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I am sure that all students and staff are quite exhausted after another very busy and productive school year at All Saints’ College! But I am sure that they all feel happily exhausted and are looking forward to a well-deserved summer holiday. I wish all members of the All Saints’ College community a happy and blessed Christmas and a safe and relaxing summer holiday!

Term 4 has ended on a very positive note for the Saints’ community. I wish to place on record my sincere thanks to Fr Paul Woodhart for the preparation and presentation of a really tremendous Christmas Carols service at All Saints’ Cathedral on Wednesday 7 December! I have been to a lot of Carols services but was really struck by how enjoyable and meaningful the All Saints’ service was this year. It was great to see so many students, parents and staff involved in the service, as well as the menagerie of animals which of course, added to the occasion! Thanks and congratulations to all students who participated in the service as readers, actors and musicians – it was such a lovely way for the community to end the year and to start thinking about Christmas ahead of us.

Thank you, Fr Paul!

The annual Presentation Day ceremonies held on Thursday 8 December were another great way for the College community to celebrate another great year of achievement and endeavour from our students. It was reasonably warm but I think most people have forgotten any discomfort this caused as we acknowledged and celebrated the very fine efforts of students from both the Junior and Senior Schools.

Congratulations to all students who received awards at this year’s Presentation Day ceremonies!

It was also very fitting for the College community to acknowledge the generous commitment and contributions to the College via four Avern Awards. The Avern Awards are awarded by the College Council to people who have generously contributed to the College in a voluntary capacity over an extended period of time. This year we recognised and celebrated Mr Ian Redpath (a current parent) and three current or recent members of the College Council, Mr Angus Edwards, Mr Jon Wickham and Mr Eric Matheson for their incredible contributions to the College over the last 30 years!

On Presentation Day, the College community received the great news about the sale of the College. It was indeed a great pleasure to read the announcement to those at Presentation Day and provide them with the news that the future of All Saints’ College is indeed secure and very bright indeed! The key elements of the announcement included the news that negotiations are underway with the preferred purchaser for the College and that as a result of the sale, the College will become a fully independent school in the Anglican tradition.

The key features of the proposal include:

- All Saints’ will remain a co-educational School from Pre-Kinder to Year 12
- All Saints’ will remain a co-educational boarding school
- All Saints’ will remain an Anglican school, and will maintain its tradition of welcoming students of all faiths
- All Saints’ will not be owned by or controlled by any Diocese or other Church organisation
- The College Chaplain will continue to be licensed by the Bishop of Bathurst
- The College will continue to be a not-for-profit organisation
- The name of the College will not change
- All Saints’ College will continue to be the leading educational institution in the Central West, continuing its tradition of supporting students to achieve outstanding academic and co-curricular results

This announcement indicates the commencement of a bright new future for the College. It represents the best possible outcomes for all stakeholders, and will see minimal changes to the day to day operations of the College.

2016 has ended on a really positive note! I am so proud of the All Saints’ community and wish all a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Diamonds are a student’s best friend**

**CWA Diamond Jubilee Scholarship**

Three Year 10 students, Charlotte Hunt, Charles O’Neill and Ruby Woodlock, entered the Country Women’s Association (CWA) of NSW (Bathurst Branch) Diamond Jubilee Scholarship competition.

The prestigious scholarship is awarded annually to a Year 10 student attending a secondary school in Bathurst or Oberon.

To apply students had to complete an application form and submit this with a resume to the Bathurst Branch of the CWA.

Ruby, Charles and Charlotte then attended an interview with a judging panel of five members of the CWA, where they responded to questions relating to their studies, extra-curricular involvement and future goals.

Financial circumstances are also taken into consideration in the awarding of this scholarship.

An awards ceremony was held at the CWA rooms where all entrants received a certificate and the winner was announced.

This year’s scholarship was awarded to Jessica Rodham from the Scots School.

Well done to Jessica who is a very worthy recipient and to Charlotte, Charles and Ruby for putting their best foot forward.

*Mrs Sarah O’Neill*
FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Quarry Dust

Following on from our packed Carol Service on Wednesday 7 December, I add a few more thoughts as we think more on our response to the God who begins as a vulnerable babe among us.

The Gospels of Luke and Matthew have differing accounts of the story of the Birth of Jesus. Luke, whose writing was aimed at non Jews, or Gentiles, has the news of Jesus’ birth relayed to Shepherds. Bethlehem was the village in which, generations before, David grew up. He was the last of 7 sons, and spent most of his early years in the outdoors, minding the sheep. Consequently he needed to ‘man up’ if a hungry marauding wolf or eagle came to feed on his little flock. He became an expert sling shot, and developed a deep awareness of God. He learnt the equivalent of the guitar – the harp and wrote poems addressing God about his lows and highs. There are at least 150 of these ascribed to David and they date back to 900BC. Traditionally they are known as the Psalms. The famous Psalm is 23, where David casts God as the Good Shepherd, and Jesus in his later years describes himself as the Good Shepherd too. So Luke has the first news of this birth delivered to Shepherds on the nearby hills. There is light and music in the sky; this certainly got the attention of the shepherds doing their night shift.

As I look at this painting by James Tissot titled ‘The Journey of the Magi’, I think of them carrying the gifts in their saddlebags. Gifts which Mary would ponder. (Matthew 2) In contrast we read of Joseph protecting. Gold was and still is, the metal of kings. It does not corrode or rust as iron or aluminium does. 1 gram can be a thin sheet of gold was used by Ernest Rutherford at the Cavendish Labs in Cambridge early last century to uncover the mystery of the atom. Gold is rare. Maybe we in the West, living like kings can pray:

King Jesus we bring you our gold:
Talents your Father gave us, skills we have acquired, a little money, a little power, a little success perhaps and plenty of ambition. These we offer to you so that you may make them really worth something in your kingdom.

Then there was the Frankincense, dried resin from Boswellia trees. This is mentioned 58 times in the Bible. Burnt on hot coals it sends up visible whorls of sweet smelling smoke. It represents prayer, and Psalm 141:2 has the words: Let my prayer be counted as incense before you and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. This gift symbolises the Priestly work of Jesus the Christ. He prays for us, as we read in John 17, especially vs 20.

