It was lovely to see many of the College's volunteers at the recent ‘Volunteer Thank You Evening’ on Thursday 31 October.
Good Shepherd Lutheran College

Mr Julian Denholm
College Principal
principal@goodshepherd.nt.edu.au

**Term Dates and Upcoming Events**

Conradations to Laura England for being awarded Outstanding Contribution to ICT. The award was presented to Laura at Parliament House on Monday, 11 November.

Congratulations also to the following nominated staff:

- **Teacher of the Year** – Karen Koehler
- **Leading Teacher of the Year** – Judy Hickey
- **Outstanding School Leadership** – Elsabe Bott
- **Outstanding Contribution to Indigenous Education** – Sean Synnott
- **Outstanding Contribution to ICT** – Laura England
- **Outstanding Contribution to Students with Special Needs** – Leanne Williams
- **Outstanding Contribution to Literacy and Numeracy** – Amanda Petersen
- **Partnerships with Parents and Communities Award** – Tara Errity

Did you know that GSLC is now on Facebook? You can find us under Good Shepherd Lutheran College NT.

**Graduation & Awards Night**

Wednesday, 4 December

Good Shepherd Lutheran College requests the pleasure of your company at the annual 'Graduation and Awards Night' for the graduation of Year 5 and Year 9 students from their subschools. We look forward to seeing you at this special occasion.

**Time**: 6.30pm
**Place**: Darwin Convention Centre

**Phone**: 8983 0300
**Fax**: 8983 0333
**Email**: admin@goodshepherd.nt.edu.au

All College issued iPads are to be returned prior to the end of Term 4.

If you’d like to purchase your iPad you can do so up until the last day of term - Friday 6 December, please contact the College Office & they will let you know the outstanding balance.

College issued iPads
ANY ROOM?

Mary was engaged to Joseph and travelled with him to Bethlehem. She was soon going to have a baby, and while they were there, she gave birth to her first-born son. She dressed him in baby clothes and laid him on a bed of hay, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:5-7 CEV

Every year as we approach Christmas we remember again just what a hectic time of the year it is. Our calendars quickly fill up with end-of-year school functions, work and social Christmas parties, and all of those other events that just have to be held in the few weeks leading up to the Christmas break. If we are going away for Christmas we have the last minute holiday plans to finalise, and if we’re staying home there are often guests to prepare for. It is a time of joy and celebration, but also one of our busiest times of the year.

Nothing’s changed. Two thousand years ago, at the first Christmas, things were so busy in the town of Bethlehem that the mother of God’s Son, the promised Saviour, couldn’t even find a room to stay in so she could give birth to her child. Instead, the Son of God, the One for whom God’s people had been waiting for thousands of years, was born in an animal shed, the only sheltered place they could find. But this child who came into the world so quietly is the person whose birth has shaped and changed human history more than any other before or since. This was the child God had promised to send so that all people could come back to know him.

As we celebrate Christmas we can enjoy the parties, the catching up, the celebrations, the presents, and everything else which goes along with this special time of the year. But try also to find time to remember and reflect on what it means that Jesus was born into the world. The angels proclaimed this event as ‘Great news for all people’, and it still is great news for us today. It means we can turn back to God, knowing that through Jesus he always loves us and will always forgive us. Unlike the town of Bethlehem, may we find room in our hearts and our lives for Jesus this Christmas.

God’s blessings to you all,
Pastor Andrew

Congratulations to Teague Masterson.
Teague won the Motor Trades Association School Based Apprentice of the Year Award. He received the award at Parliament House on Tuesday, 12 November.

Prayer Families

Week 7
Thomas; Thompson; Tinning; Tipper; Tomes; Tonissoo; Tranter; Trathen; Treloar; Trickett; Tskouri; Twining; Underhill; van Bruggen; Burton-Davies; Veach; Venhuizen; waamba; Walker; Frost.

Week 8
Moldovan; Walton; Waters; Watson; Wauchope; Way; Weatherhog; Forbes; Welles; Weilarn; Whalan; Whear; White; Willards; Williams; Wills; Nicholls; Wilson.

