

Waitangi Trip

On a frosty morning of March, 22 Year 13 History pupils and four adults set off for a flight to Auckland, and from there a trip to the birthplace of our nation, Waitangi. We arrived at the Copthorne Hotel overwhelmed by the humidity and 'last gasp of summer', as put by Mrs Ellis. After making pit stops at the historical Puhoi and the world-renowned toilets of Kawakawa, we had thought we had seen it all, but Waitangi had a different idea.

The first day was full on, beginning with our journey to the treaty grounds with a guided tour of the museum, then a welcoming on the marae which left us in awe. We



discovered our first flag and just how many treaties there truly were. The afternoon was spent on a ferry to our first capital, Russell, where we went to Christ Church (the very first in New Zealand!) and a quaint museum. Pompallier House was also a highlight for many, as we witnessed the processes at the tannery and made our own prints at the printing press, learning sayings such as "cut to the chase" came from there.

The second day included a trip to Te Waimate and the early missionary houses at Kerikeri where we discovered the trials and tribulations the missionaries went through. We ended the day with a long journey to Marsden Cross where we sang the school hymn, as a reminder of Christianity arriving in



Elizabeth Thomson



Authentic Christian Teaching program (ACT)

Visit to Elim Christian School and Bethlehem Christian College: March 14th -15th, 2017

Following on from the studies they did last year, a small group of Literacy and English teachers are continuing to meet in 2017. They have the demanding task of reviewing their current Curriculum documents and modifying these in light of their learning about 'Teaching Christianly'. As part of this process, I had the privilege of leading a team comprised of Shane McConnell (Curriculum Leader English), Brianna Tennant (Assistant Curriculum Leader of English - Senior College) and Jan Kennedy (Literacy Leader Primary School) who visited Elim Christian School in Auckland on March 14th, and then drove down to Tauranga to meet staff from Bethlehem Christian College the next day.

The visits were a valuable opportunity to compare practice, review documents developed by other schools and glean ideas that will feed into the writing process for our own Curriculum materials. More importantly, they were a chance to talk in person with Christian educators facing the same challenges we face, in providing a Biblically based and God honouring education for our pupils, your children.

Our hosts were very generous with their time, releasing key staff to ensure the trip was worth the investment. In similar fashion, there was a cost to sending our staff away, and we are most grateful for the generosity of our parent community in funding this, and other 'Special character' staff development programs, through the Special Character Donations.

It was a quiet sense of satisfaction that I listened in to the discussion and debate that followed our visits. It was a great sign of the level of enthusiasm the team had developed for the task ahead. The dialogue began even in the car ride back to Auckland and it continued on the plane journey home. I am confident it will continue throughout the year, producing good fruit in time as these staff develop materials that will be used by many others in the School.

Dave Elder

A.C.T coordinator



A big thank you to Konica Minolta for printing our newsletter free of charge.

Tool Boxes

It was pretty noisy in Room 15. 28 kids working at once with hammers and saws – now, that was noisy! One Thursday Mr Thompson came in with a box full of wood. That afternoon we all sat on the mat and Mr Thompson explained to us what the wood was for. When he said the words “tool box”, we all got excited. Then he brought out his own tool box and showed us how he had made it. Then we got to work. First we got 3 pieces of wood. We had to make sure that 2 of them were the same size, and the other piece is bigger. Next we had to make a border and write in the middle. We had to sand the edges off of the wood. After that we got some PVA GLUE and used our glue spreaders to spread the glue onto the top of the wood [our spreaders were our fingers]. We put the smaller pieces of wood on the bigger piece



Fiesta 2017 -see you there!

of wood and hammered them together [sometimes the nails would come out the other side] then repeated it again on the other side.

A few weeks later Mr Thompson showed us the next step. Now we could begin to decorate them. He showed us how to do pokerwork. A poker worker is a hot piece of metal that when you put it on the wood, it burns a hole so you can write your name with it. Another thing we could do to decorate was paint. First we had to put the undercoat on. We wouldn't be doing the actual painting until the next week. Mr Thompson got out two pieces of wood and showed us what to do. He used a special ruler to make the side cuts and used the saw to cut them off. Next we had to sand the edges. Then we fitted it in to the other pieces of wood and hammered it together, and did it on the other side. A week later Mr Thompson got out the paint. Now all we had to do was the handle. [Some people managed to sand their handle and make it fully circular]. Then Mr Thompson thought that we could have dividers. We were only allowed to have two per person. We are all done now and they all look amazing.

