



Christ Church
Grammar School

Headmaster's Report

December 2014

**Old Boys' Association
Parents' Association**

FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK

The period between my last report and the current Council meeting has seen four significant events take place. The first is the WACE Exams for our Year 12 students, the second internal exams for Year 11 students, third Venture for our Year 10 students and finally orientation day for our new students for 2015. In the week of the Council meeting Peer Support Training for Year 10 students will take place along with the three very significant functions of the Advent Carol Service and final assembly's and prize-giving's for Senior and Preparatory Schools.

The complexities of the whole of the School at this time are quite exceptional and our success of managing all that is expected of us lies at the feet of the Executive team. Given that this is my last report for 2014 it is appropriate that I acknowledge my Executive for all that they do for ensuring the School does so much, so well, so often. As a team working towards common goals, be that strategically or ends focussed, we are indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated and accomplished group of staff.

MMG Education Survey

Earlier this month the School received the report from MMG Education for 2014. This report which is a key element of measurement reflecting ends and strategy is now in its third year of its current form. The full reports for parents and students can be found attached. The feedback from these reports is again both instructive and affirming. The Director of MMG Education, **Mr Tony Pfeiffer** will present to Council at our first meeting of 2015.

Strategic Plan Update to December 2014

Attached to this report is the December update of the School's current strategic plan. It is affirming to see the positive engagement of our parent community with the intent and direction of this plan as indicated by the MMG survey.

Since the last report there has been a particular focus on project 1.2.1. Attached to this report is the Observation Report compiled by Teachers College researchers from Columbia University, **Deb Sawch** and **Alison Villanueva**. These researchers visited the School in week 1 of Term 4. Their findings will particularly inform our thinking with regard to programme development and design over the next strategic period. This report has yet to be fully reviewed internally by the School having only been received on Wednesday, 26 November 2014.

It is timely that I take this opportunity to thank those departing members of Council for their contribution. The particular insights of **Mr Brian Beresford** and **Mr Larry Iffla** have been of great benefit in bringing the School to its current position. **Dr Glenda Campbell-Evans'** service to the School and Council has been truly exceptional. Her wise consideration of complex issues has helped in so many different ways the measured development of our School over her extensive period on Council. Her corporate knowledge will certainly be missed by those who remain.

STUDENTS

THE LW PARRY PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Academic

The boys have been allocated their classes for 2015 and had the opportunity to spend a day in the class, with the teacher and the boys they will be with next year on Orientation Day. Prior to Orientation Day the Director of Studies, **Mr Brad Hilliard**, collects all new boys' reports and NAPLAN reports while endeavouring to balance the classes in terms of academic strength and need. Orientation Day acts to reduce anxiety about the new year and new teachers.

The Semester 2 Reporting process is well underway with teachers employing their data, professional judgement and standardised data to create reports on each boy. Reports will be posted and go online, 8 December.

Pastoral Care, Planning and Co-curricular

The Director of Pastoral Care, Planning and Co-curricular, **Mrs Maria Hodges** has been working toward the creation of a 'Knight's Quest Leadership Programme based on the Knightly Virtues created and researched by the Jubilee Centre, University of Birmingham. This leadership programme will commence in 2015, with boys undertaking a questionnaire, which identifies their character strengths and the ones that they may want to improve. Boys then engage with the Knights Quest, earning blazer badges in the shape of knights' shields, as they achieve demonstrating the required checklist in their 'passport' from nominating teachers, parents and peers. This approach is aimed at identifying and acknowledging the character strengths of boys while embedding a positive culture and practices to build positive education across our Prep School community.

The Prep School boys have been engaged in many exciting end of year events such as: Messy Mud Day (Pre-Primary to Year 2 and PMC), Inter-House Sports, House Parties, VHG Parties, Class parties and Excursions to Kings Park (Year 3), Team Works Training Centre (Year 4), Rottnest Island – Jack's Island Exploration (Year 5) and The Great Escape (Year 6).

