



The Anchor

Issue 4

September 2016

Faith, Family, Future

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents and Girls

The third term is always busy and exciting, but the end of term and school holidays offers us a most welcome time of rest.

We have celebrated two special events in the past week; our Sports Awards Dinner and Cultural Awards Evening. At these events we recognised and celebrated the achievements of our most inspirational athletes, artists, musicians, dramatists, dancers and public speakers. During both events there was a sense of joy, togetherness and pride coming from girls, teachers and parents – both wonderful family celebrations.

Our Matrics begin their Final Examinations very soon after we return for the Fourth Term, so they will be spending their holiday consolidating their work and applying themselves to thorough preparation. Girls, we as your school family, will keep you in our prayers as you embark on this final stage of your school career.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and relaxing holiday.

Warm regards,

Joan Schmidt

Sunflower Fund Day

Every year, Maris Stella embraces Sunflower Fund Day with excitement, joy and love, and this year we chose to coincide these festivities with the official arrival of Spring! This is the 9th year that we have supported the Sunflower Fund, and we are so proud of our Maris Stella Family, who purchased over 900 topes this year! Thank you Mrs Aaron, for all your organisation and motivation! Our Prep and High School classes held their annual Sunflower Fund Fashion Show, organised by our Grade 11s. Each class worked together to create an outfit made from topes, and we were so impressed by their stylish and imaginative creations. Many thanks also to all the moms and grans who helped!



*I ♥ Maris Stella
Market
Saturday 8th October
1pm to 5pm*

**Tea Garden* Food Stalls*
Craft Market Fun Rides*
*Photo Booth**

*Buy your R120 wristband from the Bursar's
Office for unlimited rides!
Contact Samantha Stuart on 082 463 8460 for further info*

Staff News

A warm Maris Stella welcome to new staff members Kate Koenig, Head of Prep Sport; Jenna Shuker, Head of Hockey; Julia van Blerk, Business Studies teacher; and Maris Stella Old Girl, Jessica Sinclair, JP and Prep Information Technology teacher. Our congratulations to Liezl Scott on her promotion to Head of Extramurals.



We are also so thrilled for Lee-Anne Keet, now Mrs Keet-Stewart, who tied the knot with Donn on 13 August. Congratulations, and wishing you a very special happily ever after!



Proudly introducing Blake Timothy Bate! This precious bundle was born to our beloved Jenna Jones-Bate and husband Justin, on Friday 16 September at 10:18, weighing in at 2,5kgs. Congratulations Jenna and Justin, wishing you much love and many happy days during your extended maternity leave.



Grade 11 Portfolio Heads and Vice Heads



Proudly introducing our Grade 11 Portfolio Heads and Vice Heads!

Catherine Harrison, Head of Chapel and Ethos

Mvelo Nzimande, Head of Culture

Shirali Chetty, Vice Head of Culture

Nandipa Khubone, Head of High School

Shanté Vrey, Head of High School

Cailin Donachie, Vice Head of High School

Alison Hogg, Head of Junior Primary

Jamie Moore, Vice Head of Junior Primary

Laura Herman, Head of Outreach

Tracey Powell, Vice Head of Outreach

Courtney Stuart, Head of Prep Phase

Kiara Chetty, Vice Head of Prep Phase

Jenna Rabie, Head of Pre-school

Chelsea Poole, Vice Head of Pre-school

Daniella Smith, Vice Head of Pre-school

Qondisa Sibeko, Head of Public Relations

Tegan Sinclair, Vice Head of Public Relations

Nikita Sitharam, Vice Head of Public Relations

Khutso Thulare, Head of Sport

Emma Moore, Vice Head of Sport

Please like our Facebook page, *I heart Maris Stella*, for all the latest news and photos from our events.



Maris Stella's Music Evening

On Monday 15 August, we were treated to the most spectacular Music Evening in our Centenary Hall. Thanks to Mrs Early and Mrs Hadjiev for all their efforts in assembling this incredible showcase of our girls' musical talents, and to our incredible performers, well done!



JP Choir



Mayukha Pillay



Jnr Prep Marimba Band, "The Tiny Terrors"



Snr Prep Marimba, "The Cool Kids"



Jodi Nobin



High School Marimba Band



Vocal Ensemble



Prep Choir



High School Choir

Sing With One Voice

On 25 August, our High School Choir performed at the Emmanuel Cathedral in the very special *Sing With One Voice* Concert. We were one of six schools that took part in this unique Inter-Catholic Schools' Concert, praising God with One Voice. The Cardinal was especially delighted and gave the pupils of the various schools such good advice.



