

Issue 20: May 2026

Baradene  
College of the  
SACRED HEART



# It's the Journey

Celebrating 10 years  
of Growing Heart

Students go beyond  
with the Duke of  
Edinburgh's Hillary  
Award Programme

Spotlight on creativity:  
The evolution of art  
at Baradene

Baradene

# HEART



*BARADENE HEART* is published twice yearly.  
Read all issues of *Heart* online at [baradene.school.nz/  
baradene-heart-magazine-issues](http://baradene.school.nz/baradene-heart-magazine-issues)

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**ON THE COVER:**

*It's the journey, not the destination, that matters*  
– as our Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award programme participants learned while traversing the Paraha Valley in the Waitakeres. They are pictured tackling the Tunnel Point Bush Walk on their Bronze Qualifying Journey.

Cover photo: Jessica Costello (Year 11), additional photography: Charlotte Clech



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# BARADENE HEART

ISSUE 20: MAY 2026

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## A WORD FROM THE BOARD



### **A word from Gill Chappell, Chair of the School Board.**

Baradene's chosen Focus Goal for 2026 is "Personal Growth in an Atmosphere of Wise Freedom". This goal invites every member of our community to deepen their capacity to act with intention, wisdom, courage, and discernment.

As I reflected on how the School Board might embrace this year's focus, I revisited our 2021 report – the last time we centred our work on this same Focus Goal. In 2021, our students and staff were navigating extraordinary circumstances. The pandemic had disrupted daily life and demanded constant adaptation, yet what stood out most clearly in that report was the remarkable sense of responsibility demonstrated across the school. Teachers and students alike made conscious choices that supported learning, wellbeing, and community. Covid may have confronted us, but it never diminished our spirit.

The challenges of 2026 are different in nature, yet no less significant. The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence is reshaping expectations of learning and raising important questions about how we integrate new technologies wisely and ethically. Social media continues to influence communication, resilience, and creativity in ways that require careful guidance. Global conflicts and the pull toward individualism also remind us of the need to cultivate empathy, connectedness, and a sense of shared purpose.

In this context, the call to *wise freedom* feels more relevant than ever. These emerging pressures highlight the importance of intentionally fostering a contemplative approach in our own lives, strengthening our ability to work for the common good. Throughout 2026, we will use this Focus Goal to encourage students and staff to consider how their experiences contribute to their growth. We hope this reflection empowers our students to understand themselves as authors of their own lives, capable of shaping their choices with integrity and purpose.

As a Board, our role extends beyond understanding what students are learning or how well they are performing academically. We are also committed to understanding how their learning equips them to become strong, grounded global citizens: Young people with a deep sense of who they are and the communities to which they belong.

Despite the turmoil that surrounded 2021, our report that year concluded with a celebration of the rich and varied experiences that filled the school – laughter, generosity, hospitality, and joy. This edition of *Baradene Heart* shows that the same spirit remains vibrant today. In 2026, our students continue to navigate a complex world with optimism, curiosity, and a profound sense of possibility.



**“Growing with wise freedom means striving to enjoy life, making the most of our unique gifts and talents, and acting with responsibility and care within our community.”**

The alumnae who have gone on to careers in the Arts remind us of what becomes possible when a school values creativity as a vital part of holistic education.

And it is not only in the Arts. Sports, cultural groups, Duke of Edinburgh, and other extra-curricular activities supported by our dedicated staff and parents provide countless opportunities for students to grow in wise freedom, build connections beyond their usual circles, and feel a genuine sense of belonging. When students find joy in their school life, they attend more regularly, and regular attendance is critical for achievement.

**Principal Alexandra Russell considers what it means to grow with wise freedom, and the many ways Baradene’s students are doing exactly that.**

This year I have been reflecting on *Sophie’s Gift*, the International Education Commission’s philosophy of Sacred Heart education. It is a remarkable document that calls us, as Sacred Heart educators, to be people of integrity, authenticity, and broad vision – people who accompany each student in the development of their gifts and who live with generosity and joy. On days when that feels like a high bar, it is reassuring to remember that this is not a test to pass, but a horizon we move toward together.

This same horizon is echoed in our Focus Goal for the year: “Personal Growth in an Atmosphere of Wise Freedom.” Like *Sophie’s Gift*, it speaks not only to our students, but to all of us. Growing with wise freedom means striving to enjoy life, making the most of our unique gifts and talents, and acting with responsibility and care within our community.

Personal growth is not a fixed destination; it is an ongoing journey that asks us to try things we are not yet sure we can do. In my conversations with students, I encourage them to embrace confidence – having the courage to discover new abilities, cultivate strengths, learn from mistakes, develop empathy, and show resilience when challenges arise.

One of the ways we see this lived out so vibrantly at Baradene is through the Arts – visual art, performing arts, and music – each woven deeply into who we are.



We have many achievements to be proud of. Our 2025 provisional NCEA results were outstanding, with 97.8% passing NCEA Level 2 and 97.1% passing NCEA Level 3. Over 58% of students had their NCEA Certificates endorsed with Excellence, and over 90% of students had their NCEA Certificates endorsed with Excellence or Merit. Many students received multiple Excellence Subject Endorsements, including a number who received Excellence Subject Endorsements in all their subjects. Additionally, 96% of students gained University Entrance.

Baradene received 76 Scholarships, with five of those being Outstanding Scholarships. One Scholarship was received by a Year 11 Student, and 20 Scholarships (including one Outstanding Scholarship) were received by Year 12 students.

Additionally, Keira Croad (Class of 2025) was awarded the 2025 Top Subject Scholar Award for Accounting. This is a superb achievement and is a result of her hard work and determination to succeed. Thank you to our outstanding teaching staff who provided the Scholarship classes and exams for our students.

We celebrated our top academic students for 2025 at our Scholars' Assembly. We were privileged to welcome alumna Dr Ellen Kingston (Head Girl, Class of 2014) as our guest speaker, who shared her journey at the University of Auckland – from completing a PhD in Pharmacology and Toxicology to her current role as a postdoctoral academic in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences.

As always, this magazine is a reflection of a community that gives generously of itself. Thank you to everyone who contributes to the life of Baradene – our students, our staff, our families, and our alumnae. We are all one heart, one mind, in the heart of Jesus Christ.

## Recognising a legacy of leadership



The Baradene community was delighted to learn that former Principal Sandy Pasley was named a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the New Year Honours, recognising her outstanding services to education. Her official investiture ceremony took place at Government House in April.

Sandy served as Principal from 2011 to January 2025, a tenure marked by significant achievement – including the completion of a major building programme – and a belief that a school belongs to everyone within it. As she reflected, “I tried never to say it was my school because I think it’s always our school.” With a career spanning more than 40 years, Sandy championed the importance of taking opportunities and rising to challenges, values she encouraged in students and staff alike: “If you don’t challenge yourself, you’ll never know what you’re capable of doing.”

Sandy was also recently appointed Vicar for Education for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland, a position she will take up in July. The Baradene community wishes her well in this important role.



# Leaders Council

## 2026 STUDENT LEADERS

**This year's student leaders are a dedicated and inspiring cohort, each exemplifying the values of Cor Unum.**

We are proud to offer our students meaningful opportunities to grow as leaders. Through programmes such as Student Leadership, Big Sister/Little Sister, Class Captains, Cor Unum Representatives, and Homeroom and School Board Representatives, our students develop into compassionate, well-rounded young leaders who leave Baradene College ready to make a difference beyond our school gates.

### Head Girl

Grace Hunt

### Deputy Head Girls

Mary Meredith  
Jordi Cline

### Special Character

Jordi Cline (Leader)  
Grace Buxton (Deputy)  
Niamh Hoare (Deputy)

### Academic

Mary Meredith (Leader)  
Sophia Campbell (Deputy)  
Pania Henare (Deputy)

### Arts & Publicity

Lulu Noton (Leader)  
Francesca Crichton (Deputy)  
Sophia Zablotzkaya (Deputy)

### Cultural

Evelyn Okach (Leader)  
Sienna Nikorima (Deputy)  
Marli O'Hagan (Deputy)

### International

April Ong (Leader)  
Scarlett Davies (Deputy)  
Liuye Nancy Guo (Deputy)

### Performing Arts

Catherine Radich (Leader)  
Simone Corballis (Deputy)  
Evelyn Pryde (Deputy)

### Social Services

Julia van Wijk (Leader)  
Emily Fippard-Peacock (Deputy)  
Alisi Lavaka (Deputy)

### Sports

Dora Slavich (Leader)  
Briea Arndt (Deputy)  
Esther Meachen (Deputy)

### Student Wellbeing

Mia Tsai (Leader)  
Simone Castello (Deputy)  
Emma Rowe (Deputy)

### Sustainability

Amelie Carran (Leader)  
Madeline Bell (Deputy)  
Mia Collins (Deputy)

### Amiens House

Saffron Lee (Leader)  
Bella Jarvie (Deputy)  
Hannah Saunders (Deputy)

### Barat House

Mia Pepper (Leader)  
Orla Hoare (Deputy)  
Estelle Wright (Deputy)

### Erskine House

Holly Green (Leader)  
Olivia Campbell (Deputy)  
Lola Penfold (Deputy)

### Philippine House

Yfeoma Atillo (Leader)  
Grace Pavarno (Deputy)  
Sienna Taverna (Deputy)

### Stuart House

Remy MacPherson (Leader)  
Mila Nelisi (Deputy)  
Olivia Whiteman (Deputy)

### Loreto House

Lola Chamberlain (Leader)  
Millie Bower (Deputy)  
Olivia McEniery (Deputy)



# HEAD GIRL 2026

**Head Girl Grace Hunt shares her vision for 2026 – a year of positive action, self-knowledge, and making the most of every moment at Baradene.**

I am excited and honoured to serve as Head Girl for 2026. Baradene has been my home for the past six years, and I am so grateful for the community which has shaped me.

Last year marked the Jubilee Year of Hope for the Catholic Church. It gave us all a chance to reflect on our legacy and our purpose. Now, in 2026, we are provided with the opportunity to step into a new quarter of the century and put those reflections and resolutions into action. In today's world, positive action is more vital than ever. Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ was a true action-taker, and it was through her courage and dedication to her beliefs that she founded the Society of the Sacred Heart. I encourage all students to follow her example and take action in this new year. Embrace every challenge you can and make the most of life here at Baradene. I urge you to act for yourself and for others. Taking one step of positive action a day for yourself or for someone else is a victory – that's 365 confirmed personal victories in 2026, which sounds like a very good year to me!

Positive action begins with truly knowing oneself. Something I have learned during my time here at Baradene so far is that simply being yourself is incredibly rewarding – knowing your limits so you can push them, and knowing your habits so you can adapt them to achieve your goals.

My advice to all students this year is to soak up every bit of school life you can. Be ambitious, put your best foot forward, and aim for the stars. The Baradene community is one to be proud of. Your memories and experiences will stay with you throughout your life, and open doors and connections even after you leave Baradene. Be yourself, ride the waves that come your way, and spread joy whenever you can. I encourage you all to set goals and take action towards making those goals happen. Small actions accumulate into big outcomes.

Following this theme, I would like to leave you with a quote from my favourite movie, *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, "Even the smallest person can change the course of the future." Let us not forget the importance of small, daily acts of kindness, and let's see what we can achieve this year!



*Grace as a Year 7 student*

**“Taking one step of positive action a day for yourself or for someone else is a victory – that’s 365 confirmed personal victories in 2026, which sounds like a very good year to me!”**



# Introducing our Deputy Principal

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION

## Get to know Baradene's Deputy Principal – Director of Administration, Susan Hurring.

As far back as I can remember, I wanted to be a teacher. My professional journey, however, began in investment management. It was not until my youngest child was two that I made the decision to retrain as a teacher. I am fortunate to have spent more than 20 years in a profession I love, most recently teaching at Sacred Heart College for many years before taking up the position of Deputy Principal – Director of Administration at Baradene in 2025.

Working in a boys' school reinforced for me the importance of strong, positive relationships and high expectations. My background in mathematics has also shaped my thinking, as it encourages logical analysis, attention to detail, and disciplined problem-solving. These habits of mind are integral to school administration, where sound systems and careful planning directly contribute to improved student outcomes.

Over time, I have become increasingly interested in leadership roles that strengthen the conditions for excellent teaching. Effective leadership is grounded in service – removing barriers, protecting teaching time so teachers and students can focus on high-quality learning and strong academic outcomes. This philosophy is supported by my commitment to ongoing professional learning, including a Master's in Educational Leadership and international presentations of my research on the importance of “belonging” in contributing to successful student outcomes. Strong academic foundations – reading widely, numeracy fluency, and high standards of communication – remain essential, and where technology is employed, it should enhance learning, not dilute it.

Since joining the leadership team, I have been struck by Baradene's strong aspirational culture. Academic achievement is valued, but so too are character, leadership, and contribution. The abundance of leadership opportunities, and the way students rise to them, reflects a community that has high expectations and supports young women to achieve them.

My new role is wide-ranging and highly people-focused, with oversight of day-to-day operational systems, property, ICT, health and safety, compliance, and strategic planning. A calm, structured approach and a commitment to clear processes help ensure systems support people rather than overwhelm them. Collaboration and transparency are central, and working alongside others to find practical solutions to complex challenges is something I value greatly. Protecting



## Susan Hurring

**“Baradene's emphasis on faith, service, and integrity alongside a commitment to academic excellence reflects a holistic vision.”**

teaching time remains a priority, as administrative demands can easily grow if not carefully managed, and the aim is to always ensure that systems serve the mission of the school.

Effective administration is proactive. In a busy school, it requires balancing compliance with common sense and ensuring communication is timely and purposeful. Most importantly, it means safeguarding the conditions that allow learning to thrive – minimising disruption, planning carefully, and aligning operational decisions with the Special Character and academic priorities of the College.

I believe that no learning is ever wasted, so my best advice to our students is to keep learning! As Dr Seuss reminds us, “The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

## Achievement Highlights

Congratulations to our Top Scholars, Scholarship winners, and all students who achieved highly last year.

76

Scholarships\*

5

of which were Outstanding\*\*

over 97%

passed the Baradene Year 11 Certificate and NCEA in Years 12 and 13

96%

gained University Entrance

#1

2025 Top in Accounting in NZ!

over 90%

on average received Merit or Excellence Endorsement in Years 12, and 13

Based on 2025 provisional NZ Academic Results

\* A Scholarship is awarded to the top 3% (approximately) of students who sit the subject.  
 \*\* An Outstanding Scholarship is awarded to the top 0.5% of students who sit the subject.