Keira Wilson and Lara Plew

Becoming a Class

Early on this term, the Year 8 team went to Spencer Park and Adrenalin Forest for a day of fun and challenging events. Two classes went to Adrenalin Forest earlier in the morning for their safety briefing and to have a go on the ropes. As we went through the safety briefing we learnt how to operate the ‘claws’ that would keep us safe on the ropes. We could choose which level would suit us and as we gained confidence we were able to progress to more challenging pathways in the tree tops. Some of us showed we could manage the ropes and went immediately to some of the really challenging paths. Others of us worked their way steadily through the pathways from number one, two, three and so on. It was such a successful day for everyone. We spent time together, facing a challenge and showed that we can really support each other to get through!

The games we had at Spencer Park were a lot of fun and helped us develop a feeling of being a class.

The day was a great success – we know that because we got everyone down successfully out of the tops of the trees before dark!!

Year 8 team



Year 9 Camps

'Camp' by Charlize Bennett

Come with me to Mt White
And I will show you the sandflies that pierce your skin
And you will see the tents clinging to the grass
And you will see fun games about to begin,
And you will see the time go way too fast.

Come with me to Cave Stream
And I will show you the darkness that it brings
And you will feel positive energy around you
And you will feel the cold water that really stings
And you will feel happy to have others around you.

Come with me to Kidson House
And I will show you the class around the fire
And you will learn new games to play with others
And you will see the smoke rising higher
And you will learn that we are all sisters and brothers
All I wanted to do was stay
But I'll go again in year 13, anyway!



'Year 9 Li Camp' by Michael Elliot

Come with me to Mt White campsite
And I will show you the beautiful views of Mt White
And you will see us crossing rivers, jumping over boulders
And you will see the bugs buzzing and swerving
And you will see kids screaming for their lives.

Come with me to Cave Stream, that is every-
one's dream
And I will show you carved out sides of a cave
And you will feel the smooth rock
And you will feel the bone chilling coldness
And you will feel the darkness surrounding
you.

Come with me to the bus's roaring engine
And I will show you that our class is a Moose
Family
And you will learn more about each other
And you will learn that the bus driver is cool
And you will learn people like to sing



'The Adventure of 9Li' by Vincent Kho

Come with me to Cave Stream
And I will show you the wonders of God's creation.
And you will see ice cold water
And you will see strong currents of the river
And you will see the wonder of God

Come with me to Kidson House campsite
And I will show you tents with energetic and hyped up pupils,
And you will feel cold
And you will feel adventurous
And you will feel confident

Come with me to Mt White Valley
And I will show you how to tramp
And you will learn to cross rivers
And you will learn to be courageous
And you will learn to be confident.
The Li family is the best class you
will ever be in,
And we call ourselves the Moose
Family



All of the year 6 pupils went on Trek about Tuesday on the 28th of February. We walked around Godley Head and it was exciting! It was also very tiring walking up and down steep hills. When I was not talking to my friend it seemed like minutes were becoming hours, but when I was talking to my friend it felt like I wasn't walking at all and my best friend Melissa was such good company. When it was morning tea time we stopped at a place where the guns were; well, not the real guns, but where they used to be. Then we walked up the hill some more and had lunch at the top. The guns looked over Lyttelton Harbour. The water was so sparkly because the sun was shimmering on it. It looked like there were a million diamonds sinking down to the bottom of the ocean, never to be seen again. I really enjoyed our Trek and I'm looking forward to the next one!
Ella Pask (Y6, Rm14)

Trek-about Tuesday



Camping

During Week 5 the Juniors went camping. We worked together to put up our tents and enjoyed learning about looking after them, things to take when you go camping (or tramping!) and how tents are used for different purposes - as well as much more! Singing camp songs and having picnics with our parents were other highlights of our wonderful week!



