



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE



ADVANCEMENT
NEWSLETTER

April 2024



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF ADVANCEMENT

Looking back on 2023, I am struck by what a remarkable year it was, marked by milestones that have shaped the course of the College's future: the launch of the magnificent New Aquatics Centre in February; the launch of the *Beyond 125 Campaign* at events in Johannesburg, New York, London, Cape Town and the Southern Cape; and the resounding success of our first ever Giving Day in November, which demonstrated the extraordinary impact that can be achieved when our community comes together with a shared vision.

In this report, we delve into the key achievements and the profound difference your support has made in the College and our neighbouring communities. We focus on the landmark inaugural Giving Day with a report on the activities of the day, highlights and behind the scenes action.

I hope that you enjoy these inspiring stories of impact and generosity. Your belief in the power of education to transform lives continues to motivate us, and we are deeply grateful for the pivotal role you play in shaping the future of our College, our students and our broader community

With sincere appreciation for your dedication to our beloved College,
Shelley Roberts
Head of Advancement

"Investing in Johannians, shaping the world."
- Stuart West, Giving Day 2023



OUR STORY. YOUR CHAPTER.

THE FIRST ST JOHN'S COLLEGE GIVING DAY CAMPAIGN

St John's College held its first ever Giving Day on the 9th and 10th of November 2023. Over the 36 hour period, we witnessed an extraordinary outpouring of support that exceeded our most ambitious expectations. The results of the campaign are nothing short of remarkable, with the generosity of donors setting a precedent for the incredible things that can be achieved when a community comes together with a shared vision.

We set ourselves the ambitious **target of R5 million** and by the time the campaign closed on Friday evening we had raised **over R7 million** in donations and matching pledges!

We would like to thank and acknowledge the incredible efforts of all involved: the **volunteers** who gave up their time and braved the dreaded "call center" to reach out to the St John's community and ask for donations; the **545 donors** who gave so generously on the day, helping us reach and exceed that ambitious target; the **The Johannian Club** for generously hosting us over the two days; and the **staff and students** of St John's for their support and encouragement. Particularly, we would like to thank the **Matching Donors**, who pledged over R3.5 million in matching funds which allowed us to double every donation made on the day. Their faith in this initiative, before it had been proven, undoubtedly made it all possible.

We are excited to announce that we will be holding our second annual Giving Day on the 7th and 8th of October 2024. We aim to not only equal our incredible 2023 total but to exceed it! We look forward to working with the whole St John's community to - once again - make this dream a reality.

"For the vision and contribution of those who came before us and built a legacy from which we continue to benefit."

- *St John's Prep Leavers*



"In honour of all who have sacrificed and laboured to build our SJC." - *Motaung Family*

VOLUNTEERS

The backbone and driving force of the Giving Day was undoubtedly the dedicated group of volunteers in the call center at The Johannian Club. We had over 40 courageous parents, staff and Old Johannians manning the lines in two hour shifts from 8am to 6pm on Thursday and Friday. The thought of cold-calling is the stuff of many people's worst nightmares, so we salute those who faced their fear, stepped up and made it all happen. According to the volunteers, it turned out to be not so terrifying after all, but rather - a fun, sociable, community building, character building and heartwarming experience. I hope that many others will be encouraged to join the team at our next Giving Day on the 7th and 8th of October - we guarantee it will be a memorable experience for all (in a good way!)

The Giving Day Volunteer Experience

Amy Merrit – Volunteer, Parent, Donor

As far as volunteering positions go at SJC, this one takes the cake...the carrot cake actually!

Besides the five-star treatment and delicious spread put on by the lovely ladies from the Advancement Office and the Johannian Club, we were welcomed with love and shown what we needed to do with patience and kindness.

The telephone calls were made easy with the professional setup and the on-hand assistance if we needed it. Seeing other volunteers at work, also boosted our confidence in what we were doing.

The OJs and parents on the other end of the line were positive and kind. Even if they were not in a position to donate, they were understanding of the reason for our phone call.

Thank you, Advancement ladies, for being brave enough to try something new and also inviting us to volunteer, and not forgetting that delicious carrot cake!

"To the future of the school and the amazing young men it helps to produce. " - *Fionn Kydd-Bennett*



MATCHING DONORS

Matching Donors made it possible for us to double all donations made on the Giving Day, by pledging funds in advance. This undoubtedly contributed significantly to us achieving and exceeding our goal. Our Matching Donors took a leap of faith in supporting this as yet unproven initiative and we thank them most sincerely for their generosity and commitment to the school and its future.

Thank you to our Matching Donors

- The Class of 1984
- The US Foundation Trustees
- Trencon Construction
- SSP (Student Sponsorship Programme)
- The Nolan Family
- The Sadovnik Family
- A Passionate St John's College Family (anonymous donor)

DONORS ON THE DAY

The theme of the Giving Day was **Our Story. Your Chapter**. The story of 125 years has been written by many, past and present, and it was moving to see how many lives have been touched by St John's College. Over 36 hours, **545 contributions** and dedications poured in from Africa, the United Kingdom, North America, Europe, Oceania, the Middle East and the Far East, from the Class of 1953 all the way to the Class of 2023, proving that the Johannian spirit extends around the world and across generations.

Old Johannians showed their continuing love for and connection to the school by making it possible for others to have the same shared experience of a St John's education. **Parents, both current and past**, demonstrated their commitment and faith in the school with their generosity. **St John's staff**, who already give so much of themselves to

The Class of 1984 Matching Pledge Initiative

The Class of 1984 provided our largest Matching Pledge, raising a total of R610,000 to double any funds raised for *Access to Quality Education*. Jerry Dawson (Hill 1984) drove the initiative and said the following:

"2024 will be the 40th anniversary of us leaving St John's. Early in 2023 we set up a WhatsApp group to get in touch again, share memories and plan our reunion event. We had an excellent response with around 80 of our year joining the group which resulted in some pretty interesting and entertaining banter from the boys!

