



Annual Report  
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Good Shepherd Lutheran College  
Annual Report



2013



## Good Shepherd Lutheran College NT 2013 Annual Report Presented May 2013

As a community we continue to thank God for the amazing blessings that he gives us, wonderful staff, enthusiastic students and supportive parents. The following report is snap shot of this community in 2012, and once again it proved to be a fantastic year with a huge variety of community events, extra-curricular activities and wonderful results.

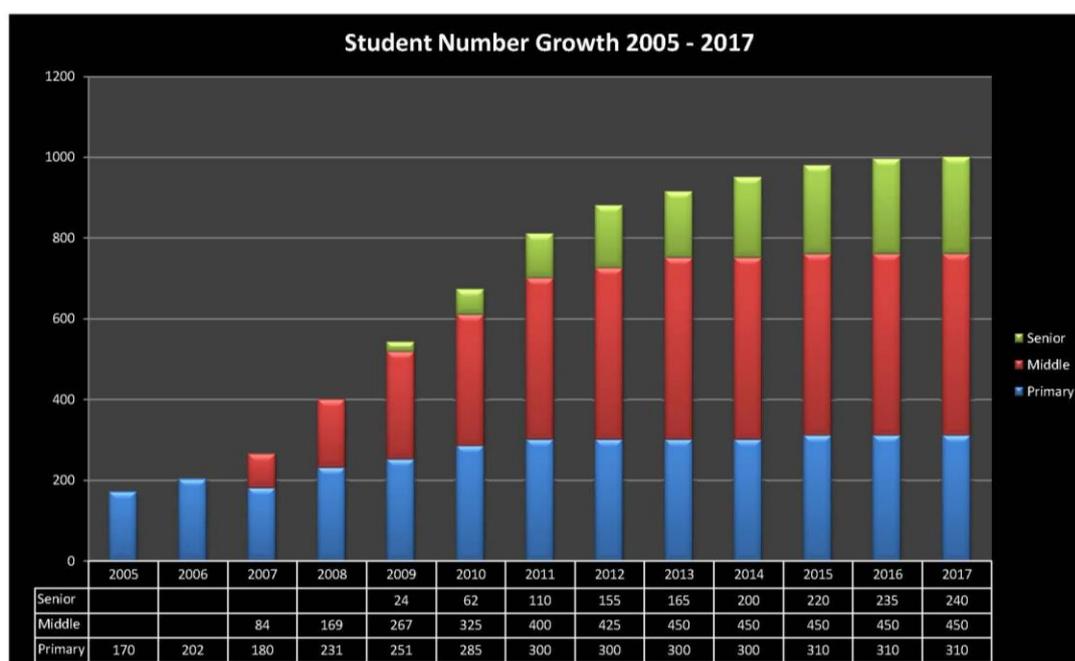
### Growth

The College has continued to experience considerable growth during 2013. The College has now grown to 1100 students at the commencement of 2014. The graph below depicts this and the future growth. Enrolments applications for 2015 have already exceeded expectation and it is now expected that the College will exceed 1250 students next year. As you can see this strong growth is expected to continue for the next few years.

The comments made by parents indicate that it is due to the safe caring environment, high academic expectations, Christian values and community feel. In fact one family emailed me the following in regard to the College:

*"We are incredibly impressed with the education and learning opportunities that the children in our family are experiencing at Good Shepherd, and can witness first hand how that has positively affected many aspects of their daily lives from improved confidence to greater enquiry and a thirst for learning and discovery."*

The graph below does not include the expected enrolment growth for the additional primary classes that will commence at the Howard Springs campus in 2015. Once this section of the College is completed their will be an additional 330 Primary School students. The first class of Transition students has now already been enrolled and have commenced on the Palmerston Campus, they will relocate to Howard Springs as year 1 students in 2015



### Facilities

The construction of the next stage of the Howard Springs Campus is due to start this year and includes the clearing of the site adjacent to Kundook Road, the establishment of infrastructure, 3 primary classrooms, car park, play equipment and student amenities. This will be the first

stage of the Junior School section of the Howard Spring Campus. Attached is a plan of stage one.