You did it for me...

Do you ever feel the true meaning of Christmas has been lost? Too much glitz, not enough give?

With ALWS Gifts of Grace, each gift you give – from Kitchen Garden to Long Drop Loo, Open Well to Start Fresh Pack – puts others first.

Your gifts represent the support you give people in developing communities through the ALWS Overseas Program ... PLUS links directly to the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:31-46 ... PLUS, all gifts are fully tax-deductible!

What a way to celebrate the grace that is the true message of Christmas!!

In the coming weeks, Senior School students will be finishing assessments tasks for the semester and for many subjects, this will include exams.

Examinations are a form of assessment task in which subjects are required to demonstrate their skills and understandings in their subjects without assistance and in a defined time. In Year 10, exams have the same value as other assessment tasks in the final subject grade however in Stage 1 and Stage 2, exams may be weighted differently according to the subject's Learning and Assessment Plan (LAP).

NTCET subjects have prescribed forms of assessment which may or may not include examinations at Stage 2 as part of the external assessment. If a Year 10 subject may lead to Stage 2 subject that includes an examination, students at GSLC will have exams in this subject at Year 10 to become accustomed and skilled in this form of assessment, in preparation for Year 12. For example, a Year 10 student doing Science may continue on with the science subject Biology which does include an exam at Stage 2. This student then will have a Year 10 Science exam in preparation for this possibility in later years. Some NTCET Stage 2 subjects are not assessed using examinations (e.g. Visual art) and hence do not have exams at Year 10 (subjects such as Visual Art which do not have exams, have Folios of student work externally moderated as an alternative to exams).

All examination practices at GSLC aim to give students as much practice and experience in examinations before they reach Year 12. Senior School exams at GSLC are conducted with the same degree of formality and rigour as NTCET Stage 2 exams so that the student experience is as authentic as possible. The exams at Year 10 and Stage 1 (Year 11 level) take the same form as the Stage 2 exam but may be slightly shorter in duration.

Similarly, the rules which govern student attendance and participation in exams are based on those of the NTCET so that students become familiar and practiced in conducting themselves in exam situations. Exams at GSLC occur within a specified time (the exam week) and it is policy not to conduct exams outside of this time so that their integrity is preserved. In line with NTCET policy, accommodation can be made for significant situations which prevent a student attending exams (such as illness, personal tragedy etc) however not for situations of the students choice (e.g. holidays).

The key to success in exams is the ability to recall and apply information and therefore the prior learning experiences, where the information is encoded into the students Long Term Memory will influence how accurately students can do this in exams. The basic process of ‘encoding’ information into the LTM is to engage with the information repeatedly, in a variety of forms over an extended period of time. ‘Encoding’ actually occurs when the brain is in REM sleep (deep, dreaming sleep) so repeating the pattern of studying and then sleeping over a number of days is necessary. Without this process, information will not pass effectively from the Short Term Memory which has a limited capacity and so will be easily forgotten. This means that in order to succeed in exams, students need to ensure that they use their time in the exam well.

Reading time should be spent carefully reading through the paper and noting questions that a student feels confident in and can answer well. Exam questions don’t have to be completed in order; students can build their confidence by starting with the questions that they feel they know and moving from these onto other questions that they feel less confident about. In this way often what happens is that in answering one question it becomes clear to a student what another question is asking. The scribble paper can be used during reading time for a student to note down the questions to start with. There will often be guidelines on the front of the paper showing students how many marks different sections or questions are worth, students should use this to guide the amount of time that they spend on each section.

Students should pace themselves so that they use all the time given with just five minutes at the end to check over the paper.

Exams
Senior School exams are fast approaching and it is important that students are setting aside time to prepare well for these. Below are some Study Tips from the SACE Board website for students. In addition to this preparation students need to ensure that they use their time in the exam well.