We considered marking this anniversary milestone with some sort of gift to the college, and the Giving Day presented the ideal opportunity to do this. The wider view was that we wanted to ensure that our money would be used to help St John's promote education in the South African community as a whole rather than only within the school walls. Therefore, we chose *Access to Quality Education* as the cause to get behind. I was particularly attracted to the Teacher Internships while others within the group were focused on supporting Scholarships and Bursaries, (some of us had benefited from such funding whilst at school). By 'crowd funding' a Matching Pledge of R610,000 from our year, we hope that we encouraged others to give to this cause on Giving Day, knowing that their donations would be matched. Funds were generously provided by classmates now based all over the world, some of whom had left the school whilst still in the Prep.

Adrian Walton, who was our Head of School in 1984, drove the initiative with me and commented: "This is a tribute to St John's and its quality of education, and a wonderful illustration of the impact that the school had on past pupils, irrespective of when they left the school. As a class, we are pleased to have been able to raise a meaningful amount through which we hope many will benefit."

We are now looking forward to our reunion at the school in July with committed attendance from Old Johannians as far afield as Australia, the UK and the United States. We are excited to see how the school has developed since leaving 40 years ago!"

"May the College always stand for Truth, Beauty and Goodness."

- Victor Yazbek

the school and its students, showed amazing generosity through their support on the day. Together, this collective effort exemplifies the profound impact that a united community can have in shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

Thank you to each and every member of the Johannian family who supported us on the day. Every contribution makes a difference and is testament to the long lasting impact of the St John's experience, and the belief in education as a force for good in the world.

TEAMS

One of the mechanisms for raising funds on the day was to set up a "Team". This could either be done in advance, with team leaders gearing up their friends and classmates to give on the day, or to set up a team on the day if the spirit took you. One of our top performing teams, the **Chinese Parents of St John's** was set up on Thursday morning, 33 donors in this team raised an astounding R611,000, only narrowly missing the top spot, which was taken by the **Class of 1993** who raised R759,000 from 32 donors.

The Winning Team

The Class of '93

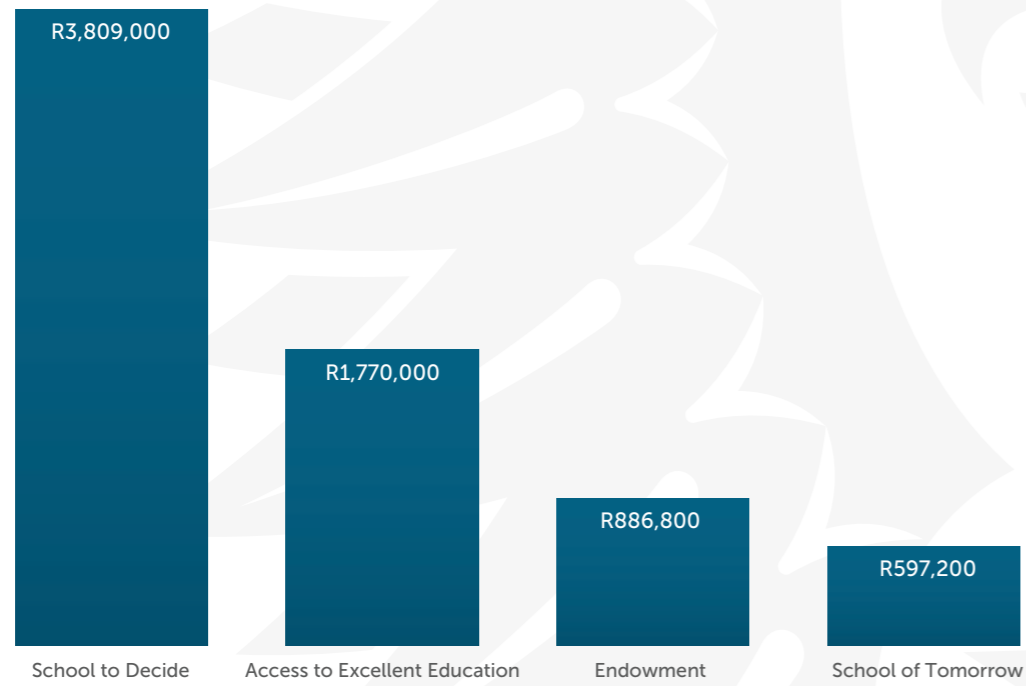
"The Giving Day was an incredible opportunity for the Class of '93 to honour a dearly departed classmate and to give something back to our special school that helped shape us. It was fantastic to share messages with our classmates from all around the globe and they were amazing in their generosity and contribution – over 30 of our classmates kindly donated. Funds raised went towards a Centenary Scholarship which we felt would be a life changing opportunity for a deserving boy. Thanks to SJC for the opportunity to pay it forward and especially thanks to Class of '93 – we rock!"

Teams were primarily year groups, but there were also a few unique and spontaneous teams, such as the **Houghton All Sports Team** - a small group of sporty St John's parents who promoted the Giving Day to a few friends, and the momentum grew to the point where, in the spirit of sporty competition, 36 donors raised R278,300, to place 1st in the Team rankings for number of donors.

Thank you to all who set up and drove their teams.

