



Christchurch Girls' High School

Embrace Tradition. Embrace Innovation. Embrace Excellence.

In this issue.....



See more photos of **PINK DAY** inside the newsletter.

Coming Events.....

Junior Examinations: 10 - 12 November

School Closed - Thursday 13 November

Show Day - Friday 14 November

Years 9 & 10 Activities morning 8.30-12.15pm Tuesday 18 November

Paid Union Meeting afternoon Tuesday 18 November

Year 10 Camps: Monday 1 December - Wednesday 3 or Thursday 4 November

Prize Giving at Horncastle Arena 7pm - Monday 8 December

Last Day for Juniors: Monday 8 December.

Student News & Activities

STS STUDENT TRAVEL

Philippa McCaw and **Madison Joblin**, Year 12 students, have been accepted by STS Student Travel School's programme and are going for an exchange to the USA commencing January 2015.

Congratulations Philippa and Madison.

OUTSTANDING RESULTS IN THE ETON SENIOR MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Every year the top Year 12 and 13 Mathematics students across New Zealand enter the Eton Senior Mathematics Competition. This year there were over 1200 entries.

Francesca Hlavac achieved an excellent result which placed her in the top 200 of students who entered the competition.

Congratulations, Francesca.



THE BIG EVENT

On Thursday October 23, our Year 12 Physical Education Students held our third annual Big Event for all of the Year 9 Classes. This year the form classes competed against each other in a tournament playing the games of Capture the Flag and Coney Island Ball. Each class was taught the games by their Year 12 Leaders during their PE classes in the weeks preceding the tournament. Each class also designed a uniform and cheer. Prizes were given out for the best dressed team and the winner of this was 9FWR (the purple team). They won a Piñata filled with lollies.

The field was awash with colour, cheers, fair play and competition. The final outcome was confirmed at a prize giving ceremony. 1st place winners were 9WNA and they will have a pizza lunch later in the term. 2nd was 9CRA and 3rd 9FWR. There were also 20 spot prizes given out during the day for fair play, enthusiasm, and participation.

Thanks go to the Year 12 students for a fantastic job organizing the event and **Beth McPhail** for her photography. This was part of their NCEA assessment for Physical Education and they deserve outstanding grades.



FRANCE TRIP

On 19 September an excited group of 23 girls met at Christchurch airport ready to board a flight via Sydney to Dubai and then on to Paris.

The group made the most of the few days we had in Paris, visiting all the famous sites; the Tour Eiffel, Arc de Triomphe, Sacré Coeur, The Louvre, Musée D'Orsay, Notre Dame, before heading off in our mini vans to visit Mont St Michel and Normandy where we visited the Bayeux Tapestry.

Other visits included Monet's garden in Giverny, Versailles, the Châteaux of the Loire, Avignon and Arles.

One of the highlights of the trip for the group was the 10 days spent in Strasbourg. The girls had been in contact with their billets for several months before leaving New Zealand and so were thrilled to finally meet them in person. The French families were equally delighted to welcome the girls into their homes and had arranged a variety of special outings for them. Whilst the French students were at school during the day, we explored Alsace, visiting a concentration camp, a castle and museums. We also explored Strasbourg city and learnt about its history, as well as learning how to cook the local specialities.

There were many tears when it was time to say goodbye to the French families. Fortunately the girls do not have to wait too long before they can see the French students, who will visit New Zealand early in 2015.

There were many special moments during the 3 weeks:

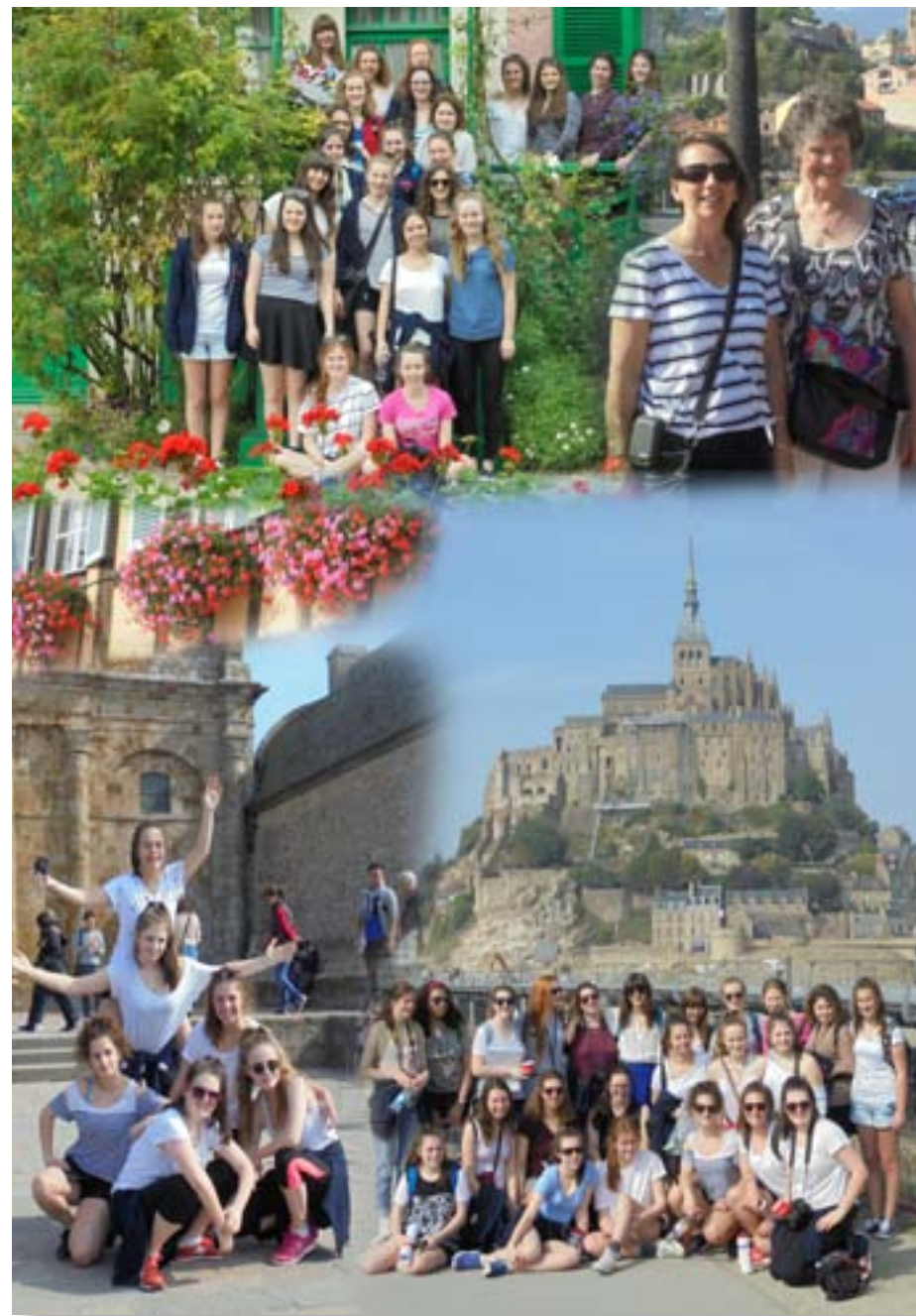
After visiting the war cemetery in Verdun, the group sang the school song in the chapel. The respect the girls showed made us proud.

Travelling in the vans; we, the drivers, enjoyed the banter, singing and games instigated by the girls and it was wonderful to see the harmony of the group as well as the support they gave each other and the friendships which were made.

Popping over the borders of France to Germany for a morning visit and to Italy for a pizza lunch.

Performing a presentation about New Zealand and CGHS and singing at an evening for the French students and parents. Once again, they made us proud and we received many compliments on the group.

After many months of preparation and anticipation, the three week trip flew by. Each day was packed full of a variety of activities and before we knew it, we were back in New Zealand with a great number of very special memories.





GARDEN CLUB

The girls have been kept busy weeding, harvesting and watering the beds as the days have become warmer and our winter leafy greens have produced a bumper crop this year. The staff have been wonderful customers and have enjoyed our fresh, tasty bunches of organic spinach, silverbeet, kale, coriander and parsley. The proceeds of which have allowed us to purchase, spring onion plants, Italian parsley and 3 varieties of seed potatoes. Dave Schimanski, our gardening guru, taught the girls about chitting on Friday. This meant that we spread the seed potatoes out on trays which we then put in a light, cool place to allow them to start sprouting. Chitting speeds up the growth of the potatoes once they have been planted. The girls also had rose pruning lessons during the winter. Dave patiently explained the technique and the girls practised on the roses outside the staffroom.

