



Headmaster's Speech Day Address
and
Annual Report

The Scots School

Bathurst and Lithgow

2011

The Scots School

Headmaster's Speech Day Address 2011



Mr Allan Shaw, Chief Executive to AHISA, Dr Shevahn Telfser, Deputy Chair of the School Board, distinguished guests, parents and friends, students and staff of The Scots School.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to The Scots School Bathurst and Lithgow Speech Day and Presentation of Prizes.

This is my first Speech Day as Headmaster of The Scots School having almost completed my first year in this role. I regard the opportunity to lead this fine school as a great honour and privilege. I wish to thank the school community for the way you have welcomed me as Headmaster and also welcomed my family into the school community this year.

As I have journeyed through the experiences of my first year I have reflected often on the qualities and distinguishing features of this school. Of course, you will all have your own view on this depending on the opportunities and experiences your children have enjoyed and in particular the area of the school in which they belong. Broadly however, the distinguishing features include our size and the fact that this allows staff, students and parents to get to know each other very well. This is something very clearly enunciated by the outgoing Year 12 when I interviewed them following their HSC exams. But, what does this look like in reality? It means knowing everyone in your year group, with friendships and strong mentoring developed across year groups through playing sport together. It means music ensembles and drama productions with students spread right across a range of year groups. It means younger students looking up to older students in the Cattle Team or students from the senior school assisting and supporting our junior students like I saw in the Prep School production of 'Charlie and The Chocolate Factory' last week.

Other distinguishing features include quality care and attention from the staff and a real ability to get the very best out of our students in a wide range of school experiences. It also means a tremendous sense of school pride and a very healthy understanding of how to define success not in simple win and loss ratios but more in terms of effort, improvement and an ability to keep trying to the end rather than giving up when it gets too hard. A small school develops resilience like this as competing directly against larger schools means it will often be hard and success is so much sweeter! Of course there are other real benefits like increased opportunities to be a part of activities to make up a team or be in the School Orchestra in Year 7.

Our Christian mission is something that is also very important in this school. Every week the students are challenged by the message of God's love in the person of Jesus both in Chapel and in Christian Studies by staff who have a personal faith and relationship with Christ. We encourage students to think about the truth of God's message and to not simply dismiss it but to engage in active debate. I wish to acknowledge the work done by our Chaplain Mr Gittins, the staff who teach Christian Studies and the support of the Bathurst and Bowenfels Presbyterian Churches in providing people to take classes with our junior students. Of course, our Christian experience must be more than just the Gospel message. It must be real and lived daily through the way we treat each other. The Christian values on which the school is founded are central – 'faith, hope and love' need to be modelled and practised in our attitude and actions towards each other on a daily basis, in the classroom and in activities outside of the classroom.

The link between our Christian Mission and Character Mission are clearly expressed through our School Motto – “Trowth, 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.

Trowth 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.

How have I seen the school Motto lived out this year around the school?

What has really impressed me as I have walked around the school and visited classes is the very positive engagement in learning that I see and the joy with which students have welcomed me and shown me their work. Mostly, our classes are small, discipline is excellent and class time is spent focussed on learning and engaging students creatively in the learning process. This has enormous benefits in the long term and allows students to develop a strong sense that the learning process is something that has real value and that the class room is not a battle ground between students and teachers for control but a rich learning environment where respect for each other is engendered and mediocrity will not be tolerated.

At The Scots School we like to challenge our students to move from where they are to new experiences and levels of confidence by challenging them and taking them out of their comfort zone. To this end it is good for students to feel uncomfortable in giving a speech to a class or assembly, undertaking a challenge in the outdoors, taking on a leadership role with younger students or performing a musical solo or role in a school play.

We also like to instil in our students a sense of pride in who they are and who they represent – their own personal dignity and respect, respect for their family and the financial

commitment made by their parents, the commitment made every day by their teachers and the understanding that this school has a proud history, culture and standing in the community.

What does this personal and family pride and school pride look like?

It looks like the outstanding Ceremonial Parade we witnessed yesterday afternoon with students immaculately attired, disciplined and under strong leadership from fellow students who value the Cadet program.

It looks like the overwhelming exhilaration and delight, including screams, tears, laughter and stunned shock at the outstanding success at the Sydney Royal with our cattle and sheep teams.

It looks like knowing that you are sending your child to a school that has just completed a very rigorous Board of Studies Accreditation process with outstanding success.

It looks like the two amazing productions put on by the Bathurst Prep and Pre Prep of Charlie and The Chocolate Factory and the Lithgow Campus with their excellent Nativity play including a rap rendition of the Christmas carol ‘We Three Kings’.

It looks like the outstanding recognition achieved by our Netballers on the Gold Coast Tour when they were presented with the Spirit of Netball Cup for outstanding sportsmanship; an honour bestowed on them by the other competing teams.

It looks like the pride on display in pulling on a First XV Rugby jumper to run on the field and the amazing feeling of winning the last game of the season after some tough encounters. Or...the sense of achievement and commitment necessary to make a Grand Final at the end of the season like the Lionesses Junior Netballers and First XI Hockey team. Or... the individual and team pride on display when Ben Spence scored a century as Captain of the First XI Cricket team.

It looks like our Pipes & Drums leading the ANZAC March each year or focusing fiercely for perfection at the Highland Jazz Night or leading a street procession like the Young Cherry Festival.

It looks like being a part of important school events like the Highland Gathering and our parent weekend Chapel Services

where the whole community comes together to celebrate Scots!

It looks like the outstanding gratitude displayed by the Year 12 students at the Valedictory Assembly when students spoke with enormous pride and gratitude in thanking their parents for their decision to send them to Scots and the gratefulness expressed to their teachers for their dedication and interest in them.

It looks like students giving their best in the class room, engaged in learning and completing set tasks to the best of their ability.

It looks like the respect evident in Assembly and Chapel each week as students listen quietly and honestly acknowledge the success of others.

It looks like students looking after someone in need, perhaps a child who has fallen over or someone who is dealing with a personal challenge.

It looks like the way students present themselves at school and in town by wearing their uniform as it should be - always a challenge but something that is instilled daily at school.

And... it looks like this! Speech Day is one of the most important days of the school year. It is the day where we celebrate together our great school and the achievements of students in a wide range of areas.

Pride in your school means giving your best in everything you do; to live a life of "Trouthe, Honour, Freedom, Curteisie".

The Scots School provides an excellent learning environment for our students. This is reflected in the many merit awards presented at the Awards Assemblies yesterday and in all the reports I have been reading over the last week which will be posted in the next few days. It is also reflected in NAPLAN results and external competitions where students are presented with certificates of credit through to High Distinction on Assembly on a regular basis. There were some excellent HSC results last year not just at the top end but also plenty of cases of students who exceeded expectation. We eagerly await the HSC results for 2011 next week but already know that Blake McCarthy's Design & Technology has been nominated for Design Tech and Emily Mair has been nominated for Call Back for her HSC Dance. Many of our Year 12 students have already been offered early entry to university thanks to the hard work of Mrs Fleming

and this is a very strong indicator of success for us as a school.

So... what about the future? The Scots School Vision document 2012-2016 is now on the School's website and it outlines some ideas for the future. A key part of our future direction is a very strong whole school focus. Symbolically, this means that our Preparatory School will no longer have this title but will simply be The Scots School. Pre-Preparatory will be known as Pre-Kindergarten or Pre-K and the word junior will be used informally to identify any event for students in Kindergarten to Year 6.

As already outlined in a recent letter to the school community, Mr Adrian Lee, Head of The Scots Preparatory School, will move from this position to take up two newly developed positions in the Senior School from the beginning of 2012. I would like to thank Mr Lee for his leadership of The Scots Preparatory School including the Lithgow Campus. He has been a passionate and creative Head who has introduced many fantastic initiatives over the last two years. He has also guided the Preparatory School through the very important Board of Studies Registration this year with outstanding success and for that I am extremely grateful.

