's always good to receive compliments and the show's organiser writes, 'On behalf of the BE News and Looklocal team, we would just like to say thank you to St Andrew's for being fantastic hosts! Your girls are well-mannered and disciplined and it was a pleasure to visit the school.'

MySchool Card
MARCH UPDATE

Thank you to all the parents who are remembering to swipe their cards. They are being used all over the country – Sunset Beach, Belvidere Road, Tyger Valley, Arcadia, King Shaka airport, Mossel Bay.

You raised over R11,049-70 for school projects which is wonderful and this placed the school in 2nd position. Special thanks to the following families who were the top supporters by number of transactions:

Bredenkamp, Pattle, Wheeler, Mulder, Liebenberg, Nhlapo, Makhuvha, Taggart, Naude, Kitsa.

DIARY

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June

- 03 SS Sports Festival in KZN till 4th
Dads & Daughters Bingo Evening
- 04 OG Reunion in Durban
- 05 World Environment Day
Music theatre outing to Montecasino
- 07 JS Parents' Evening – Lesley Rosental
- 08 Gr 4 outing to Willem Prinsloo Museum
Gr 7 outing to Origins Centre
- 09 JS Interhouse cross-country
Preschool screening
- 10 JS Athlone fundraiser
- 11 Old Girls' AGM
Gr 4 & 5 Hockey festival at St Mary's
- 13 Exams begin for Gr 10 -12
- 16-17 Holidays
- 20 Father's Day service Gr 0-3
- 22 Exams begin for Gr 8 & 9
- 23 Tour de Maths at Parktown
- 24 Father's Day service Gr 4 – 7
Gr 1 outing to Lory Park Zoo
- 25 OG Business Network breakfast
- 27 Exams begin for Gr 5- 7

July

- 01 Exams end
Midterm begins at 12:00
- 11 Second half of term 2 begins 07:30