The
Shuttle

Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.



The 'joy' of giving

Thank you so much to our very generous Abbotsleigh community

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

I would like to thank our wonderful matching donors and every member of our community who was able to donate on our Giving Day on Wednesday. Every dollar makes a significant difference to our girls and our School, and I am deeply grateful for your incredible generosity. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

We are especially grateful to so many volunteers, including members of the Abbotsleigh Foundation, the APA, many parents and Old Girls who not only donated but also gave up so much of their time to make phone calls for this worthwhile cause.

As a result of your generosity, over $327,242 has been raised so far. Thanks to our generous matching donors, donations are still being doubled. Your generosity means we can continue to plan to build state-of-the-art facilities (Performing Arts Centre) for our current and future girls, and a number of young women, whose family circumstances would normally prevent them from attending Abbotsleigh, will now be able to experience the unique and transformative education that our great school provides.

The generosity of everyone in our Abbotsleigh community knows no bounds. Thank you.

Megan

'Journey With Joy' – Our vibrant and active school

In addition to Giving Day, it has been a great week for our girls in the Junior and Senior Schools at Abbotsleigh.

On Tuesday, we held our traditional Final Chapel Service for our Year 6 girls as they prepare to leave the Junior School and move into the Senior School. Beautifully organised by our Junior School Chaplain, Mrs Alison Soper, the girls were treated to magnificent music by the Year 5 Chamber Ensemble and the Infants Choir, as well as an excellent talk by renowned author Mr Chris Morphew. At the conclusion of his talk, Mr Morphew presented each Year 6 girl with his book, *Worth It*, which was a gift from the Junior School. The prayers for Year 6 by Sofia and Sara, whose big sisters are in Year 6, were very special, as was our Junior School CRU Captain, Alessia's superb reflection, which I warmly commend to you – see below.

As we head towards the end of term, the Senior School has been a 'hive of activity'. Our Years 7 and 8 girls participated in Wellbeing Days, superbly organised by our

Wellbeing Days





Director of Wellbeing, Mrs Liz Cannon, who was assisted by our Head of Middle School, Mrs Clare Haymen, Year Coordinators Ms Georgie Humphries and Mr Will Beaumont, Assistant Year Coordinators Mrs Liz Harnwell and Mr Jason Garrett, and their teams, to whom we are most grateful. This week also, Year 7 visited Taronga Zoo and Year 8 went to Luna Park for a fun-filled day of maths!

Further, Year 9 has been busy preparing for the annual Wheeldon Cup, and we congratulate all our Year 9 girls whose creativity, hard work, exceptional teamwork and fabulous talent were showcased in excellent performances today. The highly prized cup was won by MIGHT this year, and we warmly congratulate each girl in Melba and Wright

We are very grateful to Mr Jon Dunk, our Year 9 Coordinator, Ms Alica Highfield, Assistant Year Coordinator, all the Year 9 tutors and teachers, and Mrs Clare Haymen, who ensured the Wheeldon Cup was such a success.

At the conclusion of the performances, all our Middle School girls and many teachers headed out to the top oval to participate in the much-anticipated Middle School Colour Run. This was SO much fun.

In addition to the above, and as you would be aware from our Head of Senior College, Ms Penny Chilton's Week 4 *Shuttle* article, our Year 10 girls have been involved in Immersion Week this week. Participating in 13 Service Learning Projects for which they have been preparing all year, our girls have learnt so much and have made a very positive difference in our local community, as well as in the broader community in areas as far away as North Queensland. We are very grateful indeed to Ms Penny Chilton, Mrs Libby Bennett, EA to Head of Senior College, Dr Elizabeth Russell, Year 10 Coordinator, Mr James Flood, Year 10 Assistant Coordinator, and our Year 10 tutors and teachers for giving up their time and supporting the girls in this important program.

I would like to thank our very hard-working and dedicated staff across the School for the outstanding work they do in ensuring our girls have the best learning experiences possible in so many areas.

I am also grateful to our girls and our staff who are determined to make such a positive difference in our world – thank you so much.

Wheeldon Cup








Immersion Week





Middle School Colour Run






Year 6 Farewell Chapel Service

Alessia, *JS CRU Captain* and *Year 6 student*

When I was younger, I used to imagine God as a physical person who wandered around the streets. But as I have grown older, I've come to understand that God isn't someone we can see. But he is someone who is always watching over us, cares about us and is with us wherever we go.