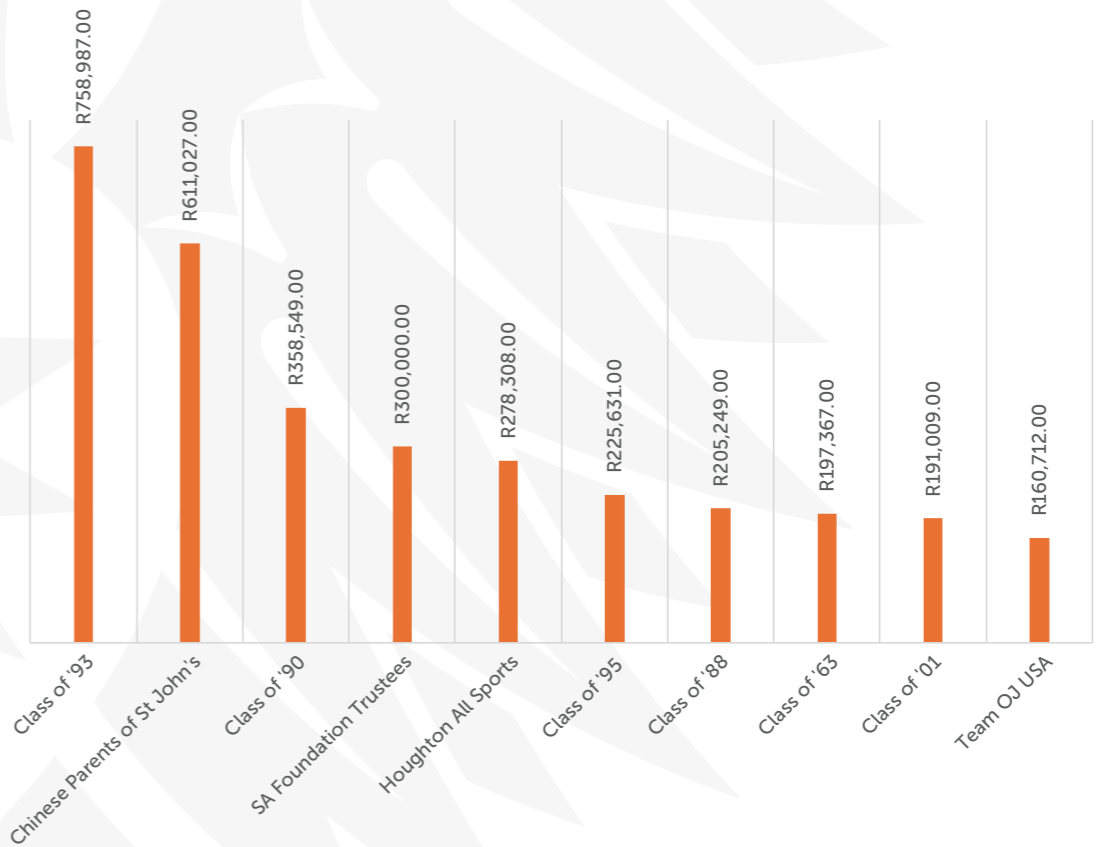
"A token of appreciation for a great education at a top boys' school!" - Tshepo Machele

