



# ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

## NEWSLETTER



**MICHAELMAS TERM**

**No 6/2009**

Dear Parents

At our final assembly in the new Rene England Auditorium, the lesson that was read came from Luke 6: 43-49. This contains two stories: the first is of the healthy tree bearing good fruit – *“A good person brings good out of the treasure of good things in his heart”*. The second story is of the two house builders. The one dug deep and laid his foundation on a rock; The other built on sand and when the storm and flood came, the one stood firm and the other was washed away.



Both stories reflect on success and what it means to be successful, and how we measure it.

The fruit in our lives grows and ripens out of the essence of who we are: Jesus' words make it quite plain – *“No good tree bears bad fruit”*. My challenge to the boys as they are growing up is to ensure that they are *“good trees”*. One way to do this is to keep in mind the injunction in the school prayer, i.e. to be *“well trained in body, mind and character”*. The whole focus of the school is captured in this simple phrase, as it is out of this that success will come – the *“fruit”* will be good.

The second story about foundations is equally important for success - foundations for buildings, foundations for life. Our magnificent new building, the Alan Wilcock Vulindlela Centre, has been built on strong physical foundations, but also provides accommodation for building strong foundations in Geography and English. *“Vulindlela”* means the opening of doors to opportunity and the building provides housing for fifty-one boys who will live in Hill House with Mr Bradley Cotterell. The Rene England Auditorium provides us with a much needed and anticipated space for gatherings of all kinds, where we will have opportunity to grow in wisdom.

Success for St John's is primarily measured through our young men and women becoming strong good trees with strong good foundations. What we desire is that they should be grounded, courageous, resilient, flexible, compassionate, honest and confident. These are some of the *“fruits”* of success; of good trees and good foundations.

These passages in Luke give us the key to ensuring good trees and strong foundations. Jesus says: *“Anyone who comes to me and listens to my words and obeys them”*. Living successful or significant lives, is about listening, and being obedient to the pattern of Jesus' life. Let's remember this at Christmas time as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour.

### **Opening Mass and Blessing of the Alan Wilcock Vulindlela Centre**

Included in your son's report you will find an invitation to attend the opening mass of the year, at 08h00 on Wednesday morning 13 January. This will be followed by the opening of the Alan Wilcock Vulindlela Centre. The Bishop of Johannesburg will celebrate, preach and bless the new building, and our new Chaplain, Rev Jaques Pretorius, will be licensed. This will also be an opportunity to pray for God's blessing



on the Prefects, the Matrics, the Upper 6<sup>th</sup> Formers and the Council. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to a grand celebration.

## **Congratulations**

I would like to congratulate Mr Alan Thompson, Second Master on his appointment as Headmaster of St Dunstan's College, Benoni, from 1 April 2010.

This is a wonderful opportunity for Alan. He has served St John's College for 16 years, as a Science teacher, Housemaster, Deputy Head and Second Master. Many new initiatives are the result of his work. We thank him for his excellent service and love for St John's College and wish him all the best in his new post. He goes with our blessing and we pray that the Lord will strengthen and encourage him in his new post.

I would also like to congratulate Mr Siphwe Vilakazi on his appointment as Head of Department: Economic Management Science at St John's College. We wish him all the best as he takes up the position from 1 January 2010.

I also congratulate Mr Paul Emant who has been appointed Assistant Housemaster for Runge House from 1 January 2010.

## **Farewells**

Several staff move on from St John's at the end of this year. I would like to thank them for their service and commitment.

**Mrs Janine Barnard** was a temporary maths teacher for two terms. She is relocating to Hilton, KwaZulu Natal.

**Mrs Glynis Fenton** helped in the shop for the past year. We thank her for her contribution and wish her all the best for the future.

**Ms Vanessa Walker** taught Latin and English for two years and her enthusiastic energetic commitment to the boys is appreciated. She assisted with tennis and debating. Exciting adventure awaits her as she is relocating to Alaska.