Mrs Wilson



GOLD DUKE OF EDINBURGH PRESENTATION

On Saturday 1 November, **Jess Boyd**, who was in Year 13 in 2013, was presented with her Gold Award by the Governor-General in a ceremony at St. Andrew's College. This is the highest award of the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award, and for Jess it represents four years of hard work in the areas of Service, Skills, Physical Recreation and Adventurous Expedition, as well as a week spent on the Spirit of Adventure for her Residential experience. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award began in New Zealand in 1963 and is internationally recognised.

Jess wrote of her experience: *"Completing this Award has made me very proud. It was a challenge and it taught me things that I couldn't learn in a classroom. It was a great accomplishment and the memories, new friends and experiences that came out of it made it unable to be forgotten."*



NATIONAL YOUTH SERIES AND SOUTH ISLAND CHAMPS - ALPINE SKI RACING

Georgia Bushell Year 10 competed in the finals at Cardrona where she was crowned the New Zealand Overall champion across all 3 racing disciplines – adding to her New Zealand Giant Slalom and New Zealand Super G Titles.

Georgia has been selected to represent NZ in Austria in January and Canada at the Whistler Cup which is one of the largest youth races in the world with up to 30 Countries competing – this is in April 2015.

Well done Georgia!

THE MAVIS ATKINSON COMPETITION

The Mavis Atkinson Competition for the painting of New Zealand flora and fauna is run annually by the Science Learning Area and open to all students. The subject this year was the giant NZ weta, *Deinacrida heteracantha*.

Congratulations to **Ella Williamson 10 VKS** who is this year's winner.

Ella will receive \$100 and a certificate at Prizegiving and have her painting framed and displayed in the school alongside winning entries from previous years.

There were several excellent entries this year. Congratulations to the following students who will be awarded certificates for their paintings:

Highly Commended: **Greta Eaton 12 MLL**
Rebecca Chrystal 12 HRE
Caitlin Dow 9 AMT

Commended: **Lillie Balfour 13 COA**
Ria Fitzgerald 10 GTA



Sports News

WORLD YOUTH SURF LIFESAVING CHAMPIONSHIPS, FRANCE

Brittany Tucker, Year 13, (far right) has just competed at the World Youth Surf Lifesaving Championships in Montpellier, France. She did very well gaining 4 individual medals - 2 silver (Tube Rescue, Line Throw) and 2 bronze (50m Manikin, 50m Medley Relay). Her NZ Youth team also gained a Silver medal for placing 2nd overall at the World Championships.

The event was a fantastic experience for Brittany with an Opening Ceremony and competition from the 45 countries attending. Congratulations Brittany!



Brittany Tucker

GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS - CHINA

Charlotte Sullivan competed at the 45th Gymnastic Championships in Nanning, China. The team qualified 32nd team overall which unfortunately does not qualify NZ for a team to the next Olympics. Charlotte then flew straight from China to Auckland to compete at the NZ Gymnastic Nationals. Charlotte had a great competition and won 5 gold medals, 1st all around, 1st floor, 1st bar, 1st beam and 1st team.

Charlotte has had an amazing year competing in Doha, Canada, Australia, Glasgow and China. She says her highlight is definitely the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Well done Charlotte!

NATIONAL MĀORI TOURNAMENT

Canterbury Hockey hosted the National Māori Tournament this weekend at Nunweek Park. 14 teams from across the country converged on Christchurch for the first ever Maori Tournament to be held in the South Island.

Canterbury is represented by Te Waipounamu for the Men (Tane) and Te Waipounamu for the Women (Wahine). Both teams have several Canterbury representatives, with the Women's side featuring current Black Stick Jordy Grant and 2014 NHL top goal scorer Sian Fremaux. Along with seven Christchurch Girls' High players. This included two past CGHS girls who played in the Ist XI Whatahuia Arahanga-Doyle (Deputy Head Girl in 2005) and Genevieve Maindonald who has also co-coached for us in 2013.

Te Waipounamu Wahine team won the final (1-0) with a fierce battle over the Waiariki.

Congratulations to the players selected for the National Junior Women's Māori team were **Jessica Tolo, Hayley Cox, Rose Wells, Ysobel Maindonald.**



**Back Row: Whatahuia Arahanga-Doyle, Laura Williams, Genevieve Maindonald
Front Row: Rose Wells, Hayley Cox, Ysobel Maindonald, Jessica Tolo**

Whanau Report

Tēnā koutou

Manu Kōrero Nationals

A group of 15 students travelled to Napier in the last week of term 3 to support **Kahuiti Huia** at the Manu Korero National Māori Speech Competitions. She had placed first at the regional competitions in the junior English section earlier in the year and became the first student from our school to compete at the national level. It was a wonderful trip that put the group right in the midst of amazing speeches, songs, haka and culture. Kahuiti was supported with a song and haka by all of the students from the four Christchurch schools who were in attendance. She placed 8th out of 15 competitors, but most importantly she spoke with mana and flair.

