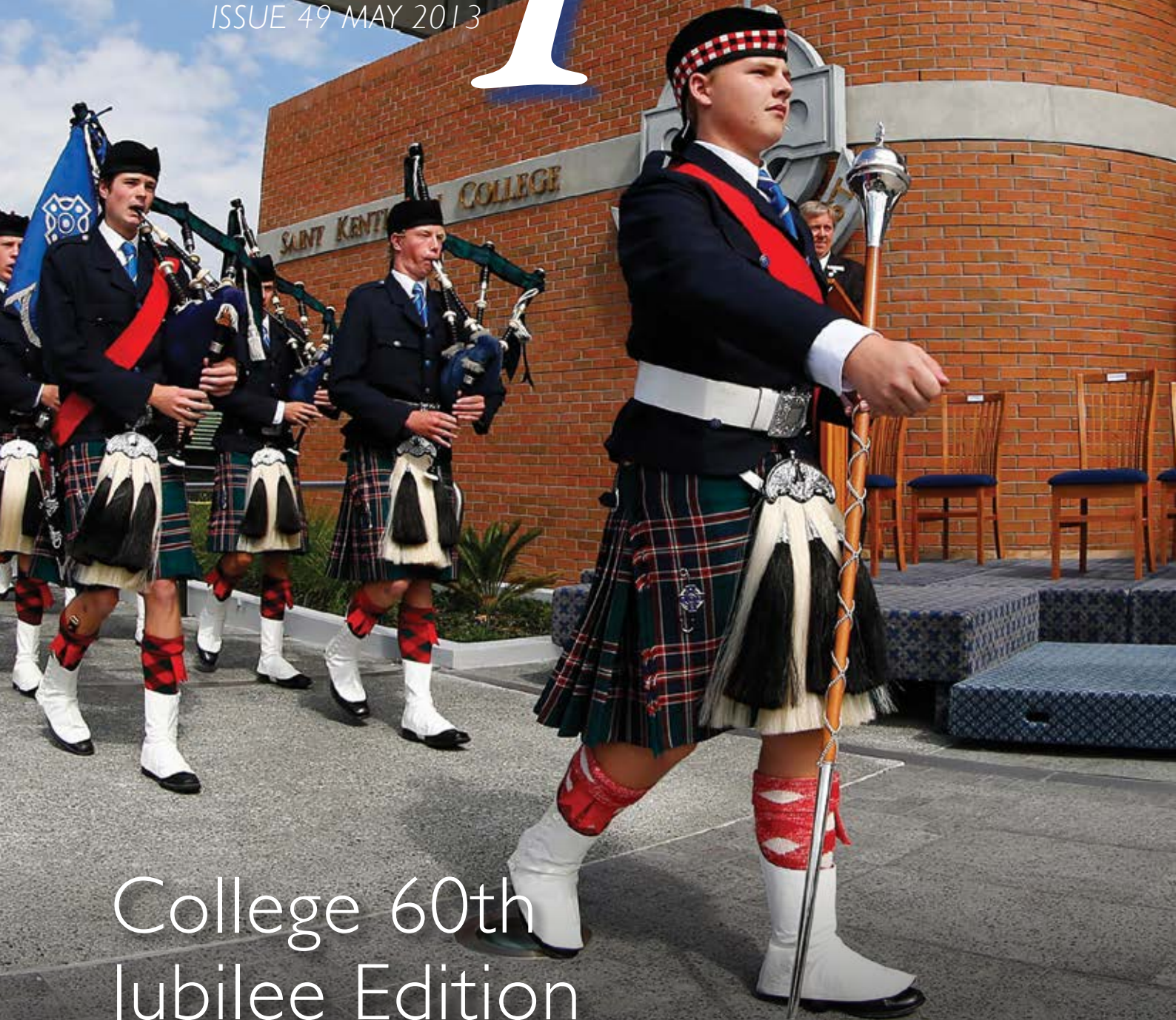


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SAINT KENTIGERN

A MAGAZINE FOR THE
SAINT KENTIGERN
COMMUNITY



Raising a Powerful Girl

Powerful girls grow up feeling secure in themselves. They learn to take action, making positive choices about their lives and doing positive things for others. They are able to think critically about the world around them and learn to express and acknowledge their thoughts and feelings, and those of others, in caring ways.

At the Girls' School we recognise the responsibility that we have as teachers to support parents in the raising of powerful girls. The following are some of the areas that I believe are important for us to support our girls in as they grow and develop.

PROVIDING PHYSICAL RISK AND CHALLENGE

I believe that having the opportunity to learn new skills that extend their experiences outside their comfort zone is essential for the overall development of girls. One way that we have introduced this to our Year 6 and 7 girls this year was by offering the chance to enter the Soapbox Derby competition. We saw this as a chance for girls to compete in the experience of downhill cart racing, an activity which not many of the girls have had the chance to experience before. Our EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) programme, through our school camps, also offer this physical challenge. Each camp from Years 6-8 builds upon the challenge from the year before so that by the time the girls reach Year 8, they are able to live under canvas, take responsibility for their own food and cooking and have the chance to compete in a demanding and physical programme. The opportunity to push themselves, to try something new that they can then have the personal satisfaction of achieving, I believe, underpins the importance of education outside the classroom. Whether it is through team or individual sports, girls need to form a physical relationship with their body that builds confidence.

ENCOURAGING THEM TO SOLVE ISSUES ON THEIR OWN RATHER THAN FIXING THINGS FOR THEM

All our Year 8 girls are trained in the area of Peer Mediation. These skills of conflict resolution are important for all of us as we move into adult life. Learning to share these skills with the younger children in our school also gives them the experience of listening and solving. The outcomes of Peer Mediation are:

- Increase in self-esteem – students in the programme enjoy increased status in their role as peer mediators
- Learning Skills - mediation teaches the following learning skills: listening, negotiating, problem-solving and critical thinking
- Mediation emphasises that perspectives are not right or wrong but different. Mediation teaches young people to look for different perspectives in conflicts, and to seek solutions which cater for all perspectives involved.

We see the role of coaching the girls to come up with their own solutions and the possible outcomes that might arise from these choices as being important when working with girls. Girls need guidance about how to stay clear in their disagreements, and they need support for not giving up their convictions just to keep others happy.

