

Christ Church Grammar School 2013 Chronicle

Boys and motivation
Infinite possibilities

Old boys
legends inspire

Class of 2012
continues record
of excellence



Christ Church
Grammar School

Contents

From the Headmaster	3	Pastoral	36
Christ Church Pedagogy	4	NAIDOC Week	40
Phases of Learning		Boarding	42
Play with Purpose (PP-Year 2)	6	Peter Moyes Centre	44
Fun with Fundamentals (Years 3-4)	10	Service in Action	45
Inquiry with Initiative (Years 5-6)	14	Centre for Ethics	46
Breadth and Depth (Years 7-8)	18	Motivational staff	48
Choice and Challenge (Years 9-10)	22	From the Chairman	51
Excellence and Expertise (Years 11-12)	26	Partnering with parents	52
Academic competitions and results	30	Donor acknowledgements	54
2012 WACE Results	31	Old boys' highlights	57
Co-curricular	32	Destinations of 2011 graduates	61



Chronicle is an annual magazine for past, present and future parents, alumni and friends of Christ Church Grammar School. It reflects an energetic and diverse school community and how it works together to motivate boys to achieve their best.

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We work together as a diverse and energetic community to motivate boys individually and collectively to achieve excellence.

From the Headmaster

I am delighted to introduce this 44th edition of the *Chronicle*.

As Headmaster, it may not surprise you my focus and indeed that of our staff is to the future, always on the lookout for ways to improve our performance and operations. The *Chronicle* provides an annual narrative on how we work together as a diverse and energetic community to motivate boys individually and collectively to achieve excellence. It is always a pleasure to reflect on the growing collection of stories that celebrate the many ways in which our community supports one another to create remarkable learning opportunities at Christ Church.

In 2012, I have written extensively on the School's strategic goals. The most significant focus this year has been in relation to our first strategic theme – motivating boys to achieve at their best. This groundbreaking work, which started in 2011, has evolved into research-based insights on what motivates our boys. This has led to the *Christ Church Pedagogy*. This is an aligned, whole school approach to motivation that involves parents, staff and boys.

Over 2012, this framework has been embedded among Christ Church staff, and we have sought to engage parents through information sessions, Headmaster forums, correspondence and the weekly newsletters. It will be an ongoing focus of the School to continually develop and improve this effort among staff, students, parents and boys as we work toward a united approach to motivation.

The *Chronicle* continues to shine a light on the numerous experiences of the boys, the work of our staff in providing innovative learning opportunities, the contributions of our wider community, as well highlighting the inspiring examples of our old boys.

Stories about the experiences of boys within each phase of learning are represented here, as well as a wide range of co-curricular activities, and elements from the pastoral, boarding, service learning and Centre for Ethics programmes.

This fine edition captures another annual chapter in the ongoing story of Christ Church.

Garth Wynne
Headmaster

January 2013

Motivating and engaging boys

The *Christ Church Pedagogy*, a document that describes the art and science of teaching, was developed in 2012 and underpins the learning experience teachers strive to provide for students at the School.

The pedagogy is the product of extensive research into the motivation of boys and how boys learn from classrooms across the globe as well as at Christ Church. Common threads were identified as key to motivating boys' learning.

Catering for individual differences

Research shows that boys do not learn uni-dimensionally. The *Christ Church Pedagogy* encourages teachers to know their students and help them learn in the best way they can. Individual differences in learning styles can be catered for by providing a range of ways for boys to learn a subject. For example, through a combination of reading, annotated diagrams, video, research, group work, collaborating, teaching to others and testing, more areas of the brain are engaged which optimises their learning. As Director of Pedagogy Sharyn Bana puts it, "through a multi-faceted delivery of the same content, the greater number of elements used, the greater the recall and development of knowledge".

Providing structure and feedback

Providing structure and feedback, is core to motivating boys in the classroom. Structured lessons with clear objectives, expectations and task stages are a key part of forming a safe learning environment. "Boys need boundaries to thrive," Ms Bana said. "Boys will push the boundaries and they need to know that they're fixed. That's why it's essential to deliver on the consequences that boys expect from stepping over those boundaries."

Providing feedback is also integral to creating a safe learning environment. Encouraging questioning, asking the right questions, leading students to their own answers and providing affirming and constructive feedback, allows boys to have a sense of security and freedom to be themselves. This structure and feedback, dressed in a good dose of teachers being "fair, firm and funny", are key to reaching boys.





Catering for individual differences

Providing structure and feedback

Enhancing personal bests

Enhancing personal bests

Flowing on from the role that structure and feedback plays in motivating boys is the need to discover and enhance a boy's strengths and abilities. Expecting high standards, stretching boys' abilities, setting goals and coaching boys to persevere, are key to achieving this. As a close score at half time serves to motivate the losing team to win the game, having an achievable goal that is in reach and setting tasks at the right level is important in engaging boys. If boys are working at a level that is hard for them but that they are capable of achieving, they will be engaged. If it is a level too low or too high, they will be bored or give up. Encouraging healthy competition between the boys in the classroom is also important in making the personal quest to achieving excellence a fun experience.

Motivating teachers to become life-long learners

The School recognises that the pedagogy's learning architecture is aspirational and works with teachers to set realistic goals and focus areas for development. It also promotes a culture of life-long learning and provides ongoing support for teachers to accommodate professional development and growth in their busy schedules. Teachers are encouraged to challenge themselves as they challenge their students to learn and grow. "We have a fantastically skilled set of staff and there are abundant opportunities for professional dialogue, to learn from each other and gain peer support," Ms Bana said.

How parents can motivate their boys to learn

As boys enter their pre-adolescent and teenage years, a parent's role shifts from nurturing the boy to nurturing the man he will become. Setting boundaries, letting boys experience the consequences of their actions and giving boys greater responsibility are key to engaging the adult within the boy. It is about supporting boys to be self-directed and meet their responsibilities. As a parent, being available and present and reminding boys of their future goals to see them through those times when they are feeling unmotivated helps boys navigate through the transition to manhood.



Playground emotions run high

Young boys having a dispute over a lunchtime football match is nothing new but when a group of Year 2 boys found they were no longer having fun, Year 2 teacher Sallyann Lee saw an opportunity.

Mrs Lee said boys were returning to class after playtime, frustrated, upset and angry as little emotions ran high during and after games. "The emotions began to take over the game and it would take all of recess or lunch to sort things out – leaving no time left to play."

Mrs Lee said applying the Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS) programme, taught from Pre-Primary to Year 4, turned the situation around. The research-based, developmental curriculum uses strategies to help boys stop, take a deep breath, think and say the problem.

Mrs Lee said she spent lots of time talking in class about fair play and emphasised the two PATHS models the boys should follow. They included FTD, 'fair play, take turns and don't tease or boast', and using their 'traffic signals' when they started to feel overwhelmed: Red (stop and take a deep breath), Yellow (make a plan, talk it out and don't get upset) and Green (put it into action). "We talked about how winning could be important in some circumstances but at playtime it was better to be a fair loser and have fun," she said.

Last year, Mark Greenberg who developed the PATHS programme, visited Christ Church to talk to staff and parents about his research. Dr Greenberg spoke of the challenges children have in learning to make friends and playing co-operatively, and how this can cause behaviour management issues that undermine learning. His research shows that teaching children how to control their emotional responses can make a difference to improving their happiness and overall academic progress.

By the end of the year, up to 20 Year 2 boys were playing football together and coping better. "It also really became more inclusive, as boys who had never played before were being invited to join in," Mrs Lee said.

Director of Pastoral, Planning and Co-curricular Wayne Revitt said Mrs Lee's expertise in solving social problems was a highly valuable asset to Christ Church. "The skills the boys learn through the PATHS programme, combined with the wisdom of Mrs Lee, led to a positive experience for all boys with football on the oval," Mr Revitt said.





Building relationships



Boys from Pre-Primary and Year 5 built friendships from the ground up during Term 2 when they took part in reading sessions and the Tallest Tower Challenge.

Pre-Primary to Year 2 Teaching and Learning Co-ordinator Holly Miller said Andrew Lane's Year 5 boys visited her class once a fortnight to read together – an activity that fostered lots of positive relationships between the youngest boys in the Preparatory School and older boys.

"It was a wonderful way to boost the confidence of some reluctant readers – reminding them of the joy of sharing books with a friend," she said.

The boys took a break from reading one afternoon to participate in the Tallest Tower

Challenge. Boys worked in mixed teams to build towers made from straws, sticks, boxes and newspapers.

Mrs Miller said the boys worked co-operatively to find the best way to go about the challenge. "The most impressive teams compromised ideas and thought creatively," she said.



Young doctors on duty

In March, it was a case of 'young doctors in Pre-Primary' as the boys took part in a hospital familiarisation incursion designed to help children learn aspects of hospitalisation in a safe and familiar environment.

Pre-Primary teacher Meg Walsh said the aim of the incursion, run by the not-for-profit Association of the Welfare of Children in Hospital, was not only to increase the boys' understanding of equipment and procedures but also to help increase positive feelings towards medical intervention.

Presenter Clare Broad led the boys through the session, giving them lots of opportunities to interact and share their own experiences. The students also watched a short video about a boy who went to hospital, had their blood pressure taken and had plenty of time role-playing.

"The boys just love learning through play so it was wonderful for them be able to dress up in uniforms, use the crutches, IV drips, stethoscopes, oxygen masks and other equipment," Mrs Walsh said.



Bush crusaders

In 2012, Angela Spry's Year 1 class became bush crusaders as part of the CSIRO Education's Scientists in Schools programme. Felicity Bradshaw, an Honorary Research Assistant from the UWA School of Animal Biology, introduced boys to the concept of biodiversity during weekly visits in Terms 2 and 4.

In Term 2, the boys learned about the honey possum, a unique Australian marsupial that needs the bush and its plants to stay alive, through the book *A Tale of Two Honey Possums*.

Felicity talked about the importance of a 'healthy bush' with a number and variety of types of birds, flowers, and insects, and how they were interrelated.

In Term 4, the boys visited Bold Park armed with their 'science kits' to collect data on trees, flowers and bird sightings, gather leaves and seeds, and submerge traps for invertebrates. Miss Spry said the boys loved learning outdoors. "They all enjoyed being little scientists, collecting data and learning that everything has its place and is important for the survival of the bush," she said.

Back in the classroom, Felicity helped the boys create an ecogram, or picture wall, of the bush. "This was a visual way for the boys to see how biodiversity collapsed when they removed one thing and how it affected others," Miss Spry said.



Mini masters at work

In Term 3, Years 1 and 2 classes visited the Picasso to Warhol exhibition at the Art Gallery of Western Australia. Before they went, the Year 1 boys did some research on Pablo Picasso using the School's iPads to learn about the artist's style.

Year 1 teacher Didi Caddy said her class enlisted the help of local abstract expressionist artist Caroline Christie, also the mother of Sebastian Coxon (IDC), to help the boys draw self-portraits using Picasso's cubist technique.

Mrs Caddy said on return from the exhibition, the boys also created an

amazing piece inspired by Andy Warhol. "We chose a commercial product, like Warhol, that would appeal to the boys. We coloured in pictures of Ninjago Lego, using Warhol's repeat pattern and colour contrast to create our own artwork. The boys loved it," she said.

Year 1 teacher Angela Spry added that since the visit, it had been "all about art" in her classroom. "Given the option of free play or drawing, many boys have chosen drawing. There was also lots of discussion about 'What is art?' after seeing Marcel Duchamp's snow shovel."



Weighed to measure

When Year 3 teacher Chantal Hockey introduced 'rice babies' to Christ Church four years ago, little did she know it would come to be one of the most popular activities among the boys. While it is foremost a mathematics exercise, its success is in the many and varied learning opportunities that arise.





As an initial homework task, Year 3 boys were asked to find out their birth weight. Feedback from parents revealed this seemingly simple task often led to discussions about a boy's own birth and the circumstances surrounding it. Ms Hockey said conversations about prematurity, caesarean sections and birth weight abounded in class over the following weeks.

Each boy made a rice baby – a stocking filled with their birth weight equivalent, which they weighed in uncooked rice. “Making the rice babies is not an easy task and requires them to work together,” she said. The boys were then taken through a process of sorting all the class data from smallest to largest and putting this information onto a huge scale along a classroom wall.

All sorts of mathematical discussions arose. “We looked at which units are appropriate for length and weight, how much heavier is this baby than that baby and so on,” she said. Discussions on metric versus imperial measurements, decimals and fractions also ensued.

Finally, each boy's current weight was measured and the difference between this and their birth weight was calculated. Results were again recorded, graphed and displayed. “Mass can be tricky to learn so this is a really

great, hands-on exercise that is easy to differentiate for boys at different levels of learning,” Ms Hockey said

Many boys arrived at school early in the morning to greet their baby and carry it around for a while. One boy even confided that he loved his baby. “The boys' interest in their own life story makes it interesting and the mathematical learning more real,” Ms Hockey said.



Island explorers

“Everything was perfect for our day at Penguin Island ... and I was hungry to explore,” wrote Oscar Barry (4TS) on his return from a day excursion to the island in Term 2. Oscar was among 100 Year 4 boys, who journeyed to the island as an introduction into integrated units on biomes and the life cycles of living things.

Years 3 and 4 Learning Co-ordinator T’Ann Steel said the boys impressed the island’s ranger with their inquisitive minds, excellent questions and behaviour as they learned about the Little Penguins – “the only type of penguins found in Australia,” Lucas Kailis (4TS) said.

After a bus ride to Shoalwater and ferry ride to the island, the boys were split into three activities. The first was a visit to

the island’s discovery centre, where the ranger introduced them to some resident penguins and they observed a rescued penguin being fed – a highlight for many boys.

A ride on a glass-bottom boat around Seal Island also proved popular. “We saw three different kinds of seals and an osprey. Our tour guide tried to bark like a seal and got one to stand up,” Harry Cooney (4TS) said.

The third activity was a ‘waddle’ along the island’s boardwalk where the boys searched for nest boxes, looked at erosion and spotted pelicans. “There were also king skinks all over the island – they were really big,” Eden Haythorpe (4TS) said.



Science Club goes green

During Semester 2, the Year 4 After School Science Club was busily working towards creating a sustainable culture in the Preparatory School. Co-ordinators and Year 4 teachers Sarah Stone and Jessica Taylor said ‘The Green Team’ put a number of sustainability ideas into action.

In Term 3, the club presented a proposal on reusable lunch bags to Head of the Preparatory School Richard Wright and Canteen Manager Ann Carr. “Instead of using paper bags, the boys found a reusable lunch bag and sought approval to trial. The boys created a powerpoint presentation, after which Mrs Carr agreed to trial the bags,” Miss Stone said.

Once the trial commenced they discovered the bags melted when placed in the Canteen’s warmer. Undeterred, the boys wrote to the manufacturer to explain the dilemma and seek feedback.

Also in Term 3, boys from the club presented at both the Prep and Senior School assemblies on a mobile phone collection drive to help raise money for Youth Cancer. In Term 4, the Green Team led Years 3 and 4 in the School’s first ‘Nude Food Day’ whereby boys were asked to bring a healthy lunchbox to school with no packaging other than reusable containers.