I've also learnt that Jesus doesn't make our decisions for us or control what we do. Instead, he gives us guidance and strength to make good choices and helps us through difficult times.

Along the way, there have been lots of people who have helped me grow in my faith. I've enjoyed hearing about Jesus from different people. My Christian Studies teachers have helped me understand the Bible stories more deeply. My friend Amelia has also been someone I've been able to talk to about my faith. She's encouraged me along the way. It's really helpful to have people you can chat with.

One of the things I find most comforting about Jesus is knowing that I'm never alone. When things are difficult, I know that Jesus cares about me and can give me strength. Even when something goes wrong, I know he still loves me and there's always a way to keep going. To me, one of the most interesting parts of the Bible is the story of Jesus dying on the cross and coming back to life. It reminds me just how much Jesus loves us and how much he cares for others. I'm still learning how to share the good news about Jesus with other people. Sometimes I find it easier to show people I'm a Christian through the way I treat others and the things I do, rather than just telling them straight away,




If I could tell the Kindergarten girls one thing, it would be that the Bible might seem like lots of different stories but they're actually all part of one big story. It's all about God's love for us and how he sent Jesus to rescue us.

I'm still growing in my faith, and I know I have lots more to learn, but I'm thankful that Jesus is with me every step of the way.

Chaplain



Learning, growing, giving

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

In these final weeks of the school year, we are still learning and growing in very important ways. While it is tempting to think that schools are primarily about results, learning occurs in many different ways and contexts. Education is not only about what we know but also about who we are becoming. We continue to learn life lessons that shape us into whole people, living wholeheartedly and purposefully. We keep growing in generosity, compassion, encouragement, humility and service to others.

During the four weeks leading up to Christmas, the season of Advent invites us to remember that generosity begins with God. The birth of Jesus is God's great gift to the world, a sign of his love, compassion and desire to draw near to humanity. In response, Christians are called not merely to admire that gift but to reflect it in the way they live and treat others. Having freely received God's love and generosity, we are invited to give generously of ourselves in return.

We see many examples of this spirit within our own community. Whether supporting the Colour Run for Bunda Inclusive Girls School, contributing to Anglicare donations, participating in Year 10 Immersion Week or simply building meaningful connections with those around us, our girls demonstrate that education is about the whole person and the ways we learn from and serve others. Generosity and compassion are about giving our time, attention, care and service for the benefit of others, with gratitude and the hope of making a positive difference.

May these final weeks of the year be marked not only by achievement and activity but also by a spirit of generosity and kindness, as we seek to share with others something of the love that God has first shown to us.

1 John 3:16-18

16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. 17 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? 18 Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Parent Wellbeing Hive – parent wellbeing resources	Available to all parents on the Parent Portal	**Click here** to visit
After Namatjira Richard Dunn Exhibition	Saturday 31 October to Saturday 28 November	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
Last Day of Term 4	Wednesday 2 December	
Years 7 and 12 boarders arrive for 2027	Wednesday 27 January 2027	
T, K and new students in Junior School Orientation Morning, Year 7, Year 12 and new Senior School students commence, Years 8-11 boarders arrive	Thursday 28 January 2027	
Term 1 2027 commences	Friday 29 January 2027	

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 3 Soiree	Tuesday 24 November 6-7 pm	Everett Hall
Junior School Twilight Carols Service	Thursday 26 November 4.30-8.30 pm	Junior School Oval
Year 6 farewell and dance	Friday 27 November 6-10 pm	PDCH and Senior School Cafeteria
K-3 Variety Concert	Tuesday 1 December 11-11.45 am	Everett Hall
Years 4-6 Variety Concert	Tuesday 1 December 12-12.45 pm	Everett Hall
APA Junior School BBQ	Tuesday 1 December 12.30-1.30 pm	Library Plaza
Junior School Speech Day	Wednesday 2 December 2-3.30 pm	Judith Poole Sports Hall

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 21 November	**Click here** for times and locations
Year 8 Medieval Day	Wednesday 25 November	
Year 7 Inquisitive Minds incursion	Thursday 26 November	Library seminar rooms
Senior School Carols Service	Sunday 29 November 7.15-8.30 pm	Senior School Chapel
House Theatresports	Tuesday 1 December 2.10-3.25 pm	Assembly Hall
Senior School Speech Day	Wednesday 2 December 9-11 am	Judith Poole Sports Hall
ABBOX Sony Foundation Camp	Thursday 3 to Sunday 6 December	Knox Grammar
Boarder travel day	Thursday 3 December	