REINFORCING THAT IT IS OK TO FAIL

Although at times it may seem kinder to help girls and protect them from failing, not allowing them to cope and deal with these experiences can encourage feelings of helplessness and low self-esteem. We all know that we learn more from making mistakes especially if we have to deal with these by ourselves. Girls who realise they can overcome setbacks and accomplish things on their own will be more confident and have higher self-esteem than those who are not allowed to try.

LISTENING

When we talk to girls, they often experience it as us talking at them, and they not only stop listening, they stop thinking and reflecting. But when we listen to them, they have to think about what they are saying, and they tend to reflect more. What is important is that we need to keep an open dialogue with our girls.

ENCOURAGING THE RIGHT TO QUESTION AND TEACHING GIRLS TO THINK

Having an opportunity to express their opinions is an important part of their development and it is essential that as teachers we ensure that classroom discussions form an important part of our programme. We ask them questions such as 'What do you think about that?' 'Why do you think that happened?' 'How did you figure that out?' By questioning, praising and probing, we are able to help girls sharpen their ideas, refine their thinking, learn to express their personal opinions and value their intelligence and achieve more.

DEVELOPING A POSITIVE SELF-ESTEEM

Self-esteem is the positive feeling we have about ourselves as a person which influences how we think and act towards ourselves and others. As teachers, it is important that we provide girls with a wide range of experiences so that we are able to celebrate and encourage their individual successes. By finding and sharing the success with each girl, we are able to reinforce the positive experiences in their lives and recognise their individuality.

Powerful girls feel good about themselves and grow up with a 'can-do' attitude. Of course, they will still have times of insecurity and self-doubt, but these feelings aren't paralyzing because they have learned to work through their problems. Powerful girls will grow up to lead full, valuable lives and that is what we wish for every girl - that they are able to recognise their strengths and potential, and that they have the resilience to persevere to achieve their personal best in all that they do.

Dr Sandra Hastie, Head of Primary

Doctorate Awarded

DR SANDRA HASTIE

EdD, M.Ed (Admin) (Hons), B.Ed, Dip.Tchg

We are delighted to announce that Sandra Hastie, Principal of the Girls' School and Head of Primary has been awarded her doctorate from The University of Auckland.

Sandra's focus on professional development and personal academic achievement has spanned her working life. On completion of her teaching degree, Sandra went on to obtain a Masters in Educational Administration with Honours and then went in pursuit of a Doctorate in Education which focused on goal setting and academic achievement in primary schools. This challenge allowed Sandra to research an area that has been her passion for most of her career – but she will gladly admit that she is pleased that this round of extramural study has finally come to a close and she can put away her books for now!

Sandra began her career within the education sector 29 years ago and for 24 of those years has held senior management positions in both state and independent schools. She came to Saint Kentigern in 1995 when she took up the role of Dean of the Senior School at the Boys' campus. In 1999, Sandra was appointed to Deputy Principal; notably this was the first time a female had been appointed to this level in an independent boys' school in New Zealand. In 2009, Sandra was appointed Principal at the then named, Saint Kentigern School for Girls – Corran, where she cemented the vision to build a great Girls' School. During restructuring in 2012, Sandra was also appointed as Head of Primary to oversee the future of both the Boys' and the Girls' Schools, in particular, to align their curriculum.

Those who have had the opportunity to work with Sandra, or have children under her supervision, know that her enthusiasm for education and learning is infectious. This passion is testament to her ability to engage, inspire and lead with great vigour. Sandra is dedicated to ensuring that every learner has the capacity to unlock potential while providing a school environment that is both demanding and encouraging. She is also deeply committed to the core values that underpin the Saint Kentigern Way.

Sandra is not one to sit still and is constantly setting her own personal goals and has now completed two half marathons – the second, naturally, to improve on the first. Yes, Sandra also has a competitive spirit!

As Saint Kentigern moves ahead, Dr Sandra Hastie gives us the assurance that great leadership will continue and that our schools for students from age 3 to Year 8 will remain at the forefront of primary education in New Zealand.

Move Aside Dr Hastie!

They were big shoes to fill. Year 2 student, Isabella Hughes, may only be six years old but she took on the role of 'Principal for a Day' with the professionalism required of a key educational leader! The opportunity to pull up a chair at the Principal's desk came about after Isabella's mother won a very spirited auction item at the recent Parents and Friends Chic Peek Fashion Show. This was the first auction item of the evening and drew much banter from the floor as parents vied for their daughter to take on Dr Hastie's job for a full day. The result was a significant donation to the Parents and Friends fundraising.

Isabella shadowed Dr Hastie for a full school day. Of course, a pint size gown and an official badge was part of the exercise! Stepping up to write the week's 'Principal's blog' Isabella reported:

'I went to assembly in a black gown and helped give out assembly certificates. Then I visited the preschool and we sang a song with them. I had morning tea in the staff room which everyone thought was very exciting and at lunch time I went out for lunch with Dr Hastie and Mrs Kidd. I had sausages on a stick with chips and a purple muffin with sprinkles and a purple flower on top.'

After lunch I made some school muffins with the Saint Kentigern cross decorated on top. I gave one to Mrs Dobson and a boxful to Dr Hastie. I had my photo taken by Ms Gonzalez and I wrote this Principal's blog with Mrs Dobson. I have had fun!

OK. So it's not every day that a school principal gets to eat purple muffins!



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New Celtic Cross

Visitors to the Girls' School may have noticed that the large picture window on the main staircase overlooking Gilmorton House has had a recent a facelift with a richly decorated addition.

A statuesque Celtic cross motif now adorns the glass, a poignant reminder that Saint Kentigern is defined by its strong Presbyterian heritage and tradition, and its deep links to Scotland.

The window was the ideal location for the new interlacing artwork as its strong presence can be seen from both inside and outside the building.

The Celtic cross is an easily recognisable and identifying symbol of Saint Kentigern, and is an important piece of

the Saint Kentigern story, both visually and thematically. The ancient symbol was modelled on St. Martin's Cross in the Abbey Churchyard at Iona, which is just off the Isle of Mull on the West Coast of Scotland. The Celtic Church owes its origin to the work of St Columba, who founded the Abbey in Iona, and Celtic art flourished there for many years.

Do keep an eye out for the eye catching Celtic cross the next time you visit the Girls' School campus. It is sure to impress.

