

The Shuttle



Time flies faster than a weaver's shuttle.

Abbotsleigh girls and staff continue to make a very positive social impact

Mrs Megan Krimmer
Headmistress

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

– **Martin Luther King**

"The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was, 'If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?'" But... the good Samaritan reversed the question: *"If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?"* (The Good Samaritan, paraphrased by Martin Luther King)

A fundamental part of who we are at Abbotsleigh is to look out for others and to consciously endeavour to make a very positive social impact. I am so proud of the way in which our girls and staff live out our values of deep respect for, and compassion towards others by constantly asking the very important question, 'What can I do to make the world I touch a better place?'

The following service projects across the whole school are a few among many that demonstrate these wonderful characteristics in spades.

Anglicare Toys 'n' Tucker

The Junior and Senior Schools have been overflowing with gifts and food for Australian families who are less fortunate than we are. We are very grateful to all of our Abbotsleigh families who have been so generous this year. Your thoughtfulness will really make a huge and positive difference at Christmas time to many young people and their families in and around Sydney – thank you so much.

Junior School

'Geog-a-thon' for St Jude's

The Junior School girls have generously supported St Jude's School in Tanzania for many years. This year, the



girls are undertaking a 'Geog-a-thon' to raise money for much needed funds to enable girls in Tanzania to attend St Jude's School. These highly intelligent Tanzanian girls would not have the opportunity of having an education such as that provided by St Jude's if it weren't for the generosity of communities like ours. The girls, parents and staff at St Jude's are so grateful for the enthusiasm, hard work and generosity of our girls, parents and staff. I, too, am very grateful indeed. Thank you.

St Lucy's: Year 3's Week Without Words

We are very proud of our Year 3 girls who are continuing to work with students at St Lucy's. Our girls have been so kind and empathetic; they were also very excited about the 'silent' morning tea they organised to raise money for equipment needed by the students at St Lucy's to assist them with learning and communication. In their presentation to assembly last week, our Year 3 girls were most emphatic that 'even the teachers' were going to have a silent morning tea today! Thank you, girls and teachers, you are certainly making a great difference to the students at St Lucy's.

Senior School

Bunda Girls' Secondary School

Our Senior School Service Project partnership with Bunda Girls' Secondary School in Tanzania has continued to develop and deepen. Our Year 7 and Year 8 girls raised sufficient funds during the year to continue to fund scholarships for four girls, Ntoji and Happyness (Year 7) and Elizabeth and Agness (Year 8). These girls have done very well academically, and the relationship between the Abbotsleigh and Bunda girls has flourished.

Additionally, our relationship with Bunda was enhanced even further when Dr Gates, Mrs Ware, Rev Hobba and 15



Abbotsleigh girls visited Bunda Girls' Secondary School in July. The experiences had and the friendships made will be treasured forever by both Abbotsleigh and Bunda teachers and girls alike.

Year 10 Immersion Week

This week, our Year 10 girls have participated in Immersion Week. This is a deep learning experience which has three key pillars:

1. Immersive experience

It provides an opportunity for students to dive deeply into a cause or community.

2. Deep learning

It fosters learning that 'sticks' beyond the actual experience, contributes to meaning and purpose and helps a person find their place in a complex world.

3. Positive social impact

It provides an opportunity for making a positive social impact in response to real needs and through collaboration and teamwork.

As well as immersing themselves in a community or cause, an important part of the girls' experience is reflecting deeply on the process as well as on what they have learnt about themselves and others.

It goes without saying that our girls and staff have been nothing short of sensational this week!

I would like to thank Mrs Annette Ware, Dean of Senior College, for her vision and incredible hard work in developing Immersion Week for our Year 10 girls. I also would like to thank Mrs Libby Bennett (Mrs Ware's EA), for the phenomenal work she has done for the girls. Mrs Jen Collins (Year 10 Coordinator), the Year 10 Tutors and the staff members listed below also deserve our immense gratitude for their hard work and their willingness to give up their time for our girls and for others.

To give some idea of the depth and variety of the causes and communities in which the girls have been immersed this week, please see below:

Year 10 Immersion Week Projects - 2024

- Cooking Up Culture – Auburn Girls High School
- Eddies Concert – St Edmund's, Wahroonga
- Gabe's – St Gabriel's School, Castle Hill
- Holroyd High School Cultural Exchange
- Ignite – Werrington Public School and Berowra Public School
- Life in the City (Our Big Kitchen, Bondi; St John's Community Services, Darlinghurst; Bill Crew's Foundation and more)
- Living History – Ku-ring-gai Neighbour Centre – St Ives
- Red Earth Indigenous Immersion Week in Far North Queensland
- Sport Legends – Werrington Public School and Berowra Public School

- Studio Artes – Hornsby
- Sydney Refugee Team
- Take Love – Anglicare: Gordon Quarter and Roden Cutler Lodge

We are very grateful to the following staff who have given up their time for our girls and others:

Mrs Annette Ware, Ms Meg Bailey, Mrs Libby Bennett, Ms Kim Allan, Mr Adam Antonio, Mrs Renee Black, Mr Steve Bultitude, Mrs Jessica Carlisle, Mrs Jennifer Collins, Mrs Sarah Dallen, Mr Jason Garrett, Ms Ella Gibbs, Mrs Carole Helbert, Ms Alicia Highfield, Mr Ben Hunter, Mrs Sarah Israel, Dr Jennifer McLaren, Dr Michelle McVeigh, Mrs Jenny Mathews, Ms Cathy Oliver, Ms Jessica Parker, Ms Larissa Pasternatsky, Dr Irini Savvides, Ms Jo Scalone, Ms Vicky Staas, Ms Isabelle Trayner, Mrs Dianna Webster and Mr Rob Winslow.