Jesus great High Priest, Intercessor, we bring you our frankincense:
Deep deeds and longings, the need for forgiveness and peace, the need for friendship and love. The wish to do good, and the knowledge that we must have help if we are to do it. Risen and Ascended Jesus help us, pray for us.

Lastly Myrrh, which is mentioned 15 times in the Bible. This is a fragrant oil associated with anointing before burial. So it represents the billowing grey clouds which overshadow Jesus’ life. Mary was told at Jesus’ Presentation in the Temple that ‘a sword would pierce her soul’, Luke 2:35. Yes, 33 years hence she would see her son die for the sins of the world. The women, coming to anoint Jesus’ body after his crucifixion, came with 40 kgs of ‘myrrh and aloes’. John 19:39.

Jesus crucified Saviour, we bring you our myrrh.

Shadows on our path, weaknesses, illnesses, limitations. Grief for ourselves and others, our knowledge of parting and pain. These we offer to you so that what we bear may be touched with the holiness of what you bore for us. And so that, by your grace we may have a part in the world’s redemption.

Dare I call, crudely, the shepherds extroverts and the journeying academics introverts, the message is, that wherever we are on this spectrum, each of us can offer our lives to God through Jesus Christ. Each of us has a place in God’s story; each has a job that no other can do. In the fourth century the great writer Augustine from Carthage in North Africa wrote: Without us God will not; without God we cannot.

Our care of others, our protection of them from wolves both human and financial. Bless us with strength in the night hours or on our split shifts. May we arrive home after our tasks, safe to care for our loved ones.

In contrast, from Matthew’s Gospel written for Jewish believers, we have far away outsiders who journey following a puzzle in the sky, visible only at night. The English author Evelyn Waugh writes of them as going at their own pace, looking, calculating, discussing and when they are near the destination, meeting with the Establishment, Herod, the puppet king under the Roman occupation. Could we liken them to CSU academics? Jealous Herod seeks advice from the Temple leaders and they point to the book of the Prophet Malachi which offers the last piece of the puzzle – the end of their journey is in the village of Bethlehem. Their offerings are not of immediate use: Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

We bring to you our enthusiasm, our work, our hi-vis jackets, the outdoors. The stutter of welding, the sticky of diesel, the sun’s burning.

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Father

Paul Woodhart
Packed Cathedral enjoys beautiful Carols service

It was the night before Presentation Day and all was prepared. The theme for the whole College Carols in All Saints’ Cathedral was: ‘Everyone has a place in God’s story.’

The preparations for this service have been going on throughout Term 4. The music is chosen and practised every week, thanks to Mrs Frances McLeod.

The big band also steps up and this year Mr John Clipsham arranged a brass rendition of the Jamaican Carol: ‘The Virgin Mary had a baby boy’. Kindergarten students were centre stage for the pageant as they had practised under the leadership of their teacher Mrs Gabrielle Darlington. The Year 6 students led the entry hymn: ‘Once in royal David’s city’ and the final Advent hymn: ‘O come O come Emmanuel’ with their candles alight. Mrs Jodie Shurmer was a driving force behind this. Readings were delivered by representatives of Each Day House, the Junior and Senior School Captains and the Heads of the Junior and Senior Schools.

We must not leave out the Administration staff, Warren Stocks and P&F President, Jo Murphy who also did readings. Two pens were set up the day before for real animals (pony, pig, goat, chooks and ducks) by Julian and Margaret Gaal and on the night the stable a spider and corner web was added by Todd Nelson and two mice (plastic) courtesy of our IT magician Shane Cooper. Useful gifts were given to Mary on the night (nappies, formula, dummies, wipes) and workies, Sean Munns and Julian Gaal came in their high vis jackets as shepherds.

Lastly academics from CSU, Kelly Tribolet and Kim Siede, along with Will Siegert made their way, taking their time as the Magi from the East did. Everyone had a place in the story, even the workies who came before and after to set up and remove 140 extra chairs in the cathedral. The cohort of prefects took their responsibilities seriously, handing out the orders of service with a smile, policing the enclosed animals and burning the frankincense.

I must mention two more people who were key to making it such a successful night – Mrs Cherylene Anderson, our publisher in residence who helped me with 4 drafts of the service and the final print run, and Mr Gavin Tipping, the Cathedral Organist.

How good that we all have a place in God’s story.  

Father Paul Woodhart
Unforgettable service for a day to remember

Remembrance Day

All Saints’ commemorated the lives of all those who died or suffered in war at a touching Remembrance Day Service outside the Chapel on Friday 11 November.

Sharmeakah Riley gave the Welcome to Country which was followed by the National Anthem (played by the ASC Brass Quintet with Mr Jonathan Clipsham) and some introductory words by Head of College Mr Steven O’Connor.

This service is traditionally organised by the newly elected prefect body and the student leaders played a massive role once again.

Tasha Hurley gave the reflection followed by a reading by Elizabeth Crampton and William Siegert.

Mr Spencer Goddard tapped the emotion from his trip to the WW1 Battlefields and cemeteries earlier this year in his heartfelt address.

Hannah Nobes then recited the Ode with Sophie Cant, Matthew McCumstie and the Junior School Captains Lauren Cant and Hamish Siegert laying the wreath.

Maxim Sotter and Angela Phillips read the Honour Roll of All Saints’ students who have made the ultimate sacrifice before Cameron Redpath played the last post on the bugle.

Heidi Stokes raised the Flag for ‘Rouse’ which symbolises the start of a new day and Patrick Mitchell read the famous poem ‘In Flanders Fields’ by John McCrae.

Year 11 Music students Daniel Frost, Joseph Hodges, Lochlan Beinke-Atkinson, Ryan McFarlane, Benson Saap and Fergus Thompson then joined Mr Clipsham for a moving rendition of the Dire Straits classic ‘Brothers in Arms’ before Father Paul Woodhart closed proceedings with the blessing.
We were blessed with beautiful spring weather to welcome our incoming 2017 students to Orientation Day on Friday 4 November.

New students in both the Junior and Senior schools were treated to a day of fun and facts as they acclimatised themselves to the College.