## Curriculum

The College has continued to implement the International Baccalaureate curriculum in both the Junior School and Middle School. The Authorisation for the Primary School was held in August and I am delighted to report that the College is now fully authorised to deliver the PYP as well as the MYP. The authorisation report was again particularly favourable and commended the College on many aspects of the program. The College continues to run information evenings for parents and other community members about both of these programs. There is no doubt that the introduction of the IB and the on-line continuous reporting system has made a significant impact on both the level of achievement of students and the overall attitude of the students towards their learning.

The Senior School has continued to implement both the NTCET Curriculum with the introduction of new subjects that expand the offering for students as well as continuing to develop Work Ready program including the introduction of School Based Apprenticeships. It was pleasing to have two students nominated as School Based Apprentice of the Year.

Year 12 subject for 2014 include:

<b>Arts</b>	<b>Business &amp; Technology</b>
Music – Composing & Arranging Music – Ensemble Performance Music – Solo Performance Music – Musicianship Music – Music in Context Visual Arts - Art Drama	Information Processing and Publishing Business & Enterprise Workplace Practices
<b>Humanities</b>	<b>Languages</b>
Modern History Legal Studies Media Studies	German Continuers Japanese Continuer
<b>Cross-disciplinary</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>
Research Project B	Mathematical Studies Mathematical Methods Mathematical Applications Specialist Mathematics
<b>English</b>	<b>Science</b>
English Communications English Pathways English Studies	Biology Chemistry Physics Psychology
<b>Health &amp; Personal Development</b>	
Food & Hospitality Physical Education Studies Outdoor Education	

## Staffing

The dedication and enthusiasm of the staff has always been a wonderful aspect of College life and this has continued throughout the last 12 months. I am grateful for the hard work that the staff have done in continuing to implementing significant curriculum changes including both the IB and the new Australia Curriculum. I know that the students appreciate the additional time that each staff member spends with them assisting them with both their academic program as well as the pastoral support they need. At the end of 2013 we farewelled the following staff

Maria Alonzo	Nathan Barrett	Elisa Bradtke	Lea Cross
Cher Granwal	Alana Kubicek	Clinton Muller	Hannah Riley
Georgia Dickson	Susie Jaensch	Karen Koehler	Emily Stacey
Kay Webb			

The College was open for a total of 185 days in 2013 with staff expected to attend a further five days of professional development. It is a sign of their dedication that the total attendance rate for teaching staff was **96.4%** and **95.8%** for non-teaching staff. We are also grateful to the many hours that the staff work outside of these times in contributing not just to the academic program of the College but the continued expanding of the extra curricula program.

All teaching staff are qualified and registered to teach in the Northern Territory. Some of the staff hold multiple qualifications and some are currently studying for additional degrees. Below is a list of the number and type of degrees held by teaching staff for 2014.

DipT	11
BEd	39
GradCert	5
GradDip	17
BAG	3
BTch	3
MEd	9
BArts	10
DipEd	2
BMusEd	2
BAppSc	1
BBus	1
Dip Primary	1
DipEd	1
BSc	2
MArt	1
PostGradCert	1
MA Tesol	1

We have no staff members who identify as being indigenous at this stage.

Professional development was once again provided to staff, they participated in professional development in the following areas:

- ✓ Numeracy
- ✓ Literacy
- ✓ Social Skills
- ✓ Behaviour Management

- ✓ Christian Studies
- ✓ Indigenous Education
- ✓ Curriculum writing
- ✓ Theological Studies
- ✓ First Aid
- ✓ IB MYP
- ✓ IB PYP
- ✓ NTCET

The College spent \$87,398 on its professional development program. The quality and number of professional development opportunities that staff participated in clearly reflects the value that the College places on staff continuing to develop their skills. Numerous staff attended IB professional development in other countries and not only helped to develop their understanding of the IB program but also appreciate the global nature of the program.

## Student Performance

The average attendance for students in 2012 was **95.2%**.

Each year students in Year 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertake the National Testing Program NAPLAN. Some students are exempt from this testing for a variety of reasons and are deemed by the Government as having failed the test. Students who are absent or withdrawn from the test by parents are not included in this data. The following table shows the percentage of students who achieved at and above the benchmark in 2012

