



The Scots School

Bathurst and Lithgow

The Headmaster's  
Speech Day Address and  
Headmaster's Report

2018



## Headmaster's Speech Day Address 2018

Distinguished guests, parents and friends, students and staff of The Scots School; it gives me great pleasure to address you today. This year has been a wonderful year in many respects; it has also been a year of great challenge as we have worked together to bring about the difficult task of integrating two independent schools in Bathurst. Significant change is not something that is new in the history of The Scots School. We began as The Scots College Branch School in 1942 in the midst of great national uncertainty during World War II, before forging our own identity with tentative steps as The Scots School in 1946.

The school struggled for many years before the boom years of the 1980s and then struggled again from the 1990s with declining enrolments and significant changes in the rural and educational landscape which affected a school like ours which was predominantly a boarding school. Dramatic change occurred again 20 years ago with the move to coeducation and the commencement of the Junior School. Both these moves eventually proved to be very successful as we now have a booming Junior School with record numbers and single stream for the first time and a vibrant coeducational day and boarding school with very close to an equal number of girls and boys.

I wish to pause for a moment to acknowledge the outstanding work of two men over these 20 years who lead the school from a very challenging financial position to a position where the Presbyterian Church was able to purchase All Saints' College. Mr Col Langford was Chairman of the School Board for 18 years from 1996 to 2013 and Mr Noel Eveleigh has been Business Manager from 1998 to the present. These men have worked tirelessly to guide this school into the strong position it is in today. I also wish to publicly acknowledge their tremendous personal support of me as Headmaster.

In terms of its historical significance, 2018 will go down in history as the year this school underwent great change again. Following the purchase of All Saints' College in December 2017 by the Presbyterian Church, this year has been a year where we have worked together towards full integration in 2019. I wish to acknowledge the tireless efforts of Mr Jeof Falls in doing everything possible to bring these two schools together. It has not been easy, in fact, it has probably been more difficult than anyone could have imagined. But here we are at Speech Day closing off on the history of one school and almost ready for the next exciting chapter ahead as Scots All Saints College in 2019.

In addition to the commitment of Mr Falls, I wish to particularly acknowledge the huge workload undertaken towards integration by the new Senior Executive – Ms Tracey Leaf, Mr Greg Jones and Mr Chris Jackman along with the outstanding job done by Mr Anthony Roohan as Head of the Scots Junior School. They have been supported by the other Senior Leaders and Heads of Department in preparing for next year. To ensure the success of this transition, consultants were engaged to bring particular expertise, time and an independent perspective. I particularly wish to acknowledge the work of the following consultants: Mr John Weeks on staffing, strategic direction and guidance for me; Mr Jeff Lloyd for

innovation in technology, Mrs Mel Monico for communication and marketing; Mr Brett Gore for expertise in the practical translocation; Mrs Amanda Killiby and Ms Margaret McKenzie on uniform design and Mr Jamie Lambshead, marketing consultant responsible for the development of the new brand including the new College crest, advertising and templates for stationary. As you can see, this has been a massive project and no stone has been left unturned to ensure its success.

In the midst of great change, it is natural to feel uncertain, threatened, unsure and forget the great benefits of this integration. To assist us, we should all look to the students of the two schools who have and are embracing this exciting chapter in the history of two great independent schools in Bathurst. I wish to take this moment therefore, to remind all of us why this joining together of Scots and All Saints College is so important. I am very excited about what this means for the students of the two schools and for the educational landscape in Bathurst.

Both schools have many fine attributes and a medium size school of about 750 - 800 students can hold on to much of what we do well as small schools, whilst providing so much more. The new school will be able to provide:

- Greater economies of scale so that more money can be invested in infrastructure and teaching programs. This is already evident and will become more so as we grow.
- Greater flexibility and offerings of elective subjects in the senior years. We have added new elective subjects in the Senior School for next year and the greater numbers means greater flexibility in the timetable structures for increased subject choice for the students.
- A Junior School with double stream from Kindergarten to Year 6 and increased flexibility for both academic extension and enrichment and learning support.
- Greater diversity of co-curricular programs with more of an emphasis on excellence whilst keeping the high participation expectation. Our students are already enjoying playing sport together and our First XI Cricketers are playing Division 1 ISA against the very big independent Schools with two wins from 6 games in the first half of the season.
- Greater social diversity in year groups for the creation of more friendships.
- Increased boarding numbers, to keep the strong tradition of a boarding school, with all the benefits that provides in terms of school culture for all students. We will have 140 boarders on the Scots Campus next year.
- Greater competition and an increase in academic rigour so that we become a school of outstanding academic excellence.
- Stronger sporting teams to improve our skills and competitiveness;
- Greater presence in the educational landscape of Bathurst, the Central West, Sydney and the international student market.

I could add much more and I am sure you are currently reflecting on what this integration will mean for you. Above all, for me, it means an increased student population who will be introduced to what is most important of all – the truth of Jesus love for us, God’s grace, the assurance of our redemption if we look to Him and the Christian values that are central to all we do in caring for the students.

I encourage all of you to read the Headmaster’s Report which will be posted to you next week as it reports extensively on the many achievements and highlights of the school year. A

reading of this report will reveal what an exceptional school we have here with so many wonderful opportunities provided for our students and a school culture that expects and encourages students to really be involved and to challenge themselves.

Today is a very special moment in the history of this wonderful School. I have been deeply blessed and honoured to be the Headmaster for the last 8 years and so this is a personally very challenging moment for me. I want therefore to take a few moments to reflect on what I see as important and valued in this school. This school is unashamedly Christian with a very clear Gospel faith message shared each week to challenge and enrich the world view of the students through Chapel and Christian Studies. Following on from this we have the most amazing character mission underpinned by a truly wonderful School Motto. For the very last time, I simply must indulge with a brief reminder of our School motto.

Our School motto presents values that are sadly diminishing in society today. The link between our Christian Mission and Character Mission is clearly expressed through our School Motto – “Trouthe, Honour, Freedom and Curteisie”. Geoffrey Chaucer’s Knight was the type of person who represented the church and community with excellent behaviour and a social conscience that showed respect for others and championed the cause of the less fortunate in society.

**Trouthe**        This means to be true to one’s self, honest in your dealings with others and...to never cover an error or mistake with a lie.

**Honour**        This means to give honour to God and to others in the way you live your life.

**Freedom**       This means not to be bound up by the pressure to conform to worldly pursuits but to have a generosity of spirit in giving to others in time, service and financial resources.

**Curteisie**     This means showing consideration for others and putting others before self.

To remember this wonderful school motto and its important place in the history of The Scots School, we have made a plaque which will take pride of place in Karralee which simply reads:

The Scots School Bathurst 1946-2018 – *Trouthe, Honour, Freedom and Curteisie*.

And then there is the LION... The lion will have a much greater prominence in the new school. The lion represents both our character mission and our Christian faith. The lion represents courage in the face of adversity, determination and strength. It is also the Lion of the Tribe of Judah referred to in the book of Revelations; this reference is to Jesus, the

triumphant saviour of God's people, victorious over sin and death, who alone is worthy to implement the saving purposes of God.

I wish to acknowledge as present with us today Mr Ian Quant, the Immediate Past President for the Scots Old Boys and Girls Association. Ian did an exceptional job in reinvigorating the OBGA during his time as president from 2012-2016. This year, Ian has been a passionate advocate along with many of you for maintaining Scots in the new College name and honouring the presence of the importance of the lion as a valuable College symbol. Because of Ian's advocacy, all our House and College sporting uniforms will have a sublimated lion and all our Firsts teams will carry the Gold lion as a representation of excellence. This significant part of the Scots School will remain as part of the wonderful new College.

The School motto and the symbolism of the Lion however, do not do real justice to who we are as a school as good as these ideas and symbols might be. This school is a special place built around community, commitment and service. We see it in the way students play sport, participate in school events, willingly help each other and the staff and show the sort of pride in performance evident at the Cadet Ceremonial parade yesterday afternoon. The Scots School is a very special place.

We have a wonderful staff that care for the students and are incredibly committed to this place. Last week I acknowledged staff at a special morning tea who had completed 10, 15 and 20 years of dedicated service to the School by making a special presentation to them. Today, I wish to acknowledge a staff member who has reached the milestone of 30 years' service by making a presentation and publicly acclaiming their contribution to The Scots School. Mr Geoff Hayward has been a teacher at the school for 30 years leading generations of students through Design and Technology classes and HSC major works and coaching Basketball teams amongst other responsibilities. I ask Mr Geoff Hayward to come forward to accept this token of recognition to mark his contribution and this milestone with a 30 year service award.

I also wish to acknowledge and thank staff who are retiring or moving on to other ventures after many years of dedicated service to The Scots School and to the students.

- Mr Martyn Coyte has been an exemplary Visual Arts teacher and artist in his own right who has inspired students and cared for them in his own special way for more than 30 years.
- Mrs Denise Garland has similarly given tirelessly of her time as Head of Creative and Performing Arts for 18 years leading musical ensembles, being involved in School Musicals and teaching a range of HSC Courses to students all at once.
- Mrs Mary Jo Shillabeer has been the Deputy Head and Staff Secretary, prepared prizes and certificates for Speech Day, produced the weekly newsletter and done a great deal more besides for over 25 years to ensure the smooth running of daily operations in the Senior School.
- Mrs Kerriane Thomson has worked as one of the nursing sisters showing great love and care for our students for many years most of them as a live in nurse with 24 hour responsibility. The students always found she was someone they could talk to when they needed a listening ear.

- Mrs Kathy Weal has similarly served generation of parents and students as Secretary of the Junior School, operating the School Clothing Shop and driving the school buses.
- Mrs Anne Denmead retires after many years teaching and caring for our international students as an ESL teacher providing language support and comfort and support to students a long way from home.
- Mrs Lynda Ireland has worked very closely with me as the Enrolments and Promotions Officer for the last 5 years using her understanding of the school as a long term parent to promote the school in Bathurst and across the Central West. Lynda has been exceptional in this role and will be greatly missed.
- Mrs Kate Simm concludes her time as Head of Galloway House where her care for the boarding girls has been very special. Kate is loved and respected and has left a great legacy in the lives of these boarder girls.

Please join with me in gratitude and acclaim for the staff who have given so much to the students in their care and the culture of this school through their attitude of service.

I wish to conclude my address by offering my sincere thanks to so many wonderful people. I wish to thank all members of The Scots School P & F and the P & F sub groups (Friends of Junior School, The Lithgow P & F, Boarders' P & F, Friends of Pipes and Drums, Friends of Rugby, the Friends of Netball, the Highland Gathering Committee and the Blue, Black & Gold Ball Committee) all under the umbrella of the Main P & F and the leadership of President Mr Lindsay Wilde. The P & F at this school is truly remarkable and I feel deeply privileged to have your support. I trust that you take enormous satisfaction with what you have achieved. The P & F doesn't just raise funds, it does so much more; at its essence, it provides a strong sense of community for parent involvement, an excellent example of community spirit to the students and greatly needed support for very busy staff organising events. I particularly wish to thank the P & F Integration Committee who worked with the All Saint's P & F this year to prepare the new constitution and to form the new combined P & F for the new College.

I also wish to acknowledge the work of the Old Boys' and Girls' Association under President Gordon Larkings and Vice President Tess McPhee and their committee.

I also wish to thank the chairman of the new College Council, Mr Hamish Thompson, for the enormous amount of work he has undertaken this year in forming the new Council and working in teams in preparation for integration in 2019. The new College council has been extremely busy with the responsibilities of governance along with very active involvement in many of the committees set up to prepare for integration.

I wish to acknowledge the tremendous support of the school executive. I am very fortunate to have two highly accomplished, hard-working and dedicated educators as Heads of Junior and Senior School. I have great faith in Ms Tracey Leaf and Mr Anthony Roohan and feel truly honoured to work with them every day. I am also always grateful for the fine financial stewardship, personal friendship and guidance of the Bursar, Mr Noel Eveleigh.

I also wish to acknowledge and thank all staff from those with academic and welfare leadership roles, class room teachers, boarding and health centre staff, and administrative,

support and ground staff for their enormous effort. All that we achieve as a school would not be possible without them.

Finally, I wish to thank my wife Gillian and daughter Genevieve for their love and unfailing support; I simply couldn't do it without you. Their own involvement in the life of the school makes it easier for me to focus on what I do as we are able to share so much of The Scots School experience together. We have lived and breathed the school together and have gained great pleasure from doing so. The Scots School will always hold a very special place in our hearts. I look forward to the first part of next year as we transition the new school before retiring and sitting with you at significant functions and Speech Day as parents as Genevieve concludes Year 12 next year. I am very grateful for the wonderful support shown to me by the staff, students and parents of this school; it means a great deal. My aim is to give my all to the new College in the early part of next year before retiring to spend quality time with Gillian and my family. The numbers are extremely strong at over 700 students from Kindergarten to Year 12 and the prospects for the new College are very bright indeed.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable family time over the Christmas Season and look forward to your return next year. For parents and students who are concluding your direct involvement in the life of the school, thank you for being a part of this special place. Please keep in touch with the school and know you are always welcome to attend special occasions in the life of the school. To Year 12, thank you for your excellent leadership this year. I wish you all the best for every challenge you face and every opportunity you choose to pursue. I particularly wish to acknowledge the leadership of our School Captains Emily Watts and Ben Dickerson; thank you for all you have done in your important roles as school Captains this year.

