With Christ at our centre we equip students to become flourishing, knowledgeable and compassionate people who enrich the lives of others with a serving heart.
Over the past twelve months the College Board and Executive team have been involved in producing the College’s strategic plan for the next four years. Over the year we have had discussions with parents, students and staff at the College and have asked for feedback through surveys, meetings and at the Appreciative Inquiry summit we held in January of this year.

The plan builds upon the previous strategic plans of the College, and extends us into new and innovative educational directions. A key focus is on being a positive organisation informed by the field of Positive Psychology and Positive Education. While these fields are relatively new to the education sector and to our College they align with the message of the Gospel that has always guided the College in its vision and decision making.

The plan is supported by measurable outcomes and indicators of success, and it is intended that it will be a living document, guiding both the strategic and operational decision making at the College. This will ensure that the College continues to provide the best for all within the Good Shepherd community.

As a result of the feedback received from the Quality Schools survey sent out late last term and the AI summit, the College Board and representatives from the College and the Lutheran Congregations in Darwin met a number of times to reframe the wording of our mission statement. Feedback told us that it was overly worded and it would be a positive step to simplify the language used to communicate our key message, that which we are driven to achieve for our students and community.

The outcome of these discussions is a revamp of the College Mission statement which has been endorsed by the College Board. The College’s new mission statement is

With Christ at our centre we equip students to become flourishing, knowledgeable and compassionate people who enrich the lives of others with a serving heart.

This statement embodies our belief that Christ is central to all we are and do. It states our commitment to the International Baccalaureate’s vision of active and responsible learners. It is a commitment to our understanding that for our students to flourish we need to embrace them for all they are and can become, and finally it affirms our belief that all we are – and aim to become – is driven by an attitude of selflessness and service.

As the Principal of the College I am extremely proud of what our students, staff and families contribute and achieve each day, and would like to thank all who have shaped this plan, for their ideas and boldness in creating a collective vision for the College. It is in our coming together that we make our College a great place for our children to learn and grow.

A copy of the Good Shepherd Lutheran College Strategic Plan 2016-2019 will be available shortly on the College website. Should you like further information please do not hesitate to contact the College on 8983 0300.

Rachel Boyce
Principal
As children, many of us loved superheroes. Characters like Batman, Superman, Wonder Woman, Spiderman, The Hulk, captivated and inspired us with their powers and their continuing fight for ‘truth, justice and the American way’. We know too that such a fascination with these characters is not limited to children; look at the adult movies which are regularly released about them. And if you go into a comic book store, as I did recently in Melbourne, a browse through what is for sale and a look at the clientele will quickly show you that for many of us, a love of superheroes extends long past our childhood. I have to admit, I thought I was finished with them before the Batman Dark Knight trilogy was released a few years ago; now perhaps my favourite trilogy of all time.

Some of these characters have special powers because of where they were born, a creature they were bitten by, or some kind of biological accident. Others are just normal people who are driven to extraordinary lengths to fight for justice because of what has happened to them. Whatever kind of super hero they are, there is one thing many of them have in common; as we grow older their stories tell of their weaknesses as well as their strengths. It might be a bad temper, self-doubt, the temptation to use their strength or skills to help themselves. The super heroes portrayed in the adult comics and movies are often much more human, with weaknesses as well as strengths, than the ones we read and watched as children.

In chapel this term we are following the theme, Bible Heroes. We have been going through some of the great people from the Bible, like Noah, Abraham, Moses, Esther, King David and Daniel. In some ways, the way we see their stories is like that of our super heroes; when we were young and read about them in our children’s Bibles we saw people who were perfect and always followed God faithfully. When we get older and read about them in the Bible we see their stories in full. Yes, they were faithful to God and followed his call. But they also sometimes went against him, had doubts, didn’t live the way he wanted, some straight out tried to run away! Great people of the Bible, but also very human.

In fact, they are just like us. What I love about their stories is that these aren’t perfect people who I could never hope to be like, but in their stories I see my own struggles and failings in life. But, even better than that, I see God forgiving them and working through them, giving them gifts and strengths and working through their weaknesses.

The great message which comes through from these people and their stories is that God is always with us, and our strength comes from him. Our stories might not be as dramatic as saving our family from a flood, leading a nation out of slavery, or spending the night with some hungry lions, but we all face challenges and have our callings each day. This comes out in the way we treat and serve others. In the way we do our work. In the way we live as members of our community. In these things we know that we too aren’t perfect, but we can know that God gives us the strength to always be trying to do these things better.

The greatest strength, or power to follow the superhero line of thinking, is knowing that he always forgives us, and that he is with us always. A strength we can thank him for and which we can use to go out and serve others.