2011 NAPLAN Results Percentage of GSLC Students <b>At minimum standard</b> and <b>Above</b> National Benchmarks				
	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 7</b>	<b>Year 9</b>
<b>Reading</b>	<b>96%</b> 92% Above 4% At min	<b>93%</b> 83% Above 10% At min	<b>94%</b> 77% Above 17% At min	<b>95%</b> 77% Above 18% At min
<b>Writing</b>	<b>98%</b> 90% Above 8% At min	<b>91%</b> 79% Above 12% At min	<b>95%</b> 68% Above 27% At min	<b>76%</b> 52% Above 24% At min
<b>Spelling</b>	<b>100%</b> 89% Above 11% At min	<b>89%</b> 64% Above 25% At min.	<b>93%</b> 83% Above 10% At min	<b>87%</b> 72% Above 15% At min
<b>Grammar &amp; Punctuation</b>	<b>93%</b> 89% Above 4% At min	<b>84%</b> 67% Above 17% At min.	<b>97%</b> 78% Above 19% At min	<b>94%</b> 70% Above 24% At min
<b>Numeracy</b>	<b>96%</b> 84% Above 12% At min	<b>96%</b> 82% Above 14% At min	<b>98%</b> 80% Above 18% At min	<b>99%</b> 78% Above 21% At min

The College is now able to access the data from previous year levels and cohorts. The data helps us to identify areas of strengths and weaknesses within the program and therefore develop programs to assist the students. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful work that all class teachers, subject teachers and in particular our Learning Support teachers who do such an amazing job in assisting students with their learning.

This data is now available on the ACARA My School website that also compared our students' results to students in like schools across the nation.

## Yr 12 Results

This was the third year that the College offered a Year 12 program. There were 17 students enrolled in Year 12 courses. Sixteen students completed the requirements for the Northern Territory Certificate of Education and 1 student completed their Vocational Education and Training Certificate. The Dux of the College was Katie Minerds who scored an ATAR of 90.5. I would like to congratulate all of our students on their results and wish them well in their Tertiary studies or employment. There are 40 students enrolled in Year 12 for 2014 with this number expected to continue to grow as the larger cohort of students continues to move through the College.

## Post School Destinations

## Extra Curricular Programs

As well as the outstanding academic program students were also able to participate in the following:

- ✓ Mothers day stall
- ✓ Red and White Day
- ✓ Yr 12 Formal
- ✓ Year 6 Solar Car Challenge
- ✓ Yr 12 Valedictory Service
- ✓ Darwin Show
- ✓ Year 3 Restaurant
- ✓ Work Experience
- ✓ Life Education Week
- ✓ German Students visit
- ✓ ICAS Participation
- ✓ One 50 Dance group
- ✓ Musical
- ✓ Senior School Breakfast
- ✓ Rostrum Voice of Youth Competition
- ✓ Cafe One 0 College Cafe
- ✓ Readers Cup
- ✓ Athletics carnival
- ✓ Excursions to a variety of places
- ✓ House Swimming Carnival
- ✓ Interschool Swimming Carnivals
- ✓ PARCS Try Days and team selection
- ✓ Football Teams
- ✓ Netball Teams
- ✓ Primary School Concert
- ✓ Family Services
- ✓ Computer competition
- ✓ Mathematics competition
- ✓ English competition
- ✓ Science competition
- ✓ Pedal Prix
- ✓ Stay up evenings
- ✓ Camps in Yrs 4 - 11
- ✓ Choir
- ✓ Commemorations of the Bombing of Darwin
- ✓ College Band
- ✓ Installation Services
- ✓ End of Year Service
- ✓ Student leadership
- ✓ Buddy program
- ✓ Remembrance Day Service
- ✓ Instrumental Music lessons
- ✓ Staff Student Netball Competition
- ✓ Debating Teams
- ✓ Cross Country Running
- ✓ Tournament of the Minds
- ✓ Yr 10 Dinner dance
- ✓ Lunchtime Concerts
- ✓ Presentation Evenings Junior School
- ✓ Japanese Trip
- ✓ German Exchange Program

I like to highlight a few of these activities to show the diversity of activities that are available to our students:

### **Pedal Prix**

This year's Pedal Prix in Murray Bridge on 21 and 22 September was an amazing event! Each year the teams get better and better! Not only is their endurance improving but more importantly their attitude and team spirit. Staff members and parents were so encouraged and pleased by the way that they participated, behaved and supported one another. Official members of the Australian International Pedal Prix, as well as adults from other teams commented on how impressed they were with the way our students looked after one another and operated as a team. They received the Tim Bellotti Memorial Award during the closing presentations for this very reason! It was wonderful to see that no matter how tired they were when they were woken at 2.00am or 4.00am to take their turn riding, that they motivated themselves, got into the bikes and pedalled so hard. It was great to watch the older students get onto the radio between the pit and the bikes to encourage not only their own team riders but that of the younger teams too. Casey Cheal, a past student, volunteered and supported the teams at all hours of the competition! Her support was a huge highlight and she is keen to organise a College team of over 18s in 2014. It was fantastic to have the parent volunteers who came along to cook and care for the students, assist with the bikes, take turns on marshalling duty and support the students throughout the event. On Wednesday 20 November, a presentation evening was held to acknowledge all participants, sponsors and parent helpers.

