



Christ Church  
Grammar School

## **Headmaster's Report**

**October 2014**

**Old Boys' Association  
Parents' Association**

## **FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK**

Recently I have been involved in a number of advocacy aspects of my role.

In the final week of term I attended a luncheon at AIMWA focussing on the challenges of teaching recruitment and professionalism in Western Australia. I also attended the Australia China Business Council (ACBC) China National Day Dinner at the invitation of Professor Dawn Freshwater, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, The University of Western Australia. In the first week of the holidays as Chairman of the Australian Boarding Schools Association I attended the national conference.

Recently the School conducted the annual MMG survey for Years' 3, 6, 9 and 12 parents and Years' 6, 9 and 12 students. The purpose of the survey is to provide insights of the views, expectations and satisfaction of parents and students on all key areas of the School at key year stages.

We were very pleased with the response rates, particularly from parents.

**Year 6 Students** – 96/105 (91%)

**Year 3 Parents** – 33/51 (65%)

**Year 9 Students** – 167/190 (88%)

**Year 6 Parents** – 64/105 (61%)

**Year 12 Students** – 122/136 (90%)

**Year 9 Parents** – 110/190 (58%)

**Year 12 Parents** – 75/136 (55%)

The analysis and full report is likely to be presented in late October 2014 however a summary document will be available for the upcoming Strategic Planning meeting on Saturday, 11 October.

I am pleased to inform Council of the creation of the School's next Centre for . . . This follows on from our Centre for Ethics (1990), Centre for Excellence (2004) and Centre for Pedagogy (2008).

### **The Centre's context**

Operating on a model similar to the School's renowned Centre for Ethics (CfE) and Centre for Pedagogy (CfP), the Centre for Boys' Health and Well Being (CfBH & WB) will inform the School and the wider community through guest speakers, research, publication and consequent School programming of best and next practice related to the health and well-being of boys of school age, PP – Year 12.

At Christ Church best and next practice in the area of boys' health and well-being is reflected across the breadth of all programmes. In curriculum, matters pertinent to the work of the Centre, are mainly addressed through the Personal and Spiritual Development Programme (PSD) PP – Year 12. This programme incorporate aspects of Health, Positive Education/Psychology, Protective Behaviours, Religious Education, Character Development and Leadership. The Centre will focus on impacting this programme outside of the Religious Education element which is the responsibility of the School Chaplaincy team.

Through its work and activity the Centre will create close relationships with like Centres, associations, research organisations and Universities while seeking to initiate its own action research and wider research to enhance community understanding and knowledge of health related issues for boys. The Centre will build on the quality of programme that currently exists within Christ Church and the School's informed actions consequent of our being a foundation member of the Positive Education Schools Association (PESA).

## **The Role of the Director**

The Director will lead the outcomes for the Centre. Within the School this will be done in consultation with other staff, particularly those involved in delivering the PSD programme (mainly members of the Health and Physical Education department), the School's psychology and counselling services team and those nursing staff who manage the School's Health Centre.

The Director is responsible for ensuring that curriculum based health and well-being programmes impacting on the students are best and next practice. These programmes are essentially delivered through the School's PSD programme. There is no PSD Department as such rather an aligned PSD Programme PP – Year 12. The Director will be responsible for the coordination and development of this programme, working with staff in both the Preparatory and Senior School. Indeed much of the work of the Centre is to ensure that Christ Church is at the forefront of health and well-being programmes for boys and is setting the standard for this area of emphasis in the School and schools. The Director will teach within the PSD programme outside of its Religious Education context.

Beyond the classroom the Director is responsible for ensuring that the Centre's work becomes part of community education processes for both the Christ Church community (parents, Old Boys etc.) and the wider community. This will occur through a variety of avenues, such as guest speakers, conferences and publications and is open to development of fresh and innovative constructs, over time, enabled by the Director.

