

# The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

## Abbotsleigh girls brave the waves of leadership

Mrs Megan Krimmer  
Headmistress

Abbotsleigh's focus on 'empowering young women since 1885' means that developing our girls as leaders – both for today and tomorrow, is in our DNA.

This week, our Year 11 girls participated in an outstanding leadership development program to assist them in preparing to step up as the next student leaders of Abbotsleigh later this year.

Mrs Annette Ware, our Dean of Senior College, has written a superb article about leadership and our Year 11 girls' experiences. I commend Mrs Ware's article to every member of our Abbotsleigh community.

## Leadership and legacy

Mrs Annette Ware  
Dean of Senior College

What will your legacy be?

This was the question posed to our Year 11 girls as they anticipate their final year of school and prepare to be our Abbotsleigh leaders from Term 4 onwards. It's a potent question that invites contemplation and resonates with our deep desire as human beings to make a positive impact on others and our world. It was a question that certainly energised and animated our Year 11 girls, lifting their focus well beyond themselves as individuals to imagine the impact they might have as a year group when the leadership mantle is passed to them later this year.

For many of us, our world shrank during the Covid years. We retreated, largely through necessity. Our gaze was not so much outward but inward, and there was a weakening of connection with others and engagement with causes



beyond our immediate sphere. In contrast, teenage years have traditionally been marked by youthful exuberance, outward focus, aspirational endeavours and a burning desire to impact others and change the world. Sadly, these beautiful qualities were flattened or diminished for many because of Covid. We are aware of the need to recapture them, polishing what has been dulled so that they may once again shine brightly – both for the wellbeing of our young people and for the capital they can bring to our school community and far beyond. We are on a journey at Abbotsleigh and making good progress through targeted initiatives like leadership programs. Parents have a key role to play too, by intentionally and actively encouraging their daughter to look beyond herself, to consider the impact she can make on her world and how she can work together with others to achieve this. Encourage her to dream big.



On Monday 'yLead' facilitated a full day program for our Year 11 cohort. Through a range of engaging and high energy activities, our girls were challenged to consider the strengths, gifts and passions that are uniquely theirs and to 'use the things that make them different to make a difference.' There was much discussion around strong and effective teams being those that know the direction they are going but embrace differences and utilise the strengths and gifts of individuals to realise their goals. Mother Teresa aptly summed up the essence of this message when she said, "I cannot do what you can do. You cannot do what I can do. Together we can do great things."

The power of collective leadership was a key focus on the day. Whether badged or not, every student has something to offer, and when they work together, they can achieve remarkable things and in the process, have a wonderfully memorable experience. This was illustrated beautifully when the girls were set the challenge of seeing how long it would take to get the entire cohort of 190 girls successfully through a large turning skipping rope.

Their first attempt was a commendable three minutes. Over the next hour they reflected and they strategised; they refined their communication, honed their technique and they clarified their game plan. On their fifth attempt, they achieved the unthinkable – 190 girls successfully through in 13 seconds. Every team member was in sync, gave their best and worked together. The scene was priceless. There was jumping and squealing, fist pumps and shouts of jubilation; a poignant reminder of the joy that comes from working together to achieve a goal.

"Leadership is for everyone, you just have to step up," said one girl at the close of the day as she shared her key take-away. Another said, "Great leadership is about leaving a legacy that you and others are proud of." Such wise and insightful words to wrap up a wonderfully inspiring day and make us eagerly anticipate our next cohort of Year 12 leaders.



# Chaplain

## Prayer

Rev Sarah Hobba  
Senior Chaplain and SS Christian Studies Teacher

The practice of prayer is hugely important for many people. There are many ways that prayer finds expression in people's lives; formal and informal, regular and irregular, public and private. Members of our school community meet to pray within staff groups and a termly parent group (ACF – Abbotsleigh Christian Fellowship) which met this week. Prayers focus on our world, our nation and the Abbotsleigh community. Sometimes when we look at the concerns and issues around us, whether global or local, it is hard to know what to do and what action to take. We can pray. Sometimes we don't even know what to say or pray. The Bible says the Holy Spirit knows and prays for us. Below, are some reassuring words from the scriptures about prayer.

In certain ways we are weak, but the Spirit is here to help us. For example, when we don't know what to pray for, the Spirit prays for us in ways that cannot be put into words. All of our thoughts are known to God. He can understand what is in the mind of the Spirit, as the Spirit prays for God's people. We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him.

### **Romans 8:26-28a**

Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:6-7** (also our School Lesson)

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us – whatever we ask – we know that we have what we asked of him. **1 John 5:14-15**

# Upcoming events

## WHOLE SCHOOL

<b>Knox Abbotsleigh Print Exchange exhibition</b>	Thursday 30 May to Wednesday 12 June	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
<b>National Reconciliation Week</b>	Begins Monday 3 June	
<b>APA meeting</b>	Monday 3 June 7-9 pm	Global Learning Centre (GLC) SS
<b>King's Birthday public holiday</b>	Monday 10 June	
<b>Abbotsleigh Band Festival (JS and SS)</b>	Thursday 13 June 5.30-7 pm	PDCH