I wish to leave with all of you the prayer I leave every Speech Day.

Be rich in the spirit of giving to others, always mindful of the greatest gift of all, God's son, given to us as our Saviour and Lord.

And From Isaiah 9:6 - "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

God Bless

MR DAVID GATES  
HEADMASTER  
5 December, 2018

## **The Guest Speaker Mr Tim Hector**

I was delighted to welcome Mr Tim Hector as our Speech Day Guest of Honour this year. Tim was the Speech Day Guest of honour in 2016 when we celebrated the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Scots School. I think it is very fitting however, that I invited him again for what was the last Speech Day for The Scots School. Tim is a very appropriate guest as he was one of the original students of the school and the very first Bathurst resident to attend the school.

Tim Hector was the first day boy, at 6 years of age, enrolled in 1942 at The Scots College Bathurst Branch School. He started school on day 1 of the commencement of the School in Bathurst in 1942 and he was also the first day boy enrolled in 1946 when The Scots School Bathurst was founded.

He was the elder son of the late Ivor Mark Hector who was a member of the first Interim Council of The Scots College Bathurst Branch School in 1942 and a foundation member of The Scots School Bathurst School Council when the School was started in 1946.

Tim was always very involved in all activities of the school. Apart from his academic studies he represented the school in Cricket, Rugby, Tennis and Athletics. He was also a member of the School Cadet Unit in 1949 and 1950. After leaving school, Tim studied Pharmacy before joining his father as a trainee manager in his business – the Bathurst Brick Company. He remained in the clay brick industry until he retired.

After Tim Hector completed his education he returned to The Scots School in 1956 to assist in the formation of the Pipe Band. He did this with his good friend from The Scots College Branch School and Scots College, Mr Hedley Taylor. They did this in conjunction with the School Headmaster of the day, Mr Allan Mitchell, the School Council and the P and F Association. After its formation, the Pipe Band was an integral part of the School's large Cadet Unit. For the first 20 months of the Band's existence Tim Hector acted as Drum Major, as well as instructing members of the Band in Drill, and teaching the drums. Together with his father, Tim also sponsored the first full time Pipe Band Instructor, Mr. Bill Durham, and his wife Cathy, to come from Scotland to Bathurst as part of the Bring out a Briton Scheme in 1958. The Band has gone from strength to strength since that time as evidenced today.

After leaving school he played representative cricket in the Bathurst district until 1979. He also represented combined Western Districts and other Country teams in over 100 representative matches. A real highlight was representing NSW Country against the touring MCC Cricket Team in 1964. He was also a senior Rugby referee in Western NSW from 1954 until 1975 and refereed some high profile matches between Western NSW and touring All Blacks and Fijian touring teams and served for many years in the NSW Country Referees' Association.

Tim Hector's son Andrew also attended The Scots School from 1981-1986 and was Vice Captain in his last year. During this time Tim Hector was a tremendous contributor to the school including such significant projects as the design and construction of the school's Brick Entrance Gates, the donation of the bricks and the organisation of a TAFE brick laying team for the project.

Tim Hector has been involved in numerous local, State and Australian business and sporting events for many years. This includes being appointed in 2000 as the Local Volunteer Coordinator for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Torch Relay. He is still very active in public life serving on committees and as a member of the Bathurst Probus Club where he has enjoyed two stints as President.

He has been presented with many awards for his services to business and the wider community including being awarded the Australian Sports Medal in 2000 for his long term involvement at senior level in Cricket and Rugby Union Refereeing throughout NSW.

It was a real honour to welcome Mr Tim Hector, a most distinguished Old Boy, original student and long term friend of the School as the Speech Day Guest of Honour at this the last Speech Day for The Scots School.

## **Chaplain's Report**

The staff began the year with a chapel service reflecting on God's peace as spoken of in Philippians 4:4-9. A peace which is expressed in: an experience of joy; an attitude of patient consideration for others; and is lived out in a godly life in thought and deed.

For the whole school community, the year was opened with a commencement service in the Aikman Hall where students were formally welcomed to The Scots School. There they heard from Romans 12:17-21 how students can be 'conquerors' but not as the world sees it. Indeed to be a conqueror is: to aim for peace not war; to let God take care of it; to love the enemy. This is how God calls His people to reflect His character in life, as verse 21 concludes: "Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good." [NLT-SE]. In the first semester, chapel services focussed on the first six chapters of the Gospel of Luke. Then, in the second semester, they continued the Biblical account from Moses to Mount Sinai.

In February, I hosted the AHISA conference at The Scots School where a chapel service was held for the visiting Heads. The Chaplain spoke from Genesis 1:26-2:3 and Philippians 4:4-9 on the role and importance of rest.

At the beginning of Semester Two all staff were invited to attend a combined chapel service held at Bathurst Presbyterian Church. Chaplains Rev Paul Woodhart and Mr Samuel Gittins ran the service and Mr Gittins spoke from Romans 8:28-39 to remind staff that God is in control, He stands for His people and He loves His people.

Sincere thanks to Scripture teachers from Bathurst who have taken Junior Scripture classes from Kinder through to Stage 2. Thanks must go to Rev. Tristan Merkel, Mrs. Gillian Gates, Mrs Bernice Schwartz and Mrs Teresa Punnett. These volunteers have given their time to present the Bible in a respectful and engaging manner. Mrs Jenny White (kindergarten teacher), must also be recognised for her many faithful years of running an excellent Junior CRU® Group while the Senior CRU® Group has had strong attendance throughout this year. Thanks also needs to go to Mr Edward Sowden (Youth Minister at Bathurst Presbyterian Church), Mr Ian Doney, Mrs Jennie White, Mr John Day, Mr Anthony Roohan, and Rev Paul Woodhart who all assisted in speaking at various chapel services throughout the year. At the Lithgow campus, Mrs Sue Collins from Bowenfels Presbyterian Church continues to serve students by providing regular and meaningful Scripture lessons. Rev Stephen Fong has also contributed greatly by occasionally assisting with Scripture lessons and by leading end of term Church services for the Lithgow campus community. His balloon art has been a great hit with the students! Thanks must also go to the many other Bowenfels Presbyterian Church volunteers as they have continued to care for the Lithgow students with a Church Service and wonderful morning tea at the end of each school term.

The Boarding Master, Mr John Day has continued to provide transport for boarders this year to attend Young Life® and the Youth Group at Bathurst Presbyterian Church each week.

This has been an important opportunity for students to have the added support of local church members who are keen to see young people thrive in life and in faith.

Again this year, The Scots School has continued to provide the opportunity for staff, students and families to reflect on who God is, what He has done, His love for us, and His expectations of us as revealed in Scripture.

## **Senior School Reports**

### **English**

The English Faculty has had an exciting and challenging year. The Faculty welcomed two new members of staff this year; Mrs. Charmeon Jooste as Head of English and Mrs Denise Nelson who become the ESL teacher for Year 12 and a wonderful coordinator for English as a Second Language. The English and LOTE Faculty included Mrs. Kerry Robinson (Years 7 and 9), Mrs. Angela Davies (Years 7, 9, and 11), Mr. Richard Mottram (Years 8 and 10), Mr. Brian Mair (Years 8 and 10), Ms. Tracey Leaf (12), Mrs. Anne Denmead (Learning Support 7-12) and Mrs. Ann-Maree Adamson (Stage 4 French). We are fortunate to have such talented teachers as a part of our dynamic team. With the increasing demands of the new English Syllabus, these teachers were able to bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to all areas. This dynamic team quickly set about establishing an exciting program to engage and challenge the students.

In NAPLAN in Year 7, 40.54% of students were in the top 2 Bands for Reading, 34.21% for Writing, 44.74% for Spelling and 28.95% for Grammar and Punctuation. In terms of growth, 40.6% of Year 7 students achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Reading. 87.9% achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Writing. 69.7% achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Spelling. 51.5% achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Grammar and Punctuation. In Year 9, 51.52 % of students were in the top 2 Bands for Reading, 26.47% for Writing, 41.28% for Spelling and 47.06% for Grammar and Punctuation. In terms of growth, 80.6% of Year 9 students achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Reading. 71.0% achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Writing. 53.1% achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Spelling. 65.6% achieved equal to or greater than expected growth in Grammar and Punctuation.

This year, due to the compulsory commitment to participating in the NAPLAN tests, students and families were invited to ‘opt in’ to the various ICAS literacy based competitions. As usual our students achieved pleasing results in the various competitions.

### **HSC 2018**

Year 12 Students have sat their HSC Standard and Advanced English Papers. This year was the last year that the students sat the exam with the concept of “Discovery” for Paper 1. The feedback from the students after this year’s examinations was positive. It has been a great pleasure to work with this talented group. We wish them all the best on their HSC results. From 2019 the students undertaking the HSC will encounter a different focus on the questions in Paper 1 with only two sections on the paper; there will no longer be a Creative Writing Section. While Paper Two still has a focus on the Modules, NESA has introduced an entirely new Module ‘The Craft on Writing’. Students must now respond to stimulus that

reflects the students' understanding of the essay writing. While this will be challenging it does encourage students to write personally.

### **Year 11 Extension**

On Monday 6th August in the Performing Arts Centre, Year 11 English Extension 1 students presented their major projects to a small but appreciative crowd. The students have been studying the topic the Machinations of Modern Man. The period that they have been researching is what is now known as Modernism (1880-1950s). The rapid change that occurred during this period of history affected all facets of modernity. It is both a fascinating and terrifying era. The projects that were presented certainly reflected the students' engagement and understanding. Toby Goodman presented his research which told of the crippling effects of the chaos and power on the human psychic. This poignant paper was extensive and elegant. Genevieve Gates delivered a critical analysis on the three texts that were studied this term. Genevieve's paper looked at the position of the individual's response to the context of the time. She challenged the audience to consider the differences that might be between 'what makes us a person as opposed to being human'. Gabrielle Morrison's paper further enlightened us about the personal interaction between context, critical movements and the contemporary reader while Gabrielle Boshier illuminated the audience on the significance between the private self and the critical theory.

### **Excursions and Theatre Visits**

On Monday 29th October Year 12 visited the International Conference Centre for an ETA Symposium on 'Texts and the Human Experiences' and the demands of HSC Paper 1. This was an informative and valuable trip for the students as they mingled with other students from a variety of schools to discuss the approaches they would take to their studies.

The Year 9 students are studying Julius Caesar. This unit of study is the first introduction that the Year 9s have to Shakespeare. In order to bring Shakespeare to life, we have organized an excursion to Bathurst Memorial Entertainment Centre to see the Bell Shakespeare company production of Julius Caesar. This was an amazing opportunity to see Shakespeare brought to life and will undoubtedly prove to be a memorable experience for all the students. The students thoroughly enjoyed their experience. This production was a contemporary production of the well-known tragedy. This made the themes and ideas far more assessable for the students. Thank you to Mrs Davis who accompanied the students.

Year 10 and 9 students attended an excellent production of War Boy by the Sydney based theatre Company. The outstanding production ably represented the devastating impact of the First World War on families and the repercussions that has on future generations.

### **Debating and Public Speaking 2018**

The school competed in several speaking competitions. First up this year was the local Country Women's Association Public Speaking Competition which was held at All Saints College. The school was very well represented by students from Years 7 through to Year 11. Later in the year several students again competed in the Plain Speaking Award and the Legacy Junior Public Speaking Competitions. All the competitions are of a high standard and

our speakers acquitted themselves very well and are to be congratulated for taking up the opportunities and the challenges presented.

### **HICES Debating**

This year Scots competed in the HICES Debating competition against schools from around the Western Region. A mix of new and experienced debaters seized upon the challenges presented by the competition to perform in a series of impromptu and prepared debates. Four rounds were held at Kinross Wolaroi School, The Scots School Bathurst, Blue Mountains Grammar School and All Saints College Bathurst. The teams from Scots with representation from the Junior School right up to Year 11 tasted much success and built their skills in an encouraging environment of friendly competition. This year saw the Year 9 team of Simi Atluri, Austin Markwick, George Butler, Keeran Rajkumar, Sheunopa Chani and Sophie Cox advance into the finals, a just reward for a team whose majority members have been debating together since primary school days. As we prepare for the school merger with All Saints College, more exciting opportunities for debating await in 2019.

The Scots School had an extremely successful year in Public Speaking and Debating for 2018. A number of students competed in a range of competitions throughout the year; the highlights of the 2018 year were numerous.

