



# ADVANCEMENT NEWSLETTER

October 2023





# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF ADVANCEMENT

Dear St John's Community

It is with great pleasure that I present this fundraising report on behalf of St John's College. Your unwavering support and generosity have made it possible for us to continue pursuing our mission of providing excellent education to students, regardless of their financial means, with the potential to thrive at this very special school.

2023 has been the most exciting year since the Advancement Office was established in 2020. Finally free from the constraints placed on us during COVID-19, we have been able to fully engage with our community, in South Africa and abroad, as we celebrated our 125th birthday and launched the *Beyond 125 Campaign*.

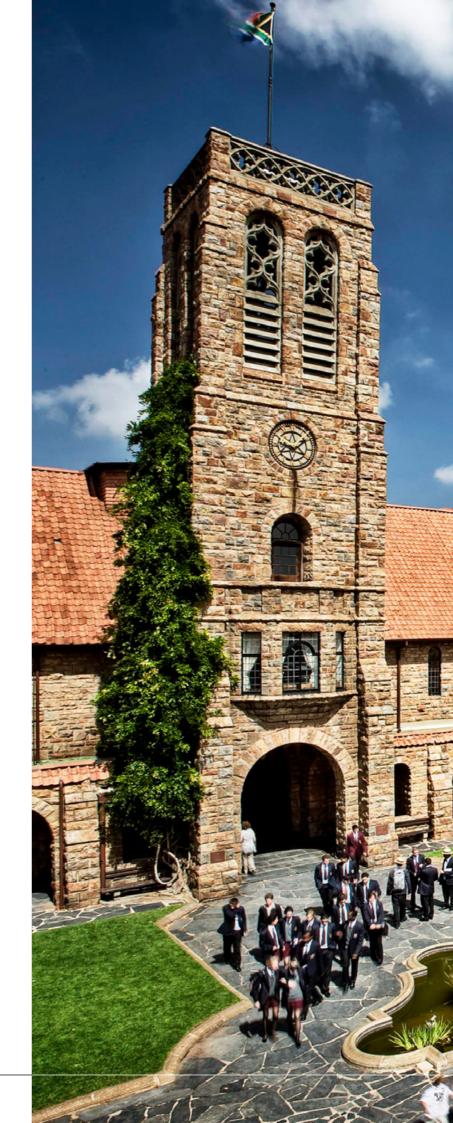
The response to the launch has been overwhelmingly positive and we look forward to seeing it grow and succeed over the next five years. We look forward to sending you regular updates and a full report on this landmark year in December.

The St John's Foundation audited financial report for 2022 was finalised last term, and we would like to take this opportunity to reflect on our fundraising activities last year. The success of our Aquatics Centre fundraising campaign and the completion of this world-class facility was the first major step forward in the *Beyond 125 Campaign*. We were also thrilled to have funding for the St John's Academy Project fully renewed up to 2024. I hope that you will enjoy reading about these and other fundraising highlights in the report.

As I reflect on the past two years, I am reminded of the incredible impact that our donors have had on St John's College and the individuals and communities we serve. None of this would have been possible without your contributions, both big and small. I hope that this report will not only provide insight into our fundraising efforts, but also serve as a token of our appreciation for your continued support. We remain committed to our mission and will continue to work tirelessly to make a positive difference in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you once again for your generosity and dedication to our beloved College.

Shelley Roberts Head of Advancement



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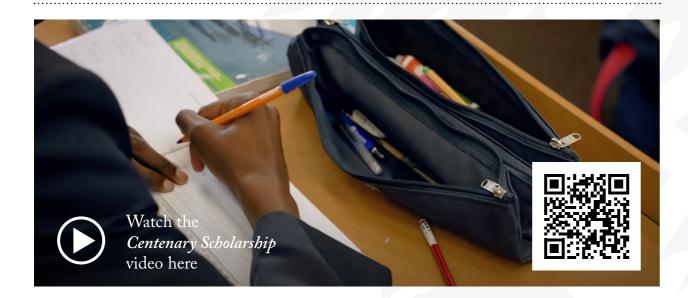
# SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

By addressing the problem of access to education through a robust student financial aid programme, St John's ensures that exceptional young people with great potential will be given the chance to develop that potential at St John's, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Donating to student Scholarships and Bursaries is the clearest way to make a meaningful difference in a young person's life and we gratefully acknowledge our donors who have made it possible to give this life-changing opportunity to deserving students.