Inter-house Athletics Day

Spirits were high on Friday 12 August at our Prep and High School Inter-house Athletics Day! Congratulations to all athletes for giving your best, and to the spectators for cheering their teams on with such enthusiasm. Well done to Ambrose who won both the Athletics and the Spirit Cup! Special congratulations to our Junior Victrix Ludorum winner, Isabella Halstead and Senior Victrix Ludorum joint winners, Megan Lombard and Courtney du Preez. This is Courtney's 8th consecutive year of winning the Victrix Ludorum!



JP Sports Day

The excitement in the air was tangible at our JP Sports Day last Friday! Our girls gave it their all, cheered on enthusiastically by their teammates and families. The top accolades went to Marian, with Patrician winning the Spirit Cup. Well done to all our athletes - your team spirit was incredible, especially in the rousing finale, 'The more we are together, the happier we'll be'!



Pre-school Sports Day

Our Pre-school girls had such fun at their Sports Day on Friday 16 September! Thank you to all the proud moms, dads, grannies and grandpas in the stands, which made the girls try even harder and smile even wider! Thank you to the Grade 7s who did a great job helping and encouraging our little stars.



Grade 7 Market Day

The Grade 7s treated us to a fantastic Market Day on 25 August. From photobooths to pizza, scarves to samoosas, cake pops, raffles and much more, we shopped up a storm! Well done girls, for working so hard on your stalls, and for showing such creativity!



Reach for a Dream Slipper Day

We had such fun supporting The Reach For A Dream Foundation's Slipper Day on 11 August!



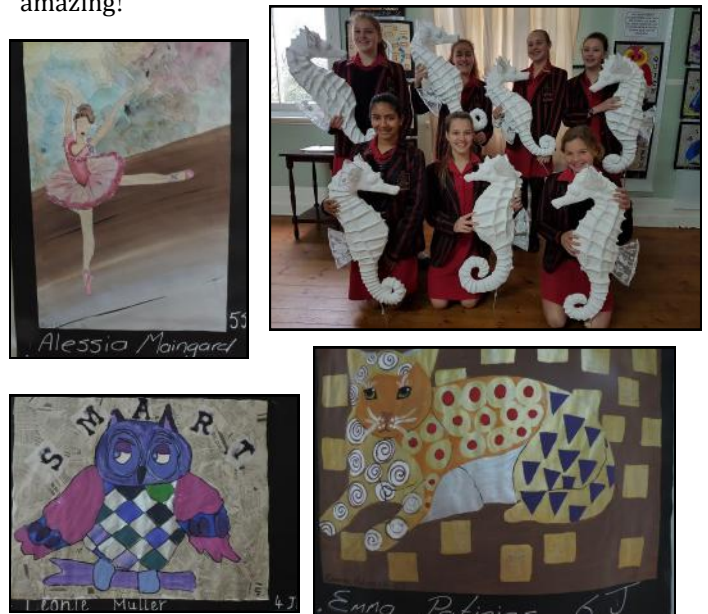
Grade 8 Sleepover

The Grade 8s enjoyed a fun Friday evening on 29 July at the Grade 8 Sleepover. The evening started with a picnic supper and was followed by fun games and activities in the MPC, organised by the Grade 12 High School Portfolio. After changing into their pjs, the Grade 8s had a spontaneous dance-a-thon in the hall and it's hard to tell who had more fun....the Grade 8s or the Grade 12s! The evening was rounded off with a movie and a VERY late bedtime. Many thanks to the Grade 8 teachers and Grade 12 leaders for the entertaining evening!



Prep Art Exhibition

Our Prep Art Exhibition was an astounding showcase of talent from our budding young artists, as well as a testament to the skill of our Prep Art teacher, Mrs Andrew. Inspired by a wide range of subjects from Warhol to De-gas, endangered toucans to food and flowers, Klimit to seahorses, the variety and quality of work on display was amazing!



Grade 10 & 11 History Excursion to the Nelson Mandela Capture Site



Grade 3 and Grade 6 excursions to Ushaka

Our Maris Stella Grade 3s thoroughly enjoyed their exciting outing to Ushaka Marine World on 23 August. They explored the Aquarium, dissected fish, had a touch and feel session with some sea creatures, and of course, watched the beautiful dolphins in action!



