

Salisbury School

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Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa

As we head towards the end of another successful year we can reflect back on a number of significant achievements throughout 2018.

The introduction of a **Residential Special School Only** pathway has been developed and implemented by the Ministry of Education in partnership with three residential special schools, Salisbury, Halswell and Westbridge. The new pathway offers parents and referrers an alternative option for young people with complex needs, that is, residential education *without* intensive wraparound service support. We are pleased to be a partner in this collaboration and look forward to seeing how the new pathway unfolds.

Girls at Salisbury have had a very full and productive year. Outdoor Education Week, including school camps, Conservation Week, Special Olympics and our own Enviro School programme have featured throughout the last two terms, creating exciting learning opportunities for our students.

Additionally, our participation in NZ Sign Language classes by a large number of Salisbury staff throughout 2018, has continued. This commitment has been acknowledged by Hearing Nelson, who is sponsoring the continuation of NZSL tuition for 1.5 hours per week throughout 2019 at no cost to Salisbury. The tutor will come and work onsite with us and we are thrilled that our commitment to learning NZSL is being recognised in this way.

We are also delighted to continue our association with the NZ Police 'Keeping Ourselves Safe' programme, which offers a wide range of benefits to our students. Find out more in this newsletter.

One of our senior students has achieved NCEA Level One this year! We are thrilled that she will continue her studies at NMIT in 2019 where she will undertake a qualification in the hospitality sector. We have no doubt that this will lead to employment in her home community upon return from Salisbury. The Board, staff and students join in congratulating Ellen for her outstanding achievement, commitment to hard work and for being a wonderful role model to younger students. Ka mau te wēhi, fabulous work Ellen!

We are introducing 3 new curriculum streams in 2019, *Teaching through Play*, a *Middle School programme* and a *Transition programme*. These new initiatives are in addition to our existing curriculum and will further strengthen the support we offer our students, regardless of their level of ability and need. On this note, along with three other local schools, we have been successful in securing 300 hours of *teaching through play professional learning and development*, funded by the Ministry of Education. Tumeke! We're over the moon!

Cultural responsiveness continues to be a focus and we work hard to ensure we capture student voice in all our planning. It is very important to us at Salisbury that diversity is acknowledged and celebrated.

Speaking of celebration, the girls will be tucking into a lovely Christmas lunch this weekend, which they will help to prepare! The *Independent Living Skills programme* assists the girls to develop the social skills they will need to live in a flat or supportive living environment once they leave Salisbury.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Trustees, staff, families, stakeholders and community supporters for a fantastic year. I would especially like to thank our girls for their hard work, positive attitudes and determination to make the most of every opportunity available to them.

Meri kirihimete, Merry Christmas to you all. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2019.



Brenda Ellis

MPP, MTchLn, AdvDipTchg

News and Events from School

We are halfway through the term and wow, what a term it's been so far! The school has been buzzing with activity and a range of innovative and fantastic learning. IEP progress from term three has been shared within collaborative meetings and goals confirmed for this term. How great it has been to see so many learning targets achieved and the girls going from strength to strength! Tumeke ☺



Eddie and Sally



We've loved having Sally back with us this term, and of course Eddie who delights us wherever he goes and is a great and eager walking companion for the girls. 'Dog Days' are just one of the approaches to enhance teaching and learning that makes our school truly innovative and special. Molly has joined our students this term and has very quickly become a well-respected and much loved buddy in her peer group. We all enjoy Molly's lovely sense of humour and the special talents she brings. Welcome Molly!



As a *Green-Gold Enviro School* the enviro programme at Salisbury is core component of our curriculum, extending to provide students with on-site work experiences and outdoor education opportunities.

During the recent development of a neighbouring school driveway the Salisbury stream was altered. It is now a meandering stream which will be planted by our students in Autumn of 2019. Some plants have been purchased for this project through a local Tasman District Council Enviroschools regional capacity building fund and others are being raised, either from seed or seedlings, in the school nursery from our regenerating natives. These plants will provide much needed shade and egg laying habitat for our Banded Kokopu and short finned eels that live in our stream.



Banded Kokopu



As part of Conservation Week the girls planted another part of the same stream with two species of Carex, again grown in our nursery. These plants will also provide shade without impeding the water flow during downpours.

The nursery is now filling up with new plants for the 'Battle for the Banded Rail' project which encompasses the Waimea Estuary. To help us out the project committee has given us a donation towards potting mix. This will be a big help ☺



Teamwork during Conservation Week



This year we have had a campus-wide focus on up-skilling ourselves with New Zealand Sign Language. Staff and students have acquired great NZSL communication skills with vocabulary growing every week. Singing our National Anthem in the three official languages of NZ (English, Maori and NZSL) is a regular event during morning circle and weekly assembly.