## Our 2025 Top Scholars

YEAR 11

Tessa Gray Willow Reid  
 Greta Hunter Magna Rose  
 Caitlin Johnson Emma Taylor  
 India Lonergan Gemma Wu  
 Yan-Yuet Josephine Lam

YEAR 12

Briea Arndt Mary Meredith  
 Kelsey Hand Maggie Williams  
 Saffron Lee Sophia Zablotskaya  
 Halle McPherson  
 Emily Fippard-Peacock

YEAR 13

Ella Aitken Zixi Nie  
 Emily Choi Kaitlin Robinson  
 Hiranya Fernando Josephine Stickley  
 Ruby Lo Saffron Tse

## 2025 Baradene Scholarships

### Year 11

**Kiera Langridge** Religious Studies

### Year 12

**Grace Buxton** Technology  
**Layla Dyer** Spanish  
**Emily Fippard-Peacock** English, Religious Studies  
**Maya Fletcher** Statistics  
**Kelsey Hand** English, Religious Studies  
**Orla Hoare** Religious Studies  
**Grace Hunt** Religious Studies  
**Saffron Lee** English  
**Ruby Lonergan** Media Studies  
**Halle McPherson** Technology  
**Mary Meredith** Religious Studies  
**Madeleine Murray** History  
**Lucia Noton** Geography, Religious Studies  
**Mia Pepper** English  
**Dora Slavich** Religious Studies  
**Antonia Urlich** English (Outstanding) ★  
**Maggie Williams** English

### Year 13

**Ella Aitken** English  
**Ysabelle Casimiro** Media Studies, Statistics  
**Lily Chapman-Ruakere** Biology  
**Emily Choi** Biology, Religious Studies, Statistics  
**Sadie Cormack** Statistics  
**Keira Croad** Accounting (Outstanding – Top Mark in New Zealand) ★, Economics  
**Lucia Donnianni** History  
**Hiranya Fernando** Classical Studies, Economics, English, Religious Studies  
**Ava Flathaug** English (Outstanding) ★, Media Studies  
**Scarlett Hale** English  
**Kate Hunter** Biology, History  
**Harriet Johnston** Chemistry, Statistics  
**Sorren Larsen** Biology  
**Constanza Lazarte-Simic** Spanish

**Ruby Lo** Biology, Chemistry (Outstanding) ★, Geography, Music  
**Zixi Nie** Design and Visual Communication  
**Nicole-Ann Nobre** Accounting  
**Orla O'Carroll** Biology, Religious Studies  
**Sia Okach** English, Religious Studies  
**Kaitlin Robinson** Biology, Statistics  
**Samantha Rowe** Earth and Space Science  
**Josephine Stickley** Biology, Chemistry, Geography, Religious Studies (Outstanding) ★  
**Joahn Sung** English, History  
**Saffron Tse** Design, Media Studies, Statistics  
**Nia Turner Montes** Biology, Classical Studies, English  
**Molly Walsh** Biology, Drama  
**Ziyi Weng** Calculus  
**Kate Wise** History, Statistics  
**Anna Worth** History

# 2025 Tertiary Scholarships

## The University of Auckland

### 140th Anniversary Academic Scholarship

Ella Aitken • Catherine Bhanot • Clementine Bulmer  
Lucia Donnianni • Constanza Lazarte-Simic • Kiera Martin  
Maya McCarthy • Sarah Relf • Josephine Stickley

### 140th Anniversary Kupenga Rau Scholarship

Helena Dunn • Hayley Nonu • Anna Worth

### Academic Potential Scholarship

Mary Carston • Sadie Costa • Scarlett Hale Venetia Hickey  
Lucy O'Reilly • Caitlin Watene • Zara Zazulak-Baker

### Maori Academic Excellence Scholarship

Lily Chapman-Ruakere

### Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship

Sahara-May Mafi

### Top Achievers Scholarship

Ysabelle Casimiro • Emily Choi • Hiranya Fernando  
Harriet Johnston • Jihyeong Jessica Lee • Ruby Lo  
Nicole-Ann Nobre • Orla O'Carroll • Sia Okach  
Kate Robinson • Samantha Rowe Joahn Sung  
Saffron Tse • Nia Turner Montes • Kate Wise

### Vaka Moana Scholarship

Katie O'Connor

### Faculty of Business & Economics Undergraduate Scholarship

Constanza Lazarte-Simic

### Faculty of Engineering and Design Undergraduate Scholarship

Anna Worth

## Auckland University of Technology

### AUT International Scholarship

Safira Syaifudin

### AUT Find Your Greatness Scholarship

Catherine Bhanot • Meg Courtney • Ava Flathaug  
Charleen Kopua • Patience Makatesa • Samantha Munapeyi  
Katie O'Connor • Trelise Smythe • Anna Wilkinson  
Isabella Montenegro Raubo

## Massey University

### Undergraduate First Year Scholarship – School Leavers

Emma Johnson • Samantha Munapeyi • Sarah Relf

## Victoria University of Wellington

### International Experience Grant

Sadie Costa • Mia Jacob • Alana Kenny

### Raukaraka Leadership Scholarship

Kate Hardie Neil • Alana Kenny

### Matatoa Sports Scholarship

Keira Evans

### Tangiwai Excellence Scholarship

Catherine Bhanot • Sadie Costa • Scarlett Hale • Maya McCarthy  
Eva McKinstry • Charlotte O'Neill • Gemma Robertson

## University of Otago

### 150th Entrance Scholarship

Lauren Draper

### Academic Excellence Entrance Scholarship

Emily Choi • Nicole-Ann Nobre • Samantha Rowe • Kate Wise

### Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship

Ella Aitken • Clementine Bulmer • Anna Butcher  
Hiranya Fernando • Sadie Cormack • Sadie Costa • Keira Croad  
Keira Evans • Emma Johnson • Kiera Martin • Eva McKinstry  
Orla O'Carroll • Charlotte O'Neill • Josephine Stickley • Tessa Sims  
Isabella Montenegro Raubo

### Leaders of Tomorrow Entrance Scholarship – High Credit

Kate Hunter

### Māori Entrance Scholarship

Jaeda Ala'alatoa-Dale • Helena Dunn • Venetia Hickey  
Charleen Kopua • Karaitiana Kopua • Abby Mullany  
Billie Schuller • Caitlin Watene

### Pacific Peoples' Entrance Scholarship

Celeen Eri • Isabella Leaitua • Hena Puloka

### New Frontiers Excellence Entrance Scholarship

Holly Brown • Aria Johnstone • Kate Monro • Samantha Munapeyi  
Victoria Maher • Lucy O'Reilly

### Performance Entrance Scholarship

Zoe Dignan

### Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship

Maya McCarthy

### Donna-Rose McKay Entrance Scholarship

Liliana Cisaria

**University of Waikato****Ko Te Tangata School Leaver Scholarship**

Lauren Draper • Charlotte O'Neill

**Te Paewai o te Rangi Scholarship  
for Outstanding Academic Achievement**

Samantha Rowe • Anna Wilkinson

**D.V. Bryant Trust Scholarship**

Lauren Draper

**Bartlett & Buckley Scholarship**

Charlotte O'Neill

**University of Canterbury****Outstanding Impact Scholarship**

Samantha Rowe

**Go Waitaha Scholarship**

Ava Flathaug • Venetia Hickey

**Haupatu Sport Scholarship**

Helena Dunn • Keira Evans • Venetia Hickey

**Kaitoko Pacific Scholarship**

Venetia Hickey

**Takere Scholarship**

Mary Carston • Lucy O'Reilly • Anna Worth

**Other Scholarships****Charles Sturt University****International Diversity Scholarship**

Xilan Elena Lu

**Village Nation Dance****Potential Artistry and Excellence Scholarship**

Jessica Kendrick-Jones

**Dynamite Studios****Artistry Scholarship**

Jessica Kendrick-Jones

**Baradene College Foundation  
(known as Growing Heart)****Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship**

Hiranya Fernando

**Catholic Diocese of Auckland****Robert Ned Covich Scholarship**

Emma Johnson

**2025 Excellence  
Course Endorsements**

**Congratulations to our students who received Excellence Endorsements for their Baradene Year 11 Certificate and NCEA Certificates by achieving a set number of credits at Excellence.**

In addition to overall Endorsements for their certificates, students can achieve Excellence Course Endorsements in each subject. To receive an Excellence Course Endorsement, students must gain a set number of credits at Excellence. For NCEA Levels 2 and 3, at least three of those credits must be achieved from externally assessed standards.

**Baradene Year 11 Certificate Excellence  
Endorsement in five or more subjects****Madeleine Dwyer (7)**

Accounting, English, General Science, Geography, Mathematics, Religious Education, Spanish

**Tessa Gray (7)**

Accounting, Economics, English, General Science, History, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Greta Hunter (7)**

Additional Science, English, General Science, Media Studies, Physical Education, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Kaylah Jamieson (7)**

Additional Science, English, Food Innovation Technology, French, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Caitlin Johnson (7)**

Additional Science, English, French, General Science, History, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Sophie Kim (7)**

Accounting, Additional Science, English, General Science, Music, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Josephine Lam (7)**

Additional Science, Art, English, French, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Ester Carvalho Leite (7)**

Additional Science, Art, Design &amp; Visual Communication, English, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**India Lonergan (7)**

Accounting, Additional Science, English, French, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Willow Reid (7)**

Accounting, Additional Science, English, General Science, History, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Emma Taylor (7)**

Accounting, Additional Science, English, Food Innovation Technology, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Stella Valerio (7)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, English, Food Innovation Technology, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Charlotte Williamson (7)**

Additional Science, Art, English, Food Innovation Technology, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Lara Wise (7)**

Accounting, Additional Science, English, French, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Lok Lam Lorraine Wong (7)**

Additional Science, Art, Economics, English, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Milla Wright (7)**

Additional Science, Economics, English, General Science, Mathematics, Physical Education, Religious Education

**Gemma Wu (7)**

Accounting, Additional Science, Economics, English, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Sarah Bergin (6)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, General Science, History, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Charlotte Board (6)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, English, Mathematics, Religious Education, Spanish

**Briar Coleman (6)**

Computer Science, Economics, English, General Science, Music, Religious Education

**Ellie Develter (6)**

Additional Science, English, General Science, History, Religious Education and Spanish

**Francesca Harris (6)**

English, French, General Science, History, Media Studies, Religious Education

**Alexandra Irvine (6)**

Economics, English, Food Innovation Technology, General Science, Health, Religious Education

**Amelia Kirilo (6)**

Additional Science, Economics, English, General Science, History, Religious Education

**Kiera Langridge (6)**

Computer Science, Economics, English, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Abigail Lo (6)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, English, French, General Science, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Danie Protheroe (6)**

Accounting, Additional Science, Food Innovation Technology, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Esme Reid (6)**

Art, English, General Science, Mathematics, Physical Education, Religious Education

**Magna Rose (6)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, Economics, English, General Science, Religious Education

**Emily Shtenko (6)**

Additional Science, Economics, English, General Science, Religious Education, Spanish

**Rebecca Swan (6)**

English, History, Mathematics, Physical Education, Religious Education, Te Reo Māori

**Puāwai Tokoma (6)**

Additional Science, English, General Science, History, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Amy Towers (6)**

Accounting, Economics, English, General Science, Physical Education, Religious Education

**Rosa Whetter (6)**

Additional Science, Dance, English, General Science, History, Mathematics

**Keela Williams (6)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, Dance, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Zara Woolley (6)**

Additional Science, English, General Science, History, Mathematics, Religious Education

**ZiHan Hannah Xia (6)**

Additional Science, Computer Science, Economics, General Science, Religious Education, Year 12 Mathematics towards Calculus

**Jiayue Jessica Xie (6)**

Accounting, Additional Science, English, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Paige Baptist (5)**

Economics, French, General Science, Geography, Religious Education

**Harper Crane (5)**

Economics, General Science, Geography, Math & Numeracy, Religious Education

**Micayla-Jane Elika (5)**

Additional Science, Chinese, General Science, History, Religious Education

**Nanami Fujita (5)**

Art, Design & Visual Communication, English as a Second Language, General Science, Mathematics

**Stella Harvey (5)**

Additional Science, English, History, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Rena Ishikawa (5)**

Accounting, English as a Second Language, Food Innovation Technology, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Shuo Shiny Liu (5)**

Art, Design & Visual Communication, General Science, Mathematics, Religious Education

**Abigail Lord (5)**

English, French, General Science, History, Religious Education

**Indie Lynch-McEwan (5)**

French, General Science, Media Studies, Music, Religious Education

**Janey Manley (5)**

English, French, General Science, History, Religious Education

**Isla Prestidge (5)**

Dance, Economics, English, History, Religious Education

**Pearl Schofield (5)**

Art, Design Photography Introduction, English, History, Religious Education

**Lucy Scrymgeour (5)**

Additional Science, English, General Science, History, Religious Education

### **NCEA Level 2 Excellence Endorsement in five or more subjects**

**Emily Fippard-Peacock (7)**

Biology, Chemistry, English, French, Physics, Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**Isabelle Lee (7)**

Accounting, Chemistry, Economics, English, Physics, Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**Mary Meredith (7)**

Biology, Chemistry, Dance, English, Physics, Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**Catherine Radich (7)**

Biology, Chemistry, Drama, English, Physics, Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**Maggie Williams (7)**

Accounting, Economics, English, History, History of Art, Mathematics towards Calculus, Religious Education

**Briera Arndt (6)**

Accounting, Biology, English, Physics, Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**Amelie Carran (6)**

Biology, Chemistry, Economics, English, Physics, Religious Education

**Paige Cook (6)**

Biology, Classical Studies, Mathematics towards Statistics, Painting, Religious Education, Te Reo Māori

**Kelsey Hand (6)**

Biology, Chemistry, Food and Innovation Technology, Mathematics towards Calculus, Physics, Religious Education

**Julia McLaughlin (6)**

Chemistry, Classical Studies, Economics, English, Physics, Religious Education

**Halle McPherson (6)**

Construction & Materials Technology, Design, English, Mathematics towards Calculus, Painting, Religious Education

**Lucia Noton (6)**

Biology, Economics, English, Geography, History, Religious Education

**Dora Slavich (6)**

Biology, Chemistry, English, Physical Education, Religious Education, Spanish

**Sophia Zablotskaya (6)**

English, Mathematics towards Statistics, Media Studies, Photography, Physical Education, Religious Education

**Isobel Buikema (5)**

Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics towards Calculus, Physics, Religious Education

**Simone Castello (5)**

Biology, English, French, Physics, Religious Education

**Audrey Gleeson (5)**

Accounting, Design, Mathematics towards Calculus, Media Studies, Religious Education

**Liuye Guo (5)**

Biology, Mathematics towards Calculus, Painting, Physics, Religious Education

**Orla Hoare (5)**

Biology, Chemistry, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Education

