



Anniversary
Celebration
ST. MARY'S SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL-ACCRA

SPEECH AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY

THEME:

EMPOWERING MINDS, SHAPING FUTURES; 75 YEARS OF GIRL-CHILD EDUCATION IN TRUTH AND VIRTUE.

DATE: 22ND FEBRUARY 2025 | **TIME:** 9:00 AM



The Refurbished
Home Economics
Food & Nutrition Lab



25th
Anniversary
Legacy Project
By:
SMOGA 2000

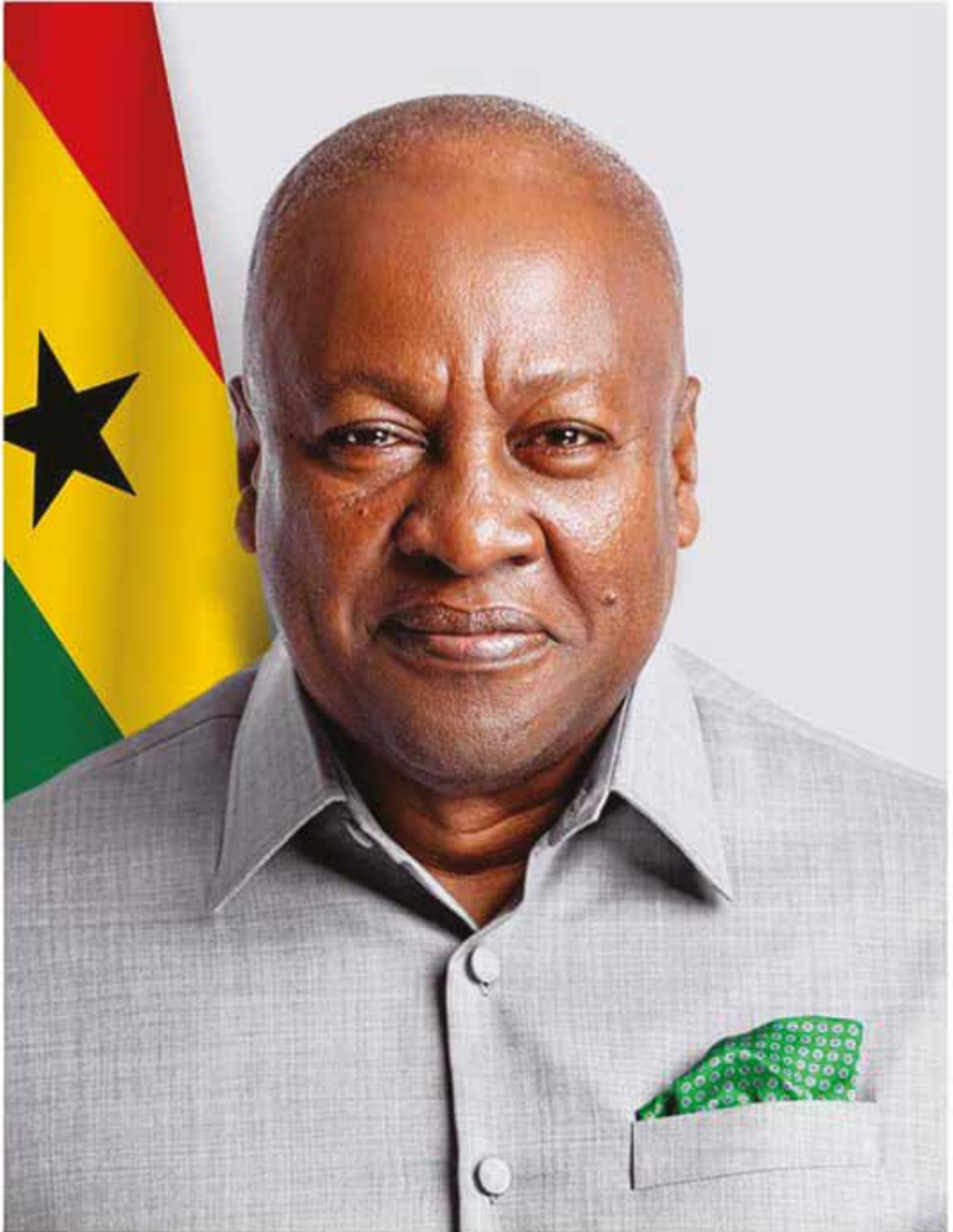


Acknowledgement

We thank our sponsors and sisters below for their invaluable support of our 25th Anniversary celebration. Their support has enriched and strengthened the event, allowing us to honour our

- Mr. Korkoe Kaledzi
- Mr. Francis Ocran
- The General Planning Committee Members, SMOGA 2000 25th Anniversary
- SMOGA 1999
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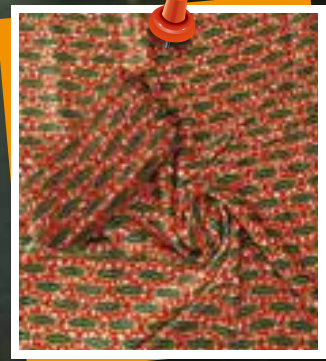
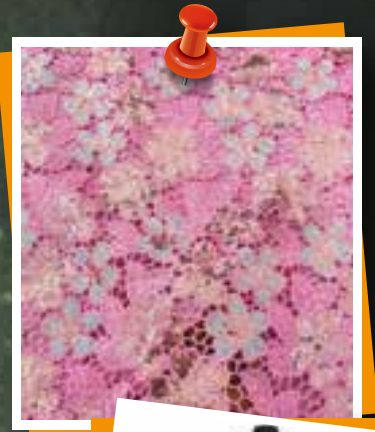


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Programme Line-up

Cadet Drill	-	Led by School Choir
Processional Hymn	-	Rev. Fr. Filton Mensah/Raphael Mensah
Opening Prayer	-	Led by School Choir
School Anthem	-	General Manager of Catholic Schools
Welcome Address	-	The School Choir
Song	-	Obaa Hema Afia Afriyie Sarpong
School Prefect's Report	-	The School Choir
Song	-	Ms. Philomena Owusu-Ansah
Headmistress' Address	-	SMOGAN Akwelle Bulley-Kwakyi
Introduction of Chairperson	-	SMOGAN Ama Okyere
Chairperson's Response	-	Metropolitan Archbishop of Accra.
Message	-	SMOGAN Claudia Adjieteh 2000
Introduction of Keynote Speaker	-	Keynote Speaker
Keynote Speaker's Address	-	Student
Poetry Recital	-	- SMOGAN Christina Armah (President '89)
Introduction of Special Guest of Honour	-	Special Guest of Honour
Speech	-	Cultural Troop
Cultural Display	-	Mr. Eric Angel Agbe-Carbonu & SMOGAN Christina Armah
Presentation of Awards	-	Medley of Songs by the School Choir
Silver Collection	-	SMOGAN Alice Chinebuah Esq. (Special Guest)
Time with SMOGA	-	SMOGAN Ama Okyere
Chairperson's Closing Remarks	-	Led by the School Choir
School Song	-	Ms. Roselyn Deladem Gbesiagbe
Vote of Thanks	-	Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Mary Ofori-Srem
Closing Prayer	-	Bishop Anthony Narh Asare
Benediction	-	Led by the School Choir
Recessional Hymn	-	

MCs: Mr. Eric Angel Agbe-Carbonu & SMOGAN Christina Armah

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1973 - SMOGAN Eugenia Ekuia Enyimayew

1974 - SMOGAN Esther Mullings

1975 - SMOGAN Love Ethel Okai

1975 - SMOGAN Love Ethel Okai

1976 - SMOGAN Mary Larmie

1977 - SMOGAN Elsa Awo Asare

1978 - SMOGAN Eva Okpoti-Paolo

1979 - SMOGAN Caroline Stephens

1980 - SMOGAN Opeibea Omaboe

1981 - SMOGAN Maureen Mensah-Gadogbe

1982 - SMOGAN Amanda Adu-Amankwah

1983 - SMOGAN Edwina Afriyie

1984 - SMOGAN Jane Addo

1985 - SMOGAN Claremond Essilfie Hagan

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1993 - SMOGAN Josephine Annabel Dodoo
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HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

St. Mary's Secondary School was founded by the Catholic Missionary Sisters – servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS). When they first arrived in Ghana, they were put up at the Derby Avenue Parish and it was there that they hatched up their plan to establish a girl's Secondary School in one of the deprived areas of Accra to educate and assist the not so endowed young girls into responsible adults. No wonder the curriculum at that time comprised Religion, Music, Home Science, Needlework, etc. Like most schools, St. Mary's had humble origins, having started from a classroom of the present St. Mary's Basic School, Korle-Gonno which is next door to St. Mary's Secondary School.

On the 6th of February 1950, the institution was opened with only ten students and a staff of two Reverend Sisters namely – the late Rev. Sisters Jane and Rosette. While Rev. Sr. Jane taught Religion, English Literature and Latin, Rev. Sr. Rosette handled Science, Mathematics and History. Such was the tenacity with which St. Mary's College (as it was initially known) started as a private Catholic Institution that it was officially inaugurated on 15th January 1952 before it moved to its current premises. Two more Rev. Sisters namely Rev. Sisters Elicia and Lufthildis were added to make their number four – while all of them obtained Bachelor degrees, the late Principal Rev. Sr. Jane had studied for a Master of Arts degree. The enrolment had by then increased to sixty-one.

The school was making a steady progress even though the enrolment did not increase dramatically as expected. In January 1953, the enrolment rose only from 60 to 62 and two Ghanaian Tutors – Miss Tetteh, Miss Quartey and Rev. Sr. Gerard joined the staff. Rev. Sister Gerard taught Mathematics and the Ghanaians handled Vernacular, History, Geography and Physical Training. At the end of the 1952/53 academic year, Rev. Sr. Jane who was the Principal of the College went on a transfer to Akim Swedru and was replaced by Rev. Mother Bernadette.

In 1954 the enrolment increased to 75 and Rev. Sister Patrice and a Ghanaian, Miss Amy Martinson joined the staff to teach Geography, Latin, English and Mathematics. This group was later joined by Mrs. Chinebuah who taught English, History and Geography. It is important to mention that all the Tutors taught two to four subjects at a time. As it

is characteristic of all new institutions, the school's enrolment which had remained unstable for some time dropped to 62 by January 1955. However, more Ghanaians – Miss V. Zwennes and Miss Nyarko joined the staff to replace two other staff who had left for further studies. Such was the unstable nature of the enrolment of the school that it could not present any candidate for the Cambridge School Certificate Examination in 1955 making Form Five to be temporarily discontinued till December 1958. By November 1958, St. Mary's Secondary School was made an examination centre, a status it has held enviably without any incident to date.

During the 1961/62 academic year, the school was granted permission by the Ministry of Education to begin a double stream and in June 1961, work began on the new kitchen and storeroom. On the 30th of June, the then Jamestown Mantse visited the school and was so much impressed with the progress of the school that he wrote in the Visitors' Log Book – "I FEEL THIS SCHOOL DESERVES A PLACE ON THE LIST OF THE BEST SCHOOLS IN GHANA".

The addition of another stream to Form 1 increased the enrolment to 194 by the 1962/63 academic year. As a result, the Home Science/Science Block was put in place to contain the ever increasing student population. More Ghanaian Tutors namely Mrs. Arthur, Mrs. Kwofie-Okai, Mrs. Quartey, Mrs. iOddoye and the first Peace Corps joined the staff in 1963. On 9th May 1963, the German Government through the Reverend Sisters donated £1,600 to the school to



equip the Home Science and Science Departments. The first Old Girls' meeting was held on 3rd May 1964 with six Old Girls in attendance. So was the first Parent-Teacher Association (P.T.A) meeting held at the school on 8th May 1964 with 24 parents and all the Tutors present.

The school gained Government recognition as a boarding school on 10th July 1964 with a grant of £2,000 to purchase a Bedford truck which served the school for several decades. As the population grew, new structures also sprung up and in November 1970, the representative of Pope Paul VI resident in Lagos arrived to dedicate and commission the current Administration block consisting of classrooms and the Assembly Hall.

The students at that time participated in many extracurricular activities within and outside the school. For instance, they debated with Pope John Secondary School, Koforidua, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School and Accra Academy both in Accra, etc. and emerged winners in most of them. Many students won the first prizes in essay contests organized by the Rotary Club and GNAT among several others. The school also excelled in sports by winning the first to third positions for many years. As a result of the successes being chalked by the school, it became increasingly popular and like a hot cake was in high demand by many parents who wanted their girls to attend St. Mary's – the well-disciplined school with a good academic performance.

It therefore became necessary to expand the school and so in 1974/75 academic year, a third stream was added to make it a three-stream school. The continuous good academic performance of the school coupled with the need to increase Sixth Form status in 1978/79 academic year with the first batch of 23 students gaining admission to read Science and Arts. This pioneer group passed out in 1980 with very good results. 97% of them gained admission into tertiary institutions and one of them qualified as a Medical Doctor in 1987. The Sixth Form status of the school earned its long affiliation to:

- Holy Child School – Cape Coast,
- O.L.A. Secondary School, Ho
- St. Louis Secondary School, Kumasi, all Sixth Form Girls' Schools.

From a humble beginning with 10 students, the school can now admit about 1,466 students, with 68 Teaching and 46 Non-Teaching Staff manning it. The introduction of the new Educational

Reforms moved the school from a three-stream to a six-stream school and four programmes namely Science, General Arts, Visual Arts, and Home Economics. Many parents, well-wishers and several government officials have continued to admire and congratulate the school on its high standard of academic performance, excellence in sporting activities as well as the high level of discipline exhibited by both staff and students. As a result, the school is the envy of many girls in Junior High School all over the country and the lucky ones who gain admission feel privileged and are content. This shows that St. Mary's Secondary School is rated high by the public as one of the best schools in the country in every sense of the word. The school places emphasis on the moral training of students as envisaged in the vision of its Founders and the motto "TRUTH AND VIRTUE". Retreats are held every term for every class in the school and the students participate fully in all the co-curricular activities.

As St. Mary's commemorates its 70th anniversary today, the 8th of February, 2020, mention must be made of the past Headmistresses:

- Rev. Sr. Jane 1950 – 1953
- Rev. Mother Bernadette 1953 – 1954
- Rev. Sr. Pierre 1955 – 1968
- Rev. Sr. Mary Grace 1968 – 1970
- Rev. Sr. Ruth 1970 – 1980
- Mrs. Elizabeth Joyce Sowah, the first Ghanaian and longest serving Headmistress 1980-2001
- Mrs. Victoria Opoku (in acting position) 2001 – 2002
- Miss Doris Bramson 2002 – 2016
- Mrs. Grace Mansa Eshun 2016 to date

The Ghanaian Staff and other Reverend Sisters like Rev. Sister Edburga Reuben, the first Bursar of the school who laid a solid foundation for the development of the school as well as serving it in diverse ways cannot be forgotten but will forever be remembered and appreciated.