Giving: A Quality of the Spirit

Giving is a quality of the spirit. It is an awareness that there is plenty for everyone. It is seeing an opportunity to share what you have and then giving for the joy of giving. It is one of the best ways to show love.

Giving freely and fully is contagious; when one person is generous it touches other people's hearts and then they want to be generous too. It just keeps going and then everyone has more of what they need.

'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Acts 20:35

Gaye Pilkington, Values Co-ordinator

Each week of the school term, our girls are encouraged to bring non-perishable food to Chapel to be donated to the food bank operated by Presbyterian Support Northern for distribution to families in need in Auckland. To bring a tin of food, a packet of pasta or box of cereal may seem a small gesture but cumulatively, these food collections can make a real difference to the lives of families who are struggling to make ends meet, particularly so during the colder months of winter. This small weekly act serves to remind our girls of the value of giving, the significance of their donation and an understanding of the community links this forges.

WORLD VISION

Term 2 signals the start of raising awareness for World Vision's 40 Hour and 20 Hour Famine programme. Saint Kentigern has a long history of involvement with this fundraising initiative and over a number of years, the College has been the top fundraising school in the country. When funds raised by the Girls' and Boys' Schools are added, Saint Kentigern makes a significant contribution to help those in need overseas. At the first Chapel of the term, the Girls' School welcomed Stephanie Sewell from World Vision. Stephanie told the students about the difference that last year's donations made to the people of Niger in Mali – a country that had received only 6 days of rain in a year. This year the focus is on a country nearer to home, in particular, the island of Bougainville, an outlying island of Papua New Guinea where civil war has raged for over 25 years. Previously closed to aid agencies, avenues have now been opened to bring aid to a people who have been ravaged by year of war. The girls watched a very poignant video about a seemingly happy little boy and yet, it was shocking to see his source of daily water – a muddy puddle – and to learn that his diet consisted of kaukau (similar to kumara) for every single meal. Martin, along with hundreds of children like him, is severely malnourished. Aid this year will go to developing 'kitchen gardens' to help provide a more varied diet. The girls were told that \$40 would be all it takes to build a garden that could sustain five people.



OPPORTUNITY SHOP

Closer to home, the older girls have been busy. Many of the girls are working towards their Saint Kentigern Service badges which requires them to complete a certain number of hours of community service. The Year 8 girls visited the Opportunity Shop located below Somervell Church, where the girls attend their weekly Chapel services. After a brief question and answer time with the Opportunity Shop Coordinator, Margaret Bear, the girls were taken on a tour, and were shown how the shop runs and were shown the nature of the clothes hanging on the racks and the other items available through this community based shop. Miss Bear spoke about the volunteers from the community who come in each week to help run the shop and the girls also learnt that the proceeds from the 'Op Shop' go to supporting a variety of community and church based initiatives - including the Hospital Chaplaincy in Auckland. Currently, Reverend Hardie is pursuing the possibility of the girls volunteering at the shop as part of their Service Award.



STREET COLLECTING

The girls offered their services during the Red Cross Appeal week, giving freely of their time at a number of locations after school to help with the collection. The girls soon learned the difference between passive and active collection and discovered that being confident enough to step forward with a smile and directly ask for a donation made a real difference!

Little acts of service and service learning at an early age help to build a moral foundation for life. Providing opportunities for our girls to move from caring thought, to positive action will help them discover their 'best selves' and make service an intrinsic part of their outlook on life.

Girls' School Leaders

It was a proud moment for our Year 8 girls and their families when they gathered at Somervell Church early in Term 1 for the commissioning of the Year 8 Leadership Team for 2013. It was a particularly proud moment for new Head Girl, Anna Lowther and the Deputy Head Girl, Natalya Trombitas, two young women who thoroughly deserve their selection to these prestigious roles.

At the Commissioning Service, the School welcomed Mrs Suzanne Winthrop, Deputy Head of Saint Kentigern College and Sharnika Leleni, the newly elected Head Girl of the College for 2013. Sharnika told the girls that she felt 'humbled and privileged' to have been given this important role at the College. In preparing for the position, she said she had looked at those people in her life that had inspired her and cited Mrs Winthrop's leadership qualities as among those she aspired to. She said, *'Mrs Winthrop's organisational skills, sense of fairness and depth of caring had been evident since I started at the College so I decided that these really important qualities would be the basis of how I would carry out my duties this year.'* She urged this year's team of leaders above all to 'remain true to yourself. Make sure that you are the person you want to be and stand up for what you believe in.'

One by one the new leaders came forward as Anna and Natalya introduced them with a personal citation. Each of these girls has already made a significant contribution to her School. Dr Hastie read the Pledge, asking them to serve Saint Kentigern Girls' School to the best of their ability; at all times demonstrating a sense of pride in all they do; and with a sense of care and friendship for all the girls and staff. Each signed the Leadership book in acknowledgement of the pledge. Dr Hastie told them that she looked forward to all that they would bring to the School in their leadership roles this year.



DEPUTY HEAD GIRL: NATALYA TROMBITAS

This is Natalya's eighth year in the School and during those years she has developed from a shy young girl into a poised young woman who lives by the School's values. Especially evident is her kindness and thoughtfulness for all with whom she has contact and

the careful consideration she gives to the feelings of others. She is a gifted sportswoman, excelling as a rhythmic gymnast - a sport which has taken her around New Zealand and overseas. It is a dream of hers to compete at the Commonwealth and Olympic Games and Natalya would understand the commitment required to reach that level. As Deputy Head Girl, Natalya will display loyalty, integrity, honesty and respect and will work hard to meet the challenges of the position.



HEAD GIRL ANNA LOWTHER

Anna is excited about being Head Girl and serving the School. One of her personal goals is to know every student's name and to be a great Big Sister. Anna is a talented swimmer who last year held the fastest time in

New Zealand for a 12 year old girl in the 100m breaststroke and the 2nd fastest in the 200m. This speaks volumes about the commitment and perseverance that Anna puts into her training to be able to achieve at this high level. In her future she would like to go overseas and help the less fortunate in poor countries. Her future ambitions are to get a medical degree to become a Doctor. Anna has proven herself as a student who lives the core values of our School and will make an outstanding Head Girl.