The Grade 6 classes also went on an outing to Ushaka recently. The girls were welcomed to Sea World by the friendly and knowledgeable staff who had prepared some interactive and fun lessons for them to carry out before they set out to explore the aquarium.

The girls learnt more about the endangered species in our oceans, the different ecosystems the sea animals and plants live in, how pollution is harming the sea life and the specific diets of both the small and large animals found in the aquarium. The highlight of the outing was of course getting to enjoy the very entertaining dolphin show at the end.



Grade 5 Sweetdale Excursion

Sweetdale Camp is a lovely venue for an overnight stay as there are so many activities to do. This year the girls had a lot of fun with the zip line and high ropes being firm favourites. There were also other challenging tasks done that showed how important communication and team work are. Many girls conquered their fears and did the more challenging activities. Lots of fun was had by all and many memories were made.



Grade 2 Outing to Crocodile Creek

On Monday 12 September, our Grade 2 girls went on an outing to Crocodile Creek in Ballito. What an adventure they had! It was a lovely way to round off their third term theme of African Folktales. It proved to be a very educational experience and the girls had a wonderful time. They all came back with BIG smiles and many stories to share.



Softball

Our Softball team has had an incredible season, coming second in the League! Congratulations also go to Tegan Sinclair and Tracey Powell for their selection to the KZN U17 B team, and to Courtney Stuart on being selected for the U17A team.



Water Polo

Congratulations to the following girls who have made the KZN Regional Water Polo Teams, from which the KZN Teams will be selected:

- U18 Teegan Hardwick
- U16 Cerin Vaughan
- U15 Megan Lombard, Lila Heath, Georgia Erskine, Alexandra Erskine, Sarah Volek
- U14 Kaylyn Asgeir-Nielsen
- U13 Josie Walton, Isabella Hislop, Laura McAlistar, Jaime Theron



Hockey

Congratulations to Miss Shuker, Courtney du Preez and Miss Koenig on their stunning win with the St Lucia Lakers in the Premier Hockey League match against the Namaqualand Daisies on 17 September. We are especially proud of Courtney, playing in what is sure to be her first of many PHL games!



Highlighting some of our Maris Stella Super Stars

Tannah Smith (Grade 5) and Caitlyn Gooding (Grade 8) were selected to represent Umlazi District at the Provincial Schools' Cross Country Championships.



Cara Message (Grade 6) was selected for the 2016 KZN Schools' Swimming Team at the Provincial Primary Swimming Championships held earlier this year at Kings Park. Cara recently attended the KZN Schools' Recognition function where she received her KZN Schools certificate and badge.



Ashleigh Prinsloo (Grade 6) has been selected for the KZN Rhythmic Gymnastics Team, for both the individual and group events. She will be representing KZN at Nationals in Cape Town at the end of the month.



Kaylee Walker (Grade 5) performed exceptionally well at the South African Highland Dance Championships recently, winning two gold and two bronze medals. Kaylee was awarded the trophy for "Lochiel Beginners National SA Championships."



Clara Millard (Grade 3), came first in Equitation with her horse, Cactus Jack, at the South African National Equestrian Schools' Association (SANESA) Competition at Shongweni on 13 August. Well done, Clara!



Lauren Walsh (Grade 5) was awarded the Champions Trophy in the Abagility Abacus Exam, and will be representing KZN in the National competition in Johannesburg in October. Good luck, Lauren!



Our Grade 8 debating team of Chloë Crozier, Tendai Mncibi and Shriyaa Sooklal were the runners up of the 2016 Coastal Debating League in their division!



Sports Awards

Our Sports Awards evening on 19 September highlighted the many sporting achievements of our talented athletes. Kelly Ebing, Head of our Sport Portfolio, delivered a beautiful speech in which she advised, "Don't merely just exist, live to the fullest and prove to everyone that you can be that Olympian that you always dreamt of being... Playing sport is like giving away a bit of your heart every time you step onto the field, the diving block, the arena, the running track or the court. The laughs and memories you make rarely fade, they manage to last a lifetime." This sentiment was echoed by our Guest Speaker, Ms Precious Mthembu, a South African Netball player. Congratulations to all the award winners, not just for your achievements, but for your determination and commitment which culminated in these excellent results.



Cultural Awards

On Wednesday 21 September, our Cultural Awards Evening was a celebration of the accomplishments of our girls in the cultural arena. From music, dance, and public speaking, to art and drama, our Cultural Award winners were applauded for their significant achievements in their respective fields.

