

PACIFIC LUTHERAN COLLEGE

# COMPASS REVIEW

JULY 2017



**PACIFIC**  
LUTHERAN  
COLLEGE



# GROWING PEOPLE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

DR BRONWYN DOLLING, PRINCIPAL

Globalisation, high levels of connectivity, rapid knowledge generation, automation and shifts in economic capacity are rapidly changing the nature of the world and work. The *Future of Work: Setting Kids Up for Success* report, released in November 2016, identified two core skill types required for jobs in 2030: hard specialist knowledge and soft people skills.

Hard specialist knowledge includes that grown through strong engagement with learning in particular disciplines or fields. As a core skill, it is expected that young people will need to be highly competent in the use of digital technologies to interact effectively in society and at work. The report predicts that 1 in 2 Australian workers will need higher tech skills such as programming or software design.

Rather than specialising in a single area, young people will need to be flexible and integrate learning from a range of disciplines. Even today, the rate of knowledge growth means that we need to be independent learners to live and work effectively in society.

High value is increasingly being placed on entrepreneurialism, creativity and interpersonal skills. Soft people skills such as critical thinking, communication, collaboration, connectivity, creativity and cultural understandings will be important skills that young people will need to thrive in work places of 2030. The changing nature of work will also require high levels of self-efficacy and resilience. Already in many work places, social emotional capacities are as important as those related to hard knowledge.



Education at Pacific is about growing people fully. As you read this Compass Review you will see that a Pacific education involves the intentional development of both hard and soft skills, the nurturing of a sense of wonder and awe, the valuing of nature, the power of the Arts, the joy of physical activity, developing cultural understandings, enhancing social emotional capacities and the exploration of potential. At Pacific, young people grow through immersion in a culture of thinking, where both intellectual learning and social emotional capacities are enhanced through access to flexible physical and virtual spaces. The intentional integration of Lutheran theology with the learnings of positive psychology provides an approach to the development of personal capacities that draws on the long held wisdom of the Bible as well as contemporary research.

Most importantly, we see everything in the context of a world and a life created and sustained by a loving, ever-present God. With this worldview we see that in the midst of much change, what it is to be deeply human remains unchanged. We live best in good relationships with each other, caring for people and the planet and in a growing relationship to a loving and gracious God. In growing people to make a difference, we draw on a deep and timeless well; learning from the past, with an eye sharply focused on the needs of the present and the future.





# TEACHERS AS RESEARCHERS AND COACHES

MS SUE ARAHILL, DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Staff at Pacific Lutheran College have been invited to present at the 6th Cultures of Thinking conference in August this year.

The national conference, held in Victoria, will be attended by two of Harvard University's Project Zero consultants Dr Ron Ritchhart and Mr Mark Church, who Pacific has worked extensively with over the past three years.

Pacific's presentation, titled Teachers as researchers and coaches: collaborative inquiry, reflection and action, will explore the early implementation of inquiry-action groups. Staff will share their experience of the protocols used to facilitate discussion and grow their capacity to act as coaches, as well as provide an overview of their journey

through puzzlement, reflection and then to celebration of learning.

This year, teachers from across the College are continuing to work with Mr Church to explore inquiry action and unpack the cultural forces that are required to transform our classrooms.

Working in small teams with a facilitator, teachers meet every two weeks to share their progress, evaluate student and teacher work and then plan the next steps. The focus is always on what teachers can do to engage our students and take their learning to the next level.

This important professional learning continues to benefit our students and further enhance the culture of thinking at Pacific.



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**A CULTURE OF THINKING IS  
CREATED AND ENHANCED BY  
TAPPING INTO THE THINKING  
OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS  
AND THEN REFLECTING ON THE  
ARTEFACTS PRODUCED.**

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# DAILY 5: MAKING READERS, WRITERS AND LIFELONG LEARNERS

MRS SUE ZWECK, HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING K-5

In 2015, teachers from Prep to Year 5 were deeply engrossed in discovering what most benefits students as they become readers, writers and lifelong learners. As a result, Pacific Lutheran College changed the structure of its literacy block and there is now a seamless approach across the Foundation and Junior Colleges. All teachers use the Daily 5 structure to foster a love of reading in children.

