

## Global Connectedness

As I write from my bubble in lockdown, I can't help but reflect on the sad connection that currently links the world, as national borders have closed and countries across the globe grapple to make their citizens safe.

In early March, I was pleased to have the opportunity to travel to a seminar in Florida, little knowing that this would be one of the last times that New Zealand citizens would have the choice and ability to freely travel internationally. As it was, a week and a half after my return, as isolation rules tightened, I was retrospectively asked to self-isolate. I was given an early taste of what it meant to work from home and time to reflect on how grateful I was to have had one last chance to travel and meet fellow educators from all over the world.

The Global Connections Seminar was hosted by Palmer Trinity School in Miami, Florida, USA. At the heart of this, is the belief that by regularly gathering a diverse group of educators from around the world, we will each be exposed to new initiatives, making ourselves and our schools more genuinely global and inter-connected. There is much to learn from the ideas of others.

With a theme of 'Human Migration and Water for 2020', the benefit of collaborating with some of the world's best educators and sharing different experiences, including best practice from other world class institutions, was incredibly meaningful.

Some key ideas emerged from my time in Miami - the value of cultural identity; the importance of a relevant and authentic curriculum; and social action from learning, which both utilises and benefits the community.

**Having a strong sense of self and cultural identity enables students to stand strong and become great citizens.**

Leading into the Seminar, we were immersed in the Cuban Spanish culture of Miami, drinking Cuban coffee, viewing colourful murals and watching locals play dominoes in Domino Park, Little Havana. These experiences gave us a greater understanding of the many students who we met and talked with over the week, during school visits and lectures. What was strongly evident was the pride that they had in their Spanish language, their culture and learning.

**The importance of a relevant and authentic curriculum; and social action from learning, which both utilises and benefits the community.**

We viewed some great examples of environmental projects completed by senior students and some of the alumni of Palmer Trinity High School, who now study at the University of Miami. Research such as the resiliency of coral to withstand warmer sea temperatures, and the simulation of high winds and sea level rise in a gigantic laboratory. Our New Zealand curriculum offers great flexibility for schools to plan teaching and learning to suit our local context.

Learning is most meaningful when we can listen to student concerns and ideas about the environment and this promotes natural links for engagement in deep learning. Increasingly, we must always ask ourselves, 'What matters most?' 'What is our legacy?' - and ensure that there is a point to the learning. There is even greater value when we ask ourselves, 'So what now?' - and promote social action.

One community project absolutely fascinated me. This student-led project from Palmer Trinity School related to sea level rise and involved local businesses. Students discovered how many metres above sea level their houses were, and each family made a sign with the number on it and posted it outside in the garden in Miami. Florida has many parallels to New Zealand with lots of coastline, so this activity greatly resonated with me and I could see the potential for social action in New Zealand. There were other community projects, linked to an artist called Cordada, who addresses environmental concerns through eco art efforts and socially engaged art practices.

As a result of stepping into another education system, other cultures and viewing a different curriculum in action, different community and physical environment, I returned to New Zealand with fresh eyes and renewed energy.

As I landed back in Auckland, ready to enjoy the long-planned Girls' School 10th Birthday Celebrations, the Government was in the process of making plans to send school students home and lockdown the country. 'Connectedness' became a key word for our Saint Kentigern schools as we rolled out our Distance Learning programmes. Like all Principals, I looked forward to the moment, after lockdown, when our girls could return to school, and we would be able to fully explore some of the ideas and learnings from my time away.

**Fides Servanda Est**

**Juliet Small**  
Girls' School Principal





## Prefect Commissioning

The Girls' School's first Chapel Service for the year held special significance as it was the commissioning of this year's prefect team. Guests and proud family members of the Year 8 leaders filled Somervell Church to celebrate the occasion.

Principal, Ms Juliet Small welcomed College Deputy Principal, Mrs Angee Robertson and this year's College Head Girl, Lulu Denholm, to the service. Lulu gave the girls some insight into how she became a leader and what inspires her. She spoke about leadership and encouraged them to create their own journey, embrace their strengths and weaknesses and to be themselves and serve others. She concluded by stating, 'Leading isn't about being up the front and in control, it is about leading from behind.'