### The Centenary Scholarship Programme

The Centenary Scholarship was introduced in 1998, in order to give meritorious boys from previously disadvantaged communities the opportunity to excel at St John's College. The programme guides these young men to be the best that they can be, by providing them with top teaching, coaching and mentoring, and encouraging them to become fully involved in the curriculum of the school. St John's accepts 10 Centenary scholars into Remove each year, for a total of 50 students at the College across all five forms. The scholarship is fully inclusive, covering tuition, boarding, uniforms, books and stationery, trips and tours, medical aid and sports expenses.



The St John's Class of 2022 achieved excellent results in their final matric exams. The young men on the Centenary Scholarship Programme all received a Bachelor Degree Pass, earning a combined five distinctions and more than 30 high 'B' symbols. Three recipients occupied positions of leadership in Grade 12.



# Warren's Story

Centenary Scholar **Warren Masombuka** (Nash 2019) achieved six distinctions in his matric year and is currently pursuing his Honours in Corporate Finance and Investment.

"Being part of the competitive environment at St John's College was a catalyst for my growth. The school's high standards and expectations pushed me to constantly strive for excellence in all aspects of my life. This drive to excel and the motivation to perform at my best became ingrained in my personality, which continues to benefit me in my endeavours today.

During my early school years, I attended Selpark Primary in Springs. However, my educational journey took a significant turn when I moved on to St John's College. The contrast between the two schools was quite significant. Although I am grateful for my time at Selpark Primary, St John's College offered a more enriching environment with numerous opportunities that greatly contributed to my personal growth.

At St John's College, the abundance of opportunities was one of the key factors that positively impacted my life. The school provided access to various overseas enrichment tours, which broadened my horizons and allowed me to experience different cultures and perspectives. Additionally, St John's has a strong emphasis on both sports and cultural activities, providing a well-rounded education that encourages personal development and helped shape my character. Another invaluable aspect of St John's was the meaningful relationships I formed with fellow students. The interaction with other students enabled me to build strong friendships that have endured over time. These connections have not only enriched my social life but also provided a support system during challenging times.

I firmly believe that St John's holds a distinct advantage over other schools. The encouragement to utilise the available opportunities, both academic and extra-curricular, sets it apart. The compulsory sports programme, for instance, exposed me to a wide range of activities, fostering teamwork and physical well-being. Moreover, the school's commitment to academic excellence was truly enriching, as it instilled in me, a desire to constantly seek knowledge and strive for intellectual growth.

My aspiration for the future is to become an investment banker. I believe that the foundation laid during my time at St John's College, with its focus on personal development and academic rigor, will serve as a solid platform to achieve my professional goals. I am confident that the experiences and skills gained during my education at St John's will continue to guide me toward success in my chosen career path."

#### The Luke Potter Scholarship

On 15 January 2019, Old Johannian Luke Potter (Nash 1995) was tragically killed in a terrorist attack in Nairobi, Kenya, at the age of 40. At the time of his death he worked for the British charitable trust Gatsby as Africa Programmes Director, creating jobs for some of the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world.

The Gatsby Foundation donated \$100 000 as seed funding for a scholarship in Luke's memory to offer a life-changing opportunity to a talented young man, whose circumstances would otherwise not have allowed him to attend St John's College. In 2022, we appealed to the Class of 1995 to supplement the anchor donation, and a further R93 000 was raised towards the annual costs of the scholarship.