God’s blessings to you all,
Pastor Andrew Koehler
Positive Education

If you were to ask what people want from life for themselves or their children the most common answer would be ‘to be happy’. Ahead of wealth, power or possessions, most of us aspire to lives in which we are able to make the most of life’s challenges, enjoy loving, secure and supportive relationships, be creative and productive and contribute to a life-purpose bigger than ourselves, so that we find lasting meaning, fulfilment and satisfaction in life.

The science of Positive Psychology seeks to understand these aspects of human experience and behaviour so that we can create the conditions in which more of us can live flourishing lives. Positive Education applies the understandings from this research so that our schools become places where staff and students can be at their healthiest, happiest and most successful.

Good Shepherd started its Positive Education journey in 2015 with the question ‘What is a Positive Organisation and how do you grow one!’ Led by our College mission, the Executive Leadership Team set in place a strategic process to develop our College culture, beginning with our staff, acknowledging that their wellbeing, growth and performance is critical for our student’s success and happiness.

At the start of 2015 we held an Appreciative Inquiry Summit to discover the core strengths of our College and to set in motion processes that aimed to magnify these as the basis for our success. This 2 day event involved staff, students, parents and College Board members and was distinctly focussed on valuing and sharing individual stories, seeking the positive things that unite us and building a shared vision for the future. It also involved generous amounts of risk-taking, physical activity, creativity and fun.

The AI Summit was not simply an inspiring and energizing experience; its outcomes have directly influenced the development of our College’s soon-to-be-released Strategic Plan, which clearly articulates our commitment to developing an organisation and culture in which all our community members have the opportunity to flourish. The AI has already stimulated a range of innovations and actions which share a common focus on building individual and collective strengths, engaging, empowering and motivating participants and promoting collaboration and creativity, recognizing that our relationships and wellbeing is integral to our success.

Darren Boyce
Director of Positive Education
Students Develop as Positive Agents for Change

It is an IB educators delight to walk past our Year 8 classrooms and hear students discussing just how the MYP global context of Globalisation and Sustainability or Fairness and Development creates an effective context for their Community Projects. Good Shepherd teachers have had the pleasure of hearing students discuss just what type of service they are engaging in and how they can practise empathy by walking in another’s shoes.

Our Year 8 cohort are partway through their Middle Years Programme Community Project. The Community Project is a service and action project that provides our students with an opportunity to demonstrate how they are developing as caring and principled individuals. Our Year 8 MYP team have integrated our Christian Studies program with the MYP Community Project in order to engage students in a learning experience that not only helps them develop their MYP approaches to learning skills but also gives them an opportunity to put Christian service into action.

Through the Community Project students are tasked with investigating the four types of service that the IB outlines as part of the MYP students learning experience. These include direct service – interaction that involves people, the environment or animals; Indirect service – students will not see the recipients during indirect service, but will verify that their actions will benefit the community or environment; Advocacy – through advocacy students speak on behalf of a cause, concern or issue of public interest to promote action; Research – students collect information from a variety of sources, analyse data and report on the topic of importance to influence policy or practice.

Independently students in groups up to three have selected the type of service they will engage in, the need they wish to meet within the local, national or international community and from here students have selected an MYP global context to frame their service and action. The MYP global contexts ensure that all inquiry-based learning experiences and projects are framed within a relevant and engaging context for learning. The global contexts help students make connections with their learning experiences to the real-world and ensure that all learning within an IB World School continuously develops students as internationally minded global citizens.

Our Year 8 students have drawn together their approaches to learning skills, type of service chosen, a need within either a local, national or global community and have placed this within a global context of their choice. The wide variety of student interest and gifts and abilities is evident throughout each Community Project. Students have drawn from their own experience to help others, for example a campaign to raise awareness on the harmful impacts of bullying, the impact of fracking on the local Howard Springs and Humpty Doo community and just how to turn the tables on the negative impact of social media on body image. Student’s critical thinking and research skills are being developed through Community Projects that raise awareness of homelessness in the Northern Territory, the media’s influence in impacting a nations understanding of significant issues and the harmful effects of gaming addictions. Good Shepherd students have also placed their creative thinking and social skills in action by creating anime’s that raise awareness of local issues, creating water carrying devices for East Timorese communities and creating a photographic essay that seeks to capture the benefits of providing for Darwin’s homeless community.

Students are expected to finalise their Community Projects towards the end of Term 3, with some classes possibly finalising around the beginning of Term 4. We will host Exhibition evenings in our College Library where students can present their work and share their reflections on the impact of their service and action. An invitation will be posted to our College Facebook page and we look forward to you seeing our student’s thoughtful and well-considered service and action experiences.

Throughout the next few weeks as students engage in their Community Project, they will be provided with opportunities to pause and reflect on their role as global citizens who have the opportunity to create positive change. A fundamental tenet of an IB education is the firm belief that education can be used to create a peaceful and hopeful future for our world. It is our hope as MYP teachers at Good Shepherd Lutheran College that through their service and action experience within the Community Project, our students are empowered to become change agents who through thoughtful and well-considered service to others seek to make the world a better and peaceful place.