Reading time should be spent carefully reading through the paper and noting questions that a student feels confident in and can answer well. Exam questions don’t have to be completed in order; students can build their confidence by starting with the questions that they feel they know and moving from these onto other questions that they feel less confident about. In this way often what happens is that in answering one question it becomes clear to a student what another question is asking. The scribble paper can be used during reading time for a student to note down the questions to start with. There will often be guidelines on the front of the paper showing students how many marks different sections or questions are worth, students should use this to guide the amount of time that they spend on each section.

Students should pace themselves so that they use all the time given with just five minutes at the end to check over the paper.

Study tips from the SACE Board website
The following strategies may help you to manage your study time.

Make a timetable and keep to it
Draw up a timetable for the next few weeks. Divide your study into small pieces rather than one large chunk. Then for each day concentrate on only the specific portions of your work that you have listed. Spread your tasks out so that your revision is varied, mixing areas that you feel you are good at with work that you find more challenging, and are worried about. Set yourself attainable weekly goals. Try to stick to this schedule. You will feel that you are getting somewhere and each week will bring you closer to the goals you want to achieve.

Don't put it off!
If something unforeseen happens and you don't achieve what you had planned for the week, revise your timetable and get back on track as soon as possible. Don't procrastinate. You want to feel in control of your study time rather than have lots to do in less time.

What works best for you?
Work out what works best for you. If you are revising for an exam, then writing a summary of a particular section of your work may help you. Setting out the summary in dot-point form is also a good idea, making it easy to review later. You may find that saying these main points out loud, to a friend or family member locks them into your memory.

Set and answer questions
When you have summarised a section of your work, ask yourself some questions about it.

Think positively
If you follow these tips, keep up with your revision schedule, allow enough time for your studies, and keep your mind focused, you should feel more confident. This is important. Tell yourself that you can do it, you can succeed. There may have been times during the year when you have not done as well as you would have hoped, but that was then. Think of times when you were successful. Fill your mind with those positive images, be confident, at ease, and do your best.

Congratulations to Samantha Bennett for winning the 2013 World Skills Australia Commercial Cookery Competition.

GOLD MEDAL Winner Samantha Bennett is a School Based Apprentice at Pee Wees Restaurant and is trained by Charles Darwin University.

She has been working towards completing Certificate 2 in Hospitality Kitchen Operations. Samantha did Year 10 Work Experience at Pee Wees and was signed up as a School Based Apprentice a few weeks later. She will continue with her training in a Certificate 3 next year.

Samantha will be busy in the next few months as she prepares for the WorldSkills Australia National Competition in Perth, 18-20 September 2014.
As many of the Middle School students read this they will be half way through their end of year exams. Many of our students have applied themselves to the task of studying and preparing themselves for these exams with small study groups being formed after school. Yr 9 students attending a Saturday maths workshop and many spending time in class asking their teachers for assistance and help in preparing for the exams.

Last Wednesday the Year 8 students had their study day and the feedback from many of them at the end of the day was extremely positive. Many appreciated the opportunity to spend time with Yr 11/12 teachers in their subject areas receiving advice on how to prepare from their exams; others reflected on how quiet the classrooms where with many taking the opportunity to study and use their time wisely. The presentation at the beginning of the day was appreciated by the students and tips for both on the day and leading up to the day of an exam where shared and taken on board by many students.

Exams however are just one of the many events occurring at this time of year as we prepare ourselves for the culmination of a years work and progress. Listed below are just some of the events that are occurring within the Middle School in the next few weeks.

**Week 8:**

**Thursday, 28 November: Year 6 Orientation Day/ Year 9 Orientation Day**

A day for all 2014 Year 6 students to come to the College for an orientation into Middle Schooling. This year we will have new students from schools around Darwin joining us for the day along with the current Year 5 students from the Junior School. A day of fun, learning and new experiences is planned for these students.

Also on this day all Year 9 students will take part in a Senior School orientation day. This day will give students an opportunity to find out more about the Senior School processes such as the House Home Groups, the subjects that they will be undertaking in 2014 such as the Personal Learning Plan, and what it means to be a Senior School student and the responsibilities that come with this.