It was an even bigger event for our new boarders who were also treated to a sleepover in the boarding house.

While our Year 7s enjoyed a treasure hunt and a game of dodgeball, parents were able to listen to presentations by the Head of College, Head of Senior School and Year 7 Tutors.

The day concluded with a Chapel Service and our Year 7 families joined us at twilight for drinks and canapes on the senior lawn.

Our new Prefects were on hand to assist throughout the day and did a wonderful job.

It was great to see everyone enjoying themselves and taking part in the activities. I’m sure all the children slept well that night!

Mrs Lisa Ellery
NAPLAN

All Saints’ College has been ranked 13th in country Australia by the Weekend Australian newspaper after its students achieved above-average results in the 2016 NAPLAN exams.

The results were printed in the October 1 edition of the newspaper and are part of an annual feature that includes almost 10,000 schools across the country.

In addition to being ranked 13th in country Australia, All Saints’ College out performed every other school in the Central West.

All Saints’ College headmaster Steven O’Connor said the Weekend Australian “goes to great lengths” to analyse all the data from each school and determine ratings.

To see the school perform as well as it did was a “very pleasing” outcome, he said, especially considering that it was on a national level, not just across NSW.

“We’re delighted and I think it indicates the outstanding teaching and learning at All Saints’ College,” Mr O’Connor said.

“It is very pleasing where [the school] is ranked on that listing, which is improving year by year,” he went on to say that All Saints’ College has a strong commitment to excellence, which is only aided by the willingness of students to learn.

“We are just very pleased that we continue to achieve great outcomes with and for our students,” Mr O’Connor said.

“It is lovely to get some acknowledgement when it comes around.”

Story courtesy of the Western Advocate

ASC horsepower tames Tamworth

Inter-Schools Horse Extravaganza

Five members of the ASC equestrian team travelled to Tamworth to compete in the Inter-Schools Horse Extravaganza.

The four-day event had something for riders of all disciplines including sporting, showjumping, eventing, dressage and hacking.

The ASC contingent consisted of Victoria Hoy, Tabitha Snell, Claudia and Adelaide Cunningham and Jazmin Johnston.

Some of the girls were lucky enough to come away with some great results including Victoria winning the 16 and over sporting and placing 2nd in one of her showjumping rounds.

Claudia won her eventing division, placed sixth and seventh in dressage and sixth overall in showjumping.

Adelaide placed seventh in the eventing and 5th in her dressage test.

I think it’s safe to say that Tamworth was a great event and that we all took something away from it regardless of results.

On behalf of the girls I’d like to say thank you to Mr Whitfeld for coming to the event to be the team manager.

Thanks also to the girls for a great event, you all represented the school really well.

Jazmin Johnston
I don’t believe the answer just relies on funding. Perhaps one answer is the quality of teachers entering into education faculties.

Kazakhstan was in the news just recently. Australia has ignominiously fallen behind the likes of Kazakhstan on an international scale. Conducted every four years, the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) has found that Australian students are struggling in comparison to their international counterparts. Among the significant results were that since 2011, Australia has plunged from 18th to 28th for Year 4 Mathematics, 12th to 17th for Year 8 Mathematics and 12th to 17th for Year 8 Science. Australia held its 25th place for Year 4 Science. TIMSS looks at the Year 4 results of 49 nations and Year 8 outcomes of 39 nations. Kazakhstan, with a population of approximately 18 million, has moved past Australian on the leader board for all four of the aforementioned subjects.

On Wednesday 7 December, the results of the latest OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) revealed that not only are the Science, reading and Mathematics skills of 15-year-olds declining but they were 1½ years behind top performing Singapore students in Science and 2½ years behind in Mathematics. There has been a decline in performance over the last 16 years and this is across all school sectors.

How do we stop these declines? I don’t believe the answer just relies on funding. Perhaps one answer is the quality of teachers entering into education faculties. There is already a move afoot for prospective teachers to have at least a Band 5 in English and Mathematics before they can do their teacher training. Also most schools can tell you that the hardest teachers to recruit for replacements are Mathematics and Science teachers.

Then throw in a rural location rather than a capital city and that creates more of an issue. Other occupations must be drawing these skilled people away.

I have been told that Finland rates higher on the scale than Australia. Students there only go to school for 20 hours a week and they get NO homework. Why are they successful? Obviously the answers are not clear and could include a multitude of facets, many of which I haven’t canvassed. Needless to say, here at Saints’ we endeavour to inspire our students to obtain the best possible results in both Mathematics and Science.

We have excellent teachers in these faculties and we promote them as worthwhile subjects. Let’s hope this is reflected in our 2016 HSC results.

Tasha’s wise words for rural women on the web

ASC Year 11 student Tasha Hurley has finished in the top 40 of the 2016 Country to Canberra Leadership competition.

To enter the competition Tasha submitted a 400-word essay addressing the question ‘Why is gender equality important to you and your community?’

The Country to Canberra organisation received the highest number of entries ever this year, making Tasha’s achievement all the more impressive.

The competition is open to female students who are 15 years of age and attending school in grades 10, 11 or 12.

Their school must be located at least 50 kilometres away from a town with a population 80,000 persons or more. Tasha, who hails from Condobolin, is passionate about the role of rural women and their importance not only in their own community but nationally and internationally.

Tasha’s inspiring essay was one of just 25 to be chosen for publishing on the Country to Canberra website, showcasing her talents to the nation! The Country to Canberra website is a wonderful resource, including many other wonderful opportunities for rural women so please take some time to check it out.

Congratulations to Tasha on a wonderful achievement.

Mrs Sarah O’Neill
No one wanted to pass on this camp!

PASS Camp 2016

The Year 9 and 10 PASS classes had an early start Monday morning to travel to Sydney. Ahead of us were a range of exciting and thrilling water activities including: white water rafting, surfing, Wet’n’Wild, and paddle boarding. We started off the day with white water rafting where we split into 3 groups, each with a leader to guide us. The adrenaline rush was real as we battled it out to see who could get down the rapids the fastest. It was also great to be sharing the water with Olympic Silver and Bronze Medallist, Jessica Fox! After white water rafting we made our way to long reef to participate in some surfing lessons. We started off with some body boarding to gain our confidence then moved onto the real thing. We were surrounded by some scary weather including lightning and thunder but we waited it out for half an hour and were straight back in the water. Many of us were fast learners and were successful with our surfing but some couldn’t quite pick up the skill in the time we had left.