The School will be advertising for the first Director of this Centre this coming weekend. The capacity of the School to create this Centre and enable employment has been afforded by the increase in the personal and spiritual development component of our programme and the associated staffing required. I am confident that the Centre will add a great deal of benefit to our reputation as being focussed on the needs of the boy.

## STUDENTS

### THE LW PARRY PREPARATORY SCHOOL

#### Academic

The boys in Year 2 and 4 completed testing conducted by Allwell Academic Assessment Services. This testing occurs in even years from Year 2 and the data speaks to NAPLAN data collected in odd years. This data allows us to track boy's progress over time.

The final ICAS test results have arrived and over 150 distinctions and high distinctions have been awarded to Preparatory School boys and Medals (highest WA score) have been awarded to **Djimon Jayasundera** (Science), **Rishi Yogesan** (Writing) and **Christian Wong** (Writing - for the second consecutive year).

#### Planning and Co-curricular

The final weeks of the term saw the celebration of all our boys' diverse talents. The House and JPSSA Athletics Carnivals, the Year 6 Drama Production, Annual Music Concert and Art Exhibition were held in Weeks 7 to 10. This year the drama production of Revolting Rhymes directed by, Head of Drama, **Greg Jones** was an overwhelming success and the boys performed brilliantly. The Opening to the Week of the Arts, held in less than perfect weather conditions on 21 September was very well supported and attended by the entire community. The opening involves the Annual Concert, Rock Workshop performance, Opening of the Art Exhibition and this year, a dance performance by the PP-2 boys from their work with the Artist in Residence, **Sally Towner**.

On the Thursday of the Week of the Arts, the School hosts Boys' Own Tours. The boys conduct these tours after a brief introduction by the Head of the Prep School. The tours were very well attended with approximately 200 parents and boys taking the tour. Much positive feedback was received from the attendees.

The Week of the Arts closes with Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Day. A Music and Art assembly opens the day, followed by the boys sharing their work and art with their grandparents and closes with a morning tea. This year the over 700 grandparents attended.

### SENIOR SCHOOL

#### Academic

Year 12 students have had a busy few weeks. They have been given their practical and personalised examination timetables, confirmed their details for TISC, and sat the Mocks. The Mock Examinations ran smoothly, with all boys being very well behaved and not a single absence recorded. Students will be given their results at the beginning of Term 4.

In preparation for Term 4, teachers will produce for Year 12 students a brief summary of the sequence of lessons they will use as a guide during their final two weeks. This is anticipated to encourage students to attend class, in response to a false perception among some students that they 'study better at home'. The pastoral office is supporting the conclusion to the Year 12 programme, through tight management of attendance and behaviour during the boys' final weeks.

Year 8 students have all sat Allwell testing. Year 10 students who have not yet met OLNA requirements sat OLNA re-testing, with approximately 20 students involved. The results will come out in Term 4, but students were well prepared for the tests.

Reports for Term 3 have been made available to parents.

We have been working on the timetable for 2015, in conjunction with MLC. Staffing considerations have been discussed with Heads of Department and the Director of Staffing has managed the recruitment process. It is confirmed that our examinations will run during the same periods next year for both Year 11 and Year 12, which will minimise disruption for those boys involved in shared classes. We have also managed to create a timetable which has a total of 15 shared classes, resulting in more viable class sizes in some subjects in both schools.

Heads of Department have agreed that, next year, we will use Wednesday afternoon for Year 11 and Year 12 when the during-school-time assessment periods are not sufficient. Specifically, this will remove the need for before-school assessments. This was in response to feedback that the early-morning assessments are particularly difficult for students who live a long way away.

Email guidelines have been developed and will be shared with the community.

Margaret Brophy will return to her role shortly before the commencement of Term 4 after long service leave. I would like to acknowledge the combined efforts of **Mr Michael Masterton** and **Mr Matthew Kameron** who have shared the responsibilities of her role during term 3.