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

<b>IPSHA Saturday Sport – Indigenous Reconciliation Round</b>	Saturday 1 June 8 am-12 noon	See <b>Parent app</b> for team sheets and venues
<b>JS Production rehearsal</b>	Saturday 1 June 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
<b>Year 6 netball and hockey training</b>	Monday 3 June 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
<b>CIS cross country training</b>	Tuesday 4 June 7.15-8 am	Junior School
<b>Year 6 PLC Kindness Convention</b>	Tuesday 4 June 7.15-8 am	Pymble Ladies' College
<b>Year 3 URSTRONG session</b>	Wednesday 5 June 8.30-10.30 am	Auditorium
<b>Year 5 URSTRONG session</b>	Wednesday 5 June 10.50 am-12.20 pm	Auditorium
<b>Year 5 netball and minkey training</b>	Wednesday 5 June 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
<b>URSTRONG parent information session</b>	Wednesday 5 June 6-7 pm	Zoom
<b>CIS Cross Country Carnival</b>	Thursday 6 June 8.30 am-3 pm	Sydney International Equestrian Centre, Horsley Park
<b>Years 3 and 4 netball and minkey training</b>	Thursday 6 June 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
<b>McGrath Pull On Your Socks Day</b>	Friday 7 June	Junior School
<b>Years 5 and 6 Northside Gifted and Talented Workshop</b>	Friday 7 June 8.30-3 pm	Sydney Grammar School

<b>Year 6 Fundraiser prep time</b>	Friday 7 June 11.20-11.50 am	Year 6 Classrooms
<b>Jump Rope for Heart – Jump Off</b>	Friday 7 June 1.40-2 pm	Junior School
<b>No IPSHA sport (Long weekend)</b>	Saturday 8 June	
<b>JS Production rehearsal tech run</b>	Saturday 8 June 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall
<b>ELC and Transition visit to the ACEE</b>	Tuesday 11 June 8.30 am-2 pm	Abbotsleigh Centre for Environmental Education (ACEE)
<b>Years 1-6 New Parent Report Information Evening</b>	Tuesday 11 June 7-8 pm	Auditorium
<b>Year 4 Maritime Museum excursion</b>	Wednesday 12 June 8.30 am-2.45 pm	Australian National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour
<b>Year 5 Chinese Garden excursion</b>	Wednesday 12 June 8.30 am-3 pm	Chinese Garden of Friendship, Darling Harbour
<b>Year 5 netball and minkey training</b>	Wednesday 12 June 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
<b>Primary athletics trials</b>	Thursday 13 June 9.15 am-3 pm	Junior and Senior School
<b>Years 3 and 4 netball and minkey training</b>	Thursday 13 June 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
<b>Transition Cinderella Kindness Day</b>	Friday 14 June 8.30 am-2.45 pm	Transition Classrooms
<b>Year 5 Micro:bit Fair</b>	Friday 14 June 9-10 am	Bundarra Court
<b>Year 6 Fundraiser prep time</b>	Friday 14 June 11.20-11.50 am	Year 6 Classrooms
<b>JS Production rehearsal</b>	Friday 14 June 3.30-5.30 pm	Everett Hall
<b>ISDA Debating grand final</b>	Friday 14 June 5-8 pm	Venue TBC
<b>IPSHA Saturday Sport</b>	Saturday 15 June 8 am-12 noon	See <b>Parent app</b> for team sheets and venues
<b>JS Production tech and dress rehearsal</b>	Saturday 15 June 2-4.30 pm	Everett Hall

## SENIOR SCHOOL

<b>Sporting fixtures</b>	Saturday 1 June 8 am-12 noon	<a href="#">Click here</a> for venues and times
<b>North-West Equestrian Expo</b>	Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 June	Coonabarabran
<b>Archdale Debating Round 3</b>	Tuesday 4 June 4-8 pm	
<b>SS sport photos day 2</b>	Wednesday 5 June	Sports Hall
<b>Years 7 and 8 PC Concert</b>	Wednesday 5 June 12.45-1.15 pm	PDCH
<b>House Debating Round 1</b>	Wednesday 5 June 1.15-2 pm	

<b>CIS Cross Country Carnival</b>	Thursday 6 June 8.30 am-3.30 pm	Sydney International Equestrian Centre, Horsley Park
<b>Shabbots CRU weekend</b>	Friday 7 to Sunday 9 June	
<b>Boarder travel day</b>	Friday 7 June	
<b>Pull On Your Socks Day</b>	Friday 7 June	
<b>No IGSA sport (Long weekend)</b>	Saturday 8 June	
<b>Boarders return from long weekend</b>	Monday 10 June From 4 pm	
<b>SS Archdale Debating Round 4</b>	Tuesday 11 June 4-8 pm	
<b>Year 12 German excursion to Goethe-Institut</b>	Wednesday 12 June 8.20 am-3.15 pm	Goethe-Institut, Woollahra
<b>Years 9 and 10 Science Olympiad</b>	Wednesday 12 June 11.30 am-1.30 pm	
<b>House Debating Round 2</b>	Wednesday 12 June 1.15-2 pm	
<b>Year 10 Elective Geography excursion</b>	Thursday 13 June 8.20 am-3.25 pm	Chowder Bay
<b>Year 7 Science excursion</b>	Friday 14 June 8.30 am-3.25 pm	Taronga Zoo