Mr Lee's new positions are important in terms of the future strategic direction of the School in 2012.

The first of these positions is Director of Learning Differentiation. This position will focus on the areas of Gifted and Talented Education and provision for Learning Needs. The other position is Director of Character Development and Mission. This is a position which will be developed over the next two years in line with The Schools' Strategic Vision. It will include the responsibility to develop, implement and oversee a range of initiatives as outlined in my letter. Part of this role will be to work closely with the Ngunra Jirrama Foundation which will lead to two students joining us from an aboriginal community in the Northern Territory next year and community service trips for our students to that community.

Mrs Kerry Robinson takes on responsibility for Pre-K to Year 6 and the Lithgow Campus as Coordinator of a Senior Management Team. A very significant aspect of the future direction of Scots Bathurst as a K-12 school will be increased opportunities and access for junior students to specialist staff in the areas of Music/Drama, Languages, Information Technology and Pipes and Drums. Other developments include welfare initiatives such as Peer Support programs and Academic Mentoring programs.

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The Cadet Program, which is compulsory for students in Years 8-10, will also undergo some change with the Cadet Camp being outsourced to the Outdoor Education Group to enable extra staffing and resources to be available. All the requirements of the cadet program will still apply, but the opportunity to operate in smaller groups and to experience significant challenge in beautiful terrain will add significantly to the value of the program. The Cadet Camp will rotate venues on a three year cycle with next year's camp to be at Biloela near Berrima. Another change is that the focus of the Wednesday afternoon Cadet program during Term Two and early Term Three will be only for those students pursuing cadet leadership development.

2011 has seen the opening of The Lamrock Performing Arts Centre and it was a real delight for me to have Mr Adrian Lamrock, Headmaster of the Scots School from 1998-2003, here to open this facility.

Following the removal of the old pool this site has been improved dramatically with turf and trees planted by the current Year 6 as a present to the school. Year 6 planted



three oak trees on the pool site in addition to 14 camelia bushes along the path. Our new indoor heated pool is completed with the exception of the landscaping and clean-up of the surrounds with the first students having a swim in the last few days. This will be a fantastic addition to the school with learn to swim classes for our junior students and swimming squads, PE classes and sporting groups using it. Our boarders will also enjoy it as a recreational facility especially on the weekends. I wish to acknowledge the tremendous work done by our Maintenance Department over recent months in completing this project.

We are very fortunate to have beautiful grounds obviously benefiting from excellent rain over the last year. But next



year a full tree audit will provide further opportunity to do a great deal more planting and to assess areas where trees need planting before current trees die. This is something I am very keen to involve the school community in with parents, friends and students contributing to and planting trees identified as suitable to further enhance the beauty of the school. We should be very proud of the physical environment of our school, something that visitors to the school often comment on and something we should never take for granted.

We have a very stable staff at The Scots School and there is little movement for next year with only a few exceptions. Mr Tim Richards retires after 31 years. He stayed on for one more year to teach Year 11 & 12 Chemistry after stepping down as Headmaster last year. I am very grateful for his willingness to do this and wish him and Joy all the best for their retirement. Mrs Pam Murphy also retires after first joining the staff in 1973 before leaving and then returning in 1981 for over 30 years of service. Ms Susan Cameron leaves after three years and I thank her for her contributions both in the class room and with the Cadet Corps. I also wish to acknowledge the contribution of Mrs Susan Flude who has been the RFF teacher in the Preparatory School for much of this year while Alex Hallahan has been on maternity leave. Alex returns next year into the Pre-Kindergarten. I would also like to wish two staff all the best as they go on Maternity Leave next year – all the best to Chelsea Chapman and Angela Davis. I ask you to wish them all well for the future.

The Scots School has a fine history and it is not unusual for staff to stay here for some time as I have just indicated in the case of Mr Tim Richards and Mrs Pam Murphy. I wish to acknowledge today, five staff with over 30 years of service to The Scots School. This is indicative of amazing commitment and dedication from these staff and it is appropriate that we as a school community acknowledge this commitment and long service to the school. I ask that the following staff with 30 years' service come to the stage to receive a small token of acknowledgement for this milestone – Mrs Pam Murphy, Mr Tim Richards, Mr John Garretty and Mr Andrew Maher. I also ask that Mr Geoff Bromfield, who has just completed 40 years of service also come to the stage to receive a token of acknowledgement for this amazing achievement.

We are very fortunate to have dedicated staff at The Scots School. I wish to acknowledge and thank the staff for the enormous amount of work done behind the scenes for the benefit of our students, often unheralded. Thank you to the office staff throughout the school, school assistants, cleaning staff, grounds and maintenance staff, Health Clinic staff, Kitchen Staff, our residential boarding staff and visiting staff to the school.

Thank you also to the teaching staff who give a great deal of time and effort in the class room, in the co-curricular program and willingly take students on excursions which invariably involve long days of travel with an early departure time. Thank you to the Heads of Departments, class room teachers and Mr Adams with our sporting program, Mrs Garland with our musicians and Mr MacKenzie for his outstanding work with the Pipes and Drums for the excellent work you do every day. Our boarding community is very strong with excellent leadership from Mr Bailey in Bulkeley House and Mrs Travers in Galloway House. Their care for the students and their desire to provide rich and varied recreational opportunities on weekends is amazing. Thank you also to Mr Dawes for the very important work you do as Coordinator of Administration and Student Welfare and the work you do with each of the Heads of House and tutors to provide welfare structures to support our students.

The Scots School is most fortunate to have someone of the calibre, experience and work ethic of Mrs Lynne Fleming who fulfils many very important roles as Deputy Head, Director of Teaching and Learning and Stage 6 Coordinator. This year she has also been responsible for working very closely with staff and Mr John Garretty on the Board of Studies Registration. Thank you to Mrs Fleming and Mr Garretty for their work.

I also wish to acknowledge the tremendous support of the school community with the work of the Parents and Friends Association through all its sub groups. Thank you to the leadership of Mr Ross Andrew, the Executive and all of you who have taken a lead or provided support through a sub group. A strong P & F is vital to a healthy School community so I strongly encourage you to be involved.

I wish to acknowledge the support and constant encouragement of the Business Manager Mr Eveleigh and his wise stewardship of the school finances. I also wish to thank the Chairman of the School Board, Mr Colin Langford, for his care and interest in the school and the School Board for their tremendous support and commitment to the school and regular prayer for our school community.

To my Secretary, Mrs Joan McFawn, thank you for hard work, positive encouragement, advice and just making sure I know where I have to be next and what I have to do.

Finally, I wish to thank the most important people in my life, my wife Gillian and my children Jeremy, Samuel, Zachary, Alice, Jonathan and Genevieve. Thank you for your support this year. You have coped with the change incredibly well. Your love and forbearance have been amazing. To Gillian, my new role as Headmaster would be impossible without your love, support and listening ear. Thank you.

To conclude, I wish to thank all the parents and students for your welcome and support for me this year as the new Headmaster of The Scots School. I wish you all a safe and enjoyable family time in the holidays together and look forward to your return next year. For Year 12, I wish you all the best as you move on to further study or the workforce.

This is my prayer for each of you this Christmas: 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.

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.

CHAPEL

This year Bowenfels Presbyterian Church has continued to care for our Lithgow students with regular and exciting Scripture lessons organised by Mrs Sue Collins. The church community has also held an end of term Church Service, held at Bowenfels, followed by some seriously good morning tea! I would like to thank Mrs Collins, Mr Ian McDonald and Rev Tony Lang and the many other church volunteers for their wonderful support and care for our Scots School community in Lithgow.