Resolving conflict, building resilience

A little humour went a long way with Year 3 boys when learning about conflict resolution from 'stand-up therapist' Greg Mitchell. Greg's entertaining presentation in Term 3 armed boys with strategies on avoiding conflict, getting along with others and building resilience.

Year 3 relief teacher Rachel Sykes said Greg's 'larger than life' presence and 'matter of fact' attitude resonated with the boys. "They loved the session and could relate to the situations Greg discussed. He used age-appropriate examples to discuss conflict as well as humour, which always goes a long way with boys," she said.

Miss Sykes said her class had used his strategies in the classroom after the presentation. "For example, we have been listening to each person when a problem or conflict occurs, or stopping to look at the situation and ask, 'How could I solve this problem so that everyone is happy?'"

The class also talked about demonstrating good body language and active listening. "We often refer to Greg's idea that you should smile and look people in the eye when they are talking to you. We have also talked about getting over 'bad days' by focusing on the positives," Miss Sykes said.



Mini Olympians

In August, the Years 3 and 4 Mini Olympics – complete with flag procession, national anthems and torch relay – was staged in the Gymnasium Precinct. The boys donned bandanas and waved flags as they represented six countries in a series of modified events.

Years 3 and 4 Learning Co-ordinator T'Ann Steel said the morning provided a fun, shared experience for the boys who had been exploring the Olympic theme in their classrooms. The boys were divided into six mixed groups each representing Australia, Russia, China, Great Britain, Greece and Brazil. Earlier in the week, the boys had created a flag and decorated bandanas in their country's colours.

The games began with a flag procession to national anthems around the gymnasium followed by a performance from the Years 3 and 4 hip hop boys. Sportsmaster Brady Leckie read aloud the Olympic Oath, ahead of a torch relay by the class captains and the official opening by Preparatory Deputy Headmaster Brad Hilliard.

The boys then moved through a rotation of six 'modified' events including basketball, hockey, equestrian, javelin, ten-pin bowling and synchronised swimming.





Odyssey right fit for boys

The Preparatory School and Midnite Youth Theatre Company joined forces this year to present *Odyssey* – the first ever Year 6 Midnite production. Homer’s epic poem was brought to life by the young cast with the help of Methodist Ladies’ College students.

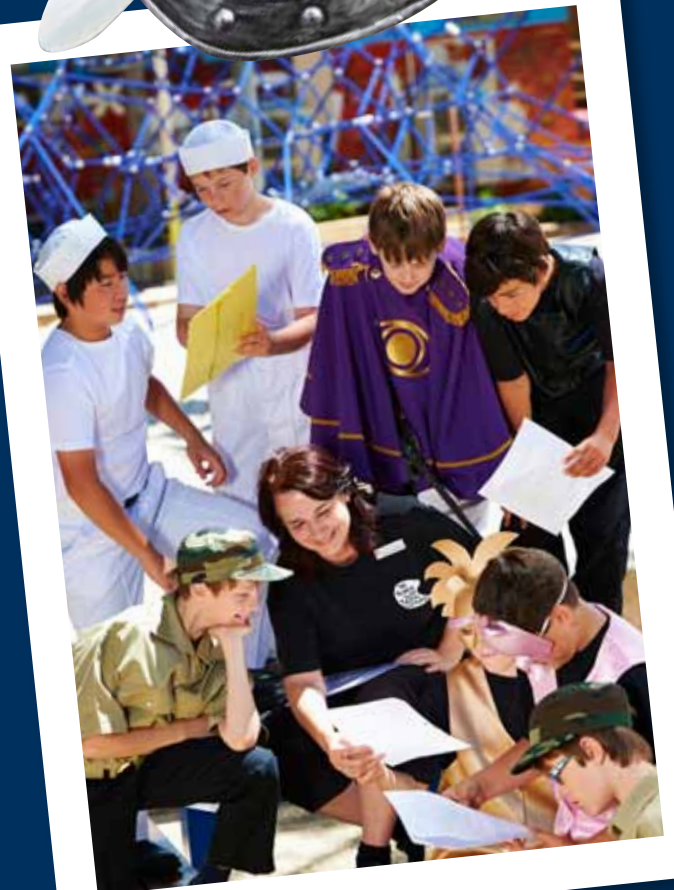
The production, which was a sell-out, ran over three nights in Term 3 in the Senior School Drama Centre. It was directed by Angela Perry, who teaches drama in both the Prep and Senior Schools. Ms Perry said she knew *Odyssey* – filled with action-packed adventure – was the right fit for boys.

“It has monsters, whirlpools, storms and war but it also addresses the virtues and qualities of leadership, honour, courage and perseverance against these overwhelming odds,” she said. “These virtues are crucial for the boys when they make their own journey from the Prep School to the Senior School. I think the boys identified with the story, which therefore made it easy to direct because they could relate to it easily.”

The boys began rehearsals in late May with all Year 6 students involved in the production in roles – big and small. The idea of involving girls from MLC in the dance choreography was also a first.

Ms Perry said Artistic Director of Midnite, Drew Stocker, was instrumental in his support of staging a Year 6 production. “For the past two years, our Year 5 boys have been involved in intensive drama workshops with the Black Swan Theatre Company,” she said. “The opportunity for them to be involved in a Year 6 production, now provides a wonderful transition into the Senior School where they can be involved in all aspects of drama.”

Ms Perry also thanked staff and parents, who helped design and construct costumes and props, managed backstage and front of house, and the Percussion Ensemble. “I received lots of lovely feedback from happy parents, who noticed the confidence and sheer joy in their sons involved in rehearsals and performances.”



Boys meet Governor-General

The Year 6 Canberra Tour was introduced in 2011 to further support the 'Inquiry with Initiative' phase of learning. Meeting Governor-General Quentin Bryce, visiting the Australian War Memorial and watching athletes train at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) were among the highlights of the 2012 tour.

Day 1: I woke at 6.30am and it was excruciatingly cold! At Government House, we met the Governor-General – few people get to meet her. At the Museum of Australian Democracy, we played a game where we had to answer a number of questions. At Parliament House, I got to be Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Representatives. *Tom Lewsey (6JL)*

Day 2: Today started with a magnificent view on top of Mt Ainsley. Then we went to the National Gallery and learned lots about the paintings by Jackson Pollock and Sidney Nolan. Lastly, we went to the War Memorial and saw movies of epic battles. I can't wait for tomorrow. *Harrison Kay (6GM)*

Day 3: On Wednesday, we visited the National Museum, National Film and Sound Archive, CSIRO and the AIS. My highlight was participating in a few of the complicated conversations at CSIRO about creating new strands of life using empty gene cells and putting in new DNA. *Riki Wylie (6LA)*

Day 4: Today I learned there are six robots at the Royal Australian Mint. 650 coins are made per minute. The one cent and two cent coins were melted down into Olympic bronze medals. Today I found that Questacon is VERY FUN! *Akio Ho (6JP)*



Problem solvers third at Nationals

Christ Church came third at the 2012 National Future Problem Solving (FPS) Finals held at Ivanhoe Girls School, in Melbourne, in November. The team of Year 6 boys, one of the youngest teams in the junior division, was one place shy of making the international competition.

Aaron Di Bona (6JP), Max Lee (6LA), Morgan Pollard (6JL) and Riki Wylie (6LA), as well as 'alternates' (reserves) Akio Ho (6JP) and Millar Ormonde (6JL), were members of the successful team.

In FPS, teams of four students work together to identify underlying problems within a futuristic scenario, devise and evaluate potential solutions, select the best one and write an 'action plan' to solve their chosen problem. The main team works together to complete the FPS booklet with the alternates joining them for a dramatic performance of their solution.

Preparatory School Director of Studies Brad Hilliard said the programme aimed to develop critical and futuristic thinking as well as creative thinking skills. Mr Hilliard, who coaches the team as part of the Prep

School's academic enrichment programme, said the topic of 'Trade Barriers' was a difficult subject. "The boys were able to demonstrate a good understanding of current issues and included this in their work," he said.



Spruiking the ‘unuseless’

Imagine eating ice cream that doesn't melt? Or wearing thongs with umbrellas to stop your toes getting burnt? How about your own portable crosswalk? These were some of Andrew Lane's Year 5 class' Chindogu gadgets – the Japanese art of inventing ingenious, everyday gadgets that almost serve a useful purpose.

The boys let their imaginations run wild in the Term 1 holidays when they were asked to invent their own Chindogu gadget as part of a public speaking assignment. Mr Lane said the boys rose to the challenge with their ‘unuseless’ inventions.

“They had to research what Chindogu meant, then create (or copy) an invention of their own. This provided the boys with some structure to work within for their

persuasive language challenge – a three-minute marketing advertisement and demonstration on their gadget in front of the class,” he said.

Other inventions included the Skate Eater – a skate helmet that holds a range of condiments; the Nail Bite Pro – gloves with flavoured stuck-on nails for nail biters; the Football Cooler – a soccer ball made of foam with a built in water bottle; and Maggies – shoes with magnets on the soles for picking up metal objects like keys.

At the completion of the presentations, the audience was asked to invest ‘money’ towards their idea – the more persuasive the delivery, the more they maximised on their investment. “I think it's really important for boys to be able to invent, build and share,” Mr Lane said.



Father-Son showdown

This year's Preparatory School Father-Son Games was bigger and better than ever with a record number of codes and dads attending. The event, traditionally an AFL game between Years 5 and 6 fathers and sons, also fielded teams in rugby, hockey and soccer.

Prep Sportsmaster Brady Leckie said it was an “awesome day” with 66 dads participating in AFL, rugby and hockey at the Mt Claremont playing fields and soccer at McGillivray Oval. “This is the first time all four winter sports have played on the one day since we introduced the AFL game back in 2009,” Mr Leckie said.

“It was a great spectacle and a fantastic opportunity for the dads to get involved in the boys' sport. The boys love playing alongside, or against, their dads in a fun, competitive atmosphere,” he said.

Scaling new heights

Clear skies, warm days and beautiful sunsets generally outweighed windy conditions and bouts of seasickness for most of the five voyages aboard the Leeuwin II in Term 2. Through a partnership between Christ Church and the Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation, every Year 8 student spends a week on board the tall ship as part of the School's compulsory outdoor education programme.

On board Voyage 2 was Christ Church's new Director of Koorinal and Co-ordinator of Outdoor Education David Anderson. Mr Anderson was impressed by the truly experiential journey set in the stunning World Heritage Site of Shark Bay.

"The boys really surprised me. The Leeuwin is incredibly physical and emotional and the boys are also being pushed mentally as there is a lot to remember," he said. "It gets them really engaged in learning about the various aspects of sailing and safety."

This year, all voyages were able to anchor and go ashore at Cape Inscription, the northernmost tip of Dirk Hartog Island.

Here, they walked to the cape's lighthouse where they read the plaque left to commemorate Hartog's landing in 1616 and learned about the island's history. The boys spent the day on the island, swimming at the beach and enjoying some 'land' time before heading back on board.

Mr Anderson said he had great respect for a number of boys, who wore their seasickness as a badge of honour and overcame their fear of heights. "There were some boys, who were struggling to get off the deck at the start of the voyage. Then to see them climb to the top of the mast, 39 metres high, really impressed me," he said.

"Also, the way they supported each other, checking on each other on 'the line' (where a person suffering from seasickness is clipped to for safety along the side of the ship) and giving a mate a rub on the back – that caring, human side is great to see in boys."





Boys chat to NASA Chief



A group of boys, from Years 7 to 11, had a rare opportunity to talk to the Administrator of NASA, Charles Bolden, during his visit to Canberra in April. Christ Church was the only WA secondary school invited to take part in the live, video conference.

The conference, organised by the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR), was held in UWA's School of Physics. It involved a live link with audiences in Canberra, the Victorian Space Centre in Melbourne and Perth's Tuart College. Other institutions were able to watch online via a live webcast.

Physics teacher Andrew Bacon said 11 boys were selected based on the question they would most like to ask. Two Christ Church students posed their questions directly to Mr Bolden regarding the feasibility of sending man to Mars and his prediction of what contributions NASA would have on humanity over the next 50 years.

Mr Bacon said it was an honour for the School to take part in such a significant event with the boys demonstrating their knowledge and maturity by confidently answering questions posed by the NASA Administrator.

"Mr Bolden clearly inspired them, especially when describing his own experiences as a NASA astronaut on the Space Shuttle," Mr Bacon said. After the presentation, several boys said they would consider researching further study within the space and aeronautics sectors."

Maths gets creative

The Mathematics and ICT departments joined forces this year to expose Year 8 maths students to the combination of creativity and structured thinking needed to solve computer programming challenges. Head of Mathematics Jan Honnens believes this "addictive" combination is the perfect supplement to learning traditional maths in the mathematics curriculum.

Year 8 students took part in the National Computer Science School (NCSS) Challenge – an online programming competition run by the University of Sydney. The five-week challenge is unlike other programming competitions because students are taught how to programme as they compete.

Head of ICT Chris Anderson said Year 9 and 10 computer science, and Year 10 artificial intelligence students had been taking part in NCSS Challenge over the past two years. He said over the five weeks, students were emailed short tutorials containing the information they needed to complete the week's programming. "The questions are really well-written," Mr Anderson said. "The boys receive an instant mark so they can keep track of their progress as they go along."

Mr Honnens said it was fantastic to see students so excited about using mathematics in this creative way. "The boys can't answer these questions using algebra, it's more about using logic and algorithms. It involves rather challenging problem-

solving and the boys are finding it quite exciting," he said.



Maths and French combine



Year 8 French students had to check they were in the right classroom in Term 3, when French teacher Linda Curlewis asked them to open their mathematics books. The maths books, written in French, were part of a new

initiative between the Languages and Mathematics departments.

Head of Mathematics Jan Honnens had the idea for the cross-curricular exercise after coming across the maths books, originating

from Canada, while researching resources for the Mathematics Department. The Languages Department was delighted to bring the two skills together when Mr Honnens suggested the idea.

Mrs Curlewis said the students had enough knowledge in French to answer the Year 8 level mathematics problems. "This type of task exercises both sides of the brain – the creative as well as the practical side. Boys will have the opportunity to combine both skills that they are learning at school in order to get results. They will also gain an understanding of how useful and relevant both subjects are for the future."

Mr Honnens said even though the mathematics problems were in French, students would be able to understand them because mathematics is a universal language. "This project will be an exciting challenge for two parts of the brain that would normally not be interacting at this level," he said.

Master storyteller has boys in stitches

Christ Church welcomed local and international storytellers as part of the National Year of Reading this year. In August, hundreds of boys from Christ Church, Hale and Scotch lined up to have their books signed by award-winning *Skulduggery Pleasant* author Derek Landy, courtesy of the Centre for Ethics and Lane Bookshop.

The *Skulduggery* books, which follow the adventures of a teenage heroine and a skeleton detective who strive to prevent evil threatening the world, combine the genres of mystery, action and fantasy in Landy's highly intriguing and witty style.

