

Piper

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College Drama
Production
Othello



SAINT KENTIGERN

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
SAINT KENTIGERN
COMMUNITY

BOYS' SCHOOL

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Transformational Learning Opportunities

Built in the 1870s as the home for the Wilson Family, Roselle House was bequeathed to the Saint Kentigern Trust Board in 1949 'for the sole purpose of educating boys.' The death of Mr John Martyn Wilson in 1958 saw the title and property transferred to the Trust Board with Saint Kentigern Boys' School opening on 4 February 1959 with 200 boys and 10 staff under the leadership of Headmaster Mr Jack Chalmers.

From the beginning, Roselle House was used by the students as part of their teaching programme as classrooms for the Junior School, an art room and library as well as accommodating the staffroom and housing the Principal. Old Boys, who I regularly meet, speak of this fondly and enjoyed having lessons taught in Roselle House.

Over the course of time, as the school grew and new classroom blocks were added, Roselle House remained as the Principal's residence on the top floor while the ground floor became the administrative centre of the school.

In 2012 the Board instituted a review of the utilisation of Roselle House in response to a number of issues, namely:

- a. A need to upgrade and strengthen Roselle House to ensure its future
- b. The retirement of the Principal at the time provided an opportunity to rethink the use of the upstairs facility for teaching and learning.
- c. The need for the school to find a location for a modern Learning Commons to replace its existing library which is too heavily focussed on books and is technology poor. By contrast, a modern Learning Commons has a variety of interesting, flexible open spaces, which will support both individual and group learning.
- d. The need for the School administration area to be reconfigured and upgraded.

Currently, although Roselle House is a very special place for the boys and an iconic landmark in our community, very rarely do they get an opportunity to be in the building yet you can sense the wonderment and awe when they venture through the doors. To bring the boys back into Roselle House so that we can reconnect our history with their future is exciting.

A paradigm shift in educational thinking

During the latter half of the 20th century, international thinking about education began to shift to a new paradigm. This shift was driven by an

awareness of massive and ongoing social, economic and technological changes, and the exponentially increasing amount of human knowledge being generated as a result. International thinking began to seriously examine questions about the role and purposes of education in a world with an unprecedented degree of complexity, fluidity and uncertainty.

The information landscape has shifted with profound implications for learning

- Creating exciting new opportunities to enhance the learning environment
- Ubiquitous access to information
- Global connectivity
- Expectation of mobile and personalised learning environment

As we began the process of thinking about the redevelopment of Roselle House the decision to create a Learning Commons on the top floor was quite simple. The Learning Commons will provide an opportunity for all boys to benefit and returns the function of the building back to our core business of educating boys where Saint Kentigern Boys' School first started. Moving our current library to Roselle House has allowed us to rethink a library's purpose in today's education. An opportunity to create a hub for learning that excites and motivates students.

Our Learning Commons will be a future focused library

- A place for end to end learning: consumption of information, digestion, creation of new knowledge and production and sharing of new knowledge
- Where multi-literacies are developed and promoted through access to print, digital and multimedia collections
- Where library staff and teachers actively collaborate to support and nurture confident transliterate students
- Creates, develops and encourages readers; and a passion for books and reading across formats
- Encourages and enables collaboration and creativity
- Is a vibrant and dynamic transformative learning centre
- A place of awe and enchantment, exploration and curiosity
- Will be a large, flexible learning space based on fluid design principles
- Will include print, e-resources, and multi-media; access to a range of ICT hardware and software; and fully supported by robust ICT infrastructure and support
- Will provide seamless access to information resources, apps, advice and support to the classroom, home and mobile devices 24/7

The Learning Commons will be **a social place**; a place for people, connection and communication, where reflection, discussion, and conversation are promoted and celebrated.

The Learning Commons staff will:

- **Create readers** - fostering the development of literacy skills and a passion for reading through its work developing a school wide reading culture that inspires and supports readers.
- Support the development of **creativity, curiosity, imagination and cross cultural competency** through the programmes, services and resources it provides and integrates into the library and wider learning environment.
- **Foster transliteracy** (the ability to read and write across any media) in our school by providing and guiding access to print, digital, multimedia collections, tools, resources for consumption and production by the students and wider school community
- Support and collaborate **guided inquiry based learning**, creating learning opportunities and deep engagement with ideas in and problem solving in any format.

Exciting times are ahead as we begin planning our new Learning area in the creation of a flexible learning space, technology rich, where boys will be inspired. We look forward to sharing our vision and plans.

Peter Cassie, Principal





Tug of War Resurrected!

'Take the strain. Ready. PULL!'

It's been some years since the Houses lined up in tug of war show of strength but after this year's fantastic event, it's destined to find a permanent place on the annual calendar!

The music was pumping, the cheers rang out and muscles were put to straining point as the boys lined up in the Jubilee Sports Centre to see which team could heave the hardest for House victory.

Aside from the raw muscle power needed for tug of war, it also required a little team planning. The cooperation or 'rhythm' of the team members played an important part in their victory, maybe even more than their sheer physical strength – they needed to pull together! Supporters also took on

a role, coaching from the sidelines and calling out '1, 2, 3, Heave' to bring the teamwork into play.

Each year group had a representative team with the competition taking a knock-out format working through heats, to semi-finals and onto a final best of three. As the competition between sides became tense, the cheering grew louder creating an amazing atmosphere amongst the boys!

Pulling with all their might, Hamilton were crowned the winners with Chalmers in 2nd place and Cargill and Wishart on equal points came third. The sportsmanship and determination from all the boys was great to see. Roll on next year!

HOUSE POINTS

1ST	HAMILTON
2ND	CHALMERS
3RD	CARGILL
4TH	WISHART

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Inaugural House Spell-O-Rama

Spell 'volcano' backwards.

NYDIW - What do these mixed up letters spell?

How about OPELEP?

House colours, banners, chants and cheers filled JC Chalmers Hall as the top twelve spellers, three from each house, battled it out over three rounds to crown the House with the best ability to spell.

Representatives from the Junior, Middle and Senior Schools had been selected from earlier elimination heats to determine which three boys would represent their House to compete at each level on their day of the 'Spell-O-Rama.'

Hosted by Head of Art, Mr Tom Barter, the competition took the style of a lively television game show as the boys were put through their paces. Unlike a traditional Spelling Bee where contestants take it in turns to spell a word, the twelve contestants listened to words, phrases and instructions from a soundtrack to quickly transcribe to a personal whiteboard. No pressure but - speed was of the essence!

There was also plenty of audience participation with extra points for speed spelling on offer spread between the Houses. Along with mixed up words, backwards spelling and three in a row, the trickiest section, ready to trip up the unwary, was the use of homophones – especially selecting the correct version of there, their and they're!

After the Middle and Senior School rounds, Cargill were well in the lead and it was all down to the Junior School the following day to determine the outcome. The skill must run in Houses as the youngest members of Cargill also proved they, too, can win assuring Cargill 1st place in the inaugural House Spell-O-Rama!

P.S. If you haven't worked out the mixed up words above, it's 'windy' and 'people!'

Now spell 'quickly' backwards, quickly.



