Maryvale Primary - Over the past 3 years, Roosmaryn has had the privilege of working with Maryvale Primary as part of our Adopt a School initiative. This forms part of the work that the Strategies and Values Committee does.

This year we collected story books, toys and stationary to donate to their grade 1 classes. The ladies were very willing and two big crates of these items were gathered. We also managed to get a bunch of educational posters that we stuck on the walls. The Principal and class were very grateful.

We are now in the process of raising funds for the school to assist with any other projects they would like to achieve.

Our House Indaba was hosted by our Residence Head, Mme Tibi Mohapi. It was very successful and majority of the ladies showed up. We split the sessions into seniors and first years so that everyone could voice their opinion with no risk of someone feeling intimidated, which we later discovered was not an issue. Here we discussed issues that are experienced within the residence and possible solutions. The S&V Committee takes charge as a “group leader” at each of the small groups. Afterwards all the ladies received juice and a snack or two.

The first “GangSport” event of the year was themed Traditional Games and we went through a lot of trouble to plan and include all ladies. It turned out to be more team building activities than anything else, but it was a lot of fun. The event was finished after a hour and a half, ladies enjoyed themselves very much and the corridor spirit was flying high everywhere.

All equipment needed for all “GangSport” events were taken from homes, stuff people did not use, borrowed from friends and family. No money was spent on “GangSport” and Roosmaryn did not have to pay anything for any 1 of the 4 “GangSport” events. We had the following games:

- Racing through an obstacle course with an egg on a spoon race
- Racing through an obstacle course in a three-legged race
- Racing through an obstacle course in sack jump
- Racing through an obstacle course while clamping a balloon between the backs of two team members
- Water balloon volleyball
- The whole corridor climbing through a hula hoop
On Saturday 9 April, we came together once again at 09:00 for the second “GangSport” event of the year: Minute to Win It. This time we held it inside as it was a very cold morning, corridors grouped around in our ladies gazelle as we set off to yet again a great “GangSport” meeting. Corridors had to nominate one person to partake in each event.

We had the following games:

- Transferring as many possible mini marshmallows as possible using chopsticks in one minute
- Transferring as many smarties as possible using a straw
- Transferring cotton wool using Vaseline on your nose
- Stacking as many apples on top of each other
- Getting a cookie from your forehead into your mouth, not using your hands
- Shaking Ping-Pong balls out of a tissue box attached to your back
- Bumping over water bottles with an orange in a stocking over your head

It was yet again a great day and we had an amazing turn-up. Corridors with less ladies showing up, could also join in the fun as they only needed one lady to be able to participate in the entire “GangSport”. Ladies who are less interested in sport also enjoyed these activities and most of all this once again brought all corridor members closer together.

Diversity means to understand that each individual is unique, and to recognize our individual differences. This year’s corridor cook-off was a great success. With a theme of South African ethnical cultures, chosen with the help of my Diversity Committee. This was an amazing opportunity for the ladies to get to know one another and each other’s different ethnical cultures. The cultures that were displayed by the different corridors were as follows: Cape Malay, Indian, Portuguese, Venda, Sotho, English, Afrikaans, Zulu. Each corridor had to prepare a main dish and a desert of that specific culture. Our judges varied from our resident head, Tibi Mohapi; SRC Student Accessibility and Student Support, Victor Sejane; and Vice Prime of Roosmaryn for 2014/2015, Tecara Woodbridge. All the ladies did an outstanding job, but there had to be one winner and that was the corridor, Goudsnip.
We had a RSM themed informal at Route 66 the 9th of March. Ladies could wear anything that started with a R, S or M – thus providing a wide variety for costumes. The best dressed couple were elected by the RC Social and Prime, and they received two small Champaign bottles. Tickets were sold for R50, including two pizzas and 2 photos per couple. Photos were taken by Gerhardus Bosch, and was received and given to ladies 3 days after the informal. Guests received a free Redbull can as they entered the venue, and drink specials were organized beforehand with bar.

Advertising was done by social comm in house meeting, and posters were put up in residence. Tickets were sold the week before the informal, and a general announcement was put in for a week to advertise the selling of tickets. The social comm took turns in selling tickets in foyer from 21:00 – 21:30. A list for music requests was put up on the social board and then texted to the DJ of Route 66. A list was put up for “Ladies needing transport” and “Ladies to provide transport”. Ladies needing transport then arranged for a taxi, and social comm donated R40 and then ladies only had to pay R6 each to get to and from Route 66. This was our most supported informal till thus far.

During stay in weekend we had a bring and braai in the tangat. Ladies could bring their own meat and braai with each other, and afterwards enjoy each others company playing card games, listening music and chatting.

The RC donated 3 packs of wood and blitz to start the fire. The entrance fee to the braai was non-perishables which was donated to the Piggy bank of Roosmaryn.

This was also a nice way to break away from the text-books during test weeks.
Roosmaryn had the privilege to work with our brother residence, Kayalami. The Stagedoor consisted of 15 Roosmaryn ladies and 14 Kayalami guys.

We wanted to focus on having fun and getting to expand the First Years horizons with new friends and cultures. We used a final year drama student, Lojandri de Klerk, which lives in Roosmaryn to write and coach the drama component of Stagedoor.

We also used student composers to compose our music and I with the help of a first year coached the music component. We made use of students to give them an opportunity to do what they love while also saving money.

We made props and costumes out of things that we already had in position, only purchasing small things like paint which also saved us a lot of money. It was a challenging but very fun event for the whole residence on the culture calendar.

**Jam Session**

Jam session: East- collage organized a small gathering for artists to come and share their art and talents. It was held at Beyers Naude in their gazellies. We made little groups where you could choose where you thought you fitted in so that you can join in the music making. It was an informal setting so that people who aren’t use to performing could come and enjoy in the fun. We also gave an opportunity for the poets and performers who wanted to perform a chance to do so after an hour and a half’s jamming. We made a stage with fairy lights and bed lamps. Stefan Lotter acted as the presenter calling the performance forward and introducing them before their acts. This event was accessible to everyone as it was a free event and marketed well by all the East collage RC Cultures.

**Academic and Cultural Corridor Evening**

As part of our “inbly” weekend in April, We organized an academic event in collaboration. Each corridor gazellie had a certain activity or task that the group present had to complete. The top corridors were used for the Academic activities: Suduku in Strand; A general knowledge quiz (diverse questions about our residence, campus, country, science, languages, animals and other countries) in Goudsnip; Heads-up in Katakoeroe and in Albatros writing “you are beautiful” in as many languages possible without using the internet.
On Friday 6 November 2015, just before the final examinations Lauren du Preez and I organized a special lunch hour in which we treated our cleaning ladies.

We washed their feet, prayed for them, massaged and served them with pizza and cooldrink. Ladies donated non-perishables so that we could combine gift packets for them as Christmas presents.

Roostmaryn also had an earth hour on the 22nd of April as a contribution to the environment and our pledge to go green. Ladies had to switch their lights off from 8:30pm-9:30pm. Refreshments were sold and entertainment was provided.

From the 18-22 April RSM participated in the SRC's kovsie green week where we helped with the campus clean up and participated in Mr and Miss Environment. Mpolokeng Letsoako placed in the top 10 and Alison Nkomo placed as second princess.

We organized an earth hour event on the 22nd of April. We also organized performers for the event. The whole residence switched of their lights for that hour and were encouraged to come down to the gazelli to enjoy an hour of acoustic music. The environmental committee sold cookies to raise funds for the residence and we played music to create the atmosphere. We also switched of the gazelli’s lights making light with fairy lights and candles in brown paper bags.