LEADERSHIP TEAM 2013

Head Girl	Anna Lowther
Deputy Head Girl	Natalya Trombitas
Head of Student Council	Madeline Freeland
Chapel Leader	Olivia Moorman
Cargill Leader	Molly Payton
Chalmers Leader	Bethan Montgomery
Hamilton Leader	Grace Hooper
Wishart Leader	Evangelina Coman
Sports Leader	Chelsea Simmons
Music Leader	Joy Kang
Head Librarian	Elizabeth Tan
ICT Leaders	Victoria Caddle, Trinity Zhao
Junior School Leaders	Luciana Palmer-Huitema, Deborah So
Preschool Leaders	Veiongo Kaho, Emma Clancy



Cargill Leader: Molly Payton, **Chalmers Leader:** Bethan Montgomery, **Wishart Leader:** Evangelina Coman, **Hamilton Leader:** Grace Hooper



Successful Debut for Girls' Soapbox Derby Team!

In a first for the Girls' School, training got underway early in Term 1 to prepare a team for the annual Auckland East Rotary Club Soap Box Derby to be held at Stonefields Avenue in Mt Wellington in March – a competition that pits teams of young drivers from several local schools in a bid to become the fastest downhill racer on four wheels – no engine! The winner goes to a regional round with the ultimate goal, a spot in the national final.

In the interests of fairness for all schools, the vehicle itself is purchased as a plain kitset, to be assembled by the students themselves, with creative license for decoration. The girls figured they would be the only all girls' team entered and so passed up on go faster stripes and flaming wheels in favour of some tastefully placed frangipani! This, however, by no means diminished their intention to do their utmost to get past the line first and at a Sunday practice to pick the team, the most surprising speed demons were out in force! Meeting on the steep drive of the Boys' School (with the speed humps removed for the morning), the girls took it in turn to be pointed downhill and let gravity and wind shear determine the outcome. Crouched down behind the wheel, the girls were determined for a spot on the team. With one crash into the garden, the dads in attendance were kept busy with some running repairs.

A team was chosen and after a good deal of practice over the following weeks to further hone their skills behind the wheel, with some fine tuning of the vehicle by the Dads, our Girls' School SoapBox Derby Team were excited at the prospect of Race Day. The day proved to be amazing as they raced for the first time in the competition. Thirteen schools were competing for line honours and the Girls' School, as suspected, were the only all girls' team on the race track. Each school team had four drivers who raced three times each in the qualifying rounds, supported by their pit crew who were responsible for all pre-race preparation including weighing, carrying and positioning the race car on the starting ramp.

The girls raced really well, with Emilia Radisich timed as our fastest driver: Emilia represented the Girls' School in the semi-finals... competing against the Boys' School team; an exciting race with a photo finish! The Boys' School team were declared the winners and went on to race Meadowbank School in the finals where they were runner up.

The final results from this great day of racing named the Saint Kentigern Girls' School Team as Second Runner Up and winners of the Best Team Award! Emilia Radisich was awarded the fastest driver for our team, qualifying for the National Competition in Whangaparaoa later that term. Whilst they didn't achieve line honours at the Nationals, the girls are already talking about their goal for next year!

Our sincere thanks to the wonderful support from team parents and staff and to the Saint Kentigern families who came along on the day and cheered on our girls. Special thanks to Warren Frazer for overseeing the assembly of the car; to Paul Radisich for offering his considerable racing driver expertise to train and manage the team.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of our sponsors: Brad Mosen from Black Label Design for painting and signwriting; Marcus Motors and Aegis Oil for purchase of the race car kit; and Sulco Tools for donation of a comprehensive tool kit.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL TEAM:

Student Drivers: Lucy Frazer, Abigail Mills, Olivia Montgomery, Emilia Radisich, Masha Ivanova – Reserve

Student Pit Crew: Alexandra Knox, Georgia Roberts, Grace Stehlin,





World Hears Girls' School Sing!

Singing live to a potential audience of 900 million homes worldwide could be cause for the most professional choir to be nervous but the 15 strong Saint Kentigern Girls' School auditioned performers' choir of 9 to 12 year olds took it well in their stride. For weeks, under the guidance of Head of Music, Mrs Nicola Brown and accompanist, Dr Michael Jenkins, they rehearsed two national anthems, God of Nations and Advance Australia Fair, to sing at the opening of the V8 Supercar Event in Pukekohe, during April. All their final rehearsals took place outside so the girls could experience singing unaccompanied in the open air.

This lucky break for the girls was made possible by Greg Mosen, the Event Director of the NZ V8 Supercar and Bathurst series. His wife, Sue, works at the Girls' School. In the past, the Anthems had always been sung as solo items but after seeing a school choir perform at an earlier Gold Coast event, Waikato Diocesan were invited to sing in Hamilton last year. With the event moved to the Pukekohe racetrack this season, it was the turn of an Auckland school to perform at an event that 120,000 people were expected to attend. The V8 Supercars is one of New Zealand's biggest sporting events.

The girls went down to Pukekohe for a rehearsal prior to the event and sang from the shelter of the 'podium' (in reality, a small deck) while sound and film crews fussed about them. It was a measure of their professionalism that when they returned to sing 'for the world' at the start of the main race three days later that they were unfazed by a change of plans. There had been much excitement on the morning of the event as the girls gathered at school for Mrs Dobson to check their uniforms and be given their accreditation pass to allow them onto the track. There was

much talk in the air that a request from the camera crew might see the girls sing live from the track itself for better television audience viewing.

Pukekohe North Primary School were up first with a rousing haka and then it was a very proud moment when the Girls' School choir stepped out on the race track. Standing on risers facing down the track where all the cars and their drivers had gathered, with a film crew from Sky Sport right in front of them filming live to air, the girls sang to 40,000 people in the stands and to millions in front of television sets across the world without a hint of nervousness! It was amazing to hear their voices projected far and wide across the stadium and to listen to the applause of thousands of people. It was a very relieved Mrs Brown and Mrs Dobson who led smiling 16 girls from the track!

Following their performance the girls were invited up to a viewing platform above the track to watch the start of the race. The roar of the engines was deafening as the cars sped by at lightning speed! The girls kept a special watch for 'the yellow car' – that of Old Collegian, Shane Van Gisbergen.

Our thanks go to Sue and Greg Mosen for making this experience possible. In return, the school will receive a donation from the V8 Supercars and this money will be donated to the music department to allow for the purchasing of more orchestral instruments.