**Week 9:**

**Tuesday, 3 December: Articulate**

Articulate is an evening where our Arts and Technology students showcase their learning and products. Performances by the students involved in the dance, musical and drama programs will occur along with numerous artistic creations and technological products developed by the students in all the art and technology subjects offered at the College. Please join us for an evening of creative inspiration.

**Wednesday, 4 December: College Graduation and Awards Service**

At this service we will welcome our Year 5 students into the Middle School and celebrate with our Year 9 classes as they graduate from the Middle School and begin their Senior School journey. Our Junior and Middle School students are awarded on this night a number of significant College awards and on this night we also recognise those students who have excelled in their studies by announcing our Subject Awards. Middle School students in Yr 6-8 are strongly encouraged to attend this significant event, and all Year 9 students are expected to attend to receive their graduating certificate.

Rachel Boyce
Head of Middle School

In the final weeks of their assessment period, the Stage 2 Food & Hospitality students completed their final assessment item which was to create a Gourmet Celebration Cake. In the lead up to completing this task, the students were shown a range of cake decorating techniques, including a number of sessions on fondant work run by Candice Bell. As can be seen from the photos, the results of this assessment were outstanding. The students designed a range of celebratory cakes, from those suitable for a child's birthday, an 18th celebration as well as Engagement celebration cakes. The techniques learnt through the fondant workshops were of great value when it came to the Tiffany & Co. themed engagement cake and the birth of a Baby Boy cake (which was donated for the christening of Caroline Barker’s baby boy Lewis). Other techniques utilised included, the use of butter cream, royal icing and chocolate decoration. For all students, this was the first time they had attempted cake decorating, and yet the final products could have been mistaken as professional standard. Well done to all Stage 2 Food & Hospitality students!
We welcome two pre-service teachers to the Junior School for the next three weeks. Rachel Best will be in 1CM and Melissa McCosh will be in 3VT. They have come to Palmerston from Ballarat University.

Our next ‘Coffee and Chat’ Information Session will be held on Friday, 22 November at 8:15 in the staffroom. The topic will be helping your child with addition and subtraction when regrouping is required and strategies to help children learn their number facts.

As we near the end of the school year, the students are showing signs of being tired as many afterschool and evening events are taking place. The following article from the website, ‘Sleep for Kids’ reminds us of the importance of sleep.

Understanding Children’s Sleep Habits
Every living creature needs to sleep. It is the primary activity of the brain during early development. By the age of two, most children have spent more time asleep than awake and overall, a child will spend 40 percent of their childhood asleep. Sleep is especially important for children as it directly impacts mental and physical development.

There are two alternating states of sleep:
• Non-Rapid Eye Movement (NREM) or “quiet” sleep. During the deep states of NREM sleep, blood supply to the muscles is increased, energy is restored, tissue growth and repair occur, and important hormones are released for growth and development.
• Rapid Eye Movement (REM) or “active” sleep. During REM sleep, our brains are active and dreaming occurs. Our bodies become immobile, breathing and heart rates are irregular.

By the time children reach preschool age, the sleep cycle is about every 90 minutes.

Children aged five to 12 need 10 - 11 hours of sleep. At the same time, there is an increasing demand on their time from school (e.g., homework), sports and other extracurricular and social activities. In addition, school aged children become more interested in TV, computers, the media and Internet as well as caffeine products – all of which can lead to difficulty falling asleep, nightmares and disruptions to their sleep. In particular, watching TV close to bedtime has been associated with bedtime resistance, difficulty falling asleep, anxiety around sleep and sleeping fewer hours.

Sleep problems and disorders are prevalent at this age. Poor or inadequate sleep can lead to mood swings, behavioural problems such as hyperactivity and cognitive problems that impact on their ability to learn in school.

Sleep Tips for School-aged Children
• Teach school-aged children about healthy sleep habits.
• Continue to emphasise the need for a regular and consistent sleep schedule and bedtime routine.
• Make your child’s bedroom conducive to sleep – dark, cool and quiet. Keep TV and computers out of the bedroom.
• Avoid caffeine.