Speech Morning on Friday, 5 December is a celebration of the year and the end of the Preparatory School journey for our Year 6s. The Preparatory School prizes are also presented.

SENIOR SCHOOL

Academic

The Year 12s cohort completed their WACE examinations last week and conducted themselves with great maturity throughout. The Year 11 exams are currently being conducted. Boys receive their first predicted ATAR along with their end-of-year school report and it is to be hoped that this will provide a reality check where it is required.

The Director of Staffing and Strategic Projects and Director of Studies will conduct joint Annual Reviews with Heads of Department over the next fortnight. Timetables will soon be released and planning for 2015 is now almost completed. All departments are ready for the introduction of the New WACE courses in 2015 as well as the full implementation of all Phase 1 Australian Curriculum subjects.

The numbers of CCGS boys and MLC girls 'crossing the fence' for study in 2015 will be roughly equal and we will provide an orientation for them next week. It is interesting to note that the popularity of Philosophy & Ethics with MLC girls has now led to MLC running this course in 2015, with mentoring from our teacher. The system of rotating Year 11 and 12 languages between the two schools will continue and one of our boys has won the Year 11 MLC Drama prize this year!

The Year 9/10 Choices and Global Perspectives working groups will meet together to discuss their viewpoints and ideas and plan the way forward in 2015/16. The Academic Committee was pleased with the feedback provided by this year's MMG survey in regard to initiatives such as Live Marks. This system is being refined for greater clarity in 2015.

The focus at present is on prize-winners and reports; this will be the last set of reports posted home, with future reports being released via the portal only.

Pastoral

The New Boys Orientation Program held on Friday 21 November saw 185 boys, 97 from our Preparatory School and 88 from local Primary schools, spend a day in the Senior School. All boys were allocated to their new House groups and the Heads of House ran the program which was designed to familiarise the boys with the location of various Senior School facilities, House areas and most importantly, enable them to meet each other and make new friends. It was pleasing to note that seven new boarders made the journey to school for orientation and that in 2015 the plan is to invite all new boarders to arrive a day earlier and spend two nights in the boarding house to assist their transition into boarding.

The Peer Support Leaders training day, led by **Ms Megan Pentony** and eight young Old Boys, will engage 122 Year 10 boys who will spend the day learning the range of activities that will be integral to next year's program.

Planning and Co-curricular

Planning of the 2015 calendar of events has been the major focus of the last month. This a complex task to draw all the pieces of the jig-saw together and find coherence and balance across the different interest that make up the school community.

The facility to create a desktop application working through the School's website on phones and other devices to access the school calendar, inclusive of search facilities is progressing well. A video explaining how to maximise the use for this facility and personalisation capacities will be highlighted as part of the process.

Work around the shape of Assemblies and Chapels, given the absence of the School Chapel due to renovation, is essentially complete.

The selection process of boys for 'The Beyond Queenslea Drive' programme is progressing. Approximately 30 boys will take up placements for 2015 at this stage.

The Service in Action Calendar has also been finalised for 2015 and a preliminary allocation of boys to trips has been completed.

Tours

The Drama Departments UK tour in January 2015 is well advance in planning for January depart.

Sri Lanka Cricket tour is also well advanced for their early December Tour.

Planning for the Aquatic Tour to Queensland in early January is also progressing well along with the Annual Rowing Camps in late January.

Sport

Term 4 sport has progressed well. We have now completed the senior fixture for 2014 and have one remaining fixture against Aquinas for Year 7, 8 & 9. We also have an Aquatic Cup challenge swim meet Year 7, 8 and 9 and Cricket one day matches in Week 8.

Arts

Production of the Year 7/8 play Holes was a sell-out success in the Chapel forecourt during week 4.