The Luke Potter Scholarship was awarded to a Remove (Grade 8 student) for the first time in 2023. The recipient was selected based on his outstanding character, resilience and potential as well as his commitment to helping others.

# THE ST JOHN'S COLLEGE ACADEMY

Started in 2008, the Academy is an after-school enrichment programme for boys from our neighbouring communities of Hillbrow, Berea and Yeoville. Initially conceived to support students attending under-resourced schools in Grades 10, 11 and 12, the Academy has extended its reach to include Grade 6 and 7 boys in the Prep, so that we may create more opportunities and address critical educational gaps.

The Academy accommodates 72 boys in the College and 40 in the Prep school and aims to encourage confidence and foster a love of learning for life by following the St John's ethos of building young men rightfully trained in body, mind and character. By making the most of our resources, staff, facilities and network, and with the generous support of our donors, we are well-positioned to make a meaningful difference.



We are especially grateful for the support of the Joan Norman Education Trust, who have fully funded the Academy since 2020; the Summit Education Trust, who came on as key supporters of the Prep Academy in 2022; and the many parents and Old Johannians who have made it possible for us to run this exceptional programme.







# Lwazi's Story

As a young student at Thukeyana Primary School in the farming area of Underberg, Lwazi Nzimande (Runge 2015) accepted a bursary to attend Barnato School. At the time, there was an agreement between the two schools and as a promising student, Lwazi was offered a safe space in their boarding house.

Faced with historical staff and resourcing challenges, many inner-city schools are not able to meet the educational requirements of individual students. Lwazi was quick to shine in his first years at the Berea school and was selected to attend the St John's College Academy in Grade 10. The Academy provided the support that Lwazi needed to develop his interests and talent.

Lwazi's extraordinary ability and resilience was reflected in his Grade 12 exams. In 2014, he achieved a full house of distinctions that included 98% for mathematics and 95% for physical science. Lwazi completed a Cambridge International post-matric year at St John's College in maths, further maths and physics. He went on to excel in an Actuarial Sciences degree at Wits University.

Lwazi is a young man of few words and, in true Actuarial style, said of the Academy: 'l appreciate your existence'.



The core of any good education is a good teacher. A teacher's influence is exponential. Year after year, a teacher can educate and inspire hundreds of young people. If broad access to education is ever to be a reality in South Africa, our most urgent need is a cohort of excellent teachers.



While completing their studies part-time, interns gain invaluable practical teaching experience, grow networks and participate in all other aspects of school life that St John's College offers.

The programme runs from St John's Bridge Nursery School to the College, ensuring that prospective teachers are afforded unparalleled working experience while they study. St John's also partners with the Realema Teacher Intern Programme, a project that was seeded in the Pre-Prep and Prep in 2013.

Advocate of excellence in education and Intern Mentor, Frances Kerr-Philips describes her work in this space as one of the most rewarding aspects of her role at St John's College. "It is a real privilege working with these young teachers-in-training as they grow in confidence and skill," she says.

"It has been a wonderful two years of experiencing high-quality learning and teaching at one of the top schools, with the best facilities and resources in Johannesburg. In 2021, I will be going back to my hometown in Mamelodi, to teach there and use the experience I have gained at St John's as a benchmark to help the less fortunate, and try to give them the type of education boys at St John's are getting."



- Sabela Ramafoko, PGCE intern, 2020

# THE NEW AQUATICS CENTRE

The magnificent New Aquatics Centre was the first capital project under the banner of the Beyond 125 Campaign. The major fundraising drive in 2022 enabled the school to complete the build and launch of the centre in early 2023, a fitting start to our ambitious plans to ensure that St John's College not only survives but thrives through these difficult times.

We were overwhelmed by the generosity of the water polo community in their support of this initiative. In just one year, we raised an incredible R10 million towards the longanticipated facility.