We wish to place on record the school's gratitude to the founding Reverend Sisters – Servants of the Holy Spirits (SSpS) whose vision and foresight in establishing an initially Catholic private school had enabled many females in Ghana to have access to secondary education. Their material, spiritual and financial sacrifices contributed immensely to the development of the school. It is worthy to note that apart from the GETFUND boarding house and two Staff bungalows, about 90% of the present infrastructure were financed

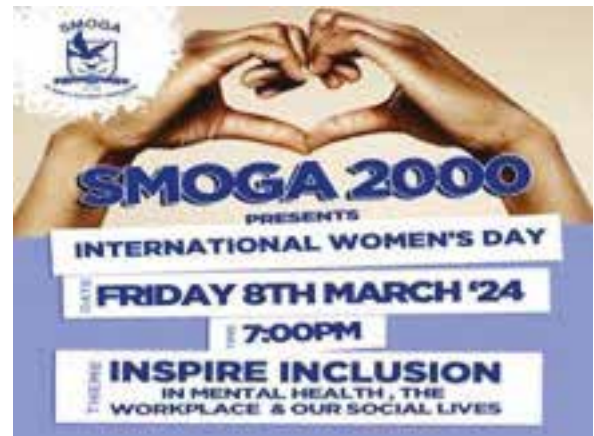


SMOGA 2000 TURNS 25! CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE & LEGACY: A QUARTER CENTURY OF MEMORIES, GROWTH, AND IMPACT

Wow, wow, wow, it's been 25 amazing years already since we graduated from St. Mary's! We were simple girls with so much hope and enthusiasm, not knowing where life's twists and turns would take us. Today, we return to mark a milestone that coincides with our alma mater's 75th Anniversary, giving us double the reason to celebrate! As proud co-hosts of the 75th Anniversary Celebration, we've been deeply involved in the festivities and also took time to reconnect as a year group through exciting activities. Most importantly, we embarked on our Legacy Project—a meaningful initiative to refurbish the Home Economics Food and Nutrition Laboratory, ensuring a lasting contribution to our beloved school. Here's a glimpse into our journey over the past year—memorable moments, meaningful contributions, and cherished reunions. Enjoy the highlights! Here's to 25 years of sisterhood and many more to come!



Receiving the Mantle from the 1999 Year Group



Celebrating International Women's Day



Present at the Official Launch of 75th Anniversary



Official launch of our 25th Anniversary



Official launch of our 25th Anniversary



SMOGA Fundraising Dinner Participation



Publicity efforts for Mass Anniversary celebrations



At the Feast of Immaculate Conception Mass



BEFORE (picture of Food & Nutrition Lab)



AFTER (work in progress)

ROLL CALL FOR THE 2000-YEAR GROUP

THE 2000 YEAR GROUP					
HOME ECONOMICS	VISUALARTS	SCIENCE 1	SCIENCE 2	ARTS 1	ARTS 2
ARDULAI JANE	ADAMAH ANITA	ADDO MARIAN	ACHEAMPONG IRENE OSAA	ABIWU OLUVA	ADDY CAROLINE KORKOR
ADZRAH GENEVIEVE	ADU-AMOAH VICTORIA	ADJABENG JANET	ADJAKUMA ANTWI MERCY	ADJEI PRINCESS	ADIPAH HILDA MADJIK.
AGBOKA MAVIS	AMU PRISCILLA	ADJEI-WIREDU EUNICE	ADOTEY DOROTHY	ADJERTEH CLAUDIA HARRIET	ADZEEI NAA ADZOKOR MANSOA
AHJJE ABIGAIL	ANIE FLORA	AKPELASI HUBERTA	AFFUM GYIMAH DULCIE	AGADZI LINDA	AGYEKUM PRISCILLA
AKUJAMOAH BOATENG MAVIS	ANTWI LYDIA-ANN	ALLOTEY CLAUDIA	AKJIGOH CHERRY	AHAKU DIANA	ARTHUR CHRISTINE
AKUJETTEY CAROLINE	ASIEDU FAUSTINA PINNOCK	AMARTEIFIO BEATRICE	AKOTO BAMFO JENNIFER	AHORTOR MILLCENT	ARTHUR CHRISTIANA
AMADOS VALENTINA AMI	ASUMANING EVELYN	AMONOD NANA ABA	AMABLE NUNYA	AMOAH NANA KONADU	ARYEETEY ANGELA
ANTWI HELEN OBEYAA	BARNOR AGNES MAAME SERWAA	ANDERSON GRACE	ANKRAH LUVINA SANDRA	ANTWI ESTHER	ASANTE ADJOA SARFOA
APPIAH ANNA	BOAMAH SANDRA AKOSUA SAKAA	ANING LILIAN	APEDOE SELASIE	APPIAGYEI CYNTHIA	ASARE DORIS KAPENE
ARCHER SARAH	BOATENG BRIDGET	ANTWI VIDA	AQUASIE OMARE VICTORIA	ARYEE REGINA	ASIEDU BERNICE
ASANTE MARGARET	BOATENG SARAH KESEWA	ATTAH MARIE- LUISE	ARMAH LILLIAN	ASANTE GRACE NANA AMA	AVEMEGAH RHODALENE MAKAFUI
AVORNYO CYNTHIA	BOTCHWEY ELSIE NAAFO	BANAFOE SHIELLA	ARYEETEY IRIS	ASOMANING CHARLOTTE	AZANLEKOR MANUELA
BOAKYE-ATANSAH ROSEMOND	BUADY PEARL ESINAM	BEDWEI MAIDOUB OKBELL	AYETTEY ABIGAIL	ATTA-SENYAH BARBARA	BOAMU-SECU RUTH
BOATENG MABEL	CODIOE NAA AMUA	BOAKYE GYIMAH ESTHER D	BAMPOE AUDREY ANIMA	BOTCHWAY ANITA	BELLO GIWAH HUSSEINA
BUARI SHAIDA	COFFIE HARRIET	BROBBEY AMMA DANSOA	BIRAGO GIFTY	CHARWEY HENRIETTA	BOATENG ABENA AMPOMAH
DADZIE JENNY	DANKWA ROSE	DAPAAH MILLCENT	BOAKYE LULUWA AMMA	DANKWA DORA	BOYAH SIA
DANISO SANDRA	DE-SOUSA GEORGETTE	OSANE SELBY LYDIA	COMMIEY FATIMA	DOGBE DORCAS	COMMODORE RHODALENE
DOMPREH JOYCE	DOGBE AMANDA	GBORMITTAH SHEILA VICTORIA	DEY ESTHER ADJO	IBRAHIM NADIA	DJANIE DORINDA
GAVOR VIDA	DUA WINIFRED	GYASI ANITA	DUODU BELINDA	LARYEA GLORIA	DOGBEY FLORENCE
KING MENSAN LUCIA	FORDJOUR JOANA AKOSUA	KANEKATOUA FÉLICITÉ FAPA	HODASI BARBARA	MANKATTAH SALOMEY	DOUGAN MAAME ADJOA AMOAKOA
KYEI SARAH ANIMAH	FORDJOUR SANDRA	KORANTENG MERCY	KUADIO LINDA	MASOPERH NAA SAROKOR	DZAMEH VANESSA
MARI ANTOINETTE	HUGHES HENRIETTA EWURABENA	KORLEY LOUISA	LARYEA EUPHEMIA NAADU	MENSAN MERCY ADOMA	FITIH BIJOU AFUA
MASSOUD SALIMA	KENU HILARY AKOSUA	KWARTENG ADWOA POMAA	LODOH EDEM	MENSAN NAA TSHAKOR	GYEKYE-KORANTENG PANYIN
MENSAN DORCAS	KOLLEY RIRAGI KORTEIKAI	LOMO LYDIA	NARTEY RITA	MYERS GRACE	GYEKYE-KORANTENG KUMA
NKETIAH JACQUELINE	LAMPTEY DEBORAH	NANOR SANDRA	OPOKU VICTORIA	MYERS JACQUELINE	HALM MARGARETTA BAABA
NYARKO HILDA	LARTEY YVONNE LARTELY	NKANSAN JUSTINA	OSEI PRISCILLA	NYANYO HARRIET	KUZOE ANITA MARIE
OCANSEY GLORIA	NANI CYNTHIA	OBUOBI AKUA	PAAKU STELLA	NYARKO HANNAH	LAGBO ANTHEA YVETTE
OKO EDITH	NARH HENRIETTA	OHENE-OBENG AUDREY	POMARY PAMELA	NYINAKU YVONNE ADUBEA	LARTEY JEANNE
OPOKU HANNAH	NORTEY MAAMLE WATSON	OKINE AYEH LEONORA	QUARSHIE CYNTHIA AYORKOR	OBENG PATIENCE GYAMFUA	MANU JUJIANA
OWUSU NANA AMA	OBENG TWUMASI GIFTY	OPOKU VICTORIA	SFARJLANI JUMANA	OPRYE-TETTEH EMMANUELLA	NEEQUAYE BERYL
SAMPONG BEDIAKO-DANKYIBELINDA	OCANSEY BETTY BOOP	OWUSU JANIS	TUFFOUR ABIGAIL	OWUSU-BOATENG BETTY	NIELS- PALM ISABELLA
SARPONG YEILDA	OKAI VICTORIA AYIKALEY	PAINTSIL CONSTANCE		PARKER BARBARA	NEWMAN AFORO LILY
SEIDU GIFTY	O'WARE MARTHA AKUA O'WAREWAA	SORY MIAMI SYBIL		QUARTEY ELIZABETH	NYARKO CANDY
SENAYA SARAH	QUANSON- SACKEY AWO AFERIBA	TUFOR KOMASSA TENNY		QUAYE AGNES	NYARKO MARIAN
SESHIE DOREEN	QUARTEY-PAPAFIO PRISCILLA	YEDOAH JUDITH		QUAYEFIO HENRIETTA	OBENG PHILOMENA
SETOR LOVE	SARKODIE AKUA AFRIME			TABIRI AFUA AYIMA	OCANSEY KABUKI
SIKANARTEY AMA MANSA	SARPONG AFIA			TIBILLA SHIRLEY	PUPLAMPU EIRENE
TRENOO RHODA	SESHIE GLORIA MAWUSE			WOODRO EDNA YAYRA	SARPONG DU AH ANITA
YAMSON CHRISTABEL	SHIRLEY KONADU BONSU			YVONNE OFORI	TACHE-MENSON EVA
YEDOAH REBECCA	TORTO NATASHA			ZAKARI ASANA	TAGDE GRACE CHICHI
	WIREDU NAOMI				YEDOAH ALBERTA AMA
					DOGBEY PATRICIA (DECEASED)
					KWAKUTOR CHARLOTTE MAWUSI (DECEASED)
ADWOA ODOOM (DECEASED)	GLADYS ADDAH (DECEASED)		GEORGINA CORQUAYE (DECEASED)		WILSON PRISCILLA (DECEASED)

Goodwill Messages

A GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE MISSIONARY SISTERS SERVANTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THE FOUNDERS OF ST. MARY'S SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUR SPIRITUAL MOTHERS

Hurray, St. Mary's SHS! Today, we celebrate an incredible milestone—75 years of excellence in girl-child education. As your spiritual mothers, the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit (SSpS), we reflect on the humble beginnings that have blossomed into this remarkable legacy.

In February 1946, Sisters Jane le Frois and Bernadette Mullaly arrived in the Gold Coast, driven by a missionary zeal to educate and evangelize. With the support of the Society of the Divine Word Missionaries, they began building the school on land generously donated by the chiefs and elders of Korle Gonno. Living simply, even in uncompleted structures, their commitment laid the foundation for the vibrant institution we celebrate today.

Sister Jane, the first headmistress, exemplified devotion to nurturing St. Mary's into a beacon of empowerment for young women. Her legacy, along with the tireless efforts of subsequent generations, has yielded countless "flowers"—incredible alumni excelling across all spheres of life.

On this memorable occasion, we extend our heartfelt pride and gratitude. We challenge SMOGANS (past and present), staff, students, and well-wishers to continue the mission: to inspire, empower, and aim higher. Together, as modern-day missionaries, let us instill hope, spread God's love, and elevate girl-child education.

Long live St. Mary's SHS! Long live the Catholic Church! Long live the Missionary Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit!

Sister Mercy Benson, SSpS
Provincial Superior / Leader



GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM MOST REV. JOHN BONAVENTURE KWOFIE, CSSP



On behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Accra and all who value the transformative power of education, I extend my warmest congratulations to the Heads, Staff and Students of St. Mary Senior High School you celebrate your remarkable 75th Anniversary.

This milestone is not just a celebration of years, but a testament to the resilience, dedication,

and shared vision of those who have nurtured this institution since its founding.

The theme for this anniversary, "Empowering Minds, Shaping Futures: 75 Years of Girl Child Education in Truth and Virtue," perfectly reflects the heart of your mission. For decades, St. Mary has stood unwavering in its commitment to not just academic excellence, but holistic individuals imbued with moral character, critical thinking, and a passion for service.

To the students, both past and present, this celebration is a reminder of the enduring legacy you are part of. You are beneficiaries of a rich heritage built on the sacrifices of visionary Leaders, dedicated teachers, and supportive parents. You honour this foundation, may you continue to build upon it, striving for even greater heights in the years ahead.

To the headmistress, teachers and staff, past and present, we salute your selfless dedication to nurturing and inspiring generations of students. Your efforts have turned dreams into realities and have contributed immensely to the growth of this institution.

As you celebrate this diamond anniversary, may the bonds of fellowship within the St. Mary family grow stronger, and may the vision of empowering our girl child remain ever bright.

Congratulations once again on this remarkable journey of 75 years. May God's blessings remain upon this great institution now and always.

Wishing you a joyful and memorable celebration!



GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGAN CHERIE LAWSON-ADAMU



Chairperson,
Board of Governors

It is an honour and a great privilege to be part of this great occasion, first of all as a SMOGAN and as a Chairperson of the Board of Governors of my Alma Mater, the great St. Mary's Senior High School.

75 years of the existence of this girls school on Korle Gonno is a great achievement. I appreciate the sacrifices of the founders, the SSPS Sisters. Without their sacrifices, we would not have been here today celebrating 75 good years of educating and moulding girls.

Present here today are all stakeholders, the ladies who have gone through this school,

parents who are appreciating the moral upbringing, discipline and quality education this institution has given to their girls. This demonstrates that "St. Mary's has shown us all life's best way"

At this point, I would like to commend the Board of the School, The Headmistress, the Teaching and non-teaching staff for holding on the mantle that was passed on steadfastly. God Bless you for your selfless and dedicated sacrifices. I also appreciate parents, guardians and all students whose commitment and dedication have brought us thus far.

