

Kristin Family and Friends
Chairman's Annual Report 2012

As KFF Chair, I look back on another year in which our parents have worked hard to build and support the school community. Our main focus has been providing activities to foster friendship amongst parents as well as giving them opportunities to support the wider school community in a myriad of educational activities and events. This coming year we plan to resume larger scale fundraising activities such as a Ball for parents and friends to coincide with the school's 40th anniversary.

We started with the annual school picnic which was a huge success. A group of creative KFF members made hundreds of Cake Pops to raise funds for a friendship chair in the Junior school, they were a very popular treat.

A highlight for many this year was the Midwinter Christmas Dinner. This was the first event of its type and we were so pleased to see the Kristin community embrace it. Serenaded by Morag MacDowell and Derek Hill of NBR New Zealand Opera, the guests enjoyed a wonderful meal and a thoroughly delightful evening.

Grandparents' Day is always a big occasion for us, and once again this involved a large team of willing supporters who cheerily poured tea for over 500 proud grandparents. It is a big job to serve this many people and was greatly appreciated by our very special guests.

Last year we enjoyed increased attendance at our regular KFF meetings thanks to a series of guest speakers, including nutritionist Lynda Smith who gave helpful tips on family health through nutrition. Senior School Assistant Principal Justin Peat spoke to us about the latest developments in careers planning for our students, and Middle School Principal Adam Heath provided great insight about motivating and inspiring adolescent boys.

The KFF walking group which was established last year continues to meet weekly and we also invited parents to join us for a couple of day outings to Rangitoto and Waiheke Islands. Both were highly successful. These events are a great way for parents to make new friends.

In addition to these activities there are a number of smaller groups of parents who generously give their time to supporting others here at Kristin. The Mums' prayer group continues to support the school through prayer and meets every Tuesday in the Wellness Centre. The Chinese KFF group are always contributors. As well as supporting our many Chinese families and students, these dedicated women donate a significant amount of time to helping with KFF activities and events. Likewise the Japanese and Korean groups work hard to support their communities in school activities.

Class co-ordinators do a tremendous job uniting and informing their year groups. Exam invigilators in the Middle and Senior schools have been a great support to teachers as they supervise exams and reader – writers work with the students during their exams as well. We are evolving as a group with technology and now have our own Facebook page and emails regarding our activities are now sent to every parent in the school rather than just those who ticked a box, so KFF is as inclusive as possible.

As our children move on, we must sadly say good-bye to those families who have been involved in supporting the school. I wish to acknowledge the work of Grace Lee, the immediate past Chair of the Chinese KFF, and Christine Healy, the current Deputy Chair of KFF. These wonderful ladies have both now graduated from school parent status and we thank them for their outstanding and tireless commitment to Kristin.

We are so blessed to have such a dedicated and supportive group of parents. They are always willing to help where needed, despite having busy work and home lives. This makes for a wonderful environment where our children feel loved, valued and prepared for the world of their future.

Thank you.
Priscilla Collins
KFF Chairman