7 staff members have continued this term with extended training in NZSL at Waimea College's Adult Education evening classes. Thank-you Cathy Gutschlag for sharing your expertise with us! We have also had the pleasure of Nirvana Graham (van Asch NZSL Tutor) visiting us all and enhancing our curriculum teaching and learning skills for our deaf student. Our thanks also extend to Sue Leith and Joss Morters (Term Four) (Resource Teachers of the Deaf) who visit weekly. School and residential staff gave high praise for the recent 'Cochlear Implant' workshops they attended, led by Sue.

The girls have continued to enjoy regular visits from Constable Susan Finigan and Constable Charlotte Donaldson as part of our Health and Physical Education “Keeping Ourselves Safe” curriculum. This term we have been exploring friendships and anti-bullying alliances and, as we head into the final weeks of term, cycle safety.



To enhance our school-wide focus on kindness we are soon going to be introducing a Manāki Award into our weekly assembly. The nominated girl awarded each week will have the choice of having one of Constable Susan’s fabulous police dog toys for the week – a prize that we know that will be eagerly sought after. We’re looking forward to highlighting some of the amazing inaugural winners of the award in our next newsletter.



Outdoor Education Week



As our newsletter goes to print the girls are busy getting ready for our Outdoor Education Week (November 19-23). Several of the girls, supported by school staff, will be heading away to the wetlands of Mangarakau for three nights. Students remaining at school have a great programme planned with visits to McKee Reserve, Faulkner Bush, Quinney’s Bush, ASB Aquatic Centre and lots of fun-packed activities. We’ll share some follow-up photos in our next newsletter.

A special thank you to the Nelson Host Lions Club who have donated generously towards our camp.

To camp we go!





What a day we had on October 31st as the whole school participated in the regional Special Olympics Athletics event at Saxton Field. Running, walking, shot-put, softball throw, long-jump, relay races – it was a busy day with all girls having the opportunity to enter 4 events. Our girls were noted for their perseverance, stamina, and supportiveness to other team members.

Go Salisbury!

Results:

Div F1 200m run – Ellen 5th

Div F1 50m walk – Nicola 1st, Willow 2nd, Molly 3rd, Grace 4th

Div F2 50m walk – Anneke 1st, Sophie 3rd, Rachael 4th

Div F3 100m run – Rachael 7th

Div F4 100m run – Elizabeth 3rd, Shikara 4th

Div F5 100m run – Ellen 2nd, Molly 3rd

Div C1 400m run – Ellen 3rd

Div F1 4x100 relay – Rachael/Sophie 1st, Ellen/Molly/Grace/Elizabeth – 2nd

Div F2 shotput – Nicola 1st

Div F1 softball throw – Willow 1st, Elizabeth 3rd, Molly 5th

Div F3 softball throw – Sophie 3rd, Rachael 4th

Div F4 softball throw – Grace 1st, Nicola 3rd

Div F1 standing long jump – Willow 1st, Sophie 2nd, Grace 3rd, Elizabeth 5th

Div F3 long jump – Shikara 1st



SPEC – South Pacific Educational Courses

Last week the school hosted the regional SPEC moderation meeting and two teachers participated within the term four verification process of school portfolios. This was a great opportunity to develop our network with others and extend our professional learning. We are looking forward to welcoming everyone back in term two next year when mid-year student portfolios will be verified.

SPEC offers a wide range of courses for students with a prime focus on key competency development. A range of captivating and interest-based modules underpin SPEC courses. Next term our senior transition students will be focusing their core curriculum on SPEC Headway modules as they prepare for their transition into the wider community. We are looking forward to sharing highlights from their portfolios with you.



Play-Based Learning @ Salisbury



There has been great excitement and many eager faces at the door of Room 5 as this space has been transforming into our new PAL (Play and Learn) space. Research shows that play-based learning enhances student academic and developmental learning outcomes and provides a highly motivating context in which to engage learners.

Two staff members are currently involved in professional development and learning exploring programming and curriculum approaches for play-based learning. We will be formally rolling this programme out from the start of next term. In the interim I think there will continue to be excited faces watching this space develop.

Another new initiative underway is the development of our music therapy space. Music Therapy is the clinical and evidence-based use of music interventions to support the development of children and young people with diverse learning needs.



A music therapy programme can assist in:

- improving motor skills
- developing both non-verbal and verbal communication
- developing self-confidence and self-awareness
- developing attention span and focus
- strengthening emotional and social skills, such as turn taking and sharing
- improve cognitive skills (perception, recognition, discrimination, categorisation, memory, sequencing, behaviour, impulse control).



Music therapy will be offered at Salisbury via referral and led by a board registered therapist.

Further news from our school syndicates.....

