

The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

Sensational Luminescence Concert at the State Theatre

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

You will have seen some fantastic photos on social media arising from the absolutely brilliant Junior School Concert 'Luminescence' at the State Theatre last Friday night.

Every member of the audience was completely awestruck by the talent, creativity, hard work and dedication of our girls; they were equally awestruck by the talent, creativity and phenomenal skill of our Junior School and AbbSchool staff. In true Abbotsleigh style, the girls' singing, dancing, acting and superb musical performances completely 'illuminated' the beautiful State Theatre throughout every minute of the entire production. The grand finale was totally spectacular: every single girl from Kindy to Year 6 was on stage, singing, dancing and filling our hearts with pure joy.

I would like to thank all the staff involved in putting on this truly memorable production, and I would especially like to thank Co-Directors Ms Darcy-Lee Tindale and Mrs Sofie Batchelor for their incredible creativity, skill and overall management of this phenomenal production.

'Luminescence' will be a feature in a forthcoming edition of *Around Abbotsleigh* and I am sure you will enjoy reading about this great event in much more detail when the magazine is published.



Our girls Brave the Waves at Oxford Royale Summer School

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

It has been a wonderful year for many of our girls who have had the fantastic opportunity of living and learning overseas for varying lengths of time. As well as the Bunda trip, which was the focus of last week's *Shuttle* article, and the many short term exchange opportunities available to our Senior girls, a group of 30 students and their teachers, Mrs Karen Seeneevassen, Ms Terri Moore and Ms Catherine Oliver, participated in the very enriching learning experiences provided by the Oxford Royale Summer School in the mid-year holiday break.

This trip truly was exhilarating as it opened our girls' minds to so many possibilities. It also was a great opportunity for the girls to develop independence, interpersonal skills and resilience. As they noted in their assembly presentation last week, being so far away from home in a completely different learning environment meant that the girls had many 'brave the waves' moments. They also noted that they grew exponentially as a result of their incredible time away.

The Oxford Royale Summer School was a magnificent opportunity for our girls to participate in a learning environment that is similar in many ways to that experienced at university, whether it be a university in Australia or overseas. As I said to



our Senior girls last week, the HSC is a highly valued credential that is recognised worldwide and, as such, as well as many of our girls attending universities in Australia, a number also attend universities such as Oxford, Cambridge and St Andrew's (to name just three) in the UK, as well as universities in the United States and elsewhere overseas. The trip to Oxford certainly provided the girls with a glimpse into some of these future possibilities.

The girls and I would like to thank Mrs Seeneevassen, Ms Moore and Ms Oliver very much indeed for giving up their time to accompany them to Oxford during the holiday break.

I commend to you the article which follows, written by our 'Oxford Royale' girls. Their article provides a wonderful flavour of their experiences and truly brings their marvellous time away to life.

Learning, having fun and Braving the Waves at Oxford

By Year 10 students: Evelyn Cooksley, Angeline Lam, Jessica Oorburg, Vanessa Ton and Zhujin Zhang



During the Term 2 holidays, 30 students travelled to Oxford where we immersed ourselves in the Oxford Royale Summer School. The colleges of Oxford University are some of the oldest and most prestigious places of learning, not only in the UK but worldwide. Oxford is a hub for education, research and innovation. It attracts students and scholars from around the globe.

And just like international university students, we interacted with students from many cultures, who brought their unique insights, backgrounds and personalities, which created a vibrant and exciting atmosphere. This immersive learning experience challenged our perspectives and expanded our horizons.

Over two weeks, we participated in different courses based on our interests, living and studying on the university grounds.

It was a surprise to us that Oxford was not one big campus. In fact, the University of Oxford is comprised of 43 colleges scattered across the city. One of the oldest, and the most central, is Queen's College, which was founded in 1341. It is the grandest piece

of classical architecture in the city, and our girls who studied Medicine and Disease for their Summer School experience were most fortunate to study there. Students also attended Balliol College to study Law and Politics, Engineering and Technology or Architecture and Design. Others attended Keble College, which hosted Business Innovation and Entrepreneurship students; St Peter's College, where students undertook the 'Explore Medicine' course; Jowett Walk, part of Balliol College, which hosted the Film Academy, and St Hugh's College where students studied 'Explore Business Innovation' courses.

Life on the campus was exceptionally busy and we all did our best to balance classes, while fitting in as many tourist activities as possible.

An average day at Oxford included:

- A wake-up call at 7 am
- Breakfast in the grand dining hall
- A lecture at the beginning of the day from a professor in a selected field. Several lecturers were teaching professors or professors conducting pioneering research at Oxford University
- Morning classes
- Lunch, which gave us the opportunity to explore the markets and restaurants of Oxford with the new friends we had made
- Afternoon classes
- Free time for two to three hours. During this time, we signed up for afternoon activities like volleyball



or trivia, explored Oxford and its surroundings, including a walk to a meadow or the mall. Sometimes we also met up with friends from other colleges, visited cafes (including a Chinese tea house), museums, gift stores and boutiques.