**Zixuan Sophia Lai (5)**

Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics towards Calculus, Physics

**Saffron Lee (5)**

Accounting, Biology, Mathematics towards Calculus, Physics, Religious Education

**Juliet Neutze (5)**

Classical Studies, Economics, History,  
Mathematics towards Statistics, Religious Education

**April Ong (5)**

Economics, History, Mathematics towards Statistics,  
Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**Mia Pepper (5)**

Biology, Economics, English, Physics, Religious Education

**Julia Van Wijk (5)**

Biology, English, Physics, Religious Education, Year 13 Calculus

**NCEA Level 3 Excellence Endorsement  
in four or more subjects**

**Emily Choi (6)**

Biology, English Advanced, Chemistry Advanced, Physics,  
Religious Education, Statistics

**Ella Aitken (5)**

Biology, Drama, English Advanced, Religious Education,  
Statistics

**Hiranya Fernando (5)**

Biology, Chemistry Advanced, Economics, English Advanced,  
Religious Education

**Ruby Lo (5)**

Biology, Chemistry Advanced, Geography, Physics,  
Religious Education

**Kaitlin Robinson (5)**

Biology, Physical Education, Physics, Religious Education,  
Statistics

**Saffron Tse (5)**

Design, English, Media Studies, Religious Education, Statistics

**Molly Walsh (5)**

Biology, Drama, English, Religious Education, Statistics

**Lexie Shu-Yu Wu (5)**

Biology, Chemistry Advanced, Computer Science, English,  
Religious Education

**Sadie Costa (4)**

Biology, English, History, Religious Education

**Rao Deng (4)**

Calculus, Economics, English, Religious Education

**Lucia Donohoe (4)**

Biology, English Advanced, Religious Education, Spanish

**Ava Flathaug (4)**

Drama, English Advanced, Media Studies, Religious Education

**Scarlett Hale (4)**

Chinese, Design, English Advanced, History

**Zixi Nie (4)**

Calculus, French, Physics, Religious Education

**Nicole-Ann Nobre (4)**

Accounting, Biology, Chemistry Advanced, Religious Education

**Sia Okach (4)**

Biology, English Advanced, Religious Education, Spanish

**Tayla Rua (4)**

Biology, Health, Religious Education, Te Reo Māori

**Caitlin Watene (4)**

Biology, English, Physical Education, Religious Education

**Ziyi Weng (4)**

Economics, Biology, Physics, Religious Education

**Kate Wise (4)**

Biology, History, Religious Education, Statistics

**2025 Baradene Year 11  
Certificate & NCEA  
Excellence Endorsements**

**Congratulations to our students who received  
Excellence Endorsements in their Baradene  
Year 11 Certificate and Level 2 and 3 NCEA  
Certificates in 2025.**

**Baradene Year 11  
Certificate Excellence  
Endorsements**

Tori Ah-Kuoi  
Paige Baptist  
Sarah Bergin  
Charlotte Board  
Madison Bruford  
Elise Buddell  
Billie Burn  
Emily Buxton  
Yuepeng Luna Chen  
Molly Cheng  
Megan Chiu  
Briar Coleman  
India Coleman  
Niamh Collins  
Frida Comber  
Harper Crane  
Ruby Crummy  
Mia de Reuck  
Ellie Develter  
Rachelann Dlima  
Madeleine Dwyer  
Micayla-Jane Elika  
Claudia Farr  
Savannah Finnegan  
Georgia Flint  
Riley Fraser  
Nanami Fujita  
Gabriela Fullerton-Smith  
Sophie Gilbert  
Madeleine Gimblett  
Eve Glennie  
Emma Gowen  
Tessa Gray  
Piper Hale  
Fran Harris  
Lila Hart

Stella Harvey  
Priya Hermansson  
Tiara Hickey  
Greta Hunter  
Alexandra Irvine  
Rena Ishikawa  
Kaylah Jamieson  
Caitlin Johnson  
Eliana Johnstone  
Sophie Kim  
Amelia Kirilo  
Alexandra Kozakevych  
Sharon Lai  
Josephine Lam  
Kiera Langridge  
Katherine Larsen  
Ester Leite  
Feifei Fay Li  
Chloe Liao  
Shuo Shiny Liu  
Abigail Lo  
Esme Lockhart-Hughes  
India Lonergan  
Sophie Lonergan  
Abigail Lord  
Sylvie Luen  
Indie Lynch-McEwan  
Eloise Maingay  
Janey Manley  
Pippa McHardy  
Gabriella Merton  
Beatrix Nicol  
Abby O'Connell  
Ella Park  
Brooke Phipps  
Renee Power  
Isla Prestidge  
Danie Protheroe  
Esme Reid

Willow Reid  
Sofia Robinson  
Annabel Rogers  
Magna Rose  
Vesta Rowe  
Tiare Ryan  
Pearl Schofield  
Lucy Scrymgeour  
Noella Seu  
Emily Shtenko  
Ruby Smith  
Ava Spencer  
Chloe Spencer  
Chiara Stamilla  
Alexandra Summerfield  
Rebecca Swan  
Mya Tabobo  
Emma Taylor  
Puāwai Tokoma  
Amy Towers  
Finau Vainikolo  
Stella Valerio  
Rosa Whetter  
Mikayla White  
Keela Williams  
Charlotte Williamson  
Lara Wise  
Lok Lam Lorraine Wong  
Zara Woolley  
Milla Wright  
Gemma Wu  
ZiHan Hannah Xia  
Jiayue Jessica Xie  
Rio Yamashita

**NCEA Level  
2 Excellence  
Endorsements**

Briera Arndt  
Yfeoma Atillo  
Holly Bailey  
Ava Barnett  
Kahu Barsdell  
Sophie Beattie  
Madeline Bell  
Isobel Buikema  
Grace Buxton  
Sophie Campbell  
Olivia Campbell  
Amelie Carran  
Simone Castello  
Lola Chamberlain  
Hattie Cheeseman  
Neve Clews  
Jordi Cline  
Mia Collins  
Lauren Comley  
Paige Cook  
Simone Corballis  
Orlaith Costello  
Francesca Crichton  
Kunyi Erina Cui  
Brooke Culpan  
Isabelle Culpan  
Mischa Dalziell  
Isabella Dix

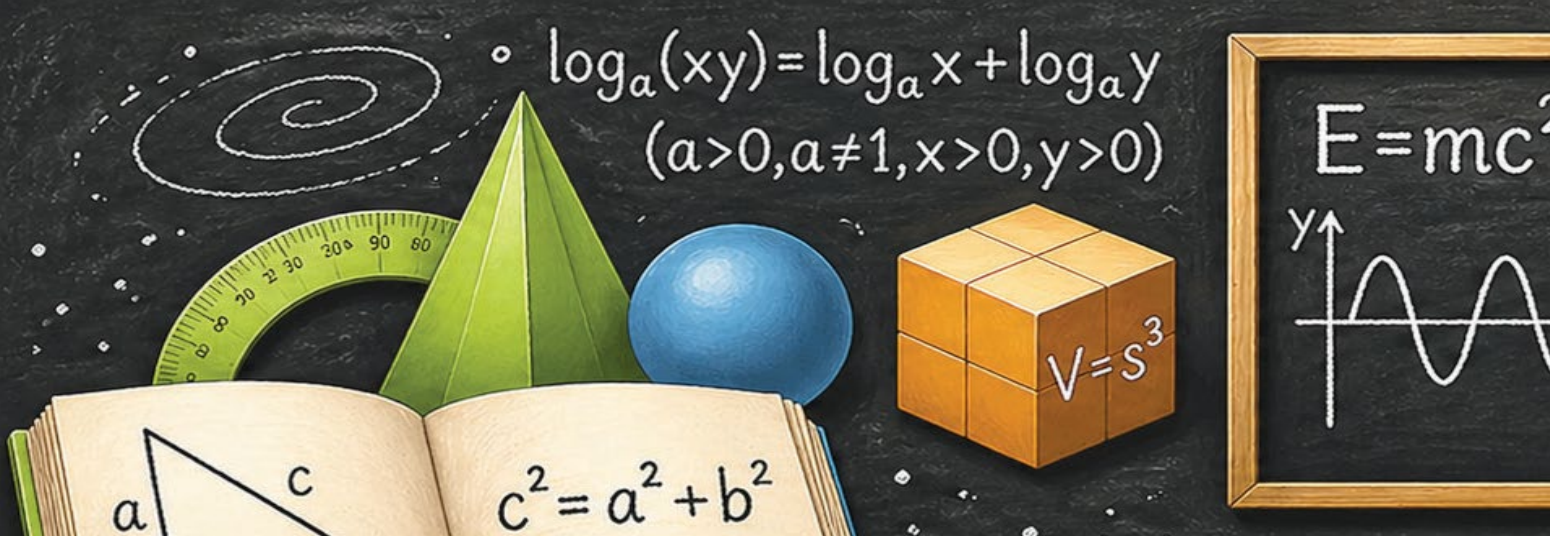
Patty Dolan  
Lara Dolan  
Elodie Donnelly  
Layla Dyer  
Georgia Facer  
Emily Fippard-Peacock  
Maya Fletcher  
Vanda Gazo  
Audrey Gleeson  
Belle Grainger  
Holly Green  
Emily Griffiths  
Mia Growden  
Liuye Guo  
Kelsey Hand  
Pania Henare  
Scarlett Henderson  
Niamh Hoare  
Orla Hoare  
Manuela Hoare Delgado  
Annabelle Holdcroft  
Zoe Horsfall  
Eva Houghton  
Imogen Howie  
Grace Hunt  
Kelsey Hyde  
Bella Jarvie  
Eliza Jordan  
Ludivine Jordan  
Tara Kelly-Hulse  
Jisoon Rachel Kim  
Keisha Knight  
Kayla Knight  
Zixuan Sophia Lai  
Saffron Lee  
Isabelle Lee  
Chloe Levada  
Stella Li  
Amy Liefiting  
Ruby Lonergan  
Remy MacPherson  
Olivia McCort  
Olivia McEniery  
Paloma Mckenzie  
Julia McLaughlin  
Halle McPherson  
Charlotte McWilliams  
Esther Meachen  
Mary Meredith  
Poppy Monk  
Juliet Neutze  
Sienna Nikorima  
Lulu Noton  
Sienna O'Connell  
Marli O'Hagan  
Evelyn Okach  
Summer Olliffe  
April Ong  
Mel Pacheco  
Zara Page  
Isla Parsons  
Grace Pavarno  
Isabelle Pearson  
Lola Penfold  
Mia Pepper

Sienna Pinfold  
Helen Pius  
Evelyn Pryde  
Catherine Radich  
Olivia Rosescu  
Emma Rowe  
Trudie Rush  
Ava Ryall  
Hannah Saunders  
Jeonghwa Lia Seok  
Claire Shen  
Dora Slavich  
Lily Sutton  
Sienna Taverna  
Mia Taylor  
Nikki Taylor  
Amy Tonner  
Mia Tsai  
Antonia Urlich  
Julia van Wijk  
Gretel Ward  
Georgia White  
Emma White  
Olivia Whiteman  
Maggie Williams  
Olivia Williamson  
Alice Willoughby  
Charlotte Woolley  
Estelle Wright  
Sophia Zablotzkaya

**NCEA Level  
3 Excellence  
Endorsements**

Ella Aitken  
Maya Anderson  
Emily Archer  
Catherine Bhanot  
Holly Brown  
Clementine Bulmer  
Anna Butcher  
Ysabelle Casimiro  
Yuhan Chai  
Lily Chapman-Ruakere  
Emma Chen  
Emily Choi  
Liliana Cisaria  
Sadie Cormack  
Sadie Costa  
Meg Courtney  
Keira Croad  
Rao Deng  
Zoe Dignan  
Lucia Donnianni  
Lucia Donohoe  
Esmenia D'Souza  
Keira Evans  
Olivia Fell  
Hiranya Fernando  
Ava Flathaug  
Ava Galloway  
Dominique Galvez  
Ziqi Gao  
Sophie Gehin  
Hayley Haberfield  
Scarlett Hale

Kate Hardie Neil  
Venetia Hickey  
Christie Holloway  
Kate Hunter  
Harriet Johnston  
Jessica Kendrick-Jones  
Alana Kenny  
Amy Kim  
Caitlin Lawrence  
Constanza Lazarte-Simic  
Hyunseo Lee  
Jihyeong Jessica Lee  
Ruby Lo  
Xilan Lu  
Emily Lydon  
Jiahui Lyu  
Kiera Martin  
Maya McCarthy  
Scarlett McDonnell  
Eva McKinstry  
Alice McLaughlin  
Kate Monro  
Isabella Montenegro Raubo  
Samantha Munapeyi  
Isabella Nicholls  
Zixi Nie  
Nicole-Ann Nobre  
Jessamyn O'Brien  
Orla O'Carroll  
Katie O'Connor  
Sia Okach  
Charlotte O'Neill  
Lucy O'Reilly  
Hena Puloka  
Juliette Rajotte  
Sarah Relf  
Sophia Rhodes  
Gemma Robertson  
Kate Robinson  
Samantha Rowe  
Tayla Rua  
Billie Schuller  
Jinghan Shao  
Trelise Smythe  
Giuliana Stamilla  
Josephine Stickley  
Joahn Sung  
Rebecca Sutton  
Zoe Thompson  
Saffron Tse  
Nia Turner Montes  
Molly Walsh  
Caitlin Watene  
Ziyi Weng  
Dixie Whiting  
Anna Wilkinson  
Kate Wise  
Anna Worth  
Lexie Wu  
Zhiqi Yu  
Zara Zazulak-Baker



## Infinite Potential

**Ziyi Weng (Class of 2025) has proven herself a truly gifted mathematician, with impressive accolades and a love for the subject that has taken her far beyond the classroom.**



**“I really appreciate my time at Baradene, and I believe my experiences here will prove to be very helpful at university.”**

Ziyi Weng has distinguished herself as an exceptional mathematics student through sustained excellence, intellectual curiosity, and outstanding leadership. During her time at Baradene, she earned Silver medals in the New Zealand Mathematics Olympiad in both 2024 and 2025, with selection to the highly competitive training camps in 2024. She also achieved High Distinction in the Australian Mathematics Competition in consecutive years.

Ziyi’s advanced problem-solving ability was further demonstrated through a Distinction (Top 4%) in the Mathematics and Statistics Research Challenge for her research on the Chessboard Domination Problem. Ziyi also gained an NCEA Calculus Scholarship, achieving the top score of 5 in AP Calculus BC. Beyond her personal achievements, Ziyi has made a lasting impact on Baradene’s mathematical culture by founding and leading the Baradene Math Club, as well as establishing the Baradene Interschool Mathematical Olympiad, where she served as founder, organiser, and national marker.