### **Writers Circle**

This year we introduced the Writers' Group giving the students an opportunity to publish their student work. In the ever-changing world in which we live in, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the ability to articulate clearly and concisely on a variety of issues has become an invaluable skill. The Writer's Circle will give the students an opportunity to write about local and world issues that impact on their lives.

### **Mathematics**

In 2018 the Mathematics Department was staffed by Mr Ryan Barcham, Mrs Michelle Simcock, Mr Duane Bailey and Mr John Day (Head of Mathematics). Mrs Kerry Robinson, Mr Paul Cameron and Mrs Kate Chamberlain provided learning support in our Mathematics classrooms and Mrs Day delivered an enrichment program. I thank the Mathematics staff for the commitment that they have shown to their students and their desire to see them achieve their best.

I would like to thank Mr Day for his leadership of the Mathematics Department in 2018 as he hands over the role to Ms Shannon Rendall who will be the new Head of Mathematics in 2019. Ms Rendall is a very experienced Mathematics teacher, who comes to us from All Saints College. She will oversee the introduction of the new Higher School Certificate Mathematics Advanced and Mathematics Extension courses in 2019. In October this year the AIS updated the entire Mathematics Department on these new NESA courses.

This year our Year 7, 8 and 9 Mathematics classes made regular use of the Mathletics online tutorial and skill-building program, with Courtney Roberts, Xavier Adams and Elspeth Hardie receiving achievement awards. Our Year 7 to 10 Mathematics students also enjoyed such software as the Prodigy adaptive technology, while our senior students used Desmos,

Excel and Wolframalpha to inform their studies.

Our Year 7 and 8 Enrichment students were successful in many competitions, culminating in strong representation at the HICES Mathematics Tournament in November. Some of the outstanding achievements were:

- Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Competition – Credit: Sarah-Joy Day (Year 7), Olivia Grimshaw (Year 7), Jessica Mills (Year 7), Dylan Boniface (Year 8), Jack Dickenson (Year 8) and Sarah Mills (Year 8)
- Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians Challenge Stage – High Distinction: Sarah-Joy Day (Year 7). Credit: Dylan Boniface (Year 8), Jessica Mills (Year 7), Ellie Moorhead (Year 8)
- Australasian Problem Solving Mathematical Olympiads – Top 25% Achievers: Sarah-Joy Day (Year 7), Jessica Mills (Year 7), Jack Dickenson (Year 8)
- Australian Mathematics Competition – Distinction: Courtney Roberts (Year 8). Credit: Sophie Baker (Year 7), Sarah-Joy Day (Year 7), Jessica Mills (Year 7), Dylan Boniface (Year 8), Jack Dickenson (Year 8), David Hardie (Year 8), Jack McCudden (Year 8), Sarah Mills (Year 8)
- Mathematics Challenge for Young Australians Enrichment Stage – High Distinction: Sarah-Joy Day (Year 7)

Overall, 2018 has been an exciting year in the Mathematics Department. From “pi cookies” on Pi Day in March to a tribute to our Australian Fields medallists in August, we now look forward to receiving Higher School Certificate results in the Mathematics courses in mid-December. Our Year 12 students have worked hard to complete these courses under the guidance of Mrs Simcock for Mathematics General and Mr Day for Mathematics and Mathematics Extension 1.

## Science

This year has been one of achievement and activity for the Students undertaking Science. Early first term Year 11 Biology, under the guidance of Mr Harris and Mrs Knight, went to study the Mangroves at Sydney Olympic Park. The Students gained knowledge of the ecological system and the Mangrove Environment. This excursion provided valuable preliminary information for the students’ HSC work. In Term One, the 16 students undertaking Year 12 Biology visited the Disease Museum at the University of New South Wales. This enabled the students to improve their knowledge of diseases, a unit in their Higher School Certificate course. The students were accompanied by Mr Dundon and Mrs Knight. In August Year 11 Biology went to Mt Tomah Botanical Gardens for an Australian Biota study day. The day involves the Australia Museum, Taronga Zoo and the Gardens collaborating on presenting field work and live specimens supporting theories about why Australia has the flora and fauna it does. It also explains the extinction of our mega fauna and the unique variety of our Australian species. The Students were accompanied by Mr Harris and Laboratory Assistant Mrs Knight. Thirty two Year 10 and Year 9 Students, accompanied by Mr Dundon and Mr Harris, took part in the University of Newcastle Science and Engineering Challenge at Charles Sturt University’s Bathurst Campus. The students had an enjoyable day learning a lot about problem solving in Science and Engineering.

The School performed well in the University of NSW Science Competition achieving 4 Credits and 1 Merit certificate out of the seven Years 7 to 10 students that undertook the

competition.

Year 10 student Research Projects were of a very high calibre, Baxter Williams and Sasha Spence research projects were of particular note. Baxter Williams' Research Project, showed an interesting and creative design for testing Snell's Law. Year 10 International Students were able to show their understanding of Science by submitting Research Projects of a higher standard than in past years. Thanks must go to Mrs Nelson in providing assistance to the Science Staff to enable the Year 10 International Students to better understand the language of the task.

Year 9 produced excellent models for representing atoms, some of which were on display for Open Day. Year 8 carried out their practical assessment in designing an experiment to a high standard, and showed excellent skills in carrying out this task.

This year the Science Department purchased an Inductive Breaking Kit and a Major Magnet for use in Senior Physics. Also purchased were new slinkies and springs, Light Boxes and Biology slides for use in Junior and Senior Science. This is part of the Science Departments renewal of equipment for the use of students in the study of Science.

The year was very successful, thanks to the Science staff, Mr Cameron, Mr Dundon, Mr Harris, and Mr van Gend. I would also like to wish Mr Harris all the best for his new career path, as Head of Science at Skill Set. The Science Department will miss your exemplary teaching of Science and your contribution to the Science Department.

I would like to thank Mrs Kristy Knight for her hard work and willingness to assist with Science Excursions. The Science Staff are thankful for all that Mrs Knight does, carrying out her duties in a positive and helpful manner which keeps the Science Laboratories functioning efficiently and in an organised safe way.

## **Information Communication Technology**

Within ICT as a learning area the students continue to produce innovative and creative solutions to the problems they are given. The skills they exhibit in the production of these solutions show how the students have grown in their knowledge and practical abilities in relation to technology and software usage. This year the students have engaged with programming of the subjects new Robotic kits in a positive way, enjoying the tasks they have been given in solving problems involving robotics.

New Computers have been purchased for both Galloway and Ives House improving the access of technology for the Junior Students in both houses.

## **Design and Technology**

The Design and Technology area has utilised both traditional and industry standard technologies to provide students with opportunities to engage in innovative practical design activities throughout 2018.

The rapid rate of technological change in an increasingly knowledge-based society highlights the need for flexible technological capability, innovative thinking and effective

communication skills. Vital life skills such as team work, communication, time management and organisational skills underpin all design projects. Students identify needs that have personal relevance, apply design theory and use design processes that encourage flexibility, resourcefulness and imagination in the development, communication and production of quality solutions.

This year's Major Design Projects produced by Year 12 included Julia Ross's large Green House constructed from recycled hardwood and enclosed by timber doors and window sashes; a Merbau Day Bed designed to hang from a gazebo which the Harley family will make good use of in the coming months; and Jake Lu's innovative 3D printed parts to be fitted to a car to stop debris from clogging the water and air vents below the windscreen.

2019 will bring new expansion of this area with the introduction of new courses, and a host of Year 12s ready to take on their Major Works.

## **HSIE**

The ongoing implementation of new syllabi continued this year with the introduction of the new Ancient and Modern History Courses and the final roll out of the new geography courses for Year 8 and 10 Geography. The revamped History courses allow for greater flexibility and more options to engage the students' interests with continued emphasis on, on-line learning. Further syllabi reviews are also underway in other subject areas with a particular focus being on requirements around assessment.

Key learning excursions were again run for the students to enhance their learning experiences. Year 7 students visited Sydney University's Nicholson Museum. Once again the excursion proved to be a wonderful experience for the students. The opportunity for our students to gain a detailed insight into the topics covered in class through hands on learning workshops is invaluable. Years 9 and 10 went on a combined History and English excursion to view a production of Warboy. The play dealt with the issues, from an Australian perspective, surrounding the impact of World War One on individuals and small country towns. Our senior History and Business studies students also had the opportunity to attend a local Higher School Certificate study day. Like last year this was again well received by our students as it gave them direct access to key note speakers who addressed significant aspects of their respective courses.

Our results in the nationwide Australian Geography Competition were again most impressive. Annually, approximately 70,000 students take part in this competition and as with previous years our students have stood out. Across stages 4 and 5 we had eight students receive High Distinctions placing them in the top 10% of the state along with another 14 students who received Distinctions placing them in the top 20% of the state. In the Australian Graduate School of Management Competition we had a number of our students received either distinctions or credits.

The Higher School Certificate results again reflected the diligent work of the HSIE Staff. In Business Studies 70% of the candidature received either a band three, four or five whilst in Modern History 80% of the candidature received a band four or above.

Term three saw the departure of Mr Chris Harris. Mr Harris took up a teaching position at Scots not long after completing a stint at the school as a Prac student. The enthusiasm that he

brought to HSIE Department was very much appreciated and he is wished the very best for the future. Following his departure Mr Harris' classes were ably covered by Mr G Wainwright and Mrs E Casey. Thank you to Mr Mottram as HOD, Mr Doney, Mr Harris, Mr Maher, Mr Mair, Mr Wainwright and Mrs Casey for their ongoing professionalism and the dedication and care they show for each student whilst helping them develop their potential and continuing appreciation for the humanities.

## **PDHPE**

The Scots PDHPE faculty this year consisted of Mr Adams and Mr Bailey. Our practical units took advantage of our schools fantastic facilities and we were able to make good use of the indoor heated swimming pool with units on water safety, swimming for fitness, water polo, underwater hockey, water volleyball and bronze medallion training.

We also completed many other units including modified games, dance and kicking skills in Year 7; racquet sports, golf, softball in Year 8; basketball, netball and Oz tag in Year 9; and aerobics, indoor sports and coaching in Year 10. Across all year groups we had a focus on swimming in Term One and athletics throughout Term Three.

Our students also had a range of exciting and rewarding assessment tasks including the healthy habits food guide produced by Year 7, story books about the safe use of medicinal drugs by Year 8, designing healthy eating plans and recipes in Year 9 and designing a party safe guide in Year 10.

A highlight for the Year 9 students was a visit from the Batyr mental health group and the NSW Waratah's development officers. The students enjoyed learning some rugby skills and also benefitted greatly from the presentation and workshop on talking about mental illness and getting appropriate support in times of need.

The stage five physical activity and sport studies (PASS) elective class again proved popular to our students. This year they studied units on Event Management, Pathways in Sport and Physical Activity, Coaching and Technology in Sport. The class also enjoyed practical units focusing on water polo, relaxation techniques, indoor games, cricket and tennis. A highlight for our Year 9 and 10 (PASS) class was using video analysis to aid with coaching in tennis and cricket. The skills and knowledge by the students was outstanding and demonstrated that they had a great interest in this component of the course.

Our Stage 6 senior PDHPE classes again attracted a large number of students and we had some very pleasing results in the 2017 HSC which is testament to the interest that our students show towards physical activity and sport and the dedication and innovation of the PDHPE staff. The Year 11 class was a combined Scots and All Saints class who enjoyed completing their first aid certificates and also attending the gym for some fitness classes.

## **Sport**

The 2018 school sporting year was a memorable one for the Scots students, staff and external coaches. It was to be our final seasons of sport as The Scots School and our students did their

school very proud.

We again give thanks to the support given to the school's sporting program by our external coaches and the parents throughout the year. It was greatly appreciated. The reviews which follow are simply a snap shot of the whole program. A more extensive report for each sports team will be presented in the annual Lion magazine.

### **Summer Sports**

**Cricket** - Our First XI with a young team struggled after winning the competition in the previous season. To the teams credit they were competitive in every match and did not give up. Our junior teams played in the local Bathurst District Junior Association competitions and had some moderate success. We had our first ever season of Girls Thunder League cricket where our girls thoroughly enjoyed playing other girls locally. Our team narrowly lost the final.

**Tennis** - Our tennis team continued to improve and we were very strong across the intermediate and junior divisions in the WAS competition.

**Basketball** - Our teams played in the difficult Bathurst Basketball Association competition where each week they competed against strong opposition. Our six teams enjoyed mixed success and many of the teams made the semi-finals.

**Girls Touch Football** - The WAS girls touch football competition continued this year. We had a junior and senior team coached by Mr Coyte and Mrs Davis. The WAS competition continued to offer a quality competition against like-minded school teams. The standard and skill level of our girls increased again and we were very competitive and had several girls represent WAS at the AICES Championships.

**Swimming Group** – The swimming group trained each Tuesday and Thursday afternoon and meet on many Saturday mornings. Under the supervision and tuition of Mrs Sharon Inwood the students set goals with their swimming endurance and recorded the number of laps that they could swim. Students were also put through some lifesaving and first aid initiatives. The improvement and water confidence gained in this group was amazing.

