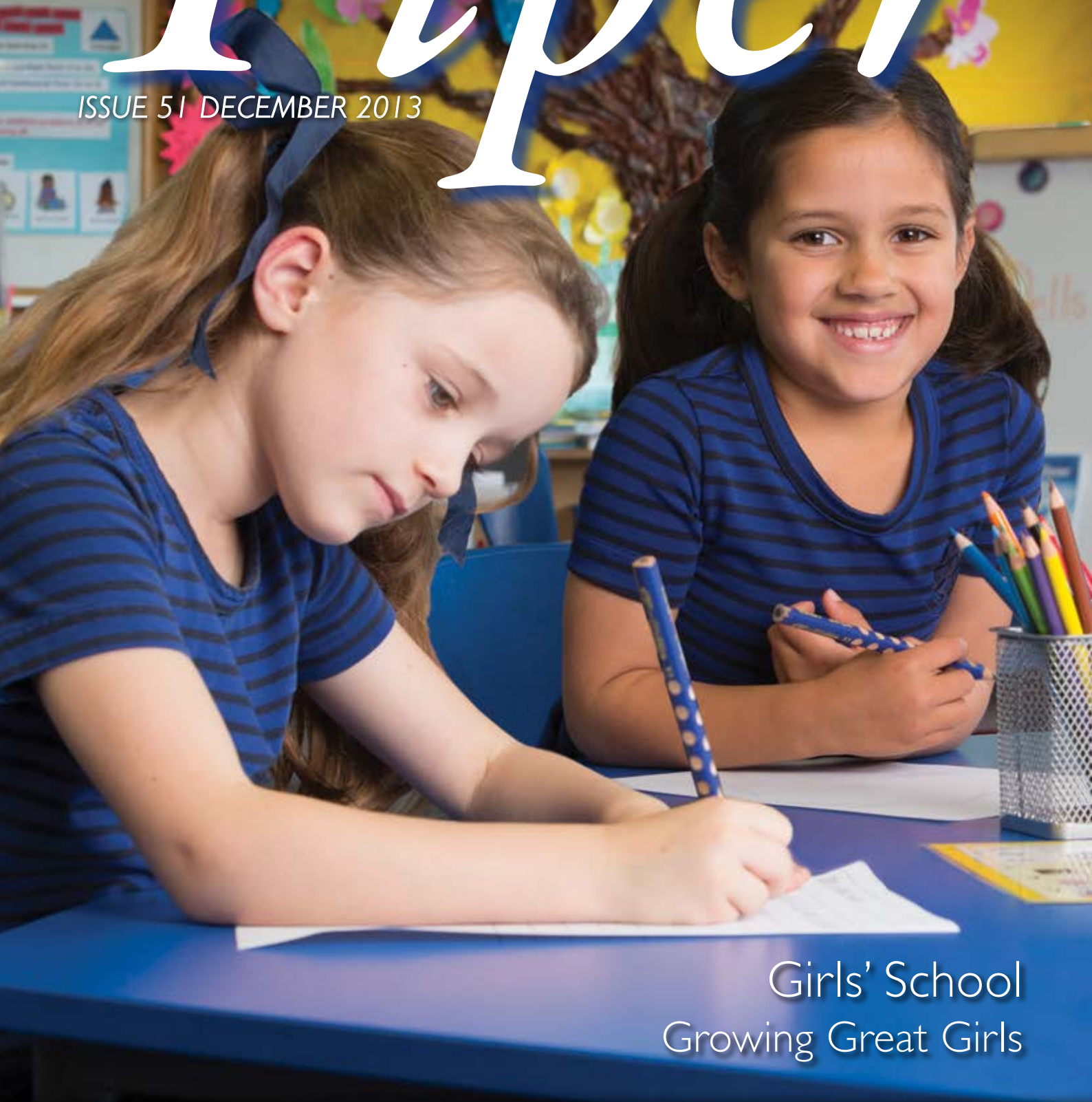


# Piper

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Girls' School  
Growing Great Girls



SAINT KENTIGERN

A MAGAZINE FOR THE  
SAINT KENTIGERN  
COMMUNITY





# GIRLS' SCHOOL

## Reflections From 2013

We started this year with a school roll of 157 girls and ended with 177. Next year we will have the strongest roll numbers yet that we have had in the senior school which is exciting and encouraging. At the lower end of the school, numbers remain strong with a large group coming across from the Preschool and this ensures that we will be able to maintain two Year One classes.

The Parents and Friends Association, steered by Mr Paul Fletcher as Chairman, Mr William Black as Treasurer and Ms Kim Gear as Secretary, continue to work in a supportive way with the staff and the community and we are always so appreciative of the work they do.

Activities organised by the Parents and Friends committee included Chic Peek, a fashion evening, our annual School Picnic, an enjoyable Family Disco, the Mother-Daughter High Tea and the Father-Daughter Breakfast. The latter two annual events were both held offsite for the first time due to increasing number of attendees. On behalf of the School, I pay a huge vote of thanks to this amazing team of Parents and Friends who continue to 'fund raise' and more importantly 'friend raise' in our school community.

### Student Council

The Student Council, which has representation from Years 2-8, has had a successful year. The Student Council were tireless in their support for World Vision Day and also embraced the Red Puppy Appeal project in support of the Guide Dogs from the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind. Using innovative ideas such as writing to businesses to request their support, they have raised over \$5,000 this year which is an incredible effort from a small team. My thanks to Madelaine, who has led the School Council with a clear vision and also to Mrs Judith Dobson who encourages and supports the girls in their service endeavours.