Thank you to Heather, Allan, Dalice, Tracey and Karen Eder for the support for this kaupapa.

Whanau and Pasifika Farewell.

This year we will be joining with our Pasifika counterparts for a joint farewell for our Year 13 Graduates. The farewell is an opportunity to acknowledge those students who have committed to kaupapa Pasifika and Māori for the duration of their time at our school. This farewell will be held in the school staffroom at 5.30 pm on Wednesday, November 26. More details will be sent out at a later date.

Mihi kau ake ana Adrienne Taylor



Principal, BOT & PTA Report

Dear Parents and Friends

In the last newsletter, I mentioned that a desire most parents would have for their daughter, would be that she was happy. In 2006, Will Smith went in **The Pursuit of Happiness** and while the spelling may be somewhat dubious, the goal was the same. But does happiness mean the same thing for everyone? From memory for Will Smith, it was financial security and providing for his family. For some, it's the opposite of feeling depressed.

Throughout winter, we all start to feel a bit down. Even for avid skiers too much cold and darkness starts to make them feel a bit glum. Spring arrives with better weather, more sun and we all start to feel better – happier even.

In a study at Stanford University, people were asked to talk about their memories. While they talked they had to move marbles in an upward or downward direction. Researchers found that when the people were moving the marbles upwards, they talked about happy moments. When they were moving the marbles downward though, their memories became sadder.

It lead them to investigate further. Happy people tend to do all kinds of things better because feeling happy helps us be positive and confident.

While some of us think that getting things will make us happy, experience will teach us that instant gratification is often only very short lived. You can make yourself happy by doing small, simple, inexpensive things such as lifting your mood by spending more time with your friends. Their happiness will rub off on you. And when you're with your friends avoid talking about problems- theirs or yours- all the time. Remember good times together and make one another laugh.

Dislike and resentment can take up too much of the "happy space" in our minds. If there is someone you don't like, find three of their characteristics that you admire. Then you might find you are looking at them with new eyes. Forgive the bad things and try to concentrate on the good. Think about what makes someone else interesting and fun to be with. Then try to build those qualities in yourself.

As we are in examination season, happiness can be hard to find and is often replaced by stress.

Here are some tips that may help you and your daughter feel happier:

Remember learning something stimulates all the good parts of our brain.

Make a list and spend time on the important tasks. Study what you don't know first and then revise what you do know.

Get the worst jobs done at the start so you can look forward to everything else. Start with study and then reward yourself with a treat.

Keep a smile of your face. Just the act of smiling can make you feel happy.

Pauline Duthie
Principal

Dear Parents and Friends

With the majority of senior students now settling to a concerted period of study before end of year exams, you know that the end of year is not far away. Tonight (Tuesday as I write this) I will be attending the Acland House High Tea which is a celebration of the years events with a particular emphasis on those girls in their final year. For the Acland girls it is not just about the end of their 5 years at school but it is also a reflection on the last 5 years where Acland has been their home during school time. For this Year 13 group of Acland girls it has extra significance as they were Year 9 girls when the homestead was first shut down following the September 2010 earthquake. I am looking forward to an entertaining evening with the Acland girls whose spirit continues to enhance the culture of the school.

We are now at a stage where a whole generation of CGHS girls have been compromised by the events of 2010 and 2011. As a board we are working hard to ensure that a second whole generation is not effected in the same way. Acland house should be fully operational by the start of 2015, master planning for the school site is underway and the project managers for the new auditorium (Performing Arts Centre) have been appointed. It was a significant moment when we witnessed the old auditorium being demolished but for me, it will be even more significant when we see the foundations going down for the new Performing Arts Centre. We look forward to this happening in 2015.

On Thursday there are a group of parents who have had strong links with sport in the community that are getting together with staff to discuss sport at CGHS. The purpose of this forum is to look at the needs and requirements going forward to ensure the school fosters talent and promotes participation to ensure CGHS girls receive a top class sporting experience. These are early stage talks but we hope to develop some recommendations that the board can consider implementing during 2015.

Progress can be frustratingly slow at times, but with Acland fully developed for the

start of 2015, a new Performing Arts Centre on the horizon, a review of sport pending and, most importantly, ongoing reviews of academic performance, progress is being made as we move towards 2015.

