

## **Annual General Meeting Report—Wednesday, October 24, 2018**

It is my great pleasure to welcome our St. Clement's community to the Annual General Meeting this evening, and to present to you my report on the 2017-2018 school year. As always, I am very proud to share with you the many successes our students and School have enjoyed over the year.

This past year saw the completion of our first year of our 2017-2020 Strategic Plan which was an extended focus on past priorities including Excellence in Teaching and Learning, Leveraging our Close-Knit Community, and Ensuring Future Sustainability. We are pleased with our accomplishments to date including, but not limited to:

- The launch of our new St. Clement's School timetable from Grades 1-12, to optimize student learning, well-being and programming. This new model affords additional instructional time while also providing for later start times and between class travel-time, predictability affording curricular and co-curricular opportunities for partnerships, and weekly time for teachers to collaborate, learn, and continue to enhance their practice without impacting the co-curricular program
- The launch of SCSCConnect, a powerful platform for our Alumnae that facilitates mentoring and networking between Alumnae and between our Alumnae and our School
- An enhanced approach to engaging our community in our programming including podcasts, parent workshops and time in Parents' Association meetings to present, discuss and answer questions about particular areas of program
- Launch of new innovative programs including a Partnership with Consumer Design / OCADU affording our senior girls the opportunity to work on a real world problem through the design process, and in our Summer Program, Future Teens TO summer program where Kate Raynes-Goldie, an alum from '00, developed and delivered a 5-day course for SCS students, a STEAM program for students going into Grades 5 and 6
- The ongoing and careful development of a Campus Master Plan that incorporates principles, priorities and short, medium and long term steps
- The continued priority on diversity to ensure that we continue to more purposefully create and engage a community that understands and embraces diversity and ensure that our curriculum better reflects and addresses diverse pedagogy, content and offerings. Over the last two years, our Diversity Task Force, comprised of staff and students, has worked with a facilitator to enact our Diversity Strategy which included finalizing our School Diversity Statement, our definitions of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and our Year 2 next steps

Academic excellence is the quality for which St. Clement's has been best known through history. Our 64 graduates of 2018 were accepted into their universities of choice in Canada, the United States, and abroad, and were awarded over \$1.1 million in scholarships. Six of our 2018 graduates started their next stage of learning internationally – one at Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, one at University of Oxford, England, two at University of St. Andrews, Scotland, and two at New York University in the USA. 57 are studying at Canadian universities of every size and in every region.

The Class of 2018 is engaged across many fields of study:- Life Sciences, including medical science, biomedical sciences, psychology, health science and kinesiology; Applied Science, including mathematics and computer science; Engineering, including biomedical, systems design, mechanical, nanotechnology and environmental; Business Administration, including commerce, finance and management; Media Studies, including media, information and technoculture and communication studies; Architecture; Liberal Arts and Social Science; Combined Arts and Science; Concurrent Education; professional programs, including medicine and dentistry.

Another notable achievement of our 2018 Grads and their parents is that they are the fourth graduation year in a row to endow a Grad Class Scholarship Fund for financial aid by raising \$34,115. This outstanding achievement leaves a legacy with which each girl can connect in the years ahead. It also reinforces an example for future graduating classes. The securing of endowments for financial aid support enables the School to fulfil what has always been a priority - ensuring that mission-fit girls regardless of means are able to attend St. Clement's.

Advanced Placement (AP) results were very strong last year with St. Clement's producing an outstanding 31 AP Scholars; 6 AP Scholars with Honour; 14 AP Scholars with Distinction and 4 National AP Scholars. One student received her AP International Capstone Diploma, and two students received their AP Capstone Diplomas. SCS students wrote 234 AP exams in 17 subject areas and our winners of the AP National Scholars Award yet again made SCS one of the top AP Girls School in Ontario.

Our students are involved in many academic contests and competitions over the school year, and continue to achieve impressive results.

