

The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

Nothing without joy

Ms Sally Ruston
Head of Junior School

'Nothing without joy' are the famous words of the founder of Reggio Emilia – Loris Malaguzzi. We concur with this statement and, here at Abbotsleigh, we refer to learning being 'good, hard fun'. This is because we recognise, and research supports, that when we are motivated, fully engaged and curious, great learning that is 'sticky' and pervasive results. It is for these reasons that we as educators work with such determination to bring joy to learning both within and beyond the classroom.

This was seen very clearly today at the Junior School Colour Run and House Cup assembly. Learning how to be part of a community, how to contribute, how to encourage others and how to be gracious both in winning and defeat are all important life skills. The picnic lunches and Colour Run were this term's concluding activities as we celebrate 70 years of learning on the Junior School campus. Last year, when seeking the girls' suggestions through SRC, much featured on food and a fair-like atmosphere where we could come together to celebrate and have fun. Thus, today we enjoyed foods that first hit Australian menus in the 1950s including chiko rolls, fish fingers, chocolate crackles and fairy floss. The Colour Run in class groups, with teachers also fully involved, was a joyous activity, especially as we sought to attract or dodge powder at each fitness station. The final colour throw saw the air filled with colour and the pure joy on all our faces as can be seen from the images here.



The afternoon concluded with our traditional House Cup and the Senior School Prefects announcing the FUN and FINE Awards. Again, these activities have become our tradition in the Junior School and speak loudly to what we value. Our girls acquire house points for effortful endeavour and inclusive behaviours. This is done altruistically, not for self, but to see the entire House benefit. The FUN and FINE Awards 'call out' a girl at each stage of learning who has modelled a sense of fun, is unselfish, kind, inclusive and encouraging.



The term ended with much joy in the Senior School, too. On Tuesday, Music Prefect Sophia Chi and her team organised an outstanding and very joyous 'Brave the Sound Waves' music concert that the girls enjoyed very much indeed. Also, following on from the awards assembly last week, the Senior School final assembly saw girls in Years 8-12, nominated by and voted for by their respective year groups, receive highly prized Prefect Awards. Our Year 7 recipient will receive her award next term as Year 7 are on camp this week, and, despite the inclement weather on Tuesday afternoon/evening, the girls had a fantastic time away as they learnt to live as a member of a community and develop those very important life skills of perseverance and resilience while having lots and lots of fun (joy)!



Term 1 has been action-packed and filled with so many joyous activities across the whole school, and it never ceases to impress us how enthusiastic, vibrant and inclusive all our girls are. Our teachers' and indeed, all our staff's, talent, dedication and sheer hard work for every girl, also never cease to impress us, and we are very grateful for all that they do.

While we never shirk from the need for explicit instruction and carefully scaffolded learning experiences for all our girls, we know that memories are made and moments are cherished as we connect with each other in experiences such as those so joyously celebrated today in the Junior School and on many days across the whole school.



Chaplain

Rest

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and SS Christian Studies Teacher

I was recently reminded of the story of two lumberjacks. Both worked the same hours, except one would disappear for an hour each day. Somehow the one who disappeared would cut more timber. When asked how this could be, the lumberjack replied that the hour was spent going home, eating lunch and sharpening his axe.

It has been a long term and the holiday break now allows us to find rest and restoration. This helps us to re-energise our bodies, minds and spirit. Rest is so important to our lives and it is also a preparation to have energy for things to come. Throughout the Bible, rest is important (Gen 2; Exodus 20:8-10; numerous Psalms). Jesus withdrew from crowds to pray and restore (Mark 6:31) and we should be encouraged to

also remember to take the time as well. This break, our prayers for our Abbotsleigh community are for time to connect with others, to connect to God and/or God's beautiful world, to have time away from regular routines and for safety in travel.

Psalm 23:1-3

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
he refreshes my soul.