Sky TV kindly made the footage available to us and is available for viewing on Saint Kentigern's Facebook. We thank College parent, Mrs Sandra Roberts for facilitating this for us. Our thanks also go to photographer, Simon Watts for making his photos available.



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Flora MacDonald Day

The College Pipes and Drums, an accomplished Highland dancer, splashes of tartan and a pot of porridge oats were all the right ingredients to bring a slice of Scotland to the Girls' School campus for Flora MacDonald Day. Now in its third year, this day to celebrate our Scottish heritage, from a 'female perspective' is as highly anticipated by the older girls, as the Boys' School anticipation for their long-established Celtic Day. The girls now know to expect pageantry, formalities, a chance to learn something new, that there will be something homemade to eat and plenty of craft and physical activities to enjoy during the course of the day.

With many resplendent in kilts, tartan ties or sashes pinned in place with thistle brooches, the invited guests gathered in front of Corran House as the Pipe Band prepared to lead the march. A group of wee onlookers - preschoolers sporting tartan touches - lined the driveway curious to see what was underway. For some, the sudden, fulsome sound of the passing band proved just a little too much! The girls, however, were eager to follow on as the four Houses, split into to eight smaller clans, lined up behind their flag bearers and joined the march down the drive and back to the hall; the entry flanked by the Pipes and Drums.

Dr Sandra Hastie got the morning underway re-telling the tale of the woman so highly revered in Scotland; the brave Flora MacDonald who at the age of 23 risked her life to 'smuggle' Prince Charles Edward Stewart, better known as Bonnie Prince Charlie or the Young Pretender, over the sea to the Isle of Skye, as made famous famous in the Skye Boat Song. As a claimant to the British throne, Charles was determined to take the Royal throne of England but his army was brutally defeated by the Royal Troops of George II at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Charles went into hiding with a bounty of £30,000 on his head and many Highlanders took great risks to keep his whereabouts hidden. It was Flora who took the ultimate risk to take Charles, disguised as her servant girl, by boat to Skye from where he escaped back to France. Flora was imprisoned in the Tower of London for a year and never saw Charles again. It is said that she was so highly respected for her bravery that on her death at the age of 68, between 2 - 3,000 people from all over the Highlands came to pay their respects. It was on account of her courage, that Flora was chosen as a strong namesake for the Girls' School day of celebration.

A familiar figure at many of our Celtic events, Year 12 student from the College, nimble footed Sarah McQueen, once again demonstrated the precision required to perform the Sword Dance, accompanied by College piper, Andre Mason. Sarah is not only an accomplished dancer but also plays the bagpipes. Dr Hastie invited her forward for an interview. Sarah told the girls that she had enjoyed the challenge of learning the bagpipes and especially enjoyed the camaraderie of the group. She believes that despite the broad age range, they become such close friends because, as a band, they do so much together and are privileged to play in some amazing venues such as Eden Park last year. She is really looking forward to the band's trip to Scotland, the birthplace of Saint Kentigern, later this year. Dr Hastie also called on Andre to demonstrate the bagpipes and then threw the challenge out to the girls to take up the opportunity to learn.

With the formalities over, the guests were invited to the Drawing Room for a morning tea with shortbread, whilst the girls readied themselves for a day of activities; a day when the older girls take on a big sister role to the younger students mentoring them throughout the day.

Games out on the courts, dancing in the hall (joined by a gallant 'give it a go' Reverend Hardie!), craft activities with the much favoured 'bling', tartan bookmarks and a cooking session got underway. It was the latter that required a degree of stoicism by some of the girls. At the previous 'Flora' days, the campus smelt divine all day as the smell of cooking biscuits wafted from the kitchen. This year's choice was a little more pragmatic - something with a long history in Scottish culinary tradition - porridge! The staple, austerity diet of crofters, however, is not associated with a day of fun and so the choice of tasty toppings certainly made up for the surprise of eating a bowl of porridge - especially for those who had skimmed on the cooking time and found themselves with a rather unexpected texture in their bowls!

If a mix of tradition and fun with Scottish overtones is the aim of the day, then this was most surely achieved. The smiles from students and staff alike said it all!



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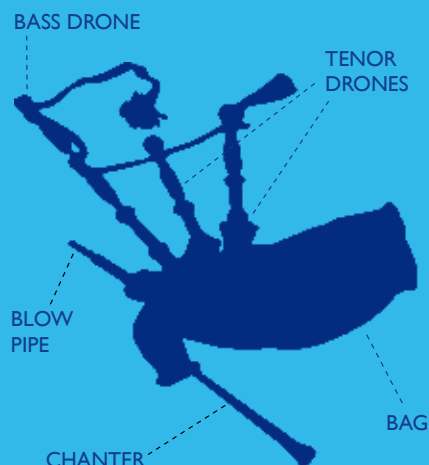
The Bagpipes

No Saint Kentigern special event would be complete without the stirring sound of the bagpipes; an instrument that was introduced at the College in 1956. History records that it took two years of practice before the College Pipes and Drums were ready to parade.

At Flora MacDonald Day, Dr Hastie explained to the girls a little about the instrument. Bagpipes have been played for centuries throughout large parts of Europe, around the Persian Gulf and in Northern Africa. Traditionally the bagpipes were created from entire animal pelts such as goats and cows but today the material is more likely to be synthetic.

A set of bagpipes is constructed of four main parts: the blowstick (used to initially fill the bag with air), the bag, the chanter and the drones. The chanter is the 'melody' pipe; a simple pipe with holes, similar in design and function to the more familiar recorder. Like the recorder, holes are covered with the fingers to create the melody. Blowing through the chanter as the pipes are played keeps the bag inflated.

When students first take up the bagpipes, they initially learn to play the chanter on its own to learn both melody and breathing techniques before progressing to the full set of pipes. Dr Hastie challenged the girls to think about taking up the bagpipes for a chance to play with the Pipes and Drums when they progress to the College. So far three girls at the Girls' School have taken up the challenge and are learning to play under the tutelage of Mr Andrew Lightfoot. Well done girls!



Weetbix Tryathlon

SWIM, BIKE, RUN AND WIN!

The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is all about participation.