Outdoor Education

At the time of writing, the Year 10 Venture is in its final day. Issues around routes have been significant with DEPAW planning a range of controlled burns through part of our track. In the main this has not taken place as predicted and the boys experience has not been affected. It has however meant some issues for staff with re-routing and the provision of logistical support. Whilst the cooler weather has been appreciated, the stronger than normal winds have necessitated assistance to canoeing groups on a number of occasions. I would like to thank the following staff for their contribution to Venture:

Daniel Santos	Group Leader
Una Alagic	Group Leader
Richard Parker	Group Leader
Katie Williams	Group Leader
Jemma Diedrichs	Group Leader
Rob Vickery	Group Leader
David Owen	Group Leader
David Proudlove	Group Leader
Duane Nurse	Group Leader
Jasmine Head	Group Leader
Tim Chaney	Group Leader
Claire Molinari	Group Leader
Geoff Guggenheimer	Group Leader
Arvi Pocock	Group Leader
David Anderson	Venture Director
Ben Hodsdon	Support (Westside)
Drew McDonald	Broke Inlet Water Manager
Holly Rose	Support (Westside)
Jimmy	Paddling (Westside)
Lucy Myles	Support (Westside)
Bob Petersen	Support (Eastside)
Doug McLarty	Rest point Co-ordinator
Neil Saggars	Support (Eastside)
Ryan Myles	Nornalup Water Manager
Kate Mitchell	Support (Eastside)
Jamie Eaton	Radio Organiser
Shunya Abe (Renta)	Clare House Assistant
Liam Ward(Renta)	Rest Point assistant

It is fair to say that Venture continues to be an iconic experience of transition for our boys from our 'Choice and Challenge' (Year 9 and 10) phase of learning. The fact that it is experienced by all boys at the same time continues to be one of its most significant and appealing attributes.

STAFF

TEACHING STAFF

Appointments:

Mr Liam Casson has been appointed as the Director of the Centre for Boys' Health and Well-being. Liam has most recently been employed at the Fremantle Football Club where for the last 4 years he held the position of Player Development Manager.

Ms Jody Henry has been appointed in the LW Parry Preparatory School as a Classroom Teacher. Jody's most recent position has been at All Saints College where she worked as a Year 6 Classroom Teacher.

Internal Appointments:

Mr Todd Harnwell has been appointed as the Head of Jupp House.

Mr Patrick Loudon has been appointed as the Assistant Head of Queenslea.

Ms Jasmine Head has been appointed as the Assistant Head of Wolsey.

Mr Andrew Greig has been appointed as the Residential Year Group Co-ordinator (Year 9-10).

Mrs Nicky Garside has been appointed as the Head of Drama (Academic).

Mr Daniel La Galia has been appointed as the Assistant Head of Mathematics (Programmes & Assessments).

Mr Anthony Peck has been appointed as the Assistant Head of Mathematics (Innovative & Personalised Learning).

Mrs Lisa Venn has been appointed as the Co-ordinator of the Peter Moyes Centre (Preparatory School).

Mrs Rachel Durston has been appointed as the Co-ordinator of the Learning Development Centre (Preparatory).

Mr Nick O'Brien (Science), **Mrs Sharyn Flinn** (English), **Mrs Anna Rowe** (Art) and **Mr Brendon Noble** (Physical Education) have been appointed as Associates to the Centre for Pedagogy.

Contract Extensions:

Mr Daniel Santos – 12 month contract, Senior School English Department.

Mrs A Callow – 12 month contract, Preparatory School Art Department.

Resignations:

Mrs Melanie Wallis has resigned from her position as Co-ordinator of the Learning Development Centre and Acting Co-ordinator of Year 5 & 6. Melanie joined the School in April 2010 and during her time has been a key contributor to the ongoing success of the Preparatory school boys.

Mr Antony Kalebic has resigned from his position as Mathematics Teacher to move to Penrhos College.

SUPPORT STAFF

Appointments:

Ms Sarah Hamilton has been appointed as the Academic Administrator within the Studies Office. Sarah joined the School in March 2011 taking on the position of Administrative Assistant, Admissions.