### **Musical**

The musical was a huge success and involved 103 students from dance groups to actors and stage crew. The story line of Cruise Control was energetic and lots of fun, giving the main actors the opportunity to really get into their characters and show off their talents. The dances were great with up to 98 students on stage for the finale. The popularity of the musical as an extra curricula activity is growing every year. Students have come to realise that the annual musical boosts their confidence and gives them a sense of belonging.

### **Debating**

It has been a big year for debating at Good Shepherd, in particular, for the students in our Middle and Senior School teams. There have been courageous victories and disappointing losses, but nothing can discredit the dedication and hard work of our students who have made us proud.

The Senior School debating team, comprising Mitchell Abram, Nathaniel Chambers, Jacob Koehler, Sapphire Lobley, Lana Sobieralski and Emily Walker, travelled to Casuarina Senior College to compete against other schools every Wednesday in Term 1 and 2. After the first week, teams were given impromptu topics in which they had only one hour to prepare, before facing the opposition. The Good Shepherd team faced a number of challenges along the way, but managed to overcome these and finished second on the ladder for the season. The real test was against the Darwin High Debating Team in the Grand Final at Parliament House. Both teams battled hard for the debating trophy, rebutting, interjecting and arguing their way to victory. In the Grand Final, Jacob, Nathaniel and Mitchell represented Good Shepherd. The boys used their best palm cards especially for the debate. Points of Information were hurled like missiles from both sides, the rebuttal was brutal and the arguments were well written and spoken. In the end, the adjudicators decided the winner, by only a few points, was Darwin High. We congratulated them on their success, but will be ready next year.

In Term 3, Middle School debaters started training and competed in an Interhouse Debating Competition. This was the first debate for our Year 6 and 7 students who were kindly helped by our Senior team. In the first debate, Livingstone competed against Strauss arguing, "That public transport should be free", whilst Hughes and Fenton debated the topic, "That mobile phones should be banned at school". All teams put in a great effort, but it was Strauss and Hughes who made it to the Final. During lunch in the Chapel, on 2 August, these two rivals debated the topic, "That social media isn't social". The Hughes Hornets gave their best, but it was the Strauss Sharks who were victorious on the day.

In Term 4, Middle and Senior school debaters came together to participate in the Debating Exhibition. Four Middle School Teams debated two important topics, "That we should colonise space" and "That winning is everything". The debaters polished their delivery, made use of examples, signposted well and rebutted their little hearts out. Following this, the Senior debaters took on the teachers on the topic, "That punishment is better than reward". The affirmative team comprised Ms Kaoustos, Ms Scanlan and Mr Lurje and the negative team comprised Emily, Nathaniel and Jacob. Ms Scanlan presented her speech with charisma and intellectual humour. Ms Kaoustos spoke without notes and provided incentive with chocolate, a demonstration as to why her side's debate was correct. Last, but no least was Mr Lurje who brought his team's argument home, speaking as usual, up front and clear. The teachers met their match though, as Emily, Nathaniel and Jacob spoke clearly and with confidence, despite very limited preparation. The winners were, of course, the Senior School student team who received the loudest applause.

On Saturday 9 November, the Australian Debating Federation, with the support of the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training, held a half-day debating workshop at Good Shepherd. Seventeen students attended from Good Shepherd, Essington and Darwin High. The two debating experts, Amit Golder and Elizabeth Sheargold, conducted the workshop and gave helpful advice on constructing arguments and handling points of information. It was an extremely rewarding and fun experience to learn and interact with these two experts.

We would like to thank all the students for their hard work and willingness to take risks and speak in public. We would also like to thank Mrs Hickey, Miss Viney, Mr Lurje and other teachers for putting in the extra time and effort to support debating. Next year the school's debating spirit and skill level will continue to grow. We would encourage any interested student to join in and share this amazing experience. Thank you all for a fantastic and rewarding year of debating at Good Shepherd.