In recognition of her academic strength, Ziyi was shortlisted for a University of Cambridge interview in 2025, and has recently received multiple outstanding tertiary offers:

- The University of Sydney, with a \$10,000 scholarship
- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, to study Mathematics – a university associated with more than 20 Nobel Prize winners
- Imperial College of London, to study Mathematics – an institution with three Fields Medallists, one of the highest honours in Mathematics

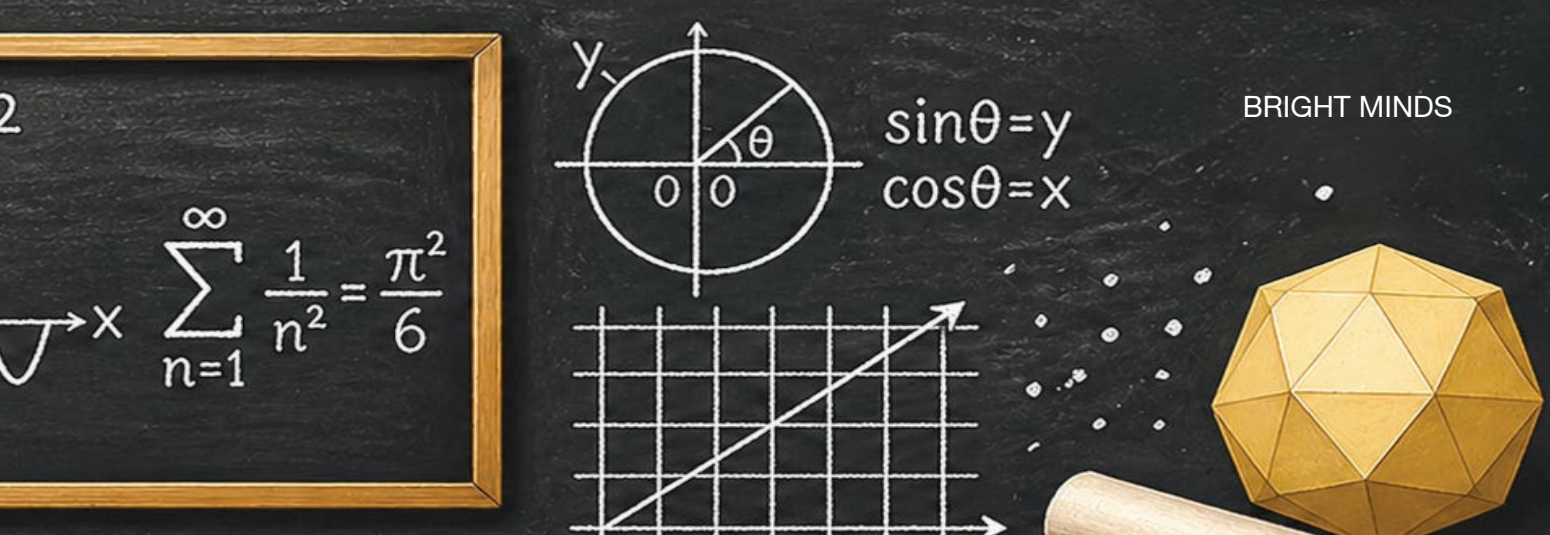
Ziyi’s achievements reflect not only exceptional talent, but also initiative, perseverance, and a genuine passion for mathematics. She is immensely thankful to her teachers – from the support she received during a time of illness, to her involvement in extra-curricular activities such as the robotics team. We congratulate Ziyi on her remarkable accomplishments, and wish her every success.



## CONNECT WITH US

**Whether you’re a student, staff member, alumna, or supporter of Baradene, you can keep up-to-date with the latest school news and happenings via our official website and social media pages.**





# *A World of Mathematical Enrichment*

**Baradene College offers a range of extra-curricular opportunities designed to engage students at all levels and foster a lifelong interest in mathematics.**

These programmes build curiosity, sharpen problem-solving skills, and help students grow into confident and capable mathematicians. Let the problem-solving begin!

## **New Zealand Mathematics Olympiad**

A prestigious national competition that challenges high-achieving students with advanced, proof-based problems. Top performers may be invited to specialised training camps, where students are selected to represent New Zealand at the International Mathematical Olympiad.

## **Australia Mathematics Competition (AMC)**

This global competition focuses on problem-solving and mathematical thinking and is open to students in both senior and junior divisions. Baradene provides dedicated tutoring sessions to help students prepare and excel.

## **Mathematics and Statistics Research Competition**

Run by the University of Melbourne, this competition gives students a taste of mathematical and statistical research. It encourages independent investigation and deeper thinking about real-world applications of mathematics.

## **Mathex**

A thrilling, fast-paced team competition where intermediate and secondary school students race against the clock to solve problems collaboratively. Baradene sends two teams of Year 7–10 students each year, supported by weekly training sessions that help build teamwork, strategy, and quick thinking.

## **Otago Problem Challenge**

A national competition run by the University of Otago Mathematics and Statistics Department for primary and intermediate-age students. It promotes logical reasoning and multi-step problem-solving, and is designed to extend mathematical thinking.

**You can find out more about our Mathematics Faculty and Staff in issue 18 of *Baradene Heart*.**

### **f FACEBOOK PAGES**

facebook.com/baradenecollege  
facebook.com/baradenesport  
facebook.com/baradeneartsandculture

### **📷 INSTAGRAM PAGES**

instagram.com/baradenesports  
instagram.com/baradeneartsandculture  
instagram.com/barabookstagram

### **🌐 BARADENE WEBSITE**

baradene.school.nz

### **✉️ EMAIL CONTACTS**

**General enquiries:** admin@baradene.school.nz

**Enrolment:** enrol@baradene.school.nz

**Heart Magazine:** heartmagazine@baradene.school.nz

**Foundation:** development@baradene.school.nz

# Celebrating 10 years of Growing Heart

The Baradene College Foundation



**Growing Heart celebrates a significant milestone this year – 10 years of supporting Baradene College!**

## A Decade of Impact

Baradene's generous community has made it possible for Growing Heart to provide more than \$1 million in grants to benefit students over the last decade – including approximately \$600,000 for College resources (Makerspace equipment, sports equipment, and musical instruments); approximately \$350,000 to assist deserving students; and more than \$20,000 towards staff professional development. Grants have also been made to support the special character of Baradene. The photos on this page highlight the impact of your donations, and Growing Heart's support for the College over the years.



towards College Resources



to assist deserving students

**Our heartfelt thanks to the past and present parents and grandparents, students, staff, and alumnae who have contributed over the last decade; in many cases, year after year.**

## Looking Ahead

As we look ahead to the coming decade, we recognise how fortunate we are to be part of the Baradene College community and the wider Society of the Sacred Heart RSCJ family. Inspired by the legacy of Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ – and by the Sisters, dedicated staff, Boards, and families who have each played their part in shaping Baradene into the outstanding school it is today – we acknowledge our shared responsibility to carry this legacy forward for future generations of students.

Together, we look forward to the next 10 years of Growing Heart, and the difference we will continue to make.

### Music & Hockey Turf Fit Out



### Makerspace Fit Out



### New Gym Fit Out



# Giving Week 2026

This year marks an exciting new chapter for performing arts at Baradene – Jubilee 1 and 2 will be transformed into the Jubilee Theatre. Giving Week 2026 will raise funds for the equipment and seating needed to create a flexible, fit-for-purpose performance space where students can learn, perform, and discover their talents, ensuring creativity continues to flourish for generations to come.

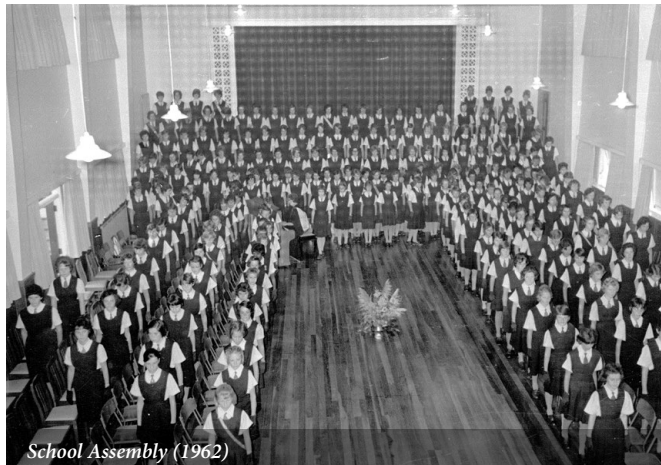
We are excited that this special place in the College (now known as Jubilee 1 and 2) will be transformed into a flexible, modern performance space, while retaining its link to the past. Our longstanding Baradene community members will remember that prior to the mid-1980s, this space was our school hall and the hub for assemblies, drama productions, concerts, prizegivings, debates, and indoor sports.

The new Jubilee Theatre will help all students to build confidence, express their creativity, and strengthen communication and performance skills.

**Please support Giving Week 2026 if you are able to.**



## GROWING HEART



**Stage the Future**  
**BARADENE GIVING WEEK**  
**15-22 May 2026**

An online campaign to raise funds for theatre equipment and seating to transform Jubilee 1 and 2 (the old school hall) into a modern, flexible performance space

**Congratulations to the 2025 Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship recipient, Hiranya Fernando (Class of 2025).**



The Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship was established in 2020 thanks to a generous bequest of \$100,000 from Josephine McHugh (née Barnao), former Principal and alumna of Erskine College. Each year, \$3,000 is awarded to a deserving Year 13 student to provide financial assistance towards the costs of first-year study at a New Zealand university. In 2026 Hiranya will be studying a Bachelor of Science, majoring in Biomedical Science, at the University of Auckland.

**“University is about embracing new experiences, and this scholarship will make achieving these memories, as well as my goals, more attainable.”**

Hiranya says, “With this degree, I am hoping to pursue a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery. I’m looking forward to exploring different pathways to figure out what truly interests me most. At Baradene, I was involved in a range of Science subjects, which ultimately inspired me to pursue this academic path. Volunteering and participating in academic, sporting, and social activities at Baradene also allowed me to develop my passions while forming lifelong friendships. Most importantly, these experiences inspired me to choose a career where I can work with people from all walks of life and make a positive difference. Receiving the Erskine Barnao Scholarship means so much to me, and will allow me to focus on my studies without added stress. I’m incredibly grateful to have been selected for this scholarship in 2025.” We wish Hiranya well as she embarks on her university studies.

**An update from 2024 Erskine Barnao Scholarship Fund recipient, Nikita Nobre.**

“While I initially wanted to pursue Biomedical Science in my first year of university, my plans have since redirected towards studying a Bachelor of Commerce, majoring in Accounting and Commercial Law. This has been a massive but incredible change, and I honestly believe that I’m studying the degree I was always meant to. I will forever be grateful to receive the 2024 Erskine Barnao Fund Scholarship, as it not only provided financial support for my university journey, but also continues to reinforce my commitment to my studies, goals, and supporting the people around me.” All the very best to Nikita with the new direction in which her studies are taking her.



**Hugo Charitable Trust Scholarship**

Our first Hugo Charitable Trust Scholarship recipient, Carolyn Fangupo (Class of 2025), successfully completed her seven years at Baradene.

In Carolyn’s words, “The Hugo Charitable Trust Scholarship has meant much more than financial support. It has given me confidence to gain skills, inspired me to work hard, and has given me a sense of being valued. My family also benefited greatly from it, as it helped my mother with some of the financial strain she has faced due to the passing of my dad when I was seven. Baradene has helped me to become the person I am today. The Focus Goals have taught me to act with compassion, resilience, and honesty, to put my trust in God, become more independent as a person, and develop leadership skills. I am grateful to the teachers who have helped me discover my potential and widen my aspirations. I plan to study midwifery at Auckland University of Technology, and use the knowledge and values I gained at Baradene to help others with compassion and dedication.”

The Hugo Charitable Trust also awarded Carolyn \$5,000 to contribute towards her first-year university fees, in acknowledgment of Carolyn’s efforts and achievements while at Baradene. Our congratulations to Carolyn and our very best wishes for this next chapter.

Our grateful thanks to the Hugo Charitable Trust for their generous support for Carolyn and our other Scholarship recipients. This support has a life-changing impact on their futures.



**“I am excited to begin this new chapter of life, and it has been a great honour to be the recipient of a Hugo Charitable Trust Scholarship.”**

As we mark 10 years of Growing Heart, we are sincerely grateful for the enduring generosity of our wider Baradene community.



**Growing Heart contact details:**

Anna Stone (Class of 1978), Foundation Manager  
Email: [development@baradene.school.nz](mailto:development@baradene.school.nz)  
Phone: 09 524 6019 ext 865



# RSCJ NEWS

## From an historic homecoming to a Jubilee celebration, Baradene's RSCJ community has marked a meaningful year.

In October 2025, we were delighted to welcome descendants of Sir Edwin Mitchelson to Mitchelson House, now home to the Baradene Convent. Sir Edwin (1836-1934) was a timber merchant, Mayor of Auckland, and passionate horticulturalist who sold 24 acres of land at the foot of Victoria Avenue to the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1909, including the original 1860s wooden residence. Originally known as Waitaramoa, it was used as a schoolhouse from 1910 until the opening of Duchesne Building the following year. Christine White, Jane Williams, Sally Spedding, and James Mitchelson toured the house and shared morning tea with Sister Elizabeth Snedden RSCJ and Principal Alexandra Russell during their visit. They fondly recalled their early memories of the house and grounds.

In January this year, we celebrated the Jubilee of Sister Mary Newman-Watt RSCJ – the 70th anniversary of her first vows, which were taken in 1956. Recently the Sisters have also hosted several visitors, including Sister Shell Olson RSCJ, who has worked in the Japanese Province for 26 years. Sister Olson has been teaching maths with calculus in the Society's international school for much of that time, and has enjoyed being around the Baradene Community for several months.

As the new NEANZ (North East Asia, Australia, and New Zealand) Province takes shape, Sister Anne Corry RSCJ has announced her new Provincial Council. Sister Lynette Toohey RSCJ is the new Province Councillor with responsibility for Australia and New Zealand, so we will continue to see her this side of the Tasman over the next few years.



The unique stained glass front door to Mitchelson House is still recognisable today. Left: RSCJ Communities of Remuera and Loreto Hall outside Mitchelson House. Right: BCL Board Chair Justine Williams, Principal Alexandra Russell, and Sister Elizabeth Snedden RSCJ, with Mitchelson descendants Sally Spedding, Jane Williams, James Mitchelson, and Christine White.