## **Pastoral**

### **Year 11 Leadership Program**

The Year 11 Leadership program held in the last week of term engaged all boys in their House groups working closely with their Head of House through a range of physical, mental, emotional and spiritual activities. This year we were able to enlist the services of **Dr Arne Rubenstein** to deliver keynote addresses for the program.

**Dr Arne Rubenstein** is an expert in adolescent development, specialising in supporting boys through the critical years to become healthy and happy young men. He is the author of *'The Making of Men'*, the book which is now sent to all families in the year prior to a boy's commencement in the Senior School.

The program also informed boys of the changes that will occur with regard to the appointment of student leaders in 2015.

The transition program for boys entering the Senior School in Year 7, is being finalised and all the student information material has been collated in order for the House allocation process to begin.

## **Planning and Co-curricular**

### **General**

Planning for 2015 is well underway. The complexity of the programme makes for an interesting challenge of the balance of priorities. One of the biggest complications for next year will be the absence of the School Chapel for the first three terms.

The Beyond Queenslea Drive programme applications for 2015 have been released and again there is a keen interest being expressed by current Year 9 boys for this programme. Also in preparation for next year's Friday Activities programme presentations have been made to all Year 9 boys for selection of their cadet unit. It is pleasing to see an uplift in interest for the Army Cadet unit for 2015.

The PSA Sport calendar has now been set for 2015. The complications around three school expanding their mid-year break to three weeks have been resolved for 2015 only. This change will be a significant ongoing issue for the PSA.

Both the Music Drama Calendars are taking shape and in respect to Drama we are looking to use the underground at The State Theatre Centre again next year after the successful Henry IV season this year.

The Service in Action Calendar has also been finalised for 2015 and with all but the 2014 SIA Cambodian trip to be completed the calendar next year will attempt to replicate the programme of 2014.

Student Tours Australian Education Tours is being considered as a supporter of some of our cultural tours on the back of work with the Drama Department and their forthcoming UK tour in January 2105. A series of meetings have been held with Ralph Gurr to consider possibilities in the future.

### **Tours**

The Service in Action (SIA) programme has conducted a successful trip to Marble Bar for eight boys and two staff. See the note below with regards to the success of this particular trip. The final concluding indigenous immersion experience for Year 11 boys will take place early in Term 4 with the east Kimberly Garnduwa Camp.

### **Thank you from Mike Cuneo, Principal, Marble Bar Primary School (26 September 2014)**

*'I would like to express my sincere gratitude and best appreciation for the wonderful contribution made by Christ Church Grammar students and staff on their recent, 'Service in Action' programme visit.*

*Our students have been positively affected! The Christ Church boys were always ready and enthusiastic to get involved in school activities, inspiring my students to higher levels of achievement.*

*I was particularly, impressed by the boys exemplary conduct in and out of school. My students greatly benefit from these types of program interactions, as they serve to bring young people together, allowing us to create a strong sense of school community, spirit and pride. The boys were an inspiration to all concerned and hopefully, my students will take the torch of volunteerism within their own community in the future.'*

I attended the passing out parade of the Cadet Annual Camp at Bindoon on Sunday. This was an excellent camp for some 60 or so of our cadets, the largest group of cadets from a single unit within the State. Particular thanks to **Duane Nurse** and **Conrad Scott** for leading this activity.

**Ben Hodsdon** and **Ali Gould** travelled with 16 boys to Hong Kong as part of our annual cultural exchange with St Paul's College. Not only did the boys get a broadening of their knowledge of Hong Kong and the Chinese culture but the exchange afforded them the opportunity to engage with peers, of their same again in a very different context.

The Rowing Tour to Greenough will punctuate the start of the rowing season for senior boys on the last weekend of this holiday period. Preparations are well underway for the House and Guildford regattas in Term 4.

## **Sport**

The second half of term has been dominated by the PSA Athletics season. The House Athletic Carnival was cut short by inclement weather but the majority of the carnival was able to proceed which was a positive outcome in view of the predicted weather that hit later than expected.