SMOGA, SMOGA, SMOGA!!! I would say SMOGANS are a very integral stakeholders of Merries. One can never refer to the school without the mention of SMOGA. The 2nd verse of the school anthem really describes SMOGA.

"For the seedlings that are planted at St. Mary's
Blossom forth in Truth and Virtue
And the melodies that ring out at St. Mary's
Of true faith and love assured"

Congratulations to all stakeholders on the occasion of 75 years of educating girls. Congratulations to all teaching and non-teaching staff.

To our dear SMOGA, I say Ayekoo! God bless you all

Long live SMOGA
Long live Merries
Long live the Catholic Church



GOODWILL MESSAGE BY MS. PHILOMENA OWUSU-ANSAH

Goodwill Message by Ms. Philomena Owusu-Ansah, Headmistress of St. Mary's Senior High School, on the Occasion of the 75th Anniversary*

“The heart that gives thanks is a happy one, for we cannot feel thankful and unhappy at the same time.” – Douglas Wood

As we celebrate 75 years of St. Mary's Senior High School, we reflect on the remarkable vision and courage of the Catholic Religious Sisters, the SSPs, who founded the school in 1950. Their dream to educate young girls in a deprived area of Accra was daring and groundbreaking. Though they have since departed, their legacy lives on through the countless students, affectionately called Merries, who continue to embody their vision.

St. Mary's has flourished like a mustard seed from humble beginnings, overcoming challenges to become a beacon of education and intellectual development. For 75 years, the school has provided a platform for academic excellence and a foundation for the growth of human resources in Ghana and beyond.

On this special occasion, I extend heartfelt congratulations to all SMOGANS for their achievements and to SMOGA '2000 for their legacy project of expanding and refurbishing the Home Economics Laboratory. We are also deeply grateful to all stakeholders who have contributed to the success of our beloved school.

May God continue to bless the Holy Spirit Sisters.

Long live SMOGA!
Long live St. Mary's Senior High School!
Long live Ghana!
Virtus, Veritas!

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGAN AKWELLEY ADOLEY BULLEY-KWAKYI (NEE BULLEY), CPC CHAIRPERSON.



“The heart that gives thanks is a happy one, for we cannot feel thankful and unhappy at the same time.” – Douglas Wood

As we celebrate 75 years of St. Mary’s Senior High School, we reflect on the remarkable vision and courage of the Catholic Religious Sisters, the SSPs, who founded the school in 1950. Their dream to educate young girls in a deprived area of Accra was daring and groundbreaking. Though they have since departed, their legacy lives on

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May God continue to bless the Holy Spirit Sisters.

Long live SMOGA!
Long live St. Mary’s Senior High School!
Long live Ghana!
Virtus, Veritas!

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON, SMOGAN AMA OKYERE - '79/'81 (CONSULTANT/ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT, AFREXIMBANK)



On this joyous occasion of your 75th anniversary, I extend my heartfelt congratulations and best wishes. It is with immense pride and gratitude that I reflect upon the cherished memories and invaluable lessons I gained within your esteemed walls.

St Mary's unwavering commitment to excellence in education and character development has shaped countless lives, including mine. The dedication of the head teachers, past and present, the teaching and ancillary staff, the enthusiasm of your students, and the support of your community and past students have always set you apart as a beacon of knowledge and inspiration.

As you celebrate this milestone, I applaud your achievements and look forward to witnessing the continued growth and success of this illustrious institution. May you continue to nurture minds, inspire dreams, and foster a spirit of innovation and integrity for generations to come.

With deepest respect and admiration,
Ama Okyere
Veritus, Veritas!

Dear Colleagues and fellow students,
My husband has this expression, "Our alma mater, a blessing upon her," and over the years, I have come to understand the true import of these words. Our school, St Mary's, has played a pivotal role in our upbringing and what we have all become today. And for that, a blessing upon her! It is my fervent wish and prayer that the ethos and principles under which the school was established will continue as we make that steady journey to our centenary.

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGAN JEAN ADUKWEI MENSA, ESQ., THE CHAIRPERSON, ELECTORAL COMMISSION OF GHANA



Congratulations on 75 Years of Excellence, St Mary's!

On this remarkable occasion of your 75th anniversary, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone who has been a part of this incredible institution—past and present. For 75 years, St Mary's has not only provided exceptional education but also created a nurturing environment where young women are empowered to become leaders, innovators, and change-makers in the world.

The values instilled within these walls continue to shape the lives of all those who have been fortunate enough to be part of the St Mary's family. From the unwavering dedication of the teachers to the spirit of friendship among the students, the legacy of excellence lives on in each graduate who carries the torch forward with pride.

As we celebrate this significant milestone, I am deeply grateful for the positive impact St Mary's has had on me and countless others. May the next 75 years be filled with continued growth, success, and the nurturing of young minds, ready to take on the challenges of tomorrow.

With warmest regards and deepest appreciation,

SMOGAN Jean Adukwei Mensa Esq.
SMOGA 86'
Chairperson of the Electoral Commission, Ghana.

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGAN SHIRLEY AYORKOR BOTCHWEY, COMMONWEALTH SECRETARY-GENERAL YEAR GROUP: 1980/82



On this momentous occasion of St. Mary's Senior High School's 75th Anniversary, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all past and present heads, management, staff, alumni, and students for their invaluable contributions to the success and growth of this remarkable institution.

It is a privilege to celebrate the school that instilled in me, and countless others, the core values and principles that have shaped our lives and fueled our successes. Over its 75 years, St. Mary's Senior High School has produced many accomplished women who hold critical roles in public service, corporate leadership, and private ventures—a testament to the school's enduring legacy.

This milestone is a significant achievement, especially when we reflect on the school's humble beginnings, established in 1950. We owe immense gratitude to God for His guidance and blessings throughout this journey.

It is also fitting to honour the founding Catholic missionary sisters, the Servants of the Holy Spirit, whose vision and dedication laid the foundation for this great school. We remember with appreciation all those—both living and departed—who have contributed to the development and well-being of St. Mary's over the decades. May God richly bless them.

As we celebrate this historic occasion, I pray that current students and future generations will continue to embody and be inspired by the school's timeless motto: "Truth and Virtue."

Congratulations once again on this incredible milestone. My best wishes to St. Mary's Senior High School and everyone proud to be associated with its enduring legacy.

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM MRS DERRICA AWAGBE OF THE PARENT AND TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



Great is thy faithfulness, oh God.

This is no doubt a very significant and remarkable occasion because the celebration of any diamond jubilee is no small achievement.

On behalf of the entire PTA, therefore, I express my heartfelt congratulations to everyone gathered here and also to those who have contributed to the success story that we are witnessing today.

This milestone is not just a reflection of the years we have spent fostering brains but also a celebration of our joint commitment to elevating the standard of education of our girls and the nation as a whole.

The PTA applauds your achievement of raising ladies who have distinguished themselves as exceptional ladies in their various fields of endeavours.

Congratulations, St Mary's Senior High School! We celebrate you because you are worthy of emulation.

It is my humble belief that all stakeholders will not relent in making St Mary's the best among the best in Ghana and the world at large.

Long live Saint Mary's!

75TH ANNIVERSARY AND SPEECH AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY CELEBRATION GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM MRS. GRACE MANSA ESHUN. (IMMEDIATE PAST HEADMISTRESS)



As we celebrate seventy-five (75) years of God's goodness to St. Mary's Senior High School, I congratulate all who have played and continue to play a part in the school's success story.

To the founding Sisters, Sisters, Servants of the Holy Spirit and their successors, your vision of instilling the SSpS Holistic value-based formation in girls has yielded fruit. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Being at the school for almost five years enabled me to see the tremendous contributions of the St. Mary's Old Girls' Association (SMOGA) both at home and abroad. Well done!

This celebration reminds us of all who have braced many challenges and made our current successes possible. To those on the stage now, staff, students, parents and significant others, let us sustain the vision and mission of the school for generations to come.

May all our actions help empower minds and shape the future. May we guide our students to face the future fearless, calm and gay and show them life's best way.

CONGRATULATIONS! VERITUS! VERITAS!



GOODWILL MESSAGE ON THE DIAMOND JUBILEE OF ST. MARY'S SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL FROM MS. DORIS BRAMSON (FORMER HEADMISTRESS 2002 - 2016)

As we celebrate seventy-five (75) years of God's goodness to St. Mary's Senior High School, I congratulate all who have played and continue to play a part in the school's success story.

To the founding Sisters, Sisters, Servants of the Holy Spirit and their successors, your vision of instilling the SSpS Holistic value-based formation in girls has yielded fruit. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

Being at the school for almost five years enabled me to see the tremendous contributions of the St. Mary's Old Girls' Association (SMOGA) both at home and abroad. Well done!

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May all our actions help empower minds and shape the future. May we guide our students to face the future fearless, calm and gay and show them life's best way.

CONGRATULATIONS! VERITUS! VERITAS!



GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGA HERITAGE MOTHER SMOGAN CYNTHIA AMERLEY AYIKU VANDERPUIJE - SMOGA '86)

Congratulations, St. Mary's Senior High School on reaching the incredible milestone of your diamond jubilee! Celebrating 75 years is truly a remarkable milestone. As we reflect on the countless moments that have shaped the lives of the many girls who have walked through the doors of this prestigious institution, we express our heartfelt gratitude. Standing in the present with the current students, we celebrate with great joy. And as we look to the future, to the generations of girls yet to join this legacy, we hold on to hope and anticipation. We are so happy to be a part of such a momentous occasion! May God take you into the next 75 years and beyond.

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE SMOGAN LYANNE KOFFI - '84/'86 (GENERAL OVERSEER - THE LORD'S GARDEN MINISTRIES)

To God be the Glory, great things He has done!

Reflecting on my years at St. Mary's, my heart swells for the incredible souls the school has nurtured in Truth and Virtue over the decades. Being part of this Diamond Jubilee is an immense blessing, proof of being shown life's best way by the finest girl child educators.

On that note, here's to the joy of continuous growth, new milestones, and even greater achievements for our beloved St. Mary's. Wishing us all a truly glorious 75th Anniversary Celebration!



GOODWILL MESSAGE BY SMOGAN EUGENIA EKUA ENYIMAYEW (ABAKA) - SMOGA '73



It is with immense joy and pride that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to St Mary's Senior High School and the entire SMOGA on the occasion of the school's 75th anniversary, which we are celebrating under the inspiring theme, "Empowering Minds, Shaping Futures: 75 Years of Girl Child Education in Truth and Virtue."

This milestone is a powerful testament to the school's unwavering commitment to excellence in education and its transformative role in shaping the lives of countless young women. For 75 years, St Mary's Senior High School has stood as a beacon of hope, nurturing generations of confident,

God-fearing, capable and compassionate women who continue to impact their communities and the world.

As a SMOGAN, I am deeply honoured to be part of this great legacy. My recent election as the Supreme Second Vice President of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Knights of St John International (at the global level), can be attributed in part to the values of truth and virtue which St Mary's instilled in me and which have guided my path and shaped my life. Today, we celebrate not just the achievements of the past, but the vision and dedication that continue to uphold the school's mission of empowering the girl child.

As we mark this significant anniversary, let us recommit ourselves to the ideals that have brought us this far. May we continue to support the school's mission and inspire future generations to strive for greatness while upholding the principles of truth and virtue.

Congratulations once again on this remarkable journey. May the legacy of St Mary's Senior High School continue to shine brightly for many more years to come.

With warm regards,

Eugenia Eku Enyimayew (Abaka) SMOGA '73

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM MOBA TO ST. MARY'S OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION (SMOGA)



The Mfanstipim Old Boys Association (MOBA) extends our warmest congratulations to St. Mary's Senior High School on the momentous occasion of its 75th anniversary.

This milestone is a testament to the school's enduring legacy of academic excellence, discipline, and service. We celebrate with you the countless achievements and contributions of St. Mary's to Ghana's educational landscape.

As fellow alumni and stakeholders in Ghana's education, we acknowledge the importance of our shared values and traditions.

We wish you a joyous Heritage Day and a successful Fundraising Dinner Dance.

Please accept our best wishes for continued growth, success, and God's blessings.

Yours sincerely,
Mfanstipim Old Boys Association (MOBA)

SMOGA supports Mfanstipim Old Boys' Association (MOBA) at the Launch of their 150th Anniversary @ the Ecobank Auditorium on Tuesday, 18th February, 2025.

We were honoured with a plaque for contributing towards the successful event. The plaque was received by SMOGAN Lynda Graham- Global President, supported by SMOGAN Sitso Tamakloe - Organising Secretary.



GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGA

St. Mary's Old Girls' Association (SMOGA) is super excited to be part of the diamond anniversary of the School - our dear St. Mary's. As major stakeholders, the beauty of this celebration is its promise for a fresh chapter filled with love, laughter and meaningful moments shared over the past seventy-five years.

We have come a long way to make our alma mater an enviable one, partnering with the School in all spheres of training of the girls and development of the School in general. As I reflect on the past five years, my heart swells with gratitude for the incredible manner in which our school has shaped us into real women of substance.

The School has, since its inception, strived to educate the girl-child in the best possible way with guidance from the Catholic faith. Indeed, it has empowered minds and shaped the futures of so many girls turned into prominent women home and abroad, and SMOGA is proud to be a significant

part of this journey with our unwavering commitment and presence every step of the way.

We wish the School the very best as it continues this journey of educating the girl-child and making them eminent in our society to help in the overall development of our country Ghana.

Let us hold on to the bond we share, which gives us the courage to chase our dreams and the wisdom to embrace its lessons with confidence, knowing that this will make our dear St. Mary's the epitome of excellence.

Cheers To A Happy 75th Anniversary Celebration!

Veritus, Veritas!





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GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER AND STAFF OF ACCRA ACADEMY TO ST. MARY'S SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, ACCRA,

On behalf of the Board of Governors, the staff and students, of Accra Academy, it is my distinct honour to congratulate the Founders, staff, past and present students of St. Mary's SHS on the occasion of your 75th Anniversary Celebration.