HOUSE POINTS

1ST	CARGILL
2ND	CHALMERS
3RD	HAMILTON
4TH	WISHART



Chris Clarke



Isabella Denholm

Emerging Leaders Conference

Jesus of Nazareth, Judas Iscariot, Cleopatra, Julius Caesar, Joan of Arc, Napoleon Bonaparte, Florence Nightingale, Charles Darwin, Emmeline Pankhurst, Adolf Hitler, Marie Curie, Winston Churchill, Margaret Thatcher, Fidel Castro, Eva Peron, Mahatma Ghandi, Mother Theresa, Mao Tse Tung, Benazir Bhutto, Nelson Mandela, Dame Whina Cooper, the Dalai Lama, Martin Luther King, Helen Clark, Steve Jobs, Malala Yousafzi, Dr Goodfellow, Mr Cole, Dr Hastie, Mr Cassie

At many points in history, the world has produced those who have shined brighter than others in their generation; those whose vision, beliefs and ideologies have guided mankind. These are the leaders who have been gifted with the exceptional ability to inspire, lead and motivate those around them - whether for good or bad; for leaders come in many guises.

Regardless of their ideology, there is one thing that they all have in common; they were all young once and learned from the experience of others.

In a first for the Boys' School, a full day 'Emerging Leaders Conference' was held for the boys in Year 8, along with the Year 8 girls from the Girls' School and two invited Year 8 representatives from each of the local schools.

The day offered the chance for all students to learn leadership skills with the hope that it would challenge the way they each see themselves and the world around them. It is hoped that they will be inspired to go on to make a difference to the communities in which they live and to other corners of the world. The students were challenged to take an idea from the day and turn it into something that would benefit others.

The School was grateful for the huge input by the team from World Vision to bring the day together, opening with words from their CEO, Chris Clarke. Referring to the huge fundraising efforts made by our students over the years, Mr Clarke told the students that Saint Kentigern is a school with a huge heart.

He went on to say that they could be the luckiest or unluckiest of generations yet to live. The luckiest because the big issues like child mortality and fatal disease are being addressed but the unluckiest because they have been bequeathed big challenges like climate change and the increasing disparity between the rich and the poor. He explained that they could choose to live their lives in ordinary or extraordinary ways but if they chose to 'make the world a better place than the world they came into' then there were five pointers that could help them on their way:

- 1. Passion.** Find the one thing that you are so passionate about that you are inspired to drive change. This might be child poverty, the status of the ocean or animal welfare - whatever it is that interests you.
- 2. Get Knowledge.** This is the first generation to have all the facts at the click of a button. Get online, read and learn about your cause.
- 3. Do Stuff.** Leaders aren't born, they are made. Get involved!
- 4. Do it as a Group.** It is hard to change the world by yourself. Groups of like-minded people have power.
- 5. Shout loudly.** You need to be heard. If you are outraged by injustice, let it be known!

Primed and ready for a day of learning, the girls and boys then headed to the Sports Centre for a 'mass simulation' game. They were divided into countries and tasked with developing their assigned communities on a local level by building houses and farms (to be cut out and origami folded!) on allocated squares of land.

The game started out quietly with only a little interaction amongst the students from the range of schools but when they were given the power to further develop on a global scale, things soon heated up and the natural leaders began to emerge as bargaining for land acquisition got underway. Arguments soon erupted over whether alliances or invasions were taking place! In debriefing, the idea was discussed that the game was more about 'humanity' than 'leadership.' Each country had been given sufficient to survive but avarice and power had taken hold and acquisition became a driving force - the root of so many conflicts around the world. The students had much to reflect on during shared morning tea.

Over the course of the rest of the day, the students were invited to listen to some amazing speakers, each with words of wisdom to offer.



Justice Patricia Courtney,



Letitia Puni



Justice Patricia Courtney, a High Court judge, explained that good leadership is all about learning to make sound decisions and having a good understanding of the impact those decisions can make.

Celebrity Cook, Allyson Gofton, is committed to working for charity and travels the country helping to raise funds for family-based causes. Her greatest passion is to mentor young people in her industry to help them to achieve their dreams. She encouraged the students to think of ways they, too, could help others.



Allyson Gofton

Ken Youngson, CEO of Quantum Sport, explained that being an effective leader of others is dependent on how well they can lead themselves; that the choices they make will determine their actions. The better their sense of core values, the better the decisions they will make. He used the analogy of a thermometer or a thermostat. The students could choose to 'read the temperature' or take the initiative to 'set the temperature.'

Following lunch, current College student, Isabella Denholm and 2013 College graduate, Letitia Puni, both World Vision Youth Ambassadors, spoke of their recent experiences in Africa. As Ambassadors, Isabella visited Tanzania and Letitia went to Malawi, and each made their mark with the

passion with which they spoke about the plight of others. They encouraged us to take the steps to help make a difference. Isabella told them to 'Dream Big, Have Courage and Just Do It!'

As the students gathered to reflect on their day, they were left with the following questions to ponder on:

What cause makes you be passionate or angry? What skills have you got that can change this? What changes can you start to put in place today that will make a difference? What kind of leadership do you want to follow? What kind of leadership to you plan to model?

The day was a fabulous opportunity for our senior students; one that is usually only available to a select few who are chosen to attend leadership gatherings beyond the school gates. We give particular thanks to Devon Davids and Danielle Aldridge and their team from World Vision for their help in bringing the day together.

Our sincere thanks also to Chris Clarke, Justice Patricia Courtney, Allyson Gofton, Ken Youngson, Letitia Puni and Isabella Denholm for taking the time to come and speak to our students.



Ken Youngson

Year 6 Win Mathex

The best Year 5 and 6 mathematicians in the area pitted both mathematical knowledge and running speed at the Remuera Zone Mathex competition hosted by the Boys' School in the Jubilee Sports Centre - a fantastic venue for the event with plenty of seating for spectators. The competition was stiff but we are delighted that the Year 6 team comprising Nathan Bailey, David Allan, Akash Mudaliar and William King were the outright winners in their grade!

Mathex is an exciting night for the students and spectators where teams of four are posed 20 tricky mathematical questions in an attempt to gain a full score of 100 points. There is a twist in the competition! This is not a traditional sit down and write a test. Nor is it an online 'choose the correct answer.' Mathex not only requires quick team thinking and accurate calculations, it needs a team member who can run - fast!

The runner from the team must first complete a sprint loop around the stadium to collect the question, return to the team table for the team to answer it and then run back to the marker with the team's answer. Phew! The next question isn't handed out until a correct answer is achieved. If the answer was wrong, the runner has to go back to the team! So the teams are not only pitting their mental skills but also trying to beat the clock.

Nathan, David, Akash and William proved they had the right combination of quick thinking and quick feet to be winners on the night! Well done boys!



Sir Ray Avery, Dr Daniel Hikuroa and Sir Peter Gluckman with students Sam Looker and Thom Pettit.

Science Symposium

'Building a community of scientifically literate students as we aim for excellence in science education.'