It gives younger students a taster of entering a triathlon event in a really encouraging setting but more importantly, it's about getting out there, having a go and achieving a personal best. The most important aim of the event is to encourage an active lifestyle amongst our young. Event researchers report that after registering, participants are immediately motivated to exercise as training gets underway. Students of all ages and abilities cross the line as a personal champion and all who participate take home a medal. Training is important to be able to achieve the distances involved.

Weetbix Tryathlon Distances

8 - 10 year olds (approximate distances) - 100m swim, 4km cycle/ 1.5km run

11-15 year olds (approximate distances) - 200m swim/ 8km cycle/ 1.5 km run

The Girls' School take on this challenge each year, preparing well in the weeks leading up to the event. Early morning running gets underway as does training in the pool. It was a very early Sunday morning start for the 27 Saint Kentigern girls who competed at the 2013 Weetbix TRYathlon at Saint Heliers – an event that attracts hundreds of youngsters to discover a taste of competition. The early morning started a little cool on the waterfront but with the atmosphere full of nervous excitement and anticipation, it didn't take long for things to heat up. Arriving early meant the girls were well set up with their bikes in prime locations ready for their victories. While some chose to enter as a team, most chose to compete as individuals.

With the two Saint Kentigern marquees side by side, the Saint Kentigern boys and girls teams cut a large swathe of blue on the field! Waiting for the start was a little nerve-wracking in amongst the mass of competitors assembled to start. The girls took to the start line, side by side and some even hand-in-hand but they were soon separated as the race got fully underway with a dash to the water's edge to start the swim leg. As most children train in a swimming pool, the racing swim in the sea can be the first challenge to overcome. The bike leg followed with a run to the finish and as the girls passed by, their red faces and gritted teeth told it all!

Every Saint Kentigern girl completed the TRYathlon with great determination and enthusiasm. It was pleasing to see the girls enjoying themselves as they competed and completed! For the parents and staff, it was another proud day watching the girls in blue (how fortunate the Weetbix competition shirts are blue!) represent Saint Kentigern with high spirits and great sportsmanship. Awesome achievement girls!



Relay Team Blitzes the Swimming Finals!

It was a proud moment for the Girls' School when the Relay Team stepped up to the starter's blocks for the team relay race at this year's Swimming Sports held at the College. In front of a huge crowd of College students, staff and parents, the mixed Year 7 and 8 relay team, comprising Anna Lowther, Chelsea Simmons, Bethan Montgomery, Lucy Frazer, Grace Stehlin and Olivia Montgomery, streaked ahead of the opposition to win by a full length of the pool. Principal, Mrs Hastie and Sports Director, Miss Kristie Richards were beaming from ear to ear as the girls reached the finish line with no other swimmer in close contention.

The strength of the Girls' School became evident from the start of the afternoon's racing as they confidently blitzed the pool in many of the individual races. In the overall results with the College and Girls' School combined, Lucy Frazer and Olivia Montgomery came 2nd and 3rd in Year 7 and for Year 8, Anna Lowther, Chelsea Simmons, Bethan Montgomery were in 1st, 2nd and 3rd position!

Three years ago, Mrs Hastie adopted the phrase, 'small but mighty' and the girls have proved once again, that whilst they may be small in number, they can certainly hold their own in a competitive event!

Girls' School Swimming Sports

With thanks to acting Head of Sports, Miss Kristie Richards

This year's girls' swimming sports was held over two days to give our most competitive swimmers, who were entered in every event, a chance to rest up before the finals. The first day of racing saw almost all our girls in the water competing for their house. For our new Year 1 students, it was a chance to experience their first sporting event. Whether swimming with a flutter board or noodle, the girls were brave enough to enter the water and swim a race in front of the whole school. It was particularly noticeable how confident and settled the girls were who have joined Year 1 from Saint Kentigern Preschool. Their Preschool swimming lessons took place in the Girls' School pool so for them, it was a seamless transition.

Finals day was a colourful affair as the four houses streamed down to the pool in full voice. It was a proud moment for the six Year 2's who stepped up to the blocks to showcase their 25m Freestyle final in their first full length of the pool competition. Well done girls!

Competition at Year 5 and 8 level was particularly strong with two girls tied in first place at year level. Well done to all our swimmers.

SWIM CHAMPIONS

Year 1 Champion – Sienna Haar
Year 2 Champion – Hannah Piper
Year 3 Champion – Mary Stanfield
Year 4 Champion – Eva Colyer
Year 5 Champion – Livvy Connolly and India Doo
Year 6 Champion – Ava Beca
Year 7 Champion – Lucy Frazer
Year 8 Champion – Chelsea Simmons and Anna Lowther

OVERALL CHAMPIONS

Junior Champion: Ava Beca
Senior Champions: Chelsea Simmons and Anna Lowther

GIRLS' SCHOOL

House Relay Champions
1st Wishart
2nd = Cargill, Hamilton
4th Chalmers

HOUSE SWIMMING

It was a fun afternoon watching the mass of Saint Kentigern Girls and Boys join together to compete in the House Swimming Competition. House Spirit was evident as passionate house chants and cheering rang out. Congratulations to Wishart who placed 1st, closely followed by Cargill and Hamilton both placing 2nd with Chalmers in 4th place.

YEAR 5 AND 6 REMUERA ZONES

Ten Year 7 and 8 girls (India Doo, Olivia Connolly, Jessica Marshall, Taylor Maxwell, Isabella Duncan, Nieve Campbell, Ava Beca, Zara Smith, Terri-Jane Warner and Elizabeth Lightfoot) represented Saint Kentigern Girls' School at the Remuera Zone swimming competition. Acting Head of Sport, Miss Kristie Richards reports that the girls swam with determination and a positive sporting attitude.

Nine of the girls were able to make great times and were entered in the finals. India Doo managed to secure 3rd place in the finals for the 25m Backstroke. Well done India.

YEAR 7/8 SOUTH EASTERN ZONE SWIMMING

Chelsea Simmons, Anna Lowther, Bethan Montgomery and Olivia Montgomery joined forces with the College Swimming Sports finalists to compete in the South Eastern Zone Swimming competition held at Howick Intermediate. While the girls placed in many of the semi-finals, Anna Lowther also managed to place in the top 2 in 50m breaststroke. This is the requirement for selection for Interzones. Anna Lowther, Bethan Montgomery, Chelsea Simmons and Lizzie Ellis (SKC) entered the Open Girls Medley and swam well as a team to finish in 2nd place.

