

# The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

## Abbotsleigh celebrates 139 years of outstanding education and opportunities for young women to grow, develop, lead and flourish

Mrs Megan Krimmer  
Headmistress

In 1885, Miss Marian Clarke, who moved to Australia from England, opened Abbotsleigh in a terrace house in North Sydney. She was determined that girls could receive an education equal to that of boys and that as a result, girls could have the opportunity to go to university. Given that the first woman to graduate from a university had only done so in 1883 in Melbourne, Miss Clarke's dream was certainly bold and audacious!

Believing that girls can do anything, Miss Clarke ensured that the curriculum encompassed subjects such as geometry, woodwork and Latin alongside English, art, music and drama. She wanted her girls to sit the public examinations that would allow them to attend university – this was her high expectation and she worked hard to ensure that it was fulfilled!

It is the stuff of legend that the first girls to sit the final examinations just a short time after the school had opened, failed miserably! However, although neither Miss Clarke nor the girls had ever heard of concepts such as possessing a 'growth mindset' and 'brave the waves' (resilience) – these are exactly what they enacted.

After a short time when they were miserable, Miss Clarke gave the girls strawberries and cream to eat for supper and, virtually the next day, they had brushed themselves off, and began studying hard to re-sit the examinations the following year. As you may guess – this time, the girls passed with flying colours!

There are so many lessons for us and our girls in this story, as there are so many lessons to be learned from our outstanding guest speaker, Dr Rebecca Overton



(AOG 1991), who is not only a highly respected doctor of medicine, but is also the mother of three children – triplets! Dr Overton certainly inspired all of our girls, Old Girls and staff with stories from her life that has been packed with 'braving the waves' moments as well as with incredible fun, great blessings and opportunities to make a very positive difference to the lives of many people through her work as a highly skilled and successful doctor.

We are very appreciative of Dr Overton, who gave up her time for us at our special birthday assembly today. Thank you so much.

Abbotsleigh's history is full of strong women who have 'braved many waves' and who have made an incredible impact on our world. We are very grateful for all that our Abbotsleigh girls, Old Girls, staff and parents have done over the last 139 years to ensure that Miss Clarke's very bold and audacious dream of educating girls so that they could go to university and become leaders of society, has been fulfilled again, and again and again. Abbotsleigh has indeed been empowering young women since 1885.

Happy Birthday Abbotsleigh – we certainly all believe the words of our sixth Headmistress, Miss Betty Archdale MBE when she said: 'With education, women can do and be anything.'



ABBOTSLEIGH

Visit the [Parent Portal](#) to edit your profile, view the calendar and view parent notices.



# Upcoming events

## WHOLE SCHOOL

Local Artists from Hornsby	18 July to 3 August	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
APR meeting	Thursday 1 August 8.30-10 am"	SS Seminar Room, SS Library
Young Curators (Abbotsleigh and Hornsby Girls High) with artist Oliver Watts	8 to 22 August	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
Abbotsleigh Year 12 2024 Visual Arts	27 to 31 August	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery

## JUNIOR SCHOOL

30 visit to St Lucy's for a play session	Monday 29 July 10.55-11.30 am	St Lucy's School
Year 5 talk with Wendy Blaxland	Monday 29 July 11 am-12 noon	Auditorium
Year 6 AFL and touch football training	Monday 29 July 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
ELC 4-5 Room ACEE incursion	Tuesday 30 July 8.30 am-2.30 pm	ACEE

3L visit to St Lucy's for a play session	Tuesday 30 July 10.55-11.30 am	St Lucy's School
ELC 4-5 Room, Transition and Year 1 Act for Kids sessions	Wednesday 31 July Various times	Classrooms
Kindergarten 100 days celebration	Wednesday 31 July 10.50-11.50 am	Classrooms
3G Combined Arts Program at St Lucy's School	Wednesday 31 July 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Year 2 Bike Education	Wednesday 31 July	JS tennis courts
Year 5 AFL and touch football training	Wednesday 31 July 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 1 Cooking Program	Thursday 1 August 8.30-10.30 am	Outdoor Kitchen
5L and 5D Judith Krause session 2	Thursday 1 August	Classrooms
3G Combined Arts Program at St Lucy's School	Thursday 1 August 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Years 3 and 4 AFL and touch football training	Thursday 1 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
SDN Debating training	Friday 2 August 7.15-8.15 am	AbbSchool East and West Rooms
5O and 5G Judith Krause session 2	Friday 2 August	Classrooms
SDN Debating vs Wenona	Friday 2 August 4.15-6.30 pm	Wenona
Year 2 Sport training	Saturday 3 August 8-9.30am	Junior School
IPSHA Saturday Sport	Saturday 3 August 8 am- 12 noon	<b>See Parent app</b> for team sheets and venues
Years 3-6 IPSHA artistic gymnastics training	Saturday 3 August 1-5 pm	Gymnasium, Senior School
Year 6 AFL and touch football training	Monday 5 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Transition and ELC 4-5s ACEE incursion	Tuesday 6 August 8.30-2.30 pm	ACEE
Years 1-3 GATEWAYS workshop	Tuesday 6 August 8.30 am-3 pm	Asquith Public School
Years 3-6 athletics training	Tuesday 6 August 3.30-5 pm	Junior School
Act for Kids sessions for ELC, Transition and Year 1	Wednesday 7 August	Classrooms