The Daily 5 is a way of structuring the reading block so every student is independently engaged in meaningful literacy tasks. These tasks will have the biggest impact on student reading and writing achievements, as well as help foster a love of literacy in children. Students receive explicit whole group instruction and then are given independent practice time to read and write. Teachers provide focused, intense instruction to individuals and small groups of students.

Students are engaged in activities titled:

- Read to Self
- Work on Writing
- Read to Someone
- Listen to Reading
- Word Work

There are very specific behaviour expectations that go with each Daily 5 component. Children spend time building their reading and writing stamina, learning the behaviours of the Daily 5 and fostering the classroom community. Teachers spend time learning about each child's strengths and greatest needs as a reader in order for best planning.

As a result of this program, motivation and enjoyment of reading has skyrocketed among students!



# 'GROW AND SHARE' WITH ST MARK'S @ PACIFIC

PASTOR TIM JARICK, COLLEGE PASTOR

This year, the St Mark's @ Pacific congregation has engaged with different groups within the College for 'Grow and Share' worship services. The term 'Grow and Share' comes from the congregation's mission, "to grow in Jesus Christ and to share his love with others". The congregation meet for worship in the College music rooms each Sunday morning, followed by morning tea in the sun filled courtyard. Once a month, St Mark's has invited a different group from the College to the service as a way of building relationships and to provide families with a taste of our church community.

In February, our Early Learning Centre children and families were prayed for,

blessed and welcomed to the Pacific community with a small gift. In March, a 'Blessing of the Pets' service was held in the College gym. Numerous dogs, a couple of birds and some lizards, along with their owners, attended as we thanked God for the gift of animals and His creation. Some of the dogs even barked along to the music! In May, Prep families were presented with Lion First Bibles. It was a pleasure to see how eager the children were to read the Bibles and also how well they lined up after the service to greet everyone by shaking their hands.

Further 'Grow and Share' services this year will include: favourite Bible characters, remembering our Baptisms

and celebrating the 500th anniversary of the Reformation with a brunch.

All College families are welcome to attend the St Mark's @ Pacific service each Sunday at 9.30am in the music rooms.



# ELECTIVE SELECTIONS OPEN DOOR TO THE FUTURE

MRS RAE HALL, HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING – MIDDLE COLLEGE

Have you ever wanted to know how to prepare a meal quickly without compromising nutritional value? Have you ever imagined what it might be like to be a part of a community of inquiry? Or have you puzzled over how we might determine the truth about things that happened long ago and far away? What about wanting to help people in the world who need effective ways to filter water because they have an unreliable water supply?

This year, Year 9 students at Pacific Lutheran College have had the opportunity to explore these questions

and much more with the roll out of new elective subjects across the curriculum. This elective initiative is designed to allow students to engage deeply with different topics in the lead up to senior subjects, tertiary study and work pathways. Year 9 students have selected three electives to study in each semester and spend three lessons per week deeply engaging with the range of subjects on offer.

The subject offerings include Art, Dance, Business Economics, STEM Engineering 1 and 2, Information Technology 1 and 2, Japanese,

Japanese Immersion, Manufacturing Studies, Philosophy and Reasoning, Hospitality, Media Studies, Technology and Design, Drama and Music.

The thinking students engage in and the time spent in their electives will equip them with the skills and dispositions they will need to succeed in the fast changing future they step into.



# IMAGINATIVE THINKING ON DISPLAY AT STEM SHOWCASE

**MRS RAE HALL, HEAD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING – MIDDLE COLLEGE**

Year 9 students at Pacific Lutheran College recently presented their innovative STEM projects at a showcase evening, attended by the University of the Sunshine Coast's STEM Education Officer Ms Sue Lanham.

Over Terms 1 and 2, students independently explored global opportunities for innovation, inquiry, collaboration and creative problem-solving before creating a 3-dimensional product that solved a real world problem.

Students had limited budgets for the project and were required to use accessible, recycled materials.

With products ranging from a robotic device that cleaned skirting boards to a solar oven, the showcase evening was a wonderful presentation of talent and thinking with some very creative work on display.