The Quads and Inters Carnivals followed in successive weeks and our sixth place in the Inters this year saw an improvement by the team of over 100 points. This improvement reflected a strong showing across the board in the sprints and middles distance races, along with a strong performance by the U13 (Year 7) cohort.

## **Arts**

Rehearsal of the Year 7/8 play production, *Holes*, is well underway and this season comes to the Chapel forecourt after the Valedictory Week in early November.

## **Outdoor Education**

The end of Term brings to a conclusion the Year 9 Outdoor Education camps at Koorinal. This whole of cohort programme has been very successful, including a pilot programme, previously mentioned, that will iterate the Year 9 programme moving forward. The weather has largely been very good but as you would expect there have been some fairly wet days in the last month, albeit this has not dampened the boys' enthusiasm for the programme.

Preparations for the Year 10 Venture are well underway. Issues around routes again will be significant with DEP planning a range of controlled burns through part of our track. This will necessitate a modified route for the area north of Broke Inlet through to Northcliffe.

The Parent Sundowner for the promotion of the Venture with Year 10 Parents was very successful with **David Anderson** providing plenty of opportunity for parents to ask questions and view gear samples.

All the Year 10 boys have had their first meeting with **Neil Saggors** in regards the preparatory phase leading into term 4 and the actual departure of the Venture on 18 November. Staff involved in Venture (No. 24 this year) have been undertaking a Wilderness First Aid training programme and also have visited Koorinal as part of their training.

## **2014 Honour Blazers**

Isovaine Huddlestone  
Wei Juen Lo  
Nicholas Millar  
Albert Qui  
Anthony Terpkos

Ben Nagappa  
Hunter Jackson  
Jonathan Knight  
Henry Mony de Kerloy  
Aidan Walsh

## STAFF

**Week 1 of Term 4** will see two researchers visiting from Columbia University, Center for the Professional Development of Teachers. In 2012, CCGS joined 39 schools in Toronto, Helsinki, Shanghai, Singapore and the US as participants in a global research study, commissioned by the Scarsdale Public Schools and designed and executed by researchers/consultants at Teachers College, Columbia University tied to education for the 21st century.

The study's purpose was to document the policies and practices that high-performing schools embody and exhibit in their efforts to cultivate essential capacities that students need for full participation in our increasingly complex, technological and globalised world. As part of their participation, CCGS also helped found the Global Learning Alliance in 2012, a consortium of schools and universities dedicated to understanding educational excellence and to working together both to share innovative practices and to design collaborative ways of understanding and delivering effective approaches to teaching and learning that might inform educational practices around the world.

CCGS has been working in partnership with Teachers College to adapt the SEI Global Capacities Framework as a way to identify and articulate key thinking domains and global capacities that all learners should possess for full participation in the world, and is beginning to flesh out how these capacities manifest themselves within and across content areas at CCGS; how they inform curriculum, instruction and assessments; and how they drive co-curricular approaches as well. Importantly, CCGS has focused on Caring/Character thinking as a key domain that should undergird all thinking domains and inform school culture, pedagogy, service learning, co-curricular activities, and global outreach.

The research focus for the week will specifically address four key areas:

1. How can CCGS adapt the SEI 21st Century Global Capacities Framework so that it reflects the mission and core values of the institution and serves as an inspiring and useful tool for planning and reflection to cultivate essential 21st C capacities?
2. What is already happening at CCGS that reflects key capacities of the Global Capacities Framework?
3. How can CCGS Design/Adapt Curricular Units to Embed 21st Century Capacities, especially Caring/Citizenship Capacities:
4. How can the CCGS framework help shape on-going professional learning communities and help to develop a common language around what it means to teach and learn in the 21st century?

This visit and its associated impact is a key outcome of the Schools current strategic plan.

Theme 3 - Guiding Boys to the further development of an international perspective.

