Year 5 students recently held outstanding exhibitions, a culmination of their Primary Years Programme learning journey that they have been on for the past six years.
Welcome to the end of the school year, a wonderful time of creativity, celebration and reflection. On behalf of all the staff at the College, thank you for entrusting your children to us. We have thoroughly enjoyed caring for and educating them over the past twelve months.

As a year ends it is a good time to pause and reflect on the journey that your child has travelled over the past twelve months; are they where you thought they would be? Have they been part of, and enjoyed positive experiences this year with their teachers and class mates? Have they grown in and developed the attributes of a learner? It is our hope that we have in the past year been able to partner with you to ride the highs and lows that inevitably occur over the course of a year. We certainly have watched your child develop physically this year; in addition to this, and perhaps more importantly, we have had the opportunity to watch your child grow in character and emotional maturity.

Regardless of the year level your child is in, from ELC through to Year 12, they are a different person now than this time last year, and will again, if we pause to look back again in twelve months, be different then. It is one of the rewarding aspects of being a teacher. To watch students grow and develop incrementally each year, until before you know it; the student standing in front of you is a 17 year old adolescent, almost adult, ready to leave the school and head out for the next part of their life journey.

This time of year is also a time of celebration, a time where we come together at a number of events to recognise and thank the students for their contributions to the College. The Year 5 Exhibitions, Volunteer Thank You evening, College Valedictory, awards assemblies and graduation lunches and dinners are just some of the ways we celebrate the unique talents and strengths that our students bring to our community. Our community is made so rich by all those within it, our staff, parents and students, and this year has been a year where there have been many opportunities to be involved and be part of strengthening our College community, and I thank all of you, as in some way all of us have contributed to the identity and diversity of who we are.

This year in particular I have been amazed, and inspired, by the creativity of our students and the staff who have provided the opportunities for the expression of such creative sparks. I have watched students make lava lamps, Rube Goldberg machines, recite poetry, design ergonomic chairs, construct furniture for students in East Timor, express themselves in dramatic and visual forms, and all the while have fun and learn that individual expression is a freedom that can change the way we think. For those who were able to attend the College musical, ARTiculate, Year 2 presentation night or Year 12 drama production, it is evident that we have some very talented and skilled students in our midst.

It is a blessing to work at this school, surrounded by others who believe in our mission, and who care passionately about equipping our students to become flourishing, knowledgeable and compassionate people. We believe that it is through developing these attributes and values that we develop students who understand that we have a responsibility to use all the opportunities and strengths we have to enrich the lives of others, and to do this with a serving heart.

God’s blessing to you and your family over the upcoming break, thank you for your support this year, and I look forward to seeing you all again next year, ready for another year of growth.

Rachel Boyce
Principal
2017 College Captains and Leaders

College Captains, Senior Leaders and House Leaders were installed by Principal, Rachel Boyce and Pastor Andrew during Chapel on Monday 31 October. Congratulations to each one of you on your appointment to these important College positions. We wish you all the very best as you commence a number of duties already this year and for your continued roles in 2017. College Captains: Mikayla De Castro and Benjamin Moulday. House Captains: Jemma Fosdick, Kaneesha Buckman, Maddison Curtis, CJ Pickering, John Breen, Connor Francis, Abbey Chalker and Jesse Grover. Senior Leaders: Molly Sutherland, Sierra Haigh, Erika Yamada, Teale McMahon, Pauline Papajua, Tristan Chambers and Jaiden Thompson.

German Exchange Students

Our visiting German students were welcomed by Mr Cummins over a very nice breakfast on Wednesday 19 October. Students have so far visited the Museum and Botanic Gardens, with many more exciting events planned. We hope their time at Good Shepherd is really special and are sure that many long-lasting friendships are being established.