Kimi Mātauranga



Search for Knowledge and Wisdom

This term, under the theme of 'Innovation' we are focusing on the innovative qualities of *Clever Creatures*. The structure of learning is very hands on with the students experimenting with utilising innovative features from selected creatures. The objectives we are working towards include:

- identifying how we use technological problem solving and attributes of the animal kingdom to inform our inventions
- recognising that there are life processes common to all living things and that these occur in different ways
- developing inquiry and knowledge of innovation within the animal kingdom.

Our theme also provides students with the opportunity to develop their own interests in these areas through student-led inquiry learning enhancing focus on this term's Key Competency of 'Thinking'.

The students began their inquiry learning journey by choosing an animal or insect that they were interested in, specifically birds, bees and ants. Topic research has included how birds make their nests and how bees make their hives. Students have enjoyed learning about all sorts of innovative methods animals engage in, such as how bees communicate directions to pollen sites and how ants work together as a team.



Sophie experimented making her own bird's nest using mud and a collection of things she found in nature.



As part of te reo Māori this term the girls have been learning how Māori legends pass information and history down the generations. As always te reo Māori is integrated into all planning and across the school this term we have been re-introducing a weekly waiata. This session includes action songs, translations, pronunciation, myths and legends.

The numeracy focus in our syndicate this term is 'statistics' where students have the opportunity to conduct surveys, record information using tally marks, pie and bar graphs, and interpret the results. Students are learning to order the months of the year; which months make up the four seasons in a creative way such as making craft for each season. They are learning to write their full birth date including the year as this is important for filling in application forms such as passports.

This term's theme underpins the Technology focus creating where the students follow the technological process to design and build a functional clock using recycled materials. One of our students continues to gain work experience in the environment led by the school's Environmental representative. The goal is to gain horticulture knowledge and develop transferable work related skills. This has been very engaging for the student and has built her self-confidence. Three of our students have continued with external work placements this term and one has also worked towards finishing a literacy and numeracy course at NMIT.



Horse riding at Motueka RDA continues this term. All the girls are building on their skills and confidence in horsemanship. One student is learning how to trot and direct her horse off the lead.

Weekly RDA lessons continue to be highly motivating for our students providing them with a range of educational and therapeutic benefits.

The girls in our syndicate enjoy joining with the Kimi Ora students for a wide range of weekly activities that promote fitness and well-being.



Willow enjoys swimming at the Aquatic Centre.



Walks exploring our local beaches are always popular with the girls.

Anneke is pictured here during a recent walk at Tahunanui Beach.



Anneke and Willow having fun riding their bikes at the Saxton Field Velodrome



Search for Health & Wellbeing

We welcomed Molly to Room 6 at the beginning of the term and we had a lovely moment today when she said that she is having a great time at Salisbury School and talked about her new BFFs! Our students are enjoying the opportunity to show Molly new ways of doing things and helping her to settle into Room 6.



Grace and Molly during their recent visit to Eyebright

Recently Room 6 girls visited the Eyebright guinea pig farm. What a great trip we had. We were also impressed by the Christmas display they have on show at the moment.

Our senior student who attends Waimea College has obtained 83 credits over two years and has achieved NCEA Level 1. We are all very proud of her achievements and the way she has maintained focus on her studies. This student has taken on greater leadership in the second half of this year and stepped up to mentor younger students. She has been a positive role model, assisting with learning goals and social interactions.



*Whole School
PE provides a
great
opportunity
to interact and
have fun*



In Room 3 we have been working to build on strong, positive, and resilient relationship and social-based skills. The girls have worked hard to strengthen their skill sets and integrate new ways of engaging. Our students have enjoyed a range of outings in the community to generalise skills and as incentive rewards for the great work that has taken place this term.



Ellen and Shikara enjoy exploring Nayland Pool and having fun together



Molly and Rachael enjoy developing their bike riding skills

Residential News



Ellen and Nicola have been attending St John Cadets for the past eighteen months, and Rachael for the last year. The girls thoroughly enjoy the weekly programmes while they gaining skills and confidence in joining a community activity.



Surprisingly St John's is not all about first aid and the girls have had many interesting opportunities. Ellen says her highlights to date have been wall climbing, hiking in the Richmond hills, trampolining, visiting the airport fire unit, and a fun evening at the St John shop. Nicola's highlights are a visit from the Police dog squad, trampolining, a social visit to McDonalds, quiz and games nights. Rachael has enjoyed trampolining, the Police dogs, games nights and seeing dolphins at the beach.

Each term there is a theme working toward a badge. This involves practical tasks while at St John's, plus a substantial amount of homework. Ellen and Nicola are currently working toward their seventh badge and Rachael her fourth. The girls put so much time and effort into their projects and always make a presentation they can be proud of.

When the girls started at St John's they were very shy and tended to stand back and observe rather than join in. They now have the confidence to join in with other cadets, in groups separate from each other. They participate fully and make a valuable contribution to any discussion. There is a certain amount of discipline involved also with parades at the start and end of each of the evening, with very firm expectations around protocol and uniform. Ellen, Nicola, and Rachael, are very much valued members of the St John's Richmond Unit. It's great to see them putting in 100% effort, and seeing the skills they are gaining as a result.