This is the first year that STEM has been offered as a Year 9 subject at Pacific, recognising the importance of a cross-curriculum approach to teaching and learning across Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

A recent report by the Australian Government's Office of the Chief Scientist (March 2016) stated that STEM skills are critical to Australia's future prosperity. An education in STEM also fosters a range of generic and quantitative skills and ways of thinking that enable individuals to see and grasp opportunities. These capabilities—including deep knowledge of a subject, creativity, problem solving, critical thinking and communication skills—are relevant to an increasingly wide range of occupations.

Pacific's STEM teacher, Mrs Clarie Richards, said engagement with a STEM curriculum, that allowed middle years students to pursue independent inquiry, would set them up for future success.

"As students transition into their senior phase of learning, the focus becomes about positioning themselves for the opportunities that lie ahead," Mrs Richards said.

"More and more jobs will require multiple skill sets and the ability to innovate, communicate and be comfortable with technology, all of which is nurtured in STEM."

"STEM is also about training our students for jobs that currently exist and for those we haven't even thought of yet," she said.







# STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE THROUGH HEALTH CERT III COURSE

MR IAN LEAROYD, COURSE FACILITATOR

Since 2015, senior students of Pacific Lutheran College have benefitted from the important practical learning offered through the Certificate III in Basic Health Care course.

The course is run in conjunction with East Coast TAFE, who supports the accreditation needs of students. Dr Peter McMahon and our two College Nurses deliver the training in the College's own mini ward, which has been designed to enhance student outcomes and provide them with a hands-on experience.

Students have taken advantage of learning in the mini ward that includes a hospital bed, mannequin, x-ray viewer and instruments including IV equipment. In addition to this, they volunteer at lunchtime to work alongside the College nurses to provide first aid assistance in the sick bay.

The course covers a variety of units including applying First Aid and Advanced First Aid, complying with infection control policies and procedures, interpreting and applying medical terminology and delivering basic clinical care such as monitoring vital signs and measuring blood pressure.

A key part of the learning involves practical experience in the workplace. During the two year course, students are required to complete 40 hours of clinical work experience with a health care provider.

In April, Year 12 student Gemma Whitelaw completed a placement at Caloundra Skin Cancer Clinic. During her time at the clinic, Gemma observed multiple procedures before getting involved and providing assistance to one of the nurses who was overseeing her placement.

"I got lots out of the placement and it was great to put everything I have learnt into practice," said Gemma.

Other Year 12 students completed work placements at Blue Care Warana, Blue Care Dicky Beach, St Mary's Pelican Waters and Seasons Caloundra in June.

The Certificate III in Basic Health Care provides students with a qualification on completing Year 12, preparing them for a career in the health care industry.





# NEW COMMERCIAL KITCHEN

MRS COLLEEN BEATTIE, HEAD OF HOSPITALITY AND FOOD TECHNOLOGY

The new commercial kitchen and outdoor café space at Pacific Lutheran College is a state-of-the-art facility that is enhancing teaching and learning in Senior Hospitality.

The industry standard workspace features flexible access to indoor and outdoor spaces, movable furniture that can be adapted to suit different teaching and learning styles and quality equipment.

Students have enjoyed and benefitted from working in the new space, which has been used for a range of industry experiences as well as general class lessons. Training in this space well equipped our Year 12 students for their work experience at RACV Royal Pines and The Boat Shed dinner event earlier this year.

The outdoor café space is popular during break times, often a hive of activity and connection between students and staff.

The design of this area was a joint collaboration between the Hospitality and Industrial Technology Departments and also involved input from students.

The coffee serving area is another important component of the space. Offering an authentic café-style experience, it provides the perfect environment for Coral Café.

Coral Café is a student-led directive, which will open in Term 3. Before school each day, students will operate the café serving hot and cold drinks as well as a small selection of breakfast food.

The Hospitality and Food Technology curriculum has been greatly enhanced by this space, ensuring our students continue to build their understanding and grow their confidence.





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IT'S SIGNIFICANTLY  
ENHANCED OUR  
LEARNING AND  
ENABLED US TO  
GET A REAL FEEL  
FOR WORKING  
WITH QUALITY  
EQUIPMENT AND IN A  
COMMERCIAL SPACE.