### Saint Kentigern Service Award

This year has seen the Saint Kentigern Service Award gain even greater momentum with four Gold Awards and nine Silver awards being awarded to students. Achievement of a Silver Award qualified students for the opportunity to take part in the Girls vs Wild adventure which was organised by Rev Reuben Hardie. The girls travelled to Tawharanui Regional Park where they explored and offered service to the community.

### Cultural Exchange with Queen Margaret College in Wellington

In June this year, our Year 7 and 8 girls travelled to Wellington where they were hosted by Queen Margaret College. The girls had their first experience of being billeted by families and some of them not only got to stay on farms but also caught trains and buses to get to school. Highlights of the trip included a visit to Katherine Mansfield House, Parliament buildings and Te Papa.

### Soap Box Derby

This year we entered the only all-girls' team in the Auckland East Rotary Club Soap Box Derby and with some fantastic support from a keen team of Dads, we were certainly competitive on the day. The team was awarded the Best Team Award for their support of each other and for their pit crew work and were the Second Runner-Up on the day. Emilia Radisich was our fastest driver, qualifying for the National Competition in Whangaparaoa. Although we were unplaced in the National Finals it was an incredible experience and one that will become a yearly event.

### Creative Arts Evenings

Another highlight of the year was the Creative Arts Night. This was held over two evenings and gave every girl in the school a chance to be a shining star. Items ranged from Poetry, Dance, Performance Choir, Orchestra and it was wonderful to see the hall packed to capacity on both evenings and to see the obvious joy and sense of satisfaction on the faces of our girls.

### World Hears Girls' School Sing!

It was a wonderful opportunity for our newly formed Performers' Choir when they were invited to sing the two national anthems, 'God of Nations' and 'Advance Australia Fair', at the opening of the V8 Supercar Event in Pukekohe during April. The event, which was broadcast to an audience of 900 million homes worldwide, was a very proud moment for our school. The girls' performance was faultless and I know this will be a moment that they will treasure for a long time to come.

### Graduation Dinner for Year 8 girls

Once again we hosted the annual Saint Kentigern Old Collegians' Association Graduation Dinner for our Year 8 girls. We were thrilled to have Her Honour Justice Patricia Courtney, who is a High Court Judge and mother of Rachel (Year 6), speak to the girls about her role. She was very inspiring and I know the girls were challenged by what she had to say.

2013 has been another successful year in the life of Saint Kentigern Girls' School. I continue to marvel at the enthusiasm and commitment of the teaching team as they give such a lot of themselves to the girls in their care. I am equally proud of the young Saint Kentigern girls; from the newest junior girls to our senior students, they are enthusiastic learners who have a level of confidence and self-assurance as well as a sense of care towards others that makes me incredibly proud.

Fides Servanda Est

*Dr Sandra Hastie, Principal*







## Girls' School Graduation Dinner 2013

The end of year Graduation Dinner marks the formal end to the Year 8 girls' primary schooling as they prepare to move on to the next stage in their education. Excited girls, wearing their graduation scarf, along with their parents, staff and invited guests, gathered at Sorrento in Cornwall Park to celebrate with the girls and reflect on their time at the School. Once again, the Parents and Friends Association had done a superb job decorating the room prior to dinner; setting the scene for a wonderful, family evening. This was a chance for both parents and the girls to socialise and to take the time to say farewell to their teachers.

The dinner is sponsored by the Old Collegians and this year, President of the Old Collegians, Mr Andrew Morgan introduced Mrs Jessie Jarvie (nee Emerson), the first Saint Kentigern Head Girl, to speak. Jessie gave a powerful, thought-provoking speech in her signature bubbly, warm-hearted way. She told the girls that we live in a world where 'it's often implied that one of anything is not enough.' We always seem to want more. She gave the girls a list of 'useful ones,' where 'one only' would be plenty enough. 1. There is only one you 2. One definable moment can make a difference. 3. You have only one family. 4. Find one true passion. 5. Make one new connection. In finishing she said that connections are the way of the future, and that a network such as the Old Collegians will be their connection to Saint Kentigern for years to come.

Sharnika Leleni, the graduating Head Girl at the College also attended the dinner and like Jessie before her, spoke of the pride that she has as a 'daughter of Kentigern.' She told the girls that each in their own way had left their special mark on the School and that this is a watershed time to think about the things they have accomplished so far, and to think about what they want to achieve next.

During the course of the evening, the girls mixed, mingled and giggled, seeking autographs on what has become the traditional white and blue Graduation Bear. Principal, Dr Sandra Hastie told the girls that in the years to come, the bear, a symbol of caring and unconditional love, will serve to remind them of their younger years.

Following the main course, we welcomed the guest speaker; Her Honour Justice Patricia Courtney. Justice Courtney is a judge who was appointed to the High Court in 2004, where she presides over cases of all kinds. She is also, equally importantly, a mother to two Saint Kentigern girls, Rachel and Sarah. Principal, Dr Sandra Hastie particularly asked Justice Courtney to speak as not many women have risen to her role in the justice system. Of New Zealand's 36 High Court Judges, only 9 are women. Justice Courtney explained the hard work involved in following law and the determination required to succeed. She confided that she had been nervous and had some self-doubt when initially offered the role but was given sage advice by a retiring judge, 'Don't think about what you don't know, think about what you

do know.' She told the girls that generally, the things we do know will help us work out the answers to the things we don't know – and that they should have confidence and make the most of their talents. Girls can do anything, even rise through the ranks of traditionally male-dominated workplaces!

Head Girl, Anna Lowther, spoke confidently on behalf of the Year 8 students to offer her thanks to the staff who have helped them on their way. The Year 8 girls presented Dr Hastie with a fabulous clay wall hanging of the Iona Cross that they had crafted themselves.