Mr Zac Lurje and Emily Walker, ST02

### **Dance**

Dance for Year 7 and 8 has continued to grow and evolve. The inclusion of Year 9 Dance has seen the skill and performance levels greatly enhanced. Students have been presented with many opportunities to perform publically at Twilight evenings as well as special performances for the Junior School. The after school dance club's aptly named 'Chaos Crew' and 'Mini Chaos Crew' have performed at Chapel, presentation evenings and combined College / Church services. This subject will be offered to Senior School students in 2014.

### **School Camps 2012**

The camp experiences for Middle school students at Good shepherd last year were many and varied. Across the board many of them involved outdoor and adventure based experiences which focussed on learning in, on and through the outdoors. Whilst others were city and subject based.

Outdoor and adventure programs for years 7, 8 and 10 focused on enhancing and developing emotional intelligence and included elements of the IB learner profile such as, self confidence, resilience, risk taking and problem solving, along with cooperative, caring and supportive team building skills. Participants were also exposed to specific outdoor education skills and experiences in rock climbing, abseiling, bushwalking, mountain biking, navigation and basic survival skills. The development of Outdoor Education skills provided students with the opportunity to experience learning beyond the classroom and to access and engage in physical activities and recreational pursuits that encouraged a non sedentary lifestyle. They also provided them with opportunities to gain an appreciation of God's creation in non build environments. For some students it enabled them to succeed in a non classroom based environment.

Locations for outdoor and adventure based camps included Litchfield national Park Year 7 Survival Camp; Year 10 "Table Top Track" bushwalk and Year 8 Hayes Creek rock climbing, abseiling, mountain biking and bushwalking.

Other classes enjoyed city based experiences with the Year 6 students attending camp in Canberra and the Year 11 classes travelling to either Adelaide or Sydney to further their interest in tertiary study options

The year six classes went on an educational tour of the national capital. While on this tour they participated in a variety of educational programmes focused on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democracy. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their National Capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. Students also learnt cooperative group skills and elements of independence by spending time away from home without their parents

The Transition and Year 1 classes have a stay-up each year where the students return to school at about 4:00 pm and stay until about 6:30. They do various activities and then share a meal together. It was a great event for our community with a lot of parents coming along to help out and to get to know each other as well.

The Year 2 classes had an 'extended stay-up' with a variety of outdoor activities followed by dinner and a movie. The Year 3 classes held their sleepover Term 3 with the talent quest being the highlight.

The Year 4 classes went to the Wildlife Park at Berry Springs for a one night camping experience. They enjoyed being able to go on a night walk as well as going behind the scenes of some of the exhibits. The Year 5 classes went to the Bachelor Outdoor Education Centre for a two night camp. They have specialists on the camp site who do various activities with the students such as archery, high ropes, bike riding and abseiling.