### **Winter Sports**

**Rugby** – We entered three teams into the ISA division three competitions which were again very well suited for our boys. Our three teams (13s, 15s and 1<sup>st</sup> XV) were all very competitive and had a lot of success. The beauty of this competition was the opposing schools that we faced. We travelled to and hosted many GPS/CAS schools that we normally would never meet which was a great experience for our players and coaches. The 1<sup>st</sup> XV were very competitive in each of their matches despite often being outsized by the opposition. All teams had some very good wins but were also very well matched by some of our other opponents.

**Netball** - Our netball program continued to grow and become stronger. We had a lot of younger girls playing for the first time. Their development over the season was evident as was the enjoyment that they received from playing in a team. Our highlights for the season were the 14B Scots Lee team, the 16B Scots O'Connell, the 16 A Littlebourne and the 1<sup>st</sup> VII

all making the Grand Finals. All but one of our teams made a Semi-Final. It was by far our most successful season as a school. The 16A and the 1<sup>st</sup> VII both won their grand finals quite comfortably with Matilda Proctor being awarded the player of the B Grade Grand Final. For our Year 12 girls, Holly Proctor, Madeleine Cain and Daisy Heilman it was the third straight Grand Final that they had won! An amazing achievement.

**Hockey** – Our girls teamed up with All Saints as the first merged sporting venture. It was very successful and we had teams in the 15s, Women’s Division 4 and in the Open Girls competitions. The combined Scots All Saints College Open’s girl team won the Grand Final and were the dominant force throughout the season.

**Fitness Group** – The fitness students completed Bootcamp type exercise sessions each Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and then participated in team based games each Saturday morning.

### **Carnival Sports**

**Swimming** – The 2018 swimming season was very good. The swimming squads in terms four and one were well supported by the students and resulted in some fantastic results. The highlight for our swimmers was our senior girls winning team winning the Division two points competition for the second straight year at the ISA swimming carnival. This is testament to the team of senior girls that have been dedicated to training and supporting each other. Sarah Joy Day and Matilda Proctor represented ISA at the NSWICIS swimming carnival. Our co-ordinator and head coach of swimming Mrs Inwood introduced the opportunity for our senior students to become swimming teachers who then helped with the schools learn to swim program. Joe Harley, Madeleine Cain and Olivia Warry have recently graduated from the program.

**Cross Country** - Our school cross country was closely contested between the houses with Ives House being victorious. The Scots School again played host to the WAS cross country which proved advantageous for our students as thirteen students were selected into the WAS team. We had seventeen runners represent WAS at the AICES cross country. Again Emily Watts dominated the AICES race in the Senior Girls winning in a canter.

**Bathurst Edgell Jog** - The Scots School again won prizes at the Bathurst Edgell Jog. Our school won has now won the schools division for nine of the past ten years.

**Athletics** - This year our school inter house athletics carnival was held at the end of August. The PDHPE faculty capitalized on this by focussing on athletics during all practical classes. The overwhelming support from the students at the carnival resulted in a fantastic carnival. This year Browning House managed to win the Hennings Cup. The school athletics team also competed competitively at the ISA athletics carnival. We also had twelve students represent ISA at the NSWICIS athletics carnival. The highlights were silver and bronze medals to George Butler and Jack Dickenson respectively in the triple jump.

As evidenced from the reports above it is very clear that the students from The Scots School have had a fantastic sporting year. Despite being a school small our sporting program provides our students many if not more opportunities than most other schools. We are only able to do this due to the dedication and willingness of our students to get in and have a go.

We are also thankful for the committed staff, especially Mr Justin Adams and superb support given by our parent body.

## **The Cameron Library**

The silence in the Library rule is being totally ignored at the time of writing as Tablelands Builders move in to carry out a major renovation to the Cameron Library. With the last rebuild of the Library having occurred in 1985, it was well and truly time for it to be updated to reflect the new functions of libraries in the 21st Century.

When it reopens in early 2019, the Library will be bigger, with Room 6 being incorporated into it. Facilities will include new video technology, updated furniture and increased study space for Year 12 students. There will also be new carpet and decoration.

The months leading up to the rebuild saw a procession of people visiting the library to plan, measure and design the new work. It was a pleasure to welcome back former student Peter Deacon, who now works for the Integrated Design Group who assisted with the planning of the building.

Clearing and dismantling the old library was a huge task, and I wish to thank Mr Maher and his team of Mrs Mackay, exchange student Bertie Linnell, Mrs Denmead, Mrs Chamberlain and Mrs Day for the assistance in seeing this through.

During the year, the Library continued to be a place for Year 12 students to study. Mrs Mackay was also working with the distance education students and organising student travel. We welcomed visits from the Pre-Kinder and Junior School students to borrow books.

Our thanks go to Mrs Margaret Mackay for her continued efforts, among her other duties. The Grounds and Maintenance staff also performed valuable work early in the year to replace the old guttering and downpipes. The leaking roof and occasional flooding of the front foyer was dealt with in plenty of time to not trouble the new library. In spite of its age, the comment made about the old Library was that it had been well maintained, and the efforts of Mr Reeks and before him Mr Bromfield and their team, in keeping up the building are to be acknowledged.

At the end of the year Mr Maher will complete seventeen years of service as the school librarian. With the integration of Scots and All Saints, Ms Cate Mitchell will take over management of the school library services in 2019. Ms Mitchell is a very experienced librarian; I have great confidence that the school's learning resources will be in good hands into the future. She will be bringing to the Cameron Library a number of exciting new resources and ideas that have been made possible by the integration of the schools.

## **Performing and Creative Arts Music**

### **Music**

2018 has been another very productive and exciting year for the Music faculty in the *Lamrock Performing Arts Centre*.

**Junior School:** All Choir Ensembles have become more confident under the direction of Mrs Denise Garland and each group performed well at the Bathurst Eisteddfod. The Year 5- 6 Choir came 1<sup>st</sup> in the section, receiving the *Jill Groves Memorial Trophy*. The Year 3- 4 Choir came 2<sup>nd</sup>; Year 1-2 received a Highly Commended and Kindergarten 3<sup>rd</sup> place. In August, students from Years 5 and 6 joined with the Senior School in the musical “Oliver”. The Junior School Performing Arts Assembly in November gave individual students who learn an instrument an opportunity to perform. The concert was an outstanding success. We have appreciated the quality teaching of Music to all Junior classes by Mrs Frances McLeod every Wednesday.

**Senior School:** The number of students having private music lessons continues to be strong at The Scots School. Rehearsal rooms are well used throughout the week. All students are encouraged to learn an instrument and perform as soloist, as well as being part of a Music Ensemble. Elective classes continue to be strong.

Music Ensembles rehearse weekly and continue to cater for all musicians. This year the standard of items presented has been high and challenging for students. All ensembles have had the opportunity to perform on numerous occasions throughout the year. These include Parent weekend *Chapel Services*, *Year 7 -10 Music afternoons*, *Highland Jazz Night*, *Bathurst Eisteddfod*, *Open Day performances*, *Year 12 Trial Performance evening*, *the Musical*, *Student performances at School Assembly*, *Christmas Carol evening* and *Speech Day*.

*The Highland Jazz Night* in May was a wonderful opportunity for solo musicians in Year 12 and all Music Ensembles to showcase their talents. This was a cabaret-style evening whereby the Pipes and Drums were incorporated with the Orchestra.

In August, students showed their talents in the successful musical “Oliver”. This production saw many new students doing vocal and acting leads. Later in August twelve students: Jacob Lloyd, Mia Wallace, Harrison Keough, Madison Burns, Prudence Inwood, Sacha Spence, George Butler, Morgan Watts, Harrison Smith, Sarah Mills, Jessica Mills and Mrs Garland, attended the HICES 7-12 Music Festival at Stanwell Tops. The 3 day camp was followed by wonderful ensemble performances in the Sydney Town Hall. All students were extended with their musical performances under the guidance of different HICES conductors.

Music students have also been given the opportunity to see visiting performing artists in the school and musical excursions. In March we had a group called *Junkyard Percussion* perform for Year 7 students from Scots and All Saints Campus. Performing Arts students saw live productions at BMEC of *Wicked* and *Godspell*. In November, Madison Burns was short listed to perform as a recipient of a 2BS Youth Arts Scholarship award. Madison also joined the Pipes and Drums students to perform at the *Highland Spectacular Concert* at Dubbo in late November.

Our appreciation is extended to all Music students for their efforts both in and out of the class during the year. Their dedication in attending rehearsals and ensemble performance opportunities is most commendable. Joshua Morris is to be commended on his fine leadership for the year as Performing Arts prefect.

A big thank you must go to all the visiting music teachers who come to the school each week to teach our students on a wide variety of instruments.

## **Drama**

We welcomed Mrs Charmeon Jooste this year as Drama teacher. All Drama classes have continued to developed their performance skills and knowledge of theatre throughout the year.

In March, Elective Drama and Music students in Year 9 and 10 delighted a full audience to different individual and small group items in the LPAC. In Term Three it was the HSC Performing Arts Trial evening where Year 12 Music and Drama students presented their HSC performances. We had a small but hard working candidature in 2018. Joshua Morris and Holly Proctor worked incredibly hard throughout the year on Individual and Group projects. They were assisted by Year 11 Drama students to develop and perform their Group project. This is always a challenging process; however the students' dedication ensured that they were able to develop a performance of a very high quality.

### **Musical - *Oliver***

The highlight in August 2018 – held in the Aikman Hall - was the wonderful production of “Oliver” which was produced and directed by Mrs Jooste with Musical direction by Mrs Garland. The high standard and commitment by students was evident in all facets of the production including lighting, sound, stage management and choreography. The build up to this musical had been considerable and working with a young cast (some from the Junior school), was both enjoyable and challenging. The commitment from the cast of young men and women was evident from the beginning of the year. This is what proved to be the success of the production. The Faculty had chosen the cast with care and this was especially true of the choices of Oliver (Hannah Day), Mr Bumble (George Butler), Widow Corney (Mia Wallace), Nancy (Madison Burns), Bet (Zoe Stuart), Bill Skyes (Harry Dickenson), Dr Grimshaw (Daniel Allen-Ford) and the Artful Dodger (Isaac Cove).The students engaged and delighted their audiences with their own personalities and musical abilities. Their performances were supported by Gabrielle Boshier and Jacob Lloyd who played Mr and Mrs Sovesberry, the Macabre Funeral Parlour proprietors. The talented chorus, enthralled audiences with their wonderful dancing routines and outstanding commitment to making the show come to life. The production is full of cameo roles. One of the most entertaining is that of the musical number “Consider Yourself” beautifully choreographed by Mia Wallace and Zoe Stuart. The cast was superb in their efforts and delighted audiences every night. Music was provided by a Senior School Showband of 17 students under the direction of Mrs Garland.

### **Highland Dancing**

Students across all stages have been involved in learning Highland Dancing and have performed at various events throughout the year. In particular, the ensembles taught by Mrs Kim Drury, which performed at the Highland Jazz night, Open Day and the Blue, Black and Gold Ball are to be commended for their high standard of presentation.

## **Visual Arts**

Elective classes in 2018 were strong with students being engaged in different areas of art production. This year there were nine students doing HSC Visual Arts. They worked in various mediums from painting, drawing, sculpture, photography and film. Each student made a different body of interrelated work as their main HSC works.

## **Pipes and Drums**

2018 was always going to be an emotional year for the Pipes & Drums with the integration with All Saints College approaching and the anticipation of the future role and structure of the band. It was evident from the beginning of the year that every band job we did had to be better than we had ever done it before. In reflection, that did become our mantra.

We began the year working hard on our brand new Medley for the Highland Gathering. The Medley consisted of new tunes orchestrated into a seamless blend of different styles and time signatures all culminating in an exciting climax in a tune affectionately known as TSSB70 which was composed to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Scots School Bathurst. All the hard work and preparation paid off when we played at the Highland Gathering as the band was well placed in the competition and in one of the required elements we were placed 1<sup>st</sup> in one grade and well placed in the other grades and even beating Knox in piping in one of the sections.

Term 2 was a relatively quiet time for the band leading the annual ANZAC day march in Bathurst, being our only public performance. Many of the senior band personnel, however, did attend the Bathurst Highland Society Debutante Ball which exposed them to another side of Scottish culture. Many proved they were as accomplished at dancing as they were at playing pipes or drums. The band had the honor of playing at the annual PROBUS meeting which was held in Bathurst. This event was well received and the band's performance was highly praised by those attending.

Term 3 got underway with The Highland Jazz Night where the band played more of its traditional music and some very "out there" contemporary arrangements. This once again showcased the many talents of the band members. Having completed the Jazz Night the band felt that, we do all this work and learn all these new tunes and only ever get to play them once. A plan was hatched...they wanted to take the show on the road but more on that later. September saw the band play for the first time ever, at the All Saint's College Spring Fair, a week later was a return to Rydal for the annual Daffodil Festival which is always an enjoyable and relaxing performance then the Bathurst Edgell Jog followed a week after that. Once again, many of the band members ran in the event after the band performance.