In the final address of the evening, Dr Hastie said, 'You hold the key to your own futures. There is a lot of power inside you waiting to be unleashed and the only person stopping you from being all that you can be is yourself. Have fun, dig deep, stretch and dream big. Know though that things worth doing seldom come easy but with an idea, determination and the right tools – you can do great things. Let your instincts, your intellect and your heart guide you.'







## A Christmas Celebration

*The story of the very first Christmas is as simple and special today as it was over two thousand years ago. Since that holy night, Christmas has become the most festive of the Christian holidays. Many of the customs enjoyed at Christmas time began long before the birth of Jesus but as people from all over the world accepted Christianity, they gave their ancient customs new meanings, connecting them to their faith in Christ.*

*Today, it is hard to imagine Christmas without a Christmas tree to decorate our homes. The custom of decorating an evergreen tree inside a home may be traced to Martin Luther, a German preacher in the 1500's. On Christmas Eve, it is said, Martin Luther was walking through snow-covered woods and was struck by the beauty of a group of small evergreens. Their branches, dusted with snow, shimmered in the moonlight. When he got home, he set up a little fir tree indoors so he could share this story with his children. He lit the candles and gathered his children around the twinkling tree and told them about the stars that shone above Bethlehem, on the night Jesus was born.'*

On a beautiful evening, heralding the start of summer and the holidays to come, the children, staff, families and special guests of Saint Kentigern Girls' School and Preschool gathered in the sunlit church of Saint Mary's in the grounds of the Holy Trinity Cathedral for the annual Carol Service.

The high, clear voice of Natalya Trombitas, the Deputy Head Girl, rang out from the back of the church as she opened the service with the first verse of 'Once in Royal David's City' before the rest of the congregation joined in. The Very Reverend Jo Kelly-Moore, Dean of Holy Trinity Cathedral welcomed the congregation to Saint Mary's then Principal, Dr Sandra Hastie greeted our families before the Chaplain to the Schools, Reverend Reuben Hardie gave the call to worship.

Year 6 student, Charlotte Carlson opened the readings, setting the theme for a service focussed on the special symbols we come to associate with the festive season and customs such as the giving of gifts. As the service continued to unfold, the girls through their readings, songs and actions gave life to a Christmas tree that started the evening bare. Angels were added to spread the Christmas message, stars came next to represent the

star-so-bright that hung over Bethlehem the night Jesus was born. Special gifts to bring pleasure to others were placed under the tree – once again the girls have all contributed to fill special Christmas stockings to bring joy to the children of Dingwall Trust in Papatoetoe. Bells were next; the bells that ring out to remind us of the joys of Christmas and 'Goodwill to all men.' Jesus was born to bring peace to the earth and so doves, the symbol of peace, were next to adorn the tree. Garlands followed; joined by a common thread they symbolise joining as one to extend friendship and make the world a better place. And finally there was one thing left to complete the tree. The lights were switched on! 'The people who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows but now light is shining on them. A child is born to us!'

Reverend Hardie told the girls that in New Zealand, we have our own Christmas tree; the pohutukawas that line the coast and burst into colour at Christmastime. Often clinging to cliffs, it is the harshness of its circumstance that forms its beauty. He said, 'The pohutukawa can teach us not to be afraid of life's storms – but to face them – to stand strong and be courageous – and to believe in ourselves. Like the pohutukawa, we are created to live in the light, we are created to be strong and resilient.'

As the Performers' Choir sang Benedictus, our Year 1 girls came bravely down the aisle in pairs to create an angelic nativity scene at the front of the church. With the service coming to a close, our Year 8 students came forward to receive their Leaver's Candle, a poignant moment for the girls and their families as their time at the School comes to an end.

We give thanks to: Mrs Janine Bennett, Mrs Judith Dobson, Mrs Nicola Brown, Dr Michael Jenkins and Reverend Reuben Hardie for their work in preparing this service with the girls.

Readers: Charlotte Carlson, Year 6; Hannah Timmo, Year 6; Rachel Courtney, Year 6; Anna Lowther, Year 8; Caroline Riechenbach, Year 2; Manisha Singh, Year 2; Emilia Radisich, Year 7; Amelie James-Power, Year 4; Rylie Cleaver, Year 5; Rebecca Webster, Year 3; Emerald Bendall, Year 7; Olivia Moorman, Year 8; Natalya Trombitas, Year 8.





## Visiting the Elderly

At the end of November, the girls in Year 8 spent a morning at Caughy Preston, a rest home for the elderly in Remuera. The girls walked down to the home and then spent time chatting to the residents. Each had thought of something to share; something that was important to them or that they were proud of. This might have been the badges on their blazer, a medal or certificate they had won or a piece of work they were pleased with. This was a great conversation starter and soon the chatter between the generations flowed. Emma Clancy was particularly proud to find she was chatting to Dr Hastie's mum!



The girls finished the morning by singing the School Song, 'We are Heirs of Kentigern.' On the walk back to school, the girls said they enjoyed the trip as it was such a nice way to make someone else's day while having fun themselves.



## Citizenship Awards

Congratulations to Veiongo Kaho in Year 8 and Charlotte Carlson in Year 6 who were the recipients of this year's Remuera Lions' Junior Citizenship Awards. The girls were presented with their certificates in a ceremony at Dilworth Junior School. Citizenship awards are presented each year by the Remuera Lions' Club to pupils, selected by their school, who can best exemplify the ideals of their code.

Veiongo and Charlotte are worthy recipients and we congratulate them on being selected as representatives from our School.