The newly elected Head Girl, Mikayla Chung and Deputy Head Girl, Sophie Yan were called on to accept their duties, followed by the prefect team. Deputy Principal, Mrs Jill Wahlstrom read the pledge, asking the girls 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 caring and friendship for all girls and staff. Each new leader signed the Prefect Book and received their badges.

Reverend Reuben Hardie concluded the service by blessing the girls and the year ahead and reminded the girls to strive for excellence in everything they do.



## HEAD GIRL Mikayla Chung

Mikayla Chung joined Saint Kentigern Girls' School in 2019. She enjoys all aspects of school and has immersed herself in a variety of co-curricular activities such as Mathex, EPRO8, Kapa Haka, sports, Theatre Sports, Music, the Student Council and Students in Prayer.



Mikayla has a passion for ballet, sport and mathematics, and enjoys stepping out of her comfort zone to try new things. Mikayla is committed to service both in and outside her community and aims to achieve her silver award this year.

She is a positive role model for her peers and we are delighted to name Mikayla as our 2020, Head Girl for Saint Kentigern Girls' School.

## DEPUTY HEAD GIRL Sophie Yan

Sophie Yan has been a student at Saint Kentigern Girls' School since Year 0/1. Starting out as a very shy student, Sophie has blossomed into a delightful young lady who is passionate about her academic studies, Food Technology and Art.



Last year, Sophie was involved in a variety of co-curricular activities such as Showquest, EPRO8, Netball, Theatre Sports, Private Speech and was the Art Monitor. This year, Sophie hopes to complete her silver service award and says she will continue to strive for excellence in all her core subjects.

We are pleased to name Sophie as our 2020, Deputy Head Girl for Saint Kentigern Girls' School.

## 2020 Prefect Team

<b>Head Girl</b>	Mikayla Chung
<b>Deputy Head Girl</b>	Sophie Yan
<b>Head of Chapel</b>	Nora Caffery
<b>Head of Student Council</b>	Priscilla Zhong
<b>Head of Cargill</b>	Ada Hu
<b>Head of Chalmers</b>	Amelia Duff
<b>Head of Hamilton</b>	Jamaria Tofilau Chankau
<b>Head of Wishart</b>	Emma Wang



**Head of Chapel**  
Nora Caffery



**Head of Student Council**  
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Amelia Duff



**Head of Hamilton**  
Jamaria Tofilau  
Chankau



**Head of Wishart**  
Emma Wang





# Girls' School Celebrates 10 Years!



## 2010 - 2020

After months of planning, the Girls' School 10th Year Birthday Celebration came together beautifully, and what a success it was! Held over four days, the celebration brought past and present staff, students, families and friends of Saint Kentigern together. Each of the functions brought a chance to reminisce on the past ten years since Saint Kentigern's primary school for girls was first opened on the Remuera Road site. Past students and staff enjoyed the opportunity to catch up on the intervening years and learn about the exciting development of the new Girls' School to be built on the Shore Road Campus.

## School Assembly – Friday 13 March

The focal point for the current students was the much-anticipated Friday events. Starting with a full school assembly, the girls, their families and past students filled the hall as the Girls' School Kapa Haka group took the stage to perform. The karanga was called by Year 8 student, Nora Caffery, with the manuhiri in return by Year 13 College student, Selena Agaimalo. Former Girls' School students, now at the College, Selena, Tiana Gray, Moiralisa Ainu'u Aneru, J'adore Harris-Tavita and Anamia Rangihaeata then joined the Girls' Kapa Haka group to give an exceptional performance.

Principal Ms Juliet Small warmly welcomed former staff members, Dr Sandra Hastie, Foundation Principal of Saint Kentigern Girls' School, Mrs Judith Dobson, former Deputy Principal and Mrs Janine Bennett, former Junior School Dean. In her speech, Ms Small congratulated everyone on this 10-year milestone and spoke of the promising future ahead for the girls, as they prepare to relocate to their new school currently being built on the Shore Road campus.

