

The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

Abbotsleigh girls Brave the Waves in Maths and Science and have great fun!

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress



This week is National Science Week, and our girls and their teachers have used this wonderful opportunity to celebrate all things Maths and Science across the whole school.

In celebration of National Science Week, Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Cathy Foley, stated:

"Science is humanity's superpower. It's the pathway to solving our greatest challenges. From climate change to curing cancer, as well as creating new technologies such as quantum computers and our ability to have space travel to Mars. It's the way to stop extinctions and preserve our biodiversity. But to do this, we need scientists, technicians, mathematicians, engineers and even IT entrepreneurs ...

You don't need to be Einstein to study science. You do need to be curious and open to new possibilities. You need to be the kind of person who likes to ask questions and work away at things until you find the answer. The skills you learn when studying science, engineering and

maths aren't only for people who want to be professors at university. They are for people who want to start businesses and be entrepreneurs, people who want to find new ways to look after the environment, people who like inventing, people who work with big ideas and **so much more!**"

I invite you to [click here](#) to see Dr Foley's very inspiring message in full:

In Junior School chapel, our girls were inspired by AOG Isobel (Izzie) O'Keeffe (Burchett, 2007), who explained to them that when she was at Abbotsleigh her favourite subjects were Biology, Chemistry and Physics. At university, Izzie specialised in psychology and is now a practising psychologist, a profession she loves. Izzie not only told the girls about her passion for Science, but she also delighted them with a wonderfully dramatic skit that linked Science and Christianity beautifully together. We are very grateful to Izzie for giving up her time for our girls.



ABBOTSLEIGH

Visit the [Parent Portal](#) to edit your profile, view the calendar and view parent notices.



Equally, in the Senior School, chapel focused on Science and Maths and Rev Sarah Hobba (a former Science teacher) interviewed a panel consisting of five members of our Maths and Science staff. Mrs Sarah Israel, Mrs Kim Allan, Mr Xavier Boucher, Mrs Deborah Liang and Dr Alison Gates answered wide ranging questions and inspired the girls with their love of Maths and Science, their deep knowledge and their faith. As in Junior School chapel, Science and Christianity were marvellously linked. Our chapel services were just a part of our celebration of Maths and Science across the whole school.

In the Junior School, the week has been huge. Our girls experienced great programs such as Fizzics Ed Maths and Science, and Fizzics Ed Big Science Big Fun. The girls also enjoyed such things as Maths games, nest making, insect scavenger hunts, the fantastic Zoo mobile, the Maths Escape Room, Brain Camp, bug hunts and insect craft, as well as intriguingly named activities such as 'Beyond the Beanstalk: The Spaceship Tree and the Attack of the Pinky Ponky', just to name a few. We are very grateful indeed to our Junior School Maths and Science specialists, Ms Nicole Hunt, Mrs Jacqueline McCarthy, Mrs Sophie Burnett, Ms Sally Southan, Mr David Knott and Dr Ishara Gunsekere, and to all our Junior School teachers who ensured this week was a great week of learning and fun in Maths and Science.

Our Senior School girls also celebrated all things Maths and Science by participating in many activities throughout the week. In particular, our Senior School assembly, organised wonderfully by Mrs Renee Thomson (Head of Science) and Miss Betina Wrightson (Head of Mathematics), focused on some of the wonderful achievements of our girls in competitions such as the da Vinci Decathlon, the Junior Olympiad and the Maths and Engineering Challenge. A number of competitions

involved video entries, and we congratulate Abela Chung of Year 7 for her highly commended and very entertaining video entitled 'The Energy in You: ATP' for The University of Sydney Sleek Geeks Eureka competition, where students were required to enter a short film that communicates a scientific concept in an accessible and engaging way. Our Year 9 girls also presented a great project where they designed and developed a robotic hand for our new subject, i-STEM.

Additionally, during assembly the Desmos Graphing Competition was launched. This looks to be an outstanding competition for our girls who love all things Maths, and I am sure that it will be a great experience for the many girls who have been inspired to participate.

The high point of assembly was the exciting announcement that our very successful Robotics team, ARTEMIS, has been selected to represent Australia in the FIRST Global international robotics competition in Greece.

Every year, FIRST Global, a (STEM) education nonprofit organisation, hosts an international robotics competition. Teams from more than 190 countries come together to compete in this Olympic style event, showcasing their creativity and critical thinking skills to design and build a robot from a standard kit of parts. Every ARTEMIS team member has shown outstanding commitment and dedication to working alongside their peers to build an exceptional robot and are warmly congratulated for their dedication and skills.