## Girls' School Prizegiving

Held in the bigger venue of the Boys' School JC Chalmers Hall again this year, excited girls, proud parents, staff and invited guests joined together for the 2013 Girls' School Prizegiving.

In the opening address, Chairman of the Board, Dr Bruce Goodfellow commended the girls on obtaining the highest level of achievements. He said that this would not be possible without the willingness and support of the parents and staff working together as a team. He also thanked Principal, Dr Sandra Hastie for her dedication and commitment and commended her on recently being awarded her Doctorate in Education. This makes her the only Independent School Principal in the New Zealand to have achieved this qualification.

Dr Hastie set a relaxed and personal tone for the evening with her tale of 'Making a Difference.' The story she told was about a young girl walking along the beach who, one by one, was throwing washed up starfish back into the ocean. An old man saw this, and asked the girl why? When there were so many that needed saving, how could she make a difference? The young girl picked up yet another starfish and threw it as far as she could into the sea replying to the old man, 'I made a difference to that one.' 'The moral of the story,' said Dr Hastie, 'is that you too can make a big difference. Don't let anyone tell you that you are too small or too young or that your dream is too big or is something that only an adult can achieve. If you have an idea that tugs at your heart then follow it and see it through. This world needs children like you to stand up and lead the way, all it takes is courage and a belief in yourself that you can do it.'

During the evening, the formalities were interspersed by musical items from the orchestra, playing the triumphant show piece 'Do you Hear the People Sing?' from Les Misérables followed by Vivaldi's Autumn from 'The Four Seasons.' Outstanding public speaker, and winner of both the Memorial Trophy and APPA Champion of Champions Speech Competition, Year 8 student, Madeline Freeland also entertained the guests with her winning and humorous speech 'Why Parents Get it Horribly Wrong.'

The Junior and Middle School Academic Prizes were presented by teachers Mrs Clair McIvor and Ms Fiona McKenzie, who will both be moving on at the end of the year. The Senior School Academic Prizes were presented by Mrs Suzanne Winthrop, Deputy Head at the College. The Cultural Awards were presented by Dr Bruce Goodfellow, Chairman of the Trust Board, and the Special Awards were announced by Dr Sandra Hastie. We thank all those who gave so freely of their time for the School.

Before handing the leadership role to Emerald Bendall, the elected Head Girl for 2014 outgoing Head Girl, Anna Lowther gave her final valedictory speech. She said 'For the past 13 years I have been coming through the gates of this special school. At any school you can learn to read and write, but at this school, we also learn the values of respect, integrity, excellence, love and service. This, to me, is the spirit of the Saint Kentigern Way.'



### DUX JOY KANG

Joy is a remarkable young woman with a quiet determination to succeed. It is Joy's ability in a wide range of subjects that has won her the highest award. In Year 7 she attained a 93% average across her four examination subjects, and this year she attained a 90% average across the four examinations and the internal assessment. She is also a gifted violinist. Joy hopes to train to be a doctor when she completes secondary schooling.



### PROXIME ACCESSIT AND CITIZENSHIP AWARD OLIVIA MOORMAN

Olivia Moorman was awarded both the Proxime Accessit and Citizenship Cup. Olivia has been a cheerful, hard-working student during her short time at the School. In Year 7 she attained a 90% average across her four subjects and this year she attained an 86% average across the four examinations and the internal assessment. Olivia enjoys tennis and carrying out extra

study at home. The Citizenship Cup is awarded to a student who understands the true meaning of service to other and embodies the school values, fully understanding the Saint Kentigern Way.



### SPORTSWOMAN OF THE YEAR CHELSEA SIMMONS

For the second year in a row, Chelsea has won the Sportswoman of the Year Award. She has been a member of the A Netball team at the College, and for two years she has played in the Waterpolo A team as well as the Junior A College Waterpolo team when required. Chelsea has represented Saint Kentigern at the South/Eastern Zones Touch, Swimming, Cross Country and

Athletics tournaments and was awarded as Senior Athletics Champion. At School Athletics Chelsea set new records in High Jump, Shotput and the 200m Sprint and represented the School at the AIMS Tournament week in Tauranga in Swimming and Netball. Chelsea's real passion is swimming and her goal is to qualify for the National Age Group Swim Championships in 2014.



### SERVICE TO THE PRESCHOOL VEIONGO KAHU

Veiongo has embodied the Saint Kentigern Way in her time at the Girls' School. Last year, as a Year 7 student, she was awarded the Citizenship Cup. This year she has received a new service award to acknowledge her kindness and help with the children of the Preschool.





## Communication in Leadership

With thanks to Mrs Judy Norton

During Term 4, for the first time, the Year 7 students sat an Oral Assessment in the 'Introduction to Communication in Leadership'. This formed part of their training for leadership roles next year and coincided with them sitting their Leadership interviews with Dr Hastie.

The assessment involved presenting a programme of prepared work to an outside adjudicator and an audience of their peers. They were required to prepare an informative talk on a New Zealand leader, a social speech, a reading of an inspirational nature and to participate in an impromptu leadership task. To challenge them, they were required to choose an occasion and specific audience for each task in their programme.

It was wonderful to see student using events from the Saint Kentigern Girls' School calendar as their inspiration such as Grandparents Day, Mother/Daughter High Tea and Chapel services. They shared a range of inspirational texts from Dr Seuss to passages about Mother Teresa, from Roald Dahl to the Bible, and also extracts from interviews with New Zealand artists and musicians. They involved school values and examples of service. The assessor was impressed with the high standard of their preparation and the huge variety of their work.