St. Clement's students wrote many Math and Science contests this year and achieved high standards relative to their peers in other schools:

#### Math

- We had outstanding results in the Math contests in 2017-2018. 110 or 45% of our Grade 9 to 12 students prepared for and wrote optional contests - our Grade 9 team consistently ranked in the top schools in Canada

- In the Waterloo competitions we had 55 students in Grades 9 to 12 receive certificates of distinction for being in the top 25% of all contest writers
- In the Fryer Competition one Grade 9 student scored a perfect score of 40 and is among only eight students out of the over 5,000 who wrote the contest to do so
- St. Clement's School teams placed an incredible 9<sup>th</sup> in Canada in the Pascal Contest and 13<sup>th</sup> in Canada in the Fryer - both of these University of Waterloo contests are written by thousands of students across Canada and St. Clement's was the only girls' school in Canada to crack the top 50 - being in the top 10 was an incredible achievement for our students and for the School as a whole
- The Math department is working on innovative teaching and math mindset - they are developing new assessment strategies along with investigative and problem based frameworks for teaching and learning mathematics

### Science

- Chem 13 News Exam, sponsored by the University of Waterloo, is an optional contest written by AP Chemistry students; last year we had 15 students write the exam
- Physics contest, the Ontario Association of Physics Teachers (OAPT) sponsor this new Grade 11 Physics contest which saw five students write
- Science Opportunities:-
  - Toronto Youth STEM and Innovation Conference (formerly the STEMInism Conference) is a student run inter-school conference that brings together students from schools across the GTA to learn about, and explore the STEM fields. The conference features lectures and workshops from a diverse group of renowned industry leaders and gives students the opportunity to share ideas and inspire a passion for the sciences. Each year (since 2015) two St. Clement's students are on the organizing committee planning the event and it is open to students in Grades 9 to 12 to attend. In 2018 we had 15 students attend.
  - Regenerative Medicine one-day workshop at U of T brings together motivated students in Grades 10 to 12 from schools across the city to learn about regenerative medicine and explore the leading-edge research taking place in Toronto. The day includes a crash course in regenerative medicine offered by leading U of T scientists, engineers and doctors. The workshop explored novel regenerative medicine discoveries and how these discoveries become new treatments for a range of diseases and participants discussed the importance of scientific literacy in a media-filled world. Ten students from SCS attended last year.

In the Social Sciences, students were offered and took part in a variety of co-curriculars beyond the walls of SCS. Clementines acted as delegates at the Southern Ontario Model United Nations and had a team participate in the Global Ideas Institute in association with the Munk School at the University of Toronto, where Certificates of Merit were awarded to each of the six SCS students for

their work on the topic of "food insecurity in post-secondary institutions in the GTA." Social Sciences students from Grades 7 to 12 participated in the 2018 Canadian Geography Challenge, and students took part in DECA's Ontario Regional Tournament, with a number advancing to the Ontario Provincial Finals.

Our Languages Department had many achievements last year:-

#### French

- 12 students represented SCS at the Concours D'art Oratoire, the French public speaking contest for Independent schools, seven students from the Junior School competed at the Toronto Montessori Schools in Richmond Hill, and five Upper School students represented SCS at the Alliance Française
- A Grade 5 student and a Grade 7 student each won 1<sup>st</sup> place in their category and represented SCS at the provincial level that was held on May 5 at York University

#### Classical Languages

- 36 Senior Classics and Latin students took part at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ontario Student Classics Conference at Brock University where the theme highlighted Seneca's quote: 'It's not because things are difficult that we do not dare, but because we do not dare that things are difficult.'
- SCS brought home notable awards including placements in:-
  - Greek History
  - Latin Sight Translation
  - Latin Vocabulary
  - Live Performance
  - School Display
  - Chariot Design and Chariot Race
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in Field Events
- Medusa Mythology Exam written in the winter saw:-
  - one of our students win the Corona Olivae certificate
  - one of our students win the Corona Laurea certificate for Superior Achievement
- National Latin Exam written in the spring saw:-
  - four students receive certificates of achievement
  - four students achieve results cum laude
  - one student achieve results magna cum laude
  - and three students awarded silver, maxima cum laude for their achievements
- National Classical Etymology Exam is optional where students examine English words derived from Latin and Greek roots:-
  - two students won Bronze medals
  - five students won Silver medals

- o six students won Gold medals

Our students' literary talents continue to gain recognition. *Papyrus*, our annual SCS student art and literary magazine, received a ranking of Excellent in the 2017 NCTE Program to Recognize Excellence in Student Literary Magazines. SCS was one of only eight schools, and the only school in Ontario, to receive this award.