- Dinner in the grand dining hall, followed by some social time connecting with new international friends.

Despite some courses having quite a large workload, the program still offered lots of time for fun and relaxation after classes, in the evenings and on the weekends. We enjoyed both the jam-packed days and the freedom and opportunity to explore the beautiful city of Oxford and its surroundings independently. We also had exclusive access to the campus, which allowed us to explore many hidden treasures, including the gardens and common rooms.

Activities ranged from pottery making to visits to the famous Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archeology. One of the best activities was the day trip to London. Despite the weather being typical English dreariness, we were able to explore the historic city and saw sights such as Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and Camden Markets, all of which made the day unforgettable. Some students were lucky enough to visit the picturesque city of Bath, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, renowned for its Georgian architectural grandeur and historic Roman baths.

While balancing the classwork and other activities, we had many opportunities to make friends, both from Australia and overseas. There was a wide range of people from countries all around the world, such as Cyprus, Portugal and France, and some girls had the pleasure of meeting a Saudi Arabian prince, who was studying at the same college as they were.

We learnt so much about what life as a high school student is like in different areas of the world, and we particularly enjoyed listening to other students' diverse ideas and perspectives during class. The supportive atmosphere and engaging activities helped us create genuine connections, making it easy to forge lasting friendships while also exploring academic and cultural interests.

It was an amazing opportunity to attend classes, a combination of practical and theory work, on the



university grounds. The course work varied, with some examples including:

- Medicine students practising CPR on realistic simulation dummies; and performing respiratory examinations
- Law students participating in a mock trial and elections, and seminars about the right to a fair trial
- Film students learning how to shoot, edit and screen their own short film. The girls produced a five-minute horror film based on a pre-written script titled, *Remember Me*.

As well as individualised activities, each course included a final project that was presented by students to all Summer School participants and staff during Exhibition Day. This was followed by a Graduation Ceremony and a party at Oxford Town Hall where all achievements were celebrated.

The Oxford trip was a wonderful experience and has given us so many great memories. It was fun, challenging and a unique experience filled with many moments where we've had to 'brave the waves'.

We not only grew in knowledge but we also developed better communication skills, greater independence and a richer understanding of the next big step of our lives – university. It was through this enriched learning experience that we faced challenges of being away from home and learnt to cope with the fast pace and demands of rigorous seminars and course work. But, more importantly, we developed long-lasting friendships that made our travels even more memorable as we cultivated each other's passions and worked to overcome struggles.



Chaplain

Remaining faithful with integrity and hope

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

Sometimes when we face adversity it is tempting to give in or give up when things seem hopeless and lost. Whether we see it as facing the waves, going through the fire (like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego) or being thrown to the lions (like Daniel), instead of giving up we can remember others who have undergone great difficulty and come through those times. We also have the greatest hope in Jesus, who also suffered and rose again, and who gives us everlasting hope.

1 Peter 1:3-4; 6-7 (ERV)

³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has great mercy, and because of his mercy

he gave us a new life. This new life brings us a living hope through Jesus Christ's resurrection from death.

⁴ Now we wait to receive the blessings God has for his children. These blessings are kept for you in heaven. They cannot be ruined or be destroyed or lose their beauty.

⁶ So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you endure many trials for a little while. ⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold – though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honour on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

A Closer Look exhibition (NSW Miniature Society)	Thursday 5 to Saturday 28 September	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
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JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 3 eye screening with Wahroonga Eyecare	Monday 16 September 9.30-12 noon	Library Annex East
20 Hot Shots Tennis	Monday 16 September 12-12.45 pm	JS Tennis Courts
Years 3-6 Tennis Doubles final	Monday 16 September 1-1.30 pm	JS Tennis Courts
Year 6 AFL and Touch Football training	Monday 16 September 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Drama Recital	Monday 16 September 6.30-8.30 pm	Everett Hall

Transition ACEE incursion	Tuesday 17 September 8.30 am-2.30 pm	ACEE
5G Hammond Care excursion	Tuesday 17 September 9-10 am	Hammond Care
3L Combined Arts Program	Tuesday 17 September 9.30-11 am	St Lucy's School
5L Hammond Care excursion	Tuesday 17 September 2-3 pm	Hammond Care
3L Act for Kids session	Wednesday 18 September 9.30 am-10.30 am	Classroom
3L St Lucy's Combined Arts Program	Wednesday 18 September 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
3G Act for Kids session	Wednesday 18 September 11.50 am -12.45 pm	Classroom
Year 4 WIRES Fundraiser	Wednesday 18 September 1-1.40 pm	Library Plaza
Year 5 AFL and Touch Football training	Wednesday 18 September 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 3 Combined Act for Kids Program	Thursday 19 September 10.50-11.50 am	Year 3 Classrooms
Year3-4 AFL and Touch Football training	Thursday 19 September 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 5 Bush Dance	Thursday 19 September 6.30-8.30 pm	Everett Hall
Transition (Group 3) Hammond Care visit	Friday 20 September 11-11.45 am	Hammond Care
Years 5 and 6 with Year 12 for final assembly	Friday 20 September 2-3 pm	Everett Hall
Year 2 sport training	Saturday 21 September 8-9.30 am	Junior School
IPSHA Saturday Sport	Saturday 21 September 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
Years 3-6 IPSHA Artistic Gymnastics Training	Saturday 21 September 1-5 pm	Gymnasium
Years 3-6 Tennis Singles competition	Saturday 21 September 1-4 pm	SS Tennis Courts
Year 3 eye screening with Wahroonga Eyecare	Monday 23 September 9.30am-12pm	Library Annex East
Year 5 Surf Ed Talk	Monday 23 September 10.50-11.50 am	Auditorium