She thanked the members of the community for their generosity, commitment and support thus far and concluded her speech saying, 'Over the past 10 years, we have been on an interesting and exciting journey together and I am looking forward, with confidence, to a successful and exciting future.'

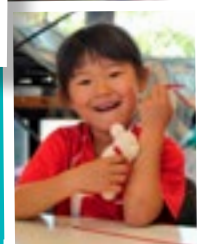
Former Girls School Head Girls, Katherine Thibaud (now Year 10 at the College) and Moiralisa Ainu'u Aneru (now Year 13 at the College)

were invited to reflect on their time at the Girls' School and how their experience has helped shape them into confident young women. Katherine said she gets a 'warm fuzzy feeling' returning to the School and 'a strong sense of belonging'. She said she contacted four past Head Girls to see what they thought made the Girls' School so special. All four girls agreed that it was their Principal, teachers, peers and the big sister-little sister bonds that were formed that made the School so special. Katherine is remembered for a wry sense of humour and in her own way, she reminded the girls of the fun activities and events that they share at the Boys' School each year, reassuring the girls of their exciting future move to a shared campus.

Now a confident yet humble young woman preparing to graduate from the College this year, Moiralisa shared a similar experience, saying she had much to thank the Girls' School for. It gave her the guidance and support that she needed when she first arrived - after famously catching the wrong bus on her first day! - and was the motivation behind her willingness to do good for others and herself. 'It has installed in me great skills, knowledge and values,' she said. 'I've learned to always show humility and gratitude and to take opportunities when I am faced with adversity. This school has, and will forever be, a significant part of my life and I will always be grateful for that.'



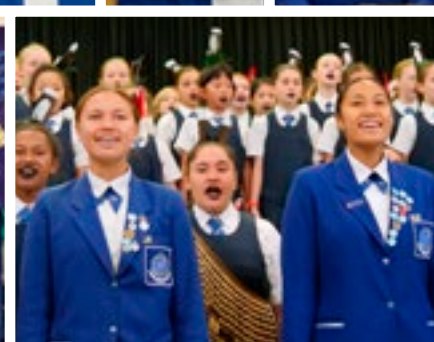
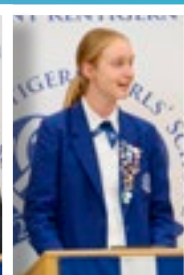




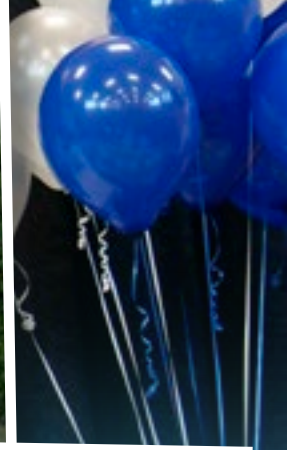
## School Birthday Party – Friday 13 March

Following the formality of the speeches, it was the time that all the girls had been waiting for, the cutting of the Birthday Cake to celebrate 10 years! Girls' School Principal, Ms Juliet Small, Head Girl, Mikayla Chung and one of our youngest students, Elsa Chang had the privilege of cutting the cake as those assembled sang Happy Birthday. Reverend Reuben Hardie gave his blessing and as the hall cleared, cake was delivered for the students and guests to enjoy for morning tea. There were many happy girls dotted around the School licking the chocolate off their fingers!

As the morning unfolded, the girls gathered across the ages in their four Houses (Cargill, Chalmers, Hamilton and Wishart) to take part in an afternoon full of fun birthday activities, which involved waterslides, bouncy castles, pool activities, ice-cream, Nano Girl Science experiments and decorating bears. The girls also took part in learning a song and dance in small groups which came together as one at the end of the day to perform in front of an audience of staff and parents.