In Bathurst, our weekly Chapel Services have continued a journey through the account of Jesus' life recorded by Luke and we have been continually challenged by His willingness to walk into the face of certain pain and rejection so that we may be restored to God. We are very grateful for the continuing support of the St Stephen's Bathurst Presbyterian Church community where Mr Ben Smith and Rev Tim Abbey have both spoken at occasional Chapel Services throughout the year. I must also thank the tireless work of the Scripture teachers from the local church who have taken our Preparatory Scripture classes from Pre-Prep through to Stage 2, so my heartfelt thanks to Rev Tim Abbey, Mrs Gillian Gates, Rev Jason Smart, and Mr Dave Milligan for making Scripture so much fun for our students!

The focus of our Scripture classes has always been a desire to provide a foundational knowledge of the history of God's saving work as recorded in the Bible. Biblical discussion provides many opportunities to challenge and apply our worldviews to current issues both as individuals and as communities. Scripture classes often provide an opportunity for lively debate and students are always encouraged to ask

honest and challenging questions in an environment where they are learning how to both present their views clearly and to listen graciously.

My thanks go to Mr Ian Doney, Mr John Garretty and Mr Adrian Lee who have also taken senior Scripture classes this year and have helped me to provide a learning environment where students can further develop their own worldview, discuss how this impacts their daily life and how it engages with the biblical Christian worldview.

This year there has also been a change to Boarding Chapel with the regular weekly services held at The Scots School being replaced by trips into the Bathurst Presbyterian Church for an evening service and supper. The boarding students have appreciated attending in smaller groups of peers and the opportunity to attend a regular Sunday service with other local youth.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the work of our Chaplain, Mr Gittins, and thank him for his ministry to the school community.

As always, may all we do bring honour to our God.

PERFORMING AND CREATIVE ARTS

Music

2011 has been a very productive and exciting year for the Music faculty in the new *Lamrock Performing Arts Centre*, which was officially opened by former Headmaster Mr Adrian Lamrock on Sunday, 28 August.

The number of students having private music lessons continues to grow at The Scots School and rehearsal rooms are

well used throughout the week. We encourage all students to learn an instrument and in turn become part of a Music Ensemble.

Music Ensembles have grown in size and continue to cater for all musicians. The standard of items presented is higher and more challenging. All ensembles have had the opportunity to perform on numerous occasions throughout the year. These include Parent Weekend *Chapel Services*, the *Highland Jazz Night*, *Bathurst Eisteddfod*, *Year 9/10 Performing Arts Concert*, *HSC Performances*, *school assemblies*, *Bathurst Expo*, *a wedding*, *the Christmas Carol Evening* and *Speech Day*.

The Highland Jazz Night in May was a wonderful opportunity for many solo musicians in Year 12 and all Music Ensembles to showcase their talents. Performances also incorporated the Pipes and Drums with the Orchestra and a vocalist.

All ensembles worked hard in preparation for the *Bathurst Eisteddfod*. The Drum Corp were awarded 1st place in their section and had the honour of opening the Grand Finale Eisteddfod Concert on the concluding night. The String Ensemble were awarded a second and third place. The Orchestra gained third place in their section. Many individuals received awards during the Bathurst Eisteddfod performing in a variety of sections.

Elective classes continue to be strong with both courses being offered in Years 11 and 12. All students are encouraged to perform as soloists and in small ensembles and this was evident at all Performing Arts evenings where students performed a variety of items at a very high level.

Students from Year 7 this year have joined with the Preparatory School in attending two *Musica Viva* concerts at school this year.

Four students attended the HICES 5-8 Music Camp and Festival at Meroo Conference Centre this year. The festival concluded with ensemble performances at The Hills Centre. Students participating were: Samuel Flude, Stephanie Ferguson, Zari Newell and Hugh Lennon.

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. Congratulations to Millaine Longmore (Performing Arts Prefect 2011) on his fine leadership and personal achievements in the Performing Arts throughout the year.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of Mrs Denise Garland and the visiting Music teachers.

Drama

The dramatic year began with a senior Drama excursion to *Onstage*, where students saw HSC student Christopher Wedlock from 2010 present his Lighting Design project as a work of excellence at the Seymour Centre Theatre.

HSC Students developed work of a high standard, including a performance at the Highland Gathering. Year 11 students also performed on several occasions at Chapel.

Year 9 and 10 students vociferously engaged in the school production of *Unbeatable* by Richard Tulloch and Paul Jennings. This was a highly

entertaining production which utilised the new performance space in the Lamrock Performing Arts Centre. Students also performed on the community stage at the Bathurst Show.

In November students from Years 7-11 attended the Young Australia Workshop production of *Solid State Circus* at our school.

Thank you to Mr Byron Christie for his commitment to developing Drama at Scots.

Dance

Emily Mair completed HSC Dance through Open High School. She is to be congratulated on being shortlisted for *Callback*, a showcase of the best HSC Dance performances across the state.

Students across all stages have been involved in learning Highland Dancing and have performed at various events throughout the year.

ENGLISH

2011 has been a busy and fulfilling year for the English Department at The Scots School.

The Higher School Certificate results in English were pleasing and consistent with expectations. 79% of candidates in English Advanced achieved Bands 4, 5 or 6 results. 75% of English Extension 1 students and 60% of those presenting for English Extension 2 achieved at this level.

In English Extension 2 Thomas Curran achieved an E4 (Band 6) score. Thomas presented a creative and challenging cross-generational fractured narrative.

In the School Certificate, 92% of candidates attained Band 4, 5 or 6 results.

In the English Competition, Sophie Ireland (Year 9), Jessica Stuart (Year 12) and Saranne Weekes (Year 12) achieved a Distinction Award.

In the Writing Competition, Meghan Booth (Year 8), Jonathan Gates (Year 8), and Stefanie Schultz (Year 12) posted Distinction Scores. Hannah Schulz (Year 12) attained a High Distinction Certificate.

In Public Speaking, the School participated in the CWA, Lithgow Festival of Speech, Legacy (host school), Sydney Morning Herald and Lions' Youth of the Year Competitions. Jonty Boshier and Charlotte Inwood were selected for progression to the regional finals of the CWA Competition. Charlotte Inwood won the Senior Division. Millaine Longmore represented the School ably at Lion's District level, being named Lions Youth of the Year for Bathurst Macquarie. Robbie Hayward gained second place in the Lithgow Festival of Speech and Charlotte Inwood was again awarded first place. Mr Mottram continues his excellent work in the co-ordination of public speaking in the English Department.

In Debating, the school participated in the Lithgow Festival of Speech and HICES Competitions. The HICES rounds were against Blue Mountains Grammar School, Kinross Wolaroi School and All Saints College. The junior team of Putri Moran, Benjamin McGrath, Stephanie Ferguson and Jesse Wells reached the preliminary finals where they were narrowly defeated by William Carey College. Stephanie Ferguson was awarded the Best Speaker Prize in her division. Mrs Angela Davis continues in her efficient co-ordination of debating at our school.

Students were well serviced with live theatre performances in 2011. In July Year 12 Advanced English attended a Hamlet seminar at the Seymour Centre. In August, students in Years 7-10 attended Poetry in Action performances in the Aikman Hall. In October, students in Year 11 attended a performance of Julius Caesar at BMEC.

Mrs Carol Anderson continues her excellent work in the teaching of French to Year 7. These students enjoyed attending a Theatre LOTE Fantastique production in August.

Mrs Anne Denmead continues her work as a specialist English as a Second Language teacher aided by Mrs Margaret MacKay. The Intensive Language Centre continues to be a hub of academic and pastoral care for our International Students at Scots Bathurst.

We wish Mrs Angela Davis all possible happiness for her maternity leave in 2012. We thank her for her excellent work with English students at Scots and we look forward to her return in 2013.

HSIE

The Human Society and its Environment Key Learning Area has experienced another fruitful year at The Scots School.

In School Certificate Geography in 2010, 84% of the school candidates achieved Band 4 results or above. This compared well with the state figure of 59%. 42% of school candidates achieved Band 5 or above compared to the state figure of 25%. Notable results were obtained by Samuel Ireland, Charlotte Inwood, Alice Godwin, Stuart Marshall, Kalyan Manning and Jessica McGrath.