After a big day we were treated to a range of pizzas which we ate on the edge of Sydney Harbour in a beautiful park at Chowder Bay. This helped us regain some our energy for another big day ahead.

Day 2 of PASS Camp started early at 6:00 am with breakfast at 6:30 am. We quickly packed and boarded the bus on our way to a two hour session of paddle boarding at Billarong Reserve. We were instructed on the basics before collecting our boards and paddles. We then paddled down the river at our own pace and met up at the end where we found Mrs Nelson who had unfortunately injured her face with her own paddle. However she didn’t let this deter her and continued with high spirits. Several flips, poses and pushing occurred on the way back and our laughing could be heard far and wide. The afternoon consisted of an extended trip to Wet’n’Wild with some thrilling new experiences for many of the students. With a quick snack, some ice cream and a photo to finish the day we headed home with some great memories. On behalf of Year 9 and 10 PASS students we would like to thank Mrs Nelson and Mr Allen for organising and taking us this trip.

Mr Allen said the students had represented the school with distinction.

“The aim was to provide the students with activities and learning opportunities they can’t experience in Bathurst,” he said.

“All of the instructors and leaders over the two days were very impressed and complimentary about our boys and girls.”

“Mrs Nelson, Miss Flo and I had a great time with the students on our camp.”

Mr Bradley Allen (PDHPE Teacher) with contributions by Dominique, Ben and Daisy (Day One) and Caitlin (Day Two)
ON MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER FIVE UNITED NATIONS YOUTH FACILITATORS CAME TO ALL SAINTS’ COURT TO PRESENT A WORKSHOP AS PART OF THEIR FIRST EVER ‘REGIONAL ROAD TRIP’. THIS ROAD TRIP AIMS TO EDUCATE AND INFORM STUDENTS WHO ATTEND SCHOOL OUTSIDE OF SYDNEY ABOUT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES THAT THE UNITED NATIONS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH.

In this particular workshop, the twelve students who participated were able to express their political opinions and learn about the international issue of displaced persons. They encountered the different kinds of displaced persons through activities that allowed them to assess the situations of different individuals. They also learnt about the difficulties that asylum seekers encounter in their efforts to find refuge by taking part in simulations, putting students in the shoes of those who are fleeing.

Following these activities, the facilitators notified the students of the many opportunities presented by the United Nations Youth organisation, which the students have already expressed great interest in. It was a very interesting and educational experience that allowed for the students to better understand the world around them as well as form their own opinions in relation to such topics.

Georgia Poole

‘Tealightful’ design work

Year 8 Technology

Year 8 recently completed their ‘Gift Unit’ in Technology. They produced a wonderful collection of tea light holders. Creative minds and student initiative helped produce some individual design ideas that will make the perfect gift for someone this Christmas.

Natalie Sutton
(Design & Technology Teacher)
The Year 12 Biology class conducted an experiment to test the effect of the colour of light on the growth of seedlings. The experiment ran over five weeks with students measuring and comparing the height of the plants, the amount of leaves and the number of flowers.

Tasha Hurley

Staff welcome really took the cake

In true Saints’ style, the teachers held their annual morning tea and cake competition to officially welcome the Year 11 students into their HSC year. Some staff dedicated hours to their masterpieces whilst others opted for a more simplistic approach and decided to support the local bakery! Prizes were awarded to:

- Most creative - Mrs Casey
- Most professional - Mrs Sutton
- Best small cakes - Father Paul
- And of course, for the third time in 5 years the Best cheat award went to Mr King!

Tasha Hurley
Building a new perspective

Year 8 English

This term Year 8 English students have been considering the power and possibilities of different ways of thinking and different perspectives.

The students engaged in a group activity which revealed different ways of thinking and approaches to a building task.

The task challenged them to use only paddle pop sticks, straws, blue tack and sticky tape to build the tallest possible freestanding tower in a restricted time period.

The students shared their diverse perspectives and ideas, engaging in robust debate about how they might best achieve their goal.

They are now rewriting traditional fairy tales or nursery rhymes from a fresh and unusual perspective.

Mrs Catherine Dundon

Masterchefs in the making

Years 7 and 8 showed plenty of flair in their culinary creations this term.

Year 7 designed their own unique muffins as a part of their ‘Snack Attack’ unit. These ranged from the ‘McMuffin’ to traditional strawberry and banana muffins.

Year 8 have been completing a unit on nutrients. The major assessment for this unit required students to plan and make a meal that would be appealing to teenagers, containing carbohydrates and protein.

All students are to be congratulated on their efforts and their enthusiasm. A special thank you to Mrs Moller and Alessandro for helping students throughout their lessons.

Mrs Kristine Christian
(Technology Teacher)
Under 14 Reds finish sixth in NSW

Netball NSW Schools Cup

Fresh from their grand final victory the mighty 14 Reds headed to Sydney on Monday 19 September to compete in the finals of the Netball NSW Schools Cup at Homebush.

After a team building dinner at Piccolo Roma with parents, grandparents & coaches, the girls had an early night in preparation for the big day ahead.

The spectacle began at 8:30 am with a march past by all teams on centre court with the All Saints’ girls really standing out in their smart uniforms.

Our first game against MacKillop College Port Macquarie was a closely fought contest.

The girls worked hard to close the 13-6 half-time gap but we were unable to take out the match.

The girls played hard and moved the ball around the court to beat the strong defence and create some terrific passages of play for the spectators.

The second game against Umina Sports High was just as tough with the Reds going down 19-11.

Sara & Zoe led from both ends of the court, encouraging the rest of the team throughout the match.

Holly & Sophie supported in the defence of the goal and Hilary shot steadily at her end of the court.

Natalie, Kate, Megan, Sharmeakah and Sophie had a tough time in centre court but contributed admirably.

The final pool game against Shoalhaven Anglican saw the team fired up and ready for a win.

It was close again but the girls put together their best game of the day and held the lead throughout for a thrilling 17-14 win.