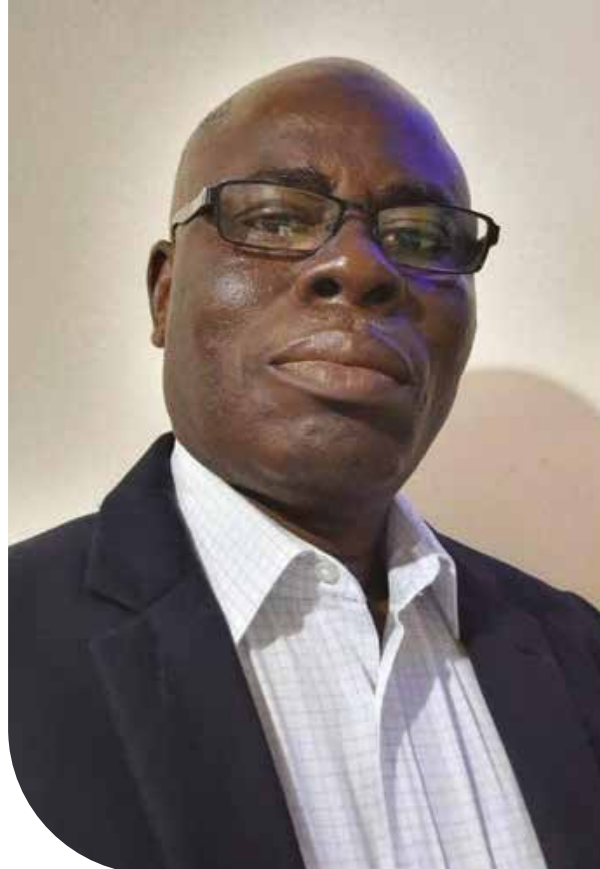
On this rare occasion of your Anniversary, Accra Academy wishes to acknowledge the long-standing relationship between the two single-sex schools in the Accra metropolis and the incomparable benefits that continue bridging the knowledge gap and equipping our students with practical complementary life learning skills.

Of significant note, is the remarkable contribution St Mary SHS has made in the development, growth and promotion of secondary education in the Girl Child, across the boundaries of Ghana.

Your dedication and commitment to ensuring quality, holistic, and values-based training for the girls have earned you worldwide admiration and recognition.

Indeed, your education has fostered a commitment to intellectual exploration, individual growth and social responsibility among and within your students. It has also inspired your students to excel at other extracurricular activities that have helped them build strong character traits and leadership skills.

Your products are not only present at every level of the global economy but also consistently demonstrate the values instilled in



them, with confidence and trust.

As we look forward to an enduring holistic education for our students, we wish to render our resolved commitment to the common opportunities and experiences that exist between the two schools.

As you celebrate this important milestone, once again, I extend our heartfelt congratulations to the gallant Founders, staff, old and present students for the achievements chalked over the 75 years.

We are extremely privileged to be associated with this success story.

We wish you a Happy Anniversary!
With warm regards,
Accra Aca! Bleoo.

Emmanuel O. Fiemawhle
Headmaster

75TH ANNIVERSARY GOODWILL MESSAGE- SMOGAN DR. HELENA NAA – BAAKE ACQUAH (NEE QUIST): CHAIRPERSON SMOGAN 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE, BOARD MEMBER ST. MARY’S SHS, PRESIDENT 1986/88

“To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest achievement.” – Ralph Waldo Emerson
Congratulations to St. Mary’s Senior High School on reaching a remarkable milestone—75 years of empowering young women through education, shaping their futures with truth and virtue.

St. Mary’s has been a beacon of excellence in girl-child education, nurturing countless talents and skills that continue to contribute to the growth and development of our nation and the world. The foundation we received at St. Mary’s has shaped our minds and prepared us to excel in diverse fields.

At 75 years, the achievements of "Marians" stand as a testament to the values instilled in us by the school. The dedication, hard work, and resilience demonstrated by alumni in Ghana and globally reflect the strength of the training we received. Our success is a collective celebration of the profound impact St. Mary’s has had on all

of us.

Let us take a moment to honour and appreciate the Founding Mothers, Headmistresses, staff (both teaching and non-teaching), and every individual and institution that has contributed to the school’s journey since its establishment. Your selfless dedication and hard work have laid the foundation for this proud legacy. Ayekoo! Well done!

As we celebrate this 75th "birthday," let us commit to continuing the legacy of St. Mary’s. Together, with the support of the Old Girls Association and parents, we will continue to empower and shape the minds of young women in truth and virtue, inspiring them to achieve even greater heights.

We deserve every success that comes our way. Congratulations to us all on this momentous occasion!

Happy 75th Anniversary, St. Mary’s!





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GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE ACCRA ACADEMY OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION



Our beloved Merries, in whom we are, and shall forever be well pleased.

The fraternity of the Accra Academy Old Boys' Association extend to you our warmest, kindest and sincerest wishes as you commemorate 75 years of unadulterated education anchored on the cornerstone of your motto: Truth and Virtue. Indeed, as the good book says, "a virtuous woman, who can find for her price is far above rubies" _ Proverbs 31: 10

Your industry over the past seven decades and five years has gifted the world with women of substance and immense fortitude. From academia to business, your presence is felt with a touch of indestructible excellence.

For us, we got the greatest of all the gifts — your love, and that we shall guard with extreme jealousy and pride from generations to generations until the end of time.

Accept our felicitations draped in our ever shining gold and blue and set in a bouquet adorned with your ever pristine blue and white.

Happy 75th Anniversary and to many more years of entrenched ties that bind.

Thank you.

Accra Aca.....Bleoo

Accra Aca.....Bleoo

Accra Aca.....Bleoo

THE PACESETTERS

MRS. JOSEPHINE TETTEH (NEE ANDOH)

MAD. ELSIE BOTCHWAY, MAD. AGNES AKUFFO (SMOGA '58)

Success in life comes through faith in God, hard work, and determination. My journey at St. Mary's Secondary School began in 1955 when, at just fourteen, I gained admission to pursue a five-year GCE O' Level course. Standing among older and taller classmates, I felt intimidated, but my resolve remained firm.

The headmistress at the time was Rev. Sister Pierre, supported by Rev. Sister Liptitidis, Sister Jane, Sister Ruth, and a few Ghanaian teachers. Our subjects included English, Literature, History, Health Science, Geography, Bible Knowledge, P.E., and Music. Although Art was introduced, it was short-lived due to limited interest.

Many of the topics we studied were "non-sylla" meaning non-syllabus subjects, meant to keep us engaged rather than prepare us for examinations. The academic year ran from January to December, with O-level exams held in November.

In 1956, our class size dropped to about forty. By 1957, all my classmates had left for other schools, leaving me as the sole form-three student. St. Mary's was still new, and many parents were uncertain about its future. However, my father insisted I stay unless the school closed down.

That same year, two other girls, Ms. Elsie Botchway from Wesley Girls and Ms. Agnes Akuffo (now deceased), joined me. We conversed only in English, as I did not speak Ga. Our teachers were supportive and hardworking, especially Rev. Sister Pierre, who, despite being strict, was compassionate and taught Literature, aside from her role as headmistress.

Our classroom was a single room in the convent, where each day began with the prayer: "All with Mary, through Mary, for the honour of God." As new students joined, hope for the school's future grew. By 1958, the school expanded, admitting boarders who stayed in the old two-story building.

In June 1958, three months before our O-level exams, I registered for the sixth form entrance examination. This highlighted how much we had not been taught, prompting Rev. Sister Pierre to rally the teachers to ensure our success. Their tireless efforts paid off when we sat for our O-level exams in Kinbu in November 1959, earning certificates in the name of St. Mary's.

I, the young girl who joined in 1955, passed with credits in three subjects and gained admission to Holy Child Teacher Training College in Takoradi. Praise be to God Almighty.

Conclusion

We all have a role to play in life and must always give our best. To the current headmistress, be an engaging and listening leader. To the teachers, continue working hard to help your students excel. Students never shy away from hard work and perseverance. Parents, support and take an active interest in your daughters' education because, as the saying goes, "if you educate a girl, you educate a nation."

May God continue to bless St. Mary's Secondary School. Let the school's motto, Truth and Virtue, be our guiding light in life.



MID-ERA LEGACY:

We weren't just students at St. Mary's; we were part of an era that shaped legends, built unbreakable bonds, and left footprints too deep to fade. The 1980s at St. Mary's were over a decade—they were an experience, a movement, and a sisterhood that thrived on resilience, discipline, and a touch of rebellious fun.

Walking through the corridors of our beloved school, we carried books in one hand and laughter in the other. We lived for entertainment nights, dressing up like queens, twirling on makeshift dance floors, belting out Whitney Houston and Madonna hits, and trying to outshine one another in fashion. Mr. Carbonu's music class? A battle between harmony and punishment—because, somehow, we always found a way to turn choir sessions into comedy shows!

And then there was Interco! The one event that turned us into roaring lions, shaking the stands of the Accra Sports Stadium with our cheers. Maria Aidoo, Sheila Clement, Fidelia Hewlett, Victoria Aidoo, Naomi Ansah, Esther Lamptey, Rita Boakye, Frieda Osei-Addo and our star athletes didn't just run; they soared, carrying the St. Mary's banner with pride. Not forgetting our dear Mrs. Elizabeth Quarmyne, who steered the affairs of sports in the school, assisted by Mr. Francis Agbesi Ntibrey. Carrying us on her back was just the tip of the iceberg. The journey there, though? That was another adventure. Packed into the infamous "Bone Shaker" mummy truck, wobbling on every pothole, screaming "You want to break our bones?!" with every jolt—it was all part of the magic.

But life at St. Mary's wasn't just fun and games. We learned discipline the hard way. 'Atico' was real – if you failed, you stayed back while the rest enjoyed mid-term break. And oh, the food! Gaso, our legendary watery stew with Kenkey, was a meal and a mystery, but we ate it with laughter anyway. Our kitchen hero, Adidon Kiss Komi, made sure we never went hungry, even if the menu was predictable.

Through every exam, every punishment and every shared bunk bed conversation, we built something precious – sisterhood. The friendships forged in those classrooms, dormitories, and dining halls have stood the test of time. We have cheered each other on from school to career heights, celebrating trailblazers like Mrs. Matilda Alomatu, proudly holding two portfolios: Chairman of IAEA and Ambassador to Vienna. Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, who is the Secretary General of the Commonwealth. Mrs. Jean Mensa, the Electoral Commissioner of Ghana and Elsie Awadzi, Deputy Governor Bank of Ghana.

As we look back, our hearts are full of gratitude. To our late headmistress, our teachers, housemistresses, kitchen staff, and all who nurtured us, we owe you more than words can say. You shaped us, guided us, and prepared us for the world.

St. Mary's was not just our school; it was our foundation. It gave us lessons in strength, resilience, and love. As the school marks 75 years of excellence, we stand proud, knowing that wherever we go and whatever we become, one truth remains:

"St. Mary's has truly showed us life's best way."
Written by Christina Nana Ama Adwubi Armah
(President, Class of '89)



THE MILLENNIAL LEGACY: ST. MARY'S CLASS OF 2005

The Millennial Legacy: St. Mary's Class of 2005

The class of 2005 wasn't just a year group; we were a MOVEMENT. A whirlwind of brains, beauty, warriors and wit who left an indelible mark on St. Mary's Senior High School. What made us so unique? Was it our unmatched energy or the way we seemed to excel in every arena? Walking down memory lane, our journey is packed with sports glory, legendary pranks, and enough drama to rival a telenovela.

From the classrooms where we studied like geniuses, prepping until every concept was grasped, to the chores that kept the school squeaky clean (though sometimes with tears over scrubbing and weeding duties), we were unstoppable. On the sports fields, we reigned supreme. Even Motown (Achimota School) couldn't touch us. We weren't just playing; we were dominating as the queens of Interco.

Balancing textbooks with trophies was our forte. Isn't it amazing how we seemed to have endless energy for both? But our legacy wasn't limited to academics and sports. We were the undisputed prank masters, the champions of awkward yet hilarious classroom moments. Remember dodging prefects like ninjas? Perfecting our Funfair Day performances with enough drama to fill an opera house? And surviving the infamous "Great Korley" Invasion: a saga that remains etched in our memories. We tackled every day with style and a sense of humour that could light up even the darkest dormitory. We were everywhere, doing everything, and doing it with flair. We played, sang, danced, and laughed until our sides hurt, creating memories that could fill a thousand yearbooks. What about our friendships? The bonds we formed weren't just fleeting; they were

the kind of connections that withstand the test of time. We gained true friendship forged through shared laughter, tears, and triumphs. Of course, as we reminisce about those unforgettable days at St. Mary's, it's only right to express our deepest gratitude to the people who made it all possible.

To our parents, teachers, headmistress, the incredible cooking staff, and all non-teaching staff, THANK YOU. Your contributions shaped our journey, and you played a part in molding us into the confident, capable, and compassionate individuals we are today. Your impact is immeasurable, and we carry your influence with us wherever we go. So, here's to us—the millennials who didn't just pass through St. Mary's; we OWNED it. We were more than students; we were legends. Though 20 years have passed, the memories remain as vivid as ever. Cheers to the class of 2005, the quintessential all-rounders, the year group that proved we could rule with brains, beauty, and a whole lot of wits. After all, isn't it true that some legacies never fade?

Written by: Ms. Lady Rita Bruce-Attuquayefio,
2005 Year Group President



Profiles

PROFILE OF THERESA DOWETIN (SMOGAN' 83)

Dr. Theresa Dowetin (SMOGAN' 83) is a renowned leader, strategic visionary, and an accomplished scholar with a distinguished career spanning education, public administration, and business management.

Her academic journey reflects her commitment to excellence. She holds a degree in Bookkeeping and Accounting from the City of London College and the Middlesex University of London, as well as a Bachelor of Business Administration from GIMPA. Her thirst for knowledge has taken her through various international programs, reinforcing her dedication to lifelong learning.

As a transformational leader, Dr. Dowetin has made a profound impact in the fields of education and management. She currently serves as the Director of Datus International School, an esteemed international Baccalaureate World School, shaping young minds for the future. She also contributes to higher education governance as a member of the Governing Council of Tema Prestige University College.

With an impeccable track record of excellence, unwavering commitment to leadership, and dedication to intellectual advancement, Dr. Theresa Dowetin is a true inspiration to many. Her remarkable achievements and strategic vision have solidified her position as one of the most distinguished and respected professionals of our time.

Above all, she remains a very, very proud SMOGAN, carrying the values of Truth and Virtue wherever she goes!



BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: SMOGAN ALICE R. CHINEBUAH, ESQ (NÉE KORANTENG)



Mrs. Alice R. Chinebuah is a proud alumna of St. Mary's Secondary School, where she studied from 1982 to 1984.

A distinguished legal professional, she is a Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Ghana, having been called to the Bar in 1991. With over three decades of legal experience, she currently serves as the Managing Partner and Director at Reynolds, C. & Co., a leading law firm based in Accra, Ghana. The firm provides expert legal counsel to a diverse range of corporate clients—both local and international—particularly within the oil and gas sector. Additionally, the firm specializes in civil and commercial law, with key focus areas including corporate restructuring, governance, contract law, and advocacy.

Beyond her legal career, Mrs. Chinebuah is a member of the Dean's Strategy Council at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Northeastern University (Boston, Massachusetts, USA), advising key institutional matters. She is also an Independent Governor on the Governing Board of Northeastern University's London campus.

Outside of her professional engagements, she enjoys cooking, reading, and singing. She is happily married to Chris Chinebuah, and together they have four wonderful children.