Lynne Pokela
Head of Junior School
On Friday 1st November, 4KK hosted our assembly.

It was a most entertaining time with numerous parents attending to see their children receive a Gold certificate, whilst also being treated to a visit from Hector- The Road Safety Cat delivering his road safety message.

The Year 4’s performed a song they had learned in class, but the highlight for many of them was showcasing their skipping skills which have been developed through their morning fitness. Many of the students were risk takers by attempting new skipping skills and were principled by persevering when they found them challenging.
Community and service is one of the Areas of Interaction that serve as a context for learning at Good Shepherd Lutheran College. Community and service starts in the classroom and is designed to extend beyond it. This requires students to take an active part in the communities in which they live – be it local, national or global.

The purpose of community and service is to give importance to the sense of community throughout the Middle Years Programme. This is intended to encourage students to become responsible citizens and deepen their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. The emphasis we make at Good Shepherd Lutheran College is on developing community awareness and concern, and the skills needed to make an effective contribution to society.

Questions the students are required to ask of themselves and seek an answer to collaboratively are:

• How do we live in relation to others?
• How can I contribute to the community?
• How can I help others?

Students are given time in all learning areas to inquire into these questions and search for ways to act positively on their answers. Our Year 10 students, in the final year of the MYP, have just completed their Community and Service Projects through their Christian Studies lesson. This project allowed students to collaboratively work in groups to produce a positive outcome that would benefit a community.

Year 10 students were asked to identify a community - local, national or global - and then identify a need within that community. Following the design cycle students investigated the community and issue within that community. Students then planned a positive contribution, creating the product or outcome and then evaluated the whole project.

It has been fantastic to see our Year 10 student’s actively engaged in the research, planning and creating of a product or outcome. Students have bought their strengths and skills to a group and in doing so have gained a deeper understanding of the community of their choosing, how to work in collaboration with others and a greater sense of responsibility to help others.

Below is a series of quotes from our Year 10 students who were asked for their thoughts on the Community and Service Project:

“I like how we have had freedom to work independently. The Community and Service Project has helped us prepare for the independent work required in Year 11 and Year 12.” Kathleen Brigden

“I have loved how we get to work with others from different classes and combine our skills to produce a project.” Silas Nickson

“Having the Community and Service project run over a longer period of time has meant we had more time to be creative and develop our projects without being too rushed.” Alex Howarth

“I like the fact that the Community and Service Project is open-ended and we have the choice to develop a project in an area of our interest.” Melissa Day

“Working on a vertical structure with students from other classes has allowed greater creativity. Distributing roles in our groups has allowed us to focus on an element that we are passionate about.” Brittany Wright.

“The Service Project is a good idea. Having all Year 10 students working together at one time allowed us to work together and be more creative.” Grace Thomas.

Photos:
Pic 1: Madison Neve and Hannah Akehurst create Grade 1 textbooks for students learning English in Cambodia.
Pic 2: Emily Walker investigates the political climate of Syria.
Pic 3: Layla Sears, Lyndall Neate, Grace Thomas and Lydia Weatherhog complete their evaluations after producing a multi-facted outcome that raised awareness of the Syrian refugee crisis.
Pic 4: Layla Sears, Madison Rigby and Grace Thomas mind-maps ways to get the younger year levels involved in their project.
Pic 5: Lucy Bull, Molly Campbell and Jenny Hunter create a Pastoral Care curriculum to combat youth depression and suicide.
Pic 6: Melissa Day, Millie Moore, Alex Howarth, Myola Lynch, Brittany Wright and Kathleen Brigden plan their video that highlights the tragedy of child sex trafficking.
Pic 7: Blake Skehan, Daniel Day-Johnstone and Silas Nickson create music on their iPads that raises awareness of homelessness in the Northern Territory.
Pic 8: Grace Thomas, Lyndall Neate and Madison Rigby host a guess-the-jellybeans fundraiser.
ACHIEVEMENTS

STUDENT

Email student achievements to:
newsletter@goodshepherd.nt.edu.au

On Friday 1st November, Mrs Trahair and Cookie took students from both the junior, middle and senior schools to the Palmerston Aquatic Centre to compete in the PARCS Swimming Carnival. It was a terrific evening and all students represented the school with pride and swam extremely well.