**Matron Nikki Nel** leaves us after five years to take up a post at St Andrew's School, Bedfordview. Sam Mokgalong in speaking of her at the boarders Christmas dinner reflected on her role as a mother to the boys and thanked her for keeping them in check and loving them. We wish her all the best at St Andrew's.

**Mr Elito Viglieno** leaves us after eight years service in the 6<sup>th</sup> Form. We thank him for his loyalty, commitment and his wonderful academic approach to the teaching of history. He retires to Behlehem.

Three members of staff retire after many years of service to St John's and we express our thanks to **Mrs Mary-Rose Schudel, Father Michael Arnold** and **Mr Mick Badham**.

Frau Schudel served St John's for twelve years as Head of German. She has been a gentle, quiet presence at St John's. She is a keen academic, always determined that her boys should succeed at German. She ran her department efficiently and well, getting excellent results. As Mrs Kate Byrne said of her in her farewell speech – *She was the real lady of St John's*. Thank you Mary-Rose, and we wish you everything of the best for the future.

Father Mike Arnold served St John's for eight years as Chaplain. He is an Old Boy of St John's and returned to share his faith with the boys.



Mr Mick Badham has served St John's for over 41 years. His influence continues in the lives of many boys who have passed through his hands. I wish them both a very blessed retirement. The speeches made at their farewell lunch are included below.

### **MICHAEL ARNOLD**

*Mike has a God given ministry to young men. He loves them and has given hugely of himself to serve them.*

*Under his leadership the Christian ministry to boys has grown with cell groups and cell celebrations; the huge number of boys that come forward for communion or to receive a blessing; the many boys who have been confirmed. God has blessed his ministry at St John's and the fruit of this will last for eternity.*

- *He has a passion that boys commit their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ and follow in His path.*
- *He has challenged boys and led them to take this important step in their journey of faith.*
- *He has preached a clear gospel message of Jesus' love and grace.*
- *He has been a fighter for the place of the Christian faith as the very foundation of St John's College*
- *He has stood firm for the truth.*
- *He has had an enormous impact on St John's College, and more particularly in the hundreds of boys who have passed through his hands.*
- *He has provoked opposition because in a modern, post-modern world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century where morality and truth are relative, he has stood for absolutes and it has not always been comfortable around Mike.*
- *This larger than life figure has not feared confrontation, and sometimes his determination to serve his Lord, to do what is right, to stand for the truth has provoked opposition from those that have disagreed with his understanding of the truth.*

*Mike you have taken the teaching of Divinity seriously and in your lessons you have laid the foundation of God's word in the lives of many boys. You have sown an eternal seed.*

*I honour Mike today knowing that he is a beloved child of God. He is loved by his Saviour and I am confident that His purpose for Mike will unfold in the years ahead.*

*I have an abiding image of Mike as he prays for boys. Fatherly, and intensely concerned that they receive the full blessing of our Lord Jesus.*

*I have another image of Mike – shirt hanging out, walking alongside the boys in the quadrangles, talking to them.*

*Mike, you have given yourself to St John's and the boys. You have served your Lord and Master and now we pray that you will be enormously blessed as you seek His purpose in the next season of your life.*

*Jill, I want to thank you as well for opening your home to hundreds of boys every day of the week. You are a saint. I walk home late from my office, and regularly there are several school boys outside your home. I thank you for your patience and generosity.*

*So Mike, you go with our blessing and our prayers. We thank you for your service.*

**Roger Cameron**



## MICK BADHAM

*It is a great privilege for me to pay tribute to Mick Badham: a friend and colleague. He has served our school faithfully and with integrity for the last 41 years. During this time he has been a housemaster, head of Chemistry, first team rugby coach, master in charge of tennis and the chemistry fundi amongst a host of other responsibilities. Mick is, however, not a man who is defined by what he does but by who he is. I have come to know Mick as someone who is humble, gentle and considerate of others. He is a man of great faith and conviction and his walk with the Lord is an inspiration to me.*