– TOM, YEAR 12 STUDENT

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# PACIFIC EARLY LEARNING EXTENSION COMPLETE

MS JULIE MCCOSKER, SERVICE LEADER

This year, Pacific Lutheran College completed extensive extensions and renovations to its Early Learning Centre (ELC).

Strong relationships and positive interactions between children, families and educators fostered a smooth transition into the new environment at the start of Term 2.

Featuring three large, open learning spaces and a vast outdoor area, the centre has become a powerful learning landscape for children.

Natural resources and quality equipment within the spaces enhance the ELC's play-based approach to teaching and learning, which fosters holistic development across the Early

Years Learning Framework and Queensland Kindergarten Learning Guidelines. From small to large working groups or inquiry learning that is purposeful and reflective, the flexibility of the space allows a personalised approach to teaching and learning.

Children co-construct their learning with their peers and educators. In this context, children are learning inclusion, autonomy and resilience as well as 21st century skills like negotiation, hypothesising and agency.

The expansion has meant that children from ages two and up are now catered for, providing strong foundations as they transition through the early years of learning.





# DA VINCI DECATHLON

**MRS JO BELCHAMBER,  
HEAD OF LEARNING  
ENRICHMENT**



In May, 40 Junior and Middle College students competed at the Queensland Da Vinci Decathlon. The tournament places an emphasis on higher-order thinking and collaboration across 10 academic tasks. Our Year 7 team placed first for the Mathematics competition and our Year 8 team placed second in the Ideation event.

Year 8 student, Ella Ousley reflected on the experience:

“Over three days, students from Years 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 went to the Gold

Coast to compete in the Da Vinci Decathlon. This was the first year that we had competed in this competition and I know that I speak on behalf of all the students in saying that we all had an absolute blast. Throughout the day we competed in 10 different subjects such as Mathematics, Science, Cartography, Ideation and Engineering, just to name a few. Our Year 7 team placed first in Mathematics and our Year 8 team placed second in Ideation. The days were long; leaving school at 5.45am and arriving home 12 hours

later at around 5.45pm. We challenged our brains with a range of different activities all day. The Da Vinci Decathlon was an amazing experience that we all enjoyed. Even though it helped us grow our brains, I know that every team bonded too. It was so much fun and I would love the opportunity to do it all over again next year.”

Well done to all students who participated. The capacity they have for collaborative, critical and creative thinking has been a source of wonder.

# FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING

**MRS JO BELCHAMBER, HEAD OF LEARNING ENRICHMENT**

At Pacific Lutheran College, academic lunchtime clubs have provided opportunities for students to be involved in engaging enrichment activities that focus on higher-order thinking and collaboration.

This has paved the way for Pacific to enter some very strong teams in a number of rigorous academic programs and competitions, such as Future Problem Solving.

Future Problem Solving is an international educational program created to develop critical, creative and futuristic thinking skills. The aim is to harness students' imagination and vision so they can anticipate issues that will face the world in the future. Students apply their skills to solve internationally set, significant social, economic, or scientific issues. This year the topics are Educational Disparity, Genetic Modification and Medical Technology.

The program has a competitive division and six teams from Pacific are participating. Students have been working in teams throughout the year, honing their skills and learning the process of creative problem solving.

To qualify for the national finals later this year, our teams will submit a qualifying booklet that details six steps to overcome the problems of the future. This year's booklet will focus on Medical Technology in the year 2043.

At the finals, students will be given a scenario and will be required to identify problems and solve them by writing an action plan in two hours. The challenges require excellent imagination, writing and research skills.

We wish our teams the best of luck for the remainder of the program.



# MAYOR'S TELSTRA TECHNOLOGY CHALLENGE

MRS JANINE STONE, HEAD OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This year, Pacific Lutheran College entered two teams of budding entrepreneurs in the Mayor's Telstra Technology Challenge. The challenge is a competition among Sunshine Coast high school students to conceive, develop and market an innovative technology.

Senior College students, Ryan Lancaster, Keaton Dines and Ben Summers formed a team called The Grass Dudes. They developed an add-on for whipper snippers that holds the cutting cord horizontally and, using three wheels, allows the snipper to cut grass in small or awkward areas.

Cameron Heeney, Harry Stone and Liam Dines made up the iMood team, who developed a phone app to help students' battle depression. The app comes preloaded with images and positive messages, chosen to improve mood and assist users in making positive choices. Users had the ability to also add their own content.