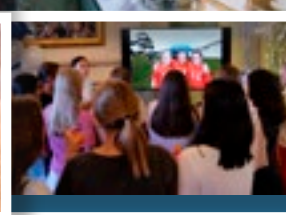
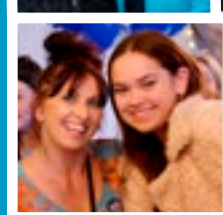
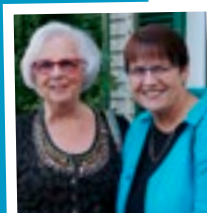
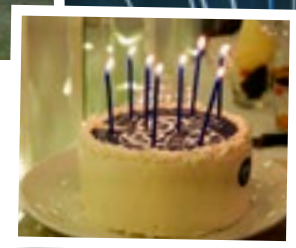






## 10th Birthday Celebrations

As part of the Girls' School Birthday Celebrations, three events were held in the evening that gave, current and past staff, parents, students and community members the chance to mix, mingle and reconnect.



### Past and Current Staff Cocktail Function – Thursday 12 March

To open the celebrations on Thursday night, current and past staff were invited to an informal cocktail evening held at Winger Maserati Newmarket. Overlooking the stunning views of the city lights and accompanied by beautiful background music played by one of the College Chamber Groups, (Celina Tsui, Owen Chen, Annie Ni and Lachlan Wong), the evening was a perfect time for the staff to relax as they prepared for the busy days ahead. Celebrating together, the evening was enjoyable with much chatting and laughter echoing around the room.

### Past Students and their Mothers – Friday 13 March

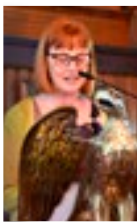
On Friday evening, past students and their parents were invited to celebrate with staff in the Girls' School Drawing Room. The older students were pleased to see former Principal and Deputy Principal, Dr Sandra Hastie and Mrs Judith Dobson. One of the highlights for the girls was the array of photos on display, showcasing some of the great memories from the past 10 years – there was a great deal of laughter shared as their younger faces appeared on screen!



### Community Cocktail Function – Saturday 14 March

The fourth event invited past and current Girls' School community members to a cocktail evening held at the Royal Akaranga Yacht Club. Ms Small welcomed everyone and thanked them for their ongoing support and loyalty. Guests enjoyed their time reconnecting with one another over refreshments and stunning views of Auckland's harbour. The College Jazz Band entertained the guests with some light background music before some College students stepped on the 'runway' to showcase their wearable art designs. Throughout the evening, MC, The Block co-host, Shelley Ferguson, did a fantastic job at reminding everyone about the auction that would conclude the evening. Before the auctions, the guests enjoyed a special performance from College singer/songwriter, Grace Kelly who performed four songs for the guests. Overall the evening raised \$23,000 which will go towards the new school. We thank everyone for their generosity.





## Community Chapel Service – Sunday 15 March

To conclude a wonderful weekend, a 10th Anniversary Chapel Service was held at St Mary's Church in Parnell. Ms Small thanked everyone for making the weekend so special and made special mention of the organising committee for their time and effort in bringing the events to fruition. In her reflection, she said her highlight was 'the strong sense of community that has resonated through each of our gatherings - the laughs, the memories and bright future that we all share.'

Reverend Reuben Hardie led the service for the morning, making the theme of 'RISE to Love' known in his call to worship. Head Girl, Mikayla Chung gave the first reading followed by the Kapa Haka group's stunning performance, 'Hareruia'. The second reading was presented by Deputy Head Girl, Sophie Yan who then handed the stage over to the Performer's Choir who performed 'The Angel's Song'.

Reverend Hardie's message reminded the girls to 'RISE to Love' – the anacronym for our Saint Kentigern Values of Respect, Integrity, Service, Excellence and Love. He encouraged the girls to rise up and show love, give everything their best shot and to strive for excellence in all they do.