Term 4 must come close to the most demanding time the band has ever seen. There was usual leadership change and in seven and a half weeks we had over fifteen band jobs to do such as The Lion's Club AGM. On the morning of the Blue, Black & Gold Ball the band participated in 1st 19<sup>th</sup> Battalion's march to exercise their right to the Freedom of the city and in doing so we exercised our right which was bestowed upon us in the 1990s. Later that evening was the very last Blue, Black & Gold Ball and the Pipes & Drums did their school and heritage proud reducing many old boys and girls to tears. The next day, after a late night, the band played at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ending of The Great War at a special Remembrance Day Ceremony.

The highlight of the year was the “Highland Spectacular” band tour to Dubbo. The two concerts were a wonderful mix of traditional and contemporary music, songs and Highland Dancing. The stage shows were a collection of the favorite pieces the band played over the last 16 years at the Jazz Nights with a few new ones thrown in. The concert was so much fun many parents, audience members and band members have decided that we need to do it again. The day after the Dubbo concerts we played at the annual Cherry Festival in Young. The band was received well winning the hearts of the crowd and even winning the “Best Marching Display”. The year concluded with the Cadet Ceremonial Parade, and a very stirring and emotional performance at the very last Scots School Speech Day.

I would like to thank all that have been involved with the Pipes & Drums during the course of the year. I would especially like to extend this appreciation to Gill Mackenzie, parents, Friends of the Band Committee and band members. Finally, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Dance Instructor, Mrs Kim Durie, to Drum Instructor Mr Millaine Longmore and to Mrs Denise Garland for her continuing loyal support to the Pipes and Drums.

## **Agriculture**

This time last year we had just gone through a hard winter and were waiting on the spring flush of feed, but unfortunately that didn't eventuate. As many of our farming readers would completely agree with, the season went from bad to worse very quickly. The worst drought in history hit us and continues to cause a lot of stress, heartache and hardship. The school farm was not spared of this horrible state of affairs. Our stock has spent most of the year being hand fed from hay sourced in Victoria and are hanging on. A small break in the season has given us a small amount of feed, with the weather now heating up and with no follow up rain, feed is getting scarce again.

Caitlin Ross and Claire Waggoner, two Practical Agricultural Teachers, joined us for eight weeks and developed great relationships with the students. This was the fifth year the Agricultural Department have had the great pleasure of hosting these students via the relationship with CSU Global and the University of Kentucky. The young ladies quickly became fully involved both with the Agriculture classes and the school's cattle show team. During March the first cross ewes were synchronised again with CIDR's. Preliminary Year 11 Agriculture students had a great experience running this program. The ewes were joined with the White Suffolk ram who was raddled. We had a trouble-free tight lambing in August. After a very tough autumn and winter the ewes lambed with one of our highest lambing percentages on record. These lambs are being finished off on our Oat crop and hopefully some rain will get our Lucerne crop up and going.

Summit Livestock under the generosity of Hayden Green, again, donated some exceptional semen from one of their bulls –Summit Cornerstone. The stud Limousins were inseminated, and it was very pleasing that there was close to an 80% conception rate achieved. As in previous years, Leigh Scott was generous in allowing the department to use his Limousin bull as the 'mop up' bull. Our March drop calves are fabulous with 4 of the bull (now steer) calves being of high quality and have been put in the feedlot in preparation for Sydney Royal 2019.

We sadly farewelled our long serving farmhand Mr Peter Rebaux late in 2018 and welcomed Mr Bruce Inwood. Bruce is a local farmer and is the husband of Mrs Sharon Inwood who has worked with the school for a number of years coaching swimming and netball. Bruce has

been a fabulous asset to the school and we thank him very much for his outstanding contribution to our programs and the farm.

A crop of 'Outback' oats was again sown and irrigated in our front paddock for our ewes to lamb which was so valuable due to the shortage of feed in other paddocks. The old Lucerne crop was sprayed out and a new crop sown to ensure good summer feed is available to the lambs. A drop or two of rain is needed to get this crop up and going.

The students have been very busy with Stage 4 Technology working on a unit called 'The Chicken or the Egg' where they learn about the poultry industry. They also hatch out chicks using the schools incubator and finally design and build a model hen house. Stage 5 Agriculture has worked on the Prime Lamb Production, Intensive Animal Production and Pasture Production topics. These students all completed a plant collection which involved collecting grasses, legumes and weeds along with identifications and details of each plant. The students did a fabulous job of this. They also had an excursion to a 1100 sow piggery named 'Landsdowne' in Young which enabled them to get a first-hand experience of intensive animal production. These students then assessed the media portrayal of these industries and compared this to 'facts' they had viewed. The Year 12 HSC Agriculture class worked extremely hard right up until the very end and Year 11 Agriculture are now beginning their HSC studies and doing so with great maturity and a tremendous work ethic.

The Cattle team had another year of great success with a huge team. The team exhibited at Blayney, Bathurst and Sydney Royal with many ribbons and championships being taken out. The highlight of our year is Sydney Royal – again the team did exceptionally well with the carcasses performing beyond expectations. These results are not only due to the many months of hard work along with fabulous genetics but also the 'little things' the kids work on during the season that many don't see. A summary of the main results are as follow:

- RESERVE CHAMPION LIGHTWEIGHT STEER with Hugo Humphries' Limousin steer bred by Summit Livestock
- RESERVE CHAMPION MIDDLEWEIGHT STEER with Maya Brooking's Limousin steer, a 'Scots' homebred steer
- CHAMPION VIRTUAL TASTE TEST with Jake Mawhood's Angus steer bred by the Mawhood family
- First place in class in class 10 Taste Test with an Angus steer bred by David Searle.

To top it off we were awarded the 'Most Successful Steer Exhibitor', winning the Eve Cullen Memorial Trophy and \$1000. This personally meant a great deal to Mrs Dawes because she showed with Eve Cullen for many years before her time at Scots prior to Eve's passing.

The new co mentors and mentors came home from Sydney and began preparing a team of seven steers and two heifers for the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza in Scone. This is a huge steer show with 350 steers and a massive 890 students in paraders and junior judging. It was their first time at this show and they all did a tremendous job. All steers came home with ribbons in very tough classes. Special congratulations go to Hugo Green who won his paraders class. The carcass results were very pleasing with six out of seven steers in the top 5 and 3 steers receiving over 90%. Special thanks go to all the parents who attended the show

with the students and especially to Amanda and Peter Thomas and Amanda Robinson along with all the contributing parents for feeding the cattle team throughout the five days. The team is currently in the midst of breaking in the 2019 show team with eighteen steers coming from all over the state.

Many thanks go to the producers who supply the team with cattle each year –Mr Leigh Scott of Meadowflat, Mr Austin Steer of Trangie, Mr Phil Kirk of Peak Hill, Mr Hayden Green of Wagga Wagga, Mrs Kathy Curran, Catherine Fields, Mrs Donna Robson, Flemington Limousins, Adelong, Mr Stuart Green, Mandurama and Mr Ian Mawhood of Oberon. There are several parents who continually support the Agriculture program at Scots. Many thanks go to Louise Warry, Lesley Kidd, Brett Cranston, Shane Ryan, Susan Webb and Leigh Scott; their help is greatly appreciated.

The Agriculture Prefect, Claudia Humphries, is an amazing young lady passionate about Agriculture. She led the student body with professionalism and commitment. Her work was exceptional and she had so many new ideas which she incorporated into the team. Claudia should be congratulated on being Runner up in the Norman Lethbridge Award at Sydney Royal.

The Agriculture program of the school owes enormous thanks to Ms Lorna Rae for her continual support and allowing us to continually use her land. Hugely beneficial to the students is the large stock numbers ran at the school, which are the perfect resource for learning and would not be possible without the use of Lorna's land.

## **Equestrian Report**

Equestrian during 2018 has been busy with all riders showing tremendous improvement in their given disciplines.

Our team members are a super bunch of riders who always ride with a great deal of passion. Rosie Webb has continued to work with Gemma and they are progressing in leaps and bounds, Felicity Webb with her young horse 'Darcy' has excelled in educating him as a great all rounder. Lana Eastment and Honey have become the ultimate 'all-rounders' and excel in many disciplines. Maddie Whitley continues to excel in her sporting and mounted games along with other stockhorse classes. Courtney Roberts continues to work with "Gem" who is really a gem and is teaching Courtney so much. Lillian Oke and her lovely old boy 'Masky' are progressing in all areas and are enjoying and progressing in dressage. Zoe Stuart is our new member and her horse 'Holly' enjoy dabbling in a bit of everything.

The equestrian students have thoroughly enjoyed the regular lessons from Mrs Jennifer Wood in Showjumping and more recently with Miss Sarah Faraway for flatwork. The team really appreciates these experienced and passionate coaches working with them.

October came around very quickly and we set out for Tamworth to compete at ISHE (Interschool Horse Extravaganza). This event sees approx. 700 horse and rider combinations. Rosie Webb, Felicity Webb, Lana Eastment, Maddie Whitley, Lillian Oke and Courtney Roberts all attended and competed in many events such as Working Horse Challenge, Time Trials, Team Mug Race, Eventing, Showjumping and Dressage. Special thanks must go to Mrs Sue Webb who managed the team at this event and made sure everyone knew where to be at the right time. All riders did an awesome job and a lot of personal bests and 'first times'

were conquered!

Congratulations to Libby Dawes and all riders and their horses for a fabulous year and we look forward to another busy but fun year ahead.

## **Cadet Unit**

The Scots School Cadet Unit had a big transition in 2018. CUO Julia Ross, CUO Elizabeth Balzke, RSM Jaime Balzke and CSM Joshua Van Essen began Year 12 and therefore parted ways with Cadets. Madison Burns, year 10, was promoted to the Cadet Under Officer of the Unit and took on the responsibility of the Year 8 training program for Term 1.

CUO Madison Burns, CPL Jack Kiernan, CPL Daniel Allen-ford, CPL Caiban Lucas and LCPL Harry Dickenson led the Cadets through part 2 of the recruit training. Participation in Cadets continues as a compulsory activity for Year 8's during Term 1, who could, at the completion of their recruit training, choose to join the Leadership Development group or discontinue cadets. The compulsory safety course held in Term 1 includes treading water, floatation and clothed swimming. An essential component that contributes to the recruit training each year. The Recruits were introduced to basic drill, radio procedures, field craft, navigation, basic first aid and principles of leadership.

The command group conducted the training and also focused on more advanced drill for upcoming events such as the Highland Gathering. Performing the flag raising and lowering ceremonies at the Highland Gathering, parading in the ANZAC Day commemorations and attending the commemorative Service for the Nurses that served during the War period were some of the community events that the command group attended throughout Term 1. These Cadets are to be commended on their organisation and commitment to the school and the Unit, especially taking time out of their weekend and school holidays to represent the School community.

In term 2, the recruits were able to put their recruit training into practice as they headed to Mt. York to commence their 4 day adventure camp through the Hartley Valley. The command group lead the cadets throughout the camp, alongside the expertise of the Outdoor Education Group. This year, it was important to focus on Cadet activities and tasks, such as a first aid scenario, practicing radio terms and also completing navigation successfully. The Cadets are reasonably self-sufficient throughout the camp, carrying all clothes, bedding, first aid, food and cookware for the four days. The recruits participated in rock climbing, abseiling and team building scenarios provided by OEG. The Outdoor Education Group provide an excellent camp each year, allowing the recruits to understand all aspects of Cadets. The compulsory term of cadets had been completed by the conclusion of the camp.

Term 2 focuses on advanced skills and knowledge that are necessary for the completion of the July promotion courses. Jack Kiernan and Madison Burns attended the Promotion Course (CUO/WO's) at the Singleton Military Training Area. Kiernan and Burns both successfully completed the CUO/WO's course at a high achievement level, both obtaining the necessary grades to be promoted to a higher rank. Jack Kiernan and Caiban Lucas attended the Annual Field Exercise (AFX) during September, both Cadets held leadership roles throughout the camp and completed the camp with an outstanding attitude. AFX is a specialised camp that provides further activities to improve the skills of the cadets.

Throughout term 3 and 4, the Cadets had several community events. They were invited to the International Lions Convention to introduce each participating country's flag to the Official Opening Ceremony of the Convention. The outstanding performance by the Cadets was highly commended by the Lion's Club Members. The Laying of the Memorial pavers at the Bathurst Crematorium was during November. Veterans, community members, and representatives of the Local and State Government attended the event. It was a privilege to attend such an important event to remember the past, present and future service men and women of the central west region. Once again, the Cadets were commended by servicemen on their drill.

CUO Burns led the command group throughout both the School Remembrance Day Service as a Catafalque Party. CUO Burns LCPL H Dickenson laid a wreath on behalf of the School at the Community service on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> of November.