Senior School teacher librarian Lia de Sousa said he talked to boys from Years 7 to 9 about growing up in Ireland. He spoke briefly about how he came to

write *Skulduggery* but mostly entertained the boys with his brilliant stories about how he came to own several cats and two very unusual dogs.

"It was during the re-telling of these tales that his skill as a true storyteller was clearly obvious. He had the boys in stitches," Ms de Sousa said.

"The boys found him very entertaining and funny. I think they were also quite impressed by how approachable he was at the end of the talk and how willing he was to sign their books."



Sky's the limit

In Term 3, Christ Church was the first school in WA to use a Tiny Radio Telescope (TRT), constructed by staff from the International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research (ICRAR). ICRAR staff, including PhD candidate Mehmet Alpalan, the School's Scientist-in-Residence for 2012, spent the day helping Year 10 boys measure the surface temperature of the sun and Year 9s put Newton's Third Law in action.





Head of Science Michael Masterton said the Year 10s were given a brief introductory lecture in the morning where they were introduced to the theory, equipment and mathematics involved in the day's experiment.

Working in small groups, the boys had to construct the radio telescope using a set of schematics. They used a large piece of foam to calibrate readings from the telescope against the ambient temperature of the air around them, aligned the telescope with the sun and then used a mathematical relationship, given to them earlier in the day, to determine the temperature of the sun (approximately 5500°C).

"Although not spot on in their estimate, the boys were close and gained valuable

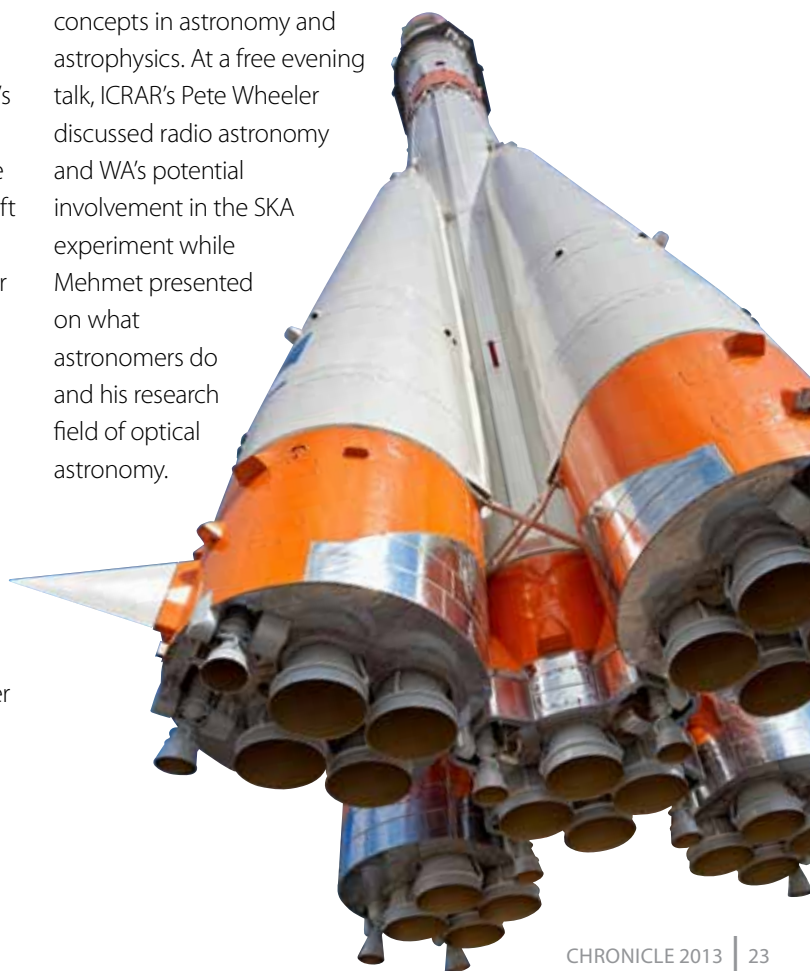
experience in constructing elements of experiments and applying scientific knowledge to new situations," Mr Masterton said.

Later that day, ICRAR staff helped Year 9 boys launch bottle rockets to test Newton's Third Law. The boys used bicycle pumps to increase the force against water in large soft drink bottles and eventually, the reaction force of the water back on the pump was great enough to launch the bottles spectacularly into the air.

Boys were also given an opportunity to view the sun through an optical telescope using special solar filters. "Perhaps some boys may now consider radio astronomy as a possible career path given the portion of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project being built in WA."

In Term 1, students and members of the wider community had an opportunity to hear from ICRAR speakers about the SKA project and other exciting concepts in astronomy and astrophysics. At a free evening talk, ICRAR's Pete Wheeler discussed radio astronomy and WA's potential involvement in the SKA experiment while Mehmet presented on what astronomers do and his research field of optical astronomy.

The School's Scientist-in-Residence initiative was funded by the Christ Church Parents' Association.



Swords fly

For one day in May, boys swapped maths and science lessons for a series of Chinese and Japanese cultural workshops.

The Year 9 Asia Extravaganza, led by professional martial arts specialists, dancers, artists and musicians, was created as part of the Australian Curriculum's cross-curricular priority of 'Australia's Engagement with Asia'.

Throughout the day, boys took part in sessions ranging from Chinese martial arts weapons training, lion dancing, aikido, iaido and kenjutsu to taiko drumming, shakuhachi, Japanese singing and origami. The final hour of the day was a showcase of all the boys had experienced.

Head of Humanities David Proudlove said some presenters had been touring the country as part of the Asian Education Foundation's support for schools immersing themselves in the highly relevant theme.



Mr Proudlove said having a better understanding of Asian cultures was an educational imperative as we moved further into 'The Asian Century'. "We must grasp every opportunity to deepen our knowledge and understanding of these countries and there is no doubt these extremely active workshops made a positive impression on the boys," he said.

University kick-start

Five Year 10 students successfully completed a first-year university computer science course with one scoring a high distinction. Dylan Bell, Allan Hou, Elliott Smith, Richard Tien and Nicholas Wynne completed the University of New South Wales (UNSW) High Schools Computing Course over Terms 1 and 2.

The boys were tutored by UNSW senior lecturer Richard Buckland from interstate using university course material and assignments. Another WA student, Diogo Real (Year 12) from Tranby College, completed the course alongside the Christ Church boys.

Mr Buckland said it was remarkable for boys to enrol in a real university course, in what is an incredibly hard degree, while still at school. He said the boys had beaten the scores of many first-year university students, including Elliott Smith who received a high distinction. "But what impresses me most, is that they stuck with it and they managed to pull it off," Mr Buckland said.

Mr Buckland, who was diagnosed with cancer about the same time the boys started their course, learned his cancer was clear two weeks before he presented the boys with their

certificates at an assembly in Term 3. He congratulated them on thinking ahead about their lives and careers, and seizing the opportunity with enthusiasm and passion. In his powerful address to the Senior School, he said: "Don't have a good life by accident – think about it, plan and have fantastic lives."



Authors help hone creativity

The Year 9 creative writing class, and other English classes, enjoyed workshops with a number of authors thanks to a Parents' Association grant.

In Term 2, acclaimed novelist Steven Amsterdam, author of *Things We Didn't See Coming*, talked about the importance of a good ending. English teacher Tom Spurling said the workshops helped bring the boys' term-long 'Stories@6010' to a dramatic close. *Things We Didn't See Coming* won The Age Book of the Year award and was longlisted for the Prime Minister's Literary Award and the Guardian First Book Award.

In Term 3, old boy Jon Doust (Class of 1965), who was longlisted for the Miles Franklin award for his first adult novel *Boy on a Wire*, was the Senior School's writer-in-residence. Jon worked closely with the boys on their short stories and discussed the writing process, finding your place in the world and life as a boarder at Christ Church in the 1960s.

"Jon made an indelible impression on a number of boys with his knack of disarming the room with laughter – then telling it dead straight," Mr Spurling said.



Blogging with China

Year 9 language students spent two months 'blogging' with students from China as part of a collaborative project run with UWA.

Asian Studies Professor Gary Sigley led the project aimed at educating WA school students about the rich and diverse cultures along the Yunnan Province section of the so-called 'Ancient Tea Horse Road'.

Chinese teacher Phillipa Nock said Professor Sigley was keen to share the tea road's history and various ethnic groups while informing students of the challenges of cultural heritage preservation. "An important element was to use the internet to link schools in WA with

schools in key towns along the tea road," Ms Nock said.

During the project, Professor Sigley visited Yunnan and the Ancient Tea Horse Road, posting video and web blogs along the way. The boys and students from Yunnan were encouraged to tell their own stories about cultural heritage via the website including making a storyboard in Chinese on their iPads.

"The boys embraced the challenge and their podcasts were outstanding. The students in China were fascinated by the boys' audio visual introductions though somewhat intimidated by their technical proficiency," Ms Nock said.

Adding to Venture

Cannibalism, hypothermia and deadly snakes were all topics of discussion in the Year 10 Add-Venture programme in Term 4. Now in its third year, the programme offers boys three days of Walpole-focused learning experiences prior to the annual Venture expedition.

Venture, an 11-day journey which places 14 groups on walk routes through the bushland and coastal setting of Walpole-Nornalup National Park, is the pinnacle of Christ Church's outdoor education programme.

Head of Humanities David Proudlove said teachers across core subject areas and electives embraced the programme to give boys "a multi-disciplinary smorgasbord of offerings" ranging from discussions about the inspiration behind Tim Winton's bestsellers to listening to international conservationist and raconteur Gary Muir, widely regarded as 'Mr Walpole'.



From the inspiring to the aspiring

2012 was a big year for the Science Department at Christ Church, which engaged a number of leading scientists to inspire boys about the infinite possibilities in the field. Throughout the year, they heard from a number of experts – many from the realms of astronomy and astrophysics. Some boys even made their own mark in State competitions.



In Term 3, Christ Church was honoured to have Nobel Laureate Brian Schmidt deliver an inspirational lecture to a captive audience of Year 11 Physics students, Year 8 extension students and a selection of Year 6 boys, along with students from two other schools.

Professor Schmidt, who was named joint winner of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2011, talked about his team's work on the expansion of the universe, which fundamentally changed astrophysics by opening up a whole new area of science and introducing the world to the concept of dark energy.

Head of Science Michael Masterton said he talked about his work as a graduate research astrophysicist at Harvard University and his move to Canberra as the leader of the High-Redshift Supernova Search Team where his work involved determining an accurate value for the Hubble Constant.



Courtesy of the Community Newspaper Group

Professor Schmidt fielded numerous questions from the students from the future effects of dark energy and his latest research, to his thoughts on the likelihood of there being other life forms in the universe.

In September, aspiring scientist Guy Barrington (Year 12) won the Smartphone App category of the WA Young Innovator of the Year Award. Guy developed an app which shows how bacteria respond and evolve when subjected to doses of antibiotics.

Guy was inspired to create his app after studying evolution as part of the Year 12 Biology course. Mr Masterton, who was also Guy's biology teacher, said he encouraged him to enter. "I was impressed with Guy's knowledge of evolution of bacteria and how it responds to doses of antibiotics, along with his significant IT skills and creativity," he said.

At the judging day, held at Scitech, each finalist was given a small space to show off their invention to judges, members of the public and Scitech

staff. Guy won \$1,000 in cash and is currently exploring ways to turn his app into a commercial success.

Earlier in the year, Donald Sutherland (Year 11) was among a group of Perth students, who talked to the captain of the International Space Station (ISS) from the Northbridge Piazza. The public event marked the 50th anniversary of Perth being named the 'City of Light', after astronaut John Glenn orbited the earth in 1962 and

noted he could see the city from space.

Selection in the online competition, run through the WA Museum, was based on the uniqueness and diversity of the student's submitted question for the ISS captain. Donald, who studies physics, chemistry, engineering and mathematics, asked about the current projects happening on the space station.



Musicians shine at Concerto Night

Christ Church and MLC's top musicians performed as soloists accompanied by a full symphony orchestra as part of the schools' annual Concerto Night in September. Concerto Night, held at MLC's Hadley Hall, was the final performance for Year 12 music students, who performed movements from a variety of concertos and other famous pieces.

Director of Music Kevin Gillam said the eight boys had studied their instruments since primary school and were all very advanced and accomplished musicians. "Concerto Night is a benchmark night for all of these students. It is a night to show off their talents to family and friends, to perform with a full symphony orchestra, and to which a huge amount of talent and dedication to craft is given public recognition," he said.

Mr Gillam said all students performed well and the standout pieces were *Butterfly Lovers Concerto*, by Kieren Tan, and the *Haydn Trumpet Concerto*, by Ian Teo.



Dramatic forces combine



Year 12 drama students from Christ Church and Methodist Ladies' College (MLC) joined forces in 2012 in a new initiative between the neighbouring schools. The collaboration is part of a wider opportunity to promote vibrant classroom experiences with good student numbers and maximise subjects on offer.

Director of Studies Margaret Brophy said with only three boys selecting the Drama 3AB WACE Course in 2012, it made sense for the two classes to combine. "It was a huge benefit for our boys to be able to go to MLC and work with their 17 girls. In an activity-based subject like drama, the experience is so much richer for the interaction and learning with and from others," she said.

Christ Church's Head of Drama Drew Stocker and MLC's Director of Drama Jodee Lambert led the classes, which were held throughout the year at MLC's Gertrude Walton Drama Centre. Ms Brophy said the students also benefitted from the 'team teaching' model. "Drew and Jodee bring different approaches to their teaching so students gained feedback, skills and expertise from two professionals rather than one," she said.

Mr Stocker said combining the classes enabled girls and boys to play specific gender roles. "The students really seemed to enjoy themselves while studying *Hotel Sorento* and *The Tempest* as part of the course work," he said.

Engineering skills rewarded

Four Year 11 design and technology students were rewarded for their engineering skills in this year's ITC Global eV Challenge in October. Ishraq Bari, Nick Nielsen, Lukas Pfeifle and Sam Weight won first prize in the Class B category (Years 11 and 12) of the one-hour endurance race for small electric vehicles.

The boys were among three teams of Year 11 boys, who dedicated Friday afternoons to designing, building and trialling their electric vehicles under the guidance of design and technology teacher Alec Barbour.

In the challenge, held at the RAC Driver Centre near Perth

Airport, vehicles are driven around a 3km-track for one hour using a prescribed amount of battery power along with other specifications. Each team has three drivers, which makes pit stops interesting, and the winning team is the one who completes the most laps of the circuit.

Event organiser Patrick Loudon, also a design and technology teacher at Christ Church, said the most rewarding thing for him was to see the innovative design ideas coming through, particularly within the modest budget for the event. "As a teacher, it is very exciting to see the development of these skills in the students," he said.



Aspiring science 'Olympians'

Year 11 students Liam Kearney and Simon Swan were selected to attend the Olympiad Summer School, at Melbourne's Monash University, after their outstanding results in the Science Olympiad Qualifying Exams.

Liam qualified for the Chemistry Summer School after finishing in seventh place in Australia. Simon qualified in all three subjects – opting to attend the Physics Summer School. Simon finished in second place in physics, 22nd

place in chemistry and 19th place in biology.