*Mick is also someone who gets on with his responsibilities without complaining and in most cases without people being aware of all that he does.*

*Mick I have valued your support and contribution to the Science department enormously. Thank you for keeping us on course with your passion for a deductive, sequential and experimental approach to science. You are always quick to encourage and your immense knowledge of the subject is invaluable. We have been in such a privileged position having someone like you who is always available and willing to help. You are not only highly respected within the department but also loved and valued and you will be sorely missed.*

*We pray that your semi-retirement will bring you much rest and fulfilment. I am sure that Joan will be glad to have you at home and that you will be thrilled to avoid the early morning traffic. We wish you great health and all of His blessings.*

### Warwick Taylor

I thank the boys for a wonderful year. I thank the teachers for all their hard work and I wish our whole St John's family a very blessed Christmas.

**Roger Cameron**  
**Headmaster**

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## CULTURAL AWARDS – MICHAELMAS TERM 2009

### Art

**Honours** James Michaelis

**Colours** David Frame  
Alexandra Childs  
Alex Hough  
Lauren Flynn

**Half Colours** Tom Lancaster  
Pia Nyakuru

### Cultural Colours

Andy Petersen, to mark the publication of his novel, an extraordinary achievement at age 16, as well as his ongoing contribution to the cultural life off the school in oratory and drama.

### Debating

**Colours** Awadi Rathugamage  
Andy Petersen

**Half Colours** Stephen Heydenrych  
Michael Macklin  
Scott Hunt  
Asiri Rathugamage

**Merit Certificates** Ashton Fox  
Nabeel Seedat  
Mohammed Kaskar  
Gianluca Agostinetto  
Luke Quinn  
Tinaye Tengende  
Jordan Cutifani  
Chris Soal  
Luke Reid

### Merit Certificates for UN Debating

Chris Roberts  
Charlotte Savage  
Callum Black  
Andrew Fisher  
Richard Fisher



## ANNUAL MAJOR MATRIC ART EXHIBITION, 14 th October, 2009

Our matrics did themselves proud by exhibiting a varied, versatile display, showing much conceptual, technical and creative skill, highly praised by our IEB moderators, our guest speaker and all those present at the exhibition. Mr Eugene Hon, ceramic artist and senior lecturer at the University of Johannesburg's FADA faculty was the guest speaker who drew some very interesting parallels between fine art, ceramics and branding both products and their concepts with the use of technology, blogs, etc as an extension to the now compulsory "visual diary" as well as the artwork itself. He convinced those present of the depth of concept and the searching for self in the art-making process.

Mr Hon judged the following awards for best artist on exhibition:

**Runners up:** Petri Venter and Angus MacKinnon

**Winner, best artist on exhibition:** James Michaelis

Lorna Culwick  
HOD: Art



Lorna Culwick and James Michaelis  
With his award-winning work



Guest Speaker, Eugene Hon, Lorna Culwick, James Michaelis (Judged best Artist) and Shelagh Scholes (Art Teacher)

### Trinity Guildhall Music Results - September Session 2009

Benjamin McGraw	Piano	6
Marius Vermaak	Piano	6
Jon-Marco Maycock	Piano	7
Riaan de Kock	Piano	7
Thomas Geffen	Piano	7
Travis Bradfield	Recorder	7
Jordan Cutifani	Piano	1
Asiri Rathugamage	Saxophone	8
Benjamin Walwyn	Violin	7
Julian Lap	Trumpet	7
Jodi Odgers	Tuba	6
Jacques Smit	Violin	4
John Whittle	Violin	4
Richard Berry	Violin	7
Mohamed Sacranie	Flute	6
Benjamin Baggott	Flute	8
Oliver Vincent	Saxophone	4
Michael Cloete	Saxophone	6
Ashton Fox	Violin	8
Sarah Hunt	Piano	6

### Associated Board of Royal Schools of Music October Session 2009

Thomas Geffen	Flute	5
Cameron Dry	Flute	3
Jade Bonfils-Persson	Cello	4
Wesley Fletcher	Flute	4

### MUSIC AWARD

Congratulations to Samson Diamond, the new violin teacher on being award the very prestigious: 2010 Standard Bank Young Artist for Music Award.