Important Dates

**December**
- **Friday 9** – Last Day Term 4
- **Saturday 10** – Class of 2011, 5 Year Reunion
- **Tuesday 20** – NTCET (SACE) Year 12 Results Released
- **Sunday 25** – Christmas Day

**January**
- **Sunday 1** – New Year’s Day
- **Monday 23** – Friday 27 – Staff Professional Development
- **Tuesday 24** – Year 6 Orientation Evening
- **Thursday 26** – Australia Day
- **Monday 30** – First Day Term 1
In All Things, Give Thanks

*Always be joyful* and never stop praying. *Whatever happens, keep thanking God because of Jesus Christ. This is what God wants you to do.*

I Thessalonians 5:16-18 CEV

For many of us as parents it seems that a lesson we try and teach our children throughout their growing up years is to show manners, in particular to say ‘please’ when we ask for something, and ‘thankyou’ when we have been given something. Thinking back I feel that this is a reminder I have given to each of my children perhaps thousands of times, but it just doesn’t seem to happen automatically for them. But then, on the other side, it has always been nice when others compliment you on the lovely manners your children have. Apparently it’s ok to show manners to others, just don’t let your parents ever know that you have learnt that lesson!

At those times when I’ve become frustrated about this lack of progress in ‘please’ and ‘thankyou’ becoming automatic for my children, I’ve had to ask myself, ‘why does that bother me so much?’ Why get worked up about it and spend so much time pushing it? For me the answer has always been that, in our culture at least, those two words are one of the ways we communicate thankfulness and gratefulness for what people do for us and what they give us. Apparently it’s ok to show manners to others, just don’t let your parents ever know that you have learnt that lesson!

As we look around us in our lives we have so much to be thankful for. We live in a country where we have people to protect us and we don’t have to worry about wars. The majority of people in this country don’t have to worry about where their next meal is coming from, or where they will sleep tonight. All have access to health care, and our children are all able to have an education which will give them choices in what they do with their lives.

Recently in Chapel services for Middle and Senior School students, I showed a clip which asked how often we said, ‘it’s not fair!’ in relation to what we do have, instead of what we don’t. How often do I say, ‘it’s not fair!’ that I have clean drinking water, while for some in the world they have to drink water knowing it can make them sick? Do I say, ‘it’s not fair!’ that my home and community will not be destroyed by war, while others spend most of their lives in limbo going from one refugee camp to another? Do I take the time to appreciate what I do have, or spend more time worrying about what I am missing out on?

Manners are one easy, simple and everyday way to communicate this thanks, but there are many others. At Good Shepherd we have a number of different causes we support. Just recently we had our Bandanna Day for Canteen. One thousand bandannas were ordered across all campuses, and they all sold out before school on the morning of Bandanna Day. Currently we are fundraising for the Gifts of Grace appeal, buying gifts like toilets, school desks, pigs, chickens and fresh drinking water for people around the world. This year as every year people are being very generous in their giving to this appeal. Leading up to Christmas we will once again be collecting food and small gifts to be donated to the Salvation Army, things for people living in our community who go without the things we take for granted at Christmas time. Giving to others in these ways is one way to show we are thankful for all we have.

There are other ways too. In the words we say to someone. In the note or gift which is unexpected. In helping someone out. In seeking ways to serve. In passing on to others the kindness we have received. Think about how blessed you are, be thankful for those things, and think...
about how you can live out your thankfulness. As Christians, we can also thank God for all he gives us in our lives, and that he continually blesses us each day.

Thinking about what we have, and having an attitude of thankfulness, we too can then in all things, give thanks.

God’s peace to you all,

Pastor Andrew

Combined College / Church Service

Thank you to the many people involved in the combined College Church service on Sunday 11 September, it was a lovely morning. Thanks especially Pastor Andrew, Junior School Choir, MS / SS singing group, Band, Bible and prayer readers. Thank you Tahlia Anver for sharing your recent experiences of Djibouti, Africa with the Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS). A most humbling presentation. We will again be supporting ALWS through the ‘Gifts of Grace’ program in Term 4.

