

Salisbury School

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Te Whaiao, Ki Te Ao Mārama
Tihei Mauri Ora
Tēnā Koutou Katoa

It seems like term 3 has been a good term for Salisbury School, following discussion with the Minister of Education, Salisbury School is to enter new discussion with officials of the Ministry of Education focussed on potential future options for the School. The current consultation on School closure is still in place and the guarantee that the School will stay open has been extended until at least the end of term two 2018. That is, if a decision is still made to close the school then we will be open until at least the end of term two 2018. There are no promises yet, but we welcome the new conversations we are having with the Ministry of Education about our school.

We continue to have strong support from all opposition parties with assurances from them that the school will remain open if they are in Government after the election.

This support was reinforced by Chris Hipkins, the Labour Education Spokesperson, and Rachel Boyack, the Nelson Labour candidate, who visited the school at the end of August. Chris and Rachel met students and staff and had a look around the school. They were both vitally interested in the extraordinary education at Salisbury School and asked lots of questions when meeting with Board members. A story about their support for our future was published in the Nelson Mail following their visit: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/education/96349216/salisbury-school-to-stay-open-under-labour-says-chris-hipkins>

While it is great to have politicians visit and coverage on TV One News, the reason for the school must come to the fore. Student learning in our milieu as a residential special school is extraordinary! This learning is captured in the photos and stories of this newsletter and they speak for themselves. One of the highlights for me this term was the Wildcats Basketball final.

What a great effort from this team and their supporters to become champions of their basketball division. The team spirit and co-operation right throughout this competition is inspiring and would leave most other sporting competitions in its wake. It seems fitting that this competition run by the Inclusive Sports Trust is one of the most inclusive events I have ever seen. Our Wildcats thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity to shine and be champions and certainly represented the school with pride, both on and off the court. Thanks so much to our staff who have supported this endeavour, including outside of work time. This is a great sign of commitment to the girls and the school. This sense of togetherness that shines from our students when they put others ahead of themselves is so powerful and adds to the extraordinary education at Salisbury School.

Ritchie Telfer, Relieving Principal



Kimi Mātauranga (Search for Knowledge and Wisdom)

Tena kotou te whanau o Salisbury from all of us in Kimi Mātauranga.

We began our term by making changes to classes as we saw it as a positive way forward to providing more opportunities for our girls to socialise and learn how to get along with others in a larger group. That meant that Sophie and Anneke joined us from room seven and Rachael also joined us from room four. Tracey Williams and Karyn Deck also now are based in the class with Sue McLean and Dale Roozenburg. We all continue to be responsible for our respective students' learning but team teaching is a very effective way to work with our students and provide them with more opportunities to learn and

also develop better socially. We anticipated that there may be initial 'norming and storming' situations and are prepared to allow the girls to work back in their old classrooms if required but we are delighted to report that they all settled very quickly and are becoming mature and motivated Kimi Mātauranga students. Our existing students welcomed the girls with open arms and it is as if they have been together for most of the year.

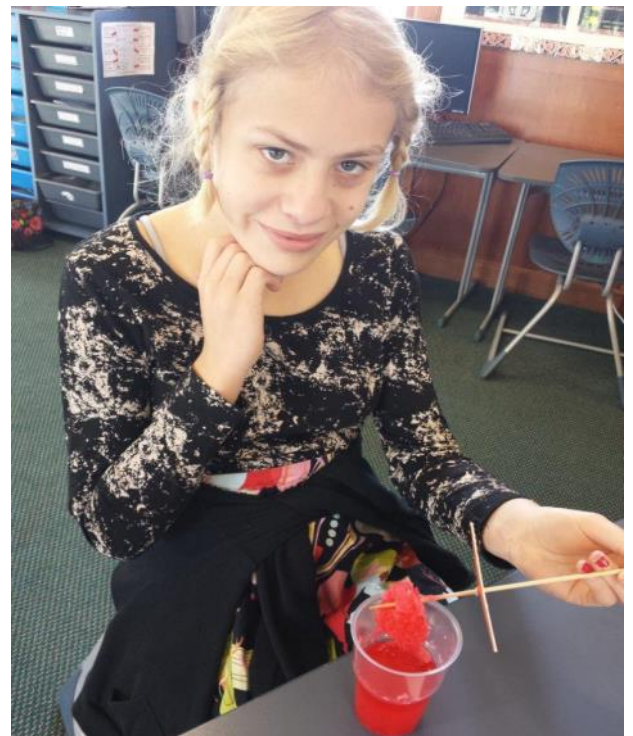
The student who has impressed us the most with the shift and growth has been Anneke who has really embraced the move and has really stepped up in every area becoming considerably more motivated, social and bubbly and each morning she comes into the classroom clearly excited to be in Kimi Mātauranga. Rachael also has blossomed and is demonstrating that she can be mature and motivated and Sophie is really enjoying being a part of this group of motivated young learners. The original Kimi Mātauranga girls all demonstrate tuakana-teina by helping support their peers without prompting which is pleasing to see.