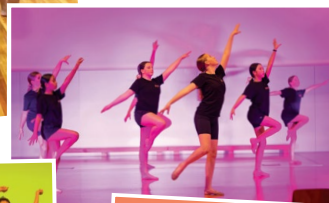
# DANCING THROUGH LIFE

**Baradene College Dance Academy began as a student-led passion project, and continues to go from strength to strength.**

In 2021, a group of Year 12 students formed competitive dance troupes to enter local competitions. This was initially a student-led project – planned, choreographed, and run by the girls themselves. Despite its modest beginnings, it went on to achieve outstanding success in 2022, officially becoming known as Baradene College Dance Academy.

Baradene’s Dance Academy has since evolved into a fully supported programme with professional teachers, dedicated staff, and strong interest from a much wider group of students. Senior students have opportunities to thrive as dance leaders and choreographers, and dancers across all year levels are encouraged to audition. In 2026, 90 dancers across Years 7 to 13 make up the 15 dance troupes in a variety of styles, including Hip Hop, Contemporary, Lyrical, Jazz, and Musical Theatre. The dance troupes have achieved highly in local and national competitions over the past five years, including top placings at National Dance Challenge, Velocity interschool competition, and AIMS Games. The Academy continues to grow in 2026, with new competitions and performance opportunities. Keep an eye on our newsletter and follow our social media accounts @baradeneartsandculture for event updates.

*Early days of Dance Academy: 2022 Dance Academy Student Leaders and rehearsals in masks; National 2022 Dance Challenge group, Dance Showcase, and Year 7 & 8 Hip Hop group, who placed first at both the National Dance Challenge and the Velocity Dance Competition in 2024.*



2026 Baradene Dance Academy auditions






**DANCE  
SHOWCASE**

**WEDNESDAY  
3rd JUNE 6PM  
AUDITORIUM**

**DANCE ACADEMY  
CULTURAL GROUPS  
SOLOS & DUOS  
and more!!!**



KOHA DONATION APPRECIATED

# MUSIC LEADERS 2026

## **Congratulations to our 2026 Music Leaders!**

Baradene's Music Leaders are chosen for their dedication to their music group, alongside their musical ability and leadership qualities. In their roles, they act as mentors and role models to their fellow students, support the musical director with communication and coordination, and take responsibility for the practical running of their group, from managing music and equipment to representing the group at local and national events.



**Sienna Wan and Alaina McDonald**  
Sophia Choir



**Mia Clarke, Kristen Dizon, and Sophie Kim**  
Chamber Music



**Stella Li and Sophie Kim**  
Combined Symphony Orchestra



**Emma Gowen and Amy Liefing**  
Jazz Combo



**Imogen Howie and Piper Hale**  
Schola Cantorum



**Thea Watkins and Sophia Mason**  
Baradene Chorale



**Imogen Howie and Mia Clarke**  
Senior Concert Band



**Rachel Zhai, Anna Zeng,  
and Melanie Li**  
Duchesne Orchestra



**Rachelle Fernando and  
Himaya Fernando**  
Symphonic Band



## STUDENTS ROCK ON

**Baradene's School of Rock gives students the tools, the bandmates, and the stage to find their sound.**

Since its inception four years ago, the School of Rock has welcomed students interested in contemporary music styles, bringing them together to work on group performance and arranging skills, as well as their own compositions. It has been exciting to see both junior and senior students with a range of musical experience forming bands and finding common ground in their interest in rock/pop music. Mentors John Murray (who has been involved with the School of Rock since it started in 2022) and Na'amah Cheiban (new to the programme this year) encourage the students to become comfortable writing and creating music within their bands so that they can express themselves without fear. The bands work towards performing at local competitions, such as Smokefree Rockquest, Play it Strange, and Stand Up Stand Out, as well as various school events. In 2025, senior band Sunfish had a fantastic experience at the Smokefree Rockquest competition, making it to the Regional Finals as one of the top 12 bands in Auckland, receiving a Best Song Award and a Lyric Award. We look forward to seeing the continued growth and success of our student rock bands.

## Our School of Rock Tutors



Na'amah  
Cheiban



John  
Murray

**“The School of Rock programme has really helped me on my music journey, showing me how to connect with others through music, and it has been so great to get this opportunity to do what I love.”**

*~ Violet Conyngham (Year 10)*

**John Murray** studied Jazz Performance on drums at the University of Auckland and has spent the last 12 years working as a professional drummer. He works as a session musician for a variety of folk and rock bands, and on projects for the hip hop and Afro beat community. Having used improvisation as a core songwriting skill for much of his career, he has discovered that learning to create a moment in a group setting is very important, and he has been able to pass on these skills to his students, showing them how to work together to create a good sound. John believes the School of Rock's greatest impact is in teaching students the importance of being able to create freely and simply while overcoming challenges and finding comfort in creative expression.

**Na'amah Cheiban** studied Jazz Performance at the University of Auckland, majoring in singing. She works as a music teacher and session musician. Na'amah has recently been focusing on writing and recording her own compositions in the alternative folk genre, and is looking forward to releasing an EP in 2026. Na'amah enjoys sharing her performance skills, and has learned that it is important to make these relatable to students. She encourages students to see that there is more to music-making than rules, and being flexible is a useful skill. As a new mentor to the School of Rock, Na'amah knows the importance of students having different channels of expression, which is vital to wellbeing, and she promotes the benefits of collaboration and putting yourself out there, which are the keystones of the programme.



# OWN YOUR JOURNEY WITH DUKE OF ED

**The Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award challenges students to discover what they are truly capable of.**

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award was founded 70 years ago in the United Kingdom by the late Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and educator Kurt Hahn, who hoped that by taking part, participants would discover fresh interests and make new friends. Known as the Duke of Edinburgh's Hillary Award here in New Zealand, it celebrates the potential of young people, and strives to create opportunities for rangatahi to dream bigger, push past their limits, and discover their true strengths. The mission of the Award is to build confident, resilient, and capable individuals who are ready to carve their own paths, give back, and make a real impact in our ever-changing world.

Today there are more than 1.3 million participants undertaking this internationally recognised Award at Bronze, Silver, or Gold levels around the world. Each level of the Award has four sections: Physical Recreation (getting fit), Skill (developing an interest or hobby), Service (giving back to the community), and Adventurous Journey. At the Gold level, an additional Residential Project of five days is required.

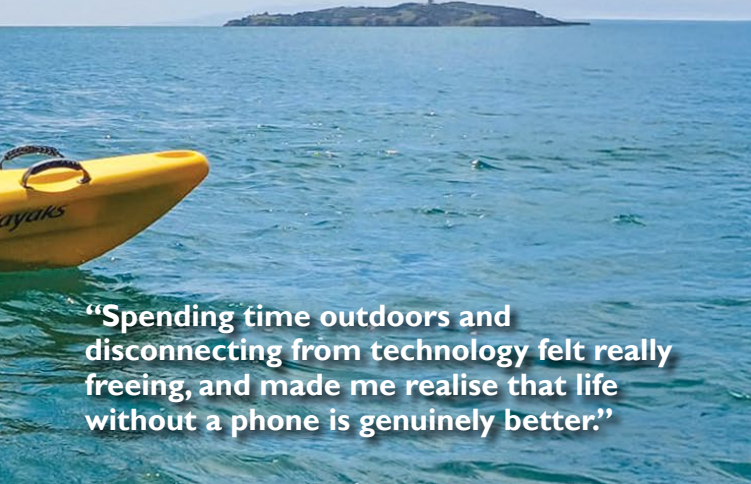
More than 250 students are currently participating in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme at Baradene. Our students begin their journey at Year 10, and can achieve Silver and Gold in



**"It's not always easy, but the feeling of completing a journey makes it worth it."**



**“Stay in the moment and see the journey as a privilege, because I believe we were all very lucky to be able to do this.”**



**“Spending time outdoors and disconnecting from technology felt really freeing, and made me realise that life without a phone is genuinely better.”**



their senior years. Baradene’s 2026 Focus Goal is “Personal Growth in an Atmosphere of Wise Freedom”, and the Award aligns perfectly with this theme. Duke of Ed is all about personal growth, and the programme provides a framework that supports individual students to challenge themselves, develop leadership skills, and make lasting memories with new friends.

**“I learned that I’m capable of so much more, and came back with a stronger belief in myself, and a greater understanding of the type of person I am when met with challenges. More than that, I came away feeling proud of myself, and the confidence that I gained.”**



“Even though there were challenges, I wouldn’t change the experience for anything. It reminded me that sometimes, the most meaningful adventures are the ones that don’t go perfectly, but still leave you with memories that last a lifetime.”

“It was an eye-opening experience that taught both me and my group about teamwork, communication, and perseverance.”

“Think about how rare it is to get the opportunity to traverse through such gorgeous landscapes! Enjoy every moment while you can, even when the weather means you’re stuck looking at the ground to keep the rain out of your eyes.”

“My Silver journey was the best DoE experience ever.”

“While the walk was very challenging, persisting through it with a positive attitude has shown me that challenging yourself is always a worthwhile endeavour.”

“I really enjoyed the trip. It did so much for my confidence and how I view myself, and I created some incredible memories and insights that will stick with me for a long time.”



# ACROSS OCEANS

**Whakapapa**  
My ancestry, the people who  
came before

**Through the lens of whakapapa, Baradene's international students explore the generations of people, places, and stories that have shaped them.**

Each term, our International English classes begin with a theme grounded in Te Ao Māori perspectives. This term, our learning has centred on whakapapa – the idea that each of us is connected through generations of people, places, and stories that have shaped who we are. Whakapapa reminds us that our presence in the world is the result of countless small miracles – the lives, choices, and care of those who came before us. It encourages us to pause and feel gratitude for the generations who have supported us and made our journeys possible.

For our international students, whakapapa stretches across oceans and cultures, linking them back to their home countries, families, and communities. Although they are

studying far from home, they carry with them the values, traditions, and encouragement of the people who love them. These connections remain an important source of strength as they navigate new experiences and opportunities.

As a class, we took time to reflect on these connections and to acknowledge the trust placed in us by the families who send their daughters to study at Baradene. We also recognised the courage of our international students, who step into a new country and culture as they continue the journeys of those who came before them.

Through exploring the concept of whakapapa, our international students are able to celebrate where they come from, share aspects of their own cultures, and recognise the common thread that connects us all – that we show gratitude for the people who support us and carry the responsibility to make the most of the opportunities we have been given.



**Beam Thamphutaraksa**

My whakapapa is my family. I come from Chonburi, Thailand. My parents and my babysitter raised me since I was young, so they are my cheerleaders.



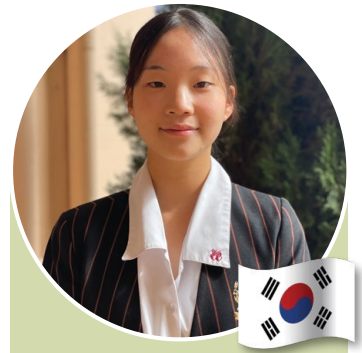
**Yilin Chen**

My whakapapa comes from my family and experiences. I come from my parents who support and care for me. I come from China, and I study in New Zealand. My cheerleaders are my family, friends, and teachers.



**Mia Tombeck**

My whakapapa is that I come from Paris, France. My parents encourage me, as well as my friends and the people close to me.



**Dahae Sung**

My whakapapa is the people and places I belong to. I came from my ancestors, including my parents and grandparents. I am from Gyeong-gi, South Korea. The people who always support me and are my cheerleaders are my family and friends.

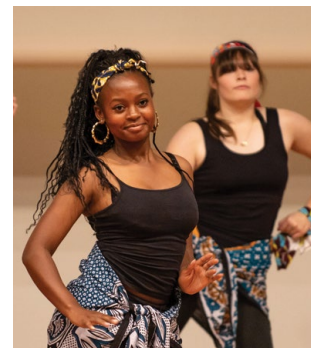


# FIA FIA NIGHT

**Fia Fia Night brought together vibrant performances and proud families to remind us what makes our community truly special.**

On 17 March, Baradene proudly hosted our annual Fia Fia Night, where our cultural groups previewed their upcoming Polyfest performances for family and friends. The evening celebrated culture and the confidence, teamwork, and leadership skills students gain through extra-curricular involvement.

At Baradene, cultural participation allows students to build meaningful connections and gain a deeper understanding of others. Events such as Fia Fia Night highlight the value of commitment beyond the classroom – fostering pride, resilience, and respect. It was a joyful reminder of how shared experiences and diverse traditions bring our community together.





## APS PROGRAMME

**Baradene's Athlete Pathway Support (APS) Programme is built around the whole athlete, supporting every dimension of performance, from field to classroom and beyond.**

Our top young sportswomen lead increasingly busy lives, and Baradene's APS Programme supports their academic, sporting, and personal endeavours, which are critical to achieving optimal success. We believe a solid, holistic programme which supports, encourages, and educates our athletes and their families is necessary and a vital part of our commitment to the total development of our students. In 2026, Baradene's APS student athletes will benefit from:

- Training, testing, and workshops led by trainer Aaron Brabant at AUT Millennium
- Sessions with mental performance coach Dave McKay
- Tips from speaking coach Richard O'Malley
- Advice and input from a nutritionist
- Academic support with Mrs Jackie Wood, Baradene's Director of Teaching and Learning

### Our Mission

We aim to nurture, advise, and support our athletes towards achieving their sporting dreams and aspirations. The essence of a Sacred Heart education is entrenched in total development – spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, cultural, and physical – for our students.

### 2026 APS Members

Name	Year	Sport
Francesca-Lee Asiata	12	Netball
Kahu Barsdell	13	Gymnastics
Billie Burn	12	Rowing, Netball
Mia Collins	13	Triathlon, Cycling
Isla Parsons	13	Archery
Esme Reid	12	Athletics, Football
Eva Houghton	13	Athletics, Cross Country
Dora Slavich	13	Orienteering
Sophie Lonergan	12	Cricket, Football, Skiing
Mia Pepper	13	Cycling
Maggie Bauzon	11	Orienteering, Football, Cricket
Emily Reeves	11	Orienteering, Hockey, Cricket
Madeleine Dwyer	12	Football
Charlotte Shields	11	Cycling, Triathlon
Charlotte Treadgold	11	Cycling, Triathlon
Mikhayla Townsend	11	Ultimate Frisbee, Basketball, Touch



## YSPOTY AWARDS

In November 2025, the College Sport Auckland Young Sportsperson of the Year (YSPOTY) Awards took place. With over 80,000 secondary school students participating in sport across our region, to be named as a finalist at these awards is a great honour. We are very proud of our 2025 YSPOTY finalists:

- **Jaeda Ala'alatoa-Dale** (Archery)
- **Mia Pepper** (Cycling)
- **Amelia Hitchcock** and **Charlotte O'Neill** (Football)
- **Niamh Hoare** and **Kate Robinson** (Orienteering)
- **Helena Dunn** (Touch)
- **Keira Evans** (Water Polo)

# ROWING: 30 YEARS STRONG

**In 2025, Baradene marked 30 years of rowing, a programme that has grown from a small, ambitious squad into one of our most popular sporting codes.**

Long before the rowing club was formally established, students were already competing in Baradene colours. In the 1980s, Amanda Tolley (née Davis, Class of 1987) and Karen Gatt (Class of 1987) rowed as part of the school's earliest crews, laying the groundwork for what would later become a structured and sustained programme. In 2001, Olympic Gold and Silver medallist Dudley Storey became Head Coach. That year, a squad of five won the school's first Maadi Cup medal, taking Gold in the U16 Coxed Four. By 2002, the squad had expanded to 17 athletes, winning Gold in the U15 Eight and Silver in both the U15 Four and U17 Four at the North Island Secondary Schools Championships. In 2003, Baradene secured Maadi Gold in the U18 Pair and Silver in the U18 Eight. A year later, the squad had grown to 32 rowers, collecting multiple medals at both NISS and Maadi. Within a few seasons, rowing had evolved from a small initiative into a competitive, established programme.