20 Hot Shots Tennis	Monday 23 September 12-12.45 pm	JS Tennis Courts
Year 6 Surf Ed Talk	Monday 23 September 11.50 am-12.45 pm	Auditorium
Year 3-6 Tennis Singles Final	Monday 23 September 1-1.30 pm	JS Tennis Courts
Year 6 Basketball and Cricket trials	Monday 23 September 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Transition Incursion	Tuesday 24 September 8.30 am-2.30 pm	ACEE
JS Photo Day #3	Tuesday 24 September 8.30 am-2.30 pm	Junior School Campus
Year 6 Celebration of Learning	Wednesday 25 September 9-10.30 am	Classroom
3L St Lucy's Combined Arts Program	Wednesday 25 September 11.45 am-1.20 pm	St Lucy's School
Infants Glow Stick Disco	Wednesday 25 September 1-1.30 pm	Everett Hall
Year 5 Basketball and Cricket trials	Wednesday 25 September 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
3L Combined Act for Kids Program	Thursday 26 September 10.50-11.50 am	St Lucy's School
JS House Cup	Thursday 26 September 1.40 am-2 pm	Infants Ampitheatre
Year 3-4 Basketball and Cricket trials	Thursday 26 September 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 14 September	Click here for times and venues
Year 12 Staff Music Concert	Monday 16 September 1-1.15 pm	Year 12 Common Room
Boarders' Farewell to Year 12 Dinner	Monday 16 September 6-9 pm	Dining Hall
Year 12 vs Staff Football	Tuesday 17 September 1.15-2 pm	Top Oval
SS Drama AbLib Grand Final	Tuesday 17 September 6-8 pm	PDCH

Year 10 Elective Geography excursion	Wednesday 18 September 8 am-3.25 pm	
Year 12 vs Staff Netball	Wednesday 18 September 1.15-2pm	
SS Music Tour Bon Voyage Concert	Wednesday 18 September 6.30-7 pm	PDCH
Aero Schools (Sports Aero Nat Champ) TBC	Thursday 19 September	Gold Coast
Year 10 Languages excursion	Thursday 19 September 8.20 am-3.25 pm	PDCH
CRU Farewell to Year 12	Thursday 19 September 1.15-2 pm	Lecture Theatre
Leadership Induction Service	Friday 20 September 9.30-10.30am	Assembly Hall
Women in Construction/ Lipman session 2	Friday 20 September 2.10-3.25 pm	iHub
IGSA Chess finals or Round 8	Friday 20 September 4-6 pm	
SDN Debating	Friday 20 September 4.30-8.30 pm	
SS Hockey and Netball Finals	Saturday 21 September 8 am-12 pm	
Year 12 Tutor Breakfast & Val Briefing	Monday 23 September 7.15-9 am	Year 12 Common Room
House Meeting to Farewell Year 12	Monday 23 September 12.45 pm-1.15 pm	
Year 12 Staff Handball	Monday 23 September 1.15-2 pm	Chapel Walk/Marian Clarke Plaza
SS Music Europe Tour	24 September to 8 October	
SS Crufts @ Abbotsleigh	Tuesday 24 September 8.20-9.35 am	Top Oval
SS CIS Athletics Champions TBC	Tuesday 24 September 8.30 am-3.30 pm	SOPAC
Year 12 Picnic Day	Tuesday 24 September 10 am-3.25 pm	Balmoral Beach
Year 12 Wheeldon House Dinner	Tuesday 24 September 6-9 pm	Wheeldon House
SS Valedictory Chapel	Wednesday 25 September 8.30-9.30 am	Chapel
SS Valedictory Assembly	Wednesday 25 September 9.45-11 am	Assembly Hall

SS Valedictory Morning Tea	Wednesday 25 September 11-11.45 am	Marian Clarke Plaza
SS Valedictory Dinner	Wednesday 25 September 7-11 pm	Miramare Gardens
SS Interstate Challenge	Thursday 26 September	Pymble Ladies College and Abbotsleigh
Year 11 Visual Arts and DT HSC Ideation Day	Thursday 26 September 8.20am-3.25 pm	iHub
SS NSW All Schools Athletics Championships	Saturday 28 September	SOPAC