The boys completed a first-year university course in three weeks during the 2012 summer holidays. Later in the year, the top four students from each field will be selected to represent Australia at the respective International Science Olympiads.

Head of Science Michael Masterton said it was a remarkable achievement for both boys. "Simon's performance is particularly impressive, as he doesn't

study biology and takes chemistry as his seventh subject. This is the first time a student from Christ Church

has qualified for all three science summer schools," he said.



Academic competitions and results

Across all year groups, boys are encouraged to challenge themselves on the way to reaching their potential in a collaborative, competitive and supportive environment. 2012 was no exception as teachers used local, state, national and international competitions to enhance learning opportunities. Each success is acknowledged at assemblies and often, in the school newsletter. Here are some examples of competitions our boys entered in 2012:

Australian Mathematics Competition

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 1,100 (Years 3 to 12)

Awards: 2 Medals, 14 Prizes, 42 High Distinctions

Standout performers: Leo Li (Year 8) and Nicholas Pizzino (Year 8) – top 25 in Australia

ICAS Science Competition – University of New South Wales (UNSW)

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 272

Awards: 4 Medals, 21 High Distinctions

Standout performers: Gary Song (Year 7), Leo Li (Year 8), Vandit Trivedi (Year 10), Siyang Zhang (Year 12) – top scores in WA.

UNSW Business Studies and Economics Competitions

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 148 (Business Studies), 13 (Economics)

Awards: 6 Prizes, 5 High Distinctions, 34 Distinctions

Standout performers: Henry Cooney (Year 10) – Junior WA winner (Business Studies), Bayan Kiani (Year 11) – Junior WA winner (Economics).

National History Competition

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 91 (Year 8 and Year 10)

Awards: 23 High Distinctions, 28 Distinctions

Standout performers: Thomas Weight (Year 8) – top score in Australia

National Geographic Australian Geography Competition

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 183 (Year 9)

Awards: 25 High Distinctions, 26 Distinctions, 62 Credits

Standout performers: Samuel Thompson (junior) and Henry Loudon (intermediate)

Language Perfect World Championships

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 458

Awards: 2 Elite Awards, 6 Gold, 14 Silver, 54 Bronze, 91 Credits

Standout performers: James Borshoff (Year 8), Myles McQuillan (Year 8) – Elite Awards for scoring over 10,000 points individually.

ICAS Science, Writing, English and Mathematics Competitions (UNSW)

Number of Christ Church boys entered: 90 (Science), 67 (Writing), 99 (English) and 125 (Mathematics) from Years 3 to 6.

Awards: 1 Medal, 22 High Distinctions, 80 Distinctions

Standout performers: Patrick Mahoney (Year 5) – top score Mathematics in WA



Congratulations to our top performers: (l-r) Kieren Tan (General Exhibition), Harry Smallbone (Course Exhibition), Toby Butler (General Exhibition), Weiyuan Fan (General Exhibition). WeiLun Wang (General Exhibition) was unavailable.



Overseas universities beckon

Five Christ Church students applied for overseas universities in 2012, a trend Director of Studies Margaret Brophy said was growing. Ms Brophy said a lunchtime information session on overseas universities for parents and boys was extremely well attended and would be moved to an evening session in 2013 to accommodate increasing numbers. "I think our boys are developing a broader, more global outlook," she said.

Of the five students who applied, four were offered interviews at UK and US universities. William Kermode was interviewed by Cambridge, Aaron Saw and Harry Smallbone by Oxford and WeiLun Wang by Princeton. At the time of publication, the boys were still waiting to learn if they had been successful.

Ms Brophy said applications to interstate universities were also popular. "More than 80 boys attended an information session presented by a residential college from Melbourne University in 2012," she said.

Record of excellence continues in 2012

The 2012 Year 12 academic results included four General Exhibitions, a Course Exhibition, two top scores of 99.95 and an impressive median of 90.4. The cohort graduated with 178 WA Certificate of Education (WACE) externally-assessed students and 15 WACE Wholly School Assessed (WSA) students.

Of the 178 boys who sat for the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR):

- 20 (11 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 99 or more, putting them in the top one per cent of students across the country.
- 29 (16 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 98 or higher, placing them in the top two per cent.
- 57 (32 per cent) obtained an ATAR of 95 or more, placing them in the top five per cent.
- 91 boys (51 per cent) obtained an ATAR of more than 90, placing them in the top 10 per cent.
- Top scores of 99.95 were achieved by WeiLun Wang and Keiren Tan.
- 14 were awarded Certificates of Distinction.
- 19 were awarded Certificates of Commendation.

Of the 15 boys who completed Wholly School Assessed subjects, seven completed a Vocational Education and Training (VET) course, three completed an Aboriginal School Based Traineeship with Leighton, one completed a traineeship with Reece Plumbing and one finished a Workplace Learning course. Congratulations to James Parker, who was awarded a Certificate of Commendation in recognition of his excellent grades in Years 11 and 12.

Headmaster Garth Wynne said the School was proud of its students' performance and particularly pleased to see boys of a wide variety of academic capabilities achieving excellent results.

"These wonderful outcomes are the culmination of the efforts of students, teachers and parents to motivate boys to achieve individual and collective excellence. They also demonstrate how well our school caters for the academic needs of boys at all levels – from the high performers, to the middle section and struggling students," Mr Wynne said.

"Considering we do not admit our students based on academic strength, I am once again very pleased that the majority group of boys in our middle section have done so well, evidenced by the median ATAR score of 90.4, which is well above state and national averages."

JPSSA 2012 Sports Results:

Athletics	First
Cross Country	First
Swimming	First

PSA 2012 Sports Results:

Athletics	Sixth
Badminton	equal Second
Basketball	equal Sixth
Cricket	Fourth
Cross Country	Fifth
Football	Sixth
Hockey	Fourth
Rowing	First
Rugby	Fourth
Sailing (non PSA)	First
<i>(WA Schools Teams Racing Championships)</i>	
Surfing	First
Soccer	Third
Swimming	First
Tennis	Second
Volleyball	equal Fifth
Water Polo	First



Winning on water

Christ Church dominated the water in 2012 bringing home the PSA titles in swimming, rowing, water polo, surfing as well as sailing.

The swimming team set a new school record in Term 1 by winning the PSA Inter School Swimming Carnival for the fifth consecutive year. In a much closer score line than 2011, Christ Church won with 1080 points, ahead of Hale on 991.5. Teacher in Charge of Aquatics Luke Farmer said the team's depth was again the catalyst for victory. He said swimming was a tough and demanding sport that relied on the dedication of the boys to train above and beyond the normal sporting expectations.

In water polo, the First VII defeated Scotch in the decider of the Dickinson Shield. Both teams were undefeated leading into the highly anticipated match with several state representative players from both schools. Mr Farmer said the match lived up to expectations with many spectators commenting they had seen the best water polo match in PSA history.

Also in March, Christ Church secured its seventh Head of the River crown in 11 years at Champion Lakes. The First VIII took the lead early to finish a boat length ahead of Scotch in a time of 5min 53.8sec. The boys also showed their class earlier in the month winning a bronze medal in the Open Schoolboys Eight at the

Australian Rowing Championships held in Perth. Director of Sport Anthony Lynch said the crew gained invaluable racing experience over four days at the Nationals.



After reclaiming the WA Schools Teams Racing Championships from Scotch, Christ Church secured a berth in the National Secondary Schools Team Racing Championships, held on Melbourne's Albert Park Lake in July. The team finished with a bronze medal in the tightly-contested series between the top four teams. Director of Sailing Geoff McGillivray said it was a most commendable result with any of the first four place getters a worthy winner.



The surfing team secured its third consecutive PSA title at Scarborough Beach in Term 3. Teacher in Charge of Surfing Simon Hunn said consistency, along with the boys' quick adjustment to the competition's new format, led to a convincing victory – 208 points clear of second-placed Scotch.



The Preparatory School Swimming Team remained undefeated after winning the JPSSA Swimming Carnival for the third consecutive year since the carnival's inception in 2010. Prep School Sportsmaster Brady Leckie said despite the squad being hit by illness, the boys performed bravely on the night and were rewarded for their teamwork.



New choir, more performance opportunities

The performance opportunities for Christ Church musicians increased again in 2012 with the introduction of a new CCGS/MLC Combined Choir. The choir, formed early in 2012, consisted of 20 boys and 20 girls, from Years 7 to 12. It was co-conducted by Christ Church music teacher Rhiannon Taylor and MLC's Director of Music Bobby Gallo.

Director of Music Kevin Gillam said the students went through a rigorous audition process for selection in the choir. In Term 3, the choir had its debut performance at a Senior School assembly as well as performing at the final assembly for 2012.

Along with school events, the CCGS/MLC Combined Choir will also perform at choir festivals in 2013.



The art of tomfoolery

Preparatory School boys played the fool in Term 1 as part of the iMove Physical Theatre Club's 'jestering' sessions. Over 40 boys from Years 4 to 6 learned to master the art of fooling around with international jester Jonathon De Hadeleigh.

iMove Physical Theatre Club Co-ordinator Angela Perry said the School was extremely fortunate to have an actor and teacher of Jonathon's calibre run the afterschool workshops. Jonathon has performed as a resident jester in many of the United Kingdom's most famous castles including ones seen in the Harry Potter films.

The boys learnt a range of skills including magic, sword fighting, stage combat,

jousting, town crying and general tomfoolery. One exercise included reading excerpts from *Romeo and Juliet* while incorporating their new skills into the action. Ms Perry said they also made use of Jonathon's services to help direct a fight scene for the Year 6 production of *Odyssey*, staged in September.

Second to hip hop dancing, the jestering sessions were extremely popular with the boys. "When I started the iMove club in 2007, we had 11 boys. This term we had 44.

I think the boys loved the idea of learning from someone who works in castles for a living," Ms Perry said.



Underbelly Macbeth

An underbelly retelling of *Macbeth* did not disappoint audiences who flocked to Fremantle's Metropolis nightclub for the Midnite Youth Theatre Company's first offering for 2012. Artistic Director Drew Stocker showed once again that he was not afraid to challenge his young cast and give audiences a theatrical experience – this time, part play, part real experience.

Macbeth@Metros was a deconstruction of the Shakespearean classic in a promenade-style with Macbeth a nightclub manager, Lady Macbeth his moll, the witches a punk-goth band and King Duncan a drug lord. Audiences entered the venue in small groups and travelled through four performance spaces watching live or pre-recorded scenes, before gathering in the main space for the second half, and ending in a 30-minute dance party with the nightclub in full swing.

Mr Stocker said he felt the concept of *Macbeth@Metros* showed the vitality of drama and really engaged his actors, as well as the audience. "It gave them an opportunity to perform with an unencumbered freshness rather than classical acting," he said.



Friendship forged on exchange



Bronte Sutherland (Year 10) and Cole Gayle swapped cities, schools, families and friends for a taste of life in another country as part of Christ Church's Beyond Queenslea Drive programme. Bronte jumped at the chance to go on 'immersion' for six weeks to St Christopher's in Richmond, Virginia. Cole had always wanted to come to Australia and see a kangaroo.

In the classroom, Cole said it was interesting for him to learn about Australian civil rights. "It was really interesting to learn how the Aboriginal people stood up for themselves and how the Australian and American movements mirrored each other," he said.

On the sporting field, Bronte chose baseball and lacrosse for something

completely different and enjoyed playing basketball in his free periods. At Christ Church, Cole tried his hand at rugby as he was interested to see the parallels between rugby and American football. He also went to an AFL match between Fremantle and Essendon. "I haven't tried it but it looks hard!"

In his free time, Bronte said he enjoyed learning about Virginia's history and visiting the Monticello and the Museum of Confederacy. "I also got a taste of some American colleges and walked through the University of Virginia," he said.

Both agreed it was hard to choose a highlight of their immersions. "It really is the whole experience and the people," Bronte said.

Cricket tour of a lifetime

Rain and flooding washed out five matches but it failed to dampen the 2012 UK Cricket Tour experience. Eighteen boys from Years 9 to 11 spent four weeks playing fixtures across England, Ireland and France during June and July.

The tour was the fifth of its kind with an amazing itinerary of 19 fixtures against schools, under-age clubs and adult cricket sides, as well as sightseeing experiences. Teacher in Charge of Cricket Andrew Greig said it took the boys a while to adjust to the conditions but after playing seven games in seven days, they

chalked up their first win against Felsted School.

The run of bad weather and flooding across England gave the young team, who competed mainly against 16 and 17-year-olds as well as some adult teams, plenty of opportunities for sightseeing including a chance to see restricted views of Olympic venues.

The group was the first tour to visit Ireland where they played one fixture in Belfast and two in Dublin. From Dublin to Paris, the boys played a match against the Standard Athletic Club and saw the last competition day of the Tour de France.



Meet your School Captain for 2013

He is learning to speak Japanese and trying to improve his writing and economics skills. He is a soccer player. He is aiming to become a physicist. He is friendly and optimistic. Meet Simon Swan – School Captain for 2013.

Q: What are your first memories of Christ Church?

A: My earliest memories of Christ Church are from the first couple of days of Year 5, my first year at the School. As I was becoming accustomed to the big change, a boy called Charlie introduced me to all of his friends and immediately I had found a place at Christ Church.

Q: What has been your most memorable experience at Christ Church so far?

A: There have been many amazing experiences that I can recall; through Christ Church, I was given the opportunity to go on a six-week exchange to Japan. However, something that I will never forget is tutorial each morning and getting to know the boys in other years.

Q: What has been one of your most challenging experiences?

A: Organising each week at Christ Church has been a challenge for me over the years as there are so many interesting activities and clubs on offer. I never thought I could fit so much into each day at school. Another major challenge at Christ Church was the Year 10 Venture. It was certainly exciting and a great peer bonding experience.

Q: Who have been the most influential people during your time at Christ Church?

A: From Year 5, my classmates have given me the friendly competition that has pushed me to take on more than I normally would. Not only this but the extra effort that my teachers make to show the variety of applications of our topics covered. The extra opportunities that Christ Church teachers provide have allowed me to pursue the subjects that I enjoy the most.

Q: What sort of influence has army cadets had in your school life?

A: Participating in army cadets in Years 10 and 11 has not only improved my leadership abilities and group problem solving methods, it also created fantastic camping memories and opened up a whole new group of friends in the years above and below me.

Q: What qualities do you most admire in a leader?

A: Personally, I admire leaders who have a strong determination and aren't authoritative in their nature. Leaders should be approachable and assume their position with humility.

Q: What do you think makes Christ Church different to other schools?

A: A Christ Church education is like no other. The course curriculum may be far more personalised to each boy, but in addition to this, boys at Christ Church are presented with opportunities like no other school offers. We have the options to study abroad in places like South Africa, New Zealand and Canada. Students can help out the community locally through activities like surf lifesaving, army cadets and environment and community cadets. There are dozens of activities available to each year of students; more than can be listed here. Providing these opportunities for Christ Church boys allows them to interact with the global community.

Q: What would you say to a boy who is thinking about coming to Christ Church?

