

I wonder if the shrieks and squeals of delight at seeing each other are just a beginning of term happening but here we are in week nine and the volume levels in the house don't seem to have altered at all.

One of our priorities in the first term is settling in the new girls. Coming boarding is such a huge adjustment. New routines, expectations and relationships all provide a steep learning curve for the newest members of the St Margaret's College Boarding Community.

The 'Boarders Big Day In' was held on February 14th and was very well organised by our student Head of Boarding Claudia Inch and Deputy Head of Boarding Frankie Hayman. This day encourages the boarders to have fun together, to strengthen bonds and for our new girls to get to know the staff and their peers in a relaxed enjoyable environment.



This year was a complete break from tradition as we took the girls away from school and the normal events to have a relaxed fun filled day at Spencer Park. Our Year 13's were wonderful, leading the Amazing Race, many group games and a lot of group singing and dancing. Following a barbecue lunch we spent the afternoon at the beach unwinding and some of the girls braved the cooler elements to take a dip.



## Claudia & Frankie:

This year Frankie and myself are lucky enough to have the opportunity to lead the St Margaret's College Boarding Community. For our first term as year 13 boarders, we have been able to bond and interact with the year 9 boarders by spending our first term sleeping in Julius House amongst



them. Throughout this term we have organised the Boarders Big Day Out which was a huge success. For the first time in our years boarding, we ventured beyond the school gates to Spencer Park to spend the day interacting with each other through various activities.

This year our goal is to create a fun environment for the girls to develop as individuals. We want the boarding house to be treated as a second home as we believe the friends that are made in boarding school will remain important assets throughout life.

Claudia Inch and Frankie Hayman,  
Head and Deputy of Boarding 2015

## Year 13

Our Year 13 girls were invited to breakfast at Christ's College to celebrate Valentine's Day. This is becoming a very popular and well supported event.

Next term our year 13's will be given the opportunity to give a little back to the community as we encourage them to cook lunch at the Christchurch City Mission.

The opportunity for the girls to learn some basic car maintenance will be available next term, very important as so many of our girls have their cars at school.

## Year 12

Next term our year 12 boarders will be given the opportunity to take a barista course. This was very popular last year so definitely an option we will make available for the girls again.

## Year 11

Term two brings the start of 'Cooking with College' for our Year 11's and their Christ's College counterparts.

## Year 9 and 10

The girls have had the first dinner swap for the year. Our Year 9's enjoyed dinner at Christ's College and their Year 10 boys joined our girls here at school. Next term we are hoping to have a dinner and movie night if we can fit this in to our girls very busy schedules.

The boarder exchange with Waikato Dioscean takes place next term. Our Year 9's are involved now in the letter exchange and the Year 10's have the option to apply to visit or host their pen pal on exchange for four weeks.

## Year 8

We are starting a movie dessert night treat for our youngest boarders. A couple of times each term they can enjoy an evening together eating ice creams and watching a movie.

Keeping occupied is a useful tool in countering homesickness. Our boarders who stay in house on the weekends have been very busy thanks to the energy and commitment of our wonderful weekend staff.

Janelle Atkinson our Weekend supervisor from Julius House coordinates our weekend programme. This term the girls have been to Ice skating, Orana Park, Bubble Soccer, Clip n Climb and Rugby just to name a few. The final outing this term is a Horse Trek at Rubicon Valley.

The Boarder Parent Committee will be meeting on the last day of term. This committee meets once a term to discuss ways to enhance the boarding experience for our girls and their families. Hot on our agenda this time will be planning our very popular boarder parent function on Friday June 5th. This is a great opportunity to meet other boarder parents.

Nicky Langley

Director of Boarding