The New Aquatics Centre confirms St John's College as one of the leading schools in South Africa, and indeed the world. Our first-class facilities offer unmatched opportunities for the students to make the most of their talents, pursue their passions, develop skills in teamwork and leadership and make friendships that will last a lifetime.

We thank many parents, Old Johannians and staff who looked forward with faith and helped us build this centre.



# **BENEFACTOR STORIES**

# The Joan Norman Trust Supports the St John's College Academy

The Joan Norman Trust has anchored the St John's College Academy through their generous financial support since 2020. The relationship has been key to the success of the programme.

"The material difference and meaningful contribution made by the Academy programme to the community is real. St John's College is one of the finest institutions in South Africa and we are so happy to be supporting this great programme. It has surpassed our expectations and aligns well with the late Joan Norman's own passion for education."

# Summit Educational Trust supports the St John's Prep Academy

In early 1980, a group of enlightened educationalists and visionaries (led by Deane Yates, who served as the first lay headmaster of St John's College from 1954–1969, and Mr Steyn Krige) identified the urgent need to provide quality secondary education for all children in South Africa. This vision was translated into the formation of the New Era Schools Trust on 6 April 1981, later becoming Summit Educational Trust.

Summit Edu Trust came on board as generous supporters of the Prep Academy in 2022.

Michelle Fehrsen, Prep Academy Teacher, acknowledges the importance of their commitment, as it "allows for the continued provision of academic and sporting programmes as well as ensuring the necessary emotional and social development of our boys. In addition to this support, the funds are used to provide safe transport, regular eye tests and daily meals."

#### The Alexandra Education Committee

The Alexandra Education Committee (AEC) was founded in 1996 by Deane Yates and is a proven school bursary scheme, where promising students from Alexandra, Johannesburg, are provided with quality secondary school education.

Grade 6 students attending primary schools in Alexandra are carefully selected and attend additional weekend classes in their Grade 7 year. Top performers are offered bursaries for their entire high school careers at collaborating schools, like St John's College.

As the AEC declares of their recipients: "We focus on supporting their psycho-social, economic and clinical needs so they can focus on excelling. After all, excellence emerging from adversity is the bedrock of our nation."

- Hector North, co-trustee of the Joan Norman Trust.

### The Cheadle family donate their deposit towards Centenary Scholarship Programme

The Cheadle family chose to donate their matriculating son's deposit to the Centenary Scholarship Programme. Robbie Cheadle explains the family's motivation behind the generous gesture:

"We decided to donate our deposit because we have seen the success of the Centenary Scholarship programme over our years at the school and we know St John's College will put the money to good use in continuing their work with this programme.

The support of parents with regards to the sharing of school assets, including teachers, with the greater community and providing financial support for students enrolled in the Centenary Scholarship is vital to the success of the programme.

We firmly believe that a good basic and secondary education are the foundations for later academic success at a tertiary level. Investing money in education at these levels is the key to ensuring the development of a population of young people who are equipped to deal with the challenges of the future including the changes imposed by the fourth industrial revolution and climate change."

- Robbie Cheadle

# **Dr Paul Deveaux Bequest**

Old Johannian, Dr Paul Deveaux (Nash 1963) informed us that he has chosen to leave a significant bequest to St John's College. Here he describes his motivation for doing so:

"Whilst reviewing my will recently, following the death of my sister, I decided to simplify everything to a single bequest, which would have a significant meaning for myself.

Looking back on my life I soon realised what a hugely important impact my six years at St John's College had on me, my subsequent relationships, my career and the sense of gratitude and fulfilment it has given me. Not having had children of my own I would like to be able to pass on the opportunities I had to deserving and promising students.

I realise that receiving the education that I had is costly but must also be well earned to allow one to make the most of what being at St John's offers in an ever-changing world against a host of competing choices. Verrochio's statue of David in the David Quad should inspire all boys to realise that all adversities can be overcome provided one has the will to see it through."