Crazy Hair Day

There were many fantastic hairstyles as part of ‘Crazy Hair Day’ at the St Andrew Campus on Friday 4 November. Well done everyone, another outstanding fundraising effort for Gifts of Grace.
Year 3 Market Day

The Year 3 classes at both St Andrew and Palmerston Campuses held their Market Days in Weeks 7 and 8 last term. The students are to be commended on their marvelous work and resulting sales. Proceeds from their stalls went to their selected charities. Well done everyone.
Book Character & Grandparents & Special Friends’ Day

Junior School students at the Howard Springs Campus had a marvellous time on Friday 21 October. The variety of costumes was simply amazing - thank you parents for organising such amazing book characters. The morning started with a parade and assembly, followed by a lovely morning tea for students and their special guests.
Pedal Prix

This 24 hour endurance event in a HPV (human powered vehicle) was held on Saturday 24 & Sunday 25 September in Murray Bridge, SA. Over 55 students participated across three categories in the College’s three HPVs – Northern Terror, Croc Attack and Tropic Thunder. Students pedalled very hard through a long cold night, we are proud of you all!

Students vs Staff Debate

On Thursday 22 September, senior students and staff debated the very interesting topic, ‘Should we abolish Territory Day’. It was a most entertaining and quite hilarious debate, which the students won unanimously. Well done students ... and teachers who did try their very best.

Students: Courtney Stanwix, Sam Errity, Chloe Twining and Timothy Saunders.
Teachers: Cliff Reeves, Jacob Fajzullin and Jack Williams.
Tournament of Minds

After the fun in Term 2 with lunchtime activities where students experienced solving problems creatively and spontaneously, we went ahead with the selected team for the Tournament of Minds Competition. An interested group of students from Year 6, 8 and 9 met together after school and during lunchtimes to solve the Long Term Maths/Engineering Problem they selected. The students had to come up with a sorting device that was able to detect items that did and didn’t fit the requirements of the Golden Rectangle. This involved research into the Fibonacci Sequence and history of the Golden Ratio. The students had to write a script that included the reason why a kingdom chose to use this device and a number of other included items. On the day, the team was down one member as Stefan was unwell and also the main designer. They managed to respectfully include Stefan in the final speech along with successfully sorting the envelopes given to them by the panel of judges, some of which didn’t fit the measurements for the Golden Rectangle.

The actual day for the competition Sunday 17 September, saw a nervous group of students deliver a powerhouse performance in both sections of the competition-Long Term and Spontaneous. We congratulate, Stefan Minnaar, Lachlan Martius, Hannah Montgomery, William Vetter, Jordyn Bradshaw, Michael Nowlan and Jack Logan for their determination to arrive at a solution and for their creativity in solving the problems presented to them as they progressed through the competition. The judges in their comments said that our school should be very proud of our students’ ability to solve the problem and the way they presented themselves. Thanks goes to Mr Jonathan Talbot for his long hours supporting the team, Mrs Trish Dowling and Mrs Sarah Harkin for their enthusiastic input along the way.

Marie Robertson
Learning Support/Enrichment Coordinator

Junior School Tournament of Minds

What St Andrew Campus students had to say about Tournament of Minds:

ToMs taught me how to work in a group better. Maisie

ToMs is fun because you get to be challenged and do different things with a team. Kelin

In ToMs I learnt how to work as a team and that it is not always better to work independently. A team gives you more ideas. Daisy

In ToMs we learnt how to work as a team, include others … it’s not all about winning but having fun and working together. Jorja

ToMs was awesome because it was hard in some parts but on the day it was easier. A big thank you to Mrs Anver for helping us. Jacob

ToMs was fun to work as a team and get to learn all about each other and it was a fun time to work together. Calista
Japanese Cultural Exchange Tour

On Friday 16 September myself, 20 other students and 3 incredible teachers travelled across the globe all the way to Japan for the cultural experience of a lifetime. The two week trip was jam-packed, from amazing cultural activities to meeting unique people, the trip was definitely one to remember.