The final game was the playoff for 5th and 6th positions against St John’s College Woodlawn.

Both teams clearly wanted to finish number five as reflected in the 9-9 half-time score.

The Reds gave it their all but went down 18-16 in a real nail-biter.

Sarah, Zoe, Natalie, Kate, Megan, Holly, Hilary, Sophie & Sharmeakah should be very proud of their ranking of 6th in the state!

More than 900 teams started this tournament back in May so just making the state finals is a massive achievement.

The support of parents and grandparents was phenomenal and the experience was one we will all remember.

Congratulations girls!
You have done All Saints’ College and Bathurst proud.

Mrs Trudy O’Connor (Coach)
Photos by Ella Lewis
The Senior Stage Band travelled to New Zealand this term for the 39th Queenstown Jazzfest where they and the Jazz Collective participated in a collection of performances and workshops. Held annually in the beautiful lake city, the festival draws some of the best musicians from across New Zealand and South East Asia. Performances can be heard throughout the city at public stages and in fine restaurants.

Our students performed in an outstanding manner entertaining significant crowds. Great solos full of improvised melodic and rhythmic ideas as well as some great singing from Jemma Munro (Year 10) ensured plenty of people returned to hear us a second time.

We have been invited to return in the coming years and with the immense talent coming through from our Junior School into the Intermediate Jazz Band we will surely do so!

Special thanks to our Music Director Dr Jason Thornton and Mr Stewart Ross whose supervision and travel experience was invaluable.

Three videos highlighting the trip can be found on the ASC Facebook page.

Mr Jonathan Clipsham
(Senior School Co-ordinator of Music)

On Wednesday 26 October Barton House finalised their gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Students contributed gifts including something to love, play with, wear, an educational and a hygiene item. Students raised $371 in a delicious cake stall to post the 28 boxes for children in the third world. Well done Barton House.

Mrs Catherine Dundon
(Head of Barton House)
ASC's Mock Trial team did battle with Liverpool Girls' High School in the quarterfinals on 25 October.

It was a criminal case in which the defendant was charged under Section 52A (3) (c) Crimes Act and Section 117(1) (b) Road Transport Act.

The charges were laid as alternative counts and the court could convict the accused of one or neither of the charges but not both charges.

The team consisted of Sophie Cant and Hannah Nobes as barristers, Clare Carter as solicitor, Paxton Hewitt and Charles O'Neill as witnesses and Rose Denovan as magistrate’s clerk.

ASC alleged that the defendant had driven a motor vehicle in a manner dangerous or negligently on Mt Ousley Road between Sydney and Wollongong.

We provided evidence that she had lost control because she was speeding, swerving and tailgating. The impact of the car colliding with a guard rail had caused grievous bodily harm to Taylor Smith (played by Charles O’Neill) who had sustained injuries including a compound fracture of the left femur, abrasions and possible concussion.

Senior Constable Rhodes (played by Paxton Hewitt) provided expert evidence about the steepness of the road, recent rain, skid marks and damage to the car.

While the team managed to gain a criminal conviction, we lost the actual trial by a heartbreaking 2.5 points (261 points to 258.5) ending our 2017 campaign.

The team would like to thank Sahar Orya from Kenny Spring Solicitors for her encouragement and legal guidance in preparation for the trial.

Mrs Catherine Dundon (Mock Trial Coach and Co-ordinator)
Learning to read fluently and for meaning is one of the most essential life skills a child can acquire during their school years. It is a skill that needs constant practice and reading at home is just as important as reading at school. Reading regularly not only improves a child’s reading ability but it can also provide them with hours of enjoyment in their recreation time. If children can develop a love of reading at an early age it sets them up for learning in all areas of the curriculum.

This school holidays we have challenged our students to participate in the All Saints’ Summer Reading Challenge. The students need to keep a record of all the books they read and submit the list when they return in Term 1. If, in total, the students read 500 books Mr Cant and I will dye our hair blue for a day. 750 books and Mrs Allen will dye her hair pink and Ms Dale will dye her’s green. If they read 1000 books Mrs Keogh will dye her hair pink/purple and Mrs Nicholls will go green. If they read 1500 Mrs Walsh will dye her hair purple and if they read 2000 Ms Shurmer will dye her hair red, Mrs Murray will dye her hair purple and Mrs Darlington will dye her hair red. Mr O’Connor has even joined the challenge and will dye his hair blue for 2000 books. I encourage all students to join in and use some of their relaxation time during the holidays to sit and read a good book.

Below is a set of suggestions to parents as to how they can promote, encourage and improve their child’s love of reading and reading ability. These suggestions, along with other valuable information for parents can be found on the NSW Board of Studies website. I encourage everyone to take time to have a look at this website.

You can help your child in reading when you:

• show your child that you value reading by reading whenever you can
• provide a variety of texts for your child to read to you, e.g. stories, comics, poems, plays, cartoons, reference books, magazines, children’s recipe books
• encourage your child to predict what a book is about from the cover and illustrations
• talk about the different purposes for reading a picture book, a novel, a TV guide, a newspaper, a telephone directory
• point out the different size and shape of words
• point out the first sound of a word and encourage your child to think of other words that begin with the same sound
• encourage your child to read books for enjoyment as well as for information
• praise your child when they are reading, e.g. ‘well done - that was a difficult word’
• encourage a positive attitude to books
• encourage your child to talk about characters and events in texts
• encourage your child to make sound effects for the characters and events
• ask your child to think of possible beginnings and endings for stories read and heard
• ‘sound out’ difficult words and/or give clues to the meaning of difficult words
• encourage your child to have a go at reading words that are unfamiliar
• ask your child to read on past the unknown word to gain clues from the rest of the sentence
• show your child how to find the meanings of unfamiliar words in dictionaries
• encourage your child to watch films and videos of books they have read
• talk about the ways in which a film version of a book compares with the print version
• encourage your child to borrow books from the library.


I wish all of our Junior School students a safe and happy holiday and look forward to hearing about all of the books they have read.

