



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

# ADVANCEMENT NEWSLETTER

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Trinity Term 2021



## FROM THE HEAD OF ADVANCEMENT

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The last year has certainly been a challenging one for those in the Advancement space all over the world. Advancement, relying as it does on face-to-face engagement, events and relationship building, means that we have had to find new ways of doing familiar things.

As a relatively new team, it has been particularly difficult to settle into the normal rhythms of St John's College. All of that considered, it has been an amazingly productive year, and we have been unanimously welcomed and embraced, demonstrating, again and again, the strong connection that exists within the St John's community, from the staff to the parents to the Old Johannians.

For those who have not had a chance to meet with us yet, we have included an overview of what it is we do here at St John's, as well as an introduction to our team.

We are proud to share some of our donor highlights of the last year with you, including the full support of the College and Prep Academies from the Joan Norman Trust; the Class of 2004's support of one of our outstanding Centenary Scholars who matriculates this year, and the establishment of the Peter Drummond Scholarship, one of the most generous individual donations ever received by the School. There have been many other contributions, all of which will be detailed in our end-of-year Donor Report.

Given the hard times everyone is experiencing, we have been moved by the generosity of the St John's family. Every ask that we made of you has been met with enthusiastic support. Indeed, against the odds, we have seen an increase in funding for our Community Engagement programmes this year. This demonstrates the faith that donors have in the school and the value of these programmes.

We thank our donors for their unfailing support and commitment to the St John's values of Lux Vita Caritas.

**Shelley Roberts**  
*Head of Advancement*







## ADVANCEMENT AT ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

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Advancement is the process of raising support, financial and otherwise, from core community stakeholders and aligning external partnerships to *advance* institutional plans and projects.

The newly established Advancement Office is dedicated to promoting the strategic development of St John's College by uniting the efforts of all within the St John's community. Our goal is to cultivate and encourage meaningful connections within our school's immediate community and beyond, including staff, students, parents, Old Johannians, past parents and donors.

The St John's business model is for the current fees to cover the school's running costs. For St John's College to remain on the cutting edge of education in South Africa, it will need to draw on alternative streams of income and the support of the broader St John's community.

The Advancement Office is a link between the school and our external stakeholders. As a central point of contact between the various role-players, we break down silos to bring alignment and direct the whole community's efforts to advance the school's strategic imperatives.



## OUR ADVANCEMENT COLLABORATORS

### The School

We work closely with school leadership to develop plans and projects that will support St John's College in achieving its long-term objectives. These plans are shared with the broader community to create awareness and garner support. They include Capital Projects, Projects, Student Support, Community Engagement and Sustainability.

We work closely with other departments in the school, all of which play a critical role in our Advancement activities, including Marketing and Communications, Transformation and Community Engagement, Archives and Events.

Furthermore, St John's College has a range of robust volunteer structures that provide valuable support to the Advancement Office and help implement the strategic vision of the College. There is a quarterly Advancement Forum that ensures the co-ordination of these vital volunteer groups.

### The Foundation - Development and Fundraising

Development and Fundraising are important elements of Advancement, and 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 all donor funding is used for the purpose of the donation. The Foundation is governed by an independent board of trustees and chaired by Steve Raney (OJ Nash 1974).

The Advancement Office is the active fundraising arm for the school and is responsible for:

- project management, proposal development and campaign co-ordination
- prospect and project research
- database and donor administration
- donor communications
- stewardship and reporting
- stakeholder engagement
- events for donor stewardship and fundraising

We also work closely with the St John's UK and USA Foundations, ensuring collaboration and co-ordination across countries and continents.



### The Old Johannian Association

The Advancement Office works closely with the Old Johannian Association, the first port of call for Old Johannians to reconnect with the school and each other. We provide support in various ways to ensure that their relationship with St John's College remains a relationship for life. This includes assisting with reunions, communications, events, archives, database management and class giving.

We have recently taken significant steps to update relevant information to improve communications and ensure regulatory compliance within the Old Johannian network. With many Old Johannians living in other cities and abroad, staying connected is a priority. The Advancement Office is committed to supporting the Old Johannian Association in maintaining strong, vibrant relations with its community.