The Boys' School welcomed three of New Zealand's top scientists to speak at the 2014 Science Symposium, a first for the School. Students and their parents packed JC Chalmers Hall from wall to wall to hear from Sir Peter Gluckman, Chief Science Advisor to the Prime Minister; Sir Ray Avery, Founder and CEO of Medicine Mondiale; and Dr Daniel Hikuroa, Earth System Scientist and Research Director, Nga Pae o te Maramatanga, National Centre of Research Excellence. Our three guests were invited to share their thoughts and ideas with the boys and their families, adding inspiration and motivation for our future scientists and citizens of New Zealand.

Following our guest speakers, two of our own young scientists came forward to share their recent research in their own inimitable style! Our guests may have been a tough act to follow but Thom Pettit and Sam Looker gave bubbly presentations that captured the audience as much as their scientific elders!

The full story may be read online:

<http://saintkentigern.com/boys-school/news/boys-school-welcomes-three-eminent-scientists/>

Top Scores in NZ!



Oliver Mitchell



Anthony Gu

Congratulations to Anthony Gu and Oliver Mitchell who have achieved the top score for Year 7 students across New Zealand in the ICAS Computer Skills assessment! Later in the year both Anthony and Oliver will attend a

medal ceremony where they will receive a University of NSW medal and certificate. Well done!

ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) are independent skills-based assessments with a competitive element, conducted annually in Australia and over 20 countries globally. These are independent skills-based assessments and tests for primary and secondary school students in English, Mathematics, Science, Computer Skills, Spelling and Writing. We have recently received the results for Computer Skills and Science and here we congratulate those students who were awarded High Distinction; an award for being placed in the top 1% of New Zealand entrants, and Distinction, given to those in the next 9% nationally.

ICAS COMPUTER SKILLS AWARDS

High Distinction

Year 5: Jonathan Benjamin, Asher Matheson, William Tisdall

Year 6: Marcus Findlow

Year 7: Anthony Gu, Oliver Mitchell (Top Scores in NZ and Pacific)

Year 8: Steven Cho

Distinction

Year 4: Gabriel Lee

Year 5: Casey Carrington, Cormac Hodson, Ivan Ivanov

Year 6: Alex Facer, Ethan Ivanier, Leo Lindsay-Smail, James Stanfield

Year 7: Matthew Ball, George Barry, Hayden Joyce, Xavier Yin

Year 8: George Barton, David Bates, Gibson Nevill, Sawyer Tang, Thomas Woodfield

ICAS SCIENCE AWARDS

High Distinction

Year 4: Leo Fan

Year 6: Nathan Bailey

Year 7: Hugo du Temple, Fintan Wong

Year 8: Steven Cho, Joshua Wong

Distinction

Year 5: Cameron Adams, Campbell Joyce

Year 6: David Allan, Marcus Findlow, Thomas King, William King, Akash Mudaliar

Year 7: William Hadfield, James Harnett, Michael Hiddleston, Hayden Joyce, Lachlan Marshall, Oliver Mitchell, Xavier Yin

Year 8: David Bates, Samuel Cook, Hunter Deavoll, Jack Dufaur, Joshua Hawkesby-Lyne, Samuel Looker, Gibson Nevill, Jacob Raines, Sawyer Tang, Jordan Warren

Special Awards at NIWA Science Fair

Following on from our Science Symposium, a select group of young scientists from our Senior School presented their science projects for judging at the 2014 Auckland NIWA Science and Technology Fair in August.

Their projects were put on display alongside top projects from over 30 schools within the central Auckland area. We are delighted that ten of our boys were recognised with awards, with three of the projects being singled out for special awards.

SPECIAL AWARDS



Sawyer Tang and David Bates were jointly awarded the Dairy New Zealand Special Award for Excellence in Biology in the Year 7-10 category. Entitled, 'Noxious Nitrates,' their project investigated nitrate development in soils from the application of cow urine.



Jett Robertson was awarded the Year 7-8 'RIMU Auckland Council Award for 'Planet Earth and Beyond' special prize. His topical investigation, 'How polluted is the air we breathe in Auckland?' measured and compared air pollution around Auckland City.



Alex Collier's project, 'Hybrid Hazard,' investigated the noise levels of Hybrid cars and their safety aspects. Selected from all projects in the Years 7-10 category, he was awarded the 'Transport Auckland Council Scientist for a Day' special award.

This is the second year in a row that this has been awarded to a Saint Kentigern student.

The following students also received Highly Commended awards:

Gabe Ross and Oscar Kingan for 'Fussy Fish.'

Joshua Druskovich for 'Wicked Wifi.'

Henry Copley and Jonte Samuels for 'Extracting Salt.'

Thomas Coulter for 'Hot or Not.'

Congratulations to all these students!



Faculty of Engineering visit

As part of their study into the physics of aerodynamics, our Year 8 students had an amazing opportunity to visit the Faculty of Engineering at The University of Auckland; more specifically, they were hosted at the workshop of the Formula SAE Team.

The FSAE team comprises a group of 41 undergraduates studying for a Bachelor of Engineering who in their own time come together to conceive, design and manufacture small formula-style racing cars. The cars are built through team effort over the period of a year, with the older, more experienced students mentoring the younger ones. The cars go through a design, manufacture, test and adjustment phase before they are taken to the annual FSAE competition for judging and comparison with vehicles from colleges and universities throughout the world. The restrictions on the car frame and engine are limited so that the knowledge, creativity, and imagination of the students developing their own models are constantly challenged. The cars are all built from scratch.

Whilst the cost is partly offset by the university, the biggest input comes from sponsorship, largely in the form of goods in kind. Alongside practical engineering, the team also works hard at sponsor relationships, publicity, media and event management.

Remarkably, this is a student led initiative without any input from lecturers and does not count towards their degree, yet the students acknowledge that the design, practical engineering and business skills they learn give them a definite advantage when they move on from university into the job market – the experience and industry networking sets them apart.

Our own boys were kept captivated by the two student presenters, Matthew Greenslade and Isaac Grigor who, at just 21 and 19 respectively, were incredibly knowledgeable and informative. In the simplest terms, they said that 'the basic goal of a race car is to get around the track in the shortest possible time.' The ability to achieve that goal is dependent on a number of factors from the reliability of the vehicle to the handling by the driver, taking in performance on the straight and in the corners. It is the ability to corner well that has the most impact on overall performance in Formula SAE. Our boys learnt about the importance of tyre traction and that to increase the normal force without making the car heavier involves improving the aerodynamics.

As well as seeing cars that the team has developed in the past, they also saw elements of the manufacturing process underway for this year's model, including composite moulding and machine shop welding.

This was a fantastic opportunity for our boys to see how science is drawn from many disciplines and to understand where their studies could take them. Our sincere thanks to Matthew and Isaac for taking the time to make this possible for our boys.



A Taste of Nsima

When Old Collegian and World Vision Youth Ambassador, Letitia Puni returned from a visit to Malawi, she told us how she had seen a typical day unfold for a Malawian family. They woke at 4.30am to walk for 30 minutes to collect the only water that is available to them - Letitia had visited that stream earlier and said it was filthy and almost defied belief that it was their only source of drinking water. The children she met then walked for two hours to school while their parents worked in the fields. The family's first meal wasn't until later once the children were home from school and they only ate what they could grow. Like most Malawian families, they grow maize which is ground into flour and cooked with hot water. Letitia said, 'They call it nsima. We would call it play dough.' The family then all work in the fields until around 8pm and if there is enough food they have dinner, if not they go to sleep.