ABBOX Sony Foundation Children’s Holiday Camp

Our Year 11 girls, in partnership with Year 11 Knox Grammar School boys, are again working with the Sony Foundation to host much needed respite care for families who have children living with severe disabilities. Beginning on the Friday after Speech Day, our girls and staff, together with Knox boys and staff, will be giving up their time to give joy, laughter, fun and great experiences to these young children. The children’s families will have this time to rest, restore and recuperate a little before Christmas. Students have planned wonderful activities, including swimming, a disco, an animal farm as well as craft and sport activities. The camp will conclude at Abbotsleigh with a brilliant Christmas lunch for all the children, their families and those involved in the program.

I would like to thank Dr Alison Gates, Ms Isabelle Trayner, and the huge team of Abbotsleigh staff and girls who are giving up their time to serve others in such an important and worthwhile way.



The Dish – Christmas food drive

I would like to finish with a message from our 2024/2025 Service Prefect, Davina Chan.

For many years, Abbotsleigh staff, parents and girls have been supporting The Dish, which provides meals on Tuesday and Friday nights all year round to disadvantaged people in the Hornsby area.

So, if you can.... please help The Dish provide Christmas hampers to these people by donating any of the items listed below to SAO.

- Christmas Cake
- Chocolates
- Mince Pies
- Christmas puddings
- Dried and glazed fruit
- Biscuits
- Sweets and lollies
- Nuts and crackers
- Fudge and nougat



You can bring as little as just a box of chocolates or a packet of snakes, or a mixture of any listed items!



Thank you so much to all our Abbotsleigh girls, staff and parents who make it their life’s mission to continually answer life’s urgent question as posed by Martin Luther King: "What are you doing for others?"

Chaplain

Wellbeing – gratitude, connection and belonging

Rev Sarah Hobba
Senior Chaplain and Head of Christian Studies

Gratitude, connection and a sense of belonging are vital to our wellbeing. In our Senior School chapel series, we've explored the 'outsiders' that Jesus interacted with in Luke's gospel. In Luke 17, Jesus heals 10 lepers, those separated and socially outcast from society. Only one, a Samaritan, returns to give thanks to Jesus. This passage reminds us of the importance of gratitude and appreciating the blessings we receive, a practice crucial for wellbeing.

Jesus' actions were counter-cultural, reaching out to those often ostracised in society, showing that true wellbeing includes both physical healing and spiritual restoration. By healing and accepting the Samaritan, who was doubly marginalised as both a leper and a foreigner, Jesus demonstrates his love for all. This love, shown through his death and resurrection, offers us deep connection and belonging through him.

Luke 17:15-18

Upcoming events

Encounter exhibition	Friday 8 November to Saturday 7 December	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery
ABPA meeting	Thursday 29 November 2-3.30 pm	Wheeldon House
Senior School Speech Day	Wednesday 4 December 9-11 am	Judith Poole Sports Hall
Senior School Speech Day morning tea	Wednesday 4 December 11 am-12.15 pm	Marian Clarke Plaza
Junior School Speech Day	Wednesday 4 December 2-3.30 pm	Judith Poole Sports Hall
Term 4 2024 concludes	Wednesday 4 December	

JUNIOR SCHOOL

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
Year 2 sport training	Saturday 29 November 8-9.30 am	Junior School
IPSHA Saturday sport	Saturday 29 November 8 am-12 noon	See Parent app for team sheets and venues
Speech Day rehearsal #2: Symphony Orchestra	Monday 2 December 7-8.30 am	Judith Poole Sports Hall
Speech Day rehearsal #3	Monday 2 December 8.30-10.30 am	Judith Poole Sports Hall
Transition ACEE excursion	Tuesday 3 December 10.15 am-2.30 pm	Abbotsleigh Centre for Environmental Education

Years K-3 Variety Concert	Tuesday 3 December 11-11.50 am	Everett Hall
Years 4-6 Variety Concert	Tuesday 3 December 12-12.50 pm	Everett Hall
House Cup 2024 final	Tuesday 3 December 1.30-2 pm	Infants Amphitheatre

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday sport	Saturday 23 November 2-3.25 pm	Click here for times and venues
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	
Year 10 Connections Program	Wednesday 27 November 8.20 am-3.25 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	Knox 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	
Carols Service	Sunday 1 December 7-8.30 pm	Chapel
Lipman Student Engagement Session	Monday 2 December 2.10-3.25 pm	
Boarders' Christmas Banquet	Monday 2 December 6-9 pm	Dining Hall
Boarder travel day	Wednesday 4 December	
Hisory Tour departs	Wednesday 4 December	