PROFILE OF PAMELA MILLS-ROBERTSON: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, GHANA IMMIGRATION SERVICE



Pamela Mills-Robertson, a proud member of the 1990/1992 year group of St. Mary's (SMOGA), currently serves as Assistant Commissioner in the Ghana Immigration Service. She began her career in 1993 as a recruiting officer after completing her Advanced Level exams and has risen through the ranks. Pamela has worked in various key sections of the Service, including the Receiving Counter, Airport operations, and the Accounts Department, where she spent over ten years. She now leads the Investigations Unit under the Operations Department at the Regional Office. Pamela was also the financial secretary and a founding executive member of the Immigration Ladies Club. Beyond her professional achievements, Pamela is a proud mother of three, embodying a balance of dedication to her career and family.

SMOGAN LYNDA DEDE GRAHAM (NUNOO) – GLOBAL PRESIDENT

Lynda Dede Graham (Nunoo) is a distinguished and seasoned hospitality professional with over 30 years of experience spanning academia and industry, both locally and internationally. Her extensive expertise and unwavering commitment to excellence have positioned her as a leader in hospitality education, management, and service delivery.

Mrs. Graham is an alumna of St. Mary's Secondary School (SMOGA '85) and currently serves as the Global President of the St. Mary's Old Girls' Association (SMOGA), exemplifying her dedication to community and alumni engagement.

She holds a Master of Science (MSc) in International Hotel Management and a Master of Education (MEd) in Hospitality Management, both from the University of Surrey, Guildford, UK. Additionally, she has earned certifications in Public Health and Hygiene and Culinary Arts Systems from Hounslow Community College, London. Her academic journey began with a Diploma in Institutional Management and City & Guilds



PROFILE OF SMOGAN AMA OKYERE



Ama Okyere serves as the Advisor for Communications and Events to the President of Afreximbank. Prior to this role, she was the Group Head of Marketing at Ecobank (ETI), one of Africa's largest financial institutions, with operations spanning over 34 countries across the continent. A proud alumna of St. Mary's Secondary School (SMOGA '79), Ama holds an MBA from the University of Hull (UK) and an Executive MBA from Cranfield University (UK). As an accomplished and highly respected brand strategist and marketing maven, Ama has worked with several high-profile companies, including Diageo, Saatchi & Saatchi, Ogilvy & Mather, and Mercury Communications. She is widely recognized for her ability to revitalize struggling brands, steering them back to profitability and market leadership. Beyond her corporate achievements, Ama is deeply committed to philanthropy, actively supporting and raising funds for communities that have played a significant role in shaping her life and career.

PROFILE OF H.E. SMOGAN MATILDA AKU ALOMATU OSEI-AGYEMAN - SMOGA '87/'89 (AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA TO THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA)

SMOGAN Matilda Aku Alomatu Osei-Agyeman has been appointed Ghana's Ambassador-Designate to the Republic of Austria. Before this nomination, she served as Minister Plenipotentiary /Deputy Ambassador and Head of Chancery at the Embassy of the Republic of Ghana in Italy. With 25 years of experience in the Foreign Service, SMOGAN Matilda Aku Alomatu Osei-Agyeman was recruited in April 1999 and has held a range of positions both domestically and internationally, contributing to Ghana's foreign policy on bilateral and multilateral issues. Her previous postings include the Ghana High Commission in the United Kingdom, the Ghana High Commission in Valletta, Malta, Ghana's Diplomatic Mission in Washington, D.C., and the Permanent Mission of Ghana to the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, where she was responsible for UN Agencies in both Geneva and Vienna. Additionally, she has led several bureaus

within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Europe, Candidatures and has served in key roles in the Protocol Bureau, Chief Director's Office, Americas Bureau, Policy Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Bureau and the Information and Public Affairs Bureau. SMOGAN Matilda Aku Alomatu Osei-Agyeman completed her secondary education at St. Mary's Secondary School in Korle-Gonno, Accra. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and a Master of Arts degree in International Affairs from the University of Ghana, Legon. In addition, she has earned certificates in various fields, including Strategic Economic Diplomacy, Trade and Investment Promotion, UN Sustainable Development Goals, drafting UN Resolutions, Women's Leadership, Conflict Analysis & Mediation, Child Labour, and Climate Change. Her hobbies include traveling and walking workouts.



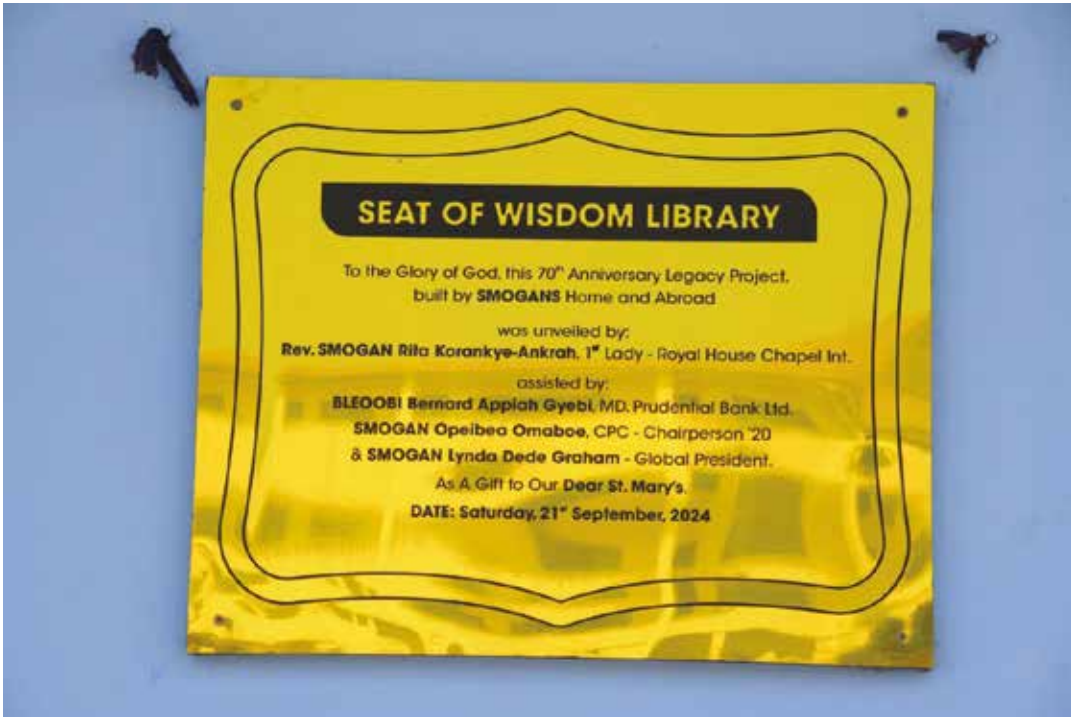
PROFILE OF AKWELLEY ADOLEY BULLEY-KWAKYI (NEE BULLEY)

HR EXECUTIVE | MOM | COACH | TROUBLEMAKER

Akwelley Adoley Bulley-Kwakyi is an award-winning HR Executive with over 24 years of expertise spanning diverse industries, including banking, hospitality, telecommunications, waste management, and manufacturing. A CIPD-accredited HR professional, ICF-certified coach, and BPS-certified test administrator, she specializes in psychological safety assessment and personal development. A proud alumna of St. Mary's (SMOGA '89), where she served as Assistant School Prefect. Akwelley holds a BA in Psychology with Linguistics from the University of Ghana and an MA in Employment Studies and HR Management from London Metropolitan University. Her career includes serving on various boards, such as representing the Ghana Employers Association on the National Council of Persons with Disability. Known for her infectious positivity and bold approach to challenging norms, Akwelley is dedicated to fostering "humanity" — creating environments where individuals thrive and excel. She champions personal growth, inspiring others to embrace life fully as "it is not a dress rehearsal." Beyond her professional achievements, Akwelley is a proud mother of four, a grandmother, a travel enthusiast, and a gastronomy



aficionado who balances her love for food with cycling. She advocates for emotional well-being, reminding everyone of the importance of kindness to oneself and prioritizing rest amidst life's chaos. Akwelley's Motto: Being kind to yourself is crucial as normalizing chaos can lead to anxiety, burnout, and depression, emphasizing the importance of emotional and physical rest.



DEDICATION AND HANDING OVER OF SEAT OF WISDOM LIBRARY TO THE SCHOOL



75TH ANNIVERSARY LAUNCH



CLEANING AND STRESS MANAGEMENT

PRESS BRIEFING



CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION





IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (FEAST DAY)



SMOGA UK

PROFILE OF BERNADETTE ADUKWEI BENTUM-SIRIPI (NEE LARYEA)



A very Proud Smogan of the 1986 year group, Bernadette Bentum-Sirip is the (SMOGA UK /Ireland President.

Bernadette has 25 years of experience working with the UK civil and health service. She is a Healthcare Professional and a specialist Child and young people's (CAMHS) Clinician. In 2009, Bernadette obtained a Bachelor of Science (BSc) degree in Mental Health Nursing from King's College in London and has since worked in various NHS Trusts in adult and children's settings.

Before training as a nurse in 2009, Bernadette worked with the UK Home Office in the Passport Office in Petty France

and The Globe House in London, Victoria and later seconded from the Home Office to the Metropolitan Police. Bernadette worked for 10 years as a Civilian specialising in Criminal Injuries Compensation Claims with the Metropolitan Police.

She is currently a specialist in neurodiverse/developmental disorders, namely Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD), and a trained Family Therapist. She is also the Director and Co-founder of The Cognitive Hub Group (with other Smoglet), which specialises in ASD, ADHD, and Learning Disability Assessments.

Bernadette balances her professional career with intentional family travel and fun time, as well as SMOGAN Activities, both of which allow her to delve into her passions for catering, organizing, hosting and partying.

VERITUS VERITAS

SMOGA UK /IRELAND EXECUTIVES

Bernadette Bentum-Siripi - SMOGA 86 President
Phyllis Adjekum Abebrese – SMOGA 86 Vice President

CURRENT EXECUTIVE TEAM

President	Bernadette Bentum-Siripi (Nee Laryea) – SMOGA 86
Vice President	Phyllis Adjekum Abebrese – SMOGA 86
Treasurer	Ruth Aryitey - SMOGA 90
Assistant Treasurer	Winnie Armah - SMOGA 93
Secretary	Renee Adusei Poku – SMOGA 1990
Assistant Secretary	Patsy Annan SMOGA 1980
PR Officers	Florence Amma Opoku SMOGA 1988 Marian Bonney SMOGA 1989
Welfare Officers	Gifty Opoku (nee Ansah) SMOGA 82 Mary Attoh Okine SMOGA 99
Social Team	Mona-Lisa Ofei-Tagoe - SMOGA 90 Irene Amarteifio - SMOGA 91 Sheila Martey (nee Nunoo) SMOGA 91



SMOGA UK – OUR GOALS AND ACTIVITIES

The background history of SMOGA UK/IRELAND's formation has been documented in the 70th Anniversary Brochure, so we will not repeat that and focus on our goals, activities and achievements since the 70th Anniversary, which delved into COVID. As an organisation, we are very supportive of every member through a welfare team which can be called upon in times of need. Our welfare team is spread across various locations in the UK to enable easy access and connection. As you can see from the pictures, we also love to have fun, and when we meet, an intergenerational group with no age barrier whatsoever.

As you are all aware, COVID hit shortly after our beautiful 70th-anniversary celebrations, which affected the plans of other Alumni functions scheduled for later that year (2020), but SMOGA got away with it.

The COVID restrictions affected our in-person meetings. We continue to have three quarterly meetings, two online and one in person.

December 2021 – Feast Day celebrations

2022 - We had our Summer family and friends BBQ, which had been suspended due to COVID.

July 2023 - We had our fundraising dinner dance, the proceeds of which were used for the landscape and beautification of the area behind the sick bay and assembly hall which befits the name “Memorial Garden”

August 2023 - Had a get-together for most past and present executives and the SMOGA 86-year group hosted by Bernadette (then Smoga UK vice President) at her residence.

December 2023 - Celebrated the feast day and handover of newly elected President/Vice and Executives.

July 2024 – Summer family and friends BBQ

8th December 2024 – Feast Day /75 years Celebration



LIZANI

EVENTS ENTERPRISE



Location: Close to Lashibi Funeral Home

Contact: 0244979261



A GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM SMOGA NORTH AMERICA PRESIDENT ELIZABETH BART-PLANGE OPOKU



Genevive Kofi SMOGA North America VP and Elizabeth Opoku at ODADE NA in collaboration with AOGA NA Annual Fundraiser Dinner & Gala Dance in Virginia US

A Goodwill Message from SMOGA NA President Elizabeth Bart-Plange Opoku for the 75th Anniversary of St. Mary's Senior High School

On this momentous occasion of the 75th anniversary of St. Mary's Senior High School, we celebrate a rich legacy of academic excellence, community spirit, and countless achievements. This milestone reflects decades of dedication by students, teachers, alumni, and staff who have shaped the school into a beacon of learning and inspiration.



SMOGAS at Annual Fundraiser Gala & Dinner Dance in Virginia US

As we honor the past and the journey that brought us here, let us also look to the future with hope and determination. May St. Mary's Senior High School continue to thrive as a nurturing ground for young minds, fostering values, innovation, and lifelong learning for generations to come.

Congratulations on this incredible achievement and may the legacy of St. Mary's Senior High School shine brighter in the years ahead!



SMOGAS at the ODADEE NA AND AOGA NA Reunion Picnic

Departmental Reports

REPORT FROM THE MATHEMATICS AND INFORMATION COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The Mathematics and Information Communication Technology (ICT) Department of St. Mary's Senior High School is proud to be led by Mr. Ebenezer Aryee Quarcoo, a seasoned professional dedicated to academic excellence. The department comprises 14 highly qualified and committed teachers, all holding degrees. Among them, three dynamic female educators inspire our students by challenging stereotypes and proving that mathematics and ICT are fields for everyone, regardless of gender. The department oversees the teaching of Core Mathematics, Elective Mathematics, and ICT:

- Core Mathematics: A compulsory subject for all students, forming the backbone of logical and analytical reasoning.
- Elective Mathematics: Primarily offered in the Science program and optionally available to

students in Visual Arts, Business, and Social Science (Economics/Geography) tracks.

- ICT: Once a non-examinable core subject, ICT has now transitioned into an elective subject for some first-year students in the 2024/25 academic year, reflecting its growing importance in the modern world.

The department is committed to breaking the myth that mathematics and ICT are male-dominated fields. Our female educators actively work to inspire the young women of St. Mary's to embrace these disciplines with confidence and enthusiasm. Through the collective efforts of the Mathematics and ICT team, St. Mary's students continue to excel, laying the groundwork for success in higher education and beyond.