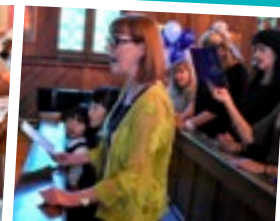
And because it was the end of a birthday celebration, Reverend Hardie introduced an element of fun. In an unusual demonstration of the value of Excellence, he invited a student from each House to pin the tail on the donkey blindfolded. He then challenged them to be the first to blow up a balloon, draw a smiley face on it, pop the balloon and

then manoeuvre a chocolate biscuit from their forehead and into their mouth without touching it – not an easy task! This was fun for those trying as well as those watching, with Wishart declared the winners!

As part of the service, every girl came forward to receive their 10th Year Anniversary badges before closing with the Saint Kentigern Prayer and the hymn 'Shine Jesus Shine'. To conclude, Reverend Hardie gave the benediction followed by a Maori blessing from Nora Caffery, the Chapel prefect. The College Pipe Band played as the congregation made their way out of the Church to join together for refreshments together.

The service was a beautiful way to end a fantastic four days of celebration, enjoyed by students, staff and parents alike. It was a pleasure to welcome back Foundation Principal, Dr Hastie to share in celebration and to hear from former Girls' School students who proudly acknowledged the great start they had been given, preparing them well for College life.

The Girls' School now has much to look forward to as they watch their new school begin to take shape on the Shore Road campus in readiness to occupy in 2022.



## Thank You

Our sincere thanks to the ongoing support of the wider Saint Kentigern community and all those who attended the events. We give special mention to the organising committee who have spent countless hours to ensure the weekend was such a success. Thank you to Development Manager, Richard Lindroos, Chair of the Girls' School Parents and Friends, Rebecca Scoones, staff member, Kristie Richards and parents, Denise Nel, Caroline Paull – Leighton and Sacha Palmer for all your hard work behind the scenes.





# In Lockdown... 'Not Everything is Cancelled!'

It was our senior girls who coined the phrase, 'not everything is cancelled.' In a video they produced during the early days of lockdown, the girls encouraged their peers to get creative with their free time and to turn any negative thoughts into positives, or cancellations into new opportunities. There were plenty of activities to be getting on with at home! The girls were encouraged to get outside and shoot hoops to replace a game of netball or to run around the block instead of athletics, they could practise their instrument, or even learn one for the first time. They were reminded that with a good book in hand, you are never lonely. And, most importantly, they were encouraged to be thankful for the little things in life, the things that we usually take for granted, like sunshine and fresh air - that can't be cancelled!



The distance learning structure of the day varied for Junior, Middle and Senior School but each syndicate made sure they included a morning meeting for teachers and students, teaching and learning time, breaks, exercise and fun challenges daily. The unexpected skills the girls gained, especially their growing competence in digital literacy and self-awareness, were outstanding. Not to mention the new found baking skills discovered in households across the nation - for those who had put flour on their shopping lists early enough!

## Years 0-3

From Years 0-3, the students operated using a combination of digital learning and hard copy packs that focused on English, Mathematics, STEM projects and topic (inquiry) based work. Junior School Dean, Melinda Clifford said it was great to see the girls in their own environment and see some of the activities initiated by the girls themselves, such as obstacle courses for pets, parachutes for eggs, Lego creations and interesting discoveries in and around their communities.



## Years 4-6

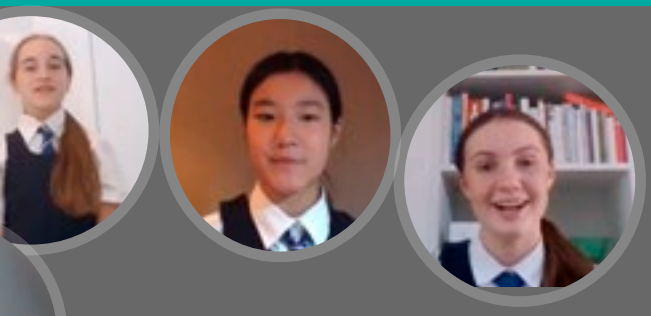
The Year 4-6 students also worked to an online schedule that covered all core subjects and they were particularly encouraged to read books and indulge in crafts and baking once formal lessons were done. They focused on the Saint Kentigern value of service and were encouraged to help around their bubbles and community. A highlight for the Middle School was a service initiative initiated by Year 6 student, Jeanna Ho who made and challenged her peers to make 100 origami birds (that symbolise hope and healing) and distribute them to their neighbours.