Mike Lay
BOT Chair

Hi to all Parents and Caregivers

A big thank you to those that attended our recent Quiz night and well done to the teams that did well under pressure. Also a big thank you to Karen and Heidi along with their organising team that helped put this evening together.

We know that there is a good number of parents who are more than happy to pay their PTA donation and the PTA appreciates funding that is provided, but as we have found over recent months the percentage of parent donations has decreased to a level that as a committee we now have to re-assess our financial outlay to the school that involves over \$40k towards the computer leasing and also providing travel grants to travelling sports/academic groups or individuals. To continue funding events and activities that supports the school and often provides extra resources that fall outside of the BOT's funding we will have to find other means of funding such as quiz nights or other fundraising events where we will require parental support.

Don't forget that our CGHS logo umbrellas are available in two sizes - a smaller folding one that would be ideal to fit into school bags for \$25.00 and a larger golf sized one that sells for \$35.00. We also have our CGHS logo blankets for sale at a cost of \$45.00 to purchase. These umbrellas or blankets please just contact us via email pta@cghs.school.nz.

We encourage you to have a look at our PTA page on the CGHS web site where you can keep an eye on activities that may be coming up and even purchase household items such as large rolls of glad wrap etc. at a competitive rate while also helping fundraise for the PTA.

As this year quickly moves on we need to look forward and again ask for your help as at the end of this year we unfortunately lose some of our office holding committee members and this is where we need you to become more involved with your PTA and school, if you would like to know more about any position please contact us. Positions that will need to be filled next year are Treasurer and Uniform Shop Co-ordinator and assistant these positions will be advertised on our web page and I will continue to ask through the newsletter. If you are interested in these positions we encourage you

to join us this year so that you can become familiar with our systems and this would make the transition easier.

Thank you for supporting your PTA and we do look forward to meeting with you at some stage and hope you have an opportunity to attend one of our meetings which provide valuable information from our Principal and the BOT as both provide reports each month.

These meetings also give you an opportunity to meet other parents and we do value your opinions and ideas.

John Drummond
President CGHS PTA
pta@cghs.school.nz

Next Meetings:

We will post next year's meeting dates on the CGHS web page under the PTA banner.

President: John Drummond
Vice President: (position has become vacant)
Secretary: Dibs Kennedy
Treasurer: Paula Le Compte
Uniform Sales Co-ordinator: Ann Margaritis
Uniform Sales Assistant: Judy Williamson



General Information

CULTURAL AND SPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS

To view and order all Cultural and Sporting photographs, please go to:

www.schoolphotography.co.nz - Click on CGHS - Use Password: CGHSLW14

This is a viewing gallery only. Please place your orders via the school photograph ordering tab.

Postage will only apply for orders placed after Friday 24 October, 2014. If you do not want to collect photographs from school and would like them posted to your house, please tick the postage box.

on behalf of Langwoods School Photography

All visitors to the school must sign in at reception.

2014 CGHS SCHOOL DATES

Term dates:

Term 4: **Monday 13 October - Monday 8 December**

Monday, 10 - Wednesday, 12 November - Junior Examinations

Thursday, 13 November: School closed. NZQA Examinations will continue to run.

Friday, 14 November - Show Day

Tuesday, 18 November: Year 9 and 10 Excursion Day

Monday, 1 December - Wednesday, 3 or Thursday 4 November: Year 10 Camps

Monday, 8 December - Last day for juniors. **Prize Giving at the Horncastle Arena, commencing at 7pm.**

STUDENTS WHO CAN ACCESS SPECIAL ASSESSMENT CONDITIONS



At the beginning of each year, the school forwards applications to NZQA, on behalf of students identified with a physical, medical, sensory impaired or learning disability, for entitlement to special assessment conditions or accommodations. Possible difficulties include autism, attention-deficit, chronic pain, depression, dyspraxia, dyslexia, epilepsy, and hearing or visual impairment. Accommodations for students can be the use of a writer, reader or computer, extra time, rest breaks, separate accommodation, enlarged papers or a combination of these, to enable students to show their potential.

If your daughter had special assessment conditions in 2014 for NCEA assessments, but the report was completed prior to 2012, she will need a reassessment to be eligible for continued support in 2015. If she has not yet had the reassessment as suggested, she will need to have one before the end of Term 1, 2015. A copy of the updated report then needs to be provided to the school.