As per previous years we had amazing results!!

Primary Division - 1st (4th year running)
Middle School Division - 2nd
Senior School Division - 2nd

Our College was well represented with our students demonstrating excellent sporting ability and positive sportsmanship.

Peta Trahair and Jeannie Cook
Last Thursday, the Year 2 classes showcased their work for the Unit of Inquiry How We Organise Ourselves. The central idea was “Global perspectives are developed through understanding our place in the world”. The students investigated the reasons people come to Australia and how Australia is connected to other places.

The evening began with a welcome song sung in Japanese and ended with parent/student dance. Here are a few comments from the night:

Bridie: Presentation Night was awesome and colourful. I liked it when we did the dances and I liked telling people about our Venn diagram.

Brad: The Presentation Night was good because we could show our work. It was very good because parents could see our work. I felt good when I asked the parents quiz questions.

Griffin: I enjoyed the Presentation Night because I was able to show my parents how I made my power point. I sang the Japanese song and I did the macarena with my Dad and it was fun.

Tayla and Bella: The Year Two Presentation Night was on Thursday. It was crowded with lots of people. It was about last term’s unit of inquiry How We Organise Ourselves. We all loved it!

Penny: We got to dance with our parents. It was also fun sharing our work.

Jessamy: I enjoyed sharing my narrative story with the Year 2 parents. I enjoyed dancing the Macarena with my Mum.

Both College choirs will be performing at the Palmerston Carols and the College will be holding a fundraising BBQ. Hope to see you there!
Order Uniforms Online

College uniforms can now be ordered online. Simply go to www.flexischools.com.au and click ‘Register Now’. You will be sent an email with further instructions on how to complete the registration. Once registered you can start placing orders immediately. Of course if you are already using Flexischools to order lunches there is no need to re-register.

If you have any questions, FlexiSchools provide a great help desk on 1300 361 769, or you can contact them via their website.

Early Bird Discount

The new school year will soon be upon us so to encourage us all to be organised with our uniforms the College Shop is offering a 15% discount on purchases made on Wednesday, 6 November and Thursday 28 November between 2:00pm until 4:00pm. No appointment necessary.

CHRISTMAS STALL

To celebrate the joy of giving this Christmas, our Fundraising Committee will be again hosting the annual Good Shepherd Lutheran College ‘Christmas Stall’

Palmerston Campus
Wednesday, 27 December 2013 & Thursday 28 December 2013
09:00am - 4:30pm

Howard Springs Campus
Friday 29 December 2013

To make this a success we need your valuable assistance.

Working Bee:
Saturday 16 & 23 November 2013
09:00am - 2:00pm Palmerston Campus Staffroom

Donations:
Lollies [reminder please do not send lollies which contain nuts]
chips, candy canes, shopping bags, bubble wrap or any other packaging.
All donations are most welcome and appreciated

Volunteers are needed to assist with the stall at both Campuses
Please contact the College Office if you are able to help.

A big thank you!

Hello from the Goldfishbowl Swim School at Yarrawonga

We have a full swimming program happening over the Christmas school holidays.
If you have a spare half hour each day and would like to improve your child’s swimming skills you might like to sign up for one of our 5 day blocks. It costs $65 for the five days and that is very good value for money.

Block 1: 16 – 20 December 2013 (before Christmas)
Block 2: 13 - 17 January 2014 (after Christmas)
Block 3: 20-24 January 2014 (the week before the New School Term)

Ring us on 8931 1000 or email us on gfish2@bigpond.com to enquire and book.
We are located at 44 Toupein Road, Yarrawonga if you want to drop in to see us.