Similarly pleasing results were achieved in Higher School Certificate subjects. In Geography, pleasing results were obtained by Thomas Sharp. Danielle Peers-Catt impressed with her results in Legal Studies and Economics. Thomas Baker performed very well in Business Studies. Both in the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate the results were a compliment to the students involved.

Year 9 and 10 Geography students again participated in the state wide WeSSSTA Geography Competition. The candidates performed at an exceptional level. Robbie Hayward and Edith Lennon achieved High Distinctions.

The Scots School, as is its usual practice, had students participating in the Bathurst Regional Youth Council, with the many benefits in knowledge of Local Government and meeting protocols that flow to the participants. Hugo Newell is serving for the second year whilst Hayden Callan and Kanja le Roux are Year 10 representatives. Hugo Newell ably represented The Scots School at the School's Constitutional Convention at the Parliament of NSW on 14 November 2011.

The HSIE area has been directly or indirectly involved in a number of excursions to achieve syllabus aims:

- Year 11 and 12 Business Studies to local business enterprises
- Year 12 Economics to a student conference
- Year 12 Legal Studies to Local and District Court sessions

- Year 10 to coastal studies at Collaroy and urban studies at Leichhardt
- Year 9 fieldwork around Carcoar and on soil management around The Scots School Grounds.

I wish to acknowledge the leadership of Mr John Garretty in the HSIE Department and the teaching of the staff in this faculty.

MATHEMATICS

Congratulations to the Year 12 Mathematics students for 2012. They have been excellent role models for our younger students and we wait in anticipation for their HSC results. This year's group has been an extremely talented and hardworking group of students and the Mathematics Department is confident that they will produce some excellent results. Their efforts have been capably led by our Extension 2 Mathematicians Rui Hang Hou, Christopher Squire and Kalyan Manning under the caring and nurturing leadership from our senior Mathematics teacher Ms Rachel Hughes.

As the year draws to an end we are able to reflect on the events that shaped a successful year. To begin the year we welcomed Ms Rachel Hughes into the Mathematics Department. Ms Hughes came to us from St Stanislaus' College and has extensive experience in teaching Mathematics to the highest level. 2011 saw Mr Duane Bailey, Ms Rachel Hughes, Mr Byron Christie, Mrs Michelle Simcock and Mr Nick Dawes (Head of Mathematics) continue to teach a number of classes within the Mathematics Department.

During the year our students had the opportunity to demonstrate their ability

at a national level through the Australian Mathematics Competition. The Scots School entered 179 Students from Year 3 to 12 in the competition, with some outstanding results, some of which include:

Prudence Award:

The Prudence Award is given to the student with the most number of consecutive correct answers. This year the Prudence Award was won by Seon Uk Choi (Year 12).

High Distinction:

The school gained some outstanding results this year including four High Distinctions, which places them in the top 4% in the state.

- Seon Uk Choi (Year 12)
- Seung Wook Shin (Year 12)
- Jessica Stuart (Year 12)
- Hamish Fisher (Year 12)
- Kalyan Manning (Year 11)

Distinctions:

Seven Distinctions were awarded to the following students, which places them in the top 15% in the state.

- Robbie Hayward (Year 9)
- Stuart Marshall (Year 11)
- Jack Baker (Year 11)
- Charlotte Inwood (Year 11)
- Anson Wu (Year 11)
- Rui Hang Hou (Year 12)
- Alayne White (Year 12)

Credit & Proficiency:

26 Students received Credit Certificates; whilst 74 students received Proficiency Certificates.

Students also had the opportunity to participate in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy

(NAPLAN). NAPLAN was introduced in 2008 and was designed to provide information on performance across a number of levels of achievement. Similar to the national sample assessments and international tests undertaken by a number of students, the NAPLAN aims to test the full range of student ability and includes some more challenging items. Overall our results were very pleasing and indicate that our students are exceeding in terms of their level of achievement in relation to State norms.

This year has been an intense, productive and most importantly an enjoyable year. We look forward to an equally successful and productive 2012.

SCIENCE

This year has been one of activity and change again for the Scots School Science Department. Year groups have gone on excursions and we have performed well in State Science Competitions.

The Science Department has welcomed back Mr Simon Dundon from his exchange in Canada.

I would like to thank Mr Tim Richards for teaching part time this year and continuing to teach Senior Chemistry even though he announced his retirement last year. I wish Tim a relaxing year in 2012.

Year 11 Biology under the guidance of Mrs Dawes went on an excursion to the mangroves at Homebush Bay. Year 12 Biology (2012) supervised by Mrs Dawes visited the Blood Bank in Orange as part of their Maintaining the Balance topic.

Year 9 Science with Mr Dundon, Mr Matus and Miss Leard visited the Mt

Piper Power Station as part of their electricity studies.

All years completed practical assignments. Year 7 had a cell assignment. Year 8 made electric cars. Year 9 model power stations and Year 10 had their student research projects.

The School performed very well in the University of NSW Science Competition achieving 4 Distinctions and 13 Credits overall, in Years 7 to 10.

Chemistry Quiz

Year 11 were awarded 2 certificates of High Distinction (top 10 % of the state): Samuel Ireland and Stuart Marshall.

Year 12 received 5 Distinction Certificates (top 25 %) Alexandra Bird, Ruihang Hou, Blake McCarthy, Jack Saunders, and Hannah Schulz and 7 Credit Certificates (top 40 %) Elliott Chew, Kwan Ming Kwong, Millaine Longmore, Lachlan Perry, Christopher Squire, Eloise Weekes, and Alayne White.

The year was very successful thanks to the Science staff, Mrs Dawes, Mr Dundon, Mr Richards, Mr Hayward, Mr Gittins and Mr Matus under the leadership of Mr Paul Cameron. Thanks also must go to our hard working Laboratory Assistant Mrs Eppleston for the efforts she has made and her assistance with accreditation this year.

TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED STUDIES

Agriculture

Year 7 Technology studied four units, of which two are agricultural, "Grow Your Own" and "Build a Hen House". With Grow Your Own each student

receives an area of two and a half square metres in which they grow a variety of mostly vegetables. Some wonderful gardens producing bountiful organic produce resulted. The second unit involves a study of the requirements of fowls with the students building a model hen house. Some very innovative and interesting designs were produced.

Year 8 technology in their Agricultural unit Design A Farm have learnt and experienced the principals involved in a farm layout and stock handling using the excellent resource of The Scots School farm. The students have produced some very efficient and thoughtful designs.

Year 9 Agricultural Technology focus is on prime lamb production and uses the school's Border Leicester and Poll Dorset studs to assist with the development of practical skills.

Cattle

2011 was another busy year, but a year with many great memories. Our year started off well with a great season, fat cows and calves and a team of steers that looked fabulous.

Our students watched the 2010 drop of calves grow and were educated on the benefits of crossbreeding as these calves were Hereford/Limousin cross cattle. Calving began in September and we ended up with a beautiful drop of Hereford calves.

The cattle section of our farm could not run as well as it does without the help and support of some very special people. Firstly, Lorna Rae who closely watches our cattle for us and gives us the opportunity to use her land to graze our girls. Secondly Peter Ribaux, our very special farm hand. His watchful eye, careful management of crops and pastures and endless help and support cannot be appreciated enough.

Christian Allen and Megan Dunsford from Llandillo Poll Herefords are always there for support and advice and have become a part of the Scots Cattle Team Family. Leigh Scott is also a local producer who has been a tremendous helping hand. Mrs Libby Dawes does an amazing job with our cattle team and deserves congratulations for a year of outstanding success.

BLAYNEY SHOW 2011

Saturday, 26 March the cattle team went to Blayney Show.

TSS Felix, the Limousin bull, Paraded by Emma Boland. received Champion Limousin Bull. Emma, the Limousin Heifer paraded by Putri Moran, was Champion Heifer 18-24 months. The steers included Ralph in the under 400 kg class with Kristen McAndrew successful receiving second place. Laura Pollard claimed first place with Ace, followed closely by Alice Godwin's Archy.