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Landscape, Existence – Julien Playoust	4 to 27 April	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery, Senior School
Term 1 concludes	Thursday 11 April	
Term 2 commences	Tuesday 30 April	
Process and Practice: A Sculptor's Eye exhibition opening	Saturday 4 May 2-4 pm	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery, Senior School
Process and Practice: A Sculptor's Eye exhibition	Until Thursday 25 May	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery, Senior School

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Abbotsleigh Kids Club Vacation Care	Friday 12 to Monday 29 April 7.15 am-6 pm	Junior School
Jump Rope for Heart	Tuesday 30 April to Friday 7 June	Junior School
Year 5 netball and minkey training	Wednesday 1 May 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Years 3 and 4 netball and minkey training	Thursday 2 May 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 6 netball and hockey training	Friday 3 May 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
JS Production rehearsal	Friday 3 May 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
ISDA Debating – make up Abbotsleigh vs Newington	Friday 3 May 5-8 pm	Online
IPSHA Saturday Sport Indigenous Reconciliation round	Saturday 4 May 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
JS Production rehearsal	Saturday 4 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
Year 5 Brainstorm Production incursion	Monday 6 May 9.30-10.30 am	Everett Hall
Year 6 netball and hockey training	Monday 6 May 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
ELC Mothers' Day breakfasts	Tuesday 7 May 7.30-8.30 am	Early Learning Centre

JS Photo Day #2	Tuesday 7 May 8.30 am-3 pm	Junior School
Year 5 netball and minkey training	Wednesday 8 May 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
ELC Mothers' Day breakfasts	Thursday 9 May 7.30-8.30 am	Early Learning Centre
Years 3 and 4 netball and minkey training	Thursday 9 May 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Walk Safely to School Day	Friday 10 May	
Transition and Years 2, 4 and 6 Mother Daughter Breakfast	Friday 10 May 7-8.15 am	Library Courtyard
Junior School 70th Birthday Assembly	Friday 10 May 1.30-3 pm	Infants Amphitheatre
JS Production rehearsal	Friday 10 May 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
ISDA Debating Octos 1	Friday 10 May 5-8 pm	Venue TBC
IPSHA Saturday Sport	Saturday 11 May 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
JS Production rehearsal	Saturday 11 May 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall

SENIOR SCHOOL

Boarder Travel Day	Monday 29 April	
ANZAC Chapel	Tuesday 30 April 8.20-9 am	Assembly Hall
Years 11 and 12 Lunchtime Futures (Macquarie University)	Wednesday 1 May	U5
Year 11 Art incursion	Thursday 2 May	GCSG
SS Special Assembly	Thursday 2 May	Assembly Hall
House Cross Country Carnival	Friday 3 May 12.30-3.20 pm	SS Synthetic Field and surrounds
Year 10 Coastal Management field trip	Monday 6 May	Long Reef/Collaroy
Plain English Speaking Award – local final competition	Monday 6 May	Senior School
Boarders vs Day Girls sport 1	Monday 6 May	
CIS Swimming Carnival – session 1	Monday 6 May	
CIS Swimming Carnival – session 2 and CIS Diving	Tuesday 7 May	

Year 10 Drama excursion to <i>No Pay? No Way!</i>	Wednesday 8 May	Sydney Theatre Company
Year 10 PASS 1 excursion to ELC	Wednesday 8 May	ELC
Boarders vs Day Girls sport 2	Wednesday 8 May	
Year 9 PTI	Wednesday 8 May	
Year 12 Ancient History excursion	Thursday 9 May	Chau Chak Museum
2024 Boarding Expo	Friday 10 May	Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre
Year 7 History Ancient Egypt excursion	Friday 10 May	Australian Museum
Year 9 Elective History Maritime Museum excursion	Friday 10 May	Australian National Maritime Museum
Year 10 PASS 2 excursion to ELC	Friday 10 May	ELC
Boarders vs Day Girls sport 3	Friday 10 May	
2024 Boarding Expo	Saturday 11 May	Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre
Dubbo Community Event	Saturday 11 May 6-8.30 pm	Down the Lane, Dubbo