## DEBATING SUCCESSES: SACEE Championships, 2009

### Congratulations to:

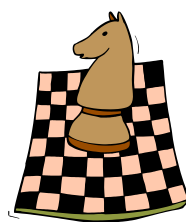
<b>Seniors:</b>	<b>Michael Macklin</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> on Best Speaker list & provincial trialist
	<b>Andy Petersen</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> on Best Speaker list & provincial trialist
	<b>Awadi Rathugamage</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> on Best Speaker list
	<b>Scott Hunt</b>	Provincial trialist
<b>Juniors:</b>	<b>Nabeel Seedat</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> on Best Speaker list & provincial trialist
	<b>Mo Kaskar</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> on Best Speaker list & provincial trialist

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### INTER-HOUSE CHESS

The Inter-House Chess was played on Friday 9 October and the results as follows:

1.	Clarke	18
2.	Hill	16
3.	Fleming & Clayton	14
5.	Nash	10
6.	Hodgson	8
7.	Alston	3
8.	Thomson	1



The Gold King was awarded to **Jaishil Modi** who won all his matches, and the Double Knight trophy was awarded to the Captain of Clarke, **Yianni Moustakis**.

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### MATHS OLYMPIAD NEWS

St John's College again hosted the Southern Gauteng team for the Inter-provincial Mathematics Olympiad. Four Upper V boys, Awadi Rathugamage; James Fenton, James Williams and Nicholas Hoernle represented the school in the Southern Gauteng senior team. Himal Kooverjee (Lower IV); Jason Smythe (Lower IV) and Benedict Didcott-Marr (Remove) represented the school in the Southern Gauteng junior team. Awadi Rathugamage; James Fenton; James Verhagen; Himal Kooverjee and Jason Smythe all qualified for the 3rd round (top 100 students) of the South African Mathematics Olympiad.

Congratulations to the following boys for finishing in the top 100 students nationally in the South African Mathematics Olympiad:

**James Verhagen** and **Jason Smythe** were awarded a bronze medal and a certificate.

**Himal Kooverjee** received a medal for being a top provincial player.

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### PUBLIC SPEAKING

Markus Trengove (UIV) represented St John's College in the annual Absa/Sandton Rotary Club Public Speaking competition in early October. The competition attracts entrants from all over Gauteng. This year the candidates were asked to use a proverb to motivate their speeches. Markus chose to use an Afrikaans proverb "Blaffende honde byt nie", which he used very cleverly to mock leaders and society whose bark and bite are inconsistent. The adjudicator awarded Markus an 'A' symbol and commended him on his 'wicked sense of humour' and his natural style of delivery. Sadly, he was not invited to the finals. The competition is open only to pupils in UIV and LV.

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## Young Writers 2010



The English Department is proud of Reshard Kolabhai (UIV Nash) and Simon Lee (LV Clayton) who have been selected to participate in the Gauteng Young Writers 2010 programme next year. Organized by King Victory Park, the programme will be led by Professor David Medalie, well-known South African writer and academic. It is a year-long mentorship in the art of writing in prose. It is hoped that at the end of the year, a book-length collection of short stories will be published. We look forward to seeing their work in print!

Congratulations also to Simon Lee on his silver medal in the English Olympiad this year. He was the highest placed St John's pupil.