ACHIEVEMENT

The Mathematics and ICT Department of St. Mary's Senior High School has consistently demonstrated exceptional performance in the West African Senior Secondary Certificate Examinations (WASSCE). Both Core Mathematics and Elective Mathematics results have consistently surpassed the national average, showcasing the school's dedication to academic excellence. In 2022, a nationwide decline in WASSCE performance affected many schools, including St. Mary's, with a 4% drop in both Core and Elective Mathematics results. However, the department's committed team of teachers implemented timely interventions, ensuring a remarkable turnaround. By 2023, the results not only recovered but achieved an impressive 112% improvement, reaffirming St. Mary's reputation for academic resilience and excellence. This milestone underscores the school's commitment to nurturing mathematical proficiency and empowering students to excel despite challenges.

CHALLENGES

The Mathematics and ICT Department faces a significant hurdle in the form of an under-equipped ICT laboratory, which hampers effective teaching and learning. As ICT has now become an elective subject for some students, the lack of a modern, fully equipped laboratory with reliable internet connectivity is a pressing concern. Addressing this gap is essential to providing students with the necessary tools to excel in technology-driven disciplines and meet the high standards of STEMNOVATION, enabling them to remain competitive in today's rapidly evolving tech landscape. Additionally, the department seeks support from SMOGA, alumni, and other stakeholders to enhance its participation and preparation for prestigious events like the National Science and Mathematics Quiz. With the right resources and backing, the department aims to elevate its impact and inspire students to achieve even greater heights in STEM fields.

WAY FORWARD

Despite existing challenges, the Mathematics and ICT Department is resolute in its mission to improve WASSCE results by at least 30% in the coming academic year. To achieve this goal, the department plans to implement several key strategies:

1. Regular Student Feedback: Providing timely and constructive feedback to students, focusing on their strengths and areas for improvement, will help them take ownership of their learning.
2. Continuous Assessment: Conducting frequent assessments and evaluations will allow for close monitoring of students' progress and early identification of learning gaps.
3. Teacher Professional Development: Organizing regular internal refresher courses will enhance teachers' content knowledge, pedagogy, and technical skills, ensuring they are well-prepared to deliver the demands of the updated curriculum.
4. Comprehensive Monitoring: Establishing a robust monitoring system to track students' learning progress and adapt teaching methods to their needs.

By adhering to this plan, the department aims to foster a culture of academic excellence, improve teaching effectiveness, and build a rigorous and dynamic mathematics program. With these measures in place, the department is confident in achieving a transformative 30% improvement in WASSCE results, setting a solid foundation for sustained success in subsequent years.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We wholeheartedly express our deepest gratitude to the School Board, the Parents Association (PA), our headmistress, and the entire administration for their unwavering support and dedication over the years. Thank you for being pillars of strength and for championing the mission and vision of our department and the school as a whole.

REPORT FROM THE SCIENCE AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Science and Physical Education Department at St. Mary's Senior High School proudly contributes to the school's legacy of excellence as it celebrates its 75th anniversary. Our team comprises 17 dedicated staff members, predominantly male, with a few remarkable female educators who serve as role models, inspiring our girls to excel in the sciences. Our primary goal is to ignite a passion for scientific inquiry in our students, emphasising that science is at the heart of global systems and everyday life. As a Category 'A' Science school, St. Mary's has consistently ranked among the top schools in Ghana, thanks to our outstanding academic performance. Over 90% of our students secure admissions to premier universities in Ghana and

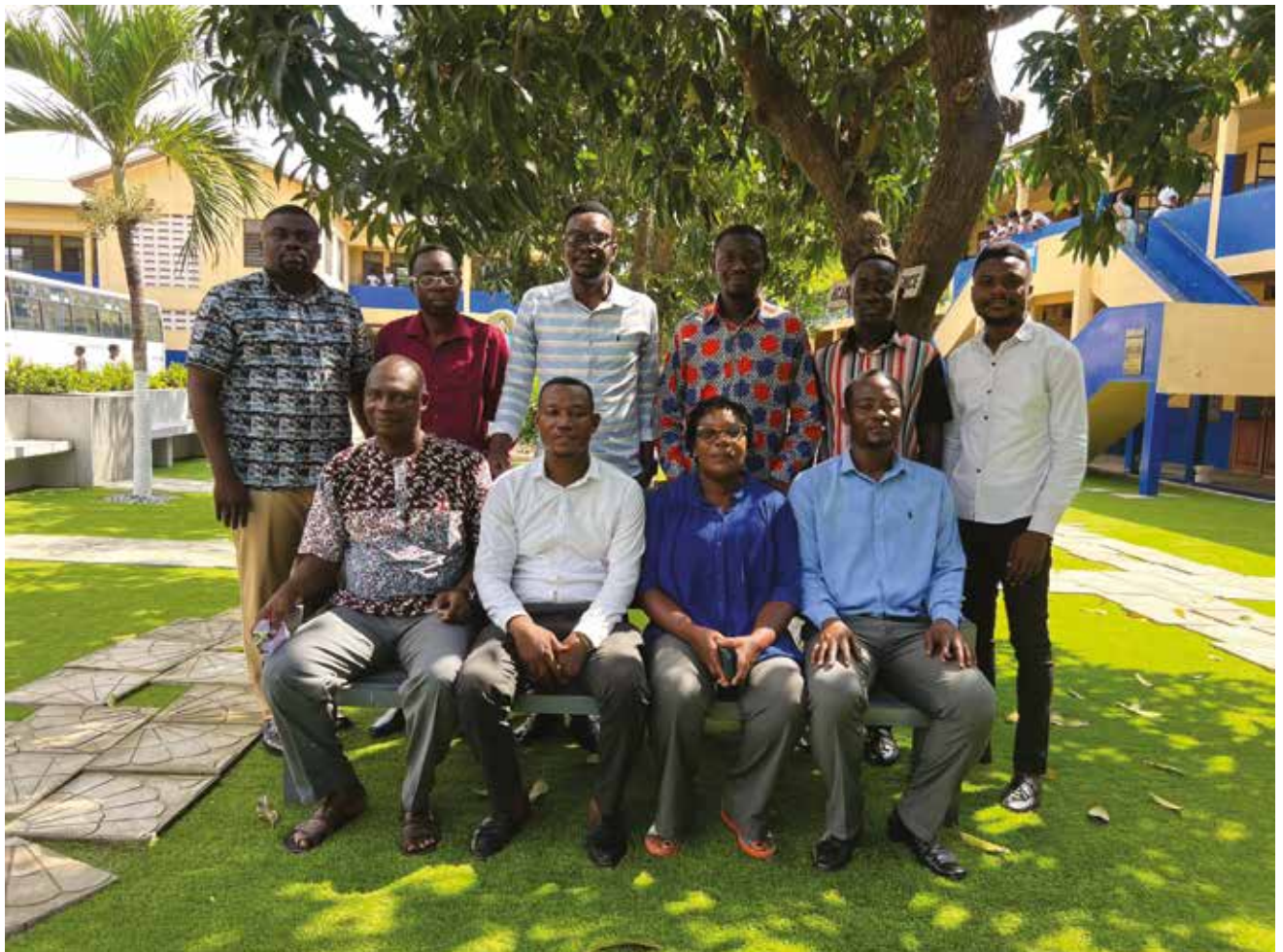
abroad, pursuing careers in medicine, engineering, law, administration, and more.

Notable achievements of the department include:

- 2022: Michaelina Appiah, a member of our National Science and Math Quiz (NSMQ) team, was awarded a \$75,000 full tuition scholarship to Accra College of Medicine, Ghana's leading private medical school.

- 2023: Our students triumphed in the inaugural Youth Climate Change Quiz competition organized by the Environmental Protection Agency at Presec Legon.

We are committed to empowering young minds, ensuring our students not only excel academically but also contribute meaningfully to societal progress. As we celebrate this milestone, we look forward to inspiring even more girls to embrace the sciences and achieve their dreams. Below is a summary of the activities and achievements of the year 2024:



A. NSMQ REPORT 2024

Introduction

St. Mary's SHS embarked on an intensive preparation journey for the 2024 National Science and Math Quiz (NSMQ) following our failure to qualify for the National Championship in 2023.

Preparations

Preparations began in December 2023 with a vacation stay-in program for team members. The team had several trials with renowned schools, including Accra Academy, St. Thomas Aquinas, Labone SHS, Accra Girls, Wesley Grammar, Keta SHTS, St. Peters Seminary SHS, St. Augustine's College, St. John's School and Chemu SHTS.

Regional Qualification

Unlike last year, we successfully secured Regional Qualification by defeating Labone SHS, Nungua SHS, and Osudoku SHS.

National Championship

Unfortunately, St Mary's lost the competition to Amaniampong SHS at the Preliminary stage of this year's (2024) competition held at the University of Cape Coast, marking our first exit at this stage at the National Championship since 2016.

Challenges

Despite our progress, we faced the following challenges:

1. Inadequate logistics (textbooks, study materials, laptops, reference books, printers, etc.)
2. Lack of adequate funds
3. Lack of motivation for teachers and students
4. Insufficient contact hours

B. SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION/SPORTING ACTIVITIES IN 2024

Greater Accra Sports Games

From May 29th to May 31st, 2024, the Greater Accra Zone Two Sports Games took place at the EL-WAK Sports Stadium, with St. Mary's SHS

participating in a range of events including games and athletics. Our talented athletes competed in volleyball, netball, football, table tennis, handball, and basketball. After three intense days of competition, St. Mary's emerged victorious in table tennis and netball, securing first place in both events. We also claimed impressive second place finishes in handball, football, volleyball, and basketball. In the athletics category, our students excelled, clinching first place overall, a testament to their hard work and exceptional talent.

Super-Zonal Competition

Following our stellar performance at the zonal games, we advanced to the Greater Accra Schools Super-Zonal Championships held in Ada from July 9th to July 12th, 2024. Over four thrilling days of competition, St. Mary's SHS showcased exceptional skill and teamwork:

- First place in the Girls' 4x400m relay.
- Second place in Girls' basketball, the 400m race, and the medley relay.

Our students' remarkable achievements reflect their dedication, perseverance, and competitive spirit. As we celebrate these victories, we remain committed to nurturing talent and aiming for even greater heights in future competitions.

Challenges

1. Inadequate running shoes
2. Inadequate football boots and shin guards
3. Inadequate sports equipment for practical work and training for Inter-school Games

C. SUMMARY OF STEM ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024

1. Introduction

This year, St. Mary's Senior High School proudly reinforced its reputation as a hub for academic excellence and innovation through active participation in impactful STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) initiatives. These activities not only broadened our students' knowledge base but also offered them hands-on experiences in applying scientific principles to real-world challenges. The following

is a summary of key events and achievements, highlighting the school's commitment to nurturing creativity, problem-solving, and excellence in STEM. Our students embraced these opportunities to demonstrate their skills and passion, contributing to significant milestones in STEM education across Ghana:

2. STEMNOVATION 2024 Competition at Achimota School on August 31, 2024

- St. Mary's SHS won the award for Best STEM Project from a Girls' School.
- Details: Our team designed an innovative vacuum solar still for the competition. This project showcased our students' ability to apply engineering principles and creativity to solve real-world challenges, receiving recognition for excellence among participating girls' schools.

3. STEM Expo at Youth Employment Agency / The Ghana Report Jobs and Entrepreneurship Fair at Independence Square – October 1, 2024

Overview: Our students proudly represented St. Mary's SHS by showcasing their STEM projects alongside peers from various schools in Ghana. This expo provided a platform to highlight their technical skills and innovative thinking, as well as to network with like-minded individuals from other institutions.

4. Ghana Digital and Innovation Week at Accra International Conference Centre – October 3, 2024

Overview: The students participated in an exhibition at this national-level event, demonstrating their projects in a collaborative and competitive environment. This experience enhanced their understanding of digital and technological advancements and showcased their ability to contribute to Ghana's innovation ecosystem.

5. Grand Finale of the High School Renewable Energy Challenge at Accra International Conference Centre – October 8, 2024

Overview: Our students attended the final round of this prestigious renewable energy competition.

They had the opportunity to observe and learn from the top renewable energy projects presented by other schools, deepening their knowledge of renewable energy solutions and inspiring them to contribute further to sustainable energy innovations.

6. Conclusion

The STEM activities St. Mary's Senior High School participated in this year have significantly contributed to our students' academic and personal development. These events fostered teamwork, problem-solving skills, and confidence in our students, equipping them with the competencies needed for future challenges. Our achievements, particularly the award for the Best STEM Project from a Girls' School at the STEMNOVATION competition, underscore the success and growth of STEM education at St. Mary's SHS.

7. Recommendations

To continue fostering STEM excellence at St. Mary's SHS, we recommend:

- Further investment in STEM resources and facilities.
- Encourage more students to participate in such competitions and exposé.
- Continued support for STEM-focused projects that address real-world challenges, enhancing the students' hands-on learning experiences.

Appeal

We appeal to all stakeholders including SMOGA, parents and other benevolent organisations to aid the department in addressing its challenges.

Acknowledgement

We extend our gratitude to the school administration for their support in making these achievements possible. The department also expresses its appreciation to SMOGANS, students, and well-wishers who responded to the Headmistress's appeal for support last year, 2023, concerning the NSMQ. Your support significantly contributed to our preparations. Our success reflects the collective effort of the staff, students, and the school community.

A REPORT BY THE GENERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT ON THE OCCASION OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY

The General Arts Department stands proudly as one of the largest and most dynamic in the school, in terms of student enrollment and the diversity of subjects offered. With a team of dedicated subject-matter experts, the department enriches classrooms with deep expertise and an infectious passion for learning. Over the past decade, the department has consistently demonstrated stellar academic performance, earning its reputation as a hub of intellectual excellence. By fostering a culture that prioritizes critical thinking, intellectual curiosity, and a genuine passion for knowledge, the department inspires students to engage deeply with complex societal issues. This unwavering commitment to academic and personal growth is reflected in the impressive achievements of its students, who continue to make their mark in various fields and competitions:

1. 2018 - Outstanding Department in WASSCE
2. 2021- GHANA Moot Court Champions
3. 2021- Independence Day Quiz- Greater Accra

Regional Champions

4. 2024- Independence Day Quiz- Accra Metro Zonal Champions
5. 2024- NCCE, Greater Accra Civic Fest Art competition- 1st Runner-up
6. 2024- Environmental Protection Agency National Climate Change competition- champions
7. 2024- Ghana Chief Justice Moot Court contest- currently in the semi-finals

The General Arts Department continues to excel, with an impressive 97% of students gaining admission to prestigious universities and thriving in their professional careers. As we celebrate the school's 75th anniversary, the department expresses profound gratitude to the visionary founding sisters for laying a solid foundation. To current students, the department extends its best wishes, encouraging them to strive for greatness in all their pursuits. Here's to a future filled with continued success and blessings for all!