- Dr Paul Deveaux

# Epoch and Optima Trusts & Thuto Trust

The Epoch and Optima Trusts are independent trusts founded by the Anglo American Group with a vision of improving mathematics results in South Africa, enabling more school leavers to access tertiary institutions.

Epoch and Optima's Teacher Learnership Programme promotes excellence in maths by training exceptional teachers, aligning with St John's College by supporting and mentoring young teachers. By investing in deserving young people through tertiary education bursaries, Thuto Trust has addressed the education crisis.

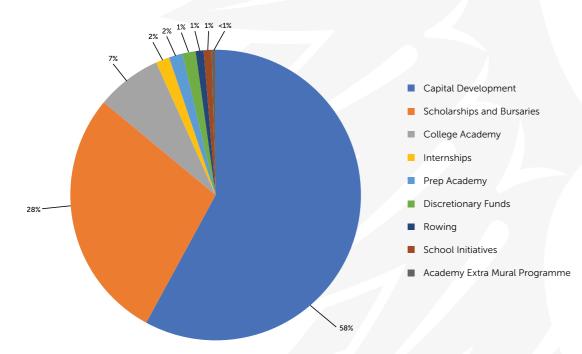
We were able to support six postgraduate teacher interns in the College through our relationship with Epoch and Optima Trusts and Thuto Trust.



# Source of Donor Income



### Allocation of Donor Funds

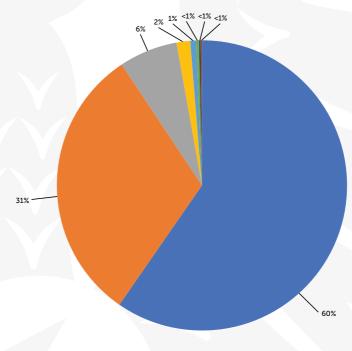


Capital Development	R7 649 354	58%
Scholarships and Bursaries	R3 707 581	28%
College Academy	R960 416	7%
Teacher Internships	R200 932	2%
Prep Academy	R200 000	2%
Discretionary Funds	R194 211	1%
Rowing	R117 080	1%
School Initiatives	R116 892	1%
Academy Extra Mural Programme	R57 400	<1%
TOTAL	R13 203 865	

Capital Development: Primarily towards the Aquatics Centre

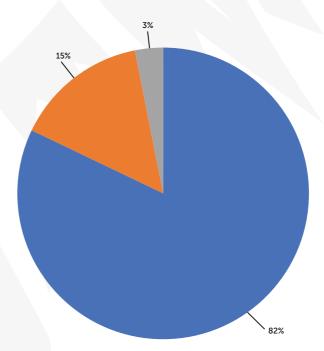
School Initiatives: Pink Day, Awards, Parents' Association, Servest Staff end-of-year appeal, Rowing Raffle, Masibambane College

NOTES Scholarships and Bursaries: Centenary Scholarship, Luke Potter Scholarship, Discretionary S&B Figures include only donor income for January to December 2022. Excludes income from Foundation investments.



Individuals	R7 874 585
Trusts and Foundations	R4 097 660
Corporate Social Investment	R860 000
MySchool	R201 745
Parents' Association	R86 700
Classifieds	R39 975
Matric Memento Sales	R24 000
100 Club	R19 200
TOTAL	R13 203 865

# **Donor Income by Regional Foundation**



- Individuals
- Trusts and Foundations
- Corporate Social Investment
- MySchool
- Parents' Association
- College Classifieds
- Matric Memento Sales
- 100 Club

- South Africa
- United Kingdom
- United States

South Africa	R10 842 765	82%
United Kingdom	R1 950 400	15%
United States	R410 700	3%
TOTAL	R13 203 865	

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Some donations were received from other regions, but all payments were made through one of the three Foundation accounts (SA, UK, USA)



# FOUNDATION OF TRUST – AT HOME AND ABROAD

### The St John's College Foundation – South Africa

The proceeds of all efforts and campaigns are directed to the St John's College Foundation. The role of the Foundation is to safeguard all donor contributions through responsible investment and ensure that donor funding is used for the purpose of the donation.