INTER-ZONE

Anna Lowther represented Saint Kentigern along with Josh Harford (SKC) and Olivia Overfield (SKC) at the Inter zone swimming competition held at Diocesan School. Anna competed in the 50m breaststroke, placing 2nd in her heat and placed 4th in the finals.





At camp we did so many amazing activities that really tested our skills! We tried archery, hiking, beach activities, kayaking, mountain boarding, rock climbing, orienteering, dancing and radio games. We all thought that all the meals were delicious thanks to the fabulous cook. As well as all the skills we learnt at the activities during the day, I learnt to give everything a go and try my best at it. - Elizabeth Lightfoot, Year 6



The cargo net was a high and terrifying and I felt very nervous as I started to climb because I don't like heights that much. Once I started to climb I realised it wasn't that bad. As I got higher and higher I found it easier to work out where to put my feet even though my arms ached a lot from pulling myself up. Back on the ground everyone ran up and said how well I had done. It's one of those feelings in life that I will always remember and to be honest, when I first got to camp I really didn't think there was a brave person inside of me but now I know there is.

- Lara Ambridge, Year 7

Camps Are All Go!

Torch? Check. Swimmers? Check. Dry clothes? Check. Sleeping bag? Check. Open mind? Check. Willingness to try? Check. Achieve new goals? Check. Build new friendships? Check. Develop new life skills? Check. Mission accomplished? Check!

The busses rolled up to the Girls' School three times this summer to take our girls away to camp. Year 6 travelled to Shakespear Lodge in Whangaparaoa, the Year 7's to Camp Adair in the Hunua Ranges and the Year 8's enjoyed camping on a marae in Matakana. All of the groups enjoyed both water-based and land activities and the camaraderie that comes from simple camp life. And what a difference the weather can make! After last year's unremitting rain and unseasonal winds, we could not have asked for a better term for our girls to get away and discover new challenges in the summer sunshine. From the moment they arrived, camp was 'all go' with busy days full of activities. No matter whether a first timer or an old hand, each camp brought a different set of physical and mental challenges for our girls.

Outdoor education forms a key part of the New Zealand curriculum. Values, key competencies and achievement objectives from specific learning areas, such as Health and Physical Education can be effectively addressed through well-planned camping experiences. Our girls came back to school proud of their achievements and we are pleased to have been able to encourage them to conquer new challenges.



Exotic Floating Blooms

The title should be Exotic 'sort of' Floating Blooms! Sometimes seemingly good ideas don't turn out quite the way we expected!

The work of New Zealand multi-media artist, Bev Goodwin was the inspiration behind some group artwork undertaken by the girls in Years 3 and 4. Goodwin's work had been spotted at a sculpture exhibition at the Auckland Botanic Gardens – her colourful, mixed-media, exotic flowers floated like giant water lilies on a pond. The idea was good and the process looked like something our girls could replicate. And so the idea was hatched that the girls would work co-operatively to create an artwork that could be floated on the school pool.

Through their earlier science studies, the girls had learned about plant structure and cross-pollination. They were set the task of working together to design and construct a floating flower; with a hubcap as the substrate, that would 'use colour to attract bees, have stamens and anthers where the pollen would sit and have a stigma to collect the pollen from the bees and the birds.' And so they set to work covering the hubcaps with wire netting to affix all manner of colourful objects.

The girls proudly carried their artwork down to the pool to launch their work in front of an audience of curious mums and dads. This is where things started to go slightly awry! On a positive note the torrential rain of minutes before had abated and the sun shone through. The rain had been such that the pool was full to the brim so there was no need to lean too close. There had been a prototype taken to the pool to prove the idea would float...but as the girls launched their artwork, three floated away as planned and the rest, one by one, sank to the bottom! After the initial surprise of seeing all their hard work sink, the giggles started! Caretaker, Mr Roband quickly stepped into the breach and put his net to use to fish them off the bottom. A quick discussion amongst the teachers on the side decided that a layer of bubble wrap should be added underneath, and if it ever stops raining, they'll give it another go. (But secretly, the sinking added to the fun!) This aside, we did note that Goodwin's blooms sold for \$1,150 apiece. Now if the girls can get theirs to float....!



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High Tea

A sell out event for the last two years with more tickets requested than seating space available, the decision was made to move this year's Mother and Daughter High Tea offsite. Almost 200 girls, mothers and other significant women in the lives of our Saint Kentigern girls gathered at the Novotel, Greenlane for a formal afternoon tea in the tradition of yesteryear. And in a first, the tickets were booked online through the OLE (Online Learning Environment).

In her opening address, parent, Fiona Freeland said that as mothers of school age children, we often rush from the moment we get out of bed until the day draws to an end. In these increasingly busy times, it is important every now and again to stop and take the time to reflect on the mother/daughter relationship and others, such as grandmothers and aunts, who provide close mentoring roles. The afternoon was intended as time out to relax and enjoy.

The guest speaker was Annemarie Cambie from Charlotte and Austen, a children's homeware design company. Whilst afternoon tea was delivered to the table, the girls were encouraged to pick up coloured pencils and design a bed spread. A tempting focus for the girls was an old fashioned lolly shop in the corner of the room and towards the end of the afternoon, much to their delight, they were invited forward to make a selection.

If relaxed chatter, laughter and time spent with loved ones is a good measure, then this year's High Tea hit all the right notes. And for the Parents and Friends, leaving all the washing up for the Novotel was a highlight!

Our thanks to Fiona Freeland, Danielle Lewis and their team of parent helpers for organising the afternoon.



Chic Peek



Our thanks to the team of organisers from Parents and Friends:

Jennifer Duncan, Kirsty Wilkinson, Michelle Carlson, Wendy Hart, Jo Darbyshire, Peter Darbyshire, Linda Fletcher, Robyn Woolford, Amanda Snookes, Sarah Norrie, Kim McGregor and Terri Tang.