When New Zealand went into Lockdown towards the end of Term 1, and the girls headed home to the safety of their bubbles to begin their distance learning, there could have been a sense of disappointment about the many school activities that had been cancelled. Sport was cancelled, choir was cancelled, orchestra was cancelled, drama was cancelled, the service trip was cancelled and, well...going to school was cancelled!

After time at home, as the distance learning programme got well underway, the girls soon discovered that with the help of the internet and technology, they were able to meet with their teachers and peers daily, participate in class activities, and even 'attend Chapel,' all whilst in the comfort of their own home!



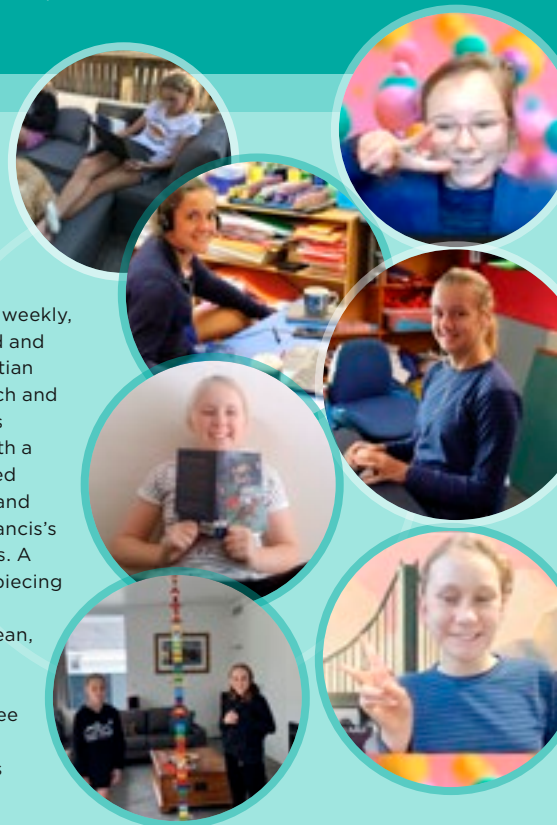
## Sharing Hope and Kindness

After being challenged by a friend to make 100 origami birds during the April holidays, Year 6 student, Jeanna Ho decided to make use of the opportunity to show kindness. Just in time for Mother's Day, Jeanna delivered the birds to her neighbours with the bible verses, (John 14:27) and (2 Thessalonians 3:16') attached to them.



## Years 7-8

The Senior School, much like the Junior and Middle School spent time in online English and Mathematics classes but also had Science and Social Science twice weekly, and took part in Visual Arts, Food and Material Technology, Music, Christian Education, Languages, and Speech and Drama once a week. The students were hands on in Mathematics with a measurement project that required them to partake in some baking, and enjoyed Science Teacher, Jess Francis's online experiments, mixing liquids. A highlight for the senior girls was piecing together their Distance Learning SKGTV episode. Senior School Dean, Bernadette Haerewa said overall, the experience was a positive but challenging one. It was great to see our teachers and students give it their all and have plenty of laughs along the way.



## Lockdown SKGTV edition

At the beginning of the year, a group of Year 7 students decided to start up an online 'news show' to keep their community informed of the great things happening around their school. Well received by all, the show was up and running before they knew it and had different classes working together each fortnight to produce an episode. During the lockdown, Miss Cassie's class (7CC) was tasked with producing a distance learning episode. This was a lot more challenging for the girls as individual videos had to be filmed at home and sent through to the students to edit. The girls did a fantastic job and set up video conferences to plan and edit the episode together. Well done girls!



## Science at Home

Senior girls were tasked with finding out how different liquids reacted with a red cabbage indicator and to see which liquid has the highest pH level. Student, Phoebe Hirst found there were some challenges doing the science experiment from home but said that she enjoyed it and that it was fun taking photos and video to share with her friends and Science Teacher, Jess Francis.