The Foundation is governed by an independent board of trustees chaired by Steve Raney (Nash 1974).

The Advancement Office works closely with the St John's UK and USA Foundations, ensuring collaboration and coordination across countries and continents.

# St John's College Foundations - UK and USA

In both the USA and UK, networks of Old Johannians have come together to form Foundations through which they support the school and generations of new students. Every year their generous work allows students to access the enduring value of a St John's education.

Here Athol Cochrane, President of the USA Foundation, tells the story of the Foundation's genesis and what informed his motivation for supporting the St John's College mission.



"The genesis of the USA foundation goes back to 2009 when we started discussions on how best to set up a cohesive support effort from the many Old Johannians scattered around the world.

Up to that time, there was little to no effort to build stronger bonds between the school and those who had left. The concept of philanthropy was nearly non-existent. The only activity was an occasional visit by the school and informal Old Johannian gatherings and events that were arranged from time to time.

Old Johannians had voiced their desire for a more coordinated and concerted effort where information about the school and local events could be disseminated. We use social media and email to reach our US-based constituents, and it was decided that the formation of a local St John's College Foundation would be the best way to draw attention to the goal of supporting the mission of the school financially.

The USA Foundation was officially kicked off on 7 December, 2011, in Rye, NY. I was elected President, John Wilder, Treasurer and Ryan Thorpe, Secretary of the USA Foundation.

The USA Foundation has been working diligently since then to expand its mission and build a community of support.

My personal story plays directly into my motivation to support the work of the Foundation and the St John's mission more generally.

When I entered the College as a day student in Clarke House, my father had just been tragically killed. He was a prominent trial attorney in Johannesburg. My mom was a stay-at-home parent, as was customary at the time. My future at St John's College was uncertain given the loss of the income provider.

Thankfully, a generous donor from bygone years had established a bursary which I was able to benefit from and this allowed me to remain at the school. I graduated in 1979, school prefect and Head of Nash House."



# SUPPORTING ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

There are many ways to contribute to the St John's College Foundations, in South Africa and abroad. Every gift makes a difference and is greatly appreciated.

For more information on the ways and benefits of giving, please don't hesitate to contact us:

advancement@stjohnscollege.co.za | +27 (0)11 645 3199

# HOW TO GIVE

All donations, irrespective of size, are acknowledged and much appreciated. We accept contributions in South Africa, the UK and the USA. If you would like to donate from another country, please contact us to discuss options.

#### South Africa

In South Africa, donations can easily be made via the <u>online giving portal</u> on the St John's College website.

You can make a donation with a credit card, an EFT or Snapscan QR code on this portal, and you can choose to make a once-off or regular gift of any size.

Please contact the Advancement Office directly if you would like to discuss a Major Gift or leaving a bequest.

#### United Kingdom

For more information on giving in the UK, or to make an online donation, please see the UK Foundation <u>Just Giving page</u>.

Or for more information, contact UKFoundation@stjohnscollege.co.za

#### **United States**

For more information on giving to St John's in the USA, please visit the <u>US Foundation</u> <u>website</u> or contact <u>USAFoundation@stjohnscollege.co.za</u>

Or to make an online donation, please follow *this link*.

# WAYS TO GIVE

#### **Major Gifts**

The Success of the *Beyond 125 Campaign* will depend on the extraordinary generosity of our closest friends. You may wish to make a once-off major gift to a project of your choice that reflects your passions and what matters most to you. If you would like to make a bespoke gift of this kind, please contact the <u>Advancement Office</u> to work with you on this important investment.

#### Contributing to the Endowment

It is simple to make a once-off gift to the Endowment, or a regular monthly, quarterly or annual donation. For more information on the Endowment and how to contribute, please see the <u>Endowment tab</u> on the Beyond 125 Campaign page. If you would like to make a major gift to the Endowment, or set up a named fund, please contact us.