A: Come to this school and take as many opportunities as you can. Regardless of your interests in life, there is a place at Christ Church for you to pursue your goals. Not only that, it's one of the most enjoyable places to grow up.



Regardless of your interests in life, there is a place at Christ Church for you to pursue your goals.

Q: You are the first Christ Church student to be offered a place in all three sciences at the Olympiad Summer School at Monash University. What role did science staff at Christ Church play in your success?

A: I started preparing for the Science Olympiads in Year 10, when my chemistry class was offered training once a week with Dr (Monica) Mackay. At first this was just for chemistry and in our small class, we covered the majority of the course in Year 10 alone. Mrs (Julie) Harris, the School's Director of Pedagogy for the first semester of 2012, also provided training for the biology exams

to three other boys and myself. Since the start of 2012, Dr (Holly) Rose assisted me with the preparation for the physics exams along with some extra help from Mr (Don) Marshall for chemistry. The success I had this year is purely a credit to the help I received from these teachers – I couldn't have done it without their help.

Leading by serving – exploring values

Taking on the new role of Director of Service Learning and Leadership, Richard Pengelley commenced mid-2012 with a focus on developing the School's next service learning programme as well as identifying and contributing towards a whole-school approach to leadership development.

On the leadership side, Father Richard has been working with staff to assess the full range of current programmes and to develop supplementary education and approaches for all Preparatory and Senior boys. The starting point is his broader definition of leadership – that is, anyone who has the opportunity to influence others. "It's very important to establish that everyone has an opportunity to lead at different times in all sorts of ways. Leadership is not just for those who have been nominated or those who have a title," he said.

Prior to Christ Church, Father Richard was Chaplain of St George's College, Sub Dean University Community and an Assistant Professor (School of Sport Science, Exercise and Health) at UWA.

He is an ordained Anglican priest, a Canon of St George's Cathedral, a former high school PE teacher, school chaplain and parish priest. He has conducted research in educational and sports mentoring and is a dual Olympian (1984 and 1988 men's water polo teams, who he captained on occasions), who still plays and coaches socially. Father Richard is also the Chair of the Special Olympics WA Board, Chair of the Board of True Blue Dreaming (an organisation that links UWA students to educationally disadvantaged youth in the Kimberley and Wheatbelt in mentoring relationships), and a board member of the WA Institute of Sport. These enable the opportunity to see, influence and practise many different styles of leadership.

The culmination of these experiences will be a leadership approach that steers away from a traditional, rather masculine top down approach. "My focus will be on the exploration of values, especially compassion, empathy and promoting emotional intelligence and moral courage among each age group. I want every boy to consciously identify their own values and understand what it takes to live by them," he said.

Father Richard is working with the school community to continue the tradition of bringing in a wide range of speakers to talk about their 'warts and all' real-life experiences. "I want to use examples that are close to home for the boys – from children standing up for what is right, to adults who can reflect on experiences of success and failure," he said.

Examples of leadership will be explored through formalised mentoring training, as well as significant Christ Church 'rites of

passage' moments such as service learning (Service in Action, the successor programme to the Pilgrimage of Hope) outdoor education and cadet experiences.

Father Richard will work with the Chaplain Canon Frank Sheehan and other staff in presenting the Personal and Spiritual Development curriculum in the Senior School. He will also support the Prep School's Positive Relationships Plan and use Monday morning chapel services as an opportunity to build on themes that will continue into the Senior School. He also looks forward to leading the boarding community's chapel programme and conducting half of the House Chapel services as the Assistant to the Chaplain. He will also continue one of his great loves and coach the Year 8 and 9A water polo teams.



'The Quest' is best



Since 2010, the Preparatory School has been developing a socio-emotional learning programme to help boys manage 'big feelings' constructively, thereby improving resilience and enabling less anxiety about playtime and friendship issues. World leading research shows this in turn facilitates better academic outcomes because the boys are less distracted by uncomfortable situations and teaching staff are able to focus on academic development. More importantly, students are happier and better equipped to handle social challenges, both of which are significant advantages that help people succeed in life.

Director of Pastoral, Planning and Co-curricular (Deputy Head) for the Preparatory School, Wayne Revitt, says the School has moved well beyond anti-bullying policies and language, towards a broader focus on fostering positive relationships. "We don't tolerate any bullying and have well-established disciplinary approaches to discourage them. However, rather than taking a purely punitive or negative approach, we have tapped into the growing movement for dedicated educational

approaches that promote positive behaviours," Mr Revitt said.

"Through world-leading programmes that are proven to be effective, such as Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (known as PATHS) and Aussie Optimism, we are building self-awareness and teaching coping strategies for the boys to avoid expressing their uncomfortable feelings in negative ways. The progress of the boys through these programmes has been exceptional. Every day I see boys reflect on themselves in situations and hear them use language that shows an awareness of their behavior and implications." *See Pages 6 and 7 for an interesting case study about a Year 2 class using PATHS for a football challenge.*

In 2011 and 2012, the School has also developed, trialed, refined and expanded a competitive reward and recognition framework to encourage positive behaviours. Based on the concept of games and rules that boys typically enjoy, this programme has been known to staff and parents as the Positive Relationships Plan.

In 2013, the Positive Relationships Plan is taking a leap further into the language of boys – of competitive quests and personal bests. 'The Champion Quest' is the new name for the reward and recognition framework and 'the Christ Church Champion' is a character at the heart of this boy-focused mission. Each boy will collect green cards (based on positive behaviours), which will also be recorded in his 'passport' so he can chart his progress towards bronze, silver and gold award levels. Recognition and distinctive prizes are the riches for boys who have achieved each level – from certificates and Champion stickers, through to the pinnacle – a special lunch with the Headmaster!



Prep School celebrates NAIDOC Week

Chantal Hockey's Year 3 class led NAIDOC Week celebrations in the Preparatory School this year. The boys' assembly presentation was a celebration and showcase of their history and geography inquiry into Australian indigenous cultures, particularly the Noongar culture, and the importance of the river and land that Christ Church was built on.

The boys performed a dreamtime story about the black swan, incorporating masks made during a drama incursion, as well as a dance with help from local indigenous artist Phil Walley-Stack, who sang about the land and the river, and played the didgeridoo.

Phil and Alton Walley, who founded the Boodja Gnarning 'Living off the Land' Trail at Kings Park, ran storytelling and didgeridoo sessions with boys from Pre-Primary to Year 6 during NAIDOC Week.

The School's indigenous students also led Prep School boys through the 2012 Indigenous Student Art Exhibition. The senior students talked to the boys about the animals and symbolism used in their paintings. The young, captive audience asked lots of questions about dot painting through to hunting mud crabs.



Indigenous boys showcase their culture



The Senior School celebrated NAIDOC Week with a host of activities led by Indigenous Programme Co-ordinator Jamie Foster and the School's 23 indigenous students. While the 2012 Indigenous Student Art Exhibition, opened by noted businesswoman, philanthropist and 'national treasure' Janet Holmes á Court AC, was a highlight – all boys had a chance to engage in lunchtime events and recognise its significance at a NAIDOC Week assembly.

The opening of the exhibition, titled 'Young Dreamings', drew a large gathering of the school community to appreciate the original artwork created by the indigenous boys. Mrs Holmes á Court spoke about the history of and her commitment to NAIDOC Week, and praised the boys for their remarkable artwork, as well as the School and staff for their commitment to the Indigenous Student Programme.

The boys, who are predominantly from the Kimberley region, took part in a series of after school workshops to create the paintings inspired by their homelands. Art teacher Gisela Züchner-Mogall, who led the

project together with Mr Foster, said she was delighted by the boys' response and engagement to the art sessions.

Year 7 student Rahamat Bin Bakar's brightly coloured painting of his "best battle with a mulloway" reflected his love of fishing. "Since I have been in Perth, I have not caught anything in the Swan River except blowies. But whenever I have free time back in Broome – I like to go hunting for fish either on our dinghy or the big jetty at the port in Broome. I usually go fishing with my dad, who taught me to hunt, but he doesn't go fishing as much anymore as I'm not there to help with the boat."

The guest speaker at this year's assembly was Noongar elder Noel Nannup, an adjunct professor at ECU's Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research. Dr Nannup performed a 'Welcome to Country' and talked about the thousands of generations of Aboriginal boys who had taken their rite of passage on the land where Christ Church stands. "Nothing has changed – this is still a finishing school for boys today," he said.



Kura Shioji (Year 9), Caiden Curtin (Year 9) and Joseph Pedley (Year 8) gave the School an insight into some of the differences and challenges between life at home and life at Christ Church before an indigenous student band and friends performed a rendition of the Warumpi Band's *Black fella/White fella*.

Other activities during the week included an indigenous boys versus staff basketball game, a 'traditional feed' for the residential community, a free dress day and kangaroo kebab barbecue to raise money for the Indigenous Communities Education and Awareness (ICEA) Foundation and a lunchtime performance by the Bartlett Brothers.

At home on the farm

A group of 12 boarders, along with Director of the Residential Community Geoff Guggenheimer and Years 9 and 10 Residential Co-ordinator David Proudlove, were part of the inaugural 'Weekend in the Wheatbelt'. The weekend was an opportunity for Years 8 to 10 boys and residential staff to visit three farms in 48 hours.

The farms, located at the southern edge of the Wheatbelt, belonged to Maxine and Peter McKenzie (Michael, Year 10) at Queerearup, Jacquie and Adrian South (Zac, Year 8 and Nick, Year 10) at Bowelling, and Megan and Andrew Pauley (Chris, Year 9) on the outskirts of Pingelly.

Mr Proudlove said the group received overwhelming hospitality at each farm. "More memorable was the pride and passion these families radiated when talking of the challenges they had faced, and overcome, in the recent and more distant



past, and their commitment to a future working in rural WA," he said.

Their experiences on the farms ranged from catching yabbies and paddock golf, to enjoying roast lamb cooked in a soil-covered pit over hot pieces of railway track, and sorting and loading five ewes among a herd of 97 merino sheep into a waiting ute.

Hosts Mr and Mrs South complimented the Residential Community on the initiative. "It was a pleasure to have everyone come and visit and the boys were a credit to themselves, their families and the School. We were impressed by their maturity and attitude... some great young men in the making."

Lessons for lads



In Term 4, Years 7 and 8 boarders participated in a pilot programme designed for boys by the Becoz Project, an organisation that runs youth health, wellbeing and leadership programmes. Years 7 and 8 Residential Co-ordinator Jason Lamb said the LAD (Learn and Develop) programme included six sessions promoting leadership and self-esteem in teenage boys.

"The programme aims to give the boys basic skills in a language that is interesting and engaging. It provides clear facts about behaviours, perceptions and consequences while building confidence to make informed choices," he said.

The evening sessions ranged from organisational skills, resilience and physical wellbeing to emotional intelligence and managing your personal brand on social media.

Facilitator Katherine Hazlewood said she was amazed with the boys' level of engagement in the programme. "I was really impressed with their feedback during the topic 'how you brand yourself online'. When you look through their LAD pads, most of them have put considerable thought into what they write down and how it relates to them," she said.

Curtis Bett (Year 8) said: "We had to think of five things we weren't good at, such as sport or a language. Then we got up in front of the group, said them out loud and asked if anyone could help us."

Brodie Albert (Year 7) said: "We learned about our 'wolf pack', which is friends that have the qualities you like," he said.

Rock and water

In Terms 2 and 3, Year 9 boarders learned some new skills to help cope with the psychological and physical challenges of everyday life. New to Christ Church, the Rock and Water programme aims to teach boys to deal with power, strength and powerlessness using elements of martial arts.

Years 9 and 10 Residential Co-ordinator David Proudlove, who ran group sessions once a week after dinner and prep after completing a three-day workshop on the programme, said the boys used elements of martial arts training to learn calmness, balance, awareness and how best to respond to others. "The concept is most simply that of a recognition of the tough, immovable rock attitude to issues and

challenges, versus the mobile, communicative water attitude," he said.

Max Evans said he enjoyed the programme. "It is really interesting learning about breathing and how bending your knees lowers your centre of gravity. It makes it much harder for someone to push you around if your centre of gravity is low," Max said.

Kura Shioji and George Thubron said they employed some of the techniques when playing sport. Kura and George, both

football players, said they had used the centering technique to calm down and think during a game.



Willy makes inaugural team

In April, Year 10 boarder Willy Hart represented WA at the inaugural Australian Indigenous Athletics Championships in Melbourne. Willy, who is from Kununurra, competed in the Under 15 Javelin event alongside 100 of the country's best indigenous track and field athletes at Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park.

Willy began boarding at Christ Church in 2012 as a member of the School's Indigenous Student Programme. He was selected in the inaugural WA side after a successful run at the 2011 WA All Schools Track and Field Championships, where he impressed metropolitan coaches after finishing second in the Under 14 Javelin.

As well as competing in a world-class venue, he attended a ceremony at the Korin Gamadji Institute at Punt Road Oval, participated in coaching workshops run by elite athletes, nutritional classes and leadership workshops.



Boys try their hand

Over 70 children with disabilities from schools around Perth participated in a Special Olympics event held at Christ Church in Term 4. The students, including boys from the Senior and Preparatory Peter Moyes Centre (PMC), were encouraged to try their hand at different sports for a day.

The students 'had a go' at softball, cricket, soccer and swimming, led by representatives from sports associations including the WACA and WA Surf Lifesaving. The event also encouraged children to access their local sports clubs.

Director of Service Learning and Leadership Richard Pengelley, a former Olympian, addressed the audience while WA Special Olympics athlete and Christ Church old boy Matt Calkin (Class of 2001) helped carry the torch.

The event is part of the Special Olympics Community-Sports Link programme – an initiative developed to introduce children with disabilities to sports.



Prehistoric fun

In July, Preparatory Peter Moyes Centre (PMC) boys came face-to-face with the Erth Dinosaur Petting Zoo at the WA Museum. PMC teacher Lisa Meiers said the Prep PMC, along with all Year 4 boys, caught the train into the city to feed, pat and cuddle the life-like theatrical puppets.



Miss Meiers said Thomas Andrews (3GH) was invited on stage and even pulled out a dinosaur's tooth. At the end of the show, everyone was able to pat the baby dinosaurs. She said the boys also enjoyed the museum's discovery centre and their visit to the musical playground outside.

"They all really enjoyed the excursion and the highlight for them was when Thomas was chosen to pat the big dinosaur," she said. After the museum, the boys bought their own lunch in the Carillon Food Court and enjoyed the train ride home.

PMC prepares lunch for tutors

Senior Peter Moyes Centre (PMC) boys treated teachers to a special lunch in Term 2. The boys invited their tutors to the centre to enjoy a meal they prepared as part of their weekly cooking lesson.

PMC teacher Amanda Fernihough said it was the first time the centre had hosted the lunch. "The boys really enjoy their cooking sessions so we thought it would be nice to invite their tutors and prepare lunch for them," she said.

The boys made sandwiches, quiches and brownies as well as serving sausage rolls and party pies. They also prepared a cup of tea or coffee for their invited guest.



Miss Fernihough said cooking and baking were an important and highly enjoyable part of developing the boys' independent living skills.