In the Paraders' Section The Scots School Cattle Team had many finalists with three qualifying for Sydney Royal Show. Congratulations to Alice Godwin, Laura Pollard and Hugh Lennon. In the Junior Judging Competition, congratulations to Lachlan Dawes Second Place and Jack Rowlandson Third place.

SYDNEY ROYAL SHOW REPORT 2011

The Scots School had a team of 11 which we thought would be quite competitive.

Little Red was in the first heat and was awarded First Place. Little Red, perfectly paraded by Jess McGrath went into the final and was awarded Champion Trade Steer.

Ace our Heavyweight School Steer, prepared by Laura Pollard, Rachel Hibbins, Natalie Bowles, was awarded First Place in the Heavyweight School Steer Class. He then went into the final and was awarded Champion School Steer.

The next day our remaining eight steers were shown with Murray awarded First place in the Middleweight Class 10.

Following the remainder of the Middleweight classes Annabelle Townsend paraded him in the final and he was awarded Middleweight Champion Steer.

Teddy, prepared by Laura Wright and Jess McKenzie, entered Class 11 with another First Place and Bundy, prepared by Edith Lennon and Kanja le Roux, was awarded Third Place. Licorice, prepared by Annabel Shephard and Georgina Simcock, was awarded Third Place.

Our Champion School Steer Ace and our Middleweight Champion Steer, Murray made up two of the four steers in the Grand Champion Section with Ace being judged Grand Champion Steer for 2011. Ace was a Limousin steer bred by Jordensprings Limousins.

In the auction section The Scots School topped the sale with Ace at \$9.60 a kilogram. Murray received \$7.40 per kilogram and Teddy, whose proceeds were donated to the Leukaemia Foundation, made \$6.60 per kilogram.

In the Carcase Section we were awarded, Reserve Champion School Carcase, Champion Heavyweight Carcase, six Silver Medals, and the Eve Cullen Trophy for Most Successful Exhibitor.

Thank you to the parents and students for your contribution, support, hard work and team spirit in what was an amazing week at Sydney Royal. Achieving the three Champions and then Grand Champion was not just an achievement for the paraders but for the entire team.

The students have worked with these animals tirelessly since last September and deserve the joy of this success.

Some special thanks must go to:

Terry and Bev Denniss, Trent Johnstone, Llandillo Poll Herefords, Six Star Speckle Park, Leigh and Linda Scott – for their support in donating such wonderful animals.

Peter Ribaux, our farm hand - he does so much behind the scenes and is a very important part of our cattle team.

Megan Johnstone - for her continual support whilst at the show.

Megan Dunsford, Christian Allen and Andrew Kelly - for 'fitting the steers' for us.

BATHURST SHOW 2011

Our Cattle Team with Mrs Dawes followed on their success from the Royal Easter Show with many more awards. The major awards were as follows –

Supreme Limousin Exhibit with our young Limousin Bull – TSS Felix;
 Supreme Hereford Exhibit with Hereford Cow – Scots Last Day 36;
 Grand Champion Parader and Intermediate Champion Parader – India Toole;
 Reserve Champion Intermediate Parader – Rebecca George.
 We had many of our students also participate in the young rural achievers

competition. They performed extremely well. A summary of the outstanding results are as follows:

Junior Boys: Hugh Lennon - Highly Commended; Lachie Dawes – third place;

Junior Girls: Rebecca George – first place, Stephanie Ferguson – second place; India Toole – third place;

Junior Girl Champion: Rebecca George
 Intermediate Boys: Jonty Boshier – third place;

Intermediate Girls: Kristen McAndrew - Highly Commended; Edith Lennon - Highly Commended; Brooke Andrew - Highly Commended;

Jessica McKenzie - Highly Commended; Annabelle Townsend – Highly Commended; Annabel Shephard - Highly Commended;

Alice Godwin – first place; Georgina Simcock – second place;

Intermediate Champion: Alice Godwin
 Senior: Laura Pollard – third place

Literature Awards: Intermediate Class: Brooke Andrew – first place; Senior Class: Alice Godwin – second place

Sheep

Stud sheep were exhibited at various shows with considerable success. The first show was Rylstone which is a show and sale where for the second year a Scots ram gained the top price of \$1,300. Our students were also involved in the meat sheep junior judging competition where Rebecca George placed first, Sam Pateman second and Izaak Harb third.

The following weekend was the Mudgee show where our students gained valuable skills in preparation for Sydney Royal.

Eleven Year 9 students attended Sydney Royal Show to exhibit sheep of three breeds. It was the most successful show for both the students and the stock.

In a very strongly contested junior handlers competition (14 - 18 years) Robbie Hayward was placed third, Brooke Andrew fifth and Hugh McKay seventh. The Scots School went on to win the most successful school exhibitor, the supreme meat sheep female and a number of firsts and seconds in individual and group classes.

The Bathurst Show allows us to take a full show team and as a result in open competition our students' sheep dominated the Border Leicester classes. In the sheep junior judging competitions Robbie Hayward was placed first in the meat sheep and second in the merino fleece judging. These two successes won him the prestigious Crawford Cup.

The final show was Dubbo for the Landmark NSW Sheep Show. Our students performed particularly well in extremely strong competition with both Jonty Boshier and Robbie Hayward making it to the finals.

A special thankyou goes to the parents for their support and assistance and of course the wonderful and enthusiastic students who are such a credit to themselves, their parents and their school.

I wish to thank Mrs Dawes and Mr Matus for their dedication and hard work in providing the students with valuable experiences within Agriculture, which is an integral part of our School.

Design and Technology

The technology Centre is an area for innovation and creativity. All students who engage in courses in this area are challenged to think, to innovate and to realise solutions that are of a high quality. These are skills undertaken daily in our lives whether they are deciding

what to wear or how a new home is to be designed. As in previous years the students have impressed with the varied and inventive solutions to design situations.

The Year 12 Design and Technology class realised a range of products in differing fields that they identified as needing a solution to an identified need.

These products included;

Post Seeding Soil Roller

Display Cabinet for Model Cars

Sheep Crate for a Ute

Fireplace Surround incorporating antique engraved glass

Light table for graphic Art

Moveable Skateboard Half Pipe

Whilst the path to completion of a Major design Project is never easy, the students showed their determination and perseverance by completing their works on time. Congratulations are to go to Blake McCarthy whose Fireplace Surround was included for consideration for the Design Tech Exhibition which is a showcase for outstanding works in HSC Design and Technology. At this time it is not known if his work has been chosen.

It is always interesting to see the awe in which the younger students hold the seniors and the amazing projects that they can create. Yet in five years they will be in their final year of schooling.

Students in all year groups and at all levels have enjoyed success in Technology and Design and technology in 2011. From DVD stands to LED lamps and Muffins in Food Technology students have embraced the challenges they have faced. It is fulfilling to see the development of the students skills in practical areas and problem solving as the Design Briefs set become increasingly more difficult.

2012 will see some new challenges to be faced by the designers of the future

in a subject that replicates real world experiences.

I wish to thank Mr Hayward for his dedication, organisation and tireless efforts in providing the students with valuable learning experiences within Design and Technology.

PD/H/PE

The PDHPE faculty consisted of Mr Adams and Mr Bailey. The Stage Four and Five program offered a diverse range of theoretical and practical topics focussing on safe risk taking, making informed decisions, consumerism, healthy eating habits, developing a sense of self, strengthening relationships and communication and developing personal fitness.

Exciting and rewarding assessment tasks included the healthy habits food guide produced by Year Seven, comic strips about the consequences of poor decision making by Year Eight, analysis of the products and tactics of the fast food industry in Year Nine and coaching Indigenous games to preparatory school students in Year Ten.