During the first week we stayed in Osaka and went to places like Kaiyukan Aquarium, Hiroshima, The Golden Pavilion, The Imperial Palace and school. On the Wednesday 21 September we travelled hours on train and taxi to a small town just outside of Osaka called Wakayama. We even managed to lose Mr Seekee on the way, he just refused to get off the train. Sneaky Seekee! Though in all seriousness, attending Seirin High School for a day with our lovely exchange students that stayed with us in July was easily my favourite part of the trip. The school differences allowed us to really become immersed in the culture and discover more about normal life for Japanese students. I also found it very interesting to see the differences between Japan and Australia not only in school but in everyday life. Simple things such as smiling at people you walk past, which we all do in Australia is completely taken for granted since no one does that in Japan.

However one thing that didn’t go unrecognised was the continuous work of our amazing teachers who planned the entire trip and put their hands up to travel across the globe with 21 students. So on behalf of those 21 students, I would like to personally say thank you once again for everything.

In the second week of our trip we travelled to Tokyo and went to places such as Akihabara, Harajuku, Mount Fuji and Sky Tree, a 634 metre observation tower just to name a few. Furthermore, the trip was so well planned that we were able to attend a night of Sumo and a famous baseball game between the Yokohama BayStars and the Yomiuri Giants. Mr Yamada insisted that the Giants were the best and after a long night of cheering for them they lost! Moral of the story? Never trust Mr Yamada.

On the Tuesday 27 September we travelled out to Mt Fuji and went to an amusement park called Fuji-Q. The day was absolutely lovely and the view from the rides over Mt Fuji were incredible. Throughout the duration of our Japanese trip I have also been able to create so many connections with so many people who I can honestly say I wouldn’t have spoken to before the trip. We have genuinely created a bond that will last forever and I just think it’s amazing that I can now call every single one of these 21 people my family.

Conclusively the trip was absolutely amazing and such an unforgettable experience for everyone.

Ellie Grover
Year 10 Student
Hughes Day

Middle and Senior School students participated in a number of activities as part of Hughes Day in Week 9, Term 3. There was a photo booth, cake stall, car wash, dunking machine and BBQ. Thanks to all senior Hughes' students who organised the many fun events and to the teachers who took part in the dunking machine. There were some very funny moments!

Stage 2 Drama – Mother Courage and Her Children

Stage 2 Drama students; Ashlea Williams, Matthew Dejonge, Sam Hyland, Neil Barlow, Chelsea Donoghue, Connor Barton, Samuel Mulkearns, Samantha Scherer-Bates and Patrick English were moderated during their performance of ‘Mother Courage and Her Children’ on Wednesday 7 September. This was one of three evening performances for the College community. The Drama students also provided special performances during Middle School assemblies. Well done to you all and thank you Tech Crew for your involvement and Year 10 students for providing the music; Aaron Fidock, Matthew Cameron and Sidney Collings.

Jade Briscoe
Stage 2 Drama Teacher
This very special, annual event on Thursday 3 November, was an outstanding showcase of Art, Dance, Design, Drama and Music. Students from the Howard Springs Junior School were invited to visit during the day and were in awe of the many items on display. From 4.00pm, awards were presented for each art area for students in Year 6 to Year 12. Congratulations to all students who received an award for excelling in one of these art areas. Parents greatly enjoyed viewing dance and drama rehearsals and were treated to outstanding performances in the Chapel from 6.00pm – 7.00pm. There were singing groups, solos and duets, a wonderful variety of dances, skits and snapshots of senior school plays. Star Wars was performed in a condensed 3 minute version, which was an absolute delight for all. Well done to everyone involved and thank you to the College’s Arts Department for organising an excellent event once again. Thanks also to the many parents and grandparents who have passed on their gratitude, wishing to inform all involved of the wonderful evening they had … it doesn’t get much better than that! Well done everyone.
Aurecon Bridge Building Competition

Ms Peters took a group of very keen bridge builders to compete in the state-wide Aurecon Bridge Building Competition on Friday 26 August at CDU. This incredible team blitzed the competition, winning 3 of the categories - Innovation, All-rounder and Strength Award. Congratulations to; Mitchell Davis, Stella Foster, Ayden Nankervis and Joseph Phillpotts, (Year 8) and Naomi Mears (Year 9).