A REPORT BY THE VOCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The vocational department is a combination of visual art and home economics programmes. All the students in the department study General knowledge in arts. However, students in the home economics section study management in living, food and nutrition /clothing and textiles and biology, while visual art students study picture making, Graphic Design, Leather Work and Elective Mathematics / Economics. All the programmes are tailored to develop students' ability to be creative, innovative, skilful and industrious for personal and industrial development.

The Department has nurtured a lot of students who have excelled in the WASSCE and continue to do very well in tertiary institutions. The students' success largely depends on the department's hardworking teachers. These teachers have effectively taught and monitored students to excel in life. The department has produced very good results through teachers' dedication and hard work over the years. The indefatigable headmistress, Miss Philomina Owusu Ansah cannot be left out of the department's success story. Despite her arduous administrative schedules, she contributed immensely by making a periodical visit to the department to encourage and motivate the

students to excel in their fields of study and also offered some practical equipment to students of the department.

The P.A. executive and parents played a vital role in supporting the department and students to have a successful practical. We would like to say ayekoo to them.

It is worthy of note that many students in the department effectively combine academic work with extra-curricular activities, especially sports and athletics and bring laurels to the school.

This is a very challenging department where many students lack the wherewithal to provide the items for their practical lessons. We will be very pleased if well-meaning stakeholders will offer some assistance by providing some logistics that are needed for studying the programmes.

Members of the public are usually motivated by long-term outcomes when their wards emerge as architects, graphic designers, computer programmers, fashion designers, nutritionists, milliners, interior and exterior decorators, medical doctors, nurses, etc. students who have passed through the department are doing very well in different fields of endeavour. Ophelia Crossland of Crossland Designs is one of the notable products of the department that is making St. Mary's proud globally.

Long live St Mary's
Long live SSpS
Long live Ghana



ST. MARY'S SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, ACCRA

AWARDEES LIST FOR THE 75TH SPEECH AND PRIZE-GIVING DAY

FORM ONE (1) (NOW IN FORM TWO)

SUBJECT AWARD WINNERS FOR 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	SUBJECT (S) AWARDED	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	ASAMOAH RACHEAL MAAME ASAA	ECONOMICS, SOCIAL STUDIES & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	3	SMOGAN GLADYS GAFFREY-UMEH ('84)
2	SLATER STACY CATHERINE	GEOGRAPHY & GOVERNMENT	2	SMOGAN MANTEBEA MENDS ('87/88)
3	OBUOIBA ADOBEA	INTEGRATED SCIENCE & PHYSICS	2	SMOGAN LENA CROSSLAND ('84)
4	DOE MABEL	GRAPHIC DESIGN & LEATHER WORK	2	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
5	KRODO EYRAV AKU	BIOLOGY	1	DR. SMOGAN IRENE ACHEAMPONG
6	AKABUA JOAN SEDINAM	CHEMISTRY	1	DR. SMOGAN IRENE ACHEAMPONG
7	OPPRONG ABGAIL	CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES	1	DR. SMOGAN GINA NELSON
8	BOYE CECILIA ADJELEY	CLOTHING & TEXTILES	1	SMOGAN NAA AMUA ODDJOE (2000)
9	TETTEH CLARA	ELECTIVE MATHEMATICS	1	SMOGAN SHIRLEY ARTHUR ('84)
10	ANTWI QUEENSTAR KYEWAA AFUA	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	1	SMOGAN ANN DALIA BOAKYE-ANSAH ('70)
11	OTCHIE NADIA	FOODS & NUTRITION	1	SMOGAN LENA CROSSLAND ('84)
12	NIKOL JOSEPHINE NAA DEI	FRENCH	1	SMOGAN LYDIA LARYEA (1987)
13	ADDO CONSTANCE NAA KORKO	GENERAL KNOWLEDGE IN ARTS	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
14	HAGBENU PRECIOUS PHEBE SENA	HISTORY	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
15	YEBDAH ELSIE KWAKYEWAA	LITERATURE-IN-ENGLISH	1	SMOGA 1992 YEAR GROUP
16	BEKOF NADIA	MANAGEMENT IN LIVING	1	SMOGAN NADIA GHAMPRON ('84)
17	HARUNA RAJIATU	CORE MATHEMATICS	1	SMOGAN SHIRLEY ARTHUR ('84)
18	OSAE MELISA DODDY	FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING	1	SMOGAN GLADYS GAFFREY-UMEH ('84)
19	NOI CHIESEA NAA AKLERH	COST ACCOUNTING	1	SMOGAN GLADYS GAFFREY-UMEH ('84)
20	ALLOTEY HANNAH AKU	MUSIC	1	MR. ERIC ANGEL ACBE-CARBONU

OVER ALL BEST STUDENTS IN THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

SHS ONE (1)

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	PROGRAMME (S) AWARDED	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	YEBDAH ELSIE KWAKYEWAA	GENERAL ARTS	1	SMOGAN DEBORAH ASMAH ('04)
2	TETTEH CLARA	GENERAL SCIENCE	1	SMOGAN PROF. KONADU ACHEAMPONG
3	ANTWI QUEENSTAR KYEWAA AFUA	LANGUAGES	1	MPONTU TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
4	ASAMOAH RACHEAL MAAME ASAA	BUSINESS	1	MPONTU TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
5	AKPAKU JARL SEDEM	MATHEMATICS	1	SMOGAN SHIRLEY ARTHUR ('84)
6	OTCHIE NADIA	HOME ECONOMICS	1	MPONTU TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
7	DOE MABEL	VISUAL ARTS	1	SMOGAN VELMA OWUSU-REMPAH ('88)

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	SUBJECT (S) AWARDED	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	TETTEH CLARA	SHS 1 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR BEST STUDENT	1	SMOGAN FAUSTINA OPOSU-AWAH ('59)

FORM TWO (2) (NOW IN FORM THREE)

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	SUBJECT (S) AWARDED	NO. OF AWARD	SPONSOR (S)
1	ATIVOR ESTHER AKUSHKA	CHEMISTRY, ELECTIVE MATHS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE & CORE MATHS.	4	DR. SMOGAN IRENE ACHEAMPONG
2	OBBINA CRISTABEL MAAME KORKOR	BIOLOGY, INTEGRATED SCIENCE & PHYSICS	3	SMOGAN LENA CROSSLAND ('84)
3	BOATING MARILYN TIMA	ECONOMICS & FRENCH	2	SMOGA LYDIA LARYEA (1987)
4	BIMPONG MAHALLEL OFORWAA ASEDA	GENERAL KNOWLEDGE IN ARTS & LEATHER WORK	2	SMOGAN ANNE-MARE KUZOE (2000)
5	CIRIL COMFORT ENYONAV	GOVERNMENT & SOCIAL STUDIES	2	SMOGAN ANN DALIA BOAKYE-ANSAH ('70)
6	ANSONG REGINA	CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDIES	1	
7	MENSAH YAWUENA DEDE AMA	CLOTHING & TEXTILES	1	SMOGAN NAA AMUA ODDJOE (2000)
8	SEMARIA RICHAEL DELADEM MOHAMMED TEHISUMA DURRATIL-AN NEMBE	FOODS & NUTRITION	1	SMOGAN ABLINA AVPOMAH NEWMAN (2000)
9	AN NEMBE	GEOGRAPHY	1	SMOGAN MANTEBEA MENDS ('87/88)
10	OWUSU EMMANUELLA YAA	HISTORY	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
11	ASANTE ISABELLA SARFOA	LITERATURE - IN - ENGLISH	1	SMOGA 1992 YEAR GROUP
12	LARYEA LAURA AYORKOR ASEYE	MANAGEMENT IN LIVING	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
13	ATTIPOE ALVINA FAPA	MUSIC	1	MR. ERIC ANGEL ACBE-CARBONU
14	SAM KERRN HAPPUCH FWURASA	FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING	1	SMOGAN GLADYS GAFFREY-UMEH ('84)
15	KUWORDAH JANICE KEKELI	COST ACCOUNTING	1	SMOGAN GLADYS GAFFREY-UMEH ('84)
16	BELLO SEVBIATU	BUSINESS MANAGEMENT	1	SMOGAN DEBORAH ASVAH ('04)
17	BOYE JULIET MARTAKE MERLEY	PICTURE MAKING	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP

OVER ALL BEST STUDENTS IN THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES

SHS ONE (2)

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	PROGRAMME (S) AWARDED	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	BOATENG MARLYN TIMA COBBINA CHRISTABEL MAAME	GENERAL ARTS	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
2	KORKOR	CHEMISTRY	1	SMOGAN PROF. KONADU ACHEAMTONG
3	ATIVOR ESTHER AKUSHIKA	LANGUAGE & MATHEMATICS	2	MPONTU TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
4	SAM KUMI NNAHPUCE I WURARA	BUSINESS	1	SMOGAN EDNA YAYRA ELI
5	SEMABIA RICHAEAL DELADEM BIMTONG MAHALLEL OFORIWAA	HOME ECONOMICS	1	MPONTU TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED
6	ASEDA	VISUAL ARTS	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP

OVER ALL BEST STUDENTS IN SHS 2

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	SUBJECT (S) AWARDED	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	ATIVOR ESTHER AKUSHIKA	SHS 2 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR BEST STUDENT	1	SMOGAN JUSTINA KORDEI ANSAH ('59)

SPECIAL AWARDS

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	AWARD	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	1. OPOKU RESUSANT HFRFWSEFN 2. BUKARI MBUTAM-YIN MUBASHIRAH ALGHARTEY FAVOUR TAKYIWAA	MRS JEAN MENSA'S AWARD FOR THE BEST PERFORMING WASSCE STUDENT (2024)	1	SMOGAN JEAN ADUKWEI MENSA
2	SEMABIA RICHAEAL DELADEM DARKO MCHITTEI NANA AMA KUMA MENSA	MRS. LYNDA GRAHAM'S AWARD FOR THE BEST FOOD AND NUTRITION STUDENT	1	SMOGAN LYNDA DEDE GRAHAM
3		IGN. NAA TORSHIP'S AWARD FOR THE MOST INNOVATIVE WRITER	1	SMOGAN NAA TORSHIP ADDO
4	ANIM ADDO MATIGOLD KWANTEMA	DRELSIE AWADZ'S AWARD FOR THE OUTSTANDING FEMALE IN LEADERSHIP	1	SMOGAN DR. LESIE AWADZI
5	ATIVOR ESTHER AKUSHIKA	DR. JUSTINA KORDEI ANSAH'S AWARD FOR THE BEST MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE STUDENT	1	SMOGAN DR. JUSTINE KORDEI ANSAH
6	GIUNNY MAAMI ADWOA-CHEAT	SMOGA 1976 GROUP AWARD FOR THE WELL BEHAVIOUR STUDENT	1	SMOGA 1976 YEAR GROUP
7	SHS 1 - OPOPONG AIGGAI SHS 2 - ANSONG REGINA	DR. GINA NELSON'S AWARD FOR THE BEST CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS STUDENT FOR SHS 1 & 2	1	SMOGAN DR. GINA NELSON
8	BIMTONG MAHALLEL OFORIWAA ASEDA	MRS. YLLMA OWUSU-BUMPAHI'S AWARD FOR THE BEST VISUAL ARTS STUDENT	1	SMOGAN YLLMA OWUSU-BUMPAHI
9	GIUNNY MAAMI ADWOA-CHEAT	MS. GEORGINA ABA KWESIWA MAXWILL'S NEATNESS AWARD	1	MRS. GEORGINA ABA KWESIWA MAXWILL

AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING SPORTS GIRLS

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	EVENTS	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	OSTI-ONSU ARFNA POKUA	ZONE 2 CHAMPION FOR 400M	1	SMOGAN EDNA YAYRA ELI (2000)
2	AGRETI HILDA	ZONE 2 CHAMPION FOR 800M AND 1500M	1	SMOGAN EDNA YAYRA ELI (2000)
3	CSAE CINDY	ZONAL CHAMPION IN NETBALL FOR 3 YEARS	1	SMOGAN EDNA YAYRA ELI (2000)

APPRECIATION FOR NMSG 2023/2024 PARTICIPATION

S/N	NAME OF STUDENT	AWARD	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	GIARILY FAVOUR TAKYIWAA	NMSG APPRECIATION FOR PARTICIPATION	1	SMOGA 2002 YEAR GROUP
2	DARKO ESTHER KWAKYEWAA	NMSG APPRECIATION FOR PARTICIPATION	1	SMOGA 2002 YEAR GROUP
3	OPOKU RESUSANT HFRFWSEFN	NMSG APPRECIATION FOR PARTICIPATION	1	SMOGA 2002 YEAR GROUP

BEST TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF AWARD

S/N	NAME OF STAFF	AWARD	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1.	MR. ROBERT AZIMBE	THE KURANCHIIF-ANKRAH AWARD FOR THE BEST TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF	4	SMOGAN RITA KURANCHIIF-ANKRAH
2.	MR. MICHAEL ANSAH KOIBANG			

RETIRED STAFF AWARDS

1. MS. BENEDICTA NUTSUGAH
2. MR. HAYFORD ADU
3. MR. JOSEPH AHHIAH ADUJI

TRANSFERED STAFF AWARDS

1. MRS. SALLY ATOPFF AMAKI DARKO
2. MS. NATASHA AKOSUA OWUSUA
3. MS. COMFORT ADWOA GYANKUMAH
4. MR. GEORGE LOKKO
5. MS. HASHIM SHAFAWU
6. MR. HANS KWAKU DZODZODZI
7. MS. GERTRUDE BARKU
8. MS. DORIS OKONBEA NKETIA
9. MR. ALEX AWUKU ANIAMAH