Initiative 1.2.1 Conduct an audit and review of current academic and co-curricular programmes from PP to Year 12 through the lens of 'developing an international perspective' and consequently consider approaches to improving international mindfulness within the curriculum.

## Teaching Staff

### Appointments:

**Miss Samantha Charlwood** has been appointed in the Science Department taking on the full-time role of Psychology Teacher. Samantha has recently completed a Bachelor of Science with a double major in Psychology and Anatomy/Human Biology and since June 2013 has been providing private study/tutoring services to high school students.

**Mr Jan Honnens** MSc(Odense), DipEd (Melb) has accepted an ongoing position within the Mathematics Department. Jan was employed as Head of the Mathematics Department in January 2010 and in April 2014 he made the decision to step down from this role taking on the Assistant Head of Mathematics (Extension) for the remainder of 2014.

**Miss Wendy Huynh** BCom, GradDipEd (UWA) has been appointed in the Mathematics Department taking on the role of Mathematics Teacher. Wendy has most recently been employed as a secondary Mathematics Teacher at John Septimus Roe Anglican Community School.

**Mr Jacob Marai** BSc BEd (Murdoch) has been appointed in the Science Department taking on the full-time role of Physics Teacher. Jacob's most recent work was at Trinity College and at Lumen Christi Catholic College as a Science Teacher (Physics).

**Mr Daniel Santos** BA (Murdoch), GradDipEd (UWA) has been re-appointed in the English Department taking on the full-time, fixed term position of English Teacher. Daniel was appointed in January 2014 on a fixed term basis and has been an active contributor to the School during his time.

**Miss Andrea van Graan** BSc(Maths), BA(Education) (ECU) has been appointed in the Mathematics Department taking on the role of full-time Mathematics Teacher. Andrea has been employed as a Secondary Mathematics Teacher at St Marks Anglican Community School since 2008.

### Resignations:

**Mr James Morgan** has resigned from his position as Year 4 Classroom Teacher within the LW Parry Preparatory School. James joined the School in January 2010 and in 2014 was appointed to the position of Stirling House Coordinator.

**Dr Monica Mackay** will retire from her part-time position as Director of the Centre for Excellence/Science Teacher at the end of 2014. Monica has been employed for over 22 years beginning her journey as a part-time Chemistry Teacher and culminating as Director of Studies in 2011. Monica has been an outstanding teacher, colleague, mentor and administrator during her highly successful career at the School.

**Mr Geoff Guggenheimer** has resigned from his position of Director of the Residential Community. Geoff is relocating to Melbourne where he will take on the position of Director of Student Development at Melbourne Grammar School. Geoff has been an active contributor to the School in particular with his involvement in Venture and sport.

### Ms A Spry

Angela has resigned from her position as Year 1 Classroom Teacher within the LW Parry Preparatory School. Angela joined the School in January 2010 and is relocating to Dunsborough.

## **Support Staff**

### **Appointments:**

**Ms Brooke Ramsay** BA PsychCrimnlgy (Murdoch), GradDipEd (UWA) has been appointed in a fixed term capacity joining the Administration team for Term 4 in the role of Education Assistant, PMC/LDC. Brooke recently completed her practicum at Canning Vale College Special Education in May/June 2014 and is actively involved in volunteer programs for children including Radio Lollipop at Princess Margaret Hospital. Brooke is covering a leave of absence.

**Mrs Bronwyn Howells** has been appointed in the part time position of Receptionist. Bronwyn bring with her close to 20 years front office experience and was most recently employed at Kaleeya Hospital where she performed several clerical positions.

### **Resignations:**

**Mrs Christine Hindmarsh** has resigned from her position as the LW Parry Preparatory School, Library Technician. Christine commenced in January 2004 and has been an active contributor at the School during her time.