Room 12 Reflects on Courage

- Nathan, Joshua, Caleb: Courage means not to let fear stop you. Jesus had courage to die on the cross.
- Amalie, Zoe, Sarah: Courage is facing something even if you are scared. An example of courage is when you stand up to someone who is being mean in the playground.
- Izzy, Rachel: A quote we like is "It's easy to stand in the crowd, but it takes courage to stand alone" Mahatma Ghandi.
- Yone: To me courage means doing hard things that I have never done before, like speaking English.
- Lydia, Alicia, Julia: Courage means being able to say no when you are the only one who disagrees.
- James M, Gideon, Alan: We think courage means always do what's right if it's tough or not. Put your trust in God.
- James, Charlie, William: Courage means the ability to face danger, difficulty or pain even if you are afraid.
- Riley, Ryan, Jacky: In the Bible Peter had courage to walk on the water to Jesus.
- Rachel, Jorja, Emily: In 1 Peter 3:9 it says, "Do not repay evil with evil, or insult with insult." We think to do this you need to have courage because you have to be fair to others even when they are mean to you.



Pumping



In March Year 9 classes visit the Christchurch Pump Station in their unit on water resources. They learn about how precious our water in Canterbury is and how the underground aquifers supply the best water in the world!

During their study of water resources, Year 9 learned some startling facts.

- Our underground aquifers supply the best water in the world.
- Only .9% of fresh water is available and accessible in the world today. That equals one tablespoon compared to a two litre jug.
- A family in Bolivia has access to 40 litres a day, when a family in Christchurch can use up to 16,000 litres a day.
- In some places like Australia they have to pay for every drop of water they use.

We rely on water and it is more of a precious resource than we thought!



Primary Bush Play



In the primary school we have bush play. Bush play is when we get to play in the bush. It is fun because you can explore, play and chat with your friends. It is also good for relaxing in a peaceful space. I enjoy sitting on a huge tree stump and talking with my friends. It is a great place when it is hot because the trees provide shade from the sun. There are lots of little huts which are great for hiding when you are playing hide and seek. Bush play is fun for all ages.

Alexandria Dodd (Y6 Rm14)



Biology Field Trip

The Year 12 Biology class went to do an ecological study at the Otukaikino Stream which is in the Groyne Nature Reserve.

Our ecological study was to look at the environment of the stream bed and what macro-invertebrates lived there. We did multiple tests on the five different stations across the width of the stream. We also had to measure the stream flow, the turbulence, and the nitrate levels in the stream. The group I was in was lucky enough to catch a cockabully (a small fish).

All in all, I really enjoyed it and a great time was had by all!

Dylan Brown - Y12



News in brief

Rebecca Ross, Serayah Chivers, Josiah Leigh and Sam Pearce took part in the UC Student Volunteer Army Leadership training programme this year and did a great job of painting and barkchipping the playground at the Prebbleton Plunket Centre.



Five of our SC pupils attended the Pasifika Careers Expo at ARA in March.



In Visual Arts the Year 5 and 6s have been doing line drawing. Here Gideon and Allie are creating pictures of Lucas' backpack.



World Vision Fundraising

Year 13 pupils Micayla Boshoff, Annabelle Jennings, Sam Tang and Benita Jonathan are heading this year's World Vision fundraising efforts, aiming to beat last year's total of \$33,077. A group of 30 Year 10-13 pupils, along with staff co-ordinators Tim Lalahi and Cassie Foster, attended a World Vision training day recently and came up with a flurry of new fundraising ideas to try out alongside annual initiatives such as the upcoming Easter Camp Op-shop, the 40-hour famine, and Hire a Worker.

Y13 Christian Focus Day

Monday 13 March – The first Focus Day for the 2017 most senior of our Senior pupils was a valuable time for hooking into a Christian perspective on Sex, Drugs and Rock'n'Roll. The speakers were experts in their topics and presented engagingly and interactively with the pupils, providing much food for thought and discussion during the break-out times. Hopefully, they were also challenged about the appropriateness of some of the practices that have become "normal" in our present social acceptance of a permissive approach to lifestyle and of what is perceived to be "rights" without responsible consideration of the impact of the choices that are made.