Hopefully we will see some colourful hair in Term 1 2017!
Our infants help to brighten seniors’ day

Macquarie Care Visit
On Monday 5 December the Infants’ classes travelled to Macquarie Care to perform a number of songs for the residents. The Kindergarten students were dressed in costumes and formed a Nativity Tableau as some Year 2 students read short bible passages relating to the Christmas story. All of the Infants students then presented handmade Christmas cards to the residents and spent time in conversation with them. The students sang beautifully and their interactions with the residents were thoughtful and caring. It is always a joy to be a part of this end of year visit. The students and residents enjoy the occasion immensely and it is a special event on the calendar.

I thank Mrs Frances McLeod, Father Paul, Mrs Jo Nicholls and Mrs Maggie Walsh for their preparation and involvement.

Gabrielle Darlington
(Infants Coordinator)
End of Year 6 primary cause for celebration

Year 6 Valedictory Dinner

The 2016 Year 6 Valedictory Dinner was held on Friday 25 November. The night commenced with a lovely service in the school chapel, followed by a very enjoyable dinner at the Carrington. All of the Year 6 students and their families had the opportunity to reflect on their time in the All Saints’ Junior School and the night was a very special way for the graduates to celebrate the end of their primary school education before heading into Year 7.

Junior School captains, Lauren Cant and Hamish Siegert presented a very entertaining speech, reflecting on their experiences throughout each year of Junior School. They also presented each of their classmates with a humorous award that highlighted the interests and personalities of each student in Year 6.

It was wonderful to have many of the students showcase their musical talents on the night, both as a part of the Chapel Service and as entertainment throughout the dinner. The class concluded the evening with a terrific performance of With a Little Help From My Friends by the Beatles, which was prepared by Mrs Frances McLeod.

There were many people who contributed to making the Valedictory Dinner a very successful evening. Thank you to all of the parents and staff who helped to make the night a very memorable one for the Year 6 class.

Finally, I wish all of the Year 6 students every success as they venture into Senior School. They have been a truly wonderful group of students to teach.

Ms Jodie Shurmer
Love, the milk of human kindness

Infants Thanksgiving Service

The Infants classes celebrated the end of a wonderful year with the Infants Thanksgiving Service on Friday 25 November.

This year, the service was again presented outside the chapel and the setting was truly beautiful with crispness in the morning air. We were thrilled to welcome all the parents and grandparents as well as our special guests from Macquarie Care.

We also welcomed the Primary students and staff. It was lovely to have so many people join us and help celebrate the special occasion.

The theme for the service was Kindness, Love in Action. The songs and readings led by Year 2 and the prayers said by Year 1 reflected the theme of showing love and kindness to others through our actions and interactions.

Kindergarten and Year 1 students recited ‘The Kindness of God’ by Andrew Pell. All students from Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 performed their roles with dignity, reverence and joyful celebration.

I would like to thank the Infants staff, Mrs Jo Nicholls, Mrs Maggie Walsh and the Music staff, Mrs Frances McLeod, Ms Rosemary Fogarty and Ms Michelle Griffin for their preparation of the students and special contributions to the service.

I would like to acknowledge Mrs Leonie Keogh for the invaluable assistance she gives in the lead up to the service with preparation of the Thanksgiving Service Booklets, organisation of morning tea, gifts and the creche.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr Christopher Jackman, Mr Graham Sharp and the maintenance / grounds staff for their invaluable assistance in staging the service outside. Thank you to the Thorne family for their contributions to the floral arrangements and a special thank you to Mrs Cherylene Anderson for all the beautiful photographs which have captured many memorial moments.

It was a moving and beautiful way to conclude the year.

Mrs Gabrielle Darlington,
Infants Co-ordinator
Patrick and Georgie claim the Cox Plate

**Cox Plate Triathlon**

The annual Cox Plate triathlon was held at ASC on Tuesday 22 November in very warm conditions.

Junior School students from Year 3 to Year 6 were invited to participate either as an individual or as part of a team. Students raced in their year group against other budding triathletes. The Year 3 and 4 course consisted of an 80 metre swim, 1.6 km ride and a 400 metre run – plenty long enough for little legs.

The Year 5 and 6 course was a gruelling 125 metre swim, 2.5 km ride and 800 metre run with Year 6 competing for the Cox plate. There were some courageous performances and spectators were impressed with the determination, endurance and sportsmanship of the students involved. Special congratulations must be extended to Year 6 winners Patrick Saint and Georgie Geyer. Their names will be engraved on the Cox Plate with the other champion triathletes from the past. I would also like to thank Mr Greg Bell, The Bathurst Triathlon Club, Mr Nelson and all the teachers and Year 9 helpers who helped to make this event a success.

*Mrs Kay Nelson*
Warm weather makes for heated rivalry

Ball Games Carnival

Congratulations to all students who participated in a thrilling Inter-House ball games carnival.

With the sun beating down and the competition fierce, both Esrom and Bradwardine Houses had to work hard to score points for their teams.

Students were involved in leader ball, captain ball and tunnel ball and the competition was strong across all age groups.

All 17 games were hotly contested but it was the mighty Esrom House who were victorious on the day.

Congratulations to Esrom House but a huge pat on the back to the members of Bradwardine House who went so close to taking it out this year.

Mrs Kay Nelson
On Wednesday 16 November all Junior School students came to school with crazy hairstyles and/or crazy hats in support of WIRES (NSW Wildlife Information, Rescue and Education Service Inc.). WIRES has been rescuing and caring for native animals since 1985, officially launching as an organisation in March 1986.

The WIRES mission is to actively rehabilitate and preserve Australian wildlife and inspire others to do the same.

WIRES has over 2500 volunteers in 27 branches involved in the rescue and care of wildlife and has a dedicated Rescue Office that operates 365 days a year assisting the community to help native animals in distress.

WIRES assist tens of thousands of animals every year, receiving over 77,000 requests for rescue assistance in the last financial year.

At our assembly on Friday 18 November Year 6 SRC representatives presented Mrs Kristy Jarrett, a local representative from WIRES, with a cheque for $217 raised at the Crazy Hair and Hat Day.

Mr Chris Jackman
No rush to return from goldfields tour

Bathurst Goldfields Excursion

Year 5 ventured to Bathurst Goldfields on 9 November to learn about life during the gold rush. The excursion supplemented the study of the History of Gold in Australia as part of our curriculum. We had a great day and learnt many new fascinating facts and figures.

