

The Shuttle

Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

Term 2 2026 – A wonderful Journey With Joy'

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

From the start of Term 2 with our inaugural and highly successful WiLA (Women in Leadership) Conference, until the closing moments this week, the journey of learning, both within and beyond the classroom for our girls across the whole school, has been filled with many opportunities, challenges and marvellous experiences.

I wonder what the highlights have been for your daughter/s. Was it one of the following or a combination of many?

- The WiLA conference
- The poignant Anzac services
- Incredible Chapel services
- Leadership workshops and other opportunities
- The K-12 Mother Daughter Dinner
- Reconciliation Week
- National Boarding Week
- Sport
- Music
- Drama
- Debating/Public Speaking



- Dance
- Robotics
- The Junior School and Senior School musicals – *Freaky Friday* and *Mary Poppins JR.*
- Social justice and serving others
- School camps and excursions
- The 'Journey With Joy' Festival and Year 6 Fundraiser
- New, interesting and incredible learning experiences

The list above is not exhaustive by any stretch of the imagination. Abbotsleigh is a vibrant, exciting and action-packed school and, in true Abbotsleigh style, our girls have embraced our motif – 'the opportunity to do more, so that they have the ability to be more', every minute of every day.'

Our girls' learning is, of course, at the centre of all that we do, and I am always impressed with the way our girls embrace and love learning – even when the concepts may be quite challenging. In fact, it is the way in which our girls in every year group grapple with the complexities, ambiguities and challenges of such concepts that never ceases to amaze me – I am sure that you are equally as impressed with your daughters.





As you would be aware, Semester 1 reports have been made available for parents in all year groups during Term 2. These reports are a snapshot of your daughter for one semester only, and must be read in conjunction with the dynamic feedback provided by each of your daughter’s teachers. I know that many parents have accessed the dynamic feedback information on Canvas as it has been released throughout the semester – sadly, some have not. If you have not yet done this, please do so, as this gives you a very full picture of your daughter’s progress for each assessment task. Each of your daughter’s teachers provides her with comprehensive feedback – areas in which she did well, and the next steps she needs to take to make further progress. Your daughter is also given the opportunity to reflect on each task. The feedback given and well-considered reflection are vital for your daughter’s learning journey.

The combination of the semester reports and dynamic feedback is an important way in which teachers, parents and girls are able to work together to enhance each girl’s

learning experience and progress. When you read both, I am sure you will be as impressed with your daughter/s as I have been.

I warmly commend to you, Director of Curriculum and Professional Excellence, Ms Royston’s outstanding article below, detailing how you can partner in your daughter’s learning through our reporting system – including the steps to access the dynamic feedback.

Your daughter/s and their teachers have been working very hard this term, and it is now time for rest and relaxation, so that your daughters may reinvigorate and re-energise, ready for another exciting term ahead at Abbotsleigh.

I wish you and your daughter/s a wonderful holiday break, and I look forward to seeing you all when we return in Term 3.

Abbotsleigh partnering in your daughter's learning through our reporting system

Ms Isobel Royston

Director of Curriculum and Professional Excellence

As we reach the end of the semester, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the rich learning taking place across Abbotsleigh classrooms. From extended essay writing to creative presentations and collaborative projects, our girls have been actively engaged in developing their skills and understanding. With the release of semester reports, we invite parents and students to explore how our dynamic feedback system supports reflection, goal-setting and future growth.

At Abbotsleigh, reporting is designed to reflect how girls learn, grow and achieve. Our reporting system, referred to as Dynamic Feedback, moves beyond traditional, static reports to create an ongoing and meaningful conversation about learning; one that actively involves students, teachers and parents.

Central to this approach is the development of student agency. Rather than simply receiving a report at the end of term, girls regularly reflect on their progress. They identify their strengths, consider areas for improvement and set clear goals for what comes next. This active involvement helps to build confident, independent learners who understand their own learning journey.


A key feature of the reporting system is the focus on our *Approaches to Learning*. These highlight essential learning dispositions such as being engaged, persevering through challenges and seeking and applying feedback. Making these visible helps students recognise what successful learning looks like and gives parents deeper insight into their daughter's development beyond academic results.

Parents play an important role in this process through Canvas, Abbotsleigh's online learning platform. Through Canvas, parents can access timely updates on their daughter's progress, including teacher feedback and

student reflections. This offers a clear and immediate view of learning as it unfolds. It is not just the outcomes that can be seen, but the process of learning that is how your daughter is engaging, responding to feedback and setting goals for improvement.

This shared visibility enables more informed and meaningful conversations at home and strengthens the partnership between school and family. Our reporting system at Abbotsleigh is not an endpoint but an ongoing, interactive part of learning that supports every girl to grow, reflect and thrive.

To access the Reporting (Dynamic Feedback) information for your daughter:

1. Log in to the **Abbotsleigh Parental Portal**.
2. To open **Canvas**, click on the Canvas icon  in the top navigation bar to view your daughter's courses.
3. Once you have logged in to Canvas, switch to her view by selecting her name from the dropdown menu in the top right of your dashboard.
Note: If you have multiple children enrolled at Abbotsleigh, you will see an option for each child in the drop-down menu.
4. The dashboard shows all your daughter's courses.
5. From the right-hand side of the dashboard, you can see activity for your daughter, for example, **'To Do'**, **'Recent Feedback'** and **'View Marks'**.

- Selecting 'Recent Feedback' takes you directly to that feedback.
- Selecting 'View Marks' will show you your daughter's marks for all subjects. You can select a particular subject by clicking on it. You will also be able to see important feedback.



Chaplain

Thinking joyfully

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

As we come to the end of the term, we also conclude our Senior School Chapel series on 'Joy – Lessons from Philippians'. Joy echoes throughout this letter, captured in our School Lesson, Philippians 4:4-9: *'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!'* Paul goes on to write: *'Whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.'*

We know our minds don't naturally go there. Research shows our brains tend towards a *negativity bias*, noticing

and remembering what is bad more than what is good. Paul calls us to something different: to deliberately fix our minds on what is good, true and lovely. This kind of thinking is grounded in Jesus, demonstrated in his life, death and resurrection, and in Paul's great example of humility and love which unfolds in Philippians 2.

As we reflect on the first half of 2026 and head into the holidays, our thinking can drift in all kinds of directions. The encouragement from Paul is to shift our thinking from the false to the true, from the unjust to the just, from the unlovely and ungracious to the lovely and gracious. These are the things to delight and rejoice in. May this break be a time not only for rest and connection with others but also a time to think joyfully.

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Parent Wellbeing Hive – parent wellbeing resources	Available to all parents on the Parent Portal	Click here to visit
Pacific Highway pedestrian overpass overnight closure	Tuesday 28 April to Friday 31 July 9 pm-5 am	15 temporary overnight closures to complete work on pedestrian overpass
Pulse exhibition	Wednesday 24 June to Saturday 11 July	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
Last day of Term 2	Thursday 25 June	
First day of Term 3, all students	Tuesday 21 July	

SENIOR SCHOOL

Year 11 2027 subject selection parent info night	Thursday 25 June 6.30-8.30 pm	Assembly Hall
Boarder travel day	Friday 26 June	