Oxfam Hunger Banquet

In Term 3 as part of the curriculum for Individuals and Society, Year 9 and 10 students participated in the Oxfam Hunger Banquet. This field activity tied in with their unit of study which focused on the ability of humans to manage the biomes to sustainably feed the world population.

The Hunger Banquet is an Oxfam fundraising and awareness raising activity. Students draw a card to see if they fall in the top 15% enabling them to have beef lasagne, salad and juice while seated at a table with serving staff. The middle 35% had a cheese and tomato sandwich with a cup of water and chairs to sit on and the bottom 50% received a spoon of rice in a lettuce leaf. They were required to scoop water out of a container that only held enough for 45% of users into plastic cups and they had to sit on the ground. The ‘class-based’ lunch was an excellent learning opportunity and one students will not forget in a hurry.

Gabrielle Kaoustos
Humanities Learning Area Coordinator
Year 6 students celebrated Book Week in Week 6 of Term 3 with many dressing up as their favorite book character. A number of teachers dressed up too! It was a lot of fun and something we hope to continue in the future, with other year levels becoming involved as well.

Anna Seidl
Teacher Librarian
Year 7 Science

Year 7 Science students have been looking at all the ways water is treated by people throughout the world. The first of our investigations, was the Decanting Method, which is used in many third world countries. Decanted water will look clearer but will not be cleaner, as bacteria (microscopic) and dissolved solids (soluble substances) still remain. We then investigated ‘filtration’ methods and decided which filtration apparatus will provide the cleanest looking filtrate.

Trisha Dowling
Science Teacher

Year 8 Science

Year 8 Science classes spent the last week of Term 3 constructing Rube Goldberg Machines; a contraption, invention or device that is deliberately over-engineered to perform a simple task in a complicated fashion, generally including a chain reaction. This was the final activity for their unit on Energy.

Michelle Montgomery
Teacher

Year 10 Materials Design

Year 10 Materials Design students constructed 34 stools and benches in Term 3, along with a number of wooden toys. These items will be shipped to Pattaya, Thailand to be used by orphaned children. Thank you Year 10 students for this wonderful act of service and to teacher, Mr Arthur MacRae.
Middle & Senior School Swimming Carnival

Over 140 students participated in this year’s swimming carnival held on Friday 14 October. It was a very sunny day, so students were advised to stay in the shade as much as possible and slip, slop slap. Humidity was at a reasonable level and the rain held off. Congratulations Strauss on winning the swimming carnival and thank you to all houses for your strong spirit on the day. Thanks also to the World Challengers who provided a great BBQ, with all proceeds supporting the project component of their trip to India in 2017.

Jeannie Cook
Sports Coordinator
Year 10 Touch Rugby

The finals for the Year 10 HPE Touch Rugby Tournament were held on Tuesday 20 September. Students ran this tournament for 6 weeks and performed very well. Winners of our 10.4 Tournament during lessons 3 and 4 were the Springboks! Winners of our 10.1 & 10.2 HPE tournament during lessons 1 and 2 were the All Blacks!

Most Valuable Players for each team from 10.1/10.2 during lessons 1 & 2:

**Fiji**
MVP – Jason MacDonald  
Runner Up – Ben MacDonald  

**Springboks**
MVP – Isaac Ah Mat  
Runner Up – Emily Duffy

**All Blacks**
MVP – Jaidyn Hussie-Guinane  
Runner Up – Siam Malone

MVPs for each team from 10.4 during period 3 & 4:

**Fiji**
MVP – Jordan Sing  
Runner Up – Caleb Johnstone

**Springboks**
MVP – Connor Keelan  
Runner Up – Mitchell Theyers

**All Blacks**
MVP – Jai Weetra  
Runner Up – Riley Zerafa
2016 Netball

2016 was a great netball season for Good Shepherd, entering 13 teams into the Palmerston Netball Association competition with players aged from 8 year olds to 17 year olds. We had some fantastic volunteer coaches giving up their time to train and coach the teams. All teams developed and improved throughout the year including players that had never played the game before. At the end of the season we saw teams in 11’s, 13’s, 15’s and 17’s all going through into finals. Good Shepherd has many young umpires assisting Good Shepherd teams and other teams in the competition and improving their skills this year. As the season drew to a close a fun day was had at the Palmerston Pool.