MERITORIOUS STAFF AWARDS

S/N	NAME OF STAFF	AWARD	NO. OF AWARDS	SPONSOR (S)
1	15/02/2025			SMOGAN MARY LAMIE
2	MS. BENEDICTA NUTSUGAH			SMOGAN CHERIE LAWSON ADAMU & ANAS OFOSUHENE
3	MS. BENEDICTA NUTSUGAH			SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
4	MS. BENEDICTA NUTSUGAH	BEING EFFECTIVE LIAISON PERSON BETWEEN THE SCHOOL AND SMOGANS	1	SMOGAN THELMA HALM LUTTERROOT
5	MS. ALICE DELA DORSOO	BEST HEAD OF DEPARTMENT FOR THE YEAR (2024)	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
6	THE KITCHEN STAFF	APPRECIATION FOR KITCHEN STAFF	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
7	MS. RITA ACASEL MERTZ	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (SENIOR HOUSE MISTRESS)	1	PARENTS ASSOCIATION
8	MS. PEACE AKOLIE	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (ELISO HOUSE)	1	PARENTS ASSOCIATION
9	MS. DOROTHY YAKASS	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (ST. THERESA'S HOUSE)	1	PARENTS ASSOCIATION
10	MS. DIANA ADDO	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (ST. RITA'S HOUSE)	1	PARENTS AND ASSOCIATION
11	MS. JENNIFER AMA ATTAH	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (ST. AGNES HOUSE)	1	PARENTS ASSOCIATION
12	MS. KAFUI KWAKUDUAH	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (REV. JANE HOUSE)	1	PARENTS ASSOCIATION
13	MS. FLORA OWUSUA KESSE	APPRECIATION FOR HOUSE STAFF (ANNEX HOUSE)	1	PARENTS ASSOCIATION
14	MR. GILBERT AMAAH QUAO	MOST DEDICATED TEACHER MATHEMATICS AND ICT DEPARTMENT	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
15	MS. THELMA AFFUL	MOST DEDICATED TEACHER LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
16	MR. ROBERT AZIMBE	MOST DEDICATED TEACHER GENERAL ARTS DEPARTMENT	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
17	MR. URIAH KWABLAH GLAH	MOST DEDICATED TEACHER SCIENCE AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
18	MS. LUCY NYAME TAWIAH	MOST DEDICATED TEACHER BUSINESS DEPARTMENT	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
19	MS. KAFUI KWAKUDUAH	MOST DEDICATED TEACHER VOCATIONAL DEPARTMENT	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
20	MR. NICOLAS OPPONG	BEST TEACHER CO- CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	1	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP
21	MR. URIAH KWABLAH GLAH	MOST HARDWORKING FORM TUTOR	1	SMOGAN LYDIA LARYEA (1987)
22	MR. ERIC ANGEL AGBE-CARBONU	LONGEST SERVING STAFF AWARD	27 YEARS (1998-2025)	SMOGA 2000 YEAR GROUP

DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS- 2024 WASSCE

1	LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT	MOST IMPROVED DEPARTMENT FOR WASSCE	1	SMOGA EL ZADETH DART- FLANGE-OPAKU, PRESIDENT NORTH AVER CA
2		MOST IMPROVED DEPARTMENT FOR WASSCE	1	SMOGAN ROBERTA ANIKAMA - (Esq-1986)
3		MOST IMPROVED DEPARTMENT FOR WASSCE	1	SMOGAN ANASTAS A. TSOGDE- 1986

GOODWILL MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD GIRL NOBLE LADY OBAAHEMAA SAPOMAA

St. Mary's Senior High School is undeniably one of the finest institutions for comprehensive girl-child education. For over 75 years, this great school has nurtured countless exceptional ladies who continue to make remarkable contributions both locally and internationally.

As students, it fills us with immense pride to walk the same path as the brilliant minds who have come before us. These inspiring individuals, our cherished SMOGANS, serve as living proof of what is possible with determination and dedication. Their successes motivate us every day to pursue our dreams and aspirations relentlessly.

As St. Mary's celebrates its 75th anniversary, I wish to, on behalf of the entire student body, express our deepest gratitude to our forebears—past staff and students—whose dedication and vision paved the way for all of us. You remain an eternal source of inspiration.

To the current staff and students, congratulations on upholding the enviable reputation of our beloved school. Your hard work and commitment continue to sustain and enhance the legacy of St. Mary's.

We celebrate this milestone with all who have, in their unique ways, contributed to the school's distinguished achievements. May the future bring even greater accomplishments and may the bond within the St. Mary's family grow ever stronger.

Congratulations St. Mary's!
Truth and Virtue!



THE 2024/25 EDITORIAL BOARD

The Editorial Board of St. Mary's Senior High School comprises the Editor-in-Chief and her talented assistants. The Board is tasked with the challenging but exciting duty of capturing the most captivating moments of school life on campus and beyond. At the heart of its responsibility is a commitment to decency, creativity, and a deep understanding of the social media space in contemporary times.

Through the Merries Editorial Board, the school has a strong and active social media presence with a considerable number of followers. Major school activities are colourfully and creatively captured to paint a glamorous picture of our dear St. Mary's to the admiration of the outside world. It goes without saying that most of the students we have now were attracted to the school primarily because of the school's enviable academic record and its attractive social media posts.

The goal is to set up a Merries News Board which will broadcast politics, sports, entertainment, business and international news. This will be a weekly broadcast that will keep students updated on the trending news that matter. Plans are far advanced to ensure the school procures its own quality digital cameras to help capture

memorable moments such that even when students leave school, they are not cut off entirely from our dear St. Mary's.

Cognizant of the humble beginning of St. Mary's Senior High School, it heartwarming to acknowledge that in 75 years, the school has made remarkable strides in academic history of our beloved country and has as well carved a niche for itself as enviable source of quality comprehensive girl-child education.

St. Mary's is rising in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

Happy 75th Anniversary!
Ayekool!!

The Editorial Board, 2024/2025



FUN ZONE

THE GREAT ACASMA-PRESMA FEUD (AND HOW MUSIC SAVED THE DAY!) BY. SMOGAN ESTHER FYNN, 2007

Back in Form One, dinner was just getting started when the seniors dropped a bombshell—the Accra Academy boys were fuming! Why? Because Merries girls were leaving them for Presec boys. To make matters worse, rumors were flying that we were plotting to march straight to the British Council and officially change ACASMA to PRESMA!

At first, we laughed it off. I mean, how could anyone take such a wild claim seriously? But what started as a joke soon turned into something much bigger.

It all escalated during a GUNSA Club meeting at Accra Academy. Our Merries representatives showed up as usual and were met with cold stares and outright hostility. And just when they thought it was over, the boys chased them out after the meeting, even flinging their bags after them!

Then came Interco—the real test. Normally, we and the Academicians were inseparable, ‘shee-ing jama’ and supporting each other’s teams. We would cheer for them during their games and chant:

“Palowaaaze... Eyo! Wicked... Under one second! Oh, my Gooooood, that’s our boooooys!”

But this time? Different story! Merries girls arrived at Elwak Sports Stadium first, expecting things to go as usual. But when the Academicians arrived, they didn’t even look our way. They walked past us and sat at the other

end of the stands. And when our girls got on the field to play, Silence, not a single cheer from them.

Then came the Presec boys. Oh, they saw the gap and moved in smoothly, chatting with the Merries girls. And just like that, the Academicians panicked. Suddenly, they wanted to be friendly again. They slowly inched toward us, but we weren’t having it. We ignored them. It was official—each school was cheering for itself.

But then, just when the cold war seemed like it would never end, the Academicians pulled out their ultimate weapon—music. Like true legends, they broke into a remix of Reggie Rockstone’s hit: “Merries, fa y3n bone ky3 y3n wai!” (Merries, forgive us our sins!)

And just like that, Merries girls melted. With affectionate smiles and admiration for their creativity, the feud came to an end. Miss Kaya, our Senior House Mistress, was not pleased. She called us cheap and insisted that the Academicians should have been made to write apology letters instead of getting off so easily.

But honestly? There was no need for all that stress. The bond between Merries and the Academicians was simply meant to be.

And so, yes, you could say... we lived happily ever after!

FILLA OO FILLA! **BY SMOGAN MILDRED ARTHUR,** **1999 YEAR GROUP**

Ah, Atico! That dreaded time when failing a subject meant staying behind while others enjoyed midterm. I had always struggled with Maths, and after being a repeat victim of Atico, I decided—never again!

So, I came up with a plan. When my dad gave me my full school fees, I paid only half, knowing they'd eventually sack students for unpaid fees before Atico began. And true to my calculations, I was sent home just in time!

A concerned mate sent word that I should return, but I wasn't about to fall into their trap. Instead, I spent my midterm chilling at Trade Fair, where a family member had a stand. While my classmates endured Atico, I was out there enjoying life!

Then came the big twist. After midterm, the school announced that all students who left for fees but didn't return for Atico were suspended—one day for every day missed. Four days away = four weeks of suspension! Some cried, but I took it in good stride.

Thankfully, my angel of a classmate, Helena, a day student, kept me updated with notes and explanations. After three weeks, the school called us back—our fourth week was exam week! So just like that, I skipped Atico, served my suspension, and still made it in time for exams.

What an experience! Those were the days, and I wouldn't trade them for anything. Merries forever!

MY MERRIES STORY - FIDELIA HEWLETT (SMOGAN SITSO TAMAKLOE '90)

I recount how I was de-boarded during my lower sixth form for leaving campus without an exeat. Just three days after midterm, I, being an Asst

Sports Prefect, accompanied three house prefects (who had exeats) to Makola market to buy disinfectants for the dormitories and I, a parting gift for a form 5 leaver who had gifted me generously.

We encountered the senior housemistress, Adobea, at the school's junction, and I tried to hide for obvious reasons. Two weeks later, I was summoned to Sowah's (headmistress') office during an English Literature class. When confronted, I falsely claimed my housemistress, Ms. Nyame, had signed my exeat. Ms. Nyame denied the claim, leading me to face the Disciplinary Committee.

The punishment was severe: I was de-boarded for the rest of my school years and ordered to weed a large area near the drying lines (with help from Agazuma). Being a sixth former, this was highly unusual, as all sixth formers (in white shirt over navy blue skirt) were typically boarders. I became a subject of ridicule, especially during assembly, where my case was cited whenever juniors broke the rules. Despite the hardship, my story became a memorable piece of school history!



Appreciation

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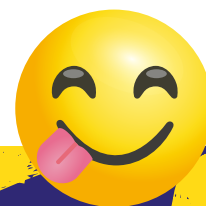
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Merries Jargons

1. Fallo - Monthly flow
2. Atico - Failing in 4 or more subjects hence being detained in school @ midterms.
3. Fermeh - Mashed Kenkey
4. Dear - Girlfriend
5. Sharp brain / Shack - Intelligent
6. Gasso - A popular watery sauce served at the dining hall
7. De-Punk - When ' punked' hair is shaved off by school authorities
8. Levels / Diplo - Affluence
9. Shanks- Rest room
10. Sherwagga- 'Hard' / Haughty
11. Naa Korle / madam high heel- a myth of a ghost that parades the dormitory at midnight
12. Fallow Biscuit- Sanitary Pad
13. Rocks- Oblayoo
14. Gravels- Ekwuegbeemi
15. Aprodo - Not sleeping in one's bed at night
16. POD (Polish on Dirt) - Dressing up without bathing
17. Smuggling - Taking food out of the Dining Hall
18. Mining/Stroffing/Stroffite - Studying deep in the night
19. Pondering - Birthday beating by splashing water on celebrant
20. Gnashing - Not receiving visitors/ boyfriend/ gifts on special occasions
21. Schoolma - School Mother
22. School dau - School Daughter
23. Gashit - Gari n Shitor
24. Home chow- Homemade food
25. Chooker Yehowa - Snitch
26. Shooter - Someone who misses dinning
27. J33r - Something nice
28. Appendix - Rice/ Yam with garden egg stew
29. Merris WiFi- Campus Rumours
30. Merries Mall-The Tuck Shop
31. Chukuemeka- Habitual Snitch



School Anthem

1. Hear how gaily all the birds sing at St. Mary's
See how brightly flowers bloom there
Voices ring out clear and joyful at St. Mary's
For we are safe beneath her care

Chorus

Dear St. Mary's
Our St. Mary's
Hear the air resound with laughter loud and clear
Dear St. Mary's
Our St. Mary's
Will be dearer year by year

2. For the seedlings that are planted at St. Mary's
Blossom forth in truth and virtue
And the melodies that ring out at St. Mary's
Of true faith and love assured

Chorus

Dear St. Mary's
Our St. Mary's
We shall face the future fearless, calm and gay
Dear St. Mary's
Our St. Mary's
You have shown us life's best way!

School Song

AVE MARIA

1. It is the name of Mary
which we proclaim. today.
A name so pure,
a name of power,
Oh, come and join to sing

Chorus.

Ave, Ave, maria 2x
Ave maria, sing to the mother of our God.

2. She's mighty to deliver,
when storms make dark our ways
Be confident, approach in faith
Surrender all to her. Chorus.

3. With joyful hearts and one accord,
let's sing her praises loud.
O mother of perpetual help
She'll answer when we call. Chorus.



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- Pre - school
- Primary

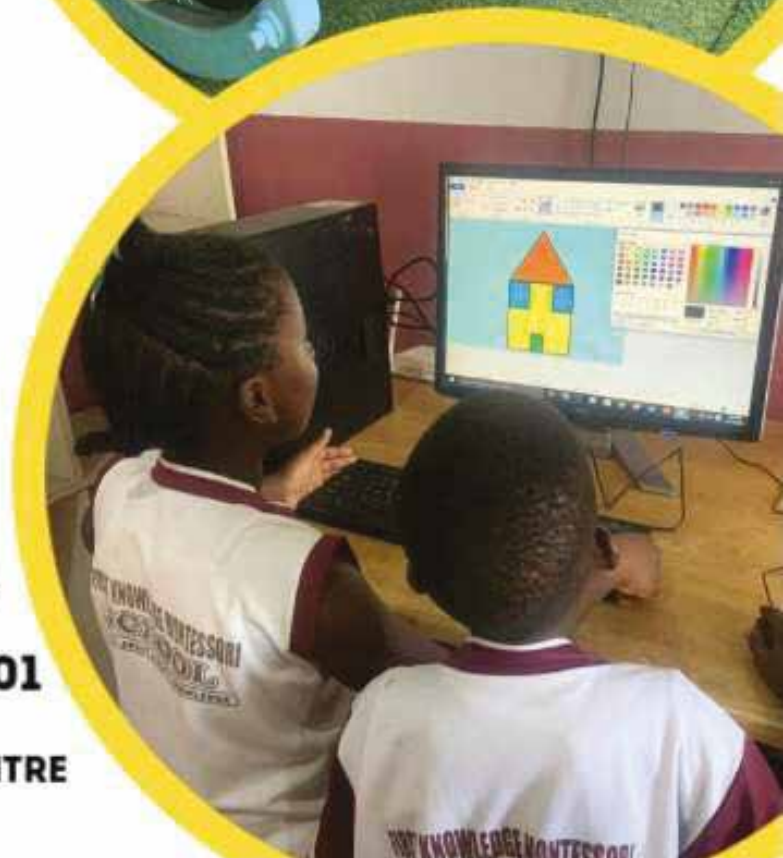
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SARAH NORKOR

ANKU GLOBAL MANAGING PARTNER

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+233 597 237 710



sarah@snankuipfirm.com
www.snankuipfirm.com
45th Floor Empirecum, Movenpick
Amanresort Hotel, Accra-Ghana

Thank You For Your Generosity!

The Central Planning Committee extends our heartfelt gratitude to all for your incredible support throughout our 75th Anniversary celebrations. Your kindness and contributions made this milestone truly special. We appreciate you more than words can express— thank you!