At the launch for this year's World Vision Famine weekend, our boys were each given a 'Malawi Taster' – a small amount of the staple diet, 'nsima' to see what it looked like, what it felt like and what it smelled and tasted like.

It was hard for the boys to appreciate that this tasteless, crumbly, gluey paste could be the sole source of food for each and every day with little other variety in the diet for millions of people. It gave the boys an appreciation of what it is like for the families of Malawi who are the focus of this year's Famine fundraising.

Each year our boys are encouraged to take part in either the 20 Hour or 40 Hour Famine. In the past, they have chosen to give up technology, sleep in cardboard boxes or eat only rice for the entire weekend. Whilst it may seem a



small deprivation in the big scheme of things, it is a solid reminder for one weekend that conditions are very different in other parts of the world.

Each year we are blown away by our ability as a school to collectively raise money for World Vision and this year was no different – an amazing \$24,739.50 was raised over one weekend.

This year, the funds raised by our students during the 40 Hour Famine will be split 60% to the 'general' World Vision fundraising and 40% to our own special project which is currently being set up by the College Service Co-ordinator, Mr Mark Robinson, after a recent scoping trip to Malawi. He, like Letitia, has seen first-hand the daily struggle for parents to provide enough food and a chance of an education for their children. Our efforts really will make a difference. He, like Letitia, has seen first-hand the daily struggle for parents to provide enough food and a chance of an education for their children. Our efforts really will make a difference.

\$24,739.50 raised for World Vision!

Trees for Survival

For the seventh year running, our Year 6 boys visited CUE Haven Farm near Helensville for 'Trees for Survival,' a fantastic day of tree planting, Waicare (invertebrate monitoring) and nature exploration.

The aim was to help the environment by studying the ecosystem and planting New Zealand native trees, which the boys had nurtured and cared for at school. The trees were transported from school to the site a few weeks earlier to help acclimatise the saplings before being planted.

CUE Haven is a 58 acre property on the Kaipara Harbour with a vision to develop the farmland into a New Zealand native forest creating a haven for plant and bird life, and a place for future generations to enjoy. The teacher who planted one of the original Pohutakawa Trees in the Saint Kentigern Grove, Mrs Denise Coleman, came back to assist the boys with this year's work. The Grove was established a number of years ago to reflect the tree planting efforts by our boys. To date, they have planted well in excess of 2,500 trees.

Sixty-six eager boys had armed themselves with their shovels and energy reserves as they spent the morning working hard planting native New Zealand trees. This was followed by studies of the watercourse and forest in the afternoon. This year, the longer day reflected the additional environmental educational opportunities afforded by the site at Cue Haven. This was supported by Tom and Mahruck Stazyk, the owners who welcome our students each year.

Our thanks are extended to Gail Farrell, Trees for Survival Field Officer and Planting Day Co-ordinator and Stephen Flemming, Auckland Rotary Worker from Waicare who led the complementary stream and forestry studies. Also thank you to the 16 parents who accompanied the boys and assisted with transport ensuring that the extended days programme was possible.



Bikes for Refugees

SECOND LIFE FOR A BIKE

Each year our boys in Year 7 undertake a Social Science inquiry about refugees. They learn a great deal about the plight of these people as they flee their homelands in search of a better life. They learn that refugees are 'ordinary people facing extra-ordinary circumstances.' They may have experienced war, persecution, discrimination, racism or oppression and been forced to flee their homeland for nothing more than their ethnicity, religion or beliefs.

The Mangere Refugee Centre in Auckland resettles up to 750 refugees each year. Many arrive in New Zealand with few or even no possessions. They do, however, bring great strength, resilience and many skills to contribute to their new communities. The Centre helps them to overcome the challenges of settling into a new country by helping them set personal goals and work towards making a contribution to their new home in Aotearoa.

The boys learnt of an initiative to give a second life to old bikes. A bicycle can make a huge difference for a refugee family giving a source of transport, independence and fun for both adults and children. Supported by Auckland



Transport, old bikes are being collected by the humanitarian agency RASNZ (Refugees as Survivors NZ) to service and donate to families at the Mangere Centre. The recipients are given cycle lessons focusing on bike safety, including how to use hand signals and the importance of always wearing a helmet.

During Term 3, the School Council sent a request to Saint Kentigern families to donate old bikes no longer in use. Our boys were proud to deliver over 40 bicycles of all shapes and sizes to the Mangere Refugee Centre knowing that our donation could make a difference for 40 refugee families.



Supporting Foodbank

So often our boys may take part in fundraising events such as mufti days to raise money for a worthy cause without ever really seeing the outcome of their goodwill. With our food collections, it is now slightly different. Over the course of the year, our Year 8 tutor groups each have the opportunity to see first-hand the importance of their contribution when they visit the Presbyterian Foodbank as part of their service class and our on-going commitment to serve the community.

Presbyterian Support Northern operates a Foodbank located at St David's Presbyterian Church in Grafton to distribute emergency food parcels to individuals and families in need in the Auckland region. Sadly, the need is great in our city and food parcels are distributed to thousands of families each year. Each family can be supplied food for four days no more than twice a year if they have run into financial difficulty. At the same time they are given budgeting advice. In that period of two weeks alone, 180 food parcels had been delivered, all supplied through the donation of goods such as ours or from businesses, or funds raised to purchase food items. Saint Kentigern has been a long-time supporter of this cause with food being regularly donated from each of our campuses.

Each fortnight, one of our Boys' School tutor groups visits the Foodbank to take along what has been collected by classes and to see how it is put to use. The boys learn about the service that their donation helps to provide to a sector of the community and then give assistance as required on the day. On this visit the students created a chain gang to fill the fridge with a large donation of cottage cheese from Fonterra before unpacking the School's donated items and stacking them neatly in the correct place. Other groups have helped to make up food parcels from a list of the food requirements for a family of two adults and two children.

At the end of each session, the boys donate some baking to Miles, who supervises the Foodbank, for all the good work he does. Miles then tells them what their latest collection needs are. Last time it was cereal but this time he said that donations of dry pasta would be really helpful.

By the time the boys leave the centre, they have learned a little more about those whose needs are far greater than their own. On the return journey to school, there is much cause for reflection and the boys are inspired to think of other ways that they could be of service.

If you would like to donate to Presbyterian Support Northern, visit their website:
<https://northern.ps.org.nz/our-services/foodbank>





Speech Competitions

'Imagine a lump of coal. Who saw a dirty stone and who saw energy? Imagination is seeing the same thing as other people but seeing them in ways no one else would.' Albert Einstein said, 'Imagination is more important than knowledge for knowledge is limited.'