Sampling our 'yoghurt icecream' experiment



Competent dog handlers in Kimi Mātauranga



"Look at my rock candy crystals" says Anneke

Kimi Mātauranga (Search for Knowledge and Wisdom)

The shift to Hurley has clearly also supported the girls to bond well and when we visit the residential area it has a real-life welcoming family feel to it. The layout in Hurley is conducive to everyone having more opportunities to be together and it is warmer and brighter as well.

The theme this term that we are focusing on is 'Change' and the Key Competency is 'Managing-Self'. Change is going on around us constantly and so this theme can be as diverse and complex as we make it. We have integrated it well into all curriculum areas to maximise learning with a main focus on 'Social Science' in the first two weeks then on 'Science' for the remainder of the term.



Craft afternoon working with wool and yarn.

For the first two weeks of the term we focused intently on how to cope with change should a major disaster occur.



Ms Williams with her 'getaway' kit.

We used two main programmes; 'What's the Plan Stan?' and 'Get Ready, Get Thru' so we are expecting the girls to be asking a lot of questions during the holidays about what plans are in place at home. The girls were particularly interested in the impact that the Christchurch earthquake has had on the people of Canterbury and as they all felt the Kaikoura earthquake, everyone was considerably more interested in the activities and the learning was relevant and intense at times. They have a clear understanding that it is no longer 'if' but 'when' a major disaster will occur in New Zealand. We were all very impressed with all of their questions and high interest in all activities.

The rest of the term we are using the sciences strand to explore how change can affect and impact on materials, chemicals and objects. The girls are involved in a wide range of high interest hands on science experiments involving edible science, freezing, steam, wool, fabrics, our bodies, the arts. We are particularly investigating how the process of science brings about changes in a variety of material resources. Each experiment is recorded in detail and begins with a hypothesis and are of high interest to the girls.

Kimi Mātauranga (Search for Knowledge and Wisdom)

It is great to see the girls all settled and working hard on their IEP goals and making real connections regarding thinking of what the future could be post Salisbury.

A recent highlight was when most girls went out to see and play with 9 lop eared bunnies of three different ages. Melissa in particular was very excited but I'm not sure her bunny felt the same as it was held tight as she cooed and smothered it with love. Everyone got to hold and feed a seven week old baby rabbit. Haagen was not the only one who wanted to take them home and another visit is scheduled to see how they have grown in a short period of time.

Ellen still continues to be incredibly busy getting through her extensive individual programme and does it all with a smile even on the days she seems to be running. Anneke has a new found love of learning and arrives keen to work each day. Haagen is committed to achieving as many ticks on her two main programmes in order for her to get to her work experience as a stable hand and to have a very special riding lesson with a highly skilled equestrian instructor. Rachael is really enjoying being one of the older girls in class and is developing a lot of social interaction skills. Nicola is really beginning to understand what she needs to do to prepare herself for post-Salisbury life and has impressed us all with how she has been so supportive of the other students. Sophie really enjoys being in the bigger class with having such a caring group of girls around her and has been coping very well with a range of changes this term. We are all very proud to be a part of this dynamic group of motivated learners and it is clear to see on entering the class how motivated and on task they all are as they go about achieving their various IEP goals.