Their preparation has made them explore the meaning of leadership and identify the qualities of great leaders. They have developed the key communication skills necessary in their leadership roles next year and an ability to articulate their ideas with clarity, confidence and courtesy in school, social and public settings. These qualities were evident when they sat their Leadership Interviews. Dr Hastie, Mrs Dobson and Reverend Hardie were impressed with how all students conducted themselves in these interviews. The students have enjoyed the experience, seen the value of the addition of this to their programme and were all proud of their achievements and excellent results in their Leadership examination.



# Summer Time Reading

*'A sanctuary, a mine of treasure, a house of maps to secret lives in secret worlds... the library became my other home.'* — Joy Cowley

It doesn't require a logon or a password nor does it need to be acquainted with a mouse. It doesn't need charging and you don't pay extra for a protective cover. You don't have to wait for it to fire up, nor do you need to find a Wi-Fi hotspot. Nothing pops up to distract you. And it's not the end of the world if you drop it in the bath! There's a library full of them at the Girls' School and the girls love them!

Much has been made of the electronic age and the move from hard copy books to reading on an electronic device. We're in an age of transition, recognising that I pads, Kindles and Smartphones can add many extra layers and dimensions to the reading of a story or the researching of facts. Nowhere is this more so than in the scientific field where virtual models and diagrams bring learning to life and give greater insight into 'how things work'. E-books are not simply replacing traditional printed material, they are offering a whole new experience, likened to the difference between watching a production live on stage or reproduced on film; each tells the same story but one is limited by the physical boundaries of the stage while the other has limitless possibilities - and each has its own merits.

This generation of children are living in a fast paced world of change where much is expected at the click of a button and yet the school library, with shelves stocked with hardcovers and paperbacks, remains a popular, tactile, diversionary, imaginary, adventure seeking draw card. A visit to the Girls' School library during any lunch break leaves you in no doubt that regardless of age, there is much to be gained from sinking into a beanbag and relaxing into a good read. Discovering a love of reading sets children up for life.

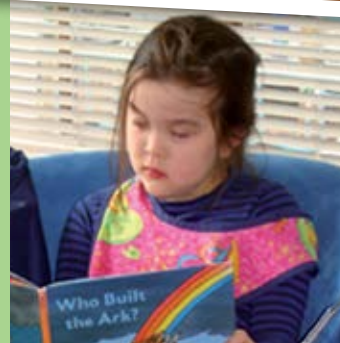
'You can't succeed unless you read,' can be countered in some circles yet it goes without saying that the kind of sophisticated reading skills demanded by high-level academic or professional work – the ability to understand multiple plots or complex issues, the expertise to know immediately what is crucial to a text and what can be skimmed – can be acquired only through years of avid reading. The school library is a foundation for the School's literacy programmes and a catalyst for the development of lifelong readers.

Literacy is born from the human need to tell stories to better understand ourselves and the world in which we live. The production of children's books is amazingly diverse from ripping good yarns to books that furnish information and transfer knowledge on all matters of interest. The School Library is central to learning and plays a key role as a place for unlocking the imagination and encouraging innovation, curiosity and problem solving. As electronic devices take their place in the library alongside the shelves of books, one fundamental is unchanged, the need to encourage children to read for both pleasure and learning no matter what the source of the material.

The library at the Girls' School has a huge amount of appeal. Bathed in sunlight, the makeover by the Parents and Friends in recent years has turned it from a former senior school library into a much loved space for primary aged girls. Quentin Blake wallpaper and funky furniture add to the appeal. Librarian, Mrs Karen Monk is diligent in creating topical displays and organising activities that draw students in. Buddy reading is long established providing positive role models for the younger students.

As the school year draws to a close, most school libraries actively recall their books where they are locked away, inaccessible until the start of the new school year. Mrs Monk recognises that there are huge gains to be made by keeping the reading momentum going over the long summer holidays and sets a plan in place that encourages the girls to select a range of library books to continue their reading throughout the break. At this time of year she creates a display that not only suggests good story books but also may spark a new interest such as handicrafts, jewellery making, a new sport, science experiments or cooking.

Literacy is for life and to develop a love of reading at an early age can open up a life time of reading pleasure.







## Tiritiri Matangi Wildlife Sanctuary

With thanks to Year 5 teacher, Miss Dee-Anne Gonzalez

As part of their study of New Zealand birds and their environment, the Year 5 and 6 girls from the Girls' School spent a day on Tiritiri Matangi Island - a short ferry trip away from Gulf Harbour on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula.

Tiritiri Matangi Island is a wildlife sanctuary and one of New Zealand's most important conservation projects. It is located 30km north east of central Auckland and 4km from the end of the Whangaparaoa Peninsula in the Hauraki Gulf. A hundred and twenty years of farming had seen this 220-hectare island stripped of 94% of its native bush but between 1984 and 1994, volunteers planted close to 300,000 trees. The Island is now 60% forested with the remaining 40% left as grassland for species preferring open habitat. In conjunction with this planting programme, all mammalian predators were eradicated and a number of threatened and endangered bird and reptile species have been successfully introduced over the years, including the flightless takahe, one of the world's rarest bird species, and the ancient tuatara.

The girls were met by volunteer staff who guided them along the tracks leading up to the lighthouse. As they walked, all eyes and ears were open as the girls practised their 'twitching' skills while the volunteers quietly directed them to listen to the birdsong. The girls learned a huge deal of detailed information about the bird life on the island and the importance of the conservation of dwindling species. The girls also looked out for

tree weta (or bush weta), New Zealand's most common weta. These large, ferocious looking, yet gentle insects were easily spotted due to the number of 'weta boxes' distributed along the board walks.