The Unit had a visit from CO BTN LT. COL Cassey who is in charge of all Cadet Units through the Central West. LT. COL Cassey met with Mr. David Gates, Captain Russell Setright, Tegan Brunton and CUO Madison Burns in order to discuss the future of the Cadets and the upcoming changes to the unit with the impending merge. After this meeting, LT. COL Cassey reviewed the facilities and spoke with the Cadets and answered any questions that they had, especially about his time in the Australian Army. It was a fantastic opportunity to have LT. COL Cassey visit the Cadets.

Throughout Term 4, the preparation for the Annual Ceremonial Parade began. The year 7's began their recruit training and learnt the drill necessary for the Parade. The Recruits showed discipline and commitment to learning the new drill movements, and their efforts were shown in the parade. The leadership by the command group was a great asset to the final Scots School Ceremonial Parade.

At the Ceremonial Parade, the Sword of Honour was awarded to CUO Madison Burns, the RSM Plaque was awarded to CPL Daniel Allen- Ford and CPL Caiban Lucas, and the Most Improved Cadet Shield was awarded the CDT Lillian Oke. The Long Tan Leadership Awards, a prestigious award presented on behalf of the Army on Speech Day, was awarded to LCPL Harry Dickenson and CUO Julia Ross.

All Cadets and leaders should be commended on their efforts and achievements throughout the year of 2018. The 2019 Cadet year will begin with the Scots All Saints College year 9 students joining the Unit.

## **The NSW Rural Fire Service Cadets**

The Rural Fire Service Secondary Schools' Cadet Program has been running in the Chifley/Lithgow area since 2005. The program has a proud history throughout the districts, attracting participation from schools in Bathurst, Lithgow, Blayney, Portland and Oberon.

The Scots School participation in the program this year was our strongest ever. Fifteen Year 9 students, along with one Year 10 student took part in the ten week program in Term One.

They were joined by a student from All Saints College, as well as two Year 11 students from Scots, who returned to further the skills they had learned in 2017.

On Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November the students represented The Scots School at the Cadet Championship and Graduation Day held at Denison College in Kelso.

Our three teams competed against five teams from other schools in four events that simulated best practices currently employed on fire grounds. To do well, a team needs to be able to demonstrate their proficiency in technique, along with communication and co-operation skills vital to a co-ordinated effort. For the third year in a row, one of our teams, Team Bravo, consisting of William McDonald, Grace Evans, Hugo Green, Matilda Proctor, Felicity Webb and William Webb, was named Champion Team. Teams Alpha and Charlie also placed very well in all events.

At the conclusion of the competition the participants were presented with their certificates of graduation.

I would like to sincerely thank Mr Tom van Gend and the volunteers who work with our students during the program, as well as those who plan, prepare and execute the Cadet Championship and Graduation Day.

## **The Scots School Boarding**

The staff for 2018 included Mr John Day (Director of Boarding and Head of Bulkeley House), Mrs Kate Simm (Head of Galloway House), Mr Cameron Roxburgh (Head of The Kennel/Ives House), Mrs Margaret Mackay (Senior Resident) and Mr Andrew Maher (Senior Resident). The boarding staff represent a highly experienced, responsible and dedicated staff who all work tirelessly for the benefit and welfare of our boarding students.

Mr Cameron Roxburgh has brought his experience in outdoor education and his caring nature to bear in his role as Head of The Kennel/Ives House this year, where he has mentored 15 Year 7 and 8 boys. In July this year Mr Roxburgh became the first Head of Ives House when The Kennel was renamed after Mrs Betty Ives, whose association with The Scots School extends over six decades. I would like to thank Mr Roxburgh for the energy, care and initiative that he has shown this year as a member of the boarding team at The Scots School. Mr Andy Ball, who will be teaching music at Scots All Saints College, will take up the reigns as Head of Ives House in 2019.

Mr John Day will hand over the Head of Bulkeley House responsibilities to Mr Spencer Goddard next year. Mr Goddard is currently Head of Boys Boarding and a member of the academic staff at All Saints College and he will remain a HSIE teacher at Scots All Saints College. I wish to thank Mr Day for his dedication and innovation in boarding this year both as Head of Bulkeley House and Director of Boarding; I wish him well as he moves his new school in the Southern Highlands.

Mrs Kate Simm has continued to nurture and mentor our female boarders in her role as Head of Galloway House this year. She has provided a stable, well-organised environment in which our girls have flourished, forming a close, caring community. I wish Mrs Simm and her family all the best as they leave us after two years of dedicated service to our boarding community. Ms Lynne Woodlock will take up the role as Head of Galloway House while she

teaches at Scots All Saints College in 2019. Ms Woodlock is currently a staff member at All Saint's College.

Mrs Simm has been ably assisted by Mrs Margaret Mackay in the role of Assistant Head of Galloway House this year. Mrs Mackay has contributed more widely in boarding through her role as Transport Co-ordinator and Senior Resident. Mrs Mackay has contributed in this capacity not only in 2018 but for the past seven years. In this time Mrs Mackay has assisted our girls in their prep times and provided many valuable craft experiences and educational activities as well as guidance. Although Mrs Mackay is leaving the boarding community this year, she will remain a part of our academic staff at the new Scots All Saints College.

Boarding numbers have been increasing and 2018 was no exception. We are currently at 57 boys and 40 girls from Year 6 to Year 12 in full-time boarding. We have 15 Year 12 boarder boys and girls sitting the HSC. Our students continue to come from many areas including urban and rural areas in NSW, The Northern Territory as well as globally from Korea, China, Japan, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam and Latvia. With the formation of the new Scots All Saints College and the opening of Thompson House our numbers in 2019 will be around 140 with an almost even split of girls and boys.

Thompson House has been refurbished and will be a girls boarding house, under the guidance of Ms Lucinda Wells in 2019. Ms Wells comes to us from the All Saints Boarding and academic staff and she will continue as a teacher with Scots All Saints College next year.

At the Dubbo Boarding Expo and the Mudgee, Nyngan and Borenore field days, families have been expressing strong interest in our family friendly co-educational boarding experience. I would like to thank the Boarders P & F for their support in promoting our boarding and providing valuable funds to enhance the boarding experience for our boarders. This year the Boarders P&F made it possible to update the gym in Bulkeley House, purchase new lounges for the common room in The Kennel/Ives House and a treadmill and pot plants for Galloway House. The Boarders P & F also provided valuable input into the integration of The Scots School and All Saints College.

## **Dining Hall**

This year's school musical was Oliver, that contains the immortal question, "Please sir, could I have some more?" This has been the case too in the Dining Hall where quite a few children have come back for more during the year.

The Dining Hall has continued to serve a variety of meals, many of them favourites. There are some traditional standbys like pies, sausages and mashed potato, but there have also been a range of casseroles and oriental-style stir fries. Mr Maher is very fond of the flathead that is served from time to time.

They are often kept busy catering for other functions. One weekend they provided food for a lunch for a visiting First XI cricket team, and for a School Board meeting all in one day, as well as several morning and afternoon teas. Special functions such as the Rugby Dinner and Valedictory Dinner fall within the remit of the catering staff.

The familiar faces among the staff remain. Miss Louise Potts and Mrs Lizzie Foster are long term members of the catering staff. Mrs Foster received an award for ten years' service. They were joined this year by Mrs Allison McAllum. Mrs Kaiko Harris also continued on

the staff. On the other side of the servery, Mr John Day, the Head of Boarding, and his family have become regulars in the Dining Hall and regularly experience the Dining Hall meals first hand.

The Dining Hall ladies have taken great pride in the fact that they have again this year received a 5 Star award under the New South Wales Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. The school has been awarded this rating continually since the scheme was introduced.

Next year, with the integration of Scots and All Saints there will be new challenges; feeding a much larger number of boarders being one of them.

## **Junior School**

### **Staffing**

2018 was a significant year in the history of our Junior School with over 110 students enrolling at the Bathurst campus resulting in the creation of seven classes for the first time. In 2018, Kindergarten was taught by Mrs Jennie White, Year 1 by Mrs Lyn Inglis, Year 2 by Mrs Sarah Willis, Year 3 by Mr Hugh Hunter, Year 4 by Miss Karen Arthurs, Year 5 by Mr Anthony Roohan and Mrs Sarah Milligan/ Mrs Paula Kinlyside and Year 6 by Mr Trent Hemsworth. On the Lithgow Campus, our K-6 class was taught by Mrs Erika Pringle. Mrs Anne Marie Adamson taught French to all classes whilst students have also enjoyed weekly Drama and Dance lessons with Miss Karen Arthurs, Music with Mrs Frances McLeod, PE with Mr Trent Hemsworth and Choir with Mrs Denise Garland. Christian Studies and weekly chapel services were conducted by Mr Samuel Gittins. Mrs Belinda Boshier was the Junior School Administration Officer whilst Mrs Gillian Gates was the Teachers' Assistant and provided many students with additional support especially with reading.

### **Academic Excellence**

#### **NAPLAN**

Our students demonstrated many strengths in NAPLAN in 2018. In Year 3, 13 students took part in NAPLAN.

- The number of students in the top two bands in Reading, Spelling and Writing was above the SSSG and DoE average.
- 84.5% of Year 3 were in the top two bands for Writing, 69.2% for Reading and 69.2% for Spelling.
- No students were below National Minimum Standards in Reading, Spelling, Writing, Grammar and Punctuation or Numeracy.

In Year 5, 14 students took part in NAPLAN.

- The number of students in the top two bands in Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Writing and Numeracy was above the SSSG and DoE average.
- The number of students meeting or exceeding growth in all components was significant including 85.7% in Numeracy and Reading.
- No students were below national Minimum Standards in Reading, Numeracy or Grammar and Punctuation.

In addition to strengths, staff examine the data very carefully and identify areas within groups and across the school for continual improvement.

## **ICAS**

This year participation in the ICAS Competitions in English, Spelling, Writing, Digital Technologies and Science was again optional. We achieved outstanding results in all areas.

In English, Lillian Gittins received a High Distinction whilst Margaret McCusker-Roth received a Distinction. Monique Graham, Tess Yordanoff, Sybilla Chapman, Bryce Host and Benjamin Reynolds received Credits whilst Grace Sturgiss, Lucy Roohan, Luke Burgess and Shanlei Christian received Merits.

In Writing, a High Distinction was awarded to Margaret McCusker-Roth. Zoe Banning, Paul Christian, Izaak Scott and Lillian Gittins were awarded Distinctions. Grayson Jacobsen, Grace Sturgiss, Phoebe Hodges and Shanlei Christian received Credits and Catani Reynolds received a Merit.

In Science, a Distinction was awarded to Tess Yordanoff. Credits were awarded to Isabella Owens, Sybilla Chapman, Harrison Jenkins, Benjamin Reynolds and Catani Reynolds. Merits were awarded to Monique Graham, Margaret McCusker-Roth, Jonathan Price, Bryce Host, Chelsea Price, Zephir Valsain and Oscar Yordanoff.

In Digital Technologies, Oscar Yordanoff and Benjamin Reynolds were awarded a Distinction. Credits were awarded to Zoe Banning, Sybilla Chapman, Paul Christian and Margaret McCusker- Roth.

In Mathematics, Margaret McCusker-Roth, Mason Still and Benjamin Reynolds were awarded Distinctions. Kate Lang, Harrison Leet, Isabella Owens, Bryce Host, Harrison Jenkins, Zephir Valsain and Oscar Yordanoff received Credits whilst Jonathan Price, Phoebe Hodges, Sritha Atluri and Chelsea Price received Merits.

In August, our Stage 3 students also took part in the Newcastle Permanent Building Society Mathematics Competition. Distinction awards were presented to Connie McGlashan, Luke Burgess, Oscar Yordanoff and Zephir Valsain.

## **Authors' Award**

All students from Kindergarten to Year 6 participated in the Authors' and Illustrators' Award in Term Three. Children planned, drafted, edited, illustrated and published a story that related to a unit of study. Stories were marked according to a set criteria and were shared with parents at the Student Led Conferences at the end of Term 3.

## **Public Speaking Program**

Our Public Speaking Program was again a highlight of our year. The standard was once again very high in all areas including content, delivery, engagement and posture. Finals were held in October and our finalists were acknowledged at our Awards Assembly. Mrs Jooste did a magnificent job adjudicating the finalists and the students appreciated her feedback. Sybilla

Chapman, Grayson Jacobsen, Sritha Atluri and Shanlei Christian represented the Junior School at the CWA Public Speaking Competition. Sritha Atluri and Sybilla Chapman won their division and went onto the CWA Inter Group Public Speaking regional finals to compete against students from several regions including the Central West, Far West and Oxley.

### **Debating Competition**

Our Stage 3 students enjoyed the challenge of the HICES Debating Competition where we attained three wins in the preliminary rounds. This was an outstanding achievement. It was great to see our students eager to participate, take on a new role and learn more about the art of debating.

### **Premier's Reading Challenge**

Once again Premier's Reading Challenge attracted widespread interest in our Junior School. The challenge aims to encourage a love of reading for pleasure in students and enable them to experience the joys of quality literature. It wasn't a competition but rather a challenge to each student to read, to read more and to read more widely.