That sense of history was tangible at Rhythm and Row, now in its second year as Baradene Rowing's flagship fundraiser. Amanda Tolley and Karen Gatt were present, recognised as part of the earliest Baradene crews. Erin James (née Tolhurst, Class of 2003), a member of the 2001 Gold medal-winning



crew, also spoke to the crowd, reflecting on the early years and the belief that carried a small squad to its first major success. Several of those early athletes went on to compete at higher levels, including nationally and internationally, and have contributed as coaches and supporters over the years.

Olympic rowing champion Rob Waddell also addressed the audience, speaking about preparation, resilience and performing under pressure. His generous donation of two complimentary speaking engagements to the live auction sparked spirited and competitive bidding. Alongside live and silent auctions, raffles and musical bingo, the evening generated significant financial support for seasons ahead.

While medal tallies and growth statistics illustrate progress, the programme's culture is often best described by the athletes themselves. One senior rower spoke about a 2,000 metre race as "1,750 metres of hope and 250 metres of truth". She described the final stretch as the moment when everything hurts, and the body is asking you to stop. What carries you through, she said, is not ego or medals, it's your fellow crew members. In those last strokes, you are not rowing for yourself; you're rowing so that when you look at each other at the finish line, you know no one held back.

Thirty years on, Baradene rowing stands on the efforts of its early pioneers and the achievements of those who followed. Rhythm and Row brought those generations together, a reminder that while crews change, the shared commitment to showing up and doing the work remains constant.

Rowing alumnae and Rob Waddell



# New Codes

**Baradene's golf programme is only two terms old, and the results are already speaking for themselves.**

Golf at Baradene has taken off quickly. Launched in Term 4 of 2025, following strong interest from a number of eager students, the programme now offers two avenues: Lessons at Windross Farm Golf Course in Papakura, and a team competing in the College Sport Auckland Premier weekly competition.

Twenty-six girls currently take part in lessons held on Wednesdays and Sundays at Windross, coached by Kerryn Jamieson, an Auckland-based PGA professional with more than 10 years of international coaching experience. The programme aims to develop strong technical skills, promote good etiquette on the course, and help students build confidence and responsibility in how they play.

For the first time this year, Baradene has a team of three players competing in the College Sport Auckland Premier weekly competition: Suri Lee (Year 7), Charlotte Phillips (Year 8), and Yuri Lee (Year 10). At the time of going to print, the team had secured wins against St Peter's College and Mount Albert Grammar School, gaining valuable course experience with steadily improving consistency and confidence across regular competitive rounds. Later in the year, all three players will compete in the two College Sport Stroke Match Play events.

Suri will also attend AIMS Games and a number of national junior tournaments, while her older sister Yuri will compete in New Zealand Women's Amateur strokeplay events alongside some overseas world-ranked amateur competitors. Currently ranked 25th in the New Zealand Women's Amateur Order of Merit, Yuri began competing locally and in America at the age of six, and has represented Baradene with distinction since Year 7.

Yuri is straightforward about what the sport means to her. "I really love playing golf. Competing and just being on the course is something that makes me happy. It's cool to be able to represent Baradene through golf as well, and let other schools know that Baradene is here to compete. It would be awesome to get more golf teams at Baradene, and grow and share this awesome game." With 26 students already on the course and a competitive team making its mark, that growth looks well underway.

**"It would be awesome to get more golf teams at Baradene, and grow and share this awesome game."**

*~Yuri Lee (Year 10)*



*Far left: Yuri Lee teeing off. Above: Windross golfers. Left: Golf team members.*

## From the fairway to the field, two of our growing sporting codes are ones to watch.

### Four years of growth have turned Ultimate Frisbee into one of Baradene's most exciting rising codes.

Ultimate Frisbee at Baradene has a history stretching back to 2012, but the programme's current momentum really took hold four years ago when Iain Stewart came on board as coach. Since then, the focus has been straightforward: Introduce more girls to the sport and keep the door open to anyone who wants to give it a go.

Almost nobody picks up a frisbee competitively before high school, which means every new player starts from roughly the same place. Mastering the throw is an unusual and satisfying skill, and for those who catch the bug, the pathways are genuine. Auckland's youth-focused women's club Misfits and the New Zealand Under 20 team both offer high-level opportunities, and Baradene alumnae have previously been selected for both.



Coach Stewart has been playing, coaching, and administering the sport for 27 years. He founded the Auckland schools competition in 2010 and the NZSS Ultimate Championships in 2014, and also coaches the New Zealand Under 20 Women's team, who will compete at the World Junior Ultimate Championships in Spain later this year. The team is also assisted by parent Shane Vuleitch, one of New Zealand's best players in the early 2000s and a member of team that won Bronze at the 2004 World Ultimate Championships in Finland, New Zealand's only ever medal at that event.

The squad are now building on winning the AKSS Junior Ultimate Championships last year. Their 2026 season opened with a 21-0 win in the Division 1 College Sport league, and the AKSS Ultimate Championships took place in March. Term 2 brings the AKSS Indoor Championships, and the Baradene A team will compete at the NZSS Ultimate Championships in Taupō for the first time.

The highlight of the season so far has less to do with scorelines and more to do with the growth of Mikhayla Townsend (Year 11), Scarlett McCall (Year 11), and Chloe Liao (Year 12), all of whom have been involved in the New Zealand Under 20 National Training Squad. The leadership they have brought back to the group has lifted the players around them, and that, more than any result, speaks to where this programme is heading.



**"I love playing Ultimate because it is such a kind, welcoming community of people across the country."**

*~ Erin McLean (Year 11)*



# A ROYAL ADVENTURE

## Recent alumna Sofia Bray (Class of 2025) reflects on her inspiring trip to Europe and meeting with Olympic swimmer Charlene, Princess of Monaco.

In June 2025, I travelled to Monaco and Italy, along with teammates from the North Shore Swimming Club, to take part in two competitions, where we were awarded the top-placing club at both. Between the competitions, we trained twice a day, and explored nearby cities.

The first place we travelled to was Monaco, where we were lucky enough to meet Olympic swimmer Charlene, Princess of Monaco. The Princess kindly took our team of around 40 swimmers to dinner at a restaurant near the Circuit de Monaco Formula 1 race track. We also spent a day at the beach with her, and witnessed her interacting with Monaco's residents. Princess Charlene showed such grace and humility, taking a genuine interest in people and giving them plenty of time.

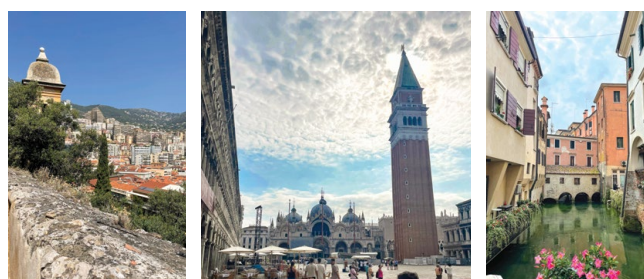


From Monaco, we travelled to Pesaro and Treviso in Italy, where our competitions were held. Finally, on our last day before returning home to New Zealand, we explored Venice.

This incredible trip would not have been possible without the North Shore Swimming Club and the kindness of Princess Charlene. I was so grateful for this unbelievable opportunity, and I enjoyed every second of it.



The timing of our trip meant that the bus driver scheduled to take us to our next destination was unfortunately on strike. Therefore, we were stuck in Monaco for an extra day without accommodation for the night. Our entire team was incredibly grateful to Princess Charlene, who helped us to secure hotel rooms – without her kindness, we would have had nowhere to stay.



# PTA UPDATE

## Outgoing PTA Chairperson Simon Laphorne shares events to look forward to on the PTA calendar.



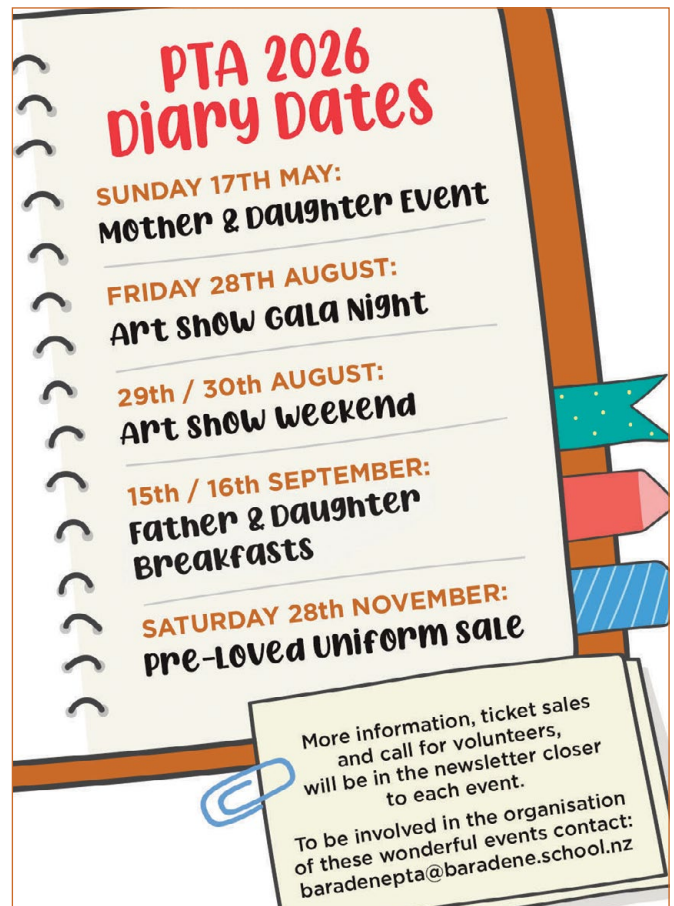
One of the most enjoyable aspects of chairing the Parent Teacher Association is connecting with members of the community. The first event in the PTA calendar is always the Cheese and Wine Evening, which is a great way to meet the new Year 7 parents and to welcome them to the Baradene community. It also provides an opportunity to explain the purpose of the PTA and recruit new members. Special thanks to Fleur Curac and Milli Carnegie, who did a fantastic job organising this year's event, which took place in February. I am also grateful to Craig Patton, Cecilia Ruiz-Acosta, Suzanne Christie, Yiwen Wu, and Karl Blakie for their help on the night. You can see photos from the Cheese and Wine Evening on page 34. PTA events cannot take place without the effort of a committed team, and we are delighted that more than 30 Year 7 parents have signed up to join the PTA committee, or to help at events as a Friend of the PTA.

The next event in the PTA calendar is the Mother and Daughter Event on 17 May. Last year was the first time we hosted an occasion especially for mothers and daughters, and it was a sell-out. We hope this event will become a regular feature in the PTA calendar. This year, the annual Father and Daughter Breakfasts will be on 15 and 16 September 2026.

Our main community event of the year is the Baradene Art Show, which is the longest-running school art show in the country. The 37th edition of the show will take place from 28 to 30 August 2026, with the Opening Gala on Friday, and free admission over the weekend.

The PTA's goal this year is to continue to expand our pool of contributors. If you are interested in a meaningful role with a purpose and would like to join a group of motivated individuals who are driven to support Baradene, promote community, and raise as much as we can for the school, we would love to hear from you. We would also be grateful if you are interested in sponsoring our events, or if you are able to donate raffle prizes to help us to raise funds.

In the next issue of *Baradene Heart*, the PTA looks forward to introducing our incoming Chairperson, Siobhan Wilson.



## Be a part of the PTA!

The PTA offers a valuable link to your daughter's school and will help you to forge relationships with other parents and teachers in the community.

**Email us at:** [baradenepta@baradene.school.nz](mailto:baradenepta@baradene.school.nz)

If you would like to join the PTA or be a Friend of the PTA, we would love to hear from you.

# PTA Cheese & Wine Evening



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE**

**BARA  
DENE  
ART  
SHOW 26**

**GALA NIGHT  
28 AUGUST**

**FREE ADMISSION  
29 TO 30 AUGUST**

**BARADENEARTSHOW.CO.NZ**



St Bernard's Art Studio in Duchesne, 1920.

## Art has been part of Baradene's curriculum from the very beginning.

From drawing and needlework in the first classrooms to a flourishing department with dedicated studio space, the story of art at Baradene reflects both the Sacred Heart philosophy and the evolving place of creative education in New Zealand.

From 1909, the curriculum offered students a broad education that included Mathematics, Science, History of Art, French, Latin, Theory of Music, Plain and Ornamental Needlework, and Advanced Drawing and Painting. In 1914, Janet Erskine Stuart RSCJ, Superior General of the Society of the Sacred Heart, visited New Zealand and brought with her a clearly articulated philosophy. Two years earlier, she had published *The Education of Catholic Girls*, emphasising the training of perception through drawing, using art history to spark both moral reflection and intellectual curiosity. She encouraged teachers to value meaning as well as technique, and to include handicrafts and needlework for grounding.

In the school's early years, one of the most influential teachers was Mother Pia Maria Linder RSCJ. Alongside French and Christian Doctrine, she led classes in History of Art and Architecture and Needlework. As Sister Phyllis Goulter RSCJ later wrote, Mother Linder "did much towards forming the characters and cultivating the minds of generations of girls at Remuera... She was a true educator, full of zeal and enthusiasm, strict but warm-hearted with a lively sense of humour."

For the small group of girls who continued into the higher-level courses, Mother Linder's art and architecture classes were transformative. Decades before art history was taught in New Zealand schools, Baradene students were studying university-level architecture texts and engaging with the great buildings of the world, seeing it as a signature of their Sacred Heart education that gave them "an awareness that there were things in the world worth discovering."