Laura England
IB MYP Coordinator

Good Shepherd Lutheran College
Transition Bibles
Transition students at each of the College’s three Junior Schools were presented with ‘The Lion’s First Bible’ during chapel at their respective campus. The students were delighted and many are now enjoying the stories as part of bed-time reading. Thank you very much Top End Lutheran Parish for so generously providing the children’s Bibles and for presenting them at Chapel.

St Andrew Campus – Good News Story
'I organised a play date for some Year 3 students, so they could develop their market stall - thinking they just wanted a catch up - well was I wrong! They googled and researched and practised their face painting to the extent I had to get them to put paint brushes down and go to bed! They even made a lemonade stall the next day to raise money to buy face paint and brushes, to help any students that might not have money for their stall.

Just wanted to let you know as a parent, I think it is fantastic to see our daughter enjoying school and thinking outside the box - and this I believe stems from the classroom teacher. A big thank you, for all that you do and for caring!

Michelle Goody
Parent

Daisy and Jorja perfect the art of face painting

Years 1s Day Out
Howard Springs Campus Year 1 students had a fabulous ‘day out’ at the Howard Springs Reserve on Tuesday 21 June. They were met by guides who talked to them about the park, the fish that inhabit the springs and the wildlife.
Vertical Interest Groups

Each Junior School has recently trialled ‘Vertical Interest Groups’, where students from all year levels nominated different groups to join. There has been a wonderful variety of groups including gardening, photography, paper recycling, jewellery making, fashion from recycled materials, drama, dance, board games, outdoor games, robotics, science experiments, art from nature and origami to name a few. The groups meet every Friday afternoon and will continue until the end of the year. Thank you very much to all parents who have assisted with this program and making it such a success for all involved.

Year 4s Interview Bhutan’s PM

St Andrew Campus Year 4 students have been studying Climate Change as part of their Unit of Inquiry. On Monday 20 June, at precisely 2.30pm, they interviewed the Honourable Prime Minister of Bhutan, Tshering Tobgay. They learnt about Bhutan after seeing Prime Minister Tobgay’s TED Talk and were incredibly impressed by Bhutan’s commitment to sustainability and their carbon negative status. We sent an email of congratulations and asked if he would like to Skype our class. Within two hours of the emailing, it had been arranged. Prime Minister Tobgay answered all of our questions. He is an extremely charismatic and generous man.

‘There is no hunting at all - it’s illegal.’ - Kate Rose

‘They only have to cut down one or two trees to make all of the electricity.’ - Bryce Ormsby

‘The world belongs to everyone.’ - Jay Calter

‘Everyone should learn about sustainability.’ - Harry Sage

Tahila Anver
Year 4 Teacher
Transition – Year 2 Athletics Fun Day

The Fun Day was held on Friday 29 July with perfect Dry Season weather. Students from Transition to Year 2 greatly enjoyed the track and novelty events. The preschoolers had the chance to participate in a race as well. House Leaders were marvellous assistants and they provided great encouragement for the younger students. Congratulations to Livingstone for being the winning House on the day.

Lynne Pokela
Head of Junior School – Palmerston Campus
ELC – Year 2 Athletics Carnival

Howard Springs Campus Junior School, ELC - Year 2 students (and parents) had a wonderful time at their Athletics Carnival on Thursday 2 June. There were some very unusual events that were lots of fun and students delighted in watching their parents race! Thank you to all involved, especially the Middle School House leaders who so ably assisted and provided encouragement for the younger students. Congratulations Fenton - champion house on the day!

Elizabeth Baff
Head of Junior School – Howard Springs Campus
Years 3-5 Athletics Carnival

The Years 3-5 Athletics Carnival was held on Thursday 19 May at the Howard Springs Campus. It was a great day of track and field events for our St Andrew and Palmerston students. Many students exclaimed that the races were the best part. It was wonderful to have so many parent helpers as well as the assistance of Middle School House leaders which the younger students thought was fabulous. Congratulations to Livingstone for winning the 2016 Junior School Athletics Carnival.