The Advancement Office works with the Old Johannian Association and class champions to promote, co-ordinate and administer class-giving programmes. Class-giving initiatives demonstrate just how powerful a collective can be and anchor the long-lived philosophy of moving forward: giving back and making a difference. A recent class-giving project has enabled a funded Centenary Scholar to matriculate from St John's. We proudly send a straight-A student, prefect and top sportsman to pursue his tertiary studies at the end of this year.





## The Parents' Association

We work with the Parents' Association to facilitate a co-ordinated approach in fundraising activities and community engagement between parents and the school. Parents are at the heart of our community and contribute enormously to the school's success in every way, both in fundraising and volunteer work. The Advancement Office assists the PA with the administrative back-end of fundraising and donor stewardship and supports the front end of communications and events.

## Community Engagement and Student Support

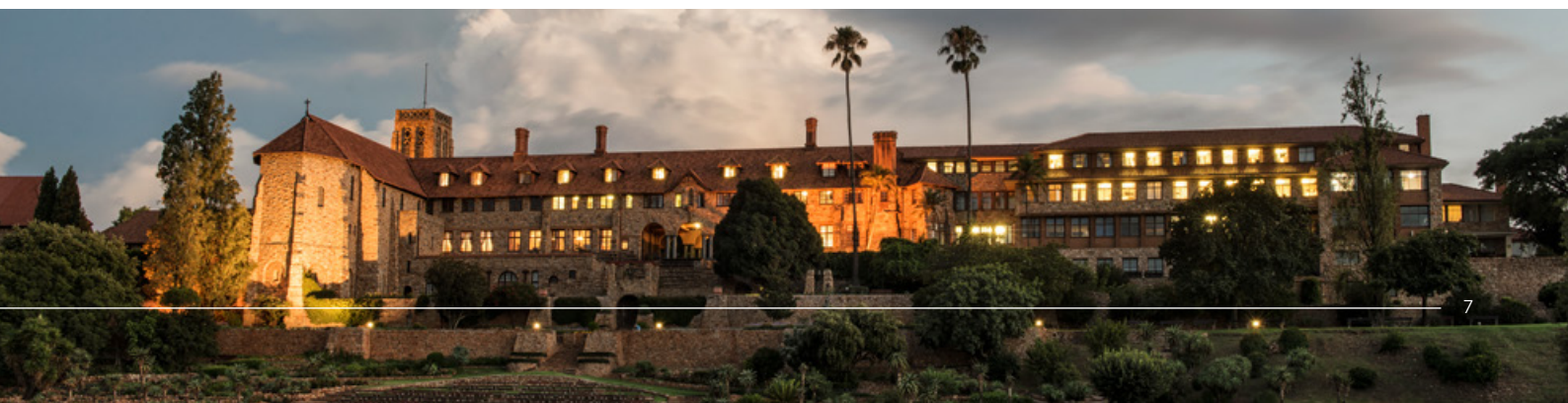
St John's College is committed to authentic engagement with neighbouring communities, navigating the contradiction that is Johannesburg, and building bridges to provide sustainable opportunities and partnership where we can. Access to education and resources uplifts in exponential ways.

The St John's College Academy and Centenary Scholarship Programmes are our core community engagement initiatives. The Academy, in partnership with neighbouring inner-city schools, provides enrichment in core subjects and a range of other initiatives that build confidence, leadership and resilience in the boys three days a week. Under the leadership of the new Head of Community Engagement, Mickey Mashego, the Academy is broadening its scope to include sports and cultural activities.

The Centenary Scholarship Programme, introduced in 1998 to mark the School's 100th anniversary, offers academic and boarding scholarships to 10 deserving boys per form in the College. The Advancement Office works closely with Allan Magubane, Deputy Headmaster: Transformation and Community Engagement, and Mickey Mashego on this programme.

## Heritage and Archives

At St John's College, heritage is our foundation. We honour our rich history while continuing to evolve, progress and write new narratives. In some way, each community member is a custodian and every student who has walked these halls is part of the school's story. The school maintains a detailed archive of images, memorabilia and artefacts. The Advancement team is actively engaged with our history as members of the Heritage Committee and often call on the Archives department for rich material to share with Old Johannians and parents.



## MEET THE TEAM

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We are a passionate and committed team, bringing innovation, strategy and support to the project of Advancement at St John's College. We look forward to working with you and sharing our vision so that the School may fulfil its purpose and endure for generations to come.