34 students completed the 2018 Premier's Reading challenge! K-2 students had to read 30 listed books over a 6 month period whilst 3-6 students had to read 20 books. Certificates were awarded to Elizabeth Alexander, Max Banning, Eleanor Beech, Hayden Brown, Sadie Chapman, Amelia Guihot, Eleanor Guihot, Anastasia Harris, Rory Hutchinson, Emmeline Jacobsen, Kobe Wollaston, Carter Beech, Charlie Roohan, Lavishaa Gnanaguru, Monique Graham, Harrison Leet, Hayden Hodges, Alexis Jarvis, Kate Lang, Tess Yordanoff, Lydia Brown, Sybilla Chapman, Margaret McCusker-Roth, Izaak Scott, Tianabelle Warner, Lacey Booth, Phoebe Hodges, Toby Hutchinson, Grayson Jacobsen, Kael Lawson, Lucy Roohan, Oscar Yordanoff, Luke Burgess and Connie McGlashan.

### **STEM**

STEM sessions continued in 2018. All students took part in a Robokids workshop that featured programming BeeBots for Kindergarten, WeDo 2.0 kits and iPads to program and build robots from instructions and modify them using programming software on an iPad for Years 1-3 whilst Years 4-6 used EV3 robots and laptops to program them. Fortnightly STEM sessions continued and teachers prepared a range of stimulating lessons that linked to other key learning areas and promoted practical, inquiry and project-based learning. Stage 2 and 3 took part in coding activities in Term 2 and 3. Thinking creatively, reasoning systematically and working collaboratively were developed in these sessions.

### **Sustainability**

In Term 3, we launched our own war on waste in a bid to cut down on waste in our playground. All students enjoyed an Enviro Matters Workshop where they learnt about waste reduction and received lots of tips on how they can reduce waste and help our environment.

### **Staff Professional Learning**

Staff continue to learn and develop their skills each year. This year all staff have taken the opportunity to further develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of many areas in their work as they prepare to integrate with All Saints in 2019.

All staff took part in continued professional learning on formative assessment strategies and differentiation.

All staff underwent 2 days of professional learning in THRASS. THRASS stands for Teaching Handwriting, Reading and Spelling Skills and will be implemented across the Junior School in 2019.

Mrs Lyn Inglis also attended a 2 day Writing: The Future workshop at Canberra University.

Mrs Willis has undertaken professional learning in Evidence Based Classroom Management Awaken Youth - Youth Suicide Prevention.

Mrs White, Mrs Chapman and Mrs Price attended Supporting Challenging Behaviours by Kim Barthel which was hosted by Seed Therapy. Mrs White also attended a Crusader Training Day.

Anthony Roohan has attended several conferences on programs that we will be implementing in 2019 including Seven Steps of Writing with Miss Arthurs, Brightpath Writing and Bounceback.

### **Learning Support**

Literacy Support has been led by Mrs Kerry Robinson. Mrs Gillian Gates continued in the role of teacher aide and many students have benefited from the Multilit program and daily reading at instructional level. Many students have made outstanding progress under Mrs Gates' guidance and support.

### **Junior School Sport**

This year, we were excited to introduce weekly PE lessons with Mr Trent Hemsworth in addition to our existing sporting program. Students enjoyed their specialist lessons and have greatly benefited from the additional session.

Once again there were many sporting highlights in 2018 including our swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals. Lang were our 2018 swimming champions for the third year in a row, whilst Browning took out the Cross Country and Athletics Carnival.

Many of our champion swimmers and athletes were selected to represent our school at the various HICES Carnivals and with resounding success.

Four students, gained selection in the HICES Athletics squad and competed at the CIS Athletics Carnival in Sydney. Lillian Gittins (Discus), Laura Scott (Discus and Shot), Alec Lewis (Discus) and Izaak Scott (Discus) each performed admirably whilst Izaak Scott, Lacey Booth and Benjamin Reynolds went on to represent HICES at the CIS Cross Country. Izaak Scott was also successful at the CIS Cross Country, coming 5th in Boys 8/9 year old event

and went on to compete in the NSW Cross Country.

In our Winter Sport season, we fielded three netball teams with Mrs Sarah Willis coaching our Lionesses, Miss Karen Arthurs our Cubs and Miss Jessica Power our Cuddly Cubs. Our teams worked hard all season and skills developed with Wednesday training sessions and some tough games on those cold Saturday mornings.

We also offered soccer and formed 10 combined teams with All Saints' College. It proved a great way to help our students and parents get to know one another. Many new friendships were formed and it was exciting to witness the sportsmanship displayed on the field and the improvement from all players. Special thanks must go to all the parents who transported their children to training each week.

Similarly, during the 2017/18 cricket season, we formed joint teams and trained together. Many of our older students were now able to play cricket for their school and relished the opportunity to train and play. We've also been able to offer basketball with many students training on a Tuesday afternoon and playing competitive basketball on a Wednesday evening.

In Term 2, all students once again took part in a 4 week gymnastic program at ASPIRE Gymnastics. The students love going to aspire and trying out new movements and positions on the equipment.

Swimming coach, Sharon Inwood has continued the Learn to Swim program for younger students and the Junior Dolphins Program for more able swimmers.

Tennis skills have been held on a Monday afternoon with coaching provided by the Bathurst Tennis Centre.

Each year, we are able to nominate individual students who excel in sports for CIS (Combined Independent Schools) trials. This year, Morgan Still and Chelsea Price represented our school at the CIS hockey trials in Sydney.

### **Diverse Opportunities**

Once again, the Junior School offered a range of co-curricular activities throughout the year.

### **Camps and Excursions**

Year 6 travelled to St Paul's in Penrith for their Leadership Day in March. Stage 3 travelled to Canberra in early August to learn all about democracy and our system of government. Stage 2 travelled to Burrendong Dam for some adventure and team based activities before camping overnight at Taronga Western Plains Zoo and going on a behind the scenes tour of the zoo.

Lithgow students visited Featherdale Wildlife Park to see many of the animals they had been learning about. Students were all lucky enough to pat a shingle-back lizard, tawny frogmouth, a snake and a koala!

### **Music**

In 2018, we welcomed Mrs Frances McLeod to our school and implemented a weekly specialist music lesson for all classes. We were very fortunate to witness some wonderful items that the students had been working on at our Mother's Day Morning Tea.

Many students continued to or began private instrumental lessons in 2018. Our students are very fortunate to learn from some very well qualified and competent musicians. Mrs Anna Smith from the Mitchell Conservatorium of Music provided Music lessons for Lithgow students which complimented our focus concept each term.

Many students have benefited from Speech and Drama lessons with Mrs Belinda Boshier and the skill, articulation and confidence could be seen at the Performing Arts Assembly in Term 4. All of our students who learn an instrument or who are learning to sing and undertake Speech and Drama had the opportunity to perform at this assembly.

Our K-2 and Primary Choir rehearsed weekly and prepared items for the Bathurst Eisteddfod, Mother's Day and Christmas Carol Evening. Our choirs had a very successful year under the guidance of our Head of Music, Mrs Denise Garland.

Our Kindergarten Choir achieved 3rd place in their division and the Stage 1 choir achieved a Highly Commended.

Our Year 3 and 4 Choir –achieved 2nd place in their division whilst our Year 5 and 6 Choir took out 1st place in a highly contested field.

Our Year 2 percussion group were also awarded a highly commended.

### **Dance and Drama**

Another addition to our 2019 program was a weekly Dance/ Drama lesson with Miss Karen Arthurs. Our Stage 2 and 3 students put on quite a show at our Mother's Day Morning Tea as they performed several contemporary classics.

### **Highland Dancing**

Highland Dancing was taught by Mrs Mary Weber (K-4) and Mrs Kim Durie (5-6 and Lithgow) and our students were provided with many opportunities to impress an audience including at the Mother's Day, Highland Jazz Night, Spring Fair and Blue, Black and Gold Ball. Our Stage 2 dancers have also performed at Parent- Information Nights and transition days.

### **Dramatic Performances**

Students were very fortunate to witness a variety of live theatrical shows in 2019. In April, Stage 2 and 3 watched George's Marvellous Medicine whilst K-2 saw Yo Diddle Diddle early in the year Shrek the Musical towards the end of the year.

Many of our Stage 3 students part in the whole school production of 'Oliver' and what a magnificent and talented show they put on for all of us.

Our Lithgow students performed the play 'North Pole's Got Talent', for the end of year concert, which was enjoyed enormously.

### **Art Club**

In Term 4, local artist Dean Mobbs joined forces with our Junior School to offer three exciting afternoon art sessions for our Year 3- 6 students who have a flair and interest in art. With the mindset of fun, colourful inspiration, styled aesthetic, imagination and creative positivity, our young artists were able to experiment and try out a variety of new ideas and skills. I was nothing short of impressed with some of the samples I saw.

### **Spiritual Awareness**

Every Friday, Mr Gittins led our weekly chapel service with enthusiasm, passion and purpose. The students enjoyed every opportunity to sing and praise God and our Kindergarten students did a great job each week by leading the Lord's Prayer. Students were encouraged to attend Sunday Chapel once a term and it was a delight to see many students attend all four services.

Every Thursday, Mrs White and her Crusader group met in the Kindergarten room to share a Christian message, sing songs and play games. Weekly scripture lessons were taught by Mrs Gillian Gates (Kindergarten and Stage 2), Mr Tristan Merkel and Teresa Punnett (Stage 1) and Stage 3 Christian Studies was taught by Mr Samuel Gittins. We appreciate the work of each of these teachers and thank them for the time and energy they put into teaching our students about our God.

The Easter Hat Parade was a lovely occasion for our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten-Year 2 students. The parade involves our students presenting the story of Easter amidst a background of song and dance.

We continued to support our Sponsor Child, Masila by bringing in a coin to the first chapel of the month.

The Christmas box appeal was again well supported with many families returning one or more boxes for this very worthwhile program.

Mrs Collins led Scripture lessons on the Lithgow Campus and end of term services at the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church along with new Minister, Mr Fong, who loves to draw and use balloon creatures to help tell us his story!

### **Special Events**

The Family Fun Day in February was a great way to welcome new families and reconnect with each other at the start of the year. There was lots of fun to be had on the giant slip n slide, jumping castle and Mr Whippy. Our new evening time slot was a great success with the sun setting over the trees and providing lots of shade from the summer heat.

Many of our students from both campuses attended the ANZAC Day March. It was great to see so many of our students paying their respects with patience, reverence and awe.

The Father's Day Breakfast and Book Fair was an amazing success. This year, students were encouraged to dress up and take part in a range of 'treasure finding activities' around the oval with their dad or special loved one. \$2980.29 worth of books were sold, but most importantly it was a wonderful morning to share as a community.

Bike Day in late September, was as popular as ever. Special thanks to Mrs Beech for her coordination of our 2018 Bike Safety Day. The students enjoyed riding safely on the school roads and obstacle courses. Constables Lorna and Louise also provided us with some friendly advice.

The French Concert was another treat. Mrs Adamson did a fantastic job preparing the students for this annual event. The children looked fantastic in their costumes and the items were very cleverly constructed with some delightful singing and accents. This year the theme was 'Tour de France.'

In March we celebrated Harmony Day. Harmony Day is a great way to celebrate the diversity in our school and to learn about where each of our families come from. Students were able to engage in lots of fun activities including Indigenous Art, South African games, Polish Dancing, African singing and a French Q and A session. A big thank you to those parents who have made themselves available on the day to help out with some of the activities and to all of the parents who were able to prepare some special food items. They were delicious! We welcomed 12 Keystone students from South Korea to our Junior School in Term 3. Students enjoyed learning a little bit about South Korean life and the Keystones certainly enjoyed the wide open spaces of the Scots School and a tour of our nation's capital.

In 2018 we continued to recognise learning in all our students. Lion Awards recognise specific areas of student learning and it is wonderful to listen to these at our Monday assembly. Citizen of the week awards were also presented at our Monday assembly where we look to acknowledge excellence in all aspects of school life.

The Year 6 mini fete was a fun and memorable day. There was something for everyone with a \$5 pass enabling students to have access to a jumping castle, face painting, obstacle course, hair spray, water sponge tossing and a guessing competition.

The mini fete was followed by the Year 6 Graduation Dinner. The night was a lovely way to mark the end of an era in the education of our Year 6 class. Our Year 6 class have been exceptional leaders and have fully embraced the life of our school. Laura Scott, Mekhi Willott-Bird, Catani Reynolds and Jacob Brown began school at Scots in Pre- Kindergarten whilst Claire Halpin joined them in Kindergarten and many others have joined us along the way. We thank them for the contribution they have made to the life of our school and wish them every success in the future.

Students have enjoyed a range of integration activities each term where they have been given the opportunity to form some new friendships and navigate their way around the new campus.

## **Friends of Junior School**

The Friends of Junior School Committee has worked hard throughout the year to raise money and organise activities that will make our Junior School an even better place to learn.