PROJECTS - BY AMOUNT RAISED

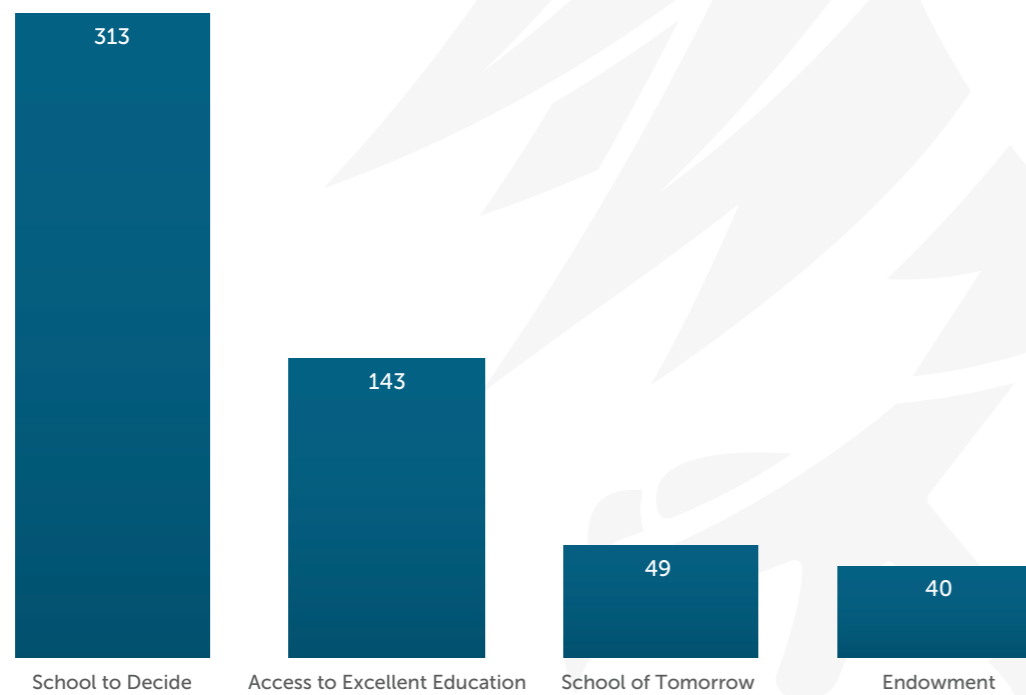


“To the school that gave me everything I have.”
- Stephen Heydenrych

TOP 10 TEAMS - BY AMOUNT RAISED



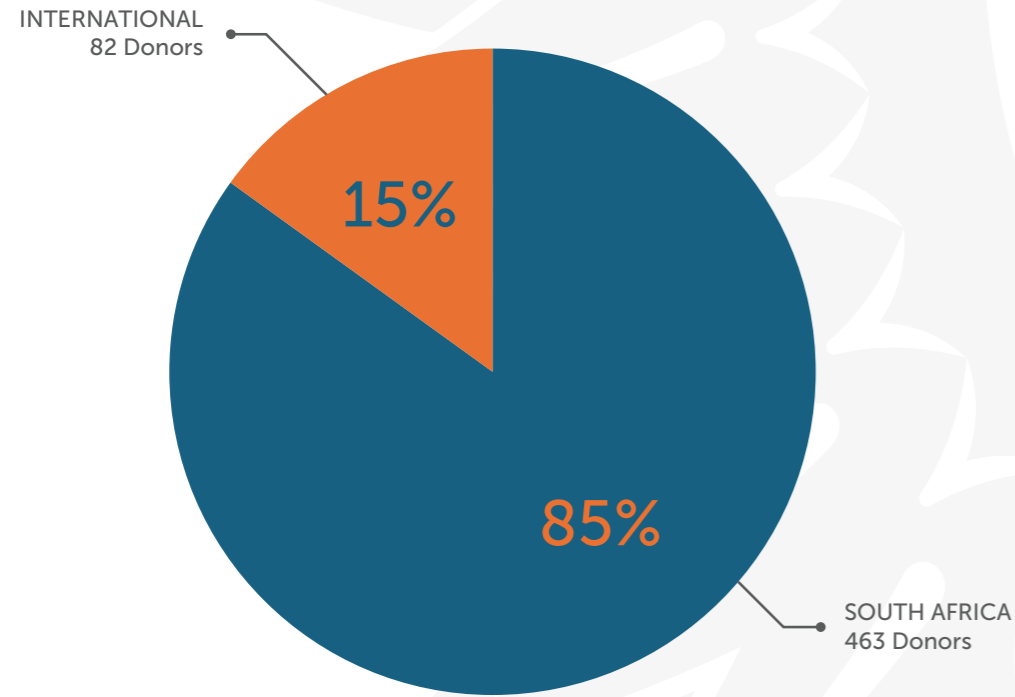
PROJECTS - BY NUMBER OF DONORS



The good natured competitiveness between the teams was a particularly entertaining aspect of the day, and certainly helped push up our total raised!

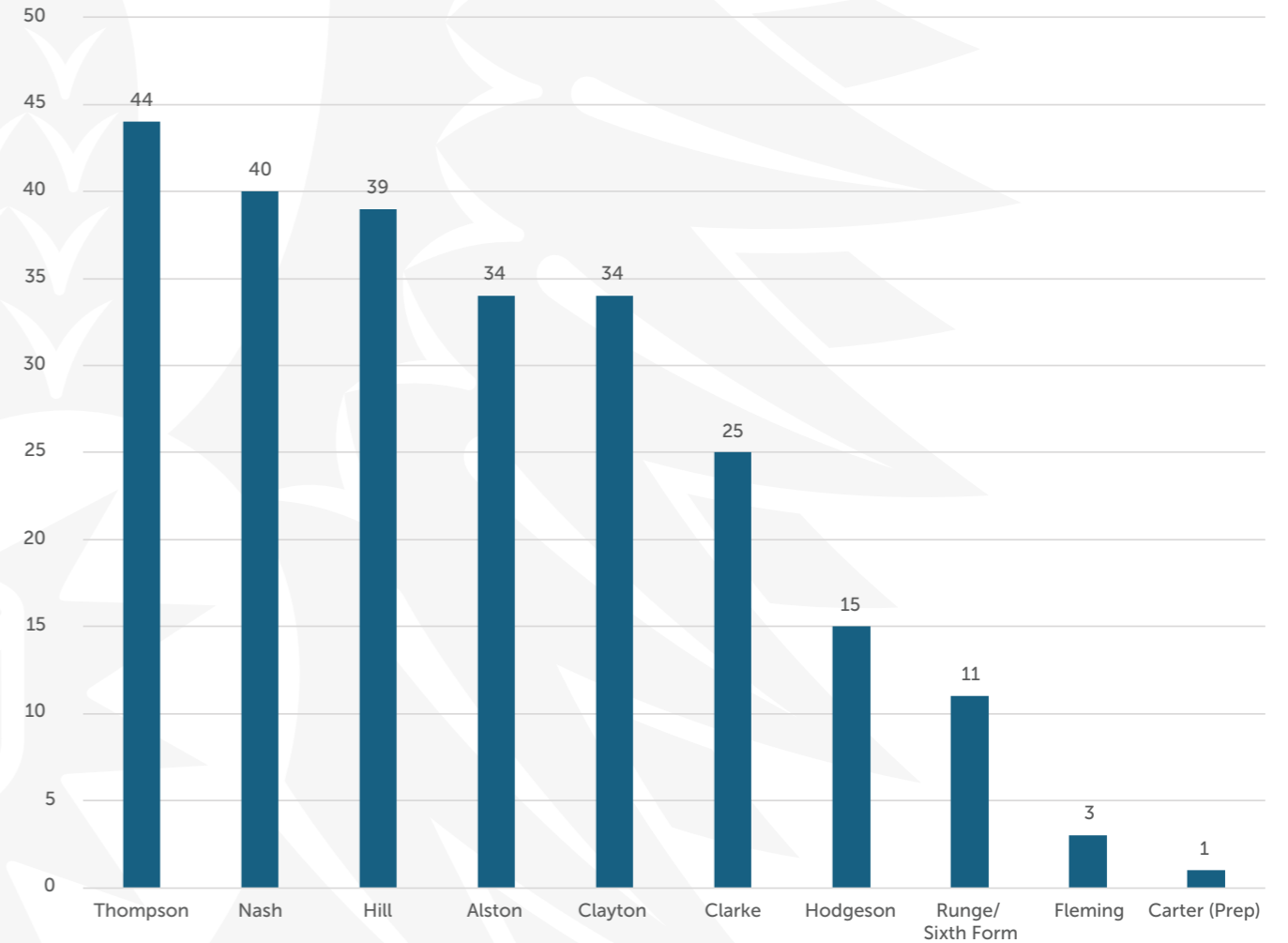
“Dedicated to all the people that have built St Johns over the years.” - Tindall Family