It was hard to get the students back on the bus to come back to school as they caught gold fever and wanted to continue panning in the ponds to find their fortunes! Gold specks were found and placed in small bottles for the students to keep.

Mrs Kay Murray
(Year 5 Class Teacher)
Junior School has fun in the sun

Year 6 Fun Day

The Junior School had a fantastic afternoon at the Year 6 Fun Day held on Tuesday 1 November.

The afternoon was organised and run by the Year 6 class to raise money for the Daffodil Cottage.

There were lots of very enjoyable and creative activities for all of the students from Pre-Kindergarten to Year 5 participate in.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the very successful fundraiser.

Congratulations to Year 6 for organising an afternoon filled with fun!

Mrs Jodie Shurmer
Years 5 and 6 Camp

Years 5 and 6 spent three days in the glorious surrounds of Newnes in the Wolgan Valley for their annual Outdoor Education camp.

It was late October so the weather was perfect for a camping trip. On the first day the students walked around the Shale Oil Mine ruins which provided them with an insight into what a busy place Newnes was in the early 1900s. That night the students used Trangia cookers to cook their own dinner and finished off the day with a game of ‘Stealth’.

The second day of camp was spent hiking to the Glow-worm Tunnel, an old railway tunnel built to transport the shale oil out of the valley. The tunnel is lined with glow-worms that give the impression of looking up into a sky full of glittering stars. This hike was 16 kilometres and took all day. The students enjoyed a swim in the creek when they arrived back at the camp site.

That night Mr O’Connor, Father Paul and Mrs Murray came to the camp and did a great job as judges for the Campfire Concert. Father Paul also made his famous honeycomb which was enjoyed by all.

The next morning was pack up time and the students did a wonderful job to ensure that we left the camp site in the same condition as we found it. I would like to thank the teachers, Mrs Nicholls and Mrs Allen, parents, Mrs Burgess, Mr Jarrett, Mrs Edwards and Mr Gough and the GAP students Florence and Patrick for their wonderful help at camp. Mrs Keogh also deserves a big thank you for her behind the scenes preparation work.

Mr Christopher Jackman
(Camp Co-ordinator)
Christmas comes early for boarders

Christmas Dinner

On Sunday evening 4 December the boarders, staff and guests gathered in the dining room to enjoy a lovely Christmas dinner. There were cheese and biscuit platters on the tables on arrival and we had turkey, ham and roast vegetables for the main meal.

Thank you to Catering Manager, Matt Hitchens and his staff.

Our guests for the evening were Mr and Mrs O’Connor, Hilary O’Connor, Mr Stewart Ross, Wendy Reardon, Charlie Hall, Meg Hitchick and children, Jodie Allen and children, Father Paul Woodhart and Mrs Jenny Woodhart.

The dining room was decorated with tinsel and a Christmas tree, thanks to Mr Brad Allen and the boarding house leaders.

After the main meal we adjourned to the chapel for a lovely Christmas service with carols and staff reading prayers.

After the service we had desserts, cakes and chocolates on the lawn outside followed by the leaders handing out ‘Kris Kringle’ (Secret Santa) presents to everyone.

It was a lovely evening and a particularly nice way to end the year after the final chapel service for our boarders.

Brad and I wish all the staff and students of Marsden and Watson Houses a lovely, relaxing and joyous Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mrs Gillian McAllister (Head of Marsden House / Girls’ Boarding)
Mrs Sarah O’Neill ran a study skills workshop for Year 11 boarders who have just began HSC work and Year 9 boarders on Tuesday 8 November in the ILC.

Mrs O’Neill encouraged the students to think about how they revise and what type of learning works best for them.

Study techniques vary for each individual and can include:
- Different coloured books for each subject
- Study notes
- Dot points
- Palm cards
- Mind maps
- Post-it notes
- Planners
- Writing notes up

It is best to prioritise because if you are organised, you are more productive!

Organised people use diaries, write things down and enter other commitments into their planner e.g. sport, meal-times etc.

Other points to note are:
- It is important to have a day off
- Go to bed early rather than stay up too late
- Get up early in the morning and do an hour before breakfast
- Balance your time
- Have regular breaks
- Have a good study environment

In exams and study it is important to set time limits and with this in mind the students received a worksheet with some basic exam advice including:
- reading time is important before starting the exam
- do the harder questions first
- do not waste time on 1 question 1 mark answers
- a question worth 3 marks should have 3 points in the answer
- skip a question you can’t answer and come back to it

Take the time to train your studying brain

Watson boys get into the swing

Watson House

After school on Wednesday 23 November 2016 the Watson Boys and staff enjoyed some friendly competition on the fairways and greens of the Bathurst Golf Course before a meal at the Birdie and Eagle Bistro.

Both groups finished 4 over par, both with one birdie so it was down to Otto to win a putt off on the last hole to claim victory for his group. The boys had a great time and shared plenty of good golfing stories over the meal.

Mr Bradley Allen (Head of Watson House / Boys’ Boarding)
The boarding community enjoyed an excellent meal to celebrate Melbourne Cup day on Tuesday 1 November. The boarders and staff all dressed up in their finery for the occasion! Thanks to Mr Matt Hitchens for providing a really lovely meal of spring rolls for starters, salmon or steak with vegetables for mains and cheesecake with fruit for dessert.

The leaders ‘ran the show’ with an introduction and grace to start the meal and a Melbourne Cup quiz to end the festivities - with chocolate frogs for the correct answers!

Well done to Heidi and Patrick (House Captains) and Clare and Benson (Vice-Captains).

It was a most enjoyable night.

Mrs Gillian McAllister (Head of Marsden House / Girls’ Boarding)
Mr Brad Allen (Head of Watson House / Boys’ Boarding)
Year 12 boarders relive memorable moments

Farewell to Year 12

On Monday evening 19 September, we held our annual Farewell Dinner to our Year 12 boarders, MC’d by our two new House Captains for 2016/2017 – Heidi Stokes and Patrick Mitchell.

