

2019 - PROJECT (1) - Starting at the Top Angela (Leong) Duckworth, xSJSS Sydney

Can you believe that we are almost at the halfway mark of another year?

To begin the new year – the Committee was pleased to have the company of Jenny Seeto, an ex-alumnae but more importantly the Chairperson of the SJSS Management Board in Suva at our first meeting in February.

Jenny headed the discussions on a number of on-going (as well as one-off) projects on the Wish List for the school and it was definitely an eye-opener. This insightful meeting gave us direction on where our FUNDRAISING DOLLARS could be well spent.

“Basic” necessities include, food, clothing and shelter and in the modern day - we can add education, health and internet to this list. So it was brought to our attention that the roof of the Computer lab was in serious need of replacement (shelter/education) and this became PROJECT 1 for the year.

With the help of Jenny in Suva, she was able to get quotes and approvals for work to commence for the start of the school holidays on 01 May (to minimize inconvenience/noise etc) and to be completed before students re-commenced.



(Right) – Old and new roof view comparison



(Above: Old roof)



Above: New roof and contractor admiring his work



(Left/Below:)

This is the old debris from the renovations that occupied the ground where students would normally be using during school hours. A little OH&S goes a long way.



(Above: Men at work)

Of course with MURPHY'S LAW (anything that can go wrong – will go wrong!) but fear not – everything was under control! During the course of the repairs to the Computer lab roof, the Heavens opened up and brought on another “emergency”.

Anyone remember the children's song – “There's a hole in the Bucket” because that's what came to mind with these images.

It goes:

“There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, dear Liza,
There's a hole in the bucket, dear Liza, a hole

So fix it, dear Henry, dear Henry, dear Henry
So fix it, dear Henry, dear Henry, fix it”



A small bubble in the ceiling of the school hall ended up capturing lots of H2O and became a tap.

Left: A small bubble



Right : That became a gaping hole!

It's a cliché to say we killed two birds with one stone and the contractors were in the right place at the right time.

The culmination of Project Starting at theTop - comes with the greatest thanks, gratitude and appreciation from our SYDNEY Alumnae who continue to support our fundraising events throughout the year.

Bring it together gals and give yourselves a pat on the back, because no matter how you contribute – every cent helps!

Watch this space!