Livingstone leaders Nandi Ndlovu and Maddison Hastie proudly receive the Athletics Carnival trophy
St Andrew Campus House Colours Day

St Andrew Campus held a House Colours Day for all students (ELC – Year 5) on Friday 17 June. Students participated in a number of fun events. Congratulations Hughes on being champion house on the day.
Grandparents & Special Friends’ Day

There was a wonderful amount of love being shared and shown at both St Andrew and Palmerston Campuses during the ‘Grandparents & Special Friends’ Day’ in Week 3 of this term. Many grandparents had scheduled their annual Top End holidays to coincide with this special event and students greatly enjoyed sharing their learning and showing their loved ones around their respective campuses. The mornings commenced with a special assembly to welcome all grandparents and special friends and finished with delicious morning teas. The ‘Wisdom Bench’ at the St Andrew Campus was a marvellous idea, whereby guests left ‘pearls of wisdom’ for the students. Palmerston Campus students planted a tree to commemorate the special day and it is hoped that many guests will return to see how much the tree has grown.
Lisa Alexander Visit

Palmerston Campus netball players were extremely fortunate to meet Australian Diamonds netball coach, Lisa Alexander on Tuesday 7 June. Students participated in a number of stretches and drills and thoroughly enjoyed this very special occasion. Lisa was named head coach of the national netball team in 2011 and our community was most impressed that she offered to spend time with us; sharing her passion and netball expertise with our young students, during her very busy schedule.

Jump Rope for Heart

Junior School students at the Howard Springs Campus enjoyed a visit from the Jump Rope for Heart crew on Wednesday 10 August. Skipping is not only very good for you and your heart… it looks like great fun!
Mathematics Challenge

During May and June, many students were invited to compete in the ‘Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians’. This involved students collecting a booklet of 4-6 problems appropriate to their year level, which they then prepared well-communicated solutions. These solutions were graded nationally and results awarded. Of the participants who returned their booklets: Connor Marshall earned a High Distinction in the Intermediate group placing him in the top 11% in Australia, and Mason Calter achieved a Credit in the Upper Primary group. Jason Yun and Kate Robertson were commended with Proficiency certificates and I thank Tyla Bilson for her participation. Connor will now be invited to compete in the Maths Olympiad in September and I see a great future in the great wide world of mathematics for this champion.

17 of our students attended Maths Camp at Bachelor Outdoor Education Centre from Friday 12 – Sunday 14 August. The camp was run by MTANT and the NT Department of Education. The students ranged from the middle years, with the majority coming from Year 6 and 10 cohorts. The math activities were interspersed by the feeding frenzy of hungry minds. Mr & Mrs Bisevac provided the wonderful food, while Ms Peters, Ms Sajtos-Hobbs and myself assisted in the different maths worlds. Mrs Macdonald was everywhere from the kitchen to the high ropes to the ping pong tables and the trampoline. Students investigated astronomy world and problem world while the seniors wrestled with the importance of calculus in the real world. The seniors also tackled a particular proof that pi actually equals 4 not approximately 3. The ability to prove that this is not so rests with our understanding of infinity. I am still struggling with this one! I think everyone enjoyed themselves and we look forward to more of what is in store for maths camp in 2017.

Amanda Petersen
Mathematics Learning Area Co-ordinator

Parent Workshops

Thank you to all parents who were able to attend the very first evening of ‘Parent Workshops’ on Wednesday 10 August. Your surveys will enormously assist our planning for future evenings. The next is scheduled for Monday 17 October, Week 2 in Term 4. We will send you the updated brochure with workshop descriptions very soon.
Year 8 Students Visit Kakadu

On Thursday 26 May, Year 8 ‘Individuals and Society’ students visited the Bowali Visitor Centre, Ubirr Rock and Bardedjilidji in Kakadu National Park. The field trip tied in with their Unit of Study which focused on geomorphology and the use and management of national natural areas of geologic and cultural significance. Students were required to complete a field trip booklet which was their first summative task for the subject.

Gabrielle Kaoustos
Humanities Coordinator

Strauss Day

A number of events took place on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 August in celebration of Strauss Day. The music sessions during lunchtimes drew good crowds as did the yummy cake stalls. Well done to all students who made ‘blue’ cupcakes, especially the Cookie Monster ones that were very popular. Students held a BBQ and a carwash to raise funds for Bethany Home, Malaysia.

Lubomir Bisevac
Strauss House Coordinator
Year 5 Camp

Thank you St Andrew Campus Year 5 students for your wonderful camp comments.

Year 5 Camp was really exciting and scary at the same time. There were so many different things to do at the Batchelor Outdoor Education Centre. **Sienna Watkins**

Year 5 Camp was amazing! We did lots of cool things, including kayaking. In lots of the activities we all had to be risk-takers. It was lots of fun. **Grace Horne**

Camp was exciting! We got to do low and high ropes and a climbing wall. **Lily Juffs**

Our Year 5 Camp was a thrill of brilliant adventures! I really enjoyed the trampolines and the advanced climbing wall. **Mali Mancer**

Camp was amazing! I had so much fun doing kayaking and archery. **Mya Blyth**

The sun shined, the wind blew. Camp was great and that is so! The wind blew on that fine day that we kayaked around Rum Jungle Lake. **Kobi Speed**
Year 9 Camp

In Weeks 3 and 4 of Term 3, the five Year 9 classes went on school camp, which was held in the Litchfield National Park. There were two parts of the camp, one was a hike and the other a peer support/leadership program.