If you think your daughter has a learning, medical, physical or sensory impaired disability, but has not been assessed, and you think she would benefit from some exploratory testing, please contact Toni Jones for further information on what the school can provide at 348 0849 extension 730 or by email to toni.jones@cghs.school.nz. If your daughter has been assessed by an outside agency and a report is available, would you please make a copy available to the school as soon as is practicable.

2015 CGHS SCHOOL DATES

Start dates are:

- Monday 26 January – International Orientation
- Tuesday 27 January – Staff Only Day
- Wednesday 28 January – Years 9 and 13
- Thursday 29 January – Years 9, 10, 11 and 12
Year 13 Peer Support Leaders only
- Friday 30 January – First full school day

Term dates:

Term 1: **Monday 26 January - Thursday 2 April**

Waitangi Day - 6 February

Good Friday - 3 April

Easter Monday - 6 April

Term 2: **Monday 20 April - Friday 3 July**

ANZAC Day - 27 April

Queen's Birthday – 1 June

Term 3: **Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September**

Exeat Day (no school) - 21 August

Term 4: **Monday 12 October - Wednesday 9 December**

Labour Day - 26 October

Exeat Day (no school) - 12 November

Show Day - 13 November

Wednesday 9 December – **Prizegiving**

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SALES

Thank you for continuing to support the secondhand uniform sales. The PTA sees this as a valuable service that provides good quality clothing at reasonable prices. We have a good range of sizes in all summer and winter uniforms. There are frequent sales, usually the last Friday of each month. 70% of the uniform selling price is returned to the seller with the remaining 30% used to benefit the school. Garments may also be donated.

The secondhand uniform sales shop is located at the back of the Gymnasium at Christchurch Girls' High School, accessed from Matai Street. Payment is by cash or cheque only.

The next sales are:

Friday 28 November - 3.15pm - 4.00pm

Tuesday 16 December - 5.00pm - 7.00pm (receiving clothes only)

Wednesday 17 December - 5.00pm - 7.00pm (selling and receiving clothes only)

All garments offered to us for sale must be clean and only excellent quality clothing will be accepted. Please label each garment with owner's full contact details. Kilts and blazers are to be dry-cleaned.

The shop is only open on sale days and will not be opened for one-off requests. Payment is by cash or cheque only. Any enquiries please telephone:

Ann Margaritis

Ph. 354 5935 or leave a message.

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WORLD CHALLENGE 2015 FUNDRAISER FIRST AID KIT



Students of CGHS will be heading to Nepal in April 2015 to undertake a World Challenge and conduct a charitable project with the poverty stricken children of Nepal.

In order to help with fundraising the school has been kindly donated a large number of Pocket First Aid kits.

These kits pictured above contain gauze pads, non-woven pads, plasters, tape, tweezers, scissors, gloves, bandages and sterile wipes. All contained in a handy 14cm x 10cm canvas bag with room for those little extras you want to add.

Great for the car glove box, the school sports bag, a kitchen draw, taking for a day walk or just leaving in the shed or garage just in case!

All we ask for is a minimum donation of \$10.00 for each first aid kit so we can make a difference to the lives of the Nepalese children we will be working with.

World Challenge Nepal First Aid Kit Order Form

Student Name: Form Class:.....

Parent/Caregiver name:

Email: Cell or Ph No:

	Quantity	Total
First Aid Kit @\$10.00	\$ _____

Payment Options:

Please return in an envelope addressed to **World Challenge Nepal** with cash or cheque, to the Red Desk.

Please make cheques payable to **Christchurch Girls' High School**.

A PTA Fundraiser

BLANKETS & UMBRELLAS

*Support our school with these stylish new umbrellas and warm blankets.
Perfect for the sporting field, A rainy, cold winter day or as a gift for grandparents!*



*The Blanket is a good quality navy polar fleece with red stitching and school initials.
\$45.00*



*Golf umbrella - navy blue with white school crest - \$35.00
Student mini umbrella - fold-up with push button release with protective sleeve - \$25.00*

BLANKET & UMBRELLA ORDER FORM

Student Name: Form:.....

Parent/Caregiver Name:

Email:..... Cell or ph. No.

		Quantity	Cost
Blanket	@ \$45.00
Golf Umbrella	@ \$35.00
Student mini umbrella	@ \$25.00
		TOTAL:	\$ _____

Payment Options:

Please return in an envelope addressed to **PTA**,
with cash or cheque, to the Red Desk.

Please make cheques payable to **Christchurch Girls' High School PTA**.