

The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

Bronte Campbell inspires our senior athletes to Brave the Waves

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

It was a great honour to have Olympic swimmer Bronte Campbell as our guest speaker at our annual Sport Awards Evening last Friday. Bronte inspired our senior athletes, their parents and our staff with the story of her swimming journey, her approach to rigorous training and immense pressure, and her phenomenal insight and wisdom.

There were many takeaways from Bronte's presentation and Q and A session. Some of these include:

- Bronte's absolute love of and passion for swimming. This underpins everything she has done and continues to do.
- The self-regulation and incredible self-discipline required to be the best you can be.
- The importance of being a member of a team with every team member having absolute respect for each other.
- The wisdom of not wishing fellow team members 'good luck' prior to a race, as this virtually ignores talent and hard work; instead, saying 'I have your back', thus guaranteeing mutual respect and support no matter the outcome of the race.
- The courage and perseverance required to keep going even when faced with debilitating illness and extremely painful injuries.
- The ability to stare challenges squarely in the face and enjoy them – Bronte's characteristic smile (that apparently bothered her opponents) at the beginning of each race, is legendary. Bronte explained that she was able to smile and be excited about each race by remembering her 7-year-old self's great dream to be an Olympian; this made her smile with excitement rather than panic with stress before every race.



- The ability to take the inevitable disappointments in her stride and, as such, being able to turn what some might see as a 'crushing defeat' into a realistic 'washup' – What went well, what didn't, what I need to do to fix it.

Bronte's relaxed demeanour, her authenticity, her willingness to be in many photos and her generosity in terms of her time and her preparedness to answer our girls' searching questions and to allow them to hold her prized Olympic gold medal from the Paris Olympics, were wonderful. Bronte quickly put our fairly awestruck girls at ease, and I know that they will treasure her wise words and apply them, not only to their sporting lives, but to all their future life endeavours.

Congratulations to Mr Dale Berg and all members of our Sports Department for a wonderful evening, and congratulations girls – you have certainly done yourselves and your school proud through your sensational achievements, and we wish you well in 2025.



Abbotsleigh commemorates Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day is a very special day for Australia. At the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month, people throughout our nation stopped what they were doing to commemorate the exact time when the guns on the Western Front fell silent, marking the end of what was arguably the most widespread and destructive war in the world to date: World War One – The War to End All Wars.

There is nothing glorifying about war itself; indeed, war is horrible. There is much, however, to glorify about the human spirit of those who fought and worked for us. In World War One, all the courageous Australian men and women who served as soldiers, doctors, nurses and in many other capacities, were volunteers, as were many in the wars that have followed since. Their actions and phenomenal sacrifice have meant that we can live in peace and freedom in Australia today.

Our Senior School girls, led by Year 9 History students, Carys Byrnes, Annabelle Cairns, Alisha Grewal, Shreya Gupta, Catalina Huang, Jasmine Kamil, and Margot Story, commemorated Remembrance Day in special service at school on Monday, and our Junior School girls acknowledged Remembrance Day in their chapel services on Tuesday. Further, a number of Abbotsleigh girls honoured all women and men past and present who have fought and worked for peace and freedom, at the Ku-ring-gai and Hornsby Remembrance Day Services. We are grateful to Mrs Gaspersic and Year 6 girls, Cathy Chen and Saanvi Nimbalkar who represented us at the Roseville Ceremony, and we are equally grateful to Mrs

Ware and Year 10 girls, Sasha Hughes and Lauren Kwong, who represented us at the Hornsby ceremony.

I would like to thank all the girls who were involved in our Senior School Service on Monday, and we especially thank Amber Johnson (Year 10) who played the Last Post and Annika Loel (Year 10) who played the Rouse. The girls played beautifully, and we were very honoured that Annika used her great grandfather's service bugle to play the Rouse.

Remembrance Day is about honouring the people who have made the ultimate sacrifice; they were, 'ordinary people, who did extraordinary things, in the most shocking of conditions.'

Remembrance Day also is about hope; hope that wars do come to an end and that peace and freedom can, and do, prevail. In what seems to be our increasingly fractured and polarised world today, I encourage every member of our community to hold on to this great hope.

Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God...



Chaplain

Partnerships

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

Partnerships are vital to foster growth, connection and belonging within communities. By collaborating with diverse groups, we share knowledge and experiences, learn to empathise and view things from different perspectives. Working alongside others enables us to work off each other's strengths and enhances wellbeing. Creating authentic ways to provide connection and nurturing relationships helps build a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and empowered to contribute.

Abbotsleigh is engaged in many partnerships, but some important ones coming up are those for the Year 10 girls on Immersion Week. They are preparing to work with organisations engaging with many different communities including recent refugees, homeless and disadvantaged neighbourhoods, traditional owners of Far North Queensland, and local schools working with children who have disabilities.

Coming up at the end of the year, there are also many Year 12 students who will work with the Sony Foundation partnership with Knox (ABBOX) giving respite care. Over the Summer, students are also able to connect with other school students by participating in a wide range of interests and activities with CRU Summer Camps. For more information on these, please visit the [website](#).

The writer to the Hebrews wrote these verses to encourage the first Christian believers to continue in their partnerships with others.

Hebrews 10:23-25

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Upcoming events

WHOLE SCHOOL

Encounter exhibition	Friday 8 November to Saturday 7 December	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
Dance Till You Drop – dance showcase	Saturday 16 November 12.30-5.30 pm	SS Assembly Hall
AOGU meeting	Thursday 21 November 7-9 pm	Council Room, Senior School
ABPA meeting	Thursday 29 November 2-3.30 pm	Wheeldon House

JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 2 sport training	Saturday 16 November 8-9.30 am	Junior School
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IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 16 November 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
Year 6 Farewell Chapel Service rehearsal	Monday 18 November 10.50-11.50 am	Abbotsleigh Chapel, Senior School
Year 6 basketball and cricket training	Monday 18 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 6 Farewell Chapel Service	Tuesday 19 November 8.45-9.30 am	Abbotsleigh Chapel, Senior School
Transition and 4-5 room ELC ACEE excursion	Tuesday 19 November 10.15 am-2.30 pm	ACEE
JS Choir at Wahroonga Anglican Church Christmas lunch	Tuesday 19 November 12.45-2 pm	Asquith Bowling Club
Years 3-6 IPSHA Hot Shots tennis training	Tuesday 19 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School Tennis Courts
JS Music auditions for 2025	Wednesday 20 November 8.30 am-3.15 pm	Music Rooms
Year 6 Jewish Museum excursion	Wednesday 20 November 8.30 am-3.15 pm	Sydney Jewish Museum
Kindergarten play session	Wednesday 20 November 9.30 am-12.30 pm	Classrooms
Year 2 swimming lessons	Wednesday 20 November Various times	JS Swimming Pool
5L Nursing Home excursion	Wednesday 20 November 2-3 pm	Hammond Care
Year 2 Soirée and Celebration and Soirée rehearsal	Wednesday 20 November 2-3 pm	Everett Hall
Year 5 basketball and cricket training	Wednesday 20 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Years 3-6 IPSHA tennis training	Wednesday 20 November 3.45-4.45 pm	Senior School Tennis Courts
JS Music auditions for 2025	Thursday 21 November 8.30 am-3.15 pm	Music Rooms
6L and 6G Judith Krause session 4	Thursday 21 November 9-10.30 am	Classrooms
Year 12 Strings rehearsal	Thursday 21 November Various times	Upper Music Room
Year 2 Soirée and Celebration and Soirée rehearsal	Thursday 21 November 11.30 am-12.30 pm	Everett Hall
Years 3 and 4 basketball and cricket training	Thursday 21 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 2 Soirée and Celebration and Soirée	Thursday 21 November 6-7 pm	Everett Hall
JS Music auditions for 2025	Friday 22 November 8.30 am-3.15 pm	Music Rooms
6D and 6O Judith Krause session 4	Friday 22 November Various times	Classroom
Transition Group 2 nursing home excursion	Friday 22 November 11-11.45 am	Hammond Care
Kindergarten and Year 1 football (soccer)	Friday 22 November 3-4 pm	Junior School