**Shelley Roberts**  
Head of Advancement

As Head of Advancement, Shelley works with the Executive Committee, Council, Foundation Trustees, Community Engagement and Marketing and Communications. She provides considered and effective leadership to the advancement of the School. Shelley ultimately conceptualises and oversees all major campaigns and manages relationships with key stakeholders.

Before joining St John's College, Shelley devoted 12 years to the advancement of higher education institutions – through fundraising, alumni relations, events and communications – first as the Head of Development at Rhodes University and then as Fundraising Manager at Wits.

Shelley believes that institutions of educational excellence, such as St John's, are vital pillars that give strength and stability to society. She considers herself privileged to be part of a team of committed people working to ensure that the school continues to thrive for generations to come.

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**Suzie Copperthwaite**  
Fundraiser & Strategic Project Co-ordinator

Suzie's core role is as Fundraiser and Project Co-ordinator, where she engages with existing and prospective donors to develop impactful partnerships within the corporate and private sectors. She is a point of contact for the Old Johannian Association and all associated OJA and fundraising events.

Suzie is a keen collaborator with a passion for community, creating access and connection. She has a masters degree from Wits with a background in the visual arts industry. She has worked as a specialist consultant in project management, client liaison, marketing and communications.

Suzie Copperthwaite  
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**Kate Lowings**  
Advancement Administrator & Database Officer

Kate maintains the database of Old Johannians and donors. Kate provides comprehensive administrative support to the department, assisting donors with tax certificates and other relevant documentation.

Kate brings a wealth of experience and an unparalleled work ethic to the Advancement team as she drives the key project of updating and refining our database. In her previous position, Kate provided administrative and fundraising support to the Roedean Academy and was integral to securing tertiary education placements for the programme's graduates.

Kate Lowings  
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## SCHOLARSHIPS

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### The Peter Drummond Scholarship

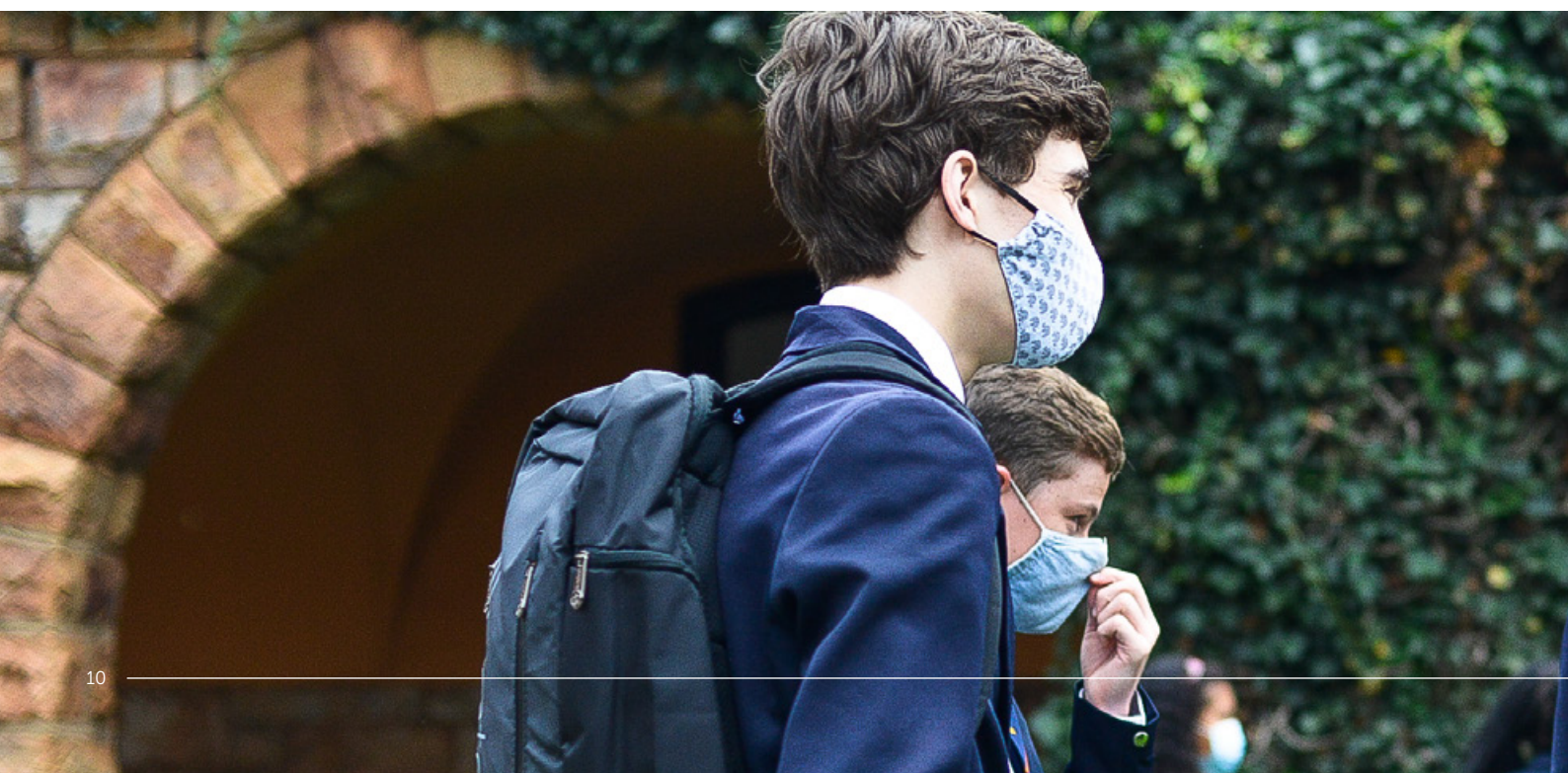
*– a gift to St John's College in honour of its 125th birthday*