## COMMUNITY

### Student achievements

News stories from the past month include:

- *Boys and staff experience wheelchair challenges*
- *Revolting tales a hit with boys, audiences*
- *Musical diversity on show at Concerto Night*
- *Inter-school carnivals conclude athletics season*
- *Little athletes show enthusiasm and skill*
- *ICEA founder encourages boys to shift thinking*
- *Prep boys art on show*
- *Sleeping rough for homeless youth*
- *PMC boys on tour in Sydney*
- *Winter sports trophy winners announced*
- *Queenslea climbs with dads in tow*
- *Chess players win sixth PSA title*
- *High praise for choir in eisteddfod debut*
- *Boys free to explore multi-sensory world*
- *Hill stays on track despite wet weather*
- *Old boy's expertise helps English students*
- *Science Week offers food for thought*
- *Surf lifesaving cadets working hard for qualifications*
- *Little legs go a long way*
- *Bonds strengthened through exchange programme*
- *Northern zone surfing champions again*

### Wheel Chair for a day – Thursday, 18 September

Some Senior School students and staff, including myself, spent a day in a wheelchair as part of Wheelchair Accessibility and Awareness Week at Christ Church during the week beginning 15 September. The aim was for boys to experience firsthand what it was like to live a day in the life of a person with a physical disability while raising much-needed funds for Wheelchair Sports WA (WSWA).

Thirty-five boys from Romsey House volunteered to spend a day in a wheelchair. Thirteen boys, from Years 7 to 11, were chosen to gain an understanding of some of the challenges faced by their House mates **Andrew Dewberry** (Year 10) and Peter Moyes Centre student **William Andrews** (Year 9).

The boys were asked to gain donations and sponsorship via the Everyday Hero programme, which was set up by the WSWA for its Corporate Wheelchair Challenge challenging some of Perth's business leaders to do the same.

### Prospective parent engagement

In September we attended the Dowerin and Newdegate Field Days. Director of Boarding **Geoffrey Guggenheimer** attended both and Housemother **Jane O'Hare** and Alumni Officer **Andrew Baird** attended Dowerin. Dowerin is showing strong old boy loyalty in booking in their sons – with about 4 families sending us boys in the next few years.

The School Boys' Own Tours event was held in the last week of term, hosted by 20 or so Year 6 boys. It was particularly well attended, with more than 150 parents and children that enjoyed the experience. At the morning tea afterwards, there were many compliments about the way the boys conducted their tours.

### Parents' Association

The Annual General Meetings for the Parents' Association, Parents' Auxiliary and Don Fraser Club were held in September. The Friends of Music and Friends of Midnite will be holding their AGMs early in Term 4.

The association continues to be managed extremely well under the leadership of **Susan Montanari** and her committee. **Tracy White** was thanked for her outstanding work organising around 19 sundowners for the Association over the last few years.

### **Parents' Auxiliary**

The auxiliary organised the Year 8 Father/Friend and Son Breakfast held in September. Around 320 people attended and enjoyed hearing old boy **Lochie Cook** (2007) tell his own story and offer some motivational ideas. Community Groups Co-ordinator **Christy Dangerfield**, President **Samantha Goebel**, Senior School Vice President **Dianne Bain** and their team of volunteers are to be commended for organising this event.

The 2014 Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Day also went very well. The grandparents attended a special assembly, with an outstanding percussion musical item involving all Years 3 to 6 boys organised by Acting Head of Music for the Preparatory School **Stephanie Harford**. The boys took their grandparents to their classrooms and to the Week of the Arts exhibition and then to the special morning tea. Prep School Vice-President **Mary Creed** is to be commended for the excellent co-ordination of the morning tea event and volunteer support.

The Auxiliary committee remains in place, apart from the position of secretary, which is being vacated by **Christina Wang**.

### **Old Boys' Association**

As you may be aware from various school communications, we have had a good number of old boys speaking at school recently:

- Yannick Spencer (2005)
- Lochie Cooke (2007)
- Charles Qiu (2007)
- Jon Doust (1965)

The recent successful reunions include and Unforgettables BBQ lunch, the Class of 1961 quarterly lunch and the 'Linga On' one-year reunion for the Class of 2013. The Unfortgettables lunch had a special guest speaker, **Rhuwina Griffiths** (wife of **Michael Goodridge**, 1979) who spoke about writing one's memoirs.