We encourage parents to interact with their sons and daughters after the Focus Days and to follow up on the ideas that have stood out to them during the day. There could be some wonderful opportunities to reinforce ideals that are biblically sound and that will provide a solid and enduring foundation for the years ahead.



Weetbix Kids

On the 26th February five Primary pupils participated in the Sani-tarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon. It's about helping kids stay active and healthy through a programme of participation; getting out there, giving it a TRY, achieving a personal best and improving confidence and self-esteem.

Our pupils had heaps of fun and came to school on Monday excited to share their medals and talk about their awesome achievements!

Here are some of their comments in the order they are pictured (left to right):

Isaac Tasker "I really liked biking across the road, it was fun"

Daniel Guirgis "I liked the biking because I got to go fast and I don't normally ride my bike very much"

Samuel Guirgis "I liked changing my gears when I was biking. I changed them so I could get faster"

Jireh Pearson "I found the biking easy, and when I ran I sprinted at the end"

Nathan Tasker "I loved it when I crossed the finish line. Finishing the racing was great"



International College Happenings

We've had a wonderful time this term, with our international pupils.

Mr and Mrs Vanderpyl took our German pupils on an overnight trip to Hanmer Springs. The group were able to experience the hot springs, quad bikes and a few more activities. Some of the group will be leaving soon and so this was a special opportunity for them.

We've had quite a few visitors to the school over the past few weeks. Christchurch Educated runs a speech competition in Tottori, Japan and the winners receive a trip to Christchurch, a week at school plus visits to a few of our local attractions. This

year we welcomed Nanako from Tottori and Mr Tsukasa, the teacher. We are also hosting two boys from Keio High School who are in Christchurch to take part in Kendo (Japanese Martial Arts) activities, with their teacher, Mr Tsurunaga. Mrs Steyn and Mrs Wright took these two groups, along with some of our other pupils, to Hanmer Springs for a wet, but fun filled day.

Middleton Grange School was very fortunate to be selected by a teacher training institution in Japan as an example of teaching in New Zealand. We hosted two professors from this institution along with a film crew who went to selected classes to film

teaching practices and learn more about how things are done in New Zealand.

We are so blessed here at Middleton, to have such welcoming and supportive staff and pupils. All our visitors leave appreciating every minute they spent at the school.

The annual International College BBQ was held on February 27th. What a wonderful occasion, with homestay families, parents, care providers, agents, pupils and staff all enjoying the wonderful weather and excellent food! We had approximately 350 attend this event and it was wonderful to see new friendships being made, old acquaintances reconnecting and just enjoying a time to relax together. Thank you to everyone who came and shared this event with us.

Tottori Scholarship winners visited Middleton & StAC for a week



Polyfest

Polyfest 2017 was held on the Dallington Red Zone area off New Brighton Road. Middleton had a great group of 32 performers from Middle School and Senior College, and a wonderful balance of male and female performers. This year 19 schools participated and we were the second school on the stage! Friends, parents and teachers supported this group who had practised intensively for a month. We are very grateful to our wonderful tutors, Lapana Soli, Lisa Akauola, Niyanta Naiker and Benita Jonathan for choreographing the Samoan, Tongan, Fijian and Indian dances, and praise God for the beautiful cultures he has given us to respect and celebrate.



Bus Charges

Important notice for parents whose children catch the school bus. Over a number of years, the school has incurred significant costs where pupils have left school owing debts for optional costs such as the school bus.

The Finance Committee now require school bus debts to be fully paid by the end of each term before a new term's charges can be added to the school account. If the account is not fully paid, then future bus use must be by cash only.

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A New Learning Option

Early Childhood Education (ECE) is a new course that has been introduced into Middleton Grange this year. It is for those in Years 12 and 13 who wish their future career to be with people, have a passion for infants, toddlers, and young children, and who are interested in being an ECE teacher, or primary teacher. This course is a Level 3 course, worth 19 credits, all of which are unit standards, and all internal. During this course we will cover the development and learning of children, communication, the cultural diversity, and creating resources to use in practice and in an ECE service. We learn music, puppets, art, cover a practical aspect, watch videos, and host a variety of speakers. We make regular individual visits in ECE centres, which can be during holidays or school hours. We will also visit the primary, gaining knowledge and experience in different levels.