# Summer Camping!

School camps are one of the most memorable parts of growing up, as students experience many new challenges and activities that they wouldn't usually encounter in their daily lives. Our two summer camps help our girls to build confidence, collaboration skills and relationships in new environments away from the classroom. With stunning weather, both groups had a fantastic time away learning new skills. We offer our grateful thanks to all those who assisted to make these camps possible for the girls.



## Year 7 And 8 Camp McLaren Falls, Tauranga

Early in Term 1, more than 70 senior students travelled to Tauranga to for an 'ultimate' camping experience at McLaren Falls. Sleeping in tents and cooking their dinner on gas burners, the girls embraced every challenge, developing resilience and independence during their week away from home.

The weather was stunning and allowed for a wide variety of activities, such as the river hop, kayaking, paddle boarding, surfing and completing the Maximus programme at Waimarino Water park. The most challenging but exciting event was the 'blob' - where students jumped from a high board onto the inflatable 'blob', sending their peers flying into the river.

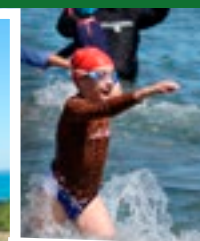
The evenings were also jam-packed with exciting activities and games such as the all-time favourite spotlight, and a waka ride through the glow worm canyon.

## Year 5 and 6 Camp Shakespear Lodge, Whangaparaoa

The Year 5 and 6 students made their way to Whangaparaoa's Shakespear Lodge to immerse themselves in a range of challenging water-based activities, putting their emerging leadership and collaborative skills to the test.

The Year 5 students took part in orienteering, built rafts, went sailing and learned about boat safety. The Year 6 group on the other hand, took part in archery, mountainboarding, raft building, coasteering, kayaking and rock climbing.

The girls displayed great determination to succeed in the wide range of activities on offer. It was great to see them support and help one another along the way, as not every task was easy! It was fantastic to see the girls enjoying each other's company and making the most of their time away.







# Chalmers Wins Swimming

Confidence in the water was evident at the swimming championships this year, as the girls raced for podium places and House points.

Spread over three days, the students displayed great sportsmanship and talent as they swam their breaststroke, back stroke, freestyle and butterfly heats. The first day of racing for the Year 4 to 8 students was preliminary races only, where students raced to gain places in the finals the following day. The students, staff and supporters were fortunate to celebrate the girls' success in beautiful weather.

The Year 0 to 3 students, on the other hand, were not quite so lucky when it came to the weather. The morning races started out with beautiful sunshine, but by the last quarter, heavy rain fell, and the temperature dropped, resulting in the girls finishing their races early.

Well done to Chalmers House who came out of top, just beating Wishart out of contention, having placed first equal with them last year.

Our thanks to parent, Andrew Cornaga from Photosports for sharing some of his photos.



## HOUSE CHAMPIONS

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



Girls' School Swimming Championships	
Year 1 Champions	
1st=	Evie Reynolds CH
1st=	Kayla Richardson CH
3rd	Charlotte Dobson WI
Year 2 Champions	
1st	Alyssa Wray HA
2nd	Darci Barnes CA
3rd	Lena Sun CH
Year 3 Champions	
1st	Emily Albrecht HA
2nd	Chloe King CA
3rd=	Lola Leport-Symonds WI
3rd=	Bella Boyd CA
Year 4 Champions	
1st	Zara Hong CH
2nd	Eve Van Aalst CH
3rd	Kasey Wray HA
Year 5 Champions	
1st	Daniella Gillard CA
2nd=	Amelia Hardie WI
2nd=	Zimo Ge HA
Year 6 Champions	
1st	Sienna Robertshaw CH
2nd	Pieter Spencer CH
3rd	Bianca Ivanova WI
Year 7 Champions	
1st	Kayla Knight CH
2nd	Jaime Knight CH
3rd	Kate Slyfield CH
Year 8 Champions	
1st	Amelia Duff CH
2nd	Emma Wang WI
3rd	Jade Bevans CA