We had a wonderful meal provided by Matt Hitchens and his catering team. Year 12 chose the menu - mini spring rolls for starters, followed by salmon steaks or lemon/garlic chicken with mashed potato, peas and carrots and finally individual pavlova nests and fresh fruit for dessert.

We adjourned after the meal to Kemmis for some ‘festivities’ where the Year 11s showed a video and slide show of funny moments in boarding with the Year 12s. Year 12 responded with some clips of memorable moments of their own!

After speeches from Year 11 and Year 12, Year 12 were presented with gifts from the boarding community and Lauren and Jemma presented Marsden with an outdoor clock.

We had a really lovely night and all staff and students now wish Year 12 the very best for the future – for some it will be a Gap Year; for others it will be off to University or a career.

Mrs Gillian McAllister
(Head of Marsden House/ Girls’ Boarding)
Vale Helen Elizabeth Hazard (nee McKibbin)

13-06-1941—14-08-2016

Helen was born in Sydney on the 13th June 1941, the eldest child of Joan and (Thomas) Watson McKibbin of ‘Macquarie’ Bathurst NSW. She had a sister Lesley, and a brother Thomas. Helen had an idyllic childhood growing up on the historic family farm ‘Macquarie’ which is situated between Bathurst and O’Connell.

Helen was an early talker and was able to speak in sentences from 15 months. She taught herself to read before going to school by peering over a much loved great aunt’s shoulder as she read to her!

She first attended Brewongle School for a short time but in the late 1940’s access to school became a problem due to constant floods. The Fish River, which runs through the front of the property, when flooded cuts off access to the main road to Bathurst and O’Connell, thus isolating the farm. Joan, her mother, who was a trained Kindergarten Teacher, taught Helen by Correspondence until 1950, when Helen, at the age of 9, went as a boarder to Marsden Church Of England Girls School at Kelso, Bathurst. (Her aunt Betty McKibbin was an Old Girl of Marsden).

Helen excelled at her academic studies so she topped 5th Class in 1952 and went straight to 1st Year skipping 6th Class as her teachers felt she would have been bored! She then topped 1st Year and ensured that she achieved this position by studying under the sheets with a torch when the lights were turned out! She continued this excellence until she was Dux of the School in 5th Year in 1957. She also won a Commonwealth Scholarship. She was only 16.

Marsden was an important part of Helen’s early life, and the values she learnt there she lived by throughout her life. Her daughter, Christina, in her Eulogy said “the stories she told of her time as a boarder at Marsden sounded as though they came straight out of an Enid Blyton novel, complete with hoarding food in laundry bags for midnight feasts, secret trips up the Bell Tower, searching for the secret passageway under the stairs in Rutherford House. She and her great friend, Judy Cotton, used to play tricks on the new girls by hiding on one side of the old covered well and moaning into it by pretending to be the ghost of Samuel Marsden as they fled screaming!”

Helen was in Suttor House and represented her House in sport especially hockey, music, acting in the annual House Play Competition and later becoming House Captain. She showed leadership at an early age and was made Head” Prefect in 1957.

Helen had intended studying Law at Sydney University but the entrance age for Law was 18 and she was only 16! She decided to study Arts/Law and while she was in her second year at Women’s College she met a young student from St Paul’s College - Geoffrey Hazard from Melbourne. Geoff was studying Veterinary Science at Sydney University.

Helen and Geoff were married in February 1965 at Holy Trinity Church, Kelso, and moved to Melbourne to live. Their marriage of 51 years was a wonderful partnership of a very deep love and friendship for each other. “Helen was the product of a strong family, and in turn created her own”.

They had 3 children Jenny, James and Christina and 7 grandchildren Riley, Nicola, Bailey, Reed, Millie, Henry and Eliza. Family was everything to Helen and Geoff.

“It was no wonder that Mum was drawn to a career as an academic librarian with her love of reading and researching, she was able to enjoy the roles of detective, historian and archivist”. She first worked at Sydney University Fisher Library after graduating with an Arts Degree. While working at Fisher Library she gained 2 further qualifications from The Library Association of Australia. When they moved to Melbourne, she worked at Melbourne University Baillieu Library followed by 26 years at Swinburne University of Technology Library. There she completed a Graduate Diploma from Monash University and gained a Certificate for Teaching from Hawthorn Institute of Education. She also co-authored a book for Swinburne, and retired in 2007 after a long career as an academic librarian.

“Growing up at ‘Macquarie’ developed a deep passion for local and family history that lasted a lifetime”. The farm was part of a grant of 1000 acres given to the explorer William Lawson for crossing the Blue Mountains in 1813. The homestead was built by convicts between 1823 and 1824 and “is steeped in history so much so that Mum could literally see it and touch it during her childhood. She could read the writings and drawings that were left on the walls from children when the Barracks were used as a schoolhouse. Mum’s father, Watson, helped cultivate her love for the area spending countless hours talking about local history and ultimately inspiring her, decades later, to document it”.

“A personal and emotional highlight for Mum was when through her research she discovered that the graves of William Lawson’s infant grandchildren who were originally buried at ‘Macquarie’ were actually moved to Holy Trinity Kelso cemetery”. Helen too wanted to be buried at Holy Trinity Kelso - “Bathurst the place that informed so much of who she was and meant so much to her”.

She is survived by her husband Geoff, her 2 daughters Jenny and Christina, her son James, her 7 Great Grandchildren, her sister Lesley, and her brother Tom.

Helen’s Funeral Service was held on the 20th August 2016 at Holy Trinity Kelso, where she and Geoff were married. Family and friends came from Melbourne, Sydney, Bathurst, other parts of NSW and overseas. A Service of Thanksgiving was held on 24th August at St John’s Anglican Church at Camberwell, Melbourne. Both Services reflected the deep love that her immediate and extended family and friends all felt for her, but also her love for her school Marsden. Psalm 121 - the School Psalm was read by her daughter Jenny, and her sister Lesley finished her Tribute by quoting the last verse of Marsden’s School Hymn “Ad Lucem”.

Give of our best! So, when the gates swing wide
And through the larger world our way we choose
Of life’s high enterprise which we described
Never can we the vision wholly lose.

Eulogy by Helen’s daughter
Christina Hazard