2017/18 was another busy year for our St. Clement's debating and public speaking team, as we continue to develop and enhance this program. Our girls competed in both Fulford League and OSDU-sponsored events, and at university tournaments such as McGill and Queen's. Our program strives to offer rich opportunities for novice and seasoned debaters and speakers alike, whether occasional or long-term. While our students took part in many local tournaments, they also travelled farther afield; a skilled speaker made it to the Public Speaking Nationals in Winnipeg for the third year in a row and our Grade 12 team qualified for the first time for the debate Nationals in St. John's, Newfoundland (though by the time they spots were confirmed, these high flyers had already committed to other pursuits that weekend). While a talented group of debaters graduated in June, we have a promising and keen Grade 9 cohort who distinguished themselves in public speaking and debate tournaments last year. The focus this year is on development, with a special push in the Middle School (to this end, we have retained the help of a distinguished U of T debater to lend a hand with coaching).

Of special note, a Grade 12 student qualified at Public Speaking Nationals for the World Individual Independent Schools' Championships, held in Capetown, South Africa (though her parents would not let her attend because of the water shortage).

Our Clementines have continued to excel in the area of Computer Science and Robotics. Our programs have grown and have inspired students over the past year.

Last year we once again hosted a Lego Robotics Tournament at SCS, when we welcomed over 100 students from Grades 6 to 10 competing for a spot at the provincial championships. The tournament was very successful, with St. Clement's Grads refereeing and judging, and current students organizing volunteers and making sure the event ran smoothly. One of our three teams in the tournament qualified for provincials, another team won the Core Values award and the third team won the Robot Design Award. At provincials, our Senior Team won an award, but did not advance to nationals.

Last year, our Computer Science and Robotics students attained a number of very notable achievements:

The Senior Robotics Team and Grade 11 and 12 Computer Science students were at the Woburn VEX tournament and narrowly missed the playoffs. At the Toronto VEX Tournament, significant improvements were made to the robots, but unfortunately some technical difficulties were experienced. The Toronto/Mississauga area is recognized for having a very high number of elite-level teams, and these two tournaments are considered some of the most competitive in the world.

St. Clement's Computer Science students entered the Canadian Computing Challenge, Waterloo's programming contest for students in Grades 11 and 12. Two students received certificates of distinction.

The Educational Computing Organization of Ontario (ECOO) holds a team-based programming competition, where teams of four programmers from schools throughout the province go head-to-head in a time-based competition. Teams earn points by creating computer programs to solve real-world problems as fast as possible. SCS fielded four teams at ECOO, and had a very strong showing, with one team advancing to the provincial semi-finals round.

We had a successful 2017/2018 season athletically with many notable finishes:

- Midget (Grade 9) Cross Country team was CISAA champions, outstanding finishes at OFSAA with our midget team and senior runner
- Senior Soccer finished the league in 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- Senior Volleyball team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in CISAA in regular season play, and competed in OFSAA championship in Windsor
- Hockey team finished the regular season in 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- Winter Swim Team returned last year and they had an excellent season, with eight swimmers going to OFSAA
- Senior Track and Field Team had an outstanding season which culminated in the CISAA Championship meet where we had girls finish as champions in:- Midget Girls 800, 1500 and, 3000, Junior Girls 4x100 relay, Junior Girls High Jump and, Senior girls High Jump. OFSAA Qualifiers (Top 4 at Metros) were in:- Midget Girls 800, 1500 and 3000, Junior Girls High Jump Senior Girls High Jump. All of the girls did very well at OFSAA and we saw a silver medalist in Junior Girls High Jump
- Two senior tennis players went to OFSAA, where one placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall

The Duke of Edinburgh Award, an important component of our Experiential Education program, was highly prescribed and saw 5 gold, 12 silver and 24 bronze awards achieved by our girls. As well, for the new Grade 7 and 8 level co-curricular award we had 11 blue and 2 red anchor awards.

Last year was another very successful one in the Arts.