NUMBER OF DONORS GLOBALLY



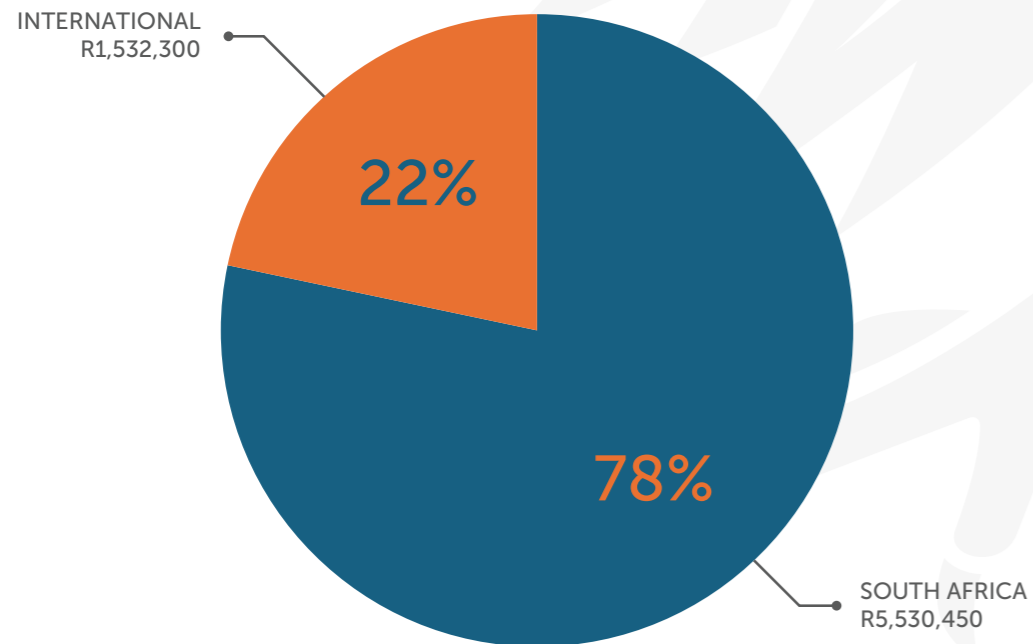
We are fortunate to have such an active international community, we hope that this will continue to grow over the years as new generations of Old Johannians make their mark in the world.

HOUSE BY NUMBER OF DONORS



A contest between the Houses will be a focus of the 2024 Giving Day campaign. We look forward to seeing how the competition drives us towards our target.

AMOUNT RAISED GLOBALLY



“Hope future generations get as much from SJC as I did!” - *Willem van Ryswyck*

SPECIAL THANKS

FOUNDATION TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS

The Giving Day would not have been possible without the support and generosity of the trustees and directors of the St John's Foundation (SA); the St John's College Foundation (USA) and the St John's Foundation (UK) Trust. The significance of the additional time and effort that these Old Johannians dedicate to the College and our fundraising efforts cannot be overstated. For your leadership, expertise, guidance and wisdom, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

THE JOHANNIAN CLUB

The team at the Johannian Club looked after the volunteers and Advancement team over the Giving Day period with great care and professionalism. In the high pressure environment - much care was needed! The Club generously sponsored the delicious refreshments which kept coming, hour after hour - the fuel of our success - over the two days. Thank you for being our partners in this endeavor!

PRIZE SPONSORS

We would like to thank those who sponsored prizes to be awarded when we reached milestones in the call center. It was a fun way to keep the energy up and show our appreciation to the volunteers:

- The Fridjon Family
- The Johannian Club
- Nails on Ashwold
- Parents Association



“Living our Mission and Vision - Well done, St Johns! ” - *Mokgadi Seiso*

“The teachers whose impact on every Johannian could never be measured.”
- *Matulovich*

"To the unwavering commitment towards our sons' education."
- Sibeko & Mojela Family

THE IMPACT OF YOUR GENEROSITY

Impact is the greatest measure of our success. These stories and personal experiences demonstrate the kind of change that we can make in the lives of others.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

St John's firmly believes that every student deserves access to a quality education, regardless of financial constraints. Our flagship programme, the *Centenary Scholarship*, stands as a beacon of opportunity, providing support and access to deserving students who demonstrate exceptional promise but face financial barriers. The *Centenary Scholarship* empowers students to pursue their academic aspirations with confidence, fostering a diverse and inclusive learning environment. Through this and other Scholarship and Bursary programmes, we not only invest in individual success but also contribute to the overall enrichment of our school community. The impact of student support extends far beyond the classroom, shaping the trajectory of students' lives and building a foundation for lifelong learning.



"Because SJC has inspired us and found a place in our hearts!"
- Anonymous



Tshepo Machele
(Alston 2005)
Centenary Scholarship Recipient

An early recipient of a Centenary Scholarship, Tshepo Machele came into St John's in 2001 after attending Glenhazel Primary. He recounts, "Before I enrolled at St John's, my primary school played Ter Horst cricket against the St John's Prep team. After the game, I caught a lift with a friend who had a cousin at St John's. When I walked across what I later learnt to be Burger Field, I looked up at the north façade of the schools and said to myself: this is where I want to attend high school. The universe conspired to make this a reality."

When reflecting on his time at the College, Tshepo highlights the sports tours, festivals and major events as among his most enjoyable moments. He also notes the ways in which the depth and breadth of extracurricular activities, as well as the school's traditions, facilities and rigorous academic programme contributed to an environment conducive to building a sound mind, body and character. Tshepo reflects, "I have taken the ability to handle life's challenges and keep the faith and belief in God as a grounding element to all the things that I do. The structure of St John's annual calendar and timetable with conflicting events or deadlines has really served me well in developing the capability to focus on the things that matter and not losing sight of the bigger picture. As one friend put it at the time when we were going through those ultra-busy and challenging times, "I feel stretched, but in a good way."