We look forward to another strong season in 2017 which may even include an open team for those adults interested in joining in the fun.

Lhara Bellis
GSJC Netball Coordinator
Middle & Senior School Cross Country

Congratulations Fenton on winning the Middle & Senior School cross country event on Wednesday 21 September. Strauss were a close second, followed by Hughes and then Livingstone. Congratulations to all age group winners and runners up, and Jaidyn Hussie-Guinane for overall outright champion. Well done to all participants, as that’s what it’s all about!

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR LEVEL</th>
<th>CHAMPION</th>
<th>RUNNER UP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 Boys</td>
<td>Jett Claydon</td>
<td>Marc Dent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Girls</td>
<td>Millie Green</td>
<td>Ashlea Barker &amp;</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Boys</td>
<td>Nathan Dixon</td>
<td>Jess Donohoe</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Girls</td>
<td>Leona Papajua</td>
<td>Daniel Breen</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Boys</td>
<td>Cameron Hyde</td>
<td>Kaitlyn Whittaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Girls</td>
<td>Caitlyn Musgrove</td>
<td>Jonty Patrick</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Boys</td>
<td>Ben Ogden</td>
<td>Sally Howie</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Girls</td>
<td>Sophie Boyce</td>
<td>Bailey Hume</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Boys</td>
<td>Jaidyn Hussie-Guinane</td>
<td>Arianna Baldieri</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Girls</td>
<td>Georgia Koch</td>
<td>Caleb Johnstone</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Boys</td>
<td>Jeremy Binks</td>
<td>Angela Pask</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Girls</td>
<td>CJ Pickering</td>
<td>Cody Johnston</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Boys</td>
<td>Lachlan Brodie</td>
<td>Jessica Marshall</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Girls</td>
<td>Courtney Stanwix</td>
<td>Joe Williams</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ashleigh Abram</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Livingstone 1198
Hughes 1385
Strauss 1513
Fenton 1661

Jeannie Cook
Sports Coordinator
Thank you for being part of the family of Independent Schools – We Care!

Your decision to enrol your child/ren in one of the Northern Territory’s Independent Schools is a vote of confidence in the Independent sector, and we thank you for it.

The Independent sector in the Territory is growing much faster than the Government and Catholic school sectors. Enrolment in Northern Territory Independent Schools increased by 51 per cent in the decade 2005-2015. In the past five years, enrolment has increased by an average of 207 students per year. This has occurred during a period of stagnant total enrolment growth across Northern Territory schools.

Information released this week shows that between 2014 and 2015 the number of students enrolled in non-Government schools in the Territory increased by 51. (The official Department of Education data combines Independent and Catholic sector figures.) NTCET completions in non-government schools increased by 70, not including IB Diploma completers, whereas over the same 12 months there was a decline of 48 in NTCET completers from Government schools. Full fee-paying international students increased from 53 to 81, almost double the figure for Government schools.

Families who decide to educate their children in Independent Schools make a significant contribution to the nation’s economic health. Nationally, eighty-six per cent of the average percentage of capital funding for Independent Schools comes from parents and communities. Across Australia, Independent Schools employ 86,000 staff and input PAYG tax of $1.6 billion. At the same time, the average Australian Government recurrent funding per school student is $7,940 for Independent Schools compared to $9,750 for Catholic Schools and $16,180 for Government Schools.

This means you contribute to an annual saving to governments of $4.3 billion – the additional recurrent funding cost to governments if every Independent School student moved to the government system. The Association of Independent Schools of the Northern Territory has found that parents value the family feel of local Independent Schools. Parents also value quality, choice, and knowing that care for all students is paramount. Our sector is highly diverse, but the commitment to student-centred education is evident across all schools. In terms of diversity, it is worth noting that the number of Students With Disability continues to increase; that we have students from many countries and cultural backgrounds; and that AISNT boarding schools are the largest per capita provider of Indigenous boarding of any state or territory provider, regardless of sector.