St. Clement's continues to excel at the Kiwanis Music Festival and received a \$200 award from the Kiwanis Club of Toronto Foundation. Both the Grade 6 Choir and Grade 4/5 Choir were awarded with a Gold standing.

In addition, seven SCS musicians performed as a part of CISMF – Canadian Independent Schools Music Festival, in formats that included Concert Band, Jazz Band, Orchestra and Symphonic Band.

Dramatic productions at St. Clement's continued to flourish with the Middle School producing *The Wizard of Oz* and the Senior School producing *Treasure Island* last year to large and enthusiastic audiences.

*The Lumina Fashion and Design Show*, in its eleventh year, involved over 75 Upper School students, and was again held in the spring after a highly successful move from the January date a year earlier. Proceeds from the auction of the clothes after the show and from sales of tickets amounting to \$11,205.40 were donated to the John R. Delaney Youth Centre in Moose Factory.

At the National Theatre School of Drama Festival (formerly SEARS Festival), SCS was awarded for the outstanding production of *Wildfire*. As a result of winning regionals, they were also awarded with a performance at the University of Toronto's Hart House in April.

The Grade 12 – AP Visual Arts course saw eight students produce 24 works of art in each of their portfolios throughout the course of the year. This equated to a total of 192 works that went to AP for evaluation.

As we continue to build understanding of and engagement in communities beyond our school walls, we seek to provide students and staff at St. Clement's with the opportunity to learn about our community and different needs within it, to say thank you and further strengthen existing partnerships, to explore interests and issues in our community and with the organizations that serve it, and to learn about ourselves in the community. Our approach this year has been to connect more regularly and through a variety of ages and approaches with our primary partnerships.

We continued our connection with St. Clement's Church in support of the Brimo family from Syria, as well as our Thanksgiving food drive. We also launched a volunteer program with Grade 8 students at the St. Clement's Church weekly community drop-in lunch, which will continue into the 2018-2019 school year. Middle School card making for the Christmas season was much appreciated again this year.

School-wide community events and partnerships included a full-school Terry Fox Run at Eglinton Park, a year-long program of awareness and support for The Maddie Project, “a community effort in support of youth struggling with depression and other mental health related concerns” selected through consultation with our student committees, and the second annual winter food drive supporting the families of the First Nations School of Toronto, a long-term partner through our senior Indigenous Studies course. Our Junior School students continued their annual holiday visits to Briton House, Cedarhurst and Sunnybrook K-Wing, and many of our senior school students engaged in collecting and packaging hygiene products for The Period Purse, a successful ongoing student-directed connection. The Horizons peer-tutoring program with Stanley Public School continued on a weekly basis, and we welcomed approximately 30 Stanley students for a March Break Day Camp led by our senior students. Working with an SCS alumnus, initial steps were also taken towards the establishment of a long-term partnership with The Kasiisi Project in Uganda.

The breadth of lunchtime co-curricular activities provided opportunities for students to both explore their interests and for student leaders, in various grades, to strengthen their leadership skills. We look to our Leadership Framework to help facilitate that skill development through the support of staff / faculty advisors. Leadership retreats and workshops were held through the year for each grade to introduce and explore leadership concepts and aspects of the framework as they apply to the different learners. As noted in the recent Red Reads publication, articulating the Junior School alignment with the Leadership Framework was a valuable process for reflection and consideration of leadership as a continuum.

Environmental issues continue to challenge and inspire various initiatives. Waste reduction, proper sorting of waste and energy conservation were important foci through the year. After a student survey and some research, the Student Council and Eco Team representatives proposed a new waste system for implementation. St. Clement's was awarded a Silver certificate from Eco Schools this year.

Being a Round Square school means having greater opportunities for global connections and the heightened ability for engaged citizenship, as well as preparing to take on the local, national and international world that awaits. The Six Pillars, or IDEALS, alongside the new Discovery Framework are a focus in our actions and communication.

Each year, Upper School students from St. Clement's are invited to apply to contribute to service projects around the world, or to participate in international conferences in North America and abroad. Last year four students and two staff participated in the Round Square International

Conference (RSIC), ages 15 to 17, in South Africa and the RSIC, ages 12 to 14, in Thailand. Two senior students went to Vietnam on the RSIS Big Build project in December 2017.