Winner of the Elsie Moore Memorial Cup at this year's Senior Speech competition, Year 7 student, Gabriel Ross took his audience on an energetic ride that was both funny, as he explored the limits of our imaginations, and thought-provoking as he referred to the words of John Lennon's immortal song, 'Imagine – You may say that I'm a dreamer but I'm not the only one, I hope someday you'll join us and the world will live as one.'

This year's adjudicator, Head of Middle School at the College, Mr Duncan McQueen marked the twelve finalists on speech construction, delivery and presentation, content and engagement, use of language and the overall impact. Gabriel ticked all the boxes!

Jack Duncan, also Year 7, was runner up with his speech about smart phones. The question could have been, 'Whatever did we do before mobiles were invented?' But Jack's generation has only ever known a world of instant connectivity and, instead, he questioned what price this generation may be paying for this 'modern miracle'. He reminded his peers that we could be in danger of losing our humanity and that with great power comes responsibility.

The variety and content of the speeches from phobias, procrastination and poetry, to joke political parties, first impressions and a look at the humble

school sandal, provided a morning of great entertainment. The twelve finalists can be very proud.

Later in the term, the Middle School boys welcomed Mrs Kate Hawkesby as the adjudicator for the eight finalists in their competition. Confident in his delivery, Year 6 student, Jack Sandelin was the winner of the Elsie Moore Memorial Cup for Junior Speech with his speech about Heroes with Year 5 student, William Tisdall as runner up with his take on the vagaries of Pocket Money.

Senior School Speech Finalists

Adjudicator:	Mr Duncan McQueen	
1st	Gabriel Ross	Imagination
Runner Up	Jack Duncan	Smart Phones

Middle School Finalists

Adjudicator:	Mrs Kate Hawkesby	
1st	Jack Sandelin	Heroes
Runner up	William Tisdall	Pocket Money



Gabriel Ross continued his winning ways with his speech 'Imagination.' After placing first in the Senior Speech competition, he went on to be placed 2nd in the Remuera Zone prepared speech competition and followed that up with a win at the annual Remuera Lions Club competition. Well done Gabriel!

100 Days of School!



There was much excitement in the Junior School on Monday 5 August, as a day of celebration got underway to mark the 100th day that our youngest boys have attended school! With '100 day' hats on their heads, the day started with a maths quiz from Mr

Cassie followed by the presentation of a 100 day certificate - along with a vigorous, 'manly' hand shake from the Principal to each and every boy!

The majority of the current Year 1s started at the beginning of the year and have been counting down to this day; a day filled with a range of literacy,

numeracy, art and musical activities, all based on the number 100, that was a mix of new learning opportunities and a bit of fun.

Boys made pictures with 100 stickers, completed charts of 100, carefully used a pipette to count 100 drops of coloured water into a jar, placed items on a 100s chart, made paper chains with 100 links and shared the containers of 100 'things' that each boy had collected and brought to School. These were as diverse as a collection of 100 shells from a beach and 100 snowflakes from Coronet Peak – now melted!

The 100 party was a happy and meaningful learning experience for the boys as they explored place value, groups of ten and bigger numbers whilst celebrating their own special milestone!





Testing the Water

'We've got a toe biter!' ... which was way more exciting than only finding rat-tailed maggots, bloodworms or caddis flies – all water bugs and indicators of the good health of a waterway!

Following on from their Term 1 studies into water - its physical states, behaviours and the particle theory underpinning these, the boys welcomed Sally Smith, Education Co-ordinator at Watercare to their classroom. Sally is a regular visitor to the Saint Kentigern campuses and brings with her a wealth of knowledge about the health of our waterways around Auckland.

In the build up to her first visit, the boys had been investigating the chemical composition of water, and its function as a habitat for macro-invertebrates. In laboratory based studies, they learnt how to test the turbidity, pH, nitrate content and dissolved oxygen levels in freshwater in preparation for their field trip. They also studied the physical appearance of macro-invertebrates to assist with the identification of these once out by the stream.

We're thankful to 25 of our Year 7 parents who took the time to walk all 107 boys in groups to test the water quality of the local Waiata Stream that feeds down into Hobson Bay. The students undertook their tests for turbidity, pH and nitrates but it was classifying the bugs that most caught their imagination!

The results of the boys' investigations indicated positive water quality in the stream and they were reassured that the recent Council work on the reserve has only served to improve the surrounding environment.

The world relies on clean water for life. It is our duty to play our part in keeping the waterways clean. The boys are certainly more aware that anything placed in a storm water drain will end up in our streams, rivers and eventually the sea.



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Boys Explore Hidden Depths!



It was dark and damp, and under usual circumstances would be very, very quiet but with the descent of 58 Year 5 boys into the 28,000 year old lava caves under Landscape Road in Mt Eden, it became a place for noisy, exciting adventure – if a little scary for some.

The boys were studying the landforms of Auckland with a focus on the extensive volcanic network in our city. They had earlier visited Mangere Mountain and descended into the small lava cave there, but this experience was a very different undertaking.

We thank one of our parents, Mr John Foy, for arranging access to this extensive cave system on private land. The boys soon came to discover the extra-ordinary world just beneath the surface of a bustling city suburb! With helmets on and torches at hand, the group made their way into the mouth of the cave and into a huge, rock strewn cavern. As their eyes

adjusted to the darkness, using their torches to light the way, they gingerly worked their way downwards as the passage narrowed, wriggling their way through a constricted space that opened to another cave that required carefully negotiating a four metre drop away to the passage below! Here all torches were switched off and the boys discovered the true meaning of darkness.

Further exploration revealed a 'squeeze' at the far end of the passage as the cave system continued its descent towards the sea, but this was the point the boys turned back – much to the relief of the parent helpers who stood wondering how on earth they were going to fit!

There was much to learn beneath the surface as Mr Foy pointed out many of the features along the walls and roof of the cave. The boys emerged exhilarated and glad to see the daylight!

RATS

the Musical



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Over three sold-out nights, a cast of more than 100 senior boys took to the stage for an exciting musical adaptation of the story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin; a show that was perfect for a cast of all boys!

Based on Robert Browning's poetic version of *The Pied Piper of Hamelin*, and adapted by Nigel Hess, this hugely successful musical for children has been performed worldwide - including several performances every year in the town square of Hamelin in Germany; an event which has become a major tourist attraction. The musical show takes a new look at a familiar story with great music and witty lyrics. However, in a twist on the classic German tale, the rats who plagued the Saint Kentigern stage were pugnacious punks and the stranger to the town, the Pied Piper, had all the charisma of a rock star!

The show opened with a colourful scene as the townsfolk prepared for market day. With the arrival of the very self-important Mayor (Jack Duncan) and his Councillors (Finn Harford and Robson Snookes), it became clear that whilst they revelled in their own importance, they had not found favour with the citizens; there was a very major problem in the town that was not being addressed – a plague of vermin!

As the townsfolk dispersed, rats crept in from the cracks, gathering momentum until the stage was filled with a seething mass! Joshua Hawesby-Lyne played the loutish Rat Leader with swagger and menacing nonchalance – 'I'm big, I'm horrid and I'm tough, and you ain't been behaving unpleasantly enough. Now you blokes ain't stupid, you've been to good schools, so let me hear you say that the rat race rules!'