After a picnic lunch near the lighthouse, the girls headed down to Hobbs Beach to play their part in maintaining the island's pristine environment. They carried out a beach 'clean-up' to clear the beach of litter that is washed up by the tide - and also sadly left by visitors. They were also able to further explore and observe sea birds in their natural habitat.

The girls had a fantastic time on the island and were blessed with fine weather as they wandered through the bush land with the knowledgeable guides. They were able to identify New Zealand native birds they had been studying, and recognise their specific calls. The treasure hunt at the end of the track also was a highlight of the day.

The skills and knowledge the girls gained making real-life observations about native flora and fauna far outweighed what could be learnt in the classroom. By experiencing our native species in their natural setting, free from predators and the encroachment of city life, the girls gained a greater understanding of the part they can play to support the long term future of these special New Zealand birds. On return to school they carried out their own research into the conservation of wild life presenting their findings and artwork in colourful display.

Our sincere thanks to all the parents who assisted on the long day trip to the island.



## Icy Investigations

With thanks to Mrs Sally-Anne Jones

During Term 4 in their science lessons, the girls in Years 0-2 learnt about how to describe and sort solids, liquids and gases. To discover more about gases, we were fortunate to have a visit from Mrs Rachel Heeney (mother of Amelie in Year 1) who gave the girls a demonstration of the exciting properties of dry ice. The girls learned that gases try to escape and that some gases are heavy and some are light. The girls also made 'bubble snakes' from soap suds and - their favourite - trapped gases inside rubber gloves and watched them expand! This brought heaps of giggles!

This exciting hands-on experience enabled the girls to develop their scientific observation skills, learning a great deal and having a huge amount of fun in the process.





## Mangere Mountain Visit

With thanks to Mrs Hayley Wolf-Dennis

As part of their topic on volcanoes, the Year 3 and 4 girls had a day out at Mangere Mountain and Ambury Farm. They were greeted by the enthusiastic educators, Debbie and Janine and, as the damp weather began to clear, they headed off on their volcano walk.

It was a steep walk to begin with as they climbed to the rim of the volcano. There, the educators gave the girls lots of interesting facts and information such as what causes a volcano. Next the girls got into groups to undertake a science experiment modelling a volcanic eruption. They used a combination of vinegar and baking soda and a drink bottle. Some volcanoes were quick to erupt while others seemed to be dormant!

We carried on with our walk and took in the views of the Auckland landscape, noting the many volcanoes that make up our city.

There was time for another experiment, this time using wall paper paste and coke a cola. The bottle was surrounded by crumpled newspaper to depict the mountain terrain so the girls could see the unpredictable path of the lava flows. The bottle was shaken and they all stood back. At first there was nothing and then as they looked closer, they could see gas starting to come out before a slow moving eruption of brown gloop surfaced and flowed down the sides of our newspaper volcanoes!

The group headed to Ambury Regional Park to spend the afternoon exploring the unique lava caves and to learn more on what to do in the event of a volcanic eruption. The lava caves were definitely a highlight of the afternoon.

The girls climbed down ladders and were amazed at the vast caverns below that had formed thousands of years during the eruption of Mangere Mountain.

It was a thoroughly exciting and informative day where the girls learned a great deal first hand.



## Rhythmic Gymnastics

Interest in rhythmic Gymnastics continues to grow in the school and we had another strong team compete at the Rhythmic Gymnastics School competition held at the North Shore Events Centre. Hannah Piper, Chloe McGregor and Brayden Tang represented Year 2 girls competing in the Ribbon event. Year 3 girls, Zoe Nel, Hazel Reid, Rebecca Webster and Chiara Botaro competed in the hoop. Year 8 girls, Joy Kang and Deborah So competed in rope while Natalya Trombitas was entered in the competed in the club division doing clubs and ribbon.

All girls performed beautifully and it was obvious they had all worked hard for this day. We had some outstanding results

- Year 2: 1st Chloe McGregor; 3rd Brayden Tang
- Year 3: 1st Zoe Nel, 3rd Ava Darbyshire
- Year 8: 1st Joy Kang, 2nd Deborah So
- Club Division: 1st Natalya Trombitas

### NATALYA REPRESENTS NEW ZEALAND

Deputy Head Girl, Natalya Trombitas is an accomplished rhythmic gymnast who has represented New Zealand overseas. Here she reports on her experience:

'Competing internationally is an amazing experience. Not only is it a great achievement but also a dream come true. When you are selected in a New Zealand team, you do not necessarily know all your team mates and often only meet up when you are departing New Zealand. Of course once you arrive, you are usually jet lagged and often in a far hotter climate than New Zealand - I've competed in Malaysia and Singapore. The most difficult thing for me personally is not only trying to find food that I like to eat, but also training in gyms that do not have air conditioning - it was really hot! We have to learn to try to adapt to things very quickly.

It is very nerve wracking arriving at the competition to compete but I find you gain confidence as the competition goes on and this is where support from your team mates is vital, especially from the older, more experienced gymnasts. It is a very special feeling to hear the rest of your team mates cheering for New Zealand when you step onto the floor and when you look into the stand and see someone waving the flag. In Singapore, the New Zealand team won gold! When you stand on the podium and receive your gold medal, you feel a range of emotions - pride, relief and pure joy! Even though it is a very individual sport, by the end of the competition you have made a heap of new friends by attending the gala dinners and going on sightseeing tours arranged by the host competition.'





## Girls' School Athletics Days

In a break from tradition, this year the Middle and Senior School girls in Years 4-8 competed in their own track, high jump, long jump, discus and shotput events, while the Junior School Years 0-3 held their own combined athletics day with tabloid sports and a family picnic.