Students and staff participated in the Round Square Regional Conference (RSRC), ages 15 to 17, in Charlotte North Carolina and the RSRC, ages 12 to 14, in Colombia in the spring. Throughout the year, students went on exchange to Edinburgh, Scotland, Melbourne, Australia, and Sherbrooke, Quebec. The Round Square senior student committee focused on creating commitments for students to consider when they travel on trips, plus successful fundraising at the Snowflake Sale and selling donuts.

Our Young Round Square program for Grades 7 to 8 saw three students participate in an international conference. In early May, students traveled to Colombia to participate in the Conference of the Americas for 12 to 14 year-old students. They participated in service work, attended workshops, and learned about Colombian culture and history, along with students from all over the Americas.

Our Round Square program for Grades 9 and 10 saw four students travel to Thailand in April for an international conference. They participated in service learning at a refugee village near Chiang Mai, then traveled to Bangkok to join with students from all over the world at the host school. Through workshops, speakers, activities, and discussion groups, students expanded their skills and their horizons while exploring the theme "Discover More."

While the School works hard to create an experience that prepares our girls and young women for the future, the additional support that we are so fortunate to have cannot go unrecognized. St. Clement's is not only blessed with a committed and hardworking staff but it is also through time, treasury, and talent from parents, grandparents, alumnae and friends, that St. Clement's is able to maintain its place as one of the best girls' institutions in the country.

St. Clement's success would not be what it is without the support of both our St. Clement's Alumnae Association, led again this year by Emma Sanders Finlayson '99, and our Parents' Association, led so remarkably by Meredith Roth.

These partnerships are paramount to both our community strength as well as to our sustainability as an institution. I want to take this opportunity to thank them both. Meredith worked closely with the School to clarify roles and process on the PA, to work in partnership with the School and, in particular, to assist in our strategic focus of engaging our parents in conversations about the School's program. For that we are very thankful. To Emma, we are very grateful for your leadership

of our Alumnae Association Executive as we work hard to leverage relationships with past and current Clementines. I would ask both of you to come up to receive a token of our appreciation.

St. Clement's School is blessed not only with a tremendous staff and Administrative Team but a strong and committed Board of Governors. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Governors not only for their support of our work but for their strong strategic leadership and fiduciary sense. In addition, and in my mind, equally important, they bring thoughtful questions, an important critical eye and tremendous support of our leadership team and staff. This is something for which I am very grateful and sets St. Clement's up so well for the future.

This evening marks the departure of two of our Governors and I wish to thank them for all that they have provided to SCS and for me personally.

Bryan Boyd has been a tremendous contributor to the School in his capacity as Board Member since 2011. In addition to being a strong presence at the Board table, asking important questions and providing important insights, Bryan was the Chair of the Advancement Committee for four years and the Board's Strategic Plan Advisor for one year. His contributions to the School have been many and we will miss his presence at the Board table. Bryan, please come forward to accept this token of the School's appreciation.

While James Black has been a Board member for only three years, his impact on the School has been felt for far longer. James has been on our School's Finance Committee since 2013 and took over the helm of the School's Investment Committee, a Finance sub-committee, in 2015. James has contributed tremendous strategic thinking to our Board and, in particular, to our Investment Committee, allowing the School to continue in its strong short term and long term financial position. James, on behalf of the School, I want to extend our great thanks to you.

While Scott Davidson, Past Chair of the Board, was feted a year ago, his gift had not yet been completed. Being that he is present this evening, we thought it an opportunity to present him with his gift. Beyond his years on School Committees and on the Board as a Governor, the role of Chair is a particularly busy one. Scott, please accept this gift. It is our wish that this brings you many fond memories of all the time, support, and planning for our School.

I wish also to thank Brian Denega, Chair of our Board. The relationship between Board Chair and Principal is an important one and I have, and will continue to, appreciate the work we do together to prepare for the future. St. Clement's is at a very exciting stage in the second year of our Strategic Plan as we work hard, not only to address the key components of our plan but think

strategically and broadly about the future and what St. Clement's should and could do to ensure our girls' preparation and success for life.

This concludes my Annual General Meeting report.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Perry '85

Principal