Fundraising efforts have included the Highland Gathering, Disco, Movie Night and running the canteen and BBQ at our sporting carnivals. The Trivia Night was a wonderful success and although not a fundraiser the Colour Run was a great community initiative. I wish to commend our committee consisting of Mrs Melanie Jacobsen, Mr Jeff McKay and Mrs Michele Hutchinson along with a much wider group of parents who regularly attended meetings and assisted in varying capacities throughout the year.

Early in the year, the FOJS contributed \$10000 towards twenty new laptops in the Junior School. The laptops have certainly been well utilised by Stage 3 throughout the year and Stage 2 in more recent times. More recently, FOJS contributed \$7000 towards seating for a new lunch area on the K-8 campus. This amount was matched by the P and F resulting in \$14000 of new seating for the new school. On behalf of the Junior School staff and students I thank everyone involved for their support.

FOJS will become FOJAMS (Friends of Junior and Middle School) in 2019 and I look forward to working with another dedicated and hard-working team.

Our Lithgow P&F always work hard and this year P&F fundraising along with State Government funding saw a new bike track, hopscotch field and grass area installed at the campus, much to the delight of students. Road safety signs were also purchased. To officially open the track, students participated in a Bicycle Safety Day coordinated by Mr Dayne Walker from the PCYC in Lithgow.

### **Parents and Volunteers**

Thank you to all members of our school community who support us through the day to day life of our school. Whether it is through covering books, assisting in coaching, cooking cakes for a carnival, taking photos, visiting assemblies or special celebrations or performances, we say thank you.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Halpin family who are leaving our school. I wish them all the best for their future.

It has been a great privilege to lead and serve the Scots community as Head of Junior School over the past four years. It has been a very demanding yet rewarding role and one that I will treasure with many fond memories for years to come. Whilst there is a sense of sadness and nostalgia at times like these, I look forward to the future and have enjoyed working with Mr Jackman in preparing for the commencement of Scots All Saints College in 2019.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge our hard working and dedicated teaching staff. They work very hard to provide your child/children with a quality learning environment and individualised learning program. I am very grateful for all that they do and look forward to another great year in 2019, our inaugural year as Scots All Saints College.

### **Pre-Kindergarten Bathurst**

As we come to the end of the school year for the final time as 'The Scots School Pre-Kindergarten Bathurst', it's a good time to reflect on the wonderful moments and memories that we have created during 2018. Our action-packed program kept up its fast pace for the duration of the year ensuring the children had lots of fun within their day to day learning.

Our Blue and Gold Classes had an even distribution of mixed gender, each coming into the program with a wide range of skills and experiences ready to make friends and settle into the routines of term one.

The staffing remained the same this year with Mrs Kylie Price teaching the Blue Class 5 days a week, Mrs Chelsea Chapman overseeing the program and teaching the Gold Class 3 days a week and Mrs Rebecca Fabris assisting between the two classes. Miss Jess Power was a valuable member of our team helping with casual teaching on both the Bathurst and Lithgow campus' whilst still undertaking her commitment to After School Supervision. We were excited to wish Miss Power well on her Maternity Leave in the middle of November.

A large component of the Pre-Kindergarten school readiness program is for students to learn how letters can make sounds in words through Jolly Phonics. The children have thrived on this program and its multi-sensory approach to make sounds and meaning in words with fun actions, puppets and songs. Our maths concepts challenged our students with ideas of; colour recognition, 2D shapes, opposites, position, writing numbers/identification, 1:1 correspondence, length, graphing, size and lots more!

The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) program fostered a passion for problem solving and inquiry-based learning in our students who worked in small groups each week to master skills and challenge themselves through their learning. Our areas of interest were; The Sun, Life Cycles, Making & Building and to conclude the year Sensory Play through a variety of mediums – slime, play dough, clay, kinetic sand, cooking and water. STEM was a highlight of the week for a lot of our students who were able to learn through experimentation and hands on experiences that are child driven.

Excursions and events within the school calendar are another busy aspect of the Pre-Kindergarten year. Being a part of the whole school and more closely the Junior school we have the opportunity to participate in a range of events that help celebrate everything that is great about our school; Family Fun Day, Sprinkler Fun, Easter Celebrations, Cross Country, Mother's Day, Athletics Carnival, Disco, Father's Day Book Fair/BBQ, Book Week Celebrations, Bike Day and our inaugural Colour Run were just some of the highlights that were showcased here on our beautiful school grounds.

Our Pre-Kindergarten students love travelling on the school bus and are always proud to show off their uniform in town. We have loved our trips to the Bathurst City Library each term, a trip to the Fire Station, Peace Park, The Smith's family farm as well as trips to All Saints as a part of our integration for a play with Pre-K and to enjoy a special performance from Musica Viva.

The Kindergarten Link Program with Mrs White proved to be a big hit with our students who attend on a Thursday this year. Mixed rotating groups of both Pre-K and Kindergarten students met each week from the beginning of term 2 to build skills in motor movement, literacy skills and gross motor skill building. It has been wonderful to see the Kindergarten students as role models to the younger children and help them in the areas of development.

Great relationships have been formed between peers and it has also helped Mrs White get to know her students for Kindergarten next year.

Coach Samuel was excited to take over the Playball program from Coach Phoebe early in the year. Our Pre-Kindergarten students thrived on the spatial, gross motor, hand-eye and social skill building opportunities that took place in these 45-minute lessons. During Term 4 all students participated in a 4 week 'Get Set for School' program. This was fundamental in testing students in a variety of areas in readiness for school.

The staff within Pre-Kindergarten and the wider school community continue to make our students aware of how fortunate we are in Australia and in our daily lives. We continued to fundraise for Masila our sponsor child who lives in a small village in Kenya. This year we held a 'Crazy Hair' fundraising day as well as selling ice blocks and other events through the year. We were also very aware of the distressing time that our farmers are experiencing with the extreme drought conditions. The whole school along with Pre-K supported this great need with the 'Buy a Bale' cause, dressing in rural clothing and sending in a donation.

We were lucky to have Scripture with Mr Merkel again each Wednesday morning this year and the students really enjoyed his Bible Stories, songs and games that promote a Christian message through a fun and caring environment.

As the year draws to a close with an extremely busy term 4 of - orientation programs, professional development opportunities, the year 6 mini-fete, the School Starter's Picnic, a Carol service and the big finale of our Pre-Kindergarten Graduation and Christmas Picnic it gives a little bit of time to reflect on what a wonderful year it has been as we merge to become a new school. The students will leave the program with so many new skills and abilities that will help them transition into their formal Kindergarten schooling. Their growth and development has been hugely rewarding to witness and we wish them well as they enter the next chapter of their academic lives.

## **Lithgow Report**

### **K-6 - Lithgow**

The Scots School Lithgow K-6 class have enjoyed a magnificent year, sharing many amazing experiences with our friends.

During Term One, K-6 studied 'Growth'. We began by discovering what a growth mind-set was through singing along to Bruno Mars' song Don't Give Up. This set us up for a great year with a focused attitude to learning. We also studied the growth cycles of Australian animals and together with the Pre-K students, and helpers Mrs Scott and Mr Slaven, we visited Featherdale Wildlife Park to see many of the animals we had been learning about. Students were all lucky enough to pat a shingle-back lizard, tawny frogmouth, a snake and a koala!

'What's the Weather' formed the focus for Term Two. Here students created instruments to study the weather. Students then used these instruments to record daily weather patterns. This data was digitally recorded in a PowerPoint presentation inlaid with widgets, animated gifs and personally written weather reports and weather sounds recorded by students. We realised

just how much of a performance the weather reader has to put on!

In Term Three, students studied the unit “What Does It Mean to be Green?” which focused on sustainability, and how we can reduce our global footprint. We were visited by council representatives to teach us about what waste can be recycled, there was a lot more than we realised! We also had a visit from Mrs Agliette and Mrs Jenkins from Ferrero. They came to talk to us about packaging and we learned just how much thought goes into designing a package for a product. We were also lucky enough to take home some of the goodies that they make at Ferrero, including Tic-Tacs. We then designed a new product for Ferrero and sent these design ideas to Mrs Jenkins. Maybe you might see some of our designs on the supermarket shelves in the future.

Term Four was very busy as always. Students studied the concept of ‘Identity’ looking at what makes us the same yet different. We looked at symbolism and explored how our school identity is changing, and what some of the new symbols are going to represent. Students also performed the play ‘North Pole’s Got Talent’, for the end of year concert, this and the mini-fete afterwards was enjoyed enormously. We thank the P&F for their efforts and the K-6 Bathurst students and staff for their support of this day.

Helpers played an important part in our classroom. Mrs Collins led Scripture lessons and end of term services at the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church along with new Minister, Mr Fong, who loves to draw and use balloon creatures to help tell us his story! The parish ladies as always extended their hospitality with beautifully prepared morning teas. Mr Foxley, our wonderful bus driver, drove us to the Lithgow Library each week and accompanied us on our excursions. Mrs Anna Smith from the Mitchell Conservatorium of Music provided Music lessons which complimented our focus concept each term. We would also like to thank Mrs. Kim Durie for Highland Dancing, and Mrs Aspinall for facilitating lunch orders each week. Community involvement saw students representing our school at the ANZAC parade, the Armistice Day service and Clean Up Australia Day. We took part in visits from the Life Education Van and students participated in the UNSW competitions, Authors and Illustrators Award, speech programs, sporting events and academic events. Lithgow students enjoy working with The Scots School Bathurst campus for these opportunities.

While this year has been very busy, and we are looking forward to our holidays and many more exciting learning experiences next year, we are also saddened to see Ross move on from our class to High School. We wish Ross the greatest success.

### **Pre-Kindergarten Lithgow**

2018 saw 30 children enrolled in Pre-Kindergarten with several joining us again in 2019. The K-6 class had 9 students, three kindergarten students, three in Year 2, one Year 3, one Year 4 and one Year 6 student.

Lithgow staff consisted of room leader, Mrs Tennille Jenkins and aides Ms Aranka Aprpasi and Ms Jess Power in the Pre-Kindergarten class, Mrs Erika Pringle taught K-6 and Ms Iona Berg assisted with cleaning. Weekly Scripture lessons were taken by Mrs Collins from the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church, and she was assisted at chapel Services by Mr Fong. Students greatly enjoyed these lessons and services. Mrs Kim Durie continued to teach Highland Dancing lessons after school on Tuesdays and Mrs Anna Smith from the Mitchell Conservatorium of Music taught Music and singing. Each week students travelled by bus to

the Lithgow Library Learning Centre on the Presbyterian Church bus to borrow and return books, enjoy a story, and participate in craft activities. Mr Foxley from the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church drove us each week, and Mrs Kellie Drengenberg led story time at the Library with the Pre-K-Year 2 students, and guest speaker Jacinta also read us a story each term at the library to help support inclusion. We could not function as effectively without the support of these wonderful people.

This year we have had many highlights and special events. Excursions for the year included trips to Bathurst Scots for Photos, Swimming, Athletics and Cross-Country Carnivals, Public Speaking Competition and presentation of the Author's and Illustrator's Award. The whole school visited Featherdale Wildlife Park and the Life Education Van. The Lithgow Council and Ferrero came to visit us to talk about sustainability, and we were lucky enough to take home some products from Ferrero. Families joined us for the Easter Hat Parade and Book Week Parade. This year's theme was "Find Your Treasure" and as well as dressing up, students performed songs and dances for the audience which were greatly enjoyed by all. The donate-a-book event added many new book resources to the library. Students presented the play "North Pole's Got Talent," a Christmas comedy, for the end of Year Concert. All students, families and friends look forward to these occasions, particularly the mini-fete and family lunch catered for by the P&F Association following the Christmas Concert.

K-6 and Pre-K come together for many events including princess and pirate day, pyjama day (to raise money for SIDS), the buy a bale fundraiser and the teddy bear's picnic. On Tuesday's, Wednesday's and Thursday's in Semester Two, Pre-K students, who were demonstrating readiness, joined the K-6 class for reading and maths groups. Additionally, on Friday's Pre-Kindergarten joined K-6 for assembly, sport, social experiences and literacy activities and students worked together to grow a variety of fruits and vegetables in the garden. These experiences were very popular with all involved and provided wonderful peer skilling opportunities.

Our Open Day events across the year saw many prospective families investigating our wonderful facilities and subsequently enrol in the Pre-Kindergarten or K-6 Class in Lithgow. After school supervision has continued to provide families with support.

The P&F always work hard and this year P&F fundraising along with State Government funding saw a new bike track, hopscotch field and grass area installed at the campus, much to the delight of students. Road safety signs were also purchased. To officially open the track, students participated in a Bicycle Safety Day coordinated by Mr Dayne Walker from the PCYC in Lithgow. Additionally, Book Club, Toy Catalogues and Calendar orders assisted resourcing across all areas.

Staff look forward to new challenges in 2019 and more exciting learning experiences.