The Stage Five PASS elective again proved popular to our students. This year they studied units on Body Systems, Fitness, Issues in Physical Activity and Sport and Australia's Sporting Identity. We also introduced new assessment tasks that required students to utilise computer technologies to create interactive posters and forum style discussions. Our senior classes were the largest that we have had for some time which is testament to the interest that our students show towards physical activity and sport and the dedication and innovation of the PDHPE staff.

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.

2011 has seen more work carried out under the Commonwealth Government's Digital Education Revolution and school ICT funding. The Stable block has been cabled and an interactive whiteboard has been installed.

The Mathematics area has been provided with a laptop trolley and 10 laptops for student learning, and an interactive whiteboard installed to further aid student learning in Mathematics.

The purchase of another 50 desktops, 20 laptops and 4 IMACs will see further expansion of computer facilities particularly in Design and Technology, PDHPE, Visual Art and Boarding.

The on costs provided by the Commonwealth Government's Digital Education Revolution will see the wireless network throughout the School replaced with a wireless network which operates at a more stable frequency thus reducing interference and drop outs.

The interactive whiteboards are a continuation of the School's ICT plan to provide these interactive learning tools in all learning spaces.

As Information Communication Technology continues to grow and develop within the School, Mr Cameron and Mr MacKenzie continue

to be the corner stones of this development. I wish to thank them for their great work in this area.

CADET UNIT

In 2011 the Scots School Bathurst Cadet Unit has continued under the leadership of Commanding Officer Major Juri Linins. LT Simon Dundon was welcomed home after a year on exchange in Canada and returned to his role supporting Major Linins in his effort to closely integrate the schools offering of an outdoor education experience with the leadership and teamwork perspective instilled by the army cadets.

We farewell Ms Susan Cameron from the Unit and thank her for the successful organisation of numerous activities throughout the year. Her input will be missed, in particular her support of the other staff and student leaders which has been paramount in ensuring ongoing improvement in the cadet unit.

In January of this year Major Linins assisted CUO Caitlin McDermid, SGT Shaynaya Fitzpatrick, CPL Angus Dunn and CPL Nathan Warton on the seven day Australian Army Cadet Corps(AAC) promotion course in Singleton all achieving nationally recognised rank. In the July holidays Major Linins again assisted CUO Shaynaya Fitzpatrick and SGT Benjamin Spence in achieving further rank at Singleton Army Barracks after another seven day Promotion Course. A number of students also attended the AFX (Annual Field Training Exercise) at Singleton with 25 Battalion. This activity is a mandatory qualification requirement to attend Promotion Courses run by the Army as it further develops the cadet's skills to a competency that will assist their achievement of rank. This training provides an ongoing development of student leadership skills, both within the

school's leadership structure and in the wider community and beyond as students take up their own vocations.

During Term One the three day Bivouac was held at Wattle Flat with the aim of finalising recruit training in Radio Procedure (RATEL), First Aid, Navigation and Field Craft. This was followed by the Cadets Dinning in Night where responsibility was handed over to the newly appointed cadet leaders. Further development of other Military skills occurred in September with the annual three day exercise at Holsworthy Army Barracks, one of the highlights being the successful completion of the recruit obstacle course by all cadets. This was a major achievement given the difficulty of the tasks.

In the local community The Scots School Cadet Unit has also participated in Anzac Day Services at Trunkey Creek, the Bathurst City March and the Dawn Service at O'Connell. Flag Party details were also involved in the opening of the Scots School's Highland Gathering and the Royal Bathurst Show. Members of the unit lead the Remembrance Day services at Bathurst Carillion and The Scots School.

Mr Dawes and Mr Garretty have continued to support the units training activities and camps throughout the year. Numerous teaching staff contributed their time and expertise to the camp activities and water safety training. These experiences could not run without their input and their time is greatly appreciated in the busy school schedule. Our support Unit, 1/19 Battalion based in Orange, has also offered considerable assistance throughout the year. A special thank you goes to SGT David Flude, a Scots School Old Boy, for his liaison,

supplying equipment, training and personnel throughout the year.

During Term 4 the cadet leadership group have also had the opportunity to gain instruction with live fire weapons with the Army reserves from 1/19 Battalion of a Tuesday night. These opportunities reinforce the link between responsibility and leadership while also allowing the development of more military skills. These ongoing community links network the schools Cadet Unit with another section of the Central West Community.

The year culminated with the Ceremonial Parade, although, planning was already well under way for a new Southern Highland camp at Biloela at the beginning of Term Two. This camp will be the only compulsory cadet bivouac for 2012 and will occur from Sunday, 22 April until Tuesday, 24 April. Cadets will experience the challenges of traversing remote areas in section sized groups over three days. Cadets will be doing other Adventure Training activities on the way with assistance from the Outdoor Education Group when we use some of their facilities. Other changes for next year include the command group only parades on Wednesday afternoon in Term 2 and through to September in Term 3. This will allow the command group (COUs, NCOs and other prospective rank) to concentrate on lesson preparation and skills extension, with the inclusion of those special activities. During this time other cadets interested in attending the Australian Army Cadet courses will also have the opportunity to parade and prepare. From September the whole cadet unit will again regularly parade on Wednesday afternoons. This new structure is aimed at allowing the leaders to be more fully skilled for instruction while providing a more intense targeted training programme for the other cadets in Term 1 towards the

camp and from September in Term 3 for Ceremonial Parade.

I wish to acknowledge the leadership of Major Juri Linins with the assistance of Lt Simon Dundon and the Scots staff. We look forward to another positive and productive year of cadets, the new structure providing opportunity to further extend the quality of their educational experience.

CHESS

Once again the School's Chess Team has had a successful year. We again competed in the New South Wales Junior Chess League Knock-out competition in which twenty six schools across the western region compete.

The early rounds saw us competing against Bathurst High School, Kinross Wolaroi Orange Anglican School and Red Bend College Forbes. These early games were all solid wins particularly due to the experience of Elliott Chew and Millaine Longmore and saw us once again up against St Stanislaus' College in the play off for first place. This was always going to be a closely contested round and for the first time boards one and two had to be sent away for adjudication as we had run out of time. Both of these games had gone for more than two hours. The overall outcome depended upon how the adjudication went. Scots had one board four and Stannies board three. After approximately a week the results came back, a loss to Scots on board two and a win on board one which gave the overall result to Stannies.

This now meant we would have to continue playing against other schools as we had set our sights of securing second place.

This task was made all the more difficult as Elliott and Millaine now had to focus

on their HSC. This meant that Benjamin Spence and Hayden Callan had to step up and we brought Zachary Gates and Kobe Wilson into the team.

The next games would always be tight and this was demonstrated when we played St Mary's Wellington where we only won two games, boards three and one, however, that was sufficient to see us again progress. The final game of the season was against Orange Anglican Grammar who we had played earlier in the year. This was going to be another tight game unlike in the earlier round when we beat them four nil. This time it was a very different story as we only won boards three and two, however, that was sufficient to give Scots the win and Second place. Well done to all those players that helped out this year in social games and particularly to the team which consisted of E Chew, M Longmore, B Spence, H Callan, Z Gates and K Wilson. Well done to all the players and thanks to Mr Mottram for his enthusiasm and commitment to Chess of Scots.

I would like to make special mention of Elliott Chew and Millaine Longmore for the enthusiasm, dedication and leadership that they have shown over the years. Their willingness to play and represent the School has been very much appreciated.

EQUESTRIAN

The Scots School Equestrian team began their year with several clinics with Megan Joerg. The students benefited from her talents in dressage. They also undertook coaching in Showjumping by Bardi Mannix.

The team's first competition for the year was at the Evans Crown Horse Sports Day. This involves hacking and sporting. Our riders performed

extremely well and came home with the 'Best Presented School' Trophy.

Next came the St Stanislaus' College Equestrian Event which was held over two days. The students competed in dressage, showjumping, combined training, sporting and polocrosse. Our students won many events and were an absolute credit to the School.