It really was a matter of four seasons in one day at the Pakuranga Athletic Club at Lloyd Elsmore Park for the Year 4-8 girls. But in true sportsmanship the girls simply hunkered down into their jackets, many jumping on the spot to keep warm while they waited for their turn in the track, shotput, discus, high jump and long jump events. It proved very successful with a number of students smashing past school records: Laura Lightfoot, Livy Connolly, Chelsea Rose-Haydon, Elizabeth Lightfoot, Zara Smith and Chelsea Simmons.

The morning ran very smoothly and was well organised thanks to all staff running their event like clockwork and the 'gappies' providing support in their designated jobs. The girls enjoyed the opportunity to participate in and experience their own personal success and join in the friendly rivalry of gaining House points for the overall competition.

The Year 0-3 girls had their opportunity to run, jump and throw on the Boys' School top field for their annual athletics day. Dressed in their house colours, the junior girls dashed the 60 metre sprints, sprang their furthest in the long jump and tossed in the ball throw. After the individual events, there was much excitement for the house team competitions! All the girls thoroughly enjoyed competing against their house challengers in the sack races, frisbee throw and the hurdle races. The juniors certainly displayed some serious House spirit encouragement from the side-lines!

The girls joined with the boys at the Boys' School track for the annual House Relay competition, an afternoon of competition and noisy House spirit! Wishart were the victors on this day!

Congratulations to all girls for their fantastic participation and teamwork at all these events and we thank family and friends who joined the girls to show their support.

### REMUERA AND EASTERN ZONE

From the senior athletics we selected our Year 5/6 team to compete at the Remuera Zones at Mt Smart Stadium: Livy Connolly, India Doo, Darcy Woolford, Rachel Black, Zara Smith, Chelsea-Rose Haydon, Terri-Jane Warner, Elizabeth Lightfoot and Ava Beca. This competition is always very tough and this year was no exception. We competed well but, unfortunately, we didn't place in any events, however, there was a lot of personal success to be proud of. Elizabeth Lightfoot in the 800m – after a tough start she found herself at the back of a large pack of runners but ran a very strong race and picked off runners with ease, saving a strong sprint in the last 200m where she continued to move up the pack coming an impressive 5th. Chelsea-Rose Haydon worked very hard on the ball throw in the lead up to the competition and threw a personal best, coming 4th. Zara Smith also jumped a personal best in long jump.

At the Year 7/8 Eastern Zone competition, also held at Mount Smart, Chelsea Simmons and Bethan Montgomery were selected to compete in the middle distance events. Chelsea came 4th in the 1500m.

### GIRLS' SCHOOL YEAR GROUP CHAMPIONS 2013

	1ST	2ND	3RD
Year 0	Ashley Cheeseman	= Olivia Carpenter; Amelie Rae	
Year 1	= Amelia Evangelidakis, Janie Colebrook		Golden Lawton-Hines
Year 2	= Hannah Piper, Isabella Hughes		Zoe Taylor
Year 3	Mary Stanfield	= Charlotte Scragge, Jade Radisich	
Year 4	Laura Lightfoot	Verity Ward	Erin Whittley-Pegg
Year 5	Olivia Connolly	India Doo	Darcy Woolford
Year 6	Zara Smith	Terri Jane Warner	Elizabeth Lightfoot
Year 7	Renee Flay	= Olivia Montgomery, Emilia Radisich	
Year 8	Chelsea Simmons	Evangeline Coman	Veiongo Kaho



### HOUSE RELAY CHAMPIONS

1st	Wishart	62
2nd	Hamilton	53
3rd	Cargill	35
4th	Chalmers	26

### HOUSE ATHLETICS CHAMPIONS

1st	Wishart	603
2nd	Hamilton	443
3rd	Chalmers	398
4th	Cargill	371





## Raising Funds for Halberg

With thanks to Ms Kristie Richards and Mrs Courtney Rowson, Sports Staff.

In a new fundraising initiative this year, the Girls' School organised a day of sporting fun to raise funds for the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation. Earlier in the week, former Boys' School Principal and now CEO of the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation, Mr Geoff Burgess paid a visit to assembly. Mr Burgess talked to the girls about the importance that sport plays in people's lives - keeping us fit, sharpening the mind, developing a competitive spirit, bringing us together with friends and providing a source of role models from players to coaches and managers.

He said that each of us can probably remember a special sporting moment, whether it's our own triumph or witnessing the triumph of another. He harked back to 1960, a year when a growing number of households could boast a black and white television; a year when, in a TV first, New Zealand could witness Murray Halberg run to an amazing gold victory in the 5000m at the Olympics in Rome. He explained that not many people realised that Murray was disabled after a severe rugby injury to his shoulder earlier in his life left his arm withered. He took up running under the guidance of Arthur Lydiard; his disability making him all the more determined to win and win he did!

In 1963, Murray set up The Halberg Trust (rebranded in 2012 to become the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation), which supports children with disabilities to be active in sport and leisure, creating a pathway for sporting opportunities and competition at an elite level.

Mr Burgess introduced, Rebecca Dubber; a bubbly, young woman who has spent her life in a wheelchair but never saw that as a reason to hold her back. After trying several sports and despite having limited use of her legs, she chose swimming as her sport of choice. She explained to the girls that water creates no limits and the sense of weightlessness gave her freedom. Through her teens she trained and competed with a squad and then set her sights on bigger things. She competed at the London

Olympics which she said was an amazing experience and while she didn't medal, it has made her even more determined to qualify for and succeed in Rio at the next Olympics.