Well done to both our 2017 teams!

The first challenge was held on the Sunshine Coast last year and Pacific's Musical Stairs team placed third and the Surf Tracker team received an encouragement award.



## QUBERIDER: CODING FOR SPACE

MRS JANINE STONE, HEAD OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Thinking inside the box, but off the planet, a team of Pacific Lutheran College students participated in the Quberider Space Program at the end of last year.

Students programmed a Raspberry Pi module mounted on a Sagan board, which was then sent to the International Space Station (ISS), 400km above the Earth's surface, on December 9<sup>th</sup> 2016.

The module orbited the Earth for one month, monitoring environmental sensors. Data was then transmitted back to Earth for students to record and analyse.

Our experiment tested to see if the atmosphere inside the ISS was stable or if it was affected by outside influences such as magnetic fields or solar winds. The results showed that the atmosphere inside the ISS was

completely stable and controlled at all times, the speed remained constant and the ISS wasn't spinning.

This was a fantastic opportunity for our students and a historical moment as it was the first time Australia had sent anything to the ISS!





# STUDENTS' VIRTUAL TREK ACROSS THE GLOBE

MR DAMIAN DAVIS, YEAR 4 TEACHER

This year, Year 4 student at Pacific Lutheran College are participating in Out of Eden: Project Learn, a joint collaboration between Harvard's Project Zero and National Geographic.

Students are placed into 'walking groups' with young people from around the world and virtually follow the footsteps of Journalist Paul Salopek as he treks from Africa to South America following the old Silk Road.

Paul has chosen to walk this arduous journey and tell the stories of the people, places and changes as he goes. Paul states, "Everyone has a story, no matter big or small".

Every 100 miles, Paul posts an update. Through the online portal,

students then reflect on the update, complete activities and share their understandings and thoughts with others.

This is where the real joy, discovery and learning has taken place as students converse with and learn from young people all over the world including Brazil, Greece and the United States of America.

Project Eden has been an amazing journey so far. In an age where society and technology have a tendency to speed up our lives, students have learnt to slow down and enjoy their surroundings. We look forward to continue following Paul's journey closely over the next five years.



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**WE'VE LEARNT A LOT ABOUT  
HOW PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT  
COUNTRIES TRAVEL TO SCHOOL,  
THE FOODS THEY EAT AND THEIR  
SURROUNDINGS.**

**– HAYDEN AND TOBY, YEAR 4 STUDENTS**

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# ALTITUDE DAY

MR BRENDAN DELANEY, DIRECTOR OF STUDENTS

At Pacific Lutheran College, all leadership is based on conversation, collaboration, relationships, growing harmony and empathy. It is hoped that as leaders, students will learn to promote social justice and treat all people with care, dignity and respect. At the core of this philosophy is a deep sense of trust in God.

In May, our Year 9 Leaders attended Altitude Day, a positive education and leadership development experience that involved working with students from a range of Sunshine Coast schools. Students began their leadership journey with self, by identifying self-awareness, self-efficacy, resilience, positive emotion and achievement. Next they focused on others, including relationships, communication, collaboration, trust and conflict resolution. Followed by community awareness, engagement, idea generation and advocacy. Finally, the students considered what it is to be a positively engaged active role model and global citizen.

Altitude Day was a high impact learning experience for the Year 9 Leaders. All returned to the College feeling energetic, empowered and motivated.



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**EVERY YOUNG PERSON CAN BE A LEADER... IT IS OUR DUTY AS A SOCIETY TO PROTECT, NURTURE AND EMPOWER THEM. LEADERSHIP AT ITS CORE IS DISCOVERING AND BEING THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF, AND WORKING WITH OTHERS TO SOLVE PROBLEMS AND CREATE POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR THE COMMUNITY.**

– MATT KERSHAW, CEO YLEAD

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# CULTURAL CAMBODIA WEEK

## #CCW2017

MISS MICHELLE MCMILLAN, HEAD OF SERVICE LEARNING

In June, Year 9 and 10 students who elected to participate in the alternative outdoor education program experienced an inspiring cultural immersion at Pacific Lutheran