A Surprise Café Outing by the Beach

A well-earned trip out to the Beach Café for excellent behaviour, was enjoyed by five of our girls at the weekend. The girls were told how much Pocket Money they were allowed to spend, then given the chance to choose off the menu. It was lovely seeing the girls helping each other to count up the dollars and seeing how far their money would stretch.



Sharing the cost of some hot chips was a super idea, with money left over for an iced chocolate drink. Other girls individually bought themselves a cake slice with a favourite drink. They all settled to their shared tables with impeccable manners and the lovely hum of excited conversation.

Collecting the Weekend Meals and Stores

Over the weekend our meals are reheated in the cottage kitchen by residential staff. Ellen helped Judy and Nicky collect the precooked meal from the main kitchen along with other stores required for the evening and following shift. This included sparkling water, poppadums and hummus for supper.

Nicky encouraged Ellen to problem solve by asking her what other things that we would need to collect for the next shift. Ellen recognised that the following shifts would require milk, along with bread for breakfast and fresh fruit. Ellen also collected dishwashing liquid to ensure that it did not run out over the weekend.



Fireworks extravaganza at speedway

Ellen, Sophie and Willow were treated to a night at Nelson Speedway. The skies opened half way through the show and the drizzle was relentless however the girls hung in there and used their imaginations to stay dry by using resources they had available. Throughout the evening the three girls enjoyed the fast paced racing and the stockcars crashing and bashing into each other, with the odd



car being put up the wall. At the end of the racing, the girls joined in the countdown to the lighting up of the sky from the fireworks. One of the girls was apprehensive and hid under the blanket. Staff noticed her slowly peeking out from the blanket and eventually overcoming her fear and removing the blanket. The fireworks extravaganza at Nelson Speedway is something not to be missed and was well worth waiting for in the drizzle. The girls returned to

Salisbury a little after 9.30pm with smiles on their faces and dust and dirt clumps in their hair.

Life skills

Elizabeth has been engaging in learning life skills and these have become routine for her. In the mornings she makes her bed from scratch and ensures that there is not a crease to be seen. Elizabeth can recognize when her bedroom floor needs to be vacuumed and is competent at doing this independently. She leaves no floor untouched and even vacuums along the skirting boards. Elizabeth will occasionally vacuum the hallway and likes to help the other girls vacuum their rooms too. She enjoys helping with the dishes throughout the week and in the weekend. Elizabeth ensures that the dishes are sparkling before being put in the sterilizer. She is a quick learner and once she has learnt a new skill she continues to do this as part of her daily routine. Elizabeth enjoys helping staff and often asks to help them with other chores such as folding and putting away the washing.



Labour Day Fun and Games

After a nice lay in and a delicious cooked breakfast, the students joined in with some games that were on offer either in the recreation room or outside. Some students experimented with different stamps using ink and paper. Other students spent time playing sports games on the Sony Wii. Indoor skittles proved a huge hit with both students and staff and the students were delighted to have won.



The students who opted to go outside had lots of fun with the pavement chalk, practising their numeracy and literacy skills. One student was even brave enough to allow another student to trace her body outline on the ground to see if the others could guess who it was!



Off to the Movies

We took six girls to the see “The Nutcracker and the Four Realms”. The girls had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed the movie. All the students were exceptionally well behaved and represented our school to a high standard. Although the theatre was crowded the girls remained calm and were appropriate while out and during the evening. Nicola commented on how the movie was slightly different than the Barbie version of Nutcracker and talked about the differences on the journey home.

Richmond Santa Parade

The girls thoroughly enjoyed the Santa Parade, interacting well with all the characters especially Darth Vader from Star Wars as they passed by. They were very polite when choosing lollies out of the buckets, when offered by "Santa's Little Helpers". There were lots of exchanged waves and greetings as the different floats passed by.



The girls even recognized people they knew on the St John's float, which made them very excited. They coped well with the loud music from the Pipe Band and the noise of the crowds. On their return back to Salisbury lollies were happily shared with the other girls.

"Euphemia" the Fairy

"Wow I can be a Fairy too". Today was a very exciting day, Sophie and I got dressed up in our fairy outfits to visit the Very Fairy Christmas Market. At the Fairy Grotto there were lots of different fairy surprises. There was fairy dust, fairy socks, fairy ornaments and fairy wings. Our favourite fairy was Euphemia the red headed fairy; she was a little girl just like us. She has a book written all about her. The best thing of all, when we were about to leave, we were gifted our own Trainee Fairy Wings. They are pink and purple with pearls.



By Molly



Fire Drill



Recycling

Making
Christmas
decorations