The following students have been selected to represent Abbotsleigh and Australia as members of the team competing in Greece:

Reena Du, Celeste Dyer, Dana Retboell, Vianna Soh, Jessica Tan, Salena Xu, Vera Yuen

I am sure you will join me in congratulating these girls and wish them every success. We look forward to hearing all their news as they compete against an international robotics field in Greece in September this year.

As Dr Foley said above, "You don't need to be Einstein to study science. You do need to be curious and open to new possibilities. You need to be the kind of person who likes to ask questions and work away at things until you find the answer."

Our girls are certainly curious and open to new possibilities; they also like to ask questions and they definitely work away at things until they find an answer! They do this as part of their learning all day, every day, and it is a great privilege to see this in action.



Chaplain

Science and Maths Week

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

This week has been Science and Maths Week, and both Junior and Senior Schools have been focusing on the beauty of these disciplines. My tertiary studies include the sciences and theology, something that often surprises people as they think they are very separate areas. Many scientists profess a Christian faith. A place to start exploring this area further would be to google John Lennox, a professor in Mathematics at Oxford University, who has written books and spoken on this area often. In Junior School chapel, we heard from Old Girl Isobel O'Keeffe (Burchett, 2007) who is a psychologist, while in Senior School chapel, several Maths and Science teachers spoke about their passion and their Christian faith.

The foundations of the discipline of the sciences came originally from those wanting to seek more understanding of God and the world. Observing the creation, seeing its patterns and order, and describing the laws that maintain it was a way of knowing more about the Creator. The Bible speaks about knowing God through his creation and through the revelation of God to us in Jesus.

Psalm 19:1-2

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Young Curators (Abbotsleigh and Hornsby Girls High) with artist Oliver Watts	8 to 22 August	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
APA meeting	Monday 19 August 7-9 pm	GLC
NSW State Interschool Snow Sports Championships	Monday 19 to Friday 23 August	Perisher Valley
Abbotsleigh Christian Fellowship prayer meeting	Tuesday 20 August 7.45-8.30 pm	Via Zoom Register here
Abbotsleigh Year 12 2024 Visual Arts exhibition	27 to 31 August	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery

JUNIOR SCHOOL

IPSHA Travelling Art Show	Monday 19 to Friday 23 August All day	
Year 1 Wahroonga Village excursion	Monday 19 August 11 am- 1 pm	Wahroonga Village
Kindergarten Hot Shots Tennis	Monday 19 August 12-12.45 pm	JS Tennis Courts
Year 6 AFL and touch football training	Monday 19 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Transition and ELC to the ACEE	Tuesday 20 August 8.30-2.30 pm	ACEE
Luminescence 70th birthday concert rehearsal	Tuesday 20 August 10.50 am-12.50 pm	Judith Poole Sport Hall
Year 5 Bathurst camp	Wednesday 21 to Friday 23 August	Bathurst
Act for Kids sessions for ELC, Transition and Year 1	Wednesday 21 August Various times	Classrooms
Year 2 Bike Education	Wednesday 21 August Various times	JS Tennis Courts
30 Combined Arts Program	Wednesday 21 August 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Year 1 Cooking Program	Thursday 22 August 8.30-10.30 pm	Outdoor Kitchen
30 Combined Arts Program	Thursday 22 August 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Years 3 and 4 AFL and touch football training	Thursday 22 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
SDN Debating training	Friday 23 August 7.15-8.15 am	AbbSchool East and West Rooms
SDN Debating vs Monte Sant' Angelo	Friday 23 August 4.15-6.30 pm	Abbotsleigh
Year 2 sport training	Saturday 24 August 8-9.30 am	Junior School
IPSHA Saturday Sport	Saturday 24 August 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
Years 3-6 IPSHA artistic gymnastics training	Saturday 24 August 1-5 pm	Gymnasium, Senior School
IPSHA Travelling Art Show	Monday 26 to Friday 30 August All day	
K-6 Perform Education incursions	Monday 26 August Various times	Everett Hall
Kindergarten Hot Shots Tennis	Monday 26 August 12-12.45 pm	JS Tennis Courts
Year 3 eye screening with Wahroonga Eyecare	Monday 26 August 12.30-3 pm	Library Annexe
IPSHA Debating vs The King's School	Monday 26 August 1-3 pm	Junior School
Year 6 AFL and touch football training	Monday 26 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School