Your support is invaluable for Independent Schools, for the Northern Territory and Australia as a whole – but also, we hope and believe, for the education of your child, because we have great schools with dedicated teachers doing wonderful things every day. Thank you for being part of the Independent School family.

For more information please visit: www.aisnt.asn.au

(Statistics are from the NT Department of Education Annual Report 2015-16; 2015 ABS, DET and Productivity Commission data; latest available school funding data which is financial year 2013-14 or calendar year 2014; and the Independent Schools Council of Australia.)

*Thank you AISNT for providing this article which was recently published in the NT News.
Benchmarking with the best

Hong Kong schools consistently rank near the top of world educational rankings. What is the secret to their success? The Association of Independent Schools of the Northern Territory took educators to Hong Kong to examine local practices on an International Benchmarking Study program led by Dr Stephen Brown.

“The program provided an opportunity to explore up close the system and classroom practices that provide Hong Kong with an edge, and to consider how these aspects might be incorporated in our own schools,” said Gail Barker, Executive Director AISNT. “It was also a great chance for Northern Territory teachers and principals to form relationships with schools, educators and academics in Hong Kong.

“The mix of schools we visited went a long way to dismissing some of the stereotypes that participants may have had. We were provided a well balanced view of a cross section of opportunities that has opened doors to some interesting opportunities.”

For Karen Koehler, Head of Junior School, St Andrew Campus, Good Shepherd Lutheran College, “The school visits gave me a sense that we are all in this global world dealing with similar issues and by working collaboratively we can utilize lessons learnt to enhance education for our students in the Territory. Traveling overseas with fellow educators from the NT was great for relationship building. As we experienced the sights and culture of Hong Kong and debated the different practices, we were improving ourselves and building meaningful relationships across our Independent sector.”

Terry Brown, Deputy Principal Nyangatjatjara College, picked up on a HK principal advocating “using systems to create culture. “This struck a chord. We are currently developing systems and processes that will enable Nyangatjatjara College to grow, support staff and create a positive culture. The Hong Kong schools we saw were so very different to our college yet the challenges were very much the same.”

*Thank you AISNT for allowing us to use this article which was recently published in the NT News.

Howard Springs Campus

The new stage of the Howard Springs Campus Junior School is developing well; once blockwork commences, things start taking shape very quickly. The new access road should be completed very soon and the paved pathway is looking great.
Parent Workshops

Parent Workshops were held on Monday 17 October, with 65 registrations! Thank you greatly for your support and interest in this new initiative which we will certainly continue in 2017. We are greatly enjoying the positive responses to these workshops and the feedback has been marvellous for assisting us with future workshops.

Friends of Good Shepherd

It was a most historic occasion on Monday 14 November, when the very first ‘Friends of Good Shepherd’ meeting was held. It was fantastic to have so many members of our College community attend this inaugural meeting, with many new initiatives planned for 2017. Anyone is welcome to be part of this group, which is an ideal opportunity for our community members to meet, discuss shared ideas relative to our Mission and Vision and enhance community engagement.

Volunteer Thank You Evening

Thank you to all involved in making the Volunteer Thank You Evening on Thursday 10 November such a lovely occasion. Thank you College Captains Ben and Mikayla for your wonderful welcome, one of your very first official duties. Thank you to all students involved in the provision of music and dance and of course, to all our amazing volunteers for coming along. We look forward to working with you again in 2017.

Old Collegians

Old Collegian, Jack Stevens provided some inspiration for our senior students during an assembly on Thursday 8 September. Jack graduated in 2014 and is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts - Creative Writing degree at RMIT. His presentation on University life was highly informative and humorous. Jack also provided some useful tips for Year 12 students to assist them in their final months at Good Shepherd.
Merry Christmas