Miss Shannon Watters has been appointed as an Outdoor Education Assistant at Koorinal. Shannon's most recent position has been with Asia Pacific Adventures where she co-ordinated multi-day programmes for international students throughout Hong Kong.

Miss Karina Podmore has been appointed as an Outdoor Education Assistant at Koorinal. Karina's most recent position has been with Carey Baptist College where she worked as a Physical Education Teacher.

Resignations:

Mrs Perri Margaria has resigned from her position as Education Assistant, Peter Moyes Centre within the LW Parry Preparatory School. Perri joined the School in January 2007 and has been an active member of the Preparatory School.

COMMUNITY

Student achievements

News stories from the past month include:

- [*Former PM returns to Christ Church*](#)
- [*Remembrance Day commemorated*](#)
- [*Economics and Commerce prizewinners*](#)
- [*Boys complete university course*](#)
- [*Christ Church boys rock Mojos*](#)
- [*2015 Prefects announced*](#)
- [*Lessons in sport, lessons in life*](#)
- [*Boys excel in the national science test*](#)
- [*Boys celebrate diversity of Asian cultures*](#)
- [*Marathon walk for Cambodian Children's' Fund*](#)
- [*Top performers in national programming competition*](#)
- [*Christ Church farewells Class of 2014*](#)
- [*Sophisticated artworks on display*](#)
- [*Immersion enhances global citizenship*](#)
- [*Have Sum Fun winners again*](#)
- [*Exploring the natural world*](#)
- [*Parade concludes year of service*](#)
- [*Prep problem solvers on national stage*](#)
- [*New venue ideal for rowers pre-season*](#)
- [*Boys embrace Japan experience*](#)
- [*Christ Church wins second national history award*](#)

Incoming parent engagement

The Orientation Day morning tea and briefing session for new parents held on Friday 21 November was very successful. There was strong attendance and a great atmosphere among new parents. It is pleasing to receive some excellent feedback following the day. The briefing session led by President of the Parents' Association **Susan Montanari** and supported by Auxiliary President **Samantha Goebels**, Uniform Shop Representative **Georgina Ryan** and Clinical Nurse Manager **Joanna Simpson** was a welcoming and constructive introduction to the School.

Parents' Association and Auxiliary

Director of Community Relations **Karina O'Meara** and Community Groups Co-ordinator **Christy Dangerfield** worked with our designers to create an 'infographic' representing the parent support group structure and focus. This was launched at the orientation parent briefing session, and has been added to the relevant Quick Link on [CCGS World](#).

The Auxiliary recently held its annual cocktail party for volunteers including Uniform Shop helpers. Around 50 people attended.

The class/year representatives are busily implementing their end of year activities and its terrific to see them all promoted in the notices of CCGS World.

The Auxiliary and Association are working on 2015 dates, and class/year representatives are already making plans for the first get togethers of 2015, to ensure the year of engagement activities is not delayed by the start of year lull.

The Auxiliary is also progressing with its plans to activate sub-committees to assist Christ Church families, the Families in Need Support Group (FINS) and New to Perth Support Group.

Artist-In-Residence Grants

I thought Council might be interested in the Artist-In-Residence grants for 2015. The Association has granted \$70,500.00 see summary below:

Senior School (Science/Music/Art/Drama/Library)	\$20,500
L W Parry Preparatory School (Art/Library/Asia Week/NAIDOC week/Year 4 cohort/PP-Y2 dance programme)	\$22,500
Peter Moyes Centre (Prep & Senior)	\$3,500
Centre for Ethics	\$4,000
Centre for Boys' Health and Well-Being	\$20,000

Old Boys' Association

The OBA organised another outstanding assembly with Year 6 to 11 boys on 6 November. Themed as a 'sports' focussed assembly, all former sports captains were personally invited to attend, and **Luke McPharlin** was the keynote speaker. More than 70 old boys attended, and enjoyed the assembly as well as a morning tea and tour of the sports honour boards, a tour of Mount Claremont and Brockway. Some even stayed for lunch. The feedback has been extremely positive. An example of this feedback is included below.