Year 3 try Flippa ball session	Friday 22 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School Pool
Year 6 Gingerbread house making	Friday 22 November 3.20-5.15 pm	Everett Hall
IPSHA tennis training	Friday 22 November 3.30-4.45 pm	Senior School Tennis Courts
Year 2 sport training	Saturday 22 November 8-9.30 am	Junior School
IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 22 November 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
Year 6 Farewell rehearsal	Monday 25 November 9-11 am	Hornsby RSL Club
Year 6 AIS Good Village Athlete incursion	Monday 25 November 2-3 pm	Auditorium
Year 6 basketball and cricket training	Monday 25 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
Year 4 Immersive Memory Making event	Tuesday 26 November 9-10.30 am	Auditorium
5D Nursing Home excursion	Tuesday 26 November 9.15-10.30 am	Hammond Care
Year 3 Soirée rehearsal	Tuesday 26 November 10.50 am-12.50 pm	Everett Hall
Years 3-6 IPSHA Hot Shots tennis training	Tuesday 26 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School Tennis Courts
Year 3 Soirée	Tuesday 26 November 6-6.30 pm	Everett Hall
Year 2 swimming lessons	Wednesday 27 November Various times	JS Swimming Pool
Year 5 basketball and cricket training	Wednesday 27 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
IPSHA tennis training	Wednesday 27 November 3.30-4.45 pm	Senior School Tennis Courts
JS Twilight Carol Service rehearsal	Thursday 28 November 8.50-10.30 am	Infants Amphitheatre
Year 6 Stories in a Suitcase	Thursday 28 November 2-3 pm	Year 6 Classrooms
Years 3 and 4 basketball and cricket training	Thursday 28 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School
JS Twilight Carol Service	Thursday 28 November 7-8 pm	Infants Amphitheatre
Year 5 AbbFest Short Film Festival	Friday 29 November 7-8 pm	Auditorium
Kindergarten and Year 1 football (soccer)	Friday 29 November 3-4 pm	Junior School
Year 3 try Flippa ball session	Friday 29 November 3.20-4.30 pm	Junior School Pool
IPSHA tennis training	Friday 29 November 3.30-4.45 pm	Senior School Tennis Courts
Year 6 Farewell and Dance	Friday 29 November 6-9 pm	Hornsby RSL Club

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 16 November 2-3.25 pm	Click here for times and venues
Cricket round 5	Saturday 16 November 1-5.30 pm	
Year 10 Immersion Week	Monday 18 to Friday 22 November	Various locations
Trinity Drama exams	Monday 18 to Wednesday 20 November All day	Various locations
Agriculture Club incursion	Monday 18 November 9.35 am-2 pm	ACEE
Year 7 Wellbeing Day	Wednesday 20 November 8.20 am-3.25 pm	
Year 9 Drama excursion to Dear Evan Hansen	Wednesday 20 November 11 am-3.25 pm	Sydney Theatre Company
Year 8 Wellbeing Day	Thursday 21 November 8.20 am-3.25 pm	
Eddies Concert	Thursday 21 November 7-8.30 pm	PDCH
Wheeldon Cup Performance Day	Friday 22 November 11 am-12.30 pm	Assembly Hall
Saturday sport	Saturday 23 November 2-3.25 pm	Various times and locations
Cricket round 6	Saturday 23 November 1-5.30 pm	
Music Workshop Day 1	Monday 25 November 7 am-3.30 pm	PDCH
Music Workshop Day 2	Tuesday 26 November 7 am-3.30 pm	PDCH
First Nations Yarning Circle for First Nations Girls	Tuesday 26 November 1.20-4 pm	
Years 7-11 Talent Show	Wednesday 27 November 12.45-1.45 pm	Assembly Hall
Christmas chapel	Thursday 28 November 12.35-1.20 pm	Assembly Hall
Year 10 Modern History Troubie incursion	Thursday 28 November 2-3.25 pm	PDCH
Middle School Knox Collaboration event	Thursday 28 November 3.30-5.30 pm	Kknox Grammar School
Saturday sport	Saturday 30 November 8 am-12 noon	Various times and locations
Cricket Round 7	Saturday 30 November 1-5.30 pm	Various locations
Australian All School Athletics Championships	Sunday 1 December All day	