Usually the hike would take place along the Tabletop Track, however this year we were unable to walk there due to bush fires. Instead, our hike was a two day journey between Florence Falls, Walker’s Creek and Buley Rockhole. During this time, we carried all the necessary equipment (tents, trangia, and toilet paper) and food in our hiking packs; to survive. We slept rough and walked a lot!

We had 12 Japanese students with us this year along with their two teachers. They enjoyed the Australian bush and said the biggest surprise for them was the beautiful water holes and how many stars they could see in our sky. They coped well with the hiking and enjoyed socialising with our group. The game of Chinese whispers was interesting mixing the Japanese students in with our students!!

At Basecamp we participated in a Peer Support/Leadership Program. This was a great opportunity for the Year 9 students to socialise and get to know other people. Whilst there, we participated in numerous activities that taught us how to cooperate successfully within groups.

Year 9 camp was a huge success, even with the change of plans for the hiking part of the camp. It was a great opportunity and learning experience, one we will never forget.

Arianna Baldieri and Ben Ogden
Middle School Captains

“We caught a heap of yabbies in the creek and cooked them up for dinner.” Calvin Kelly

“A highlight for me at base camp and the hike was trying new things and the team building activities.” Storm Dudson

“Base camp was good because we did fun activities. The hike was good because we went swimming the rocks pools along the way.” Matthew Dang

“Camp was fun! It is something I will always remember.” Kaitlyn Creber

“Overall the camp consisted of a lot of teamwork and bonding. The highlight was learning to cope without everyday resources (our phones and Facebook!) and working together on the hike to encourage each other.” Ashlee Gilder and Amy Butler

“The best thing I liked about the hike was walking with my class as we all supported each other and put negative relationships behind us. There was a great sense of accomplishing all tasks and the Japanese students brought a wonderful sense of variety.” Jack Logan

“Base camp was fun with Neil and Mrs Ham. We did fun activities and made new friends.” Robert Cocks

“I loved the base camp. I made more friends which was my goal. The hiking was beautiful and a little bit tiring but we all had fun.” Catarina Moizao

“The collaboration and teamwork activities during the base camp was quite enjoyable and effective in building our friendships and teamwork with our peers. The hike developed our independence and survival skills.” Rachel Yun

“The highlight of the hike was swimming in the waterfalls and getting to know the Japanese students. Base camp was fun as I enjoyed the activities and spending time with the Japanese students. The most memorable experience was lying in my tent watching the stars at night.” Ihzel Novenario

“Base camp was fun because no one was excluded and everyone worked together. The best part was making new friends and sleeping in tents! The hike was fun as I found out I can travel a long distance with weight nearly as heavy as me on my back with the encouragement and support of my peers.” Holly Fricker

“I enjoyed the team building activities at the base camp as we got to know each other better. The hike has given me great memories of singing Karaoke to get through the walk!” Elijah Mitchell

“The base camp tested our team building skills and the hike was great, getting closer to my friends.” Ryan Faulkner
Stage 1 & 2 Brisbane Universities Trip

Eighteen Stage 1 & 2 students along with Anita Synnott, Sean Synnott and Dean Cummins, attended various university Open Days in Brisbane and the Gold Coast in Week 1 of Term 3. They were able to squeeze in a rugby match and a few hours at Dreamworld during their busy schedule. Students found this trip to be extremely helpful in assisting them with university and course selections. Online applications commence in August, so these students certainly have a lot on their minds. We wish them all the very best for their studies and applications.

Anita Synnott
Student Pathways Coordinator

Adelaide Universities Trip

Nine Year 11 students along with Mrs Anita Synnott and Mr Darren Boyce attended Adelaide university Open Days from Friday 12 – Monday 15 August. They had a fabulous time, enjoying breakfast with great views of SA’s coastline and some fine dining. The Open Days proved to be very beneficial for this small group of ambitious students and will assist with Year 12 subject selections and career aspirations.
Mini Careers Expo

Palmerston Campus Year 5 students attended a Mini Careers Expo, designed just for them. Senior Workready students conducted the Expo, offering advice on a number of options. You would not be alone in thinking that students aged 10 and 11 aren't ready to ponder their future careers, but according to many studies, it is an ideal age to sow those early seeds and prepare students better for their Middle and Senior School years.

Anita Synnott
Student Pathways Coordinator

Year 10 & 11 Subject Fair

The Year 10 & 11 Subject Fair was held on Tuesday 26 July and it was a most informative evening for students...and parents. Student leaders and staff put an enormous amount of effort into the evening and it was very nice to receive such positive comments from our community regarding its overall success. Many industry representatives also attended and we thank them greatly for committing to the evening, adding to its diversity and potential possibilities for our students. Careers’ staff will meet with each Year 10 and 11 student to discuss NTCET requirements and subject selections...a very important time of decision making.