After this we hosted our annual Highland Gathering Showjumping Competition. It was a fabulous day with huge entries. We included a new event this year with a Speed Derby which involved the riders jumping both straight and cross country style jumps against the clock. We also ran an AM7 and a Top Score round. Mr John Kinghorn built the course and judged the event with great spirit and professionalism.

At the beginning of June the equestrians set off to Coonabarabran to participate in the largest interschool equestrian event in Australia – The North West Interschool's Horse Expo.

Our students were then given the opportunity to take Equestrian as a Summer sport. Our students compete in various disciplines. Jack and Zane Brien-Rowlandson do campdrafting, Lachlan Dawes does showjumping and eventing, Alice Godwin and Annabelle Townsend do hacking, Emma Boland does campdrafting and Annabel Shephard and Bronte Doyle are great all-rounders

The Scots School Equestrian Team 2011 was made up of the following members:

Alice Godwin (11) Captain, Annabelle Townsend (11) Vice Captain, Grace Dawes (2), Amber Rosin (4), Zane Brien-Rowlandson (6), Bronte Doyle (7), Jack Brien-Rowlandson (8), Lachlan Dawes (8), India Toole (8),

Georgina Simcock (10), Annabel Shephard (10) and Emma Boland (11).

Overall it was a very successful and busy year. It could not be possible without the support of the School, the parents and, of course, the riders.

RFS CADETS

This year's program has achieved some pleasing results. Of this year's intake, all cadets completed the program. Last year's program saw two cadets join a local Brigade with this year's program yet to gain some recruits, however, several have expressed interest in joining the Brigade at O'Connell (including two mentors and four cadets).

Six cadets (five cadets and 1 cadet mentor) were selected to represent the Chifley Zone at the 2011 Australian National Fire Cadet Championships at Myuna Bay in October, where they came 11th out of 31 teams, narrowly missing being in the top 10 in the Country by 1 point.

The Scots School Team also came second overall and were the champions in the Hydrant and Hose event for the Chifley Lithgow Field Day, which was hosted by Scots on 20 October, competing against five other schools in the area.

The Cadets also put on a display at the Scots Schools Open Day in August for prospective students' families.

Anecdotally the flow-on effects of the program have been seen in the classroom and in school leadership with all three mentors being elected as Prefects; School Captain/School Vice-Captain for 2012.

With ongoing support from the School, it is anticipated that the Cadet Program

will again run in 2012, with a call for nominations to be conducted in Term 4. As was the case last year, all associated paperwork for the program was completed and submitted by the end of Term 4, with the program commencing on the first Monday of Term 1, the following year.

The Cadet program at The Scots School has been deemed a success by all those involved. The program ran with minimal hiccups (mainly due to weather) and was well attended by the students participating.

Four cadets from the program have also, thus far, joined local Brigades, which was one of the main reasons for the program being established. It is hoped that the program continues to thrive and be a positive experience for all those who participate.

I wish to acknowledge the enthusiasm and commitment of Mrs Gillian Kearney and the O'Connell Rural Fire Service Brigade for their commitment to this program. I also thank Mr Nick Dawes for taking a staff interest and coordination role with the students.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

In the Preparatory School 2011 has been the year of the Lion. To suggest that The Scots Preparatory School has had a busy year is something of an understatement.

Staff

Leaving the Pride was Mrs Vickie Vance who took up a position at the Catholic Education Office after more than five years of dedicated teaching at TSS. We welcomed Mrs Sarah Milligan to the staff to teach Stage 2. Mrs Alexandra Hallahan taught Relief from Face to Face (RFF) for the first part of the year until departing on

maternity leave for the birth of Fleur. We welcomed Mrs Sue Flude to do RFF while Mrs Hallahan was on leave.

Mrs Robinson taught Stage 3, Mr Travers Stage 1 with Intern student Ms Melinda Cross in Term 1 and Mrs White taught Kindergarten. Ms Cross was then able to do blocks of teaching while Mrs Robinson and Mrs White took long service leave.

Earlier in the year Miss Olivia Worthington returned to England after her gap year with us. She was a great asset to us along with Miss Flora Edwards who unfortunately had to return early due to illness. From the second half of the year we have been blessed with an abundance of riches with Mr Daniel Cousins and Mr Will Hudson both from the UK and Miss Layla Leard from Canada. They have been helping in many areas including Multilit, Reading, Craft, Sport and Library.

Lithgow staffing in 2011 was Mrs Elizabeth Lang with assistants Mrs Bradford and Mrs Hart in Pre-Prep and Mrs Erika Pringle teaching Preparatory K-6 class. K-6 hosted intern student, Miss Black in Term 3. Mrs Lyn Inglis taught Pre-Prep in Bathurst alongside Mrs Chelsea Chapman and Mrs Lisa Travers. Mrs Travers shared the assistant load with Mrs Cheryl Gilbert and Mrs Sue Horton was a big help throughout the year.

Pre-Preparatory

Pre-Prep roared into 2011 with our largest enrolment and it has grown from strength to strength. Pre-Prep is an educational program where sounds, letters and numbers are taught throughout the year to students allowing them to be thoroughly prepared for beginning school in an environment that

also encourages collaborative play and development of fine and gross motor skills such as using pencils and scissors and learning to run, jump and balance. Highlights of the year have been excursions to Annie's Ice Cream, the Fire Station and the Dinosaur Museum. Pre-Prep students participated in the sporting carnivals with the older students such as the sprinkler fun at the swimming carnival, laps at the cross-country and games at the athletics carnival. Lithgow Pre-Prep enjoyed their weekly trip to the library, visiting Three Tree Lodge to sing for the residents and the Zig Zag Railway.

Board of Studies Inspection

Although the Preparatory School was registered in 2009 the necessity to complete a K-12 Registration and Accreditation provided Prep an opportunity to demonstrate the excellence of our programming and teaching and learning initiatives. The inspectors provided a fantastic report that indicated we are operating far above the level of compliance and was marked by comments about the thoroughness of programming, how well staff knew the syllabus and their students and students are engaged with an interesting and challenging learning environment.

Special Events

The students in both campuses have enjoyed a wide range of excursions, special events and community occasions. Some of these were; Musica Viva Concerts, Public Speaking and Authors Award Assemblies, visits to the Hartley Historic Village and Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, Beef Week at the Retallack's property, Solid State Circus, Mother's and Father's Day events, Mount Piper Power Station, Healthy Harold in the Life Education Van, ANZAC and Remembrance Day

Commemorations, Clean-Up Australia and Jeans for Genes Day and raising money for our sponsor child Vannida.

A number of events are worth special mention:

Family Fun Day – including BBQ, jumping castle and water slide this was a great way to kick off the year even though the heavens opened, the kids had a great time on the slide while Mums and Dads got to know each other really well huddled under the tent to keep dry.

Lithgow Book Parade – a fantastic event and the costumes were something to behold; every student in Pre-Prep and Prep participated and were appreciated by a big crowd as they strutted the cat walk dressed as their favourite character from a book. It followed up the School winning the small schools section of the Lithgow Library Book Week Competition.

Father's Day BBQ & Book Fair – this was the culmination of a month long celebration of reading. Mr Lee challenged all the students of the Preparatory School to read 1000 hours in August. They rose to and smashed the target reaching over 1500 hours in the month encouraged all the way by Roary the Reading Lion. The Friends of Prep provided some wonderful prizes and Dads dug deep to buy lots of books at the fair.

Bike Day – the big reward for the reading challenge was the bike day at the end of Term 3. Students brought their bikes in for helmet checks, safety talks from the Police Cycle Unit and lots of riding.

Mighty Minds Muster – now running for more than six years this enrichment activity for Stage 3 students was a

roaring success with more than one hundred students from schools all over the Central West challenging their brains and their teamwork.

Nativity – Lithgow students worked really hard to prepare and present their own nativity play this year to be followed by the mini-fete that always provides a lovely way to end off the year.