Drawing and painting took place in the art studio (known as St Bernard's) tucked into the basement of the Duchesne building, with lessons occasionally held in the tower. From



A 1903 art history book and 1924 history of architecture book, both held in the Baradene archives; painting class in the Duchesne tower in 1926.

as early as 1925, the school celebrated artistic achievement with annual prizes for drawing, and by the 1930s, students were submitting work to the Royal Drawing Society of London for assessment.

The teaching of art in secondary schools expanded significantly after World War II, driven by a raised school-leaving age (from 14 to 15) and new government regulations placing greater emphasis on art and craft. Specialist teachers trained across a broad range of art practices were now needed. Sister Annett Hanrahan RSCJ arrived at Baradene in 1959. With no dedicated art room available, she became a travelling teacher, moving from class to class with a trolley of supplies, and strings hung across classroom ceilings so wet artwork could be pegged to dry. At her suggestion, art classes shifted from one hour a week to two periods a fortnight, giving students the time and space to be genuinely creative.

In March 1955, a retired tram was converted into a classroom, sprinkled with Holy Water by Mother Winifred Maher RSCJ, and christened St Christopher. It became the much-loved home for art and craft until 1971, when it was removed to make way for a purpose-built art room designed by architect James Hackshaw. Form 7 student Helene Syben (Class of 1971) wrote about it in the school magazine in 1971: "The new art building is composed of three rooms. The main room is an

art study, and there are two smaller ones, one for art reference and filmstrips, and one which will be used as a darkroom for photography. There is a veranda at the back of the building which will be used as a sculpture deck. Overhead windows provide adequate lighting. The walls and ceilings of the building are painted white with wooden beams.”



**ODE TO THE OLD TRAM**

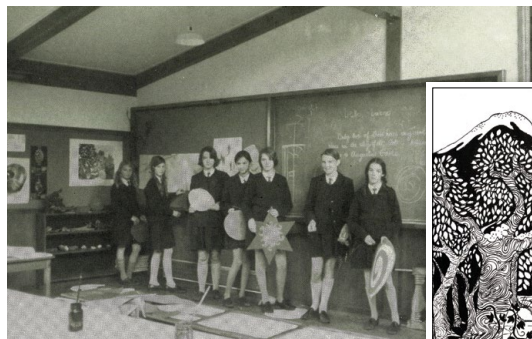
So very old, so very wrecked.  
The antique tram is standing still  
Within the school the tram is decked  
high upon a worn out hill  
so here it lies, but not for long  
beside a wintered swimming pool  
it towered above, where this pool lay  
covered in rust, painted in grey  
the green blue parts the sliding doors  
that jams against the dirty floor  
so green so rare, in fact, unfair  
cause draught excluding, no panes there  
The painted names upon the wall  
of Richard, John, Michael and Paul  
intrigues us till this doom day falls  
for soon the tram shall be no more.

Art Group — F.5.  
Karen Wooliams, Maree Renham  
Alison Tapper, Margaret Southey  
Margaret Brown, Christina Arnold  
Phoebe Austin, Julie Fisher.

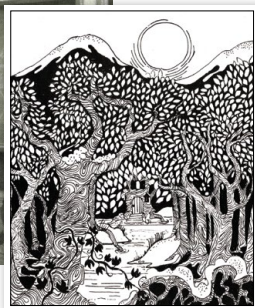


*From top: Mother Gisella Posada RSCJ, visiting from Rome, and Sister Mary Morgan RSCJ with the art tram in 1965; dedication to the tram in the 1971 magazine; tram interior.*

From the 1970s, the art department grew steadily in scope and recognition. In 1974, the artwork of Mary-Louise Browne (Class of 1975), then in Form 6, became the first student piece published in the school magazine. Art History was offered at senior levels, and in 1980, practical art became a university entrance subject. What had begun as drawing lessons in a basement had grown into a full and flourishing discipline at the heart of the school.



*From left: 1972 the new art room which replaced the tram in 1971; 1974 artwork by Mary-Louise Browne (Class of 1975).*



ARCHIVES



Baradene College  
Magazine  
1994



*From top: 1958 Teacher training education in Arts and Crafts at Loreto Hall Catholic Teachers' Training College in Remuera; art class in 1994; the first student artwork on the cover of the 1994 school magazine by Michaela Newell (Class of 1996); Sister Annett Hanrahan RSCJ teaching outdoors in 2005; art class in the new Barat Block, which opened in 2009 with classrooms for Art, Science, and Technology.*

# Alumnae in the Arts



*Kate Mitchell*

After completing a Fine Arts degree, Kate Mitchell (Class of 2011) began working at a local Auckland glass studio. Since then, she has honed her craft and created a signature style, collaborating with brands such as Samsonite, Nike, and Zeffner. She says, “As a multi-disciplinary glass artist, I am constantly inspired by the versatility of glass. Whether I’m glassblowing, casting, or flameworking, I love how the medium blends technical skill with creative freedom. My advice for students is to focus on building a strong foundation of skills. When you master your tools, you gain the confidence to bring any vision to life.”



*Jane Gray*

Painter and ceramic artist Jane Gray (Erskine College, Class of 1975) traces her creative journey back to having free access to the art room as a boarder. Despite being accepted to Elam School of Fine Arts, she initially took a different educational path, though she slipped into Victoria University art lectures and attended the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts in the evenings. She later studied at the Slade School of Fine Art in London, and went on to exhibit widely, sell out at Art Expo Auckland, and co-open a highly successful Havelock North gallery – home to New Zealand’s first-ever Salon des Refusés. Her advice to budding artists: “Keep learning, chase new ideas, and don’t let anything stand in your way.”



*Betty Chung*

A registered architect by day and ceramic artist by night, Betty Chung (Class of 2002) has built a career where precision and creativity reinforce each other. She says, “What I love most is shaping form and texture in ways that merge architecture, craft, and culture. Balancing a dual career (architecture and ceramics) keeps my practice inventive. Baradene has always felt like home – a foundation I continue to grow from. Being able to mentor students following Baradene’s Careers Evening has been deeply rewarding, especially when they report back that they’ve secured architectural roles early. Your path may not be easy, but perseverance is everything.”

Art is an important part of a well-rounded education, and its value extends far beyond the classroom. Six alumnae reflect on creative careers built on strong foundations – and why nurturing creativity in young people matters more than ever.

ALUMNAE



St. Patrick's Cathedral Square Artwork



## Alisha Lovrich

Alisha Lovrich (Class of 2011) is a freelance photographer, creating bold, dynamic imagery across sport, corporate, events and editorial work. With a background in graphic design and digital media, she has a strong eye for composition, colour, and storytelling. Her lifelong involvement in sport naturally drew her into sports photography. Alisha now works both nationally and internationally covering major events such as the Olympics. Whether documenting fast-moving action, crafting editorial portraits, or capturing people doing what they love, Alisha loves connecting with others and creating imagery with energy, clarity, and heart.

## Mary-Louise Browne

Mary-Louise Browne (Class of 1975) holds a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Auckland and works at the forefront of text-based conceptual practice. Her work investigates the nature of art and the viewer's role in its interpretation, using text in place of imagery to explore the metaphoric and visual qualities of language. She has contributed to significant exhibitions across New Zealand and overseas, and her public art commissions are woven into Auckland and Wellington's cityscapes. We are honoured to have one of her works at Baradene – *Transmutation: Give to Gift*, a sculpture made from reclaimed Jubilee Chapel marble, is installed on the lawn in front of the Duchesne building.

## Ella Neal

Ella Neal (Class of 2018) was originally on a path to pursue engineering, but she found her passion in fine art and hasn't looked back. "The print studio is my happy place. I love printmaking because it is process-based and requires layered thinking. The making is immersive. Art education creates critically strong thinkers. Art school taught me that's it's not about giving the right answers but rather about asking the right questions. Creative problem-solving and an eye for beauty are superpowers nurtured through art education – skills which will help us remain hopeful in an ever-changing world."



# ALUMNAE NEWS

## **Alumnae Association President Karla Brennan (Class of 1992) shares news from a busy year of alumnae celebrations.**

Alumnae events remind us just how special our Baradene alumnae community is. The Cor Unum Alumnae Meritae Award and High Tea in November 2025 was a beautiful celebration. It was one of those afternoons where the room felt full – not just of people, but of pride, shared history, and heart. At the event, we were delighted to honour our Meritae Award recipient, Elizabeth Jones (Class of 1975), who has made an incredible impact in the field of literacy in New Zealand. Elizabeth’s life of service and dedication reflects the values nurtured at Baradene. Her leadership, generosity, and commitment to community are a reminder that a Baradene education does not end when the school bell rings. It was a privilege to recognise Elizabeth’s contribution and celebrate her alongside alumnae who know firsthand the impact of living out our values.

Piano music by Sophia Lai (Class of 2025) provided a special touch to this important event. Sophia was the 2024 recipient of the Deirdre McKay Piano Award, a scholarship given to a promising Year 11 piano student to assist with the cost of piano tuition. Deirdre McOnie (née McKay, Class of 1964) established the Cor Unum Alumnae Meritae Award High Tea in 2013 while on the alumnae committee, and hearing from one of the recipients of Deirdre’s generosity was a wonderful way to honour her memory.

The spirit of connection was alive at the Class of 2021 5-Year Reunion, held in February in the Conservatoire de Musique. Friendships were rekindled, stories flowed, and laughter echoed through familiar spaces. Life may have moved quickly since leaving Baradene, but the bond remains – and stepping back onto campus felt very much like coming home. See photos from this event on page 42.

These moments don’t happen by accident. Our Alumnae Committee continues to bring enthusiasm, organisation and humour to everything we do, with deep love for our alumnae community. We’re always on the lookout for alumnae who would love to be part of the fun, whether you bring big ideas or just a love of staying connected. Please reach out at [alumnae@baradene.school.nz](mailto:alumnae@baradene.school.nz) to get involved.

Saint Madeleine Sophie Barat RSCJ believed education was about forming the whole person for life. Our reunions and get-togethers are expressions of that vision – care, connection, and purpose, shaping friendships that span decades. The Baradene alumnae heart continues to grow, and we are richer for it.

As this issue went to print, plans were underway for our Boarders & Friends Reunion on 3 May. It had been more than 40 years since boarding ended, and alumnae boarders from Baradene and Erskine College, along with day girls from the boarding years, were warmly welcomed to come together to celebrate this important chapter in our history. You can read more about this event in the next issue of *Baradene Heart*.



# 2025 Cor Unum Alumnae Meritae Award and High Tea





# Class of 2021: 5-Year Reunion



# DR VIVIENNE HUNT

**Dr Vivienne Hunt (Class of 1974) has built a remarkable career at the intersection of science, commerce, and research leadership.**

When Dr Vivienne Hunt thinks back on her years at Baradene, curiosity is the thread that runs through everything. “This was pre-internet, so finding information required ingenuity,” she recalls – including, rather notoriously, cutting pictures from the family encyclopaedia. Several of her Baradene teachers left a lasting mark, including Sister Hill, Ms Kearney, and Miss O’Connor, who taught Latin, where Vivienne was one of only two students in the class.

Her Latin result in School Certificate would prove unexpectedly useful. A Technical Manager at a dairy company (now part of Fonterra), intrigued by a job candidate who had studied classics, offered Vivienne her first role as a Laboratory Technician. Vivienne hadn’t pictured herself in science – her subjects were Latin, French, History, English, and Biology. But once employed in a laboratory, she discovered a genuine aptitude. She studied microbiology and biochemistry while working full-time, and was eventually promoted to Quality Control Manager, the first woman to hold the role in the company. “I didn’t set out to have a career in science,” she says. “It found me.”

The next pivot came in 1987, when Vivienne was invited to a goal-setting workshop for women at the University of Auckland. Research showed women were less likely to apply for senior roles unless they felt fully qualified, and the workshop prompted her to think beyond her existing role. Within a year, she had moved into the marketing side of the food sector and enrolled in an Executive MBA. She later became Marketing Manager at Kraft Foodservice, launching a new business unit in the same year she gave birth to her daughter Julia Hunt McNeur (Class of 2009) and completed her degree. “That period taught me that science and business are not separate worlds. Combining them allows innovation to reach markets and improve lives,” Vivienne says.

After working in New Zealand and London’s food industries, she taught Market Research at Auckland University of Technology while completing a PhD, then joined UniServices at the University of Auckland, managing partnerships between academic researchers and industry clients. “Universities generate knowledge, industry understands markets, and government shapes policy,” she notes. “When these sectors collaborate, innovation moves faster and has greater impact.”



A defining chapter came with eight years in Singapore. As President of the New Zealand Chamber of Commerce, Vivienne led a board supporting New Zealand companies entering Southeast Asia, hosting ministerial and prime ministerial visits and working closely with NZTE and MFAT. She also established Māia (meaning “courage”), a network for Kiwi women in the region. “Many women found professional pathways constrained by visa structures or entrenched networks,” Vivienne explains. “Māia was about visibility, confidence, and collective support.” At Abbott Nutrition, she led research into nutrition interventions for vulnerable populations, including the elderly and people with chronic conditions, and secured SGD\$7 million in Singapore government funding for an interdisciplinary centre focused on healthy ageing.

**“Science only fulfils its purpose when it translates into measurable improvements in people’s lives.”**

Since returning to New Zealand, Vivienne has served as a Director of NukuToi Limited, focused on Māori economic development and international partnerships. She sees significant opportunity for New Zealand to move beyond commodity exports. Of approximately NZ\$62 billion in food exported last year, less than NZ\$5 billion was in high value-added products. “The future lies in precision fermentation, nutraceuticals, and sustainably produced nutritional products – particularly when we align science with indigenous knowledge and global markets.”

Her advice to a Baradene student wondering whether she belongs in science? “Belonging begins with curiosity. There is no single type who belongs in STEM. Science needs diverse thinkers, communicators, and leaders. If you are curious and willing to learn, you absolutely belong.”

# LONDON CALLING

## Alumna Crissy Sanders (Class of 2020) shares how Baradene Connect led her to a front door in London – and a friendship she didn't expect.

I attended Baradene between 2014 and 2020, and have fond memories of the sense of sisterhood and belonging I felt as a student. After graduating, I moved to Dunedin to study at the University of Otago, where I had an enjoyable time skiing, tramping, exploring the South Island, and making some of my closest friends. I studied a Bachelor of Health Sciences, majoring in Public Health, discovering a field that really interested me. After finishing my degree, I moved to Kiribati and spent half a year living



*Crissy in Kiribati*

there, working for ChildFund on a community nutrition programme. It was a formative experience – challenging at times, but also really wonderful and memorable.