St John's College is delighted to announce the establishment of **The Peter Drummond Scholarship**, a gift to St John's in recognition of the College's 125th birthday in 2023. Peter Drummond, whose generous donation has made the scholarship possible, is an esteemed Old Johannian who attended St John's College from 1952 until he matriculated from Thomson House in 1962.

"Mr Drummond's donation is a moving tribute to his years spent at St John's and a true vote of confidence in the school and its future direction," says Shelley Roberts, Head of Advancement. "This generous gift will give a deserving young man the chance to reach his full potential and, like Mr Drummond himself, make a positive difference in the world by paying it forward."

The donation is to be invested by the St John's College Foundation with the return generated used to cover the Scholarship. Any residual dividends will be transferred to the College endowment fund.

The Peter Drummond Scholarship will be awarded annually to a boy entering Remove at St John's College and covers **60% of the annual College tuition fees**. An additional R10 000 per student per year will be available to support any extra tutoring in a chosen area of interest, whether it be an academic, sporting, musical or cultural pursuit.





The Peter Drummond Scholarship recipient will be a student who promises to make an all-round contribution to St John's College. He will acknowledge and support the ethos and heritage of the College as expressed in the school prayer. He will be a young man of sound academic record with an average consistently above 75% who has also demonstrated strong leadership potential.

A Peter Drummond Scholar will have represented his Prep or Primary School at first-team level in at least two sports. In the College, he will embody the ethos of an education "rightly trained in body, mind and character", achieving consistently well academically while contributing to the sporting and cultural life of the College. Lastly, he will commit to mentoring younger Johannians in his senior years.

The first Peter Drummond Scholarship will be awarded in 2023.

"The Peter Drummond Scholarship is a gift from a successful Old Johannian to St John's College in recognition of our pending 125th birthday. Many great schools rely on the support of their alumni to remain sustainable. Financial assistance is needed for many reasons, none more pressing than helping deserving young men to attend St John's. Mr Drummond's generous donation of a scholarship to support a talented young Johannian speaks to his philanthropic character, an appreciation of what St John's did for him, and a vision of creating these opportunities for future generations. It is an example for Old Johannians worldwide to follow as we look to celebrate our past and create a future forged by Johannians rightly trained in body, mind and character."

*- Prof Jon Patricios (OJ Clayton 1985), former Chairman of the Council of St John's*



## Paying it Forward with Class Giving

'Good Heart, Bad Diaries' is the name given to the bursary initiative spearheaded by the Class of 2004, a peer-led collective driven by Ronak Gopaldas (OJ Thomson 2004) and Matthew Thomson (OJ Hill 2004).

Despite their busy schedules, the Old Johannians from this year group came together in 2017 to give back by creating an opportunity for a promising young Centenary Scholar. Their thinking was based on the principle that consistent contributions from many add up, and all Old Johannians from the year were encouraged to make an annual pledge.