In our class there are only two males. It is rare to visit an ECE Centre with a male teacher. However, children need good male teachers as role models and educators. The class has a brilliant atmosphere and we have a lot of laughs. We are with people who are ready to learn and passionate about the topic. It is enjoyable, practical, and useful.

Hannah Poole



Y8 Strength Finder's Workshop - my experience

Thursday the 2nd of March was a special day. A lady who came to teach us how to use our talents and other things. Her name was Mrs Sangster. She started off her teaching with a video of a dog, it was trained to be a service dog, but instead it became a 'surfice' dog (Pun intended). The dog was named Ricochet and he was like a lifeguard but only for one specific person. It showed me that we might be taught to do something other people want us to do but our mind will take us on our own journey in life. The lesson followed on with an activity: we had a bamboo stick, hollow and light. As a team of 6 we had to put the stick down using our knuckles only, it was challenging and no one expected it to be. We had to compromise, think, work together in order to succeed. One team indeed got it, but worked in a pair. They said to the class: We worked in a pair because when you do it in a group of 6, it is hard and not everyone listens to everyone. The activity taught us something in different ways, for me it showed me, patience and listening is the key to succeeding as a team. Then we were given a booklet, we were told to turn to a page with a star on it. This star would be the way we would express our talents and weakness through writing, after that

we went to people who had things the opposite to us, an example would be 'Do you find painting interesting?' 'No' then those two people put their stars together to make a circle. Instead we made a moon, but indeed this was another fun activity.



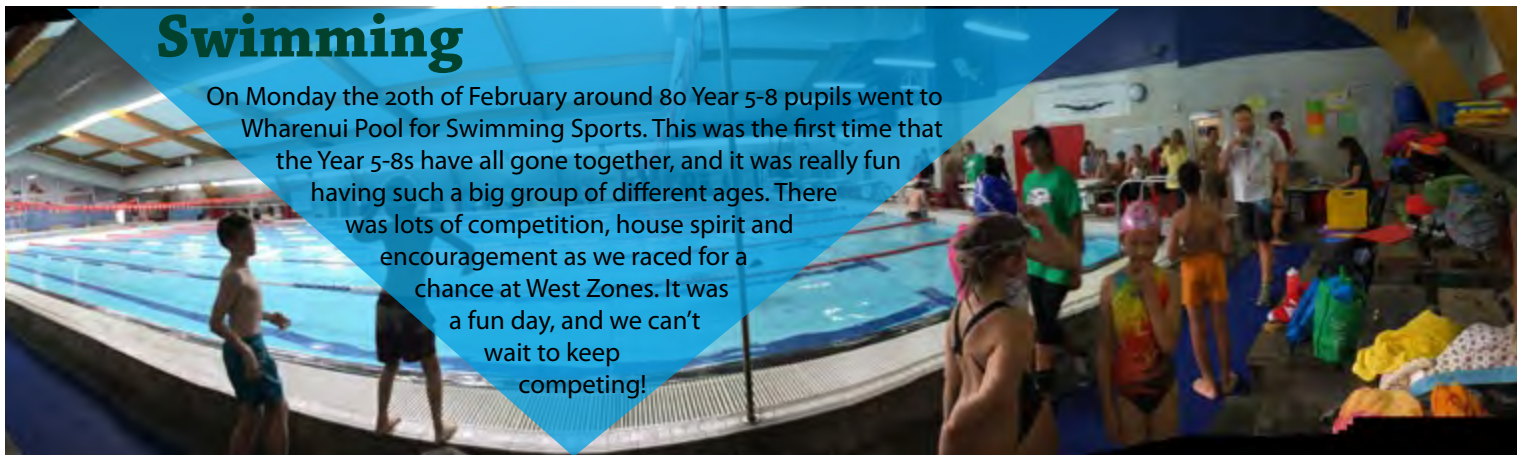
The lesson ended with us choosing a picture out of a couple of them scattered around the classroom. We got to describe how the picture defined us, and how we could relate to them. I chose a picture of a lady bug on a leaf, there were 2 other leaves and that reminded me of how I have always liked to go on my own path, shape it myself and learn things on the way by myself. The experience opened a new point of view on life, how I could use my talents and use all the opportunities that come my way.