Our thanks also to the many sponsors who donated goods for the evening:

Kensington Hairdressing Remuera, Eye Envy Lash Design, 2XU, Andrea Moore, Art Matters, Benson Road Deli, Briarwood, Courtney and Co, Crystal Colour Graphics Ltd, Deloitte, DFS Duty Free, DMI Homestagers, Face Doctors Remuera, Family Boats, Flowers After Hours, Fraser Smith Lowe Dentists, Future Feet, Genesis Fitness, Harmos Horton Lusk Lawyers, Heather Walton - Ray White, Heritage Hotels, HiFX, Janine Bisley-Prowse Gallery and Studio, Keith Kay Homes, Kelly Tarlton's Aquarium, Kimberleys, Kingan Jones, Landscape and Grower, Made4Kids, Michael Overend, Mini Titans, Mod's Hair, Olette Hair Salon, Osborne Lane Newmarket, Palmers Remuera, EyeStyle, Prescription Skin Care, Principle Homes, REAB on Selbourne, Doll House Nails, Remuera Vets, Rue de Seine, Saint Heliers Dental Centre, Simply Flowers on Benson, Snapper Lodge, String Theory, SwimTastic, Taylor, Telecom Business Hub, TerraVin Wines, The Bay Tree of Remuera, The Elements Medi-spa and Beauty, Treat, ubertec, Wooden Gates Waiuku, Zambesi



Glamour, fashion and fun made Chic Peek, the inaugural Saint Kentigern Girls' School fashion event, a night to remember. The brainchild of parent, Jennifer Duncan, the evening brought together some of New Zealand's best designers and was enjoyed by over 200 Saint Kentigern 'fashionistas'.

Weeks in the planning, Jennifer and her team from the Parents and Friends did an incredible amount of work to ensure that every detail was well attended to. Tiered tickets were at a premium and sold fast, with the tables closest to the runway attracting early sales. On the day, the team worked passionately to transform the Boys' School JC Chalmers Hall and entranceway into a truly elegant space, themed in black and white with superb flower centre pieces and decorations from the elegant team at Flowers After Hours. As the guests arrived and made their way to their tables, they discovered a gift bag of sponsored goods which brought much delight and further discussion and admiration as groups of ladies inspected the contents. With a tasty range of tapas on the table, the ladies took their seats.

We are thankful to parent, Kate Hawkesby who did a superb job as continuity presenter for the evening. Professional as always, Kate kept the evening rolling with a sense of humour. She introduced the designers and a professional fashion show got underway. During the course of the evening, fashion models with edgy hairstyles by Kensington Hair and striking make-up by Eye Envy Lash Design strutted the stage wearing new season's clothing from Taylor, 2XU, Kimberley's (presenting Marilyn Seyb), Zambesi, Rue de Seine, Kingan Jones and Andrea Moore, with the models wearing shoes from Briarwood shoes. Principal, Dr Hastie and Deputy Principal, Mrs Judith Dobson were both dressed by Kimberley's for the evening.

Early in the evening, the guests were encouraged to bid on silent auctions but the live auctions at the end of the evening brought in some unexpected bidding! First up for auction was for one of the girls to spend a day as Principal in Dr Hastie's role. Bidding was fierce with a final offer of \$1250. However, this was well eclipsed by an item that promised that Miss Kristie Richards would visit and read bedtime stories to the children. When the bidding reached \$2000, as two tables battled it out, a compromise was reached and Kristie agreed to two separate nights at \$2000 each, raising \$4000 for the item. Dr Hastie quipped that 'she would get over' Kristie attracting a higher dollar value!

Also up for auction were a Kingan Jones VIP evening with a Briarwood handbag included, a stunning piece of art work by Janine Bisley Prowse, a weekend for two at Snapper Lodge and at Lil' Amazons/Mini Titans children's birthday party.

Congratulations to our Jennifer and her team from the Parents and Friends for such a fantastic event and to Kate for taking on the role of MC. This was a superb evening that has definitely set a heady height to follow!

There are also many others to thank. It was wonderful to have the support of the College 1st XV Rugby team to help clean up and a group of Senior Girls from the College assisting the models - a true Saint Kentigern family event.





Artist In Residence at the Girls' School

The Girls' School is renowned for the quality of its Visual Art programme under the guidance of Year 3 teacher, Mrs Diana Roband. With the benefit of small class sizes, allowing for individual attention, the range and scope of the media and techniques offered to the girls is eye-opening at primary level. Artworks are on display throughout the school and are constantly being refreshed as the latest idea is worked on. In particular, the work in the Reception area brings many admiring comments from visitors to the School.

The art studio is a huge asset for a primary school and is well stocked with reference books and posters to challenge and extend the range of the girls' artistic understanding. In addition, each year, a number of girls have the opportunity to visit the Auckland Art Gallery to view professional work and undertake workshops. To further their understanding, an 'artist in residence' at the School was arranged for Term 1. The Girls' School would like to extend their thanks to Simon Payton, professional artist and father of Molly in Year 8, who took on this role during the course of the first term. We thank him for the guidance he gave the girls during this time.

Simon is an award winning artist who has exhibited extensively throughout New Zealand as well as in Europe and America. Many of his works appear in private and public collections throughout New Zealand. An expressionist painter and assemblage artist, he is acknowledged as one of New Zealand's most successful and skilled portrait artists. Simon generally likes to use watercolours to capture the character of his younger subjects and acrylics with other clients. His work can range from abstract to representational depending on the brief.

He said that even though much of his school years were given over to sport, art has played an important part in his life from an early age, and of all the media, painting remains his greatest love. His painting acknowledges both traditional and contemporary painting practice and is recognised for its colourful, uplifting nature – a reflection of his own optimistic and positive personality.



Whilst at the School, Simon was based in the Senior Art Room where he worked on his own work each day and talked to the girls who stopped by to watch and question what he was doing. During his time at the School he chose to work with two mediums so that the girls could develop an understanding of the different processes. During his residency, he created a large watercolour painting of his daughter, Molly and also progressed a series of abstract acrylic pieces.

The watercolour was a large scale work and he took time to talk to the girls about the process he uses to underpaint his work and build up colour washes. His acrylic pieces are a totally different style, building up layer upon layer of paint and glaze to create an embedded texture that draws the eye constantly to the many nuances of colour.

We are grateful to Simon for offering his time and expertise to work alongside the girls so that they could witness a professional artist in action. 'Real life, real time' experiences such as these extend class room practice and broaden the girls knowledge. Thank you for sharing your talents with us Simon.

Girls' School

Campus Tours

**You are invited to join
us for a personal
Girls' School tour**

For more information please contact the
Admissions Secretary, phone, register on
the website or email Admissions at
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