The scene that followed was one of the best in the show as the boys who played the rats took on their intimidating characters through some superb dancing, self-accompanied with percussion on stage.

Fed up with the situation, the townsfolk invaded the Council Chambers demanding action from the Mayor. Ineffectual in the face of pressure,

he was relieved when a stranger paid a visit offering to rid the town of its problem rats. Beck Robson played the part of the Pied Piper who, in exchange for a promise of a thousand guilders, played his hypnotic tune on the pipe, leading the rats to drown in the River Weser.

Just as the rats disappeared, so did the Mayor's promise to pay and the aggrieved Piped Piper once again struck up a tune. 'As he played, to everyone's surprise, the children followed as if hypnotised, from out the houses they gathered around and followed the Piper's magical sound.'

One boy returned unable to keep up. Anthony Gu took on the role of the crippled child who couldn't keep pace and his soulful song, 'The Piper Just Played' alerted the town to the new crisis. The Mayor's pompous posturing turned on him when his avarice, in not paying the Piper in full, threatened to rob Hamelin of its future. A broken, pathetic figure, he feared the outcome of his dishonesty and pleaded, 'Oh Piper, Piper wherever you roam, if you will just bring our children back home. We'll give you silver and gold by the crate, Piper please come back, it can't be too late.'

David Bates took the role of a very expressive and animated Narrator who kept pace with the action. 'From far in the distance a faint sound was heard, it seemed to come closer until it was near, the sound that all Hamelin so longed to hear.' And so, to great joyfulness, the children returned and a new law was decreed, 'We'll make Hamelin a town where honesty is heard and everyone residing here must always keep their word.'

Our thanks to Director, Mrs Janet Grierson; Producers, Rachel Gleeson and Richard Kirk; and Musical Director, Mr Edwin Randell; along with their team of staff and parent helpers who gave so freely of their time to work with the boys. A special thanks to parents, Mrs Leanne Campbell and Mrs Amanda Tomlins who worked tirelessly on the costumes. The cast spent weeks in rehearsal and the production team's dedication to fine tuning paid off with another exceptional Boys' School production!

HISTORY OF THE PIED PIPER

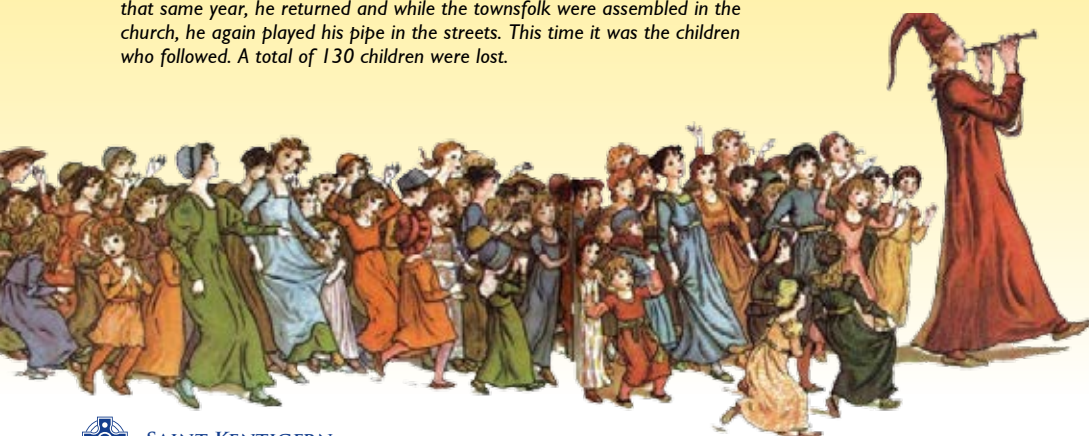
Folklore says it was the year 1284, a time of the Black Death and pestilence, when a strange and wondrous figure arrived in the German city of Hamelin and promised to free the town of their plague of rats and mice for a fixed sum of money. The citizens pledged to pay him his fee, so the visitor produced a pipe and began to play. Soon all the vermin followed the Piper out of town and plunged after him into the River Weser and drowned.

The townspeople, now freed of the plague, regretted their promise and refused to pay the Piper who left Hamelin in a bitter mood. On the 26th of June, in that same year, he returned and while the townsfolk were assembled in the church, he again played his pipe in the streets. This time it was the children who followed. A total of 130 children were lost.

The historical background of the Pied Piper's legend cannot be proven yet among the various interpretations, reference to the colonisation of Eastern Europe, starting from Low Germany is the most plausible one.

In those days The 'Children of Hamelin' would have been citizens who were willing to emigrate and were recruited by landowners to settle in Moravia, East Prussia, Pomerania or in the Teutonic Land. In past times, all people were referred to as 'children of the town.' The 'legend of the children's exodus' was later connected to the 'legend of expelling the rats.' The latter most certainly refers to the rat plagues that brought great threat to the medieval milling town requiring the services of professional rat catchers.'

From the Brothers Grimm in the book 'German Legends.'





*Hamelin Town by Hanover City
 Was once a township quaint and pretty
 The river Weser deep and wide
 Washed its wall on the southern side
 But now it's the smelliest town in the nation
 Because of the vermin infestation
 Our story begins years ago
 When the townsfolk suffered so
 From RATS!*



Boys All A-spin!

Imagine the feel of slippery clay on your hands as you try to keep the 'lump' – your potential artwork - under control as it spins around quickly. The tension is high as your mates look on to see if you can handle the slippery mess at you finger tips. Will you gain control and watch a pot grow beneath your hands or will it wobble off-centre and collapse? Well that's exactly what the Year 6 and 8 boys have been experiencing in their art classes this term – initially a lot of collapses!

At the Arts Festival last year, specific fundraising was initiated to allow the purchase of four pottery wheels for the art room. It's now 10 years since the kiln was installed by former Head of Art, Mrs Robyn Spooner, and in the ensuing years, our boys have been given ample opportunity to work with clay, building by hand. Current Head of Art, Mr Tom Barton saw the opportunity to take this skill to the next level. He said, 'Using a pottery wheel it is truly awesome experience and makes the boys appreciate how pottery is made.'

Each boy has had a chance to try the wheel to see if they could achieve the basics of shaping - or as potters say, 'throwing a pot down.' It is not an easy task and can bamboozle adults let alone children! At the first pass, most of the boys struggled but even the failed result was a heap of fun, leaving the boys wanting another turn. There was a definite determination to achieve the skill!

The purchase of the wheels gives the arts programme the flexibility to teach the boys throwing techniques as well as to use the wheels for other projects.

The first full production project was the making of a functional teapot.

We were all excited by the outcome of this project and already have some great ideas in the pipeline for the use of the pottery wheels by our boys.



Motat Discovery

Two classes of junior boys were transported to the home of New Zealand's largest transport, technology and social history museum to learn about inventions over the years. The trip for the Year 0-3 boys saw them engaging in activities to support the work they had been doing in class in preparation to develop their own unique ideas. They had learnt that many different kinds of people create inventions for a variety of purposes and their inventions generally have an impact on people's lives.