#### Leaving a Bequest

Your education at St John's College is one of the strongest influences to have shaped you. And if that experience and your education is close to your heart and part of your success in life, you might consider including St John's College as a beneficiary in your Will. This is a generous gift to the future that costs you nothing now.

If you would like to leave a bequest to the St John's Foundation, please inform the Advancement Office of your intentions so that we can acknowledge and thank you appropriately. By making your intentions known, you also encourage others to give.

We have partnered with leading experts in Wills and Estates. If you would like assistance in drafting or adding the St John's Foundation to your Will at no cost and no obligation, please contact us to set up a consultation.



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#### **Regular Giving**

Regular giving is the easiest way to make a long-term contribution that adds up consistently over time. Donors can choose to make a monthly or annual contribution. You can select any project of your choice for the funds to be allocated to. All contributions, no matter the size, make a difference.

#### **Class Giving**

The friendships made at St John's College often last a lifetime. The *Beyond 125 Campaign* hopes to galvanise Class Giving initiatives, particularly for classes celebrating milestone reunions. Classes often choose to support a bursary or scholarship and commit to either long-term regular giving or once-off gifts. Please contact the Advancement Office to find out more about how we can support your Class Giving drive.

#### **Donation of Deposits**

When students complete their studies at St John's College, any funds remaining in the school accounts are repaid to parents during the first half of the new year after all outstanding costs have been charged to the account.

St John's offers more than just an education – we are a special family offering a unique experience that prepares every young man for life beyond school. Being able to share and pass on that experience is a wonderful gift and tribute to a child's time here.

We ask that parents consider donating part or all of their deposit to the St John's College Foundation.

#### Gifts of Securities and Real-Estate

Donating stocks, securities and real-estate to St John's College can have a significant positive impact on the College. To find out more about the process and benefits please contact us.

#### **Gifts In-Kind**

We are grateful to accept gifts-in-kind which may, subject to certain conditions, qualify for tax benefits.



# DONOR RECOGNITION

With your permission, all gifts will be honoured on donor boards, in reports, on the website and on the 125 Honour Wall (Unveiling in 2024).

At a certain level of contribution, the school would like to honour our donor with naming rights for a facility, bursary or scholarship. This can be in the name of your family, your class, or somebody that you would like to honour. Please speak to the Advancement Office for more details.

# **BENEFITS OF GIVING**

Bona Fide gifts may qualify for tax benefits, subject to local tax legislation. More details about the terms and conditions of tax benefits can be found on the <u>St John's College</u> <u>website</u>. Please contact the <u>Advancement Office</u> in South Africa or the relevant country representative to find out more.



# With heartfelt thanks to all of our generous donors

Abou Nehme Family Alton Family A Adam Akoodie Family Al Noor Austell Foundation L Albinski Alex Education Committee B Amadasun P Amerding Z Amin D Anderson T Anderson W Anderson Apostoleris Family J Ashwal Aylward Family G Babaya H Baker J Band R Band G Bannink M Barberini S Barber-Luna J Bare B Barnes M Barnes S Barnes Barry Family E Batley **B** Benting M Bernhardi Beswick Family P Bhana B Biggs L Billett C Bobbert B Boland J Boland I Bongwe M Botha J Bouche C Bouwmeester W Bowker H Bradley Brand Family G Brewer T Brewer M Brodie C Broughton E Brown R Browne F Brugman

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Joan Bertha Salamette Norman Will Trust

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We also thank our many donors who have chosen to remain anonymous.

# Bequests

We would like to acknowledge with gratitude those individuals who have notified us that they have left a bequest to St John's College in their Wills. Your generosity will benefit Johannians for generations to come.

Every effort has been made to ensure that this information is correct at the time of publication. Please let us know if you see an error or omission and we will rectify it as soon as possible.

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