Year 2 Bike Education	Wednesday 7 August	Junior School tennis courts
3G Arts program at St Lucy's School	Wednesday 7 August 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Years 4-6 GATEWAYS workshop	Wednesday 7 August 8.30- am-3 pm	Asquith Public School
Year 5 AFL and touch football training	Wednesday 7 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Primary Athletics Carnival	Thursday 8 August All day	SOPAC
Year 1 Cooking Program	Thursday 8 August 8.30-10.30 am	Outdoor Kitchen
Kindergarten Field of Mars Reserve excursion	Thursday 8 August 8.45 am-2.35 pm	Field of Mars Reserve
Years 3 and 4 AFL and touch football training	Thursday 8 August 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
IPSHA athletics training	Friday 9 August 3.30-5 pm	Junior School
SDN Debating vs Brigidine	Friday 9 August 4.15-6.30 pm	Brigidine College
IPSHA Saturday Sport	Saturday 10 August 8 am-12 noon	<b>See Parent app</b> for team sheets and venues

## SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 27 July 8 am-12 noon	<b>Click here</b> for times and venues
Archdale debating Round 6	Tuesday 30 July 4-8 pm	
NASA/Design Tour 2025 Parent/ Student Information Evening	Tuesday 30 July 7-8 pm	via Zoom
Year 10 Drama excursion to 'Dracula'	Wednesday 31 July 9 am-3.25 pm	Roslyn Packer Theatre, STC
St James Lunchtime Concert	Wednesday 31 July 11.15 am-2.15 pm	St James Anglican Church, Turrumurra
Middle School Knox Collaboration	Wednesday 31 July 1.30-3 pm	Abbotsleigh
Year 10 Women in STEM	Wednesday 31 July 4-6 pm	Sydney Adventist Hospital Clinical Education Centre
Year 9 Joeys Dance	Thursday 1 August 6-8 pm	Judith Poole Sports Hall
Year 10 Elective Geography excursion	Friday 2 August 8 am-3.25 pm	

<b>IGSA Chess Competition round 1</b>	Friday 2 August 4-6 pm	
<b>SS Twilight Athletics 2</b>	Friday 2 August 4-8 pm	SOPAC
<b>SDN Debating</b>	Friday 2 August 4.30-8.30 pm	
<b>Saturday sport</b>	Saturday 3 August 8 am-12 noon	Venues and times TBA
<b>Rugby 7s round 1</b>	Saturday 3 August 1-4 pm	Pymble Ladies' College
<b>Senior production rehearsal</b>	Saturday 3 August 1-7.30 pm	Drama Studio
<b>Year 11 Agriculture excursion</b>	Monday 5 to Wednesday 7 August	Quirindi
<b>Year 9 Mandatory Geography excursion</b>	Tuesday 6 August 8.30 am-3.25 pm	Sydney city
<b>CRU Bible Study Masterclass excursion</b>	Tuesday 6 August	Chatswood
<b>Wheelchair basketball in the Sports Hall</b>	Tuesday 6 August 1.15-2.10 pm	Judith Poole Sport Hall
<b>Archdale debating Round 7</b>	Tuesday 6 August 4-8 pm	
<b>Young Curators and 3:33 Art Projects</b>	Thursday 8 August All day	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
<b>Opening of Young Curators and 3:33 Art Projects</b>	Thursday 8 August 5.30-7.30 pm	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
<b>Senior Drama Production Shakespeare in Love</b>	Thursday 8 August 7-9.30 pm	Drama Studio
<b>IGSA Chess Competition round 2</b>	Friday 9 August 4-6 pm	
<b>SS Twilight Athletics 3</b>	Friday 9 August 4-8 pm	SOPAC
<b>SDN Debating</b>	Friday 9 August 4.30-8.30 pm	
<b>Saturday sport</b>	Saturday 10 August	Venues and times TBA
<b>Rugby 7s round 2</b>	Saturday 10 August 1-4 pm	Pymble Ladies' College
<b>Senior Drama Production Shakespeare in Love</b>	Saturday 10 August 2-4.30 pm	Drama Studio
<b>Senior Drama Production Shakespeare in Love</b>	Saturday 10 August 7-9.30 pm	Drama Studio