Mr Dean Cummins
Head of Senior School
St Peters Lutheran College Visit

Good Shepherd greatly enjoyed having students and staff from St Peters Lutheran College Symphonic Winds and Senior Stage Band visit in June. The band performed for many students at the Howard Springs Campus Auditorium and conducted a brilliant concert at 7.00pm on Wednesday 22 June. They also performed at the Palmerston Campus and caught up with two of their Old Collegians – Lynne Pokela and Erich Holzknecht; it was a very special occasion.

Thank you so much to all families who so graciously billeted students. There were many wonderful friendships made and it is hoped that St Peters will come to visits us again in the near future.

Tanya Lloyd
Music Teacher

YOHFEST

Congratulations to our Middle and Senior dance students who won the 2016 YOHFEST on Thursday 16 June. The event took place at the Darwin Entertainment Centre and the students’ performance was incredibly powerful. It is wonderful to see a mix of male and female dancers - well done to you all and to Mrs Lyndal England, Dance teacher. Students also received an award for ‘most outstanding performance’ and a cash prize of $500.00.
Sydney Arts Trip

In Week 1 of Term 3, 19 Arts students visited Sydney to participate in a whirlwind experience of professional workshops, University tours and once in a lifetime opportunities to see live theatre and art works.

First stop was the University of Sydney and White Rabbit Contemporary Art Museum, followed by a spectacular performance of “Singin’ in the Rain” at the Lyric Theatre. The next morning, Visual Art students were treated to a Brett Whiteley workshop, while Drama and Dance students participated in a tour of the Australian Film, Theatre and Television College; followed by a workshop. From here the group then travelled to the Sydney Theatre Company and were able to see first-hand trade secrets. The Arts students learnt how to make pottery at an evening class.

On Friday 22 July, the Drama and Dance students visited the National Institute of Dramatic Arts, (NIDA), where they took part in a 3 hour Acting for Screen and Green Screen course. The Arts students travelled to the College of Fine Arts at the University of NSW, (UNSW). The groups then met up to tour UNSW and the Art Gallery of NSW. From here students experienced China Town in all its glory. The Dance students at this time went to Sydney Dance Company for a lesson in Jazz, Funk and Hip Hop.

On Saturday 23 July, Dance students learnt from some of the best at Sydney Dance Company (this time in Contemporary) and the Drama and Visual Arts students journeyed to the Australian Film, Television and Radio School to partake in a tour and 3 hour Stop Animation Workshop. The group then met at Circular Quay to explore the harbour and experience the Museum of Contemporary Art.

Students thoroughly enjoyed their time in Sydney and feel that the opportunities have greatly increased their awareness of career pathways in both Visual and Performing Arts.

Jade Briscoe
Learning Area Coordinator – The Arts

Dance Workshops

Aaron Lim running hip-hop workshops for our students as part of Artback NT’s Artists on Tour program.

Elective dance students learning the Samba at one of their specialised workshops.
Little Shop of Horrors

The Arts Department put on a spectacular performance with this year’s musical ‘Little Shop of Horrors’ held at Brown’s Mart Theatre from Friday 10 – Sunday 12 June. Due to a small technical error, another performance was held on Friday 17 June and students were thrilled with the opportunity to do it all again. Both leads and the understudies did a wonderful job of becoming their characters and not only entertaining the audience but interacting with them.

The story follows Seymour, a florist on Skid Row, who finds fortune and fame with the help of a mysterious, strange and interesting plant. Seymour’s choices prove to be fatal and ultimately lead to his and his friend’s demise.

Ethan Baker and Jack Mitchell portrayed Seymour excellently (with Jack also providing the voice for Audrey II) and were supported by the very talented Maddison Curtis and Talia Erihe-Liddicoat as Audrey, Seymour’s love interest. Other stand out performances included Ellie Grover as Mrs Mushnik, Tim Saunders as the dentist and Patrick English as the voice of Audrey II. Ally Slack, Danica Jenner and Zoe Giannikouris were marvellous as the sassy Doo Wop girls.

The dancing and music were spectacular and students rehearsed tirelessly before the performance. The band was exceptional, despite a most challenging musical score. This year, for the first time in Good Shepherd Lutheran College’s history, the lighting and sound were designed and implemented by students in the Tech Crew. Thank you cast and crew for an outstanding performance and to the audiences of each performance who certainly seemed to enjoy themselves.

Jade Briscoe
Musical Director
Middle and Senior School Athletics Carnival

The carnival took place on Friday 20 May at the Howard Springs Campus. Fenton reigned supreme once again, by quite a large margin. There were many records broken and the senior boys’ high jump was a major drawcard. The relays also drew great attention as did the staff and students’ final 100m dash.