The boy set off on the MOTAT trail to visit the many exhibits in the park and learn about the machines, their development and uses. The boys were fascinated by the old cars, printing equipment, telephones and household items.

Next they visited the MOTAT classroom where they discovered significant inventions that have evolved over time with great examples of phones and cameras through their stages of development. They learned that inventions like the teabag were created by mistake, and they discussed issues of patents and prototype development.

The most exciting, and for some most challenging, activity was the Tactile Dome. This activity is for children only – no adults allowed! In small groups, the boys went into a completely darkened 28 metre passage. They had to use their senses of touch and hearing to negotiate obstacles and eventually exit out of the area. While in the Dome they could not see where they were going and had difficulty climbing stairs, sliding doors and even scrambling up a cargo net.

This was a most enjoyable and informative morning, which motivated the boys to go on and develop their own amazing inventions.





Gold and silver medals for musicians!

Whilst the formal learning of an instrument may not be the chosen path for everyone, for those boys who take on the challenge, the rewards in personal achievement can be great. This year has seen the Jazz Band being awarded Gold for a sixth year in a row at the recent Lewis Eady Junior Music Contest along with the Jazz Combo, the Recorder Minstrels and The Ligature Lads (five clarinet players) all receiving Silver. Since the inception of this competition in 2008, hosted by the Lewis Eady Charitable Trust, the Boys' School has traditionally done well and were delighted to be recognised once again for the quality of their music programme.

This term has seen two major musical evenings – one for the Middle School followed by the Musical Extravaganza at the end of the term. The Jazz Band has also had further opportunities including a set at the Library during Music Month in May and playing at the Boys' School SKOCA Dinner and the New Parents' Dinner. The full articles can be read on the news channel of our website.

The road to putting on a show is not always easy. The Music Department comes alive at 7.00am most mornings of the week with further rehearsals taking place at lunchtime. As Principal, Mr Cassie has often said, the music groups are amongst the hardest working 'teams' in the school. Unlike the sports teams who train for a season, music is a year-round commitment. In the case of injury preventing play in a sports team, it's generally easy to find someone to fill the spot – not always the case with music when your drummer breaks his shoulder and a clarinettist breaks a finger just before a show! Both shows were, however, outstanding evenings of entertainment!



Silver at Kids Sing!

Singing is an important part of school life and our boys enjoy being part of the choirs. After the experience of singing in the Aotea Centre and Town Hall at last year's Kids Sing, this year's Performers' Choir were eager to return and improve on their score. There were some very happy faces at the end of the Gala Concert when Silver was awarded!

Each school was required to sing three songs: a test piece, a piece by a New Zealand composer and two songs chosen by the school. The test piece for all schools this year was 'The Moon,' a lyrical piece by Andy Beck with wonderful long phrases and a lovely melody that each of our choirs performed beautifully.

The Boys' School were the first to perform in the morning, beginning with the lively 'Shake the papaya down,' an adaption of a South American work song in three parts. This was delivered with actions and accompanied by a percussion group and talented Year 8 student, Anthony Gu on the piano. Their New Zealand piece was 'Royals' a recent hit for young singer/songwriter, Lorde, a song that won a Grammy award last year.

Adjudicator, Steven Rapana noted that the 'choir has a rich tone with some very nice phrasing and wonderful engagement on the boys' faces.' At the Gala Concert, each choir sang their two chosen pieces before all joining in a mass recital of the moving test piece. This was a glorious way to finish a fabulous day of choral singing.



Boys' School Cross Country

HOUSE POINTS

1ST	CARGILL
2ND	CHALMERS
3RD	HAMILTON
4TH	WISHART

In a show of grit and endurance, the Year 4-8 boys were put through their paces in long distance running at the annual Cross Country held at the College. Joining with students from the Girls' School, the boys gathered on the banks outside Bruce House in front of the starting line, along with their parents and friends.

The day was really chilly and windy but that did not deter the boys who were raring to go! The Year 4-6 boys got off to an early start, all running two laps of the one kilometre, soggy track taped out across the fields. The Year 7 and 8 boys then stepped it up a notch and pushed themselves hard for their three kilometre, mud spattered run giving a final burst of energy to carry them up the hill to the finish line.

On a beautifully sunny day, the juniors ran a week later around a course at the Boys' School giving their all to this early taste of competitive running. Congratulations to all participants on their stellar effort!

YEAR 1			YEAR 2		
1st	Max Trankels	H	1st	James Hiddleston	H
2nd	Scott Nel	W	2nd	Oliver Hardie	W
3rd	Angus Paterson	CH	3rd	Lachlan Hay	C
YEAR 3			YEAR 4		
1st	Ethan Knox	C	1st	Brendan Meyer	H
2nd	Zach Freeland	C	2nd	Antony Gault	C
3rd	Reuben Thomas	W	3rd	Austin McKegg	CH
YEAR 5			YEAR 6		
1st	George Beca	C	1st	Vinay Chichester	H
2nd	Isaac Wong	H	2nd	John Graham	H
3rd	Sebastian Hardie	W	3rd	Charles Swain	C
YEAR 7			YEAR 8		
1st	Michael Hiddleston	H	1st	Liam Batts	CH
2nd	Isaac Chaytor	C	2nd	Ben Anderson	W
3rd	Nate Gilbertson	CH	3rd	Tom Moloney	C

ZONES

Congratulations to the boys who went on to compete in the zone competitions with great results!

EASTERN ZONE		REMUERA ZONE	
Year 7 team	2nd	Year 5 team	1st
Isaac Chaytor	1st	George Beca	2nd
Year 8 team	2nd	Isaac Wong	3rd
Liam Batts	3rd	Year 6 team	1st
		Vinay Chichester	1st
		Charles Wilkes	3rd



Year 1 to 3



Year 4 to 6



NZST AIMS Games

Bronze Medals for Waterpolo!

This year was the first time that the Boys' School has entered the NZST AIMS Games in Tauranga. One of the largest sporting competitions in the world, this year it attracted 7,500 students from 228 schools competing in 17 different sports! To put it in perspective, this year's Commonwealth Games had 4,950 athletes from 71 different nations and territories competing in 18 different sports.

As our own rugby and football teams had recently toured to Australia, the waterpolo and hockey teams were selected to represent the School. To compete in a competition of this scale and calibre was a fantastic opportunity for our boys and they acquitted themselves very well indeed with bronze medals for our waterpolo team!

However, it was not just about competing. The teams were away from home for a week discovering new found independence as they stayed in three separate houses, played matches, studied and completed school work, supported each other and represented their School with pride in all they did. They were a group of exceptional young men and the staff were very proud of their achievements both on and off the field. There is certainly a great deal of value gained from a week away playing at the very top of your game and competing on the 'big stage'.

BRONZE MEDALS FOR WATERPOLO TEAM

The Waterpolo team headed to Tauranga knowing that they had a chance to do well having recently competed for and won the coveted Winterfest Tournament in Auckland. In the final stages of this competition, they beat King's 8-1 in the quarter-final, Northcross 4-3 in the semi-final and it was a 7-3 win over Sacred Heart to secure the Winterfest title.