When I go back to attend OJ events I really count myself lucky to have been able to attend a school like St John's, especially when you consider the broader educational landscape in South Africa. The edge really comes from being exposed to high quality and high potential school mates who are trying their best to be better each day. The fact that the school has high expectations of its pupils also contributes. Seeing many prominent and accomplished Old Johannians from the College and Sixth Form also gives one the drive to act and to challenge oneself and to contribute positively to society."

Tshepo supported the inaugural St John's Giving Day, commenting: "*For having received, I am now in a position to give back.*"

With sound ambitions in business, Tsepho is currently the Chief Growth Officer for Eden Care Medical.





**Relebogile Moatshe
(Clayton 2005)
Centenary Scholarship Recipient**

Rele Mashoate joined the College as a day scholar in 2001 catching the St John's bus daily, which he describes as a life journey on its own.

"Coming from KEPS to St John's for high school was a significant change, with a totally new environment, larger school grounds, a diverse range of extra-curricular activities and chapel every day, which helped to set the tone and mindset for the day and life in general."

Clearly grateful for the opportunity to attend St John's, Rele says, "the parts of my time at the College that stand out for me include the emphasis on strong values and morals, fostering respect for people from different faiths and walks of life, experiencing deep fellowship and camaraderie, Amphitheatre and appreciating the deep history and rich words embedded in the school prayer." He also highlights striving for excellence in academics and sports, whether games were won or lost, due to the high standards set. He adds, "what I really enjoyed and feel helped me was the deeply caring learning environment where I felt safe, with attentive teachers and staff who were nurturing, transparent and provided guidance."

Tragically, Rele lost his father in a hi-jacking that occurred outside their home a year before he came to St John's. He describes the support of the school psychologist as invaluable, "helping me manage my emotions better and accelerating the healing while developing coping skills."

"St John's made a positive difference in my life by teaching me how to embody the school ethos of Lux Vita Caritas and practice it daily in body, mind and character. It emphasized the importance of building and maintaining deep, meaningful relationships and being a genuinely caring person. The school provided a solid foundation for how I conduct myself, my work ethic and setting high standards for myself to always strive to be my best. As the prayer states: "All true Johannians go forth from its gate equipped well to serve Thee in church and state.""

A St John's representative on the Junior City Council, Rele developed his leadership skills while giving back and driving change. He points out a unique culture fostered within the school grounds and mentions some of the hardworking and dedicated Old Johannians who he has looked to for inspiration: Michael Spicer, Owen Nkumane, Melvyn Lubega, Siya Xuza, Rivo Mhlarii and Garikai Nyaruwata.

A passionate supporter of access to education, Rele donated on behalf of the Moatshe family on the Giving Day. Asked what motivated him to give back, Rele responded: **"The donation was a token of appreciation for those who allowed me the opportunity and to plant the seed for further recipients, who will change the world for the better."**

Rele is a Management Consultant by profession (ex McKinsey) with a strong focus on strategy and operational business turnaround. He is currently intensifying business efforts in the learning and development space to create employment opportunities for unemployed youth.



**Tehye Petrose
Recipient of the Gani Family Sixth
Form Scholarship (2024)**

Yeoville resident Tehye Petrose is the second recipient of an exceptional opportunity to complete Sixth Form at St John's College, made possible by the Al Noor Austell Foundation. In her final year at Yeoville Community Primary School, Tehye heard about the Roedean Academy from a recent graduate. Drawn by the resources and academic support offered, Tehye chose to attend partnering school, Barnato Park High, so that she could be eligible to join.

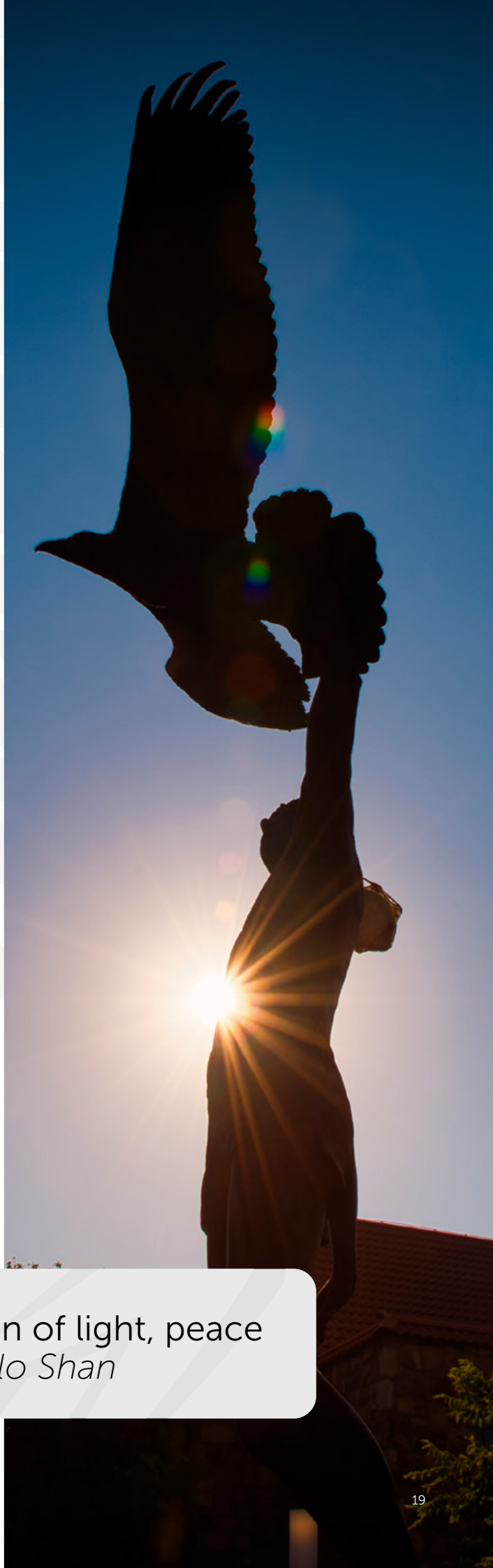
After matriculating in 2023, Tehye was awarded the Gani Family Sixth Form Scholarship. She describes the challenge of an excessive obsession with getting top marks during high school. "In the midst of challenging myself to perform as best as I can academically, I lost sight of what really mattered: learning and growing. I made the decision to apply due to this realization and in the hope of restoring my love for learning and equipping myself with the tools that I need to excel at university and also in the workplace. The detailed curriculum and opportunity to work in the lab doing practicals as well as having a one-on-one interaction with the teachers were other reasons I decided to apply."