Dear Andrew

I want to express my thanks for the invitation to attend the Senior School Assembly last Thursday as a representative of the 1963 rowing crews.

The day was not only immensely enjoyable but quite moving as well and it was a privilege to attend. It is humbling to think that our endeavours in years gone by are looked up to by the boys and that, hopefully, we might inspire them a bit.

Exposure to the School as an Old Boy is usually through cultural, sporting, Old Boys and other events and you don't really get to see the School as a whole in action (at least the senior school). To say that I was impressed would be an understatement - the welcoming manner of staff and boys at every turn was amazing. The sheer professionalism, enthusiasm and love for the job displayed by academic and administrative staff is something that obviously impacts on the boys and gives them a standard to aspire to.

As you know our grandson commenced at the School this year and another one starts next year. We are in awe of the opportunities that will be presented to them and will certainly continue to encourage them to "have a go" and extend themselves.

Thank you for the unscheduled tour that you gave us, the facilities of the School are extraordinary and any boy who attends Christ Church is very fortunate.

Looking forward to our ongoing relationship with, and love for, the School

Kind regards

Guy Dowling

The annual life members' sundowner was a particularly well-attended affair this year, with more than 200 guests enjoying the get together at the Claremont Yacht Club. Presentations were made to recently elected 'Fellow' **Dr John Harriott** and a family representative of 'Hon Life Member' **Sam Elliott**.

The forthcoming OBA reunions include:

- 10 Dec 2014 Unforgettables Christmas lunch
- 11 Dec 2014 Class of 1961 Christmas lunch
- 20 Dec 2014 10 year reunion – Class of 2004
- 20 Dec 2014 20 year reunion – Class of 1994
- 21 Dec 2014 15 year reunion – Class of 1999

In January as part of my work in the United Kingdom, I will be visiting with the Midnite Tour and on 15 January will be taking the opportunity to organise a get together with alumni and parent community based there. This is reflection of normal practice over a number of years and we hope that cameo performances by the MYTC will bring together a group of up to 50 or so Christ Church community.

Centre for Ethics

The Centre has hosted some outstanding speakers this term and finished this month with Tim Hawkes, Headmaster of The King's School, on the subject of his book *10 Conversations you should have with your son*. It was pleasing to see the engagement of more than 400 parents who come along.

Use of campus over Summer holidays

The Claremont campus will have the following activities on site:

- Auswim instructors course Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December in V block rooms and pool
- NZ Rowing team Monday 8 – Tuesday 16 December in Walters House
- SONY Camp Thursday 11 – Sunday 14 December in Walters House
- Ooly Booly Webinar Saturday 13 December in FutureSphere
- Bubble Dome computer courses 17 – 19 December in FutureSphere L16 and L 1
- Bubble Dome looming courses 13 – 15 December and 20 – 22 December in S 3 and 4
- ATArget January Jumpstart Monday 19 – Friday 24 January in L and Q block rooms
- CCGS Rowers 23 – 26 January in Walters house

ICT

As can be anticipated, this time of year is both conclusion and preparation within ICT provision. Audio Visual (A/V) equipped teaching spaces form an important part of these preparations. As part of the 2014 budget, 25 A/V rooms were refreshed this year, with three more pending completion in December. An order for the refresh of 19 more A/V teaching spaces was placed early November as well. These 19 room refreshes, which will belong to the 2015 budget, have an anticipated completion date of day 1 Term 1, 2015.

The School contains 117 A/V spaces including the Chapel, Refectory and the Staff-room. 111 of these 117 spaces are classrooms and as such are refreshed once in every four years to maintain currency in technology and minimise on downtime due to wear. Manufacture warranties cover three of these four years. On average 27 rooms are refreshed each year consuming approximately 17% of the total ICT budget.