In Tauranga, the boys were up against both new and familiar opposition beating Tauranga Intermediate 9-0, Murrays Bay 5-3, Mount Maunganui Intermediate 4-3, John Paul College 18-1, St Peter's College 9-1 and Murray's Bay in the play-off, 3-0. They only conceded to Kristin and Aquinas College with the nett result of placing 3rd out of 13 teams in the tournament. Well done boys!



Hockey Win Zones

The Hockey team began their season well in Auckland and were delighted to firstly win the Eastern Zone Tournament with five straight wins before going on to represent the Zone at the Inter-Zone Tournament. After a further five games they were placed 3rd in Auckland! Well done!

Like the Waterpolo team the 1st XI Hockey knew they could be facing stiffer as yet unknown opposition. Over the five days they played a range of schools with mixed results but were satisfied to finish in 6th place out of 19 teams.



Sports Tour to Australia

With thanks to student reporter, Thomas Jackson, Year 7

After weeks of fundraising bake-sales by their supportive parents, the Boys' School 1st XV Rugby and 1st XI Football arrived at Auckland Airport bursting with anticipation. They were off to Brisbane, Australia on a sports tour.

For their first stop, they travelled to 'Churchie' (The Anglican Church Grammar School) and met their billets for the night. This is always a nervous time, travelling away from home and staying with someone you have only just met but the next morning when our boys regrouped they were full of stories about how the Churchie families had welcomed them into their homes. The boys spent the first morning as tourists sightseeing along the Southbank and then travelling to Mt Cootba, the highest point in Brisbane – 'The view was extraordinary. We could see for miles!'

Then it was down to the real business as they returned to Churchie to get ready for their games. The boys reported that the school campus at Churchie 'is amazing and really, really big!' Our 1st XV stormed onto the field and won 46-0. It was much closer game for the 1st XI, who won a tight game 2-1. Both games were played in good spirit.

The following morning the boys said goodbye to their fantastic Churchie hosts and set off to BBC (Brisbane Boys College) for another strong contest. The rugby and football games were played side by side so the supporters could cheer on both games. Their opponents proved to be bigger than expected but they still put up a good fight! The play was tight with the soccer team losing 2-1 and the 1st XV also going down 29-19. Both games were played at a high intensity and were enjoyable even though it didn't go our way.

The next day was the one the boys had really been looking forward to – a sunny day out at Dream World on the Gold Coast. In a rush of excitement, the boys leapt at the log flumes, rollercoasters and even the 120 metre giant drop. Then it was time to get back into 'chapel gear' and head off to meet their new billets from TSS – The Southport School.

As they warmed up for the games, you could tell the boys were nervous about playing the TSS rugby team! Word had got around that they had a big prop who weighed 114kg – twice as big as most of us! Then the starting whistle blew and it was straight into action for both teams. In the first half, one of our players unfortunately got a boot to his head and he had to go to hospital for stitches. The 1st XV lost 30 points to 10, 6 tries to 2, however, the 1st XI had a great game winning 7-0.

As they headed home there was much to reflect back on. With three wins and three losses, the boys had experienced some great games against new opposition. They had stayed with three sets of families who had welcomed them into their homes and made new friends in the process. They were also able to visit some of the sights...and take in the all-important shopping! All in all, it was a most enjoyable trip for all and the boys would like to thank all those who made this trip possible for them, especially the families from Churchie, BCC and TSS who made them so welcome.



A Whirlwind Year of Tennis!



Rising tennis player, Chris Zhang, Year 8, has had a whirlwind year of play since being selected as the youngest member of a team of three boys to represent New Zealand in the U14 team at the ITF World Junior Tennis Finals.

The Kiwi team reached the World Finals for the first time

since 2006, following their runner-up finish at the Asia/Oceania Final Round Qualifying Competition in Delhi earlier in year. They went on to perform admirably at the 2014 World Finals, narrowly missing out on an upset win over the third seeded Americans in pool play and beating a strong Spanish side on the clay courts in Prostějov, Czech Republic. There were 100+ nations that started the qualifying events across the globe earlier in 2014 and Chris's team went on to finish 10th at the 2014 ITF World Junior Tennis World Finals.

Before the tournament, Tennis New Zealand has invited Chris to join the European Tour which included a training academy in the Netherlands and lead-in tournaments across Europe. We'll watch Chris's developing tennis career with interest!



Sharing Breakfast with **POLICE DOGS!**

It was an early start for the boys and their fathers over two consecutive mornings for the annual Father and Son breakfasts. It was an even earlier start for the volunteers from the Parents and Friends who set the tables and did a sterling job preparing and serving a delicious breakfast to suit the palate of all ages!

Mr Richard Beca and Mrs Laura Lane represented the Parents and Friends in welcoming our special guests for the two mornings. Senior Constable Kelvin Roberts, Sergeant Scott Williams and Senior Constable Chris Harris from the Auckland District Police Dog Section, along with their four-legged companions, Flash and Quanto, joined the boys and their fathers in the JC Chalmers Hall to share breakfast. Table space was at a premium for this well attended event!

The boys and their fathers were given a fascinating insight into the life of police dog handlers around the country whose job often means the difference between whether or not a crime can be solved - often in situations that could compromise their own safety, if not for their professionalism and the incredible teamwork between man and dog. The dogs are primarily deployed in any incident where violence may be used against the police or members of the public and it was heartening to hear that Constable Harris has recently received a bravery award for this very reason.

The boys learned that dogs are trained for three principal roles; as all-purpose patrol dogs for tracking and search and rescue, and for drugs or bomb squad training. It was interesting to hear that the drug dogs are also trained to sniff large quantities of money!

The dogs used are primarily German Shepherds and there are over 100 tracking teams in New Zealand whose services are also called on overseas in situations such as the tsunami in Samoa and the bush fires in Australia. An interesting fact is that a German Shepherd has 220 million receptor cells for smell compared to only 5 million in a human - hence their amazing ability to follow a scent! One tip from the police is that a dog is trained to detect the most recent scent so in the case of a burglary or home invasion, don't be tempted to walk around your property - wait for the police!

The moment the boys were really waiting for took place out on the field as Quanto was put through his paces. An unsuspecting mother had her handbag ripped away and the boys watched in awe as Quanto tracked down the offender and brought him to the ground! As the dog rushed forward, there were some very surprised faces on the boys, followed by relief when the dog stopped short!

We are grateful to the police team for spending time to share their stories and are especially grateful that we were blessed with two fantastically sunny, winter mornings for the outside display!

We offer our thanks to the Parents and Friends team who pour heart and soul into this event every year; in particular, Erica Hussona who has managed the event for a number of years, who, along with co-worker, Jessica O'Rourke is stepping down this year. To fellow parents, Kirsten Faulkner, Tanya Holyoak, Sally Barkman and Roz McLoughlin, thanks for joining Erica and Jessica for the early morning starts! We really appreciate the work you do! Not only was there preparation, but also a lot of cleaning up afterwards!

Our thanks to the following businesses who very kindly donated services and food: Nestle, Venluree, Gravity Coffee and Bell Tea.