There are some outstanding athletes at Good Shepherd and this was certainly their opportunity to shine. Well done to all students who competed in events, winning ribbons and participation points. Thank you PE staff for setting / packing up and every other staff member for manning their events so diligently. The day of course wouldn’t happen without the essential assistance of the maintenance team who spend hours putting in line markings, digging up sand pits and erecting shades. It was a brilliant day with extremely positive feedback.

Hughes – 1179  
Livingstone – 1330  
Strauss – 1422  
Fenton – 1799

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<td>Benjamin Ah Mat</td>
<td>Bradley Gill</td>
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<td>Jai Weetra</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 girls</td>
<td>Georgia Koch</td>
<td>Taylah Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open boys</td>
<td>Joe Williams</td>
<td>Lachlan Brodie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open girls</td>
<td>Mikayla De Castro</td>
<td>CJ Pickering</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jeannie Cook  
Sports Coordinator
Japanese Students Visit

Twelve students and two staff from Seirin Senior High School in Wakayama, (which is not too far from Osaka) Japan, enjoyed their two week visit to the Top End from Monday 25 July to Friday 5 August. Students attended classes at the Howard Springs Campus and visited each Junior School. They were very impressed by the younger students who shared their learnings with them. The Japanese students attended the Year 9 camp in Litchfield and they simply loved the opportunity to experience the ‘bush’ and wildlife. Thank you to all the host families for opening up their homes to the Japanese students; it has been great to see the relationship between Good Shepherd and Seirin High School grow. We hope to see them all again soon.

Daniel Yamada
Head of Middle School

Congratulations to NT Literary Award winner Ashleigh Abram who received the Kath Manzie Award on Monday 1 August at Parliament House.

Congratulations to Stella Foster on receiving a credit for the recent Education Perfect World Championships.
Students at Work

Transition Garden
Howard Springs Campus Transition students had a most exciting morning on Friday 29 July - picking zucchinis from their very own garden and making zucchini slice. The garden was created for their Unit of Inquiry’s Central Idea; “Plants sustain life on earth and play a role in our lives.”

Elizabeth Baff
Head of Junior School – Howard Springs Campus

Science Week
National Science Week was held from 13 – 21 August 2016. Students thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to participate in a variety of Science activities during Week 5. Thank you very much to all staff involved; for organising lunchtime Science sessions… and more.
Students at Work

Technology Expo
The Technology Expo 2016 was held on Monday 8 August at Parliament House.

Japanese Cranes
Year 8 Japanese students attempt to make ‘Senbazuru’ Origami (one thousand cranes) wishing peace delivered by the wings of the cranes all over the world. This is to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of victims of Hiroshima/Nagasaki, 6 - 9 August.

Mr Nishimoto and Mr See Kee
Japanese Language Teachers
It is quite a surprise to realise that our very first cohort of Year 12 students, who graduated in 2011 will celebrate their 5 year reunion in December – as a number of them have stated, ‘where have those five years gone?’ Some have spent those years studying, others working (or a combination of both), a few have travelled and one has started a family. So many wonderful changes, in a relatively short period of time and we are reminded of God’s presence throughout. ‘And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age’. Matt 28:20

Good Shepherd warmly invites any member of our community to this very special reunion on Saturday 10 December, particularly other Old Collegians. Please remember that bookings and payment are required by Friday 18 November. We would love to see you there.

Tara Errity
Director of Development
It has been a huge term, in terms of development across all three College campuses, Howard Springs, Palmerston and Leanyer. It is difficult to ascertain priorities when there are so many resources required by a school – and a developing school at that. Decision-making takes place on a daily level, always with those most valuable to us on our minds – our students.

We are very excited to announce ‘The Ichthys Project’ funding for a new playground at the Howard Springs Campus Junior School. $25,598.00 has been very generously provided by The Ichthys Project for this development. A new site for this playground and four new classrooms was identified earlier this term and selective clearing will commence very soon.

Early Learning Centre students at both the Howard Springs and St Andrew Campuses are making great use of the brand new equipment in their Outdoor Learning Areas.

The basketball court at the Palmerston Campus is going through a major change and will be a most welcome addition when the wet season arrives.

The Middle and Senior School Campus has a number of newly paved areas and a much more appealing grassed area behind the basketball courts.

Good Shepherd’s stall at the Royal Darwin Show was a lot of fun and it was wonderful to see so many members of our community there. The movie night in May was also fun and is something we hope to continue in the future.

Tara Errity
Director of Development

Neil Leek
Business Manager
Learning Support for Middle and Senior School Students

We would like to introduce you to some of the members of the Learning Support Team at Good Shepherd Lutheran College.

The staff pictured make up a support network of Learning Support Teachers and Learning Support Officers from the Howard Springs Middle / Senior Campus. These dedicated people are working with the students both in and out of classes and through the Homework Centre.

Susan Howes (absent in photo) is our Literacy Specialist Teacher. She runs a Literacy Support Program with students from Year 6 to Year 10. These students come for 2-4 lessons a week in a withdrawn class for specialist learning in the area of literacy.