In August 2024, I moved to London to start a Master's degree in Global Health and Development at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, as a Georgetti Scholar. The programme brought together students from all around the world, and it was an amazing year of learning, not only about health, development, politics, and global aid, but also about myself.

I'm now working in local government in Essex, coordinating a food insecurity programme. My role involves working closely with food banks, non-profit supermarkets, and community cafés to strengthen support for people facing financial hardship. Our aim is to build a more sustainable and community-centred food system and tackle food insecurity.

When I first moved to London for my Master's degree, I didn't know anyone there, and wasn't sure of where to live or where to look for a part-time job. A Baradene friend suggested I try Baradene Connect, so I searched for alumnae based in London who were open to connecting with people new to the city. After sending a couple of messages through the platform, I connected with Yasmine Bassili (Class of 1991), who kindly welcomed

me to stay with her when I arrived in London – for as long as I needed to find my feet! I remember arriving at Yas's place after the long trip to London, and nervously knocking on her door. She greeted me with the warmest welcome, and we got on well straightaway. Yas was very generous and kind, helping me settle into life in London and find my way around. I ended up living with her for about six weeks. We shared many meals together (Yas is an amazing cook!), got to know each other well, and I looked after her house while she was overseas.



*Crissy & Yasmine*

Yas and I still see each other regularly. Just the other weekend, we went for a walk in Epping Forest together, and sometimes we meet for lunch or dinner somewhere in the city. I've also got to know her family in London, and have even babysat for them. It's wonderful that what started as a connection through Baradene Connect has turned into a special friendship.

### What advice would you give to those who want to connect with other alumnae on Baradene Connect?

I think the biggest thing is simply to reach out. There are a lot of people who are often very happy to help – they just won't know you need it unless you ask. If you're moving somewhere new, don't be afraid to send a message. It can feel intimidating arriving in an unfamiliar country and trying to find your place there, and it's always comforting to hear a Kiwi accent and share a common background.

And if you're already settled somewhere, even a small gesture can make a big difference. Offering advice, meeting for a coffee, or just sending a message can really help someone. London can be a tough (and expensive) place to land. I'm really grateful for the warm welcome I had when I arrived, and I think it comes back to the "pay it forward" idea – so I try to do that where I can. I try to make people from home feel welcome to the city, whether they're staying for a short time or longer. If you find yourself moving over and need a friendly face or a bit of advice over coffee, you're always welcome to reach out.

# Baradene Connect

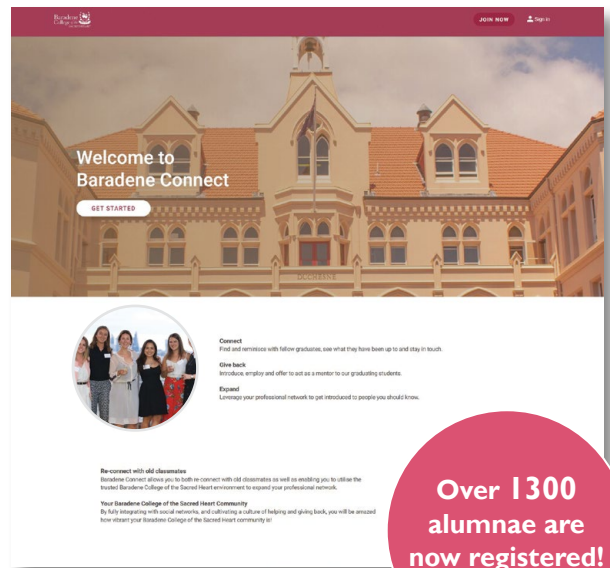
A DEDICATED ONLINE COMMUNITY FOR BARADENE ALUMNAE



Baradene Connect enables alumnae to connect wherever they are in the world, and to foster personal, professional, and mentoring relationships.

## BARADENE CONNECT brings our alumnae together by providing:

- A running feed of alumnae news, photos, and events
- A directory of alumnae, allowing you to search and connect with alumnae around the world, including by geographic location, year group, occupation, interests, and more
- The opportunity to be mentored by or offer mentorship to fellow alumnae
- A Jobs Board for alumnae to post employment opportunities
- A Business Directory to promote your business to fellow alumnae
- Groups for alumnae to engage with each other (class of, location, or industry)



## REGISTER NOW!

Visit [www.baradeneconnect.co.nz](http://www.baradeneconnect.co.nz) on any device to register and start connecting

## SPREAD THE WORD

Please share Baradene Connect with other Baradene alumnae so we can continue to build a vibrant online community. Erskine alumnae are also welcome to join!

Different paths, but a shared purpose – these alumnae bring Cor Unum to life through their commitment to others and the communities they serve.

## KATE MOODABE (Class of 1983)



**Kate Moodabe has spent nearly four decades reshaping primary healthcare in Aotearoa to be more equitable.**

Kate Moodabe, General Manager of Total Healthcare PHO, was named the 2025 New Zealand Primary Healthcare Awards | He Tohu Mauri Ora ProPharma Supreme Winner, recognising nearly 40 years of work advancing health equity. Judges praised her “remarkable and measurable outcomes,” particularly her leadership in improving access by taking healthcare into communities and working beyond traditional models. Known for her energy and determination, her recognition reflects a significant impact on health equity in Aotearoa.

She has championed the national introduction of HPV self-testing to reduce cervical cancer deaths, following a 2018 feasibility study that showed significantly higher uptake among Māori and Pasifika women. Her advocacy helped drive the nationwide rollout in 2023.

Kate has also led community partnerships, including a collaboration with BBM Motivation delivering medical and psychological support to Māori and Pasifika through the From the Couch programme, addressing obesity-related inequities. Earlier in her career, she established rural marae health services and helped develop New Zealand’s first electronic cardiovascular decision-support tool.



Source: [totalhealthcare.co.nz/news/supreme-national-primary-health-award-for-total-healthcare-gm](https://totalhealthcare.co.nz/news/supreme-national-primary-health-award-for-total-healthcare-gm)

## VERONICA KIRISOME (Class of 2011)

**When her life changed direction, Veronica Kirisome refused to give up on her dreams.**

Veronica Kirisome’s path to becoming a law graduate is marked by resilience, faith, and determination. She began a conjoint Arts and Law degree at the University of Auckland, completing a BA in Criminology and Sociology. After being in the workforce for a few years, she returned to the University of Auckland to continue her Law degree. Just as she was accepted into law school at the University, Veronica discovered she was expecting a baby, and considered whether she might need to delay her studies. During lockdown, she decided she would pursue both motherhood and law, naming her daughter Lucía, meaning “light”, as a symbol of that clarity. She set a goal to graduate before Lucía turned five – and did so in September 2025, just one month before her daughter’s fifth birthday.

Raised in a traditional Sāmoan household, Veronica grew up watching her parents work long hours to support their children’s education, shaping her own commitment to

learning. Balancing study and parenting was challenging, but Veronica built a disciplined routine and deliberately chose demanding papers to strengthen her skills. She credits her success to the support of her family – especially her parents – faith, friends, and mentors at Auckland Law School. Now volunteering at a community law centre and as a migrant advocate, Veronica hopes to work in employment and sports law, serving Pacific communities.



Source: [auckland.ac.nz/en/news/2025/09/11/law-and-lucia-graduate-hits-law-degree-for-six.html](https://auckland.ac.nz/en/news/2025/09/11/law-and-lucia-graduate-hits-law-degree-for-six.html)

# Alumnae Milestones

Share with us in celebrating Baradene alumnae and the significant moments in their lives.

In September 2025, **Stella Bilger (Class of 2022)** achieved a career highlight, winning the iQFOiL Under-23 World Championships in Portugal. Following this success, Stella was named the NZL Sailing Foundation Young Female Sailor of the Year in November.



Photos: Yachting New Zealand

**Amélia Rojas (Class of 2023)** has been cast as Heather Duke in *Heathers the Musical*, which will be touring New Zealand and Australia from April. In 2025, Amélia made her professional debut performing the role of Roxie Hart in Christchurch during the tour of *Chicago the Musical NZ*.



In January, **Jane Patterson ONZM (Class of 1985)** was appointed Interim CEO of Netball New Zealand. This is another high-profile appointment for Jane, who has over 30 years experience in the professional sport and events industry. You can read more about Jane in Issue 11 of *Baradene Heart*.

**Zosia Herlihy-O'Brien (Class of 2018)** was recently selected as one of the first Royal Albert Hall Organ Scholars. This 12-month scholarship will be led by Royal Albert Hall Organist Anna Lapwood MBE, and aims to advance a young organist's key skills. After completing her Bachelor of Music at the University of Auckland, Zosia was accepted into the Royal Academy of Music in London and moved to the UK to further her music studies, specialising in organ, violin, and conducting. In 2024, Zosia was appointed the resident Organist at the Charterhouse in London, where she is the second female organist to ever hold the position.



Congratulations to **Maddie Tyson (Class of 2016)** on her recent engagement to her partner, Liam. The couple became engaged in November 2025 and are excited to celebrate their wedding later this year.



**Elyse Tse (Class of 2021)** won her first professional doubles title in February at the ITF W15 Monastir Tennis Tournament in Tunisia. In 2025, Elyse graduated from Washington State University, where she was on a Tennis scholarship. In 2025, she was also named to the New Zealand Billie Jean King Cup team.

Photo: International Tennis Federation

**Ruby Hosking (Class of 2019)** recently graduated from the University of Otago Medical School with Distinction, and also received the Dr Emily Siedeberg Prize, named for the first female medical graduate of the University of Otago in 1896. The prize is awarded to the top female graduate across all three campuses.



In February, National Honours rower **Lucy Burrell (Class of 2020)** had a new Baradene Rowing boat named in her honour and blessed in a special ceremony. The new 4x boat was fundraised for by the Baradene Rowing community and as well as honouring Lucy, it serves as recognition of the Burrell family's longstanding contribution and support for Baradene Rowing.



# In Memoriam

**We remember all alumnae and members of the Baradene community who have recently passed.**

**Elizabeth Wright (Class of 1959)** died peacefully on 20 August 2025, aged 83. Elizabeth began at Baradene as a five-year-old, and completed her final year of schooling at Woldingham School in Surrey, also a school in the Sacred Heart network. She returned from England in time to enrol at university, where she studied Law. Elizabeth was admired for her sense of humour, intelligence, integrity, and generosity, and was greatly concerned for justice and fairness in our communities. She was the greatly loved and respected wife and partner of Eric Allan, as well as a sister, sister-in-law, and aunt. Elizabeth's life was celebrated with a Requiem Mass at St Michael's Catholic Church in Remuera.



**Jennifer "Jenny" Hart (Class of 1962)** passed away on 19 January 2026, aged 81. Jenny was a beloved sister, sister-in-law, aunt, and great-aunt. She worked at the University of Auckland Library for many years, serving as manager of the Short Loan Collection, and later as the Indexing Librarian, before retiring in 2007. She was remembered as a great advocate for library assistants, acting as their union representative. Jenny remained close to several Baradene friends. A Requiem Mass was held at St Michael's Catholic Church in Remuera.

**Dorothy Bennett (Class of 1947)** passed away on 9 January 2026, aged 95. Dorothy was one of three boarders who came to Baradene from Rarotonga in 1944. She attended for four years, and in her final year, she was awarded the Seventh Blue Ribbon. Dorothy was very active in the Baradene alumnae community; she attended almost every alumnae event. In 2017, Dorothy spoke at the Alumnae Meritae Award High Tea on behalf of her friend and fellow boarder Wanda Ellis QSM (Class of 1947), who was receiving the award. A Requiem Mass was held at the Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Glendowie, where Dorothy was a much-loved and dedicated parishioner.



*Dorothy in 1947*

**Anne Rodgers (former Deputy Principal)** passed away on 22 September 2025, aged 83. Anne dedicated a milestone 25 years to Baradene. She was remembered by alumnae as a superb senior English teacher and senior mistress, always supporting students in their endeavours, particularly student committees, which she believed provided them with leadership opportunities and confidence. Anne began as Form 3 Dean in 1979, became Senior Mistress in 1992, Assistant Principal in 1994, and then served as Deputy Principal from 1998 to 2003. Her daughters, Catherine Rodgers (Class of 1981) and Jacqueline Rodgers (Class of 1982), attended Baradene, as well as her granddaughter, Sarah Rodgers (Class of 2003), and her cousin, Stephanie Rodgers (Class of 2001).



**Erskine College alumna Elizabeth Whyte (née Foot)** passed away on 12 August 2025. Elizabeth was one of three sisters who attended Erskine, along with many of their cousins. She trained as a nurse, then earned a degree in Religious Studies and English. She subsequently taught and worked at the Office of Treaty Settlements. Elizabeth maintained a large group of friends from her school days, and many were present in at her Requiem Mass at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart in Wellington, where she was an active member. Elizabeth retained a lifelong love for the Society of the Sacred Heart, attended international AMASC conferences, and visited Baradene's RSCJ community when in Auckland. She had four children with her husband, Malcolm Whyte.

**Erskine College alumna Piera McArthur ONZM (née Monro)** passed away on 23 October 2025, aged 96. Piera was one of New Zealand's leading contemporary artists, remembered for the joie-de-vivre and optimistic energy that radiated from her work and her life. Piera spent many years living and working abroad, and while painting in Moscow, she became the first New Zealander to hold a solo exhibition at the New Tretyakov Gallery, where her work earned international acclaim. Piera married diplomat John McArthur and raised six children. She was a beloved grandmother to 19 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. In the 2012 New Year Honours, Piera was appointed an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the arts. A funeral service for Piera was held at Old St Paul's in Thorndon, Wellington.



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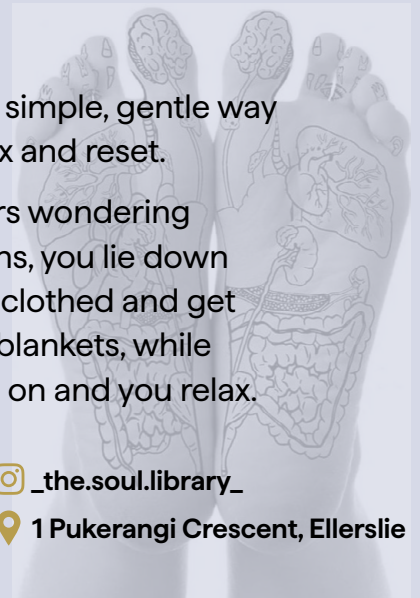
Reflexology can be a simple, gentle way to help the body relax and reset.

And for any teenagers wondering what actually happens, you lie down on a comfy bed fully clothed and get tucked under warm blankets, while your feet are worked on and you relax.

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*Form 2 students on the annual tramp through the Waitakere Ranges, November 1990.  
Led by Mr Smith, this six-day, 70km adventure became a much-loved tradition for a number of years.*

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