Charlie and The Chocolate Factory – play and performance including poetry, dancing and live music this was a wonderful showcase of the talents of our students.

Sport and Co-Curricular

As part of the outdoor education emphasis of our school, students from Stages 2 & 3 participated in a Crusader Camp at Galston Gorge. This was a fabulous learning opportunity and there were many stories of challenge and adventure when they returned including the ropes course and BMX. The Crusader staff led our students through a Bible study program.

This program adds to the Christian Studies program that occurs throughout the year including Scripture lessons, lunchtime Crusader group run by Mrs White and Mrs Milligan, Chapel and special services such as the end of each term at Lithgow in the Bowenfels Presbyterian Church.

Music has again played a large part in the co-curricular life of the school. Many students in both campuses took up the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and we thank all of the teachers who come into the school from the Mitchell Conservatorium.

Numerous students also participated in a range of other activities such as Highland Dancing and Speech and Drama lessons and later in the year in

Chanter and Drums with Mr MacKenzie in preparation to join the Pipes and Drums.

Many students participated in other events such as Eisteddfods, examinations, competitions or district representation in music and sport.

The Preparatory School is proud of its efforts in Sport this year. As well as sports carnivals in Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics we were able to field teams in a number of sports in town competitions including netball, Walla rugby, indoor soccer and hockey.

There were also a number of special events we participated in such as the Western Area Schools (WAS) Gala Day, Chess tournaments and HICES (Heads of Independent Co-Educational Schools) debating competitions. The School was the host of the WAS Athletics carnival for the third year in a row after a major storm prevented Blue Mountains Grammar holding the event. Next year the School will host the WAS and HICES cross-country carnivals.

As part of the Cross Country Carnival this year Mr Travers organised students to be sponsored. The students raised over \$1400 for Daffodil Cottage.

There were a number of key performances to be celebrated; in swimming The Junior Boys Relay team of Jacob Cranston, Andrew Knox, Reilly Mitchell and Grady Roach were selected to swim for HICES at the CIS carnival at Homebush. The Lionesses Netball team were undefeated Minor Premiers and although they went down in the final we are really proud of the girls and amazed by their improvement in a year. In Indoor Soccer we also had a number of teams in finals – well done. Angus Crozier represented CIS at

Cross Country where the team placed fifth; fantastic effort Angus.

Thank you to our dedicated staff who coached and managed sporting teams this year and to all parents who support in so many ways including transport and freezing on sidelines!

Leadership

The Preparatory School leadership team have raised the bar this year in terms of their dedication and service. They have always been conscious of their responsibility and other students. Congratulations to all the leaders on their attitude, application and approach to their roles in 2011.

Volunteers

The Preparatory School offers special thanks to all parents and friends who help in a voluntary capacity in so many ways from running BBQs, driving buses, organising bike days, running reading groups, helping with art and craft, teaching Scripture, feeding the fish, running book club, organising mini-fetes, helping out with sport coaching, making costumes or just being there to support us with big smiles and your camera! Thank You!

SENIOR SCHOOL SPORT

The Scots students continued to gain many important values from playing in team sports in 2011. The friendship bonds of our student body were further developed through working together on the training field and whilst competing alongside their peers and against other teams of players.

The benefits of team sport are immeasurable, however, one which is often overlooked is the role of sport in the development of mateship and the sense of connectedness to the

community. We are lucky in Bathurst to have the support of many community based sporting associations and their competitions which help our school and its students interact with our local community. We hope that our contribution and successes can continue into the future.

Summer Sports

Cricket

Our school year began with the resumption of the summer competitions. Our under 13s and 14s cricket teams finished their season in the Bathurst District Junior Cricket Association with the 13s narrowly missing a place in the final. The 1st XI capped off their ISA season with the Old Boys match. It again was a highlight for many of our students and our newly appointed cricket mad Headmaster, Mr Gates. The match concluded the contribution of the Year 12 boys to Scots cricket and their efforts were greatly appreciated.

Tennis

We had a lean year in tennis this year in the WAS competition but did manage to have some success in the WAS Singles and Doubles. Lachlan Conyers won the WAS plate in the Intermediate singles.

Basketball

Our Basketball teams experienced mixed success. The program of training and skill development put together by our coaches is working and developing some very skilful and tough teams. The students seem to really enjoy playing basketball which is evident from the large numbers playing each Friday evening. We had four students represent WAS at the AICES basketball carnival.

Water Polo

Our Water Polo season was very disjointed and our students were mostly unprepared for matches as we had nowhere to train and work on our individual and team skills. We did manage a few games against St Stanislaus' and All Saints with mixed success. Hopefully with the completion of the indoor swimming pool our Water Polo program will improve.

Winter Sports

Rugby

Throughout the season the coaches concentrated on developing the players individual and team skills, the results of which were evident in the improved performance of our teams during the season. Overall, considering the size of our school we have again performed well in the ISA competition though this is not reflected in the results. All teams enjoyed solid wins when placed against teams of a similar skill level.

Netball

We had a record number of Netball teams this season, seven secondary teams and two preparatory school teams. The Bathurst Netball Association altered their competition to cater for the proposed construction of a much needed new clubhouse. This caused an early start and finish to the season. Our First VII were challenged in the A Reserve Division comprising mostly women's teams. The girls never gave up and pushed each team in every quarter. Our Seconds finished mid table again losing to more experienced teams. The Thirds made the semi-finals and were unlucky not to go through to the final. The junior teams all had their fair share of wins and losses and narrowly missed the semi-finals in each division. The highlight for twenty four

of the girls was the Netball Tour to the Gold Coast, where our school was awarded the Spirit and Sportsmanship award at the netball carnival.

Soccer

This year we had two teams. Our First XI were in the fourth grade women's competition and the 16s were in the Bathurst and Orange competition. It was a tough season to begin with for the 16s who were on the receiving end of some big score lines. Throughout the season the girls' skills and team work improved dramatically and resulted in matches that were very evenly contested. The First XI had easily the most successful season for Scots soccer and made it to the semi-finals under the coaching of Mrs Donnelly.

Hockey

Our three Hockey teams played in the local junior competition where the 15s lost in the semi-final and the First XI were narrowly defeated in the final. The development of the First XI was just reward for the dedication that the players had given to hockey over the past years.

Swimming

This year our annual swimming carnival took on a very different format. Due to the closure of the school's dear old pool we moved the carnival to the Bathurst Aquatic Centre (BAC).

The Scots swim team competed at the WAS Swimming Carnival at St Stanislaus' College. The evening began with a short remembrance ceremony for the late Don Wiburd, who was somewhat the architect of the WAS competition. We won the Senior Girls, Twelve Year Girls and Overall Girls' Percentage Shields.

Our swimmers performed well at the ISA carnival and were placed in the middle of each division. Kaitlin Wright and Felicity Walker all swam at NSW CIS. Zachery Telfser represented CIS at the All Schools' Carnival.

Cross Country

Our school carnival was again very competitive and thoroughly enjoyed by the students. We again hosted the WAS Cross Country and provided a very fair and challenging course. We had many students represent WAS at the AICES cross country of which Jock Sinclair, Zachary Gates, Emma Harley and Jessica McKenzie travelled to the NSW CIS event which was hosted in torrential rain.

Athletics

Our students braved the cold whilst competing in the inter house school carnival demonstrating great sportsmanship and some fine athletic skills. We attended the ISA carnival and performed admirably. Despite not winning any divisions the students were very competitive in all events. We had five students represent ISA at the NSW CIS carnival who were all rather tired after attending the cadet camp.

Overall our sporting program provides an opportunity for students to be challenged and developed and also caters for a mix of both team and individual activities. We have a small yet diverse range of students with a multitude of interests and abilities. Our success is heavily dependent on the commitment of our students, our coaching and managing staff and the support of the parents.

I wish to acknowledge the tremendous commitment of our Sports Master, Mr Adams, and all the coaches who contribute to developing our sporting teams at Scots.