Present in the moment

For Year 6 boys Jack Beaman, Tristan Chandraratna and Callum Dunning, experiencing life at the Panti Asuhan Orphanage, on the Pilgrimage of Hope (POH) to Bali, enriched their young lives in many ways.

The group of boys, and mostly mothers, spent over a week offering service at the orphanage, run by three Sisters of the Franciscan Order and home to children from impoverished families, those who have been neglected or have no parents. Service work included cleaning, painting, gardening and general maintenance.

While Tristan found cleaning the boys' toilets and wrangling with a large spider a challenge, Callum and Jack were very proud of building a king size bed. "It wasn't a kit bed either – we sawed, sanded and drilled it all ourselves and it now it sleeps three girls," Jack said.

Tristan, whose dad accompanied him, said it was great to spend time together. "Dad has to work and go on conferences... so it was really nice to have him there," he said.

Jack said: "It was a good bonding time with my mum. Often I go out with dad to the

movies and sporting events so it was nice to do this with her."

On what the experience taught them, Callum said: "Be present to what you are doing and don't think about what's happening next week."

Jack said: "You don't need electronic devices to be happy. The kids at the orphanage have a TV and computers but hardly use them. They are still really happy."



Future of service learning

Christ Church looks forward to launching the next phase in its service learning programme in 2013 after the success of the Pilgrimage of Hope (POH) initiative.

Director of Service Learning and Leadership Canon Richard Pengelley said while POH, introduced by former staff member Brother James as his commission from Mother Theresa, had come to an end at Christ Church – the School's multi-faceted and comprehensive programme would continue to grow in many ways.

The emerging model, called Service in Action, has been enhanced by input from many people within the school community. "I think it is crucial that Christ Church, and the schools that we partner with, continue to offer local, national and international opportunities to learn through service," Father Richard said.

In 2013, the School plans to continue offering service trips to Alice Springs, Fiji, Bali and Nepal. Other possibilities include working with the Cambodian Children's Fund, indigenous health

pools in WA, indigenous mentoring with UWA students in the West Kimberley and local service opportunities with Special Olympians.

... opportunities to learn through service

Chief Scientist shares possibilities

In the lead up to National Science Week, the Centre for Ethics presented a talk by Chief Scientist of WA Lyn Beazley AO. Professor Beazley addressed all Year 10 boys – giving them an insight into some of the many opportunities in science and engineering in WA.

Head of Science Michael Masterton said Professor Beazley spoke to the cohort at a critical time in their academic lives, as they considered subject selections for Years 11 and 12, as well as possible career paths. He said her messages, of the importance of science, technology and engineering to our lives, economy and prosperity, were well received by the boys.

“Professor Beazley talked about some of the exciting opportunities in the areas of science technology and computing, focusing on the Square Kilometre Array and its massive demands for computational power once constructed,” he said.

“She talked about alternative energy sources and how Karratha has been identified as one of the best sites in the world for the establishment of a biofuel production facility using algae.”

Professor Beazley also made reference to Merredin’s wind farm and elaborated on the significance of the oil, gas and mining sectors to WA and the exciting new technologies being developed by WA scientists and companies.

Professor Beazley spoke to the cohort at a critical time in their academic lives, as they considered subject selections



Oration on election ethics

The Centre for Ethics continued to bring a wide and varied range of inspiring, challenging and thought-provoking people to Christ Church this year through its highly regarded guest speaker programme.

The 2012 Canon Frank Sheehan Oration was this year presented by Ken Chern, former United States Consul General in Perth and now the Executive Director of the Swinburne Leadership Institute in Melbourne. More than 350 people attended the talk at which Dr Chern gave a masterful address on the ethical issues of the forthcoming US election, speaking about the rise of the Tea Party and the Occupy Wall Street movement.

Director of the Centre for Ethics Canon Frank Sheehan said Dr Chern focused on the politics of entitlement and the decline of trust in American institutions,

and the need for a more adult conversation in the US media. "The sustained ovation following Dr Chern's words gave an indication of the appreciation for this brilliant oration," Father Sheehan said.

Dr Chern returned to Christ Church in November to give another address on the re-election of Barack Obama and its implications.

The Centre for Ethics, directed by Canon Sheehan and administered by Teresa Scott, was established to engage boys in the community's conversation on ethics and spirituality, bringing the wider world into the School through lectures, workshops, newsletters and guests speakers. Through its name, the oration celebrates one of the School's most eminent personalities

and all that he has brought to Christ Church over his 26 years of service.

Other highlights of the speakers' programme in 2012, which had a strong student focus during the National Year of Reading, included book launches by Robert Drewe and Mary and Elizabeth Durack, as well as talks from writer and lawyer Alice Pung and Ashlee Uren from Global Poverty.



Boys find serenity on retreat

Father Frank Sheehan believes making the journey from the busyness of Christ Church to the serenity of New Norcia's Benedictine Monastery for the Year 11 retreats is important. "In a sense, the retreat starts when we board the buses," Father Frank said.

The boys are shown around the town and monastery, and also visit the museum. Life coach Susie Ascott led the boys in yoga and meditation sessions while Dom Chris talked to the group about the life of a Benedictine monk. "Dom Chris always manages to be warm and welcoming as he introduces the boys to the unusual world of monasticism," he said.

During the retreat Director of Service Learning and Leadership Canon Richard Pengelley talked about manhood and spirituality. "Father Richard spoke in a very thoughtful and challenging way and for many of the boys, the penny seemed to drop," Father Frank said.

Father Frank, who organises the retreats each year, said it was a great privilege to visit New Norcia and be reminded that for 1,500 years, men and women have followed the rules set out by Saint Benedict as monks and nuns devoted themselves to prayer and hospitality. "Something of this touches all who come to this monastic village and leaves us with useful religious questions with which to wrestle," he said.

Rewarded with OAM for service to youth



Courtesy of the Community Newspaper Group.

The 2012 Australia Day Honours List included Christ Church's own Mick O'Sullivan, who was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his service to youth, particularly the School's Army Cadet Unit.

The citation read: 'His dedication and efforts have had a significant impact on

the School and many individual students. The energy and enthusiasm for the students and cadets has resulted in the best cadet unit in the State.'

Mr O'Sullivan, who has worked with Christ Church for 23 years and as Army Cadet Co-ordinator since 2004, said he was thoroughly embarrassed by all the attention around the award. "I feel so fortunate to have been employed at Christ Church doing exactly what I love doing that it is amazing to be rewarded in another way with this honour," he said.

"What I love about my work is how we can help guide and influence young men with some really useful life skills around leadership, being part of a team and taking responsibility. It has been such a privilege to help guide a number of our cadets towards careers in the Australian Defence Forces (ADF)."

Mr O'Sullivan said the ADF regarded Christ Church's cadet unit very highly for recruitment. "Our graduates have a very good success rate and it is also rewarding that so many have stayed in close contact over the years. It's always terrific to hear about their success," he said.

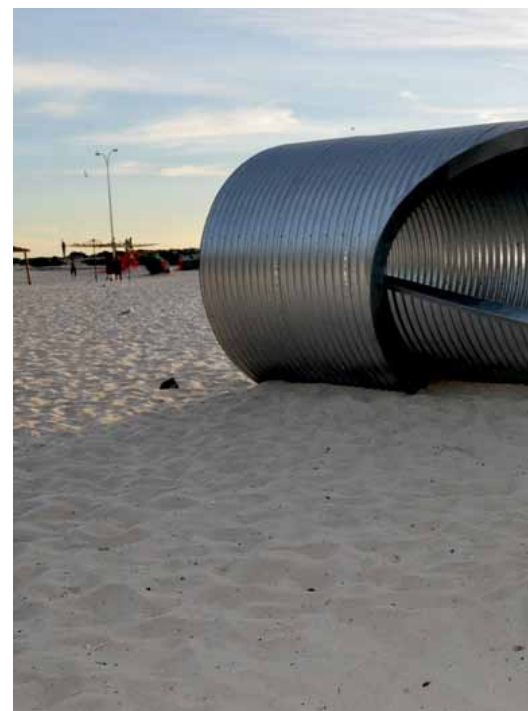
Headmaster Garth Wynne said he was honoured to contribute a submission in support of Mick's nomination: "As a result of Mr O'Sullivan's work at the School, the cadet unit has been the most successful in Western Australia for many years. In addition, through his remarkable example and engaging personality and leadership style, Mr O'Sullivan is considered by me to be directly responsible for guiding and nurturing many young men into a military career, be that in the regular Army or Reserves. There are many officers within the ADF who cite his support and encouragement as key to their successful military career. By his nature and his willingness to serve and give to others, Mr O'Sullivan has become one of the most highly respected members of our school community."

Mr O'Sullivan served in the Australian Army for 20 years and later became a Regimental Sergeant Major responsible for the training of young officers. He received his OAM at Parliament House in May – almost 40 years to the day after receiving a medal for service in the Vietnam War.

Teacher's nostalgic sculpture by the sea

In March, throngs of people descended on Cottesloe Beach to take in the popular Sculpture by the Sea exhibition. Among the works on display was a sculpture by Christ Church art teacher Jean-Marc Rivalland.

Mr Rivalland, who started at Christ Church in late 2011, was no stranger to the exhibition. His past entries have been crowd pleasers and his 2012 entry, a rusted HZ Holden panel van sculpture-cum-sarcophagus, turned heads at Bondi's Sculpture by the Sea.





His 2007 entry was the popular *Old Rules, New Rules*, a giant floating eight-ball, while his 2010 entry, *Breaking Wave*, earned him the 2010 \$15,000 NAB WA Sculptor Scholarship. His 2012 piece taps into the nostalgia of driving to Cottesloe Beach in his panel van in his younger years and going for surf.

While not exhibiting in 2012, design and technology technician David Kenworthy has also had his work on show – his quirky piece *Modular Wadjulla*, a collection of bright plastic garbage bins that glow in the dark at night, was part of the 2011 exhibition.



Motivational coach

In 2012, physical education teacher Rebecca Greenaway became one of a small number of women to coach at Firsts level in the PSA (Public Schools' Association) competition.

Director of Sport Anthony Lynch said Mrs Greenaway, a former State under 21 hockey player and level 1 accredited coach, had taken the role and made it hers.

"Bec is incredibly organised, passionate about sport and the boys. She also knows hockey inside and out and reached a high level in her own playing career," he said.

Mrs Greenaway said fun, success and challenge, along with coaches who are passionate and want to succeed motivate boys. "I think it also helped that I am a highly competitive person," she said.

Mr Lynch said it was great for the boys to see a strong female coach like Mrs Greenaway. "Bec is one of the most motivating coaches at Christ Church and the boys really responded well to her being in charge of a senior team. If you look at the development of the Firsts team, as the season progressed, they started to play to a consistently high standard as a more cohesive unit. In Round 14, the team beat Hale, who was the eventual 2012 PSA champions," he said.

In an interesting twist, Mrs Greenaway's husband Kane was the opposing coach of the Hale First XI.

Mr Lynch also acknowledged other female staff members who coached individual teams in 2012, including Jasmine Head (8B Soccer), Lia de Sousa (Seconds Tennis), Sharyn Bana (Thirds Tennis) and Melanie Hastie (Fourth Tennis).

... coaches who are passionate and want to succeed motivate boys.



Staff share passion for reading

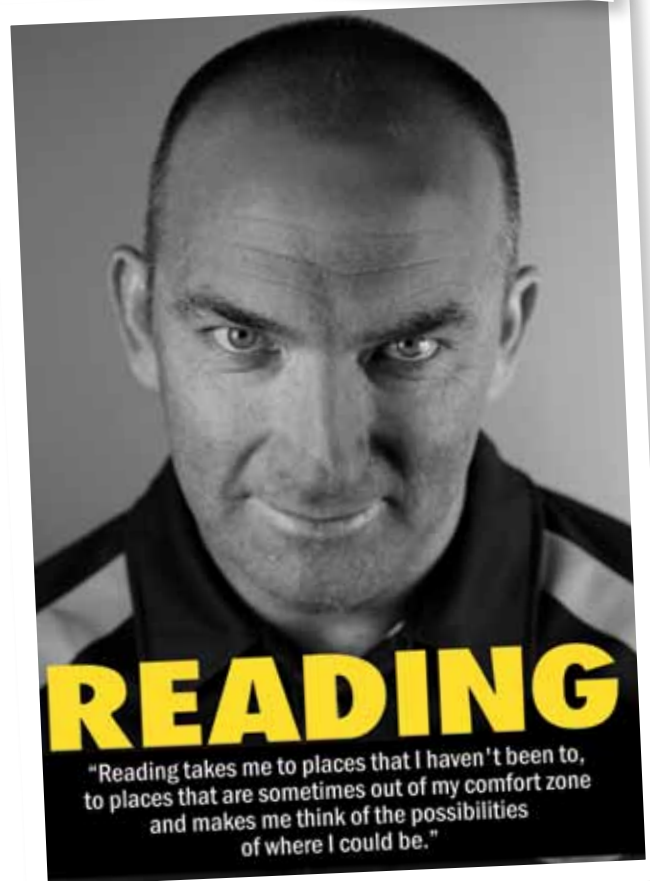
The National Year of Reading was in full swing at Christ Church during 2012 with Senior and Preparatory boys and staff taking part in a calendar full of events. With an emphasis on fun, Senior School teacher librarian Greg Lindorff said the activities were designed to remind people of all ages of the enjoyment of reading for pleasure.

Mr Lindorff said the libraries used a 'gaming' format to help promote the campaign. "The School's National Year of Reading user manuals were designed as gaming books loaded with activities to encourage boys to talk to others about what they were reading, become involved more with the library itself, and to read more," he said.

Prep School Teacher Librarian Mary Hookey said posters of 'Champion Readers' – staff sharing their favourite books from childhood and why they enjoyed reading, as well as 'Mystery Readers' – one of many 'side quests', encouraged boys to talk about books.

Boys were also read to by staff from one of their favourite books. In the Senior School they included English teacher Simon Hunn, who made a convincing Gollum while reading from *The Hobbit*; science teacher Katy Brooks who read the beginning of *The BFG*; and Head of Drama Drew Stocker, who performed the Vogon poetry scene from *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.

Headmaster Garth Wynne read the sorting hat sequence from *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* in both the Prep and Senior schools. Prep Headmaster Richard Wright read Dr Seuss's *Green Eggs and Ham*; Assistant Director of Pedagogy Barbara Bosich chose *The Sea People* by Jorg Muller; and Learning Development Centre Co-ordinator Melanie Wallis read Roald Dahl's *Boy*.



From the Chairman



The School Council has been continuing to work with the School Executive on refining and monitoring the strategic plan of the School to deliver benefits to our current and future students. We are very pleased with the energy and progress in the key areas of concentration – the motivation of boys and staff, and enhancing the international perspective and diversity of our school population and what we offer. The council is focused on the momentum of these

themes as well as the financial security and development of the physical environment, to support the education programme.