Alumni Officer **Andrew Baird** worked with the committee on the Businessmen's Lunch on 3 October. The guest speaker and chef was **Paul Salmeri** (1999), a world-class chef who works at a 2 Michelin star restaurant, The River Room in London. Paul cooked the meal for guests and from all reports the event was a great success.

The new OBA website and member space is almost ready to launch to the OB community. The OBA committee has tested and reviewed the site and challenges with the data sync process between the Potentiality and Synergetic database have almost been ironed out.

### **Community bookings**

These holidays the campus is being used for a number of community events including:

- Leeuwin Naturaliste Junior Soccer Association, using the Knutsford & Walters Boarding house Sunday 28 September to Friday 3 October.
- ATARget courses, using classrooms in L and M block, from Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October.
- Bubble Dome Computer courses using the FutureSphere, from Tuesday 30 September to Thursday 9 October.

- Bubble Dome Looming course, using classroom L6 from Tuesday 30 September to Thursday 9 October.
- Ooly Booly web seminar, using the FutureSphere on Friday 10 October.

## PHILANTHROPY

The inaugural 'Young Philanthropist Initiative' concluded in the grand final judging during the last week of Term 3. All Year 10's were involved in researching a charity and presenting on how a \$5000 donation would impact the organisation and the communities they support. Houses selected the winning group to represent them in the grand final. Hill House was judged as inaugural winners by myself and **John Poynton** and their micro finance charity, Opportunity International, will be receiving the \$5000 towards their cause.

Annual Giving has closed for 2014 and is 39% ahead of the 2013 campaign. Please see attached Dashboard for more detailed results.

**David Fardon** has agreed to be the inaugural Chairman of Christ Church's Mitre Society – the organisation established to recognise during their lifetime those who leave a gift to the School in the form of a bequest. We are currently shortlisting names for the Co-Patron roles of the Mitre Society. We plan to relaunch the Society and place renewed emphasis on bequests from the first quarter of 2015.

Christmas Giving launches week commencing 27 October. This years' campaign features letters from past scholarship recipients as well as the most recent edition of our 'Giving' newsletter.

## **ICT**

### **Digital text books**

As plans for 2015 begin to take increasing priority, the area of digital textbooks was revisited during the month of September. The intent was to develop a mandatory policy for textbooks for application in 2015 and beyond. Tailing on the budgetary request process ICT intercepted the list of departmental textbook requests in order to place a hold on the procurement process of any physical textbooks and determine the digital coverage of textbooks as per 2015 requests. Over 70% of the textbook requirements for 2015 (years 7-10) were found to be available via digital textbook providers.

Research into textbook providers indicated that, while there are many providers of digital textbook content, there seemed to be only a handful of textbook aggregators that are suitable for this initial conversion phase. Aggregators provide only one login and password per accessing entity. This eliminates the management difficulties associated with multiple publishers and their individual tailored logins. Apple and Amazon, while being aggregators, do not cover the CCGS textbook requirements for 2015 adequately. Campion and LearningField provide over 70% of coverage (Years 7-10) today (CCGS currently provides over a 1000 copies of texts via the Campion App). However, the newer, Copyright Agency backed textbook aggregator named LearningField seems to provide a near ideal digital textbook alternative. The School is currently looking to finalise policy and practice in this area fully utilising LearningField over the next month.

### **Banking**

A bank created and run online payment gateway, after much discussion and debate, was brought online to provide secure online banking for parents and donors. This system provides tailored transaction files which are easily ingested by the school's admin system, Synergetic. Four Westpac QuickWeb web areas were created.

These handle the following:

- Online fees payment.
- Building Fund Donations
- Indigenous Fund Donations
- OldBoy Fund Donations

These are in the process of being linked into the CCGS main website.