Kristine Laube, Rikki Saltmarsh and Rachel Walker are Learning Support Officers who work closely with the students within English, Maths and other subject areas mainly in the Year 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 classes. These ladies will be joined by a new LSO starting this week who will be replacing our well-loved Cheryl Simpson, who has supported many students over the past years and is going for some well-earned special time with her grandchild in Western Australia. These wonderful people develop supportive relationships that often continue through the years as they follow your child and their learning pathway.

Karen Weier with Babs Akehurst provide one on one and small group support in the Year 6 and 7 classes along with other LSO’s. Karen has taken on the initiative of the ‘Zones of Regulation’ program and is teaching students and staff about regulating their emotions and recognising the four different zones.

Marie Robertson coordinates the Learning Support / Enrichment Program across the campuses of Leanyer, Palmerston, Howard Springs Junior School, along with the program for the Middle / Senior Campus of Good Shepherd. Marie spends most of the week at the Middle / Senior Campus where she oversees the main program for Year 8-12 and collaborates with Karen and Susan on their programmes. Marie regularly visits the other campuses where she works in with the coordinators at each campus. Our team collaborate with teachers to differentiate instruction to meet student’s learning needs and styles, in line with the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Programme standards and practices. In future newsletters, we will be introducing you to the other members of the team based at each of our campuses.

**Marie Robertson**  
Learning Support/Enrichment Coordinator

**Important Dates**

**September**
- Thurs 8 – PARRS Orienteering, Middle & Senior Students  
- Thurs 8 – Year 10 2017 Information Evening  
- Fri 9 – HSC Junior School Disco  
- Sun 11 – Combined College / Church Worship Service  
- Tues 13 – Wed 14 – Student Led Conferences, Howard Springs Campus Junior School  
- Tues 13 – Middle & Senior School Parent-teacher Interviews  
- Thurs 15 – Middle & Senior School Parent-teacher Interviews  
- Fri 16 – Hughes Day  
- Tues 20 – Middle & Senior School Immunisation Program  
- Tues 20 – Student Led Conferences, Palmerston & St Andrew Campuses  
- Wed 21 – Student Led Conferences, Palmerston & St Andrew Campuses  
- Thurs 22 – HSC Transition’s Day Out  
- **Friday 23 – Last Day Term 3**  
- Sat 24 – Mon 26 – Pedal Prix, Murray Bridge

**October**
- Mon 10 – First Day Term 4  
- Mon 10 – Fri 14 – Year 12 Trial Exams  
- Mon 17 – Parent Workshops  
- Mon 17 – Fri 21 – HSC Junior School Book Fair  
- Thurs 20 – PARRS Hockey  
- Fri 21 – Book Parade & Grandparents Day, HSC Junior School  
- Wed 26 – MYP Information Evening  
- Thurs 27 – PARRS Badminton  
- Thurs 27 – Year 12 students’ last day  
- Thurs 27 – HSC ELC’s Excursion  
- Mon 31 Oct – Fri 4 November – SWAT VAC

**November**
- Thurs 3 – ARTiculate  
- Fri 4 – PARRS Swimming  
- Mon 7 – Fri 25 – Year 12 External Examinations  
- Tues 15 – Year 5 Exhibition, St Andrew Campus  
- Tues 15 – Transition Parent Orientation, Palmerston Campus  
- Wed 16 – Transition Parent Orientation, St Andrew Campus  
- Fri 18 – Fri 25 – Year 11 Examinations  
- Mon 21 – Wed 23 – Year 10 Examinations  
- Mon 21 – Wed 23 – Year 8 Examinations  
- Wed 23 – Valedictory & Awards Service  
- Thurs 24 – 2017 New Student Orientation Day, Palmerston Campus  
- Thurs 24 – Middle School Instrumental Concert  
- Thurs 24 – Year 5 Awards & Farewell, St Andrew Campus  
- Fri 25 – Year 5 Awards & Farewell, Palmerston Campus  
- Fri 25 – Valedictory Dinner  
- Mon 28 – Senior Students, Step Up House Orientation Day  
- Mon 28 – Year 7 Orientation Day  
- Wed 30 – Christmas Carols Picnic, HSC Junior School  
- Wed 30 – New Student Orientation Day, Palmerston and St Andrew Campuses

**December**
- Thurs 1 – 2017 Transition Orientation, Palmerston Campus  
- Wed 7 – Awards Assembly, Palmerston Campus  
- Thurs 8 – Chapel and Awards, St Andrew Campus  
- Fri 9 – Christmas Assembly 8.30am, St Andrew Campus  
- Fri 9 – Year 6 & 7 Assembly, 9.30am  
- Fri 9 – Year 8 & 9 Assembly, 11.00am  
- Fri 9 – Years 10 – 12 Assembly, 12.00pm