By Steve Jacob



Swimming

On Monday the 20th of February around 80 Year 5-8 pupils went to Wharenui Pool for Swimming Sports. This was the first time that the Year 5-8s have all gone together, and it was really fun having such a big group of different ages. There was lots of competition, house spirit and encouragement as we raced for a chance at West Zones. It was a fun day, and we can't wait to keep competing!



Congratulations to:

- The following pupils have been selected for NZ Canoe Polo teams:
 - **Kayleigh Gouman** (Y13) - NZ Under 18 Women
 - **Ava White** (Y11) - NZ Under 18 Women
 - **Emma Malcolm** (Y11) - NZ Under 21 Women's B
 - **Renzo Childs** (Y13) - NZ Under 18 Men's B
- **Sarah-Grace Thompson** (Y11) has been accepted into an Under 17 Player Development Team at her soccer club. She will travel to Auckland for an annual Player Development Tournament, playing against the best U17 players in the country.
- Alumnus **Natalie Fleming** won the Otago Medical School Research Society MSc/Honours presentation for her research, "A mathematical model for urate transport across a proximal tubule cell."



Sophie



Esther



William

Linguistics Olympiad

Four Middleton pupils competed in the first round of the NZ Linguistics Olympiad, along with 400 other pupils across NZ. They were individually tasked with translating passages from completely unknown languages with a few translated phrases provided. Three of our pupils, **Sophie Yeo** (Y12), **Esther Williams** (Y13) and **William Whelan** (Y12) were delighted to learn that they were among the 75 pupils who made it to the NZLO national finals. These finals will be completed regionally and ours is at UC at the end of the month.

Futsal

The Canterbury Secondary Schools' Futsal Championship took place on the 11th & 12th of March at various locations around Christchurch. We entered a Junior and Senior boys' futsal team for the first time in the history of the school. Overall, it was a very successful tournament in different ways for both junior and senior Futsal teams. Both teams were competitive, and had flashes of brilliance in a tough competitive environment.

The seniors (coached by Benjie Lapslie) had a last minute loss in their first game against top seed St Andrew's College, but grew momentum with solid victories over Greymouth 5-2 and Shirley Boys' High School 9-4. Genya Maruyama was a standout for the seniors, scoring 5 goals in the game against Shirley, to get them into the semi finals of the competition.

Unfortunately, in extra, EXTRA time, the seniors lost their semi 2-1 to St Thomas, and had to settle for 3rd place after Max Collingwood saved 2 penalties and fired home the winner from the spot in the 3rd/4th playoff against Lincoln.



Kayleigh



Ava



Emma



Renzo



Sarah-Grace



Natacha

SPACPAC

Year 13s **Makaneone Malua** and **Natacha Varlet**, received certificates last week at the SPACPAC Supreme Awards for being the top two Pasifika achievers in NCEA Level 2 at Middleton 2016.



Maka

JOIN OUR PRAYER GROUP

When: Every Tuesday 9am

Where: At the back of the staffroom, through the door on the left.

Please feel free to join us at any time. We welcome new prayers. Contact Justine Hart on 0274860423 if you have any queries



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This set of cards includes 8 beautiful images from around the South Island of New Zealand. The images have been captured by photography enthusiasts and current staff members Andy Given (Assistant Curriculum Leader - Science) and Matt Barlow (Head of Middle School). The 8 Images have been printed in high resolution colour on 300gsm card, are A5 (unfolded) and come complete with envelopes. The initiative has been designed as a fund-raiser for the Middleton Grange School Hillary Challenge Team who are travelling to the North Island in May to compete in the Hillary Challenge. This adventure-sports based competition is described as the toughest Secondary Schools' competition in New Zealand. By purchasing a set of cards you will be assisting the team in their pursuit to win a National title.

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