The initiative committed to offering more than a financial contribution, but also providing holistic support that included mentoring and engagement. "We wanted to offer a high-potential learner the ability to achieve and not be constrained by factors beyond their control," said Ronak.

The first recipient of the 'Good Hearts, Bad Diaries' five-year bursary funded by the Class of 2004 is currently in his matric year at St John's and plans to study law next year.

"Given the huge privileges and opportunities we have been afforded in life, this is just a small effort to pay it forward and do something meaningful in our deeply unequal society. Hopefully, our efforts will leave a lasting and tangible impact," says Ronak.

The concept is powerful, and we look forward to working with Old Johannian class groups across the years to give back and bring positive change to the lives of deserving young men.

If you are interested in participating in a Class-Giving initiative with your year group, please contact Suzie Copperthwaite at [copperthwaite@stjohnscollege.co.za](mailto:copperthwaite@stjohnscollege.co.za)



Ronak Gopaldas



Matthew Thomson



# ACADEMY

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## Academy Assistance

The stricter lockdown restrictions during the recent third wave of the pandemic left many in our community without the means to meet their basic needs. This was further exacerbated by the rampant social unrest which gripped parts of our country during July. We learned of families who faced evictions, some couldn't keep the lights on during the chilling winter, and others could no longer even put food on the table.

This Mandela Day we asked our St John's community to assist our Academy boys and their families, and once again, the St John's Community heeded the call and responded in the most overwhelmingly generous and compassionate way.

Through their heartfelt generosity, we were able to raise more than R130 000 towards relief efforts. These donations also included blankets, clothes and grocery packs which we continue to distribute to those most affected by these dire economic conditions. While this relief cannot replace the lost income or fully restore parity, for some, it is a much-needed lifeline in extremely desperate circumstances.

On behalf of our Academy families and many others in our community who have benefitted from your acts of kindness, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to every family who contributed to this effort. We've been deeply moved by what is possible when our community steps up to the plate to extend the spirit of goodwill that ultimately builds our society.

*"History will judge us by the difference we make in the everyday lives of children."* – Nelson Mandela



## The Joan Norman Trust Renews its Support of the St John's Academy

St John's College is grateful to the Joan Norman Trust, an anchor donor of the St John's College Academy who has more recently extended their support to the St John's Prep Academy.

The St John's Prep Academy provides afternoon enrichment for Grade 6 and 7 students from neighbouring Yeoville Boys', Asteri Primary and Yeoville Community School, supporting these enquiring young minds during this critical stage of learning. With the support of foundations like the Joan Norman Trust, we plan to welcome a new group of Grade 5 boys in 2022.

While the Academy has a strong academic focus, St John's is actively working towards incorporating sport, music and other cultural pursuits to help build confidence and foster a love of learning and life reflected in the School ethos of developing young men rightly trained in body, mind and character.

"The material difference and meaningful contribution made by the Academy programme to the community is real," says Hector North, co-trustee of the Joan Norman Trust. "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."

It is our belief that access to quality education is an investment into the future of our country. It will empower our youth. We extend our thanks to individuals and trusts who share our vision and provide financial support to this wonderful programme.

If you would like to be involved or require further information, please contact Mickey Mashego, Head of Community Engagement at [mashego@stjohnscollege.co.za](mailto:mashego@stjohnscollege.co.za)





## MYSCHOOL CARD

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Sign up for your MySchool card today and add St John's College as your beneficiary to start raising funds for our community engagement initiatives - it won't cost you a thing!

All you have to do is download the MySchoolCard app onto your phone, choose St John's College as your beneficiary, and shop at one of the many MySchoolCard partners. Every time you swipe your card, you will be giving back and making a difference to the lives of those who benefit from our Community Engagement programmes.

### The St John's College MySchoolCard Campaign

There are 1613 students enrolled at St John's College. We currently have only 740 parents and family members signed up for the programme. Thanks to these participants, we earn an average of R19 000 a month for our community engagement programmes. In 2020, the MySchoolCard programme contributed a total of R226 500 to the School.

We would like everyone in our community to join the St John's College MySchoolCard programme. We hope to have at least 1000 parents subscribed by the end of this year and double this number by the end of 2022.



## Where do the funds go?

All funds raised through MySchool go to the school's flagship community engagement projects: the St John's College Academy – an after-school enrichment programme for Prep and College boys from our neighbouring inner-city schools; and the Centenary Scholarship Programme.

To find out more about these initiatives, click [here](#).

## Ways to get your card

- Download the free app onto your phone from your app store
- Apply online at [www.myschool.co.za](http://www.myschool.co.za)
- Get the form and card from the Advancement Office, situated above The School Shop.
- Fill out a form at any Woolworths store.

## How do I make St John's College my beneficiary?

If you are new to St John's College, or if you already support a cause through MySchoolCard, remember that you can list up to three beneficiaries, so please consider adding us!

You can add or change a beneficiary on the MySchool App or visit [www.myschool.co.za/supporter/update](http://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/update)

If you need any assistance, please get in touch with the Advancement Office at [advancement@stjohnscollege.co.za](mailto:advancement@stjohnscollege.co.za) or call 010 492 0199. You can also visit us above The School Shop.

Please sign up today, it won't cost you a thing!





## HOW TO GIVE

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If you or your company would like to make a donation to the St John's College Foundation, or would like to find out more about the work the Foundation does and the benefits of giving, we would love to hear from you.

You can also find out more or make an online donation [here](#)

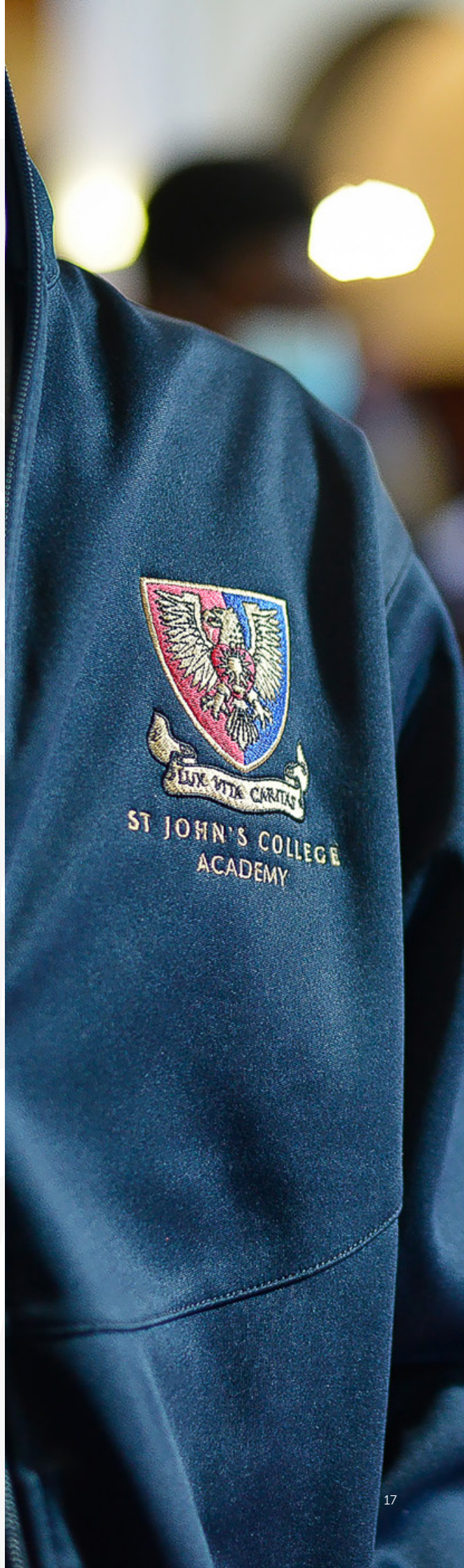
Bona fide donations will receive a Section 18A tax certificate and companies may be eligible for BB-BEE points. *T's and C's apply.*

The St John's College Foundation is an independent trust, reference number IT 7894/04(T); a Non-Profit Organisation, reference number: 021-654-NPO; a Public Benefit Organisation, reference number: 130003224 and SARS reference number 3006621845.

For more information, email  
[advancement@stjohnscollege.co.za](mailto:advancement@stjohnscollege.co.za)

Scan *here* to make a donation

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**ANGLICAN DIOCESAN COLLEGE OF JOHANNESBURG**

Headmaster: Stuart West BA (Hons) (Rhodes) PGCE (Unisa)  
Visitor: The Rt Revd Dr Steve Moreo MA (UP) PhD (UP)