The current A/V Room build-out consists of:

- An Epson projector
- Two front mount or four ceiling space speakers
- A controller and touch panel
- An Input panel
- An Apple TV
- A Standard whiteboard.

This setup provides teachers with:

- A mobile A/V presentation space, where wireless projection technology is employed to offer teachers the ability to be more mobile around the classroom as they teach. This also provides for tangle free easy connection to the projector. This functionality is offered via the Apple TV whose network configurations are crafted to provide localised room access only.
- A standard whiteboard drawing space (unlike LCD or LED screens which do not support whiteboard markers and as such reduce the amount of whiteboard space typically)
- An electronic interactive whiteboard with ability to email interactive diagrams with or without a laptop or iPad. (via the Epson EB1420Wi projector)
- A presentation surface that exactly matches the resolution of the current generation of laptops.
- A high contrast and high lumens presentation surface with no glaring reflections (benefits of ultra-short throw projectors).
- A consistent wall mounted A/V control system available across all installations. This mitigates issues in regards to lost remote controls or the retraining of staff due to product change.
- VGA / HDMI connectivity for non-Apple TV compliant devices.

The Sandover dining hall was also equipped with a projector and screen in November to offer an A/V presentation space that can cater for an audience of 200 - 400 people. This eases planning issues surrounding the unavailability of the Chapel in 2015 and facilitates this opportunity for the residential community.

In preparation for 2015, a trial installation of Canvas was recently established to allow four selected teachers to test this product in the classroom. Canvas is a hosted Learning Management System (LMS), which provides for the hosting, organisation and distribution of academic curriculum content in a structured manner. In addition it provides collaboration,

assessment and feedback tools, which typically enhance modern classroom analytics and engagement. This (or a competing LMS tool, if this trial is deemed unsuccessful) will host the content generated by the Associates of the Centre for Pedagogy, as they build content specific to the CCGS pedagogical standard.

FINANCE

The School has completed and Council formally approved the 2015 Budget. The 2015 'Fees Policy' has been updated and uploaded to the School website and circulated in last week's Headmaster's newsletter.

The Brockway development application ('DA') is still with the City of Nedlands. The Department of Environmental Regulation ('DER') is requiring the completion of a mandatory audit report ('MAR') to ensure that there is no migration of harmful pathogens off the site in either the air or ground water. The School has met with the DER and the MAR consultant to confirm their expectations of this process. The DER were unaware that the School has recently completed a second Outline Development Plan ('ODP') and subsequent DA. It would appear that this has been a process shortcoming at the CoN. The DER is following up the CoN to affirm the content of both the ODP and DA. The DER is considering accepting an interim MAR to ensure the process of the DA is not further impeded. The DER has accepted the auditor's proposition that a full MAR is not possible without first completing the built infrastructure on the site.

The School has completed the 'soft launch' of an online banking solution for its core transactional business. The system is 'live' for the payment of tuition fees and donations.

Facilities

The Chapel refurbishment project has been tendered with Western Projects the successful builder. Donaldson+Warn and **Mr Chris Coslani** were both very impressed by the tender and the presentation from Western Projects. The Council will be asked to approve the building contract shortly.

The School has started the cricket nets precinct project. This has required a significant preliminary civil works component. The nets will be completed in time for Term 1, 2015.

The School has belatedly received a response from the Town of Claremont ('ToC') to the second traffic management plan it has submitted. This plan highlighted the need for the 'cap' on the student numbers at the School to be increased from 1600 to 1650. The Executive Manager, Urban Planning & Statutory Services, has now asked the School to reconsider its request for a pedestrian crossing in Queenslea Drive and conduct a further community consultation prior to him authorising for this to proceed to full Council for consideration. It is interesting to note that our neighbour Scotch College has yet to have a traffic management plan approved and currently sits with no cap expectation from the Town of Claremont.