On her first few weeks at St John's College, Teyhe shares, "The Sixth Form is amazing. Aside from the extraordinary lessons and extracurricular activities, being surrounded by great young minds from different parts of the world is the best part. It has allowed me to notice my weaknesses academically and mentally so that I can grow through my time here. Being a scholarship recipient is an amazing privilege that I hope many others may get. These opportunities provide students with the hope that, despite setbacks and financial constraints, growing academically is still possible. Sponsors and coordinators of scholarship programmes truly make a difference in the lives of the students they assist."

Teyhe, who attributes her early academic focus to the consistent support of her parents, plans to study medicine or engineering at Wits in 2025.



"Continue to be a beacon of light, peace and hope." - Milo Shan



THE ST JOHN'S COLLEGE ACADEMY

The St John's College Academy is an academic support program that embodies our commitment to partnering with our neighboring community to empower students beyond our walls.

The Academy provides after school academic instruction, mentorship and an extracurricular sporting programme to 72 students in the College and 40 in the Prep, all of which provide invaluable support to students who otherwise would not have access to the excellent educational resources that St John's provides.

This very successful programme not only reinforces the importance of education but also cultivates a sense of collaboration and shared success within the broader community. As we strive to break down barriers to learning, we are grateful for the support of our donors, teachers, mentors, coaches and other volunteers who make the St John's Academy a catalyst for positive change, ensuring that every student, regardless of their circumstances, has the opportunity to flourish academically and beyond.



Adam Henriques Guilovico
Graduate of the St John's Academy (2021)

Adam is currently in the second year of a BSc in Mathematical Science with applied mathematics and pure mathematics at North West University. He credits the Academy with allowing him to develop his interest and potential.

"I joined the St John's Academy in 2021 when I was in grade 12. In grade 11, I was able to obtain distinctions in mathematics throughout the year and Mr Mashego gave me a chance. I wanted to join to strengthen my love for the subject and because St John's has the best teachers!"

Being able to attend the St John's Academy classes was important to Adam, as he was eager to be challenged and learn new concepts. Expanding on his experience, Adam adds "I enjoyed the magical moments with friends and teachers. Especially the motivation from teachers that gave us the confidence to know that we would make it."

With a natural and clear gift, in his first year at university in 2023, Adam achieved an overall module mark of 100% in pure mathematics and was ranked the highest in his class. He attributes this incredible accomplishment to the Academy, "obtaining 100% at university was because of the way the Academy had nurtured me and supported my love of mathematics."



Freddy Kaniki
Graduate of the St John's Academy (2010)

Freddy joined the Academy in 2008 in his grade 10 year as part of the inaugural intake of top students from the district. When describing the positive influence of the Academy, Freddy notes, "schooling at St John's gave me access to academic resources. It also provided a change in perspective as an aspiring youngster, which bolstered my inner confidence, showing that I could thrive and contribute positively to society despite having a disenfranchised background."

Individual and collective success are ingrained values of the Academy, where the programme is designed to support and nurture growth. Relationships built with teachers and peers, who also went on to achieve success in their careers, stand out for Freddy.

He currently lives in Europe as an Engineering Manager for a Global Mining OEM.

"At this point the sky is the limit and very tangible. I could never have thought I would come this far but it's all God... so I will continue trying my best and let

"I love my school!" - Lwandile Netha

"To an institution that has a crucial role to play in shaping our country." - Chulumanco Macingwane



TEACHER INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

St John's College's commitment to academic excellence extends beyond traditional classrooms, and our Teacher Internship Programme stands as a shining example of this dedication. This initiative offers aspiring teachers a unique and immersive experience in the environmental landscape of St John's. Through mentorship, hands-on teaching opportunities, and collaborative engagement with seasoned educators, our teacher interns not only refine their pedagogical skills but also contribute fresh perspectives and enthusiasm to our academic community. This programme embodies our belief in investing in the next generation of educators, fostering a rich learning environment that benefits both the interns and the entire school community.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the donors whose commitment to educational innovation has made the Teacher Internship Programme at St John's a transformative and invaluable component of our educational mission. Together, we are shaping the future of education, one aspiring teacher at a time.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Michael van Kerckhoven



Nathan Tshava
Teacher Intern (2024) and
Graduate of the St John's
College Academy (2016)

Seeing an opportunity to reinforce his academic learning, Nathan joined the St John's College Academy in 2014 when he was enrolled as a Grade 10 student at Barnato High School. Nathan describes his time at the Academy as bringing more than academic support, it enhanced his outlook on life and what his future could hold. Here, good friendships thrived with the sharing of knowledge and encouragement.