We are sure that the remainder of the term will continue to go as smoothly as the first half so that the girls can



Nicola with subtle day time makeup and hairdo.



Sophie is our 'Elsa look-alike' from Frozen



Rachel feeds one of the four seven week old bunnies

share their learning with their families when they come home in the holidays.

Work Experience

Work experience continues to be very successful with girls learning a range of new skills from their respective work placements. The written comments their employers write are all extremely positive and encouraging.

Rachael is carrying out her work experience at Elimkids pre-school in Stoke. Rachael's confidence in her own abilities has increased and, along with this increased confidence, comes the



skill of using her initiative which is often challenging for any young person to achieve. The children really enjoy being in Rachael's company when she is there and look forward to seeing her every week

Sophie is carrying out her work experience at Mainly Music in Richmond. Sophie really enjoys being an 'official helper' and takes great pride wearing her Mainly Music 'staff' lanyard ID. Sophie is becoming more independent at engaging spontaneously with the children and their caregivers. The Mainly Music team enjoy having Sophie there.

Nicola is doing a great job at her work experience placement at The Salvation Army Family Store in Richmond. The Friday team report that Nicola has become such a vital part of the team that they really notice the difference when Nicola is not there. Nicola has also become a lot more consistent in achieving her weekly goals which shows great maturity and commitment.

Ellen carries out her work experience placement at the Alchemy Café at the Alchemy Arts Centre in Richmond. Her days there can be very different – from extremely busy to very quiet – which appears to be mostly weather dependent! Ellen shows that she can be extremely focussed on her tasks most of the time and is achieving her goals most of the time which boosts her confidence.

Salisbury School is very lucky to have so many local business owners who are dedicated to supporting our students in the community.

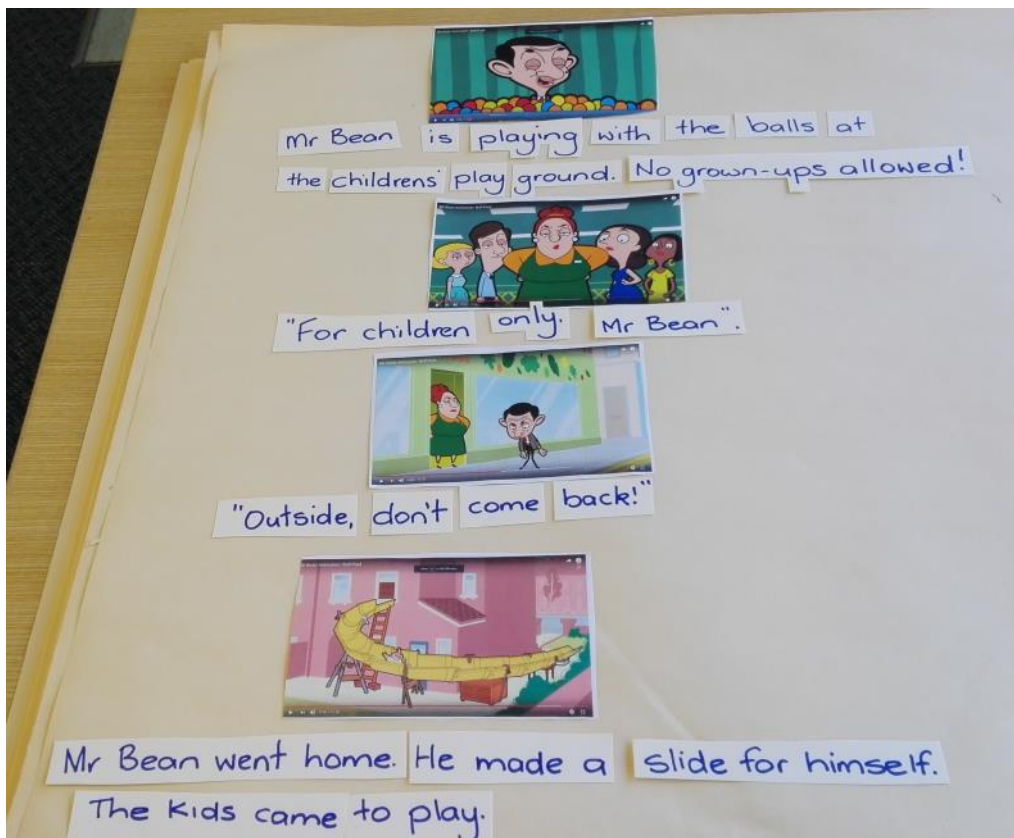
Kimi Ora (Search for Health and Wellbeing)