## **Parent Involvement**

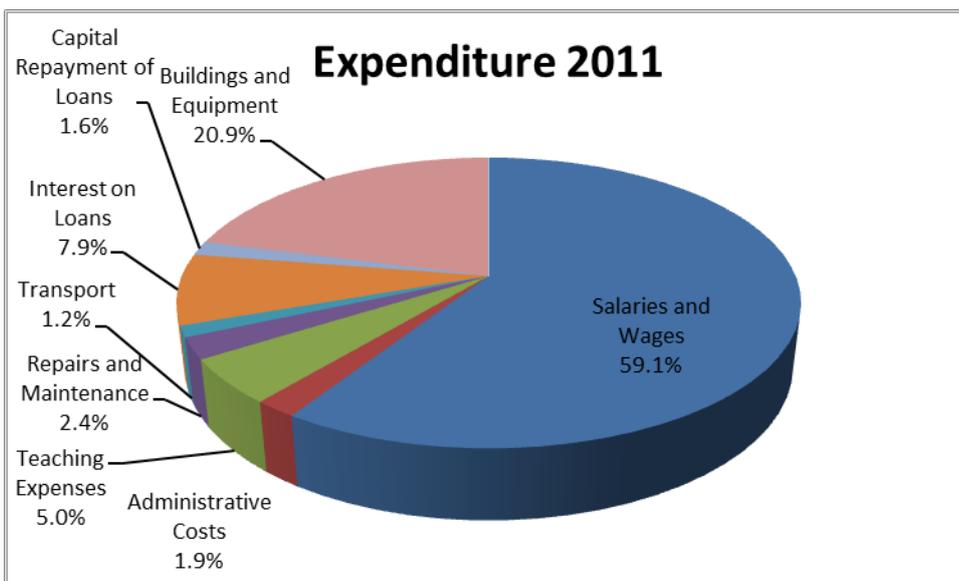
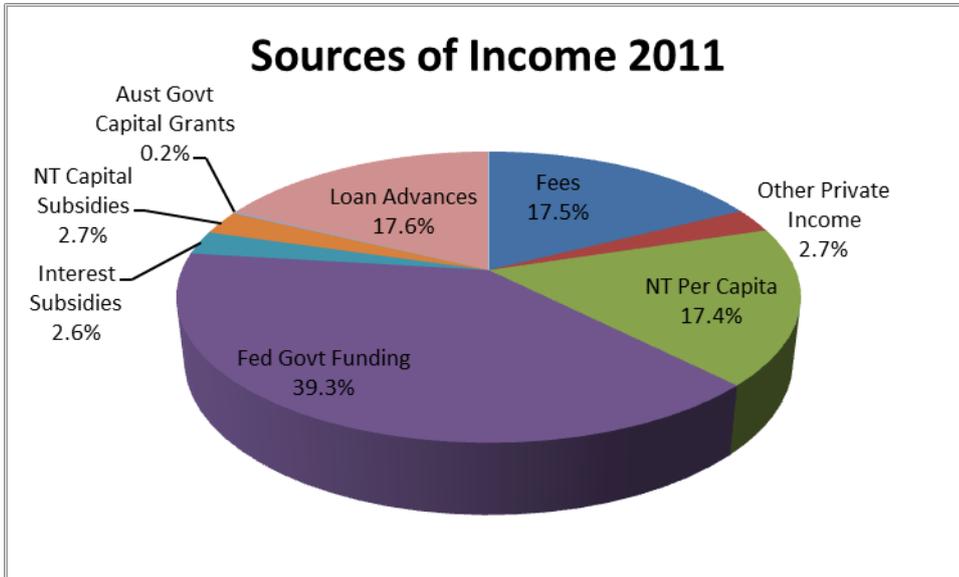
Parents were also able to join in some of these as well as other social events. These include:

- ✓ Parent volunteer thankyou evening
- ✓ Orientation Evenings
- ✓ Valedictory Service
- ✓ Class Carer organised social events,
- ✓ Family introduction day
- ✓ Family Fun Day
- ✓ Middle Schooling Information Evenings
- ✓ Dance Groups
- ✓ Church Services
- ✓ Australia Day Services
- ✓ Anzac Day Service
- ✓ Mini Expo
- ✓ Musical Recital both Campuses
- ✓ Yr 5 Graduation Dinner
- ✓ PYP Information Evening
- ✓ MYP Information Evening
- ✓ Parent Information Evenings
- ✓ Parent help in Fundraising
- ✓ Parent helpers in the classroom
- ✓ Presentation Evenings for Unit of Inquiry
- ✓ Assisting with the Musical

Parent satisfaction with the College program continues to be strong with most new enrolments coming from the recommendation of current families. Parents have commented on the wonderful feeling within the College and the behaviour and attitude of the students.

## College Finances

Once again we are very grateful to the Northern Territory Government and The Australian Government for their continued financial support. Nearly half of our recurrent income comes from them. Below is a graph that shows the major sources of income for the College.



## Conclusion

As you have read Good Shepherd Lutheran College is a very busy and exciting place to be. The College continues to work closely with the Lutheran Schools Association of SA, NT and WA, the College is grateful for support that we receive from the LSA staff and appreciate the regular visits we receive from the Christian Studies facilitators, Spiritual Development Officer, Deputy Director, Finance Officers and the Director.

I would like to thank the Association members for their continued prayer and support for the staff, students and families of the College.

Once again the Governance of the College has been entrusted to a very dedicated and supportive Board who believe strongly in working to make the College the best place for students and their

families. I would like to acknowledge this work and thank the members for their dedication and commitment in particular to Madeleine von Muralt who has chaired this Board over many years and continues to provide both leadership and support to this group.

Julian Denholm

College Principal

On behalf of the Good Shepherd Lutheran College NT Board

May 2014