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## SPORTS NEWS

### 2009/2010 Summer Sports Captains

<b>BASKETBALL</b>	- Captain Vice-Captain	<b>Eugene Manditsera Jonathan van der Bijl Nick Christelis</b>
<b>CHESS</b>	- Captain	<b>Yianni Moustakis</b>
<b>CRICKET</b>	- Captain Vice-Captain	<b>Adam Maserow Max de la Fargue</b>
<b>GOLF</b>	- Captain	<b>Brendon Levendig</b>
<b>ROWING</b>	- Captain - Vice-Captain - Boatman	<b>Dimitri Protopappas Jack Coulter James Nevin</b>
<b>SWIMMING</b>	- Captain - Vice-Captain	<b>James Verhagen Wesley Verhoogt</b>
<b>TENNIS</b>	- Captain - Vice-Captain	<b>John Alexander Simon Kennedy</b>
<b>WATER POLO</b>	- Captain - Vice-Captain	<b>Nicholas Hock Michael Irvine</b>

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## BASKETBALL

Congratulations to Jonathan van der Bijl on being selected to the Gauteng U19A Basketball Team.



## CRICKET VS ST DAVID'S

**DATE: SATURDAY 16 JANUARY**

TEAM	TIME	VENUE	FIELD
1 <sup>ST</sup>	9-5	ST JOHN'S	MITCHELL
15A	9-5	ST JOHN'S	RICE
16B	1-5	ST JOHN'S	C RUGBY
16C	9-1	ST JOHN'S	C RUGBY
15B	14:30-17:30	ST JOHN'S 20/20	D RUGBY
15C	11:30-14:30	ST JOHN'S 20/20	D RUGBY
15D	8:30-11:30	ST JOHN'S 20/20	D RUGBY
2 <sup>ND</sup>	9-5	ST DAVID'S	
16A	9-5	ST DAVID'S	
3 <sup>RD</sup>	14:30-17:30	ST DAVID'S 20/20	
4 <sup>TH</sup>	11:30-14:30	ST DAVID'S 20/20	
5 <sup>TH</sup>	8:30-11:30	ST DAVID'S 20/20	

### CRICKET: 1<sup>ST</sup> WEEK PRACTICE/TRIAL SCHEDULE

AGE GROUP	DATE	TIME	VENUE
<b>U14</b>	MONDAY 11 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	MITCHELL NETS
<b>U14</b>	WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	C RUGBY NETS
<b>U15</b>	WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	WATERPOLO NETS
	THURSDAY 14 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	WATERPOLO NETS
<b>U16</b>	WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	RICE NETS
	THURSDAY 14 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	RICE NETS
<b>OPEN</b>	WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	MITCHELL NETS
	THURSDAY 14 JANUARY	14:30-17:00	MITCHELL NETS



## PARENTS' PRAYER GROUP



A small group of Christian parents who meet each week on Thursday from 7h30 to 8h30 in the Community Room to pray for the children, teachers, administrators and other workers, parents and the St John's Community.

You can leave any prayer requests with Lecia Kruger in the Pre Prep, Brigitte Taylor in the Prep, or Michelle Rufener in the College. There are also prayer request boxes in the College, Prep and Pre-Prep. Please use these boxes to communicate your prayer requests to us, so that we can more effectively pray for specific needs. Your requests may be anonymous. Everything mentioned and prayed for at a meeting remains strictly confidential.

*God is able and willing to listen to each of our prayers, no matter how great or small.*

To join us or for more information please contact: Debbie Cloete on 083 309-6506 or 447-3347



St John's College  
*Grapevine*

The grapevine is an advertising medium for the St John's College community. The publication will be circulated 2 – 3 times per term, as printed media to be handed out at the gates as well as an electronic version that will be e-mailed with the Headmasters newsletter.

Cost Full page ad: R100.00, half page: R50.00 and quarter page: R25.00

To advertise in the Grapevine please contact Angie Delport by e-mail [delport@stjohnscollege.co.za](mailto:delport@stjohnscollege.co.za) or Tel: 011 645 3041

*"It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it"*  
- Albert Einstein