Grace has a wide variety of interests and she especially loves stories and reading books. Her functional kitchen skills are outstanding and with some support and plenty of time allowed, Grace produces some very tasty lunches.

Grace's sense of humour shines in the kitchen as she jokingly attempts to eat a raw potato! During another lesson I turned around to find Grace standing with a pot on her head.

Grace is currently inspired to explore language through the Mr Bean cartoon series on You Tube. We look at a story, screenshot 2 or 3 main events and retell using cut up sentences. Grace does not see this as work, however and she is then keen to explore stories in the 'Ready to Read' series.

CAOS (Communication, Attention, Organisation and Social Skills) is the developmental framework being trialled in Kimi Ora. Testing is nearly completed and it has clearly shown the direction for Grace to continue with progress in her learning. Grace loves her modelling books and can't wait to take them home. She knows her family are proud of her learning and this motivates her daily.



Kimi Ora (Search for Health and Wellbeing)



In Room 4 this term we are continuing to use Melissa's interests as a motivation for her learning. Blowing bubbles is of great interest to Melissa and she has relished the opportunity to take her bubble mixture outside to blow bubbles and watch them float up into the sky. We looked at the rainbow colours on the bubbles as the sun shone through them then watched them go POP! It was so funny to see the bubbles heading towards Faye's car then suddenly fly up and over the car with the heat. Bubble blowing has also provided Melissa with the opportunity to share in social situations. She has shared her bubbles in assembly and also at lunchtimes has shown off her bubble blowing skills to the children from St Paul's School next door. The children loved to watch Melissa blow bubbles on to them and Melissa interacted with

them beautifully – "Thanks for watching my show" she would say. This has provided inspiration for writing and together we wrote some stories about blowing bubbles to match the great photos that Mrs Scott has taken of Melissa.

Melissa loves to have photos taken as a reminder of all the things she gets up to in class and during lunch times. There have been some wonderful moments such as getting her bike stuck in a muddy patch on the grass and wheel spinning. It was such fun to feel the squishy oozy mud between her toes and it was also fun to clean up under the tap. We also had a lot of fun with Miss Higginson's camera that has a funny picture app on it. Melissa took lots of photos of herself with funny picture add-ons like puppy and cat faces. We all had a good laugh at the photos and Melissa enjoyed writing a story about being a puppy.



Our weekly outings are proving most enjoyable. Every Friday we go to the library in Richmond to select some books for the week. Melissa really enjoys choosing new books each week, and also re-reading some old favourites. It is nice and relaxing to sit and listen to stories on the comfy couches in the sun. Tuesday swimming sessions at the Richmond Aquatic Centre continue to be a source of great fun and exercise. Lately we have been sharing the pool with children from other schools and Melissa has had a wonderful time making friends with them and playing together on the blow up toys.

Other fun things we have done so far this term include making ice cream in a bag and visiting some baby bunnies at Donna's house. It was hard work shaking the bag of ice to turn the cream into ice cream but it sure was fun to eat the end result! The baby bunnies were really cute and Melissa loved having some cuddles with them.

Residential News

Spring has sprung (almost) the grass has riz and so have the daffodils we planted in the autumn bringing some colour and smiles to some still cool days.