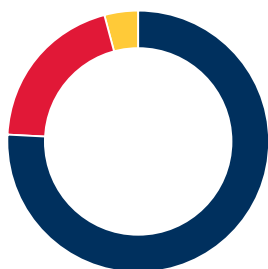
This year we welcomed a new member to the council, Mrs Lyn Matthews. On behalf of the council I also wish to acknowledge the leadership of the Headmaster Garth Wynne, who is supported by a most effective senior management team. The academic and support staff members are also

to be complemented on their contribution to the boys and the School.

The School prepares a 'Special Purpose Financial Report' annually which is audited by Deloitte. The 2011 audit was completed and the council presented with an unqualified audit report. Some of the key components of this report are outlined below.

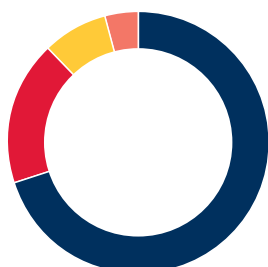
David Fardon
Chairman of Council

2011 Operating Income



Private Fees 76%
Federal & State Grants 20%
Other 4%

2011 Operating Expenditure



Staff Costs 70%
Student Programme 18%
Property & Maintenance 8%
General Expenses 4%

Staff and student numbers

During 2012, the School employed 156 full-time teaching staff and 86 full-time non-teaching staff. These staff supported an enrolment of 1,586 students – 490 in the Preparatory School and 1,096 in the Senior School. This enrolment included 108 boarders and 16 full-fee overseas students.

Operating revenue

The School's primary source of income is from tuition and boarding fees, which represent 76 per cent of total recurrent operating incomes. Government grants contribute 20 per cent and the balance of the School's income (4 per cent) is from application fees, trading activities, investments and contributions from the School's Foundation.

Operating expenditure

The School's core item of expenditure is staff salaries and related on-costs, which accounts for 70 per cent of total recurrent expenditure. Student programme costs represent 15 per cent of overall expenditure and include the academic, pastoral, co-curricular and boarding programmes. The property and maintenance area expended 8 per cent on items that included cleaning, maintenance, utilities and depreciation on buildings and plant. General and administration expenses made up the remaining 7 per cent.

Capital expenditure and debt

The School has been able to manage an extensive capital programme over the past decade without launching a specific capital campaign. The annual provision for

depreciation of property, plant and equipment has been applied for this purpose. The average debt per student in 2012 was approximately \$5,000, which is considered conservative among our peer schools.

The refurbishment of S Block in the Senior School commenced in July 2011, and has now been in use since August 2012. A number of small capital works projects were completed during 2011/12 including the upgrade of the Preparatory School office refurbishment, and the final stage of the refurbishment of the senior campus, which commenced in October 2012 and is scheduled for completion in mid 2013. The School continues to progress the Brockway playing fields development through funding support from the Foundation.

Expert tips for boys and parents

Once again, the Parents' Association enabled boys and parents to connect with some of the country's leading experts in their fields.

In Term 2, Christ Church welcomed leading expert on the role gender plays in child development and education, Leonard Sax. Dr Sax spoke separately to boys and parents on the traps associated with video games and social networking, and to staff about the characteristics of great teachers of boys.

At the evening talk for parents, titled 'I Can't Stop My Son Playing Call of Duty and Facebook Ate My Daughter', Dr Sax answered parents' questions on the effects on teens of growing up in virtual worlds. Lynn Matthews, mother of Mark (Year 9) and a member of School Council, said the session was very different to the talk she had seen two years ago at MLC.

"His research on this gap between the real and virtual world is very cutting-edge and quite confronting at times. Dr Sax presents his findings so gently but he is not afraid of telling it like it is."

Dr Sax said he loved coming to a school like Christ Church where he could stand up in front of a group of Year 10 students and they had the confidence to answer his questions honestly.

Other presenters included regular visitors to the School, Australian drug and alcohol researcher Paul Dillon; renowned child and adolescent psychologist Michael Carr-Gregg; and Celia Lashlie, bestselling author of *He'll Be Ok: Growing Gorgeous Boys Into Good Men*.



Dance boosts confidence

Christ Church and MLC students honed their social dancing skills in Term 1 thanks to a new initiative funded by the Christ Church Parents' Association. About 40 boys and girls enjoyed after school lessons, which aimed to help build boys' confidence prior to socials in Term 2. The students completed six lessons led by Gilkisons Dance Studio and held in the School's Gymnasium Precinct after school.

Parents' Association President David Payne said the committee had acted on a request by parents to offer lessons to the boys. "The committee was delighted to support this initiative and worked with the School to find appropriate dates and times in the Year 9 and 10 boys' busy calendar," Mr Payne said.



Parents' Association

The Parents' Association had another busy year supporting the school community in a variety of ways. These initiatives included funding speakers relevant to child and adolescent development, dance classes for Years 9 and 10, parenting workshops for all age groups (run by Anglicare), special grants for Artist-in-Residence programmes and organising parent sundowners linked to information sessions relevant for the students' year levels.

The association derives its income from annual parent subscriptions, the fees raffle and profits from both the Uniform Shop and Canteen. This year, the association contributed to a number of additional projects to enhance boys' experiences at Christ Church. The most significant was a commitment to contribute \$400,000 to the Refectory redevelopment to be completed in 2013, as well as the purchase of three pacers, new timers and blocks for the swimming pool and a pizza oven for Koorngal.

Engaging with parents

In Term 1, Preparatory School parents attended parent forums on the social-emotional support programmes along with the Christ Church Pedagogy.

The forums, which were held in year level groups aligned with the School's Phases of Learning, were presented by Head of the LW Parry Preparatory School Richard Wright, Director of Pastoral, Co-Curricular and Planning Wayne Revitt and year group learning co-ordinators.

Mr Revitt explained the two social-emotional support programmes operating within the Prep School including PATHS, from Pre-Primary to Year 4, and Aussie Optimism, for Years 4 to 6.

Mr Wright talked about the themes emerging from the Christ Church Pedagogy, which were key to consistently motivating boys. The parent briefing sessions provided the context of the work, the overview of the approach and the recommended actions for parents and boys – 'an instruction toolkit' to help parents support their boys' learning.



Serious money raised for a serious cause

In September, the Parents' Auxiliary spring fashion parade raised more than \$10,000 for Fremantle Headspace – a centre providing mental health and wellbeing support services to young people and their families. Christ Church mothers and Year 12 boys modelled fashions from local stores for the annual fundraising event.

President of the Parents' Auxiliary Janet Brogan said the event had been highly successful in bringing the Christ Church community together, across the year groups and across the generations, while raising funds and a greater awareness of youth mental health and the vital resources and assistance provided by Headspace.

Sandover Hall was transformed into a shimmering spring garden where an enthusiastic audience enjoyed an evening of fashion, food, fun and fundraising for a worthy cause. The Art Committee also designed and modelled their own T-shirts that were raffled to lucky winners on the night.

Headspace offers free, confidential early intervention and prevention services to young people, aged 12 to 25, with issues including mental and general physical health, sexuality, family and relationships, drugs and alcohol, education and training, and accommodation.



We thank our donors

We are delighted to celebrate and thank all contributors to the Christmas Giving appeal for 2011 and the Annual Giving appeal for 2012, who have generously supported the building and scholarship funds.

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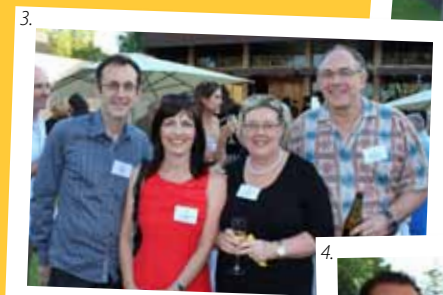
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1. Karen Hay, David Morgan, David Hay and Fiona Morgan.
2. Keiran and Amanda Wulff, Sue and Steve Ward.
3. Brian and Maggie Cleary and Fiona and Matthew Sheminant.
4. Damione Wright, Nathan and Eileen Roost and Sharon Wright.
5. Lee and John Saleeba, Joanne and Aaron Constantine.
6. Margaret and Berkeley Allen and John Harriott.
7. Allan Wynne and Dishan and Aruni Weerasooriya.



Indigenous scholars meet benefactors

Boys from the Indigenous Student Programme met with the benefactors responsible for their scholarships during 2012.

In Term 1, Roger and Margaret Vines and Ross and Jeannine Ashton had morning tea with Headmaster Garth Wynne, Indigenous Programme Co-ordinator Jamie Foster and the two indigenous scholars they support, Richard Taylor (Year 12) and Gerry Ansey (Year 8).

The purpose of the meeting was for the Vines and the Ashtons to meet the boys, hear about their experiences firsthand and to find out more about the programme.

Mr and Mrs Vines established the Vines Family Indigenous Scholarship in 2007 to support an indigenous boy in the School each year, in perpetuity. Mr and Mrs Ashton established the Ashton Family

Indigenous Scholarship for the same purpose in 2010. The Centenary Indigenous Scholarship Fund, which was created by the School and endorsed by the Australian Tax Office to provide tax deductibility, manages these two significant gifts.

In 2011, the School reconnected with old boy Graham Maskiell (Class of 1968). Mr Maskiell, who had been living in Brisbane for many years, and his wife appeared as major donors to the Centenary fund.

In July 2012, Mr Maskiell visited Christ Church and met with Mr Foster and indigenous students Aiden Albert (Year 12), Joseph Pedley (Year 8) and Lawrence Evans (Year 11). He also had an opportunity to view the NAIDOC Week art exhibition. Aiden presented Mr Maskiell with a gift of a small artwork he had painted.

In 2012, there were 23 boys in the Indigenous Student Programme from Years 7 to 12. There are many opportunities for scholarship support and Mr Wynne encouraged anyone in the school community who is interested in supporting this programme to make contact with him.

"Bringing the boys together with these generous benefactors is rewarding for us all. It goes to show how mutually beneficial such sponsorship can be – the sponsors feel great satisfaction at how the boys are developing here and the students are able to get to know the people funding their educational opportunity. The programme enriches our community in so many ways and we'd love more support towards making a difference for the boys," Mr Wynne said.



Old boy 'legends' inspire new generation

In Term 4, the Old Boys' Association (OBA) presented its 2012 gift to the School at a special assembly. The gift was a series of large, pictorial biographies honouring 12 exceptional old boys, who stood out in their endeavour and demonstrated the values of courage, fortitude, service and creativity.

The 'roll call' was impressive as the 2013 School Prefects read citations of each featured old boy, and Year 6 students presented the men with a smaller, framed version of the artwork. The old boy achievers were:

- Sir William Heseltine GCB** (Class of 1946) – Private Secretary to the Queen
- Jon Sanders AO OBE** (1955) – yachtsman
- Tony Jones OAM** (1962) – sculptor
- Sir Rod Eddington AO** (1967) – business leader
- Dr Ric Charlesworth AM** (1969) – chronic achiever
- Wayne Martin AC** (1969) – Chief Justice

- Prof Peter Leedman** (1974) – physician and scientist
- Major General Craig Williams AM** (1974) – Commander 2nd Division
- Andrew Geoghegan** (1982) – journalist
- Josh Hofer OAM** (1991) – Paralympic swimming champion
- Bill Kirby OAM** (1992) – Olympic swimming champion
- Matthew Gabriele** (1997) – mountaineer

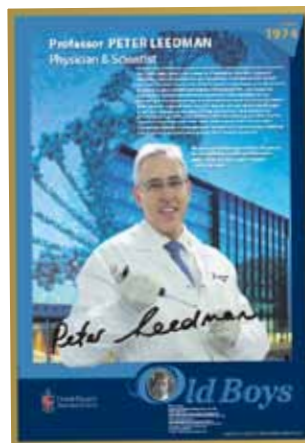
The project was the initiative of Headmaster Garth Wynne and the OBA. OBA President Hamish Jolly (1983) said the aim was to select old boys across all disciplines and in areas that might be meaningful to all boys.

Project managers Adam Collins (1987) and Tom Nattrass (1993), both executive members of the OBA Committee, and graphic designer Paul Drok (1969), saw the

project through to its successful completion, with each artwork reflecting the individual style of each old boy.

Sir William made an address on behalf of the 12 old boys, encouraging boys to accept the opportunities and challenges that came along, just as he had done. "You never know where it will lead you," Sir William said.

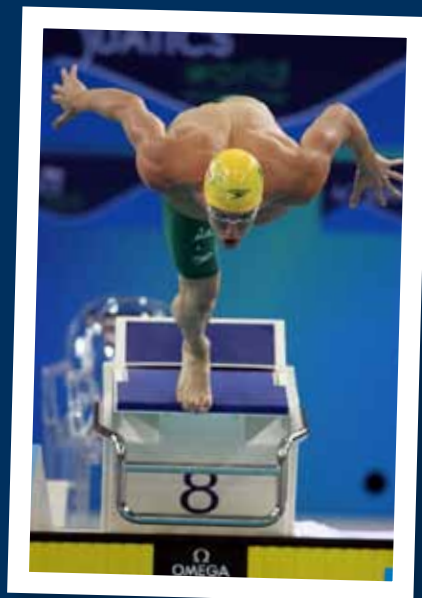
The framed biographies will be hung around the School for all boys to contemplate and absorb.



Courtesy of The West Australian.

Old boy Olympians

Christ Church was proud to have three old boy competitors in the 2012 Olympic Games in London – one a debutant, one a coach and seasoned veteran and one hoping to turn a world champion title into Olympic gold.



Tommaso D'Orsogna (Class of 2007)

Tommaso D'Orsogna made his Olympic debut as a heat swimmer in the Australian Men's 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay Team alongside James Magnussen. The Australian team was the fastest qualifier for the final in a time of 3.12.29 with Tommaso swimming the third leg in 47.78 sec. Despite his exceptional swim, Tommaso missed out on selection in the final in which the Australian team finished in fourth place.

Tommaso's next event was the 4 x 100m Men's Medley Relay. On Day 7, Tommaso swam the freestyle leg in the heat for the event in a time of 48.59 sec. The heat team finished second, securing a berth in the final, in which Australia finished third. Congratulations to Tommaso for winning a bronze medal for Australia in his first Olympic Games.

Christ Church Swimming Team head coach and Olympic gold medallist Bill Kirby OAM (Class of 1992), who coached Tommaso while he was at Christ Church, said this had been the most excited he had been about the Olympics since he swam at Sydney in 2000. "To watch Tommaso go from a talented Christ Church Swim Team member to have the honour of representing his country at the highest level has been fantastic. Anyone who has met Tommaso will agree he is a champion in every sense of the word," Bill said.



Tommaso, who currently lives in Canberra, is also studying medical science at the Australian National University.

Todd Skipworth (Class of 2002)

Todd Skipworth stroked the Australian Lightweight Men's Four in the rowing final. In a nail biting finish the Australian team came agonisingly close to a medal, finishing fourth behind South Africa (gold), Great Britain (silver) and Denmark (bronze). Only 1.2 seconds separated the first four.

Todd made his Olympic debut at Beijing in 2008. Most recently, he won a gold medal for Australia as part of the men's lightweight four crew at the 2011 World Rowing Championships – the first gold medal Australia has won in the boat category since 1981.