To raise money, the girls' day of sports was split into three sessions for Years 0-3, 4-6 and 7-8. The youngest took up a skipping challenge whilst the two older groups were challenged with a range of cross fit exercises. The girls arrived dressed in 'funky mufti sports gear' ready to participate.

Year 0-3 showed off a variety of jumping skills in a skipping relay followed by a 'skip off'. The Year 0/1's skipped for one minute while our judges picked the top three skippers and Year 2/3's had to keep skipping until there was only one skipper remaining. This was great fun for our young ones and they really thrived on the huge support from the side line from the older girls.

Ms Kristie Richards introduced cross fit to our older students earlier in the year in preparation for cross country and winter sports. Our Year 4-8's worked in partners of similar ability and undertook a circuit involving a variety of exercises such as squats, planking, step ups, shuttle runs, skipping and even a hill run involving a chicken! The girls had a fabulous time pushing and supporting each other to get through each circuit. The Year 8's had further motivation to do their best when Ms Richards and Mrs Rowson joined in and laid down the challenge to try to complete more exercises than them!

It was a fabulous day, enjoyed by all and best of all the girls raised \$2183.30 that we have heard will be put towards a special wheelchair worth \$5000.00 for a primary aged school boy. This will be life changing for this young boy.

The Halberg Disability Sport Foundation Vision: 'All sports for all New Zealanders - No Exceptions'

*Sir Murray Halberg (ONZ)*





## Girls vs Wild

With thanks to student reporters, Joy Kang and Chelsea Simmons

As part of the criteria to achieve the gold level of the Saint Kentigern Service Award, the girls are required to fulfil an outdoor adventure experience that includes an element of service. In order to qualify for the Girls vs Wild overnighter, the students must have already completed all the criteria for the Bronze and Silver Service Awards. Twelve excited girls set off on the Girls Vs Wild trip to Tawharanui Regional Park for an action packed 48 hours which was intended to challenge the girls in an outdoor setting and include work that helped the local community.

On the trip north, a stop was made in Warkworth for the girls to purchase their own ingredients for their meals. With only fifteen minutes allocated to gather all the food and pay, there was definitely chaos in the supermarket! The next stop was Tawharanui Regional Park where the girls were dropped off a few kilometres short to tramp to the campsite. Once the tents were set up, the girls went on a glass bottom boat trip at Goat Island where learning about the different types of fish, caves, rocks and shells proved to be a highlight of the trip. Another highlight was sliding down hill on cardboard boxes – a bumpy, jolting ride but so much fun!

Back at the campsite, there were two activities planned to challenge the group, one to construct a balloon tower and another to fit coloured

blocks to form a cube in a set pattern, the real challenge being, they weren't allowed to talk – never an easy thing for girls! Equally challenging was later cooking their own meals outside; they soon discovered this wasn't quite as easy as they had imagined!

After dark the girls headed down to the beach and as it was Remembrance Day, they lay in the sand for a couple of minutes of silence and took time to reflect on their future and what was to come. To end their walk the girls said, 'We witnessed a very beautiful and an almost magical event. On the damp sand, sparkles appeared wherever we stepped. It was phosphorescent plankton! We had a great time dancing around and stamping our feet to see the glowing sparkles.'

The following morning was down to business: breakfast to cook, tents to pack and then their service component, a rubbish clean up around the park. The girls were surprised at the amount they collected and came to understand that their efforts were helping to keep the environment clean and more enjoyable for everyone.

The trip was a huge amount of fun and one the girls thoroughly enjoyed, learning more about the outdoors and giving a little back to the community.

## Girls' School Parents and Friends Association

My sincere thanks to all our volunteers who through our Parents and Friends Association help make our school such a special place for our girls.

In 2013, the Parents and Friends Association has hosted a number of fun events intended primarily to build on community spirit. We started the year with our traditional School Picnic which is an excellent chance for families to mix in an informal setting. The Mother Daughter High Tea, also held in Term 1, was again extremely successful thanks to Fiona Freeland and her team.

As winter approached, we hosted a very entertaining 'All that Sparkles' Disco which is an event the girls look forward to each year. Thanks to Patsy Radisich and her team for creating a memorable disco night. Like the Mother and Daughter High Tea, the annual breakfast for Fathers and Daughters was also held off site this year which meant a lot less work for volunteers. My special thanks to Andrew Morgan and the Old Collegians Association for their support to enable this. The Father and Daughter Breakfast was a great success thanks to Julia Clancy and her team. This year we were entertained by the Kentoris choir from the College. This link to the College was inspirational for the girls and reinforced the family atmosphere. Our special thanks go to the choir members for making it out so early in the morning. We ended the year with an Art Exhibition

of work by Simon Payton who had been the School's artist in residence earlier this year.

The major fundraising focus this year was a spectacular Fashion Show in Term 1, Chic Peek, which raised funds to enable the refurbishment of the school grounds. My sincere thanks go to Jennifer Duncan and the rest of the organising team who created such a glamorous evening and raised such a considerable sum.

We are currently getting a food freezer project organised to start at the beginning of next year. This will enable the community to donate meals to be housed in a freezer at school. These will then be distributed to families in need within our community as the need arises.

Next year we are planning to move our meetings to a Monday night. Aside from our popular regular events we also are working with the school to host a fathers' in school lunch and a new parents' dinner which will both be new events.

I have had the privilege to lead an energetic team who have worked diligently for our girls. My special thanks to them for their enthusiasm and hard work, much of which goes on behind the scenes. We thank the Board for their ongoing support for the Girls' School.

*Paul Fletcher, Chairman, Saint Kentigern Girls' School Parents and Friends*