Everyone planted a bulb in a named pot, and we have watched with interest as the first green shoots arrived and developed in to long spikey leaves. Anticipation and excitement built as flower buds appeared and seemed to grow overnight into long stems. Not all of our daffodils are flowering at the same time. Pots are checked daily to see whose will open next!



Residential News



The girls look forward to our Thursday afternoon craft activities. Recently we made some spectacular art work using toilet rolls, cotton buds, cheap paints and a ton of imagination. Grace particularly enjoyed mixing colours to create something new, stopping only when we ran out of paint. Rachael was a little hesitant at first but once she understood how to apply the paint with the toilet roll she used her imagination and combined some unusual colours with stunning effect.



Residential News

On Saturday evenings Haagen, Nicola and Ellen participate in a kitchen safety skills programme. During the programme they will learn knife skills, be able to identify hazards, food storage safety in the fridge and preparing food. On the first night they improved their knife skills while preparing the vegetables for a roast dinner. This is also an opportunity for the flat girls to use appropriate social skills and learn how people work differently. On the last weekend of the term the girls will prepare dinner and set the tables for a formal roast lunch.



Residential News

The move to Hurley late last term has been completed in the first few weeks of term 3. We are all enjoying the brighter, sunnier aspect as well as the bigger spaces available for a range of activities.

The deck on the south side is an ideal spot for afternoon tea on these perfect early spring days and we are all enjoying dinner with the last rays of sunshine coming in the windows. Warmer weather will see us eating outdoors most days with the double doors wide open.

Moving has been a combined school process and as a result Hurley has a warm and welcoming atmosphere with artwork and projects on display, and lounges and rec. rooms arranged in a comfortable and homely manner.

Anneke loves being in Hurley, she says 'Hurley is happy'. Rachael enjoys the different areas, the lounge for watching TV, the rec. room for craft activities as well as being a space for the company of a friend for tea. Sophie is so pleased to be back in her old bedroom. Although the rooms are smaller they are warmer and brighter. Sophie's room is much closer to the clothing room and other facilities, enabling her to manage her routines while seeking assistance more readily knowing that staff are in the area. Grace spends some of her leisure time in the room next to her bedroom and has her DVD set up there. She delights in the time she spends with Mr Bean and her friends from Madagascar topped off with a visit to Flushed Away. Grace checks what others are doing in the lounge or rec room and if the activity does not interest her she returns to her DVD. Melissa scored a bigger bedroom with an ensuite and a wee lounge - she is just in heaven with more space for her belongings to be arranged in the order she desires. Like Grace, Melissa does the social circuit stopping to pass the time of day before returning to her own activity.

Internal access to Te Ara Hau has made joined activities easier and there are often students visiting from either flat, for tea, or just a visit.



The 16th of August is a date to be remembered, and not only because it is the day "The King" passed away forty years ago! It is also the birth date of Senior Student Manager, Lyndsay Hikuroa! This year's birthday was a special one, so some secret squirrel plans were hatched to celebrate. Cakes were baked, savouries heated, cards made, banners hung and invites went to everyone at Salisbury.

When the students got back to the cottage from school we all enjoyed a shared afternoon tea, before an enthusiastic rendition of the Birthday Song. Melissa only needed one invitation from Lyndsay to help blow out the candles !

Residential News

This Basketball season Ellen, Sophie, and Rachael have been involved in the Fulton Hogan Basketball league. They were in the Wildcats team and interacted so well with the other players. All gave 110% making the team quite formidable against the opposition.

Of note a past Salisbury student practised with the team while supporting her own daughter. The team coach, Heather Walker, was brilliant with the girls and one boy, encouraging them all the way. Her time, patience, and skilful coaching was evident in that the majority of games they played, were won by the Wildcats. Their skills and perseverance resulted in the team winning in division three of the championship with a score of 40 to 14 in the final.

Ellen won the trophy for the best team player which was well deserved for her ongoing support of all the other players. Sophie and Rachael's abilities to shoot goals improved dramatically over the season, and along with the rest of the Wildcats they were all totally awesome.