Director of Rowing Steve Saunders said Todd showed signs of a champion when he began rowing at Christ Church when he was 14. "Todd is a very dedicated, focused individual – tough and tenacious – and a nice bloke to go with it," Mr Saunders said.

Todd, who regularly comes back to Christ Church as a guest speaker, is also a qualified pilot.



Courtesy of Rowing Australia.



Ric Charlesworth (Class of 1969)

Ric Charlesworth coached the Australian Men's Hockey Team who asserted its dominance as medal favourites early in the Games. The team were undefeated until Day 13, when Australia suffered a heartbreaking loss to Germany in the semi final, ruining its gold medal dreams. The Kookaburras then played off for the bronze medal, as they had done and won at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. They became bronze medallists yet again after defeating Great Britain 3-1 in the play-off at the Riverbank Stadium.

Ric, a former captain of the Australian Men's Hockey Team, represented Australia at five Olympic Games and won a silver medal at Montreal in 1976. He coached the gold-medal winning Australian Women's Hockey Team at the Atlanta and Sydney Games. He is also an author, doctor of medicine and former Member of Parliament.



Courtesy of Daniel Carson, DC Images.

Pioneering pastoralist



The battle to save Wooleen Station, a historic grazing property in the Murchison rangelands of Western Australia, was featured on Australian Story (ABC1) in a two-part series in 2012. It was the story of a young couple, who against conventional wisdom, took the radical step of destocking half a million acres to give the landscape a chance to regenerate. The couple, old boy David Pollock (1997) and his partner Frances Jones, and their story drew nationwide support.

After graduating, David studied environmental management and spent time overseas investigating and observing methods used in other countries to look after pastoral land. He returned home to Wooleen Station to help his parents, Brett and Helen, get through the drought. He developed a passion for the future sustainability of the region after meeting rangeland ecologist Dr Hugh Pringle.

David took over the station in 2007, making the huge financial decision to completely destock the over-grazed and drought decimated landscape to focus on finding a sustainable way to run stock and look after the environment. The project may well have failed but for the unexpected arrival of Frances, in her gap year from Melbourne.

After hearing about their work, Tony Coote AM and the Mulloon Institute (a not for profit, philanthropic organisation which educates people in sustainable agricultural practices) sent Peter Andrews – the man credited with extraordinary success in restoring degraded, salt ravaged landscapes. He then flew David and Frances to NSW to see the results firsthand of Peter's work on his property.

The couple, who also offer tourists a true Australian outback experience, have been constructing enviroalls with the help of school groups, building ponding banks, planting grasses and changing infrastructure to replicate the natural systems that were lost. The culmination of their work, in partnership with neighbours and with a federal environmental grant, resulted in the Roderick River flowing clear of eroded sediment at its terminus for the first time in living memory.

While the pioneering couple's plight is far from over, they have created a greater awareness of the issues facing pastoralists when managing a state-owned renewable resource with little support.

Old boy receives OAM

Lieutenant Colonel Glyn Llanwarne (Class of 1982) was awarded a Medal in the General Division (OAM) of the 2012 Australia Day Honours List for services to veterans and their families.

About 12 years ago, Glyn came across some war medals at an auction and was overcome with a desire to return them to the serviceman they belonged to. It turned out the medals had been stolen in a home invasion, and while the man who earned them had died, he was able to return them to his grateful wife.

From there, he embarked on a private mission to reunite lost war medals with their rightful owners, in his spare time, through Lost Medals Australia. To date, he has returned 1,208 medals to their owners or descendants and is researching many more.

Glyn, who lives in Canberra, said he was really surprised when he received the letter from Government House. "I felt very humble that what I do would be considered worthy of national recognition," he said.

"I've always tried to have the focus be on the family I contact, or the veteran whose medals I've returned, so it is a bit odd to be the centre of attention."



Remarkable man remembered

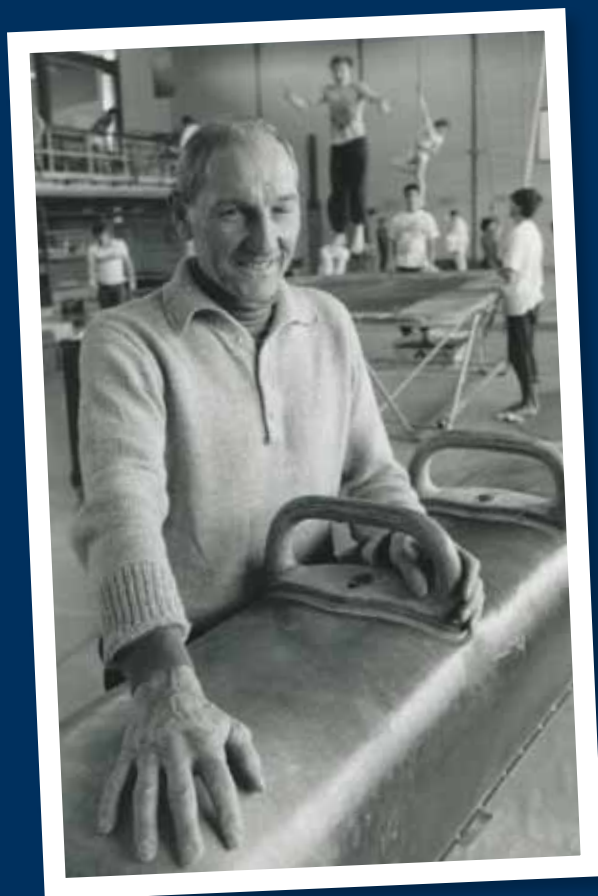
When the School community was advised that former staff member Akos Kovacs had died on Saturday 11 August, there was an immediate flood of more than 100 messages sent to the Alumni Office.

Akos taught at the School between 1955 and 1987, and was Head of Physical Education for 30 years. Upon his 'retirement', he remained on staff as a member of the School's maintenance department for a further 12 years. Akos migrated to Australia from Hungary after World War II and famously brought eastern European gymnastics to Christ Church and Perth.

Headmaster Garth Wynne said his influence on generations of Christ Church boys, in every sense of the word, was legendary. "Schools like ours grow to become great institutions through the efforts and passions of people like Akos Kovacs. His disciplined expectations and his true devotion to bringing out the best in each and every boy are the characteristics that were admired by all who were fortunate enough to have known this remarkable man," Mr Wynne said.

Alumni and Philanthropy Officer Andrew Baird said the overwhelming theme that ran through the reminiscences from old boys was that as boys they were terrified of Akos but later in life, they understood the values he taught. "In many cases, the old boys were trying to pass those values on to their own children. The stories were testament to the positive effect Akos had on so many students and over such a long period," Mr Baird said.

The funeral for Akos, who was 87-years-old, was held in the School Chapel on Friday 24 August with a congregation of about 500 people. At the conclusion of the service, old boys were invited to form a guard of honour. The Chapel was almost empty as hundreds formed the guard, four or five deep – an impressive end to an amazing life.



2011 graduates: moving onwards and upwards

One year on, the record breaking Class of 2011 is doing well – moving on to employment, university, gap year activities and combinations of these. A survey completed at the end of 2012 has provided a snapshot of the directions they have taken.

The survey showed that 75 per cent of the year group had commenced university or vocational training in 2012, while six per cent focused on work and the remaining 19 per cent were on a gap year of activities before commencing tertiary studies.

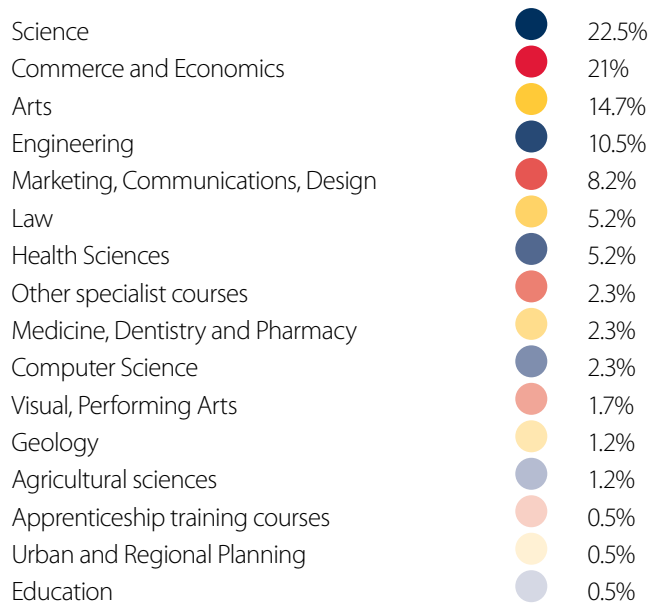
Around 80 members of the cohort returned to Christ Church in late August to 'Linga On'. The inaugural reunion, held in Sandover, was an opportunity to collect their Old Boys' Association life membership

badges, *The Mitre* 2011 edition and to enjoy reconnecting with the School and one another over a hamburger lunch.

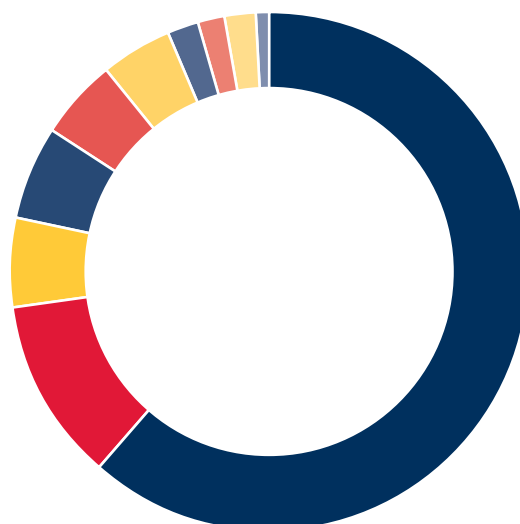
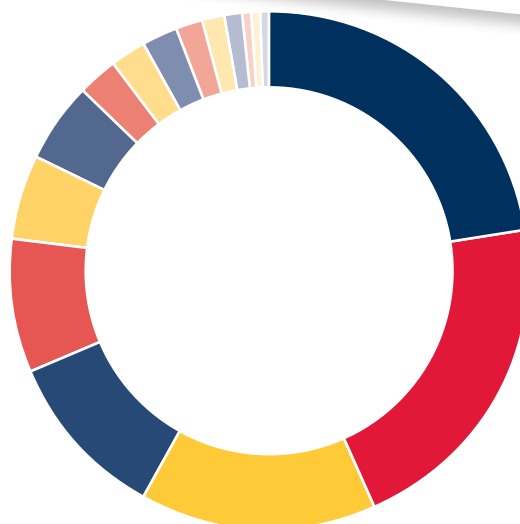
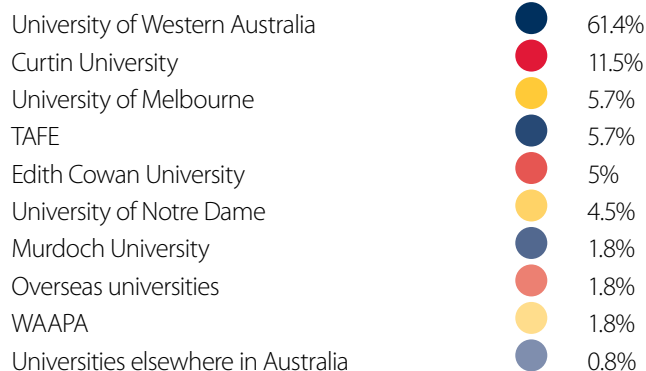


Courses

Including those on gap years who have deferred tertiary entrance.



Institutions



Class of 2011 – Where are they now?

Matthew's gap year

The inspiration behind Matthew Stewart's gap year can be traced back to his Pilgrimage of Hope to Alice Springs when he was in Year 9. He was appalled by the conditions and challenges the indigenous children and communities faced but admired the way the Yipirinya School went about addressing them.

He says what really appealed to him was the opportunity to be involved: "I found I enjoyed teaching, and I also felt a need to be a part of an organisation that really makes a difference. It also allowed me to experience more Aboriginal culture." Matthew says he is pleased to have worked towards even making a small difference to the lives of the children at Yipirinya. "But if I have changed them, it would be nothing compared to how much they have changed me, or how the staff or the whole town have changed me. Everything in Alice is a culmination of extremes – it is so very different from our heavily moderated world." He says his time in the community has helped him to appreciate the deep complexities behind the issues that public policies have yet to resolve.

Matthew is scheduled to commence an arts degree at UWA in 2013 and anticipates he will major in philosophy. He is also keen to study neuroscience, genetics, anthropology and perhaps a language like Chinese. As for his career path, he hasn't decided that yet, although he is clear that the direction he takes will be one where he can make a difference. For the year ahead, it will be back to "study, socialising and software!"



Declan at Oxford

Declan Davis enjoyed a gap year period as well as commencing studies at Oxford University in 2012. He started off 2011 working part-time at IGA and tutoring before taking a decidedly more international turn. This included going to the London Olympics, then travelling with three Christ Church friends through Europe for five weeks. Apart from the Olympics, his top travel experiences were Oktoberfest in Munich; Santorini; seeing Radiohead in Berlin; and turning 18 in Serbia.

Declan was keen to stretch his wings beyond home and was inspired by his sister's admission to Oxford. He also applied for the University of Melbourne. Part of the appeal of Oxford was the opportunity to undertake a degree in his chosen field (politics, philosophy and economics) rather than a general undergraduate degree. In addition to the quality and



prestige of the institution, Declan was keen to experience the global culture there and three months into his course, it has exceeded his expectations.

"Apart from focusing on my academic goals, making friends from all over the world in every degree imaginable has been my primary focus so far, and it hasn't been hard. Oxford is a microcosm of the world academically and socially, which means it is easy to meet people who do pretty much everything from any background," he said.

So far, Declan is enjoying the flexible learning style and notes the workload has been intense. He says the social side is equally demanding! At this point his post-Oxford goals are not firm but he says he is hoping "not to end up a banker like the stereotypical undergraduate" and is thinking about a bridge law course.



Tim at UWA

Staying close to the Christ Church community, Tim Rose has enjoyed the independence of his first year out of school with a busy combination of community engagement and part-time employment activities on top of his first year commerce studies (majoring in business law and finance) at UWA.

Tim has maintained several key connections with the School in 2012. He has enjoyed tutoring some of Christ Church's indigenous students, coached the 9D basketball team, assisted 8A football coach Luke Dwyer, and worked as a swimming teacher with Kirby Swim twice a week. He has also joined the Collegians Football Club and enjoyed the community spirit and helping to run the club.

At UWA, diversity has been a highlight for Tim, who has appreciated the opportunity to meet people from different countries, cultures and schools. And while overall he has relished the independence of university learning, he admits that forgetting to pay his university fees was a defining moment of recognition that he is now responsible for his education and other activities.

After university, Tim hopes to find a job that is rewarding and enjoyable. He plans to stay connected to and support the community groups he helped raise funds for as part of the prefect body and school community. Fortunately for the School, he also intends to stay connected to through coaching, teaching and the Old Boys' Association. He notes, "This year it has been harder to stay in touch with my wider group of Christ Church friends, and I always enjoy getting together with old mates to reminisce about past times on the sporting field and in the classrooms."





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