ELC incursion to the ACEE	Tuesday 27 August 8.30 am-2.30 pm	ACEE
30 Combined Arts Program	Wednesday 28 August 9.30-11 am	St Lucy's School
IPSHA Athletic Carnival	Wednesday 28 August 8 am-3 pm	SOPAC
Year 3 Act for Kids sessions	Wednesday 28 August Various times	Classrooms
Year 2 Bike Education	Wednesday 28 August Various times	JS Tennis Courts
Year 5 AFL and touch football training	Wednesday 28 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 4 Museum of Contemporary Art excursion	Thursday 29 August 3.20-4.30 pm	MCA
Year 1 Cooking Program	Thursday 29 August 8.30-10.30 pm	Outdoor Kitchen
50 and 5G Judith Krause sessions	Thursday 29 August Various times	Classrooms
30 Combined Arts Program	Thursday 29 August 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Years 3 and 4 AFL and touch football training	Thursday 29 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Kindergarten and Year 3 Father Daughter Breakfast	Friday 30 August 7-8.10 am	Library Plaza
SDN Debating training	Friday 30 August 7.15-8.15 am	AbbSchool East and West Rooms
5L and 5D Judith Krause sessions	Friday 30 August Various times	Classrooms
Transition (Gourp 1) Hammond Care excursion	Friday 30 August 11-11.45 am	Hammond Care
SDN Debating vs Saint Ignatius' College Riverview	Friday 30 August 4.15-6.30 pm	Abbotsleigh
Year 2 sport training	Saturday 31 August 8-9.30 am	Junior School
IPSHA Saturday Sport	Saturday 31 August 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
Years 3-6 IPSHA artistic gymnastics training	Saturday 31 August 1-5 pm	Gymnasium, Senior School

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 17 August	Click here for times and venues
NAIDOC Celebration Week	Monday 19 to Friday 23 August	
Year 9 Elective Music Soirée	Monday 19 August 6.30-8 pm	PDCH
Archdale Debating tiebreakers	Tuesday 20 August 4-8 pm	
Year 10 WABIAD competition	Wednesday 21 August 8 am-6 pm	Archdale Library

Ancestors in the Archives: Family History Month seminar	Wednesday 21 August 1.30-2 pm	Library Seminar Rooms
Middle School Knox Collaboration	Wednesday 21 August 1.30-3.30 pm	Knox Grammar School
Year 12 Geography field trip	Wednesday 21 August 1.30-3.30 pm	Central Coast
IGSA track and field 800 m and hurdles heats	Thursday 22 August 3-6 pm	SOPAC
ABPA meeting	Thursday 22 August 7-8.30 pm	
Years 8 and 10 Father Daughter Breakfast	Friday 23 August 7 am-8.15 pm	Gymnasium
IGSA Track and Field Carnival	Friday 23 August 7 am-3 pm	SOPAC
IGSA Chess Competition Round 4	Friday 23 August 4-6 pm	
SDN Debating	Friday 23 August 4.30-8.30 pm	
Saturday sport	Saturday 24 August	Venues and times to be advised
Year 7 2025 Family Barbecue 1	Saturday 24 August 1-3 pm	Marian Clarke Plaza
IGSA 7s Wet Weather Round	Saturday 24 August 1-4 pm	Pymble Ladies' College
Touch football and water polo trials	Saturday 24 August 1-5 pm	Top Oval and Aquatic Centre
Australian School Band and Orchestra Festival	Sunday 25 August All day	NSW Conservatorium of Music
Senior Public Speaking Competition	Monday 26 August 12.45-1.15 pm	Assembly Hall
Archdale Debating quarter finals	Tuesday 27 August 4-8 pm	
Year 12 HSC Showcase opens	Tuesday 27 August 5.30-8.30 pm	Various SS locations
Year 9 WABIAD competion	Wednesday 28 August 5.30-8.30 pm	Archdale Library
Year 12 Father Daughter Breakfast	Friday 30 August 7-8.15 am	Year 12 Common Room
IGSA Chess Competition Round 5	Friday 30 August 4-6 pm	
SDN Debating	Friday 30 August 4.30-8.30 pm	
Catch a Rising Star Gala Concert	Friday 30 August 6.30-8 pm	PDCH
Saturday sport	Saturday 31 August 8 am-12 noon	Venues and times to be advised
Year 7 2025 Family Barbecue 2	Saturday 31 August 1-3 pm	Marian Clarke Plaza
Rugby 7s Round 4	Saturday 31 August 1-5 pm	Pymble Ladies' College