In 2016, he was selected as a beneficiary of the James Smith Educational Trust and pursued a tertiary qualification, graduating from the University of Johannesburg with a Bachelor of Engineering (Hon) in Mechanical Engineering. Nathan graciously credits former director of the Academy, Agnes Nugent, who still plays a role in his life, for her assistance and commitment. "I am the first to complete a university qualification in my family. This has brought a different aura of excitement and hope for my family and has encouraged my siblings to pursue higher education qualifications in STEM."

An engineer at heart, Nathan applied for the Teacher Internship Programme at St John's as a way of expanding his horizons and gaining work experience while giving back to the Academy. He aims to inspire a younger generation as he completes his PGCE at Wits. As a teacher in training, he feels that observing and teaching certain topics is as valuable to his own development as it is to the PGCE Programme. "I am watering the seeds for greater understanding of the working world and its dynamics. I hope to join the engineering world after completing the internship and help contribute to the way engineering training is done in the industry, with a newfound understanding of the educational processes which I will gain through working at the College and being a student at Wits."



Watch the
St John's Internship
video here



Rebaone Gabanakgosi
Teacher Intern (2019-2020)

"I was part of the Teacher Internship Programme in 2019-2020, working as a St John's intern while completing my studies at the University of Johannesburg. I observed classes, taught lessons, and was assigned to a mentor. Being exposed to the quality of teaching and working in the St John's environment was a wonderful experience. I learnt practical lessons,

but it also shaped my approach to learning and teaching more broadly. I also thoroughly enjoyed helping with the St John's Academy. Going on a camp with the Grade 10 and 12 Academy boys was an extremely rewarding experience. In 2020 a post opened up at Grey High School in Gqeberha, teaching Advanced Programme Mathematics to grades 8-12. I applied and was accepted, and have been helped tremendously in my new role by my experience at St John's."



BUILDING THE SCHOOL OF TOMORROW

Among the most notable features of St John's are its magnificent grounds, world-class facilities and iconic buildings. In addition to maintaining the historic buildings that are our heritage – for the benefit of our students and to maintain our position as one of the top schools in the country – it is vital that we continue to invest in capital development and modern spaces on the school grounds.

Sports and culture are as important to the education and development of the students as the academic curriculum. Investment in facilities that support this side of their school lives is imperative for us to develop young men and women rightly trained in body, mind and spirit.

In February 2023, as part of the 125 celebrations and as the first capital project of the **Beyond 125 Campaign**, the New Aquatics Centre was launched. This facility has had a significant impact on water sports at St John's.

We look forward to our future capital projects: the New Music Centre and the Multi-Purpose Indoor Basketball Facility. These projects are part of the long-term Infrastructure plan for the College, but sufficient donor commitment will enable us to accelerate the launch of these long-awaited facilities.

MUSIC CENTRE

Over 125 years St John's College has acquired a reputation as a school of excellence for music. The music department has grown significantly in the last decade, putting considerable strain on the present facilities. The department serves the entire campus and provides individual weekly instrumental and vocal lessons for more than 500 students. A redesigned venue is needed for Drama, Art and Music – with the space to move and make a noise – and a modern, technologically advanced learning environment for music. The vision for the New Music Centre includes added individual teaching spaces, ensemble spaces and a magnificent performance venue of an international standard.



MULTI-PURPOSE INDOOR BASKETBALL FACILITY

Basketball at St John's College has been an extraordinary success story and is one of the key focus areas for growth and development at St John's in the coming years. It is the fastest-growing sport at the College, and we are already showing impressive results and establishing ourselves as a leader in the sport through hosting the enormously successful annual Basketball Tournament.

The passion among the growing community of boys playing basketball and their parents are equal to the energy and excitement of the sport itself. St John's is committed to matching this energy and helping to grow basketball through an ambitious capital project.



"I would just like my small bit to help others join the St Johns community." - Mwezi Macingwane

IMPACT OF THE NEW AQUATICS CENTRE

The recently completed Aquatics Centre has brought a new wave of possibility. While one of the major benefits of the state-of-the-art facility has been all weather training and making the most of the winter months, it has also meant that St John's is able to host events and tournaments.

"Year-round access to the pool has been particularly valuable for the U13 Winter League and provincial water polo training, allowing athletes to maintain their regimen even during the coldest months of the year", says Jon-Marc de Carvalho. He continues, "a remarkable moment occurred during our session on July 10, when training was able to continue even though St John's had been unexpectedly enveloped in a complete snowstorm." Ahead of the World Aquatics Championships, both the South African mens' and ladies' water polo teams made use of the Centre.

We were also able to host the Inter-House Swimming Competition in the new Centre this year. "This marked a significant departure from tradition, as the event had previously been held in the outdoor Long Walk pool. The success of this underscores the potential for the St John's Aquatics Centre to serve as a premier venue for future swimming competitions, further confirming its status as a cornerstone of aquatic sports development. From enhanced training opportunities during winter months to the ability to continue training during storms, the benefits of this facility are undeniable. As we look to the future, the St John's Aquatics Centre will undoubtedly continue to play a pivotal role in the development and success of athletes at all levels." (Jon-Marc de Carvalho, Master in Charge of Aquatics)

"Continue on your quest to enlighten, develop and empower our future leaders." - *Edna Montse*

"Thank you for the superb education my three sons received at St John's!" - *Emma Wypkema*



"Thank you for all you have given to our family."
- Ozzy & Ayanda Seboni

"Only the Educated are Free..."
- Papadakis Family

"It's modest, but I hope it helps in sharing the light.
Lux.Vita.Caritas." - Anonymous

"Dream, Believe, Achieve." - Leo Hung An Chen

"With deep gratitude for this beautiful place."
- Anonymous

"May St John's remain a beacon of education and
progressive thinking." - Nasira Bhikha-Vallee

"For Johannians past and future."
- Jon Patricios

"For the Academy and creating life-changing
opportunities." - Bruinders Family

"In honour of the memorable shared experience
the school provides to all." - Roger Dietrich

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