

# THE Yellow PAGES



PICTURED: A very determined Lucy Barraclough (Grade RR) getting ready to hit the ball during her first tennis lesson with Coach Karl this week!

## MESSAGE FROM Management

*"Over time, grit is what separates fruitful lives from aimlessness."*

J. Ortberg

After clambering down 500 of the 1 700 steps on the "Path of the Gods," which I prefer to call "God's Pathway", we headed towards Positano, (Italy) a coastal town that hangs precariously on the side of the mountain overlooking the Tyrrhenian Sea. Our hiking group plopped down for a much-needed rest. I seriously had to re-think Dr Colleen Vassiliou's definition of grit: "Grit is a distinct combination of passion, resilience, determination and focus that allows a person to maintain the discipline and optimism to persevere in their goals even in the face of discomfort, adversity and a lack of visible progress!"

This prompted me to ask myself

the question: How can we build grit? You need to have a growth mindset because firstly, the ability to learn is fluid and is best achieved through challenge and secondly, one must be willing to try and try harder even if it means to fail, as this can and will build grit.

To quote Dr. Angela Lee Duckworth: "Grit is passion and perseverance for very long-term goals; grit is having stamina; grit is sticking with your future, day-in, day-out. Not just for the week, not just for the month, but for years and working really hard to make that future a reality. Grit is living life as if it's a marathon, not a sprint!"

After much contemplation and soul-searching, we picked up our backpacks (filled with grit) and



**Mrs Des Adam**  
Head of Department

descended the remaining 1 200 stairs. The reward at the end of our "little marathon" was being able to wallow in that translucent blue sea.

*"So I run straight towards the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above."* Philippians 3:14

## THIS WEEK'S highlights

### a special tribute ♥

On Monday, we welcomed the Zammit family to join us for the official opening of the Pam Zammit Memorial Garden. Mrs Zammit sadly passed away earlier this year, and she and her family hold a very special place in our hearts as a school. We felt that there would be no better way to honour her legacy than by naming our beautiful new garden after her.



### UPCOMING EVENTS ♥

#### Christmas Pop-Up Shop

Tonight, we will be hosting our first-ever Christmas Pop-up Shop at 17h30 in the Pavilion. Stores include Fenn+Ivy, Frances & the Frills, NEXT Boutique, Boet & Betty and more! Thanks to Pizzology, delicious food will be on sale, and there will also be a gin bar run by our Old Girls' Association. Hope to see you there! (Parking will be available on the Top Hockey field in Harwin Road).

#### Carol Service

A friendly reminder to please RSVP by Friday, 23 November if you are planning on joining us for the annual St John's D.S.G. Carol Service on Thursday, 29 November at 18h00. The Carol Service is compulsory for all Grade 8-11 girls, and all family and friends are welcome!

### GREEN COMMITTEE CALENDAR

A friendly reminder that if you would like to order a 2019 calendar, to please do so by Wednesday, 21 November. The cost of the calendars is R120 each and can be purchased from Mrs Amanda Kruger in the Senior School Library or Mrs Nicole Coetsee in the Junior School Library. The cost can also be added to your school account. Please send written permission to order a calendar with your daughter.



#### Parents' Association Fishing Competition

A reminder that the Parents' Association will be hosting their annual Fishing Competition at Thornlea Dam in Tala Valley next weekend, 24 - 25 November. If there are any parents who are interested in sponsorship opportunities, please speak to Mrs Heather Evans. You can contact her at [hevans@stjohnsdsg.com](mailto:hevans@stjohnsdsg.com).



## junior SCHOOL



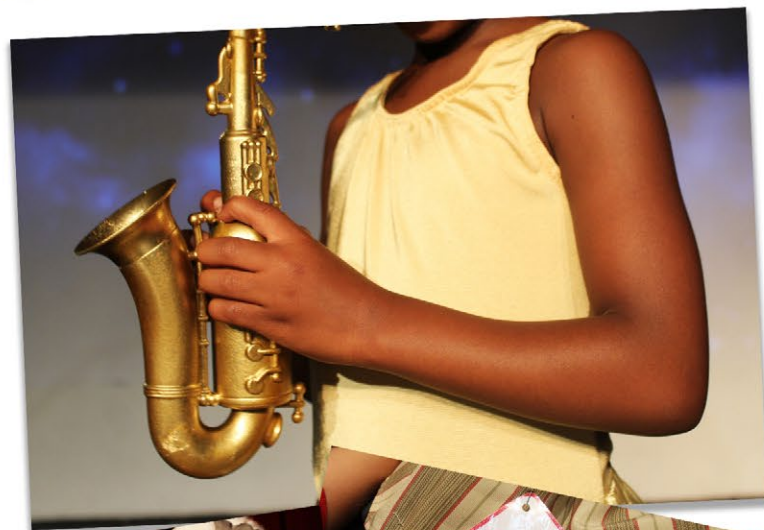
### SUPERSTAR ♥

Did you know, in showbiz, it is rare to find a celebrity who can act, sing, AND dance? Over the years, the (very) few stars who have mastered all three talents have been referred to as "triple threats."

Well, at St John's D.S.G., we have 129 "triple threats" in our Junior Primary and all of them will be showcasing their acting, dancing and singing abilities next week during this year's Nativity, entitled, "Superstar."

Just a reminder that the show is on Tuesday, 20 November, in the Theatre for either the 10h00 or 18h00 performance. The play will be filmed, and DVDs are available for R120 each. Please visit the d6 for more information.

Here are a few sneak peek pictures of our cast from "Superstar!"



### FUTURE TENNIS STARS

On Wednesday, our Grade RR Eaglets had their first tennis lesson with tennis coach, Karl von Fintel, or "Coach Karl" as they call him. They practised throwing the ball, learnt how to swing their rackets and played "Fireball". They absolutely loved it!



## senior SCHOOL

### The Great Reading Challenge ♥

At the beginning of 2018, our Grade 8s were challenged to see how many books they could read. Our English teachers gave the girls a list of books from various genres and said that the class who read the most books (not confined to the list) would receive a prize.

Last Friday, Grade 8S - our winning class, who have read a total of 218 books this year - were rewarded with a special delivery: a decadent, beer-box sized chocolate cake! Special mention must be made of Bethlehem Shimelis, who read 10 books from 10 different genres (and 31 books in total); Kezia Hoor, who read 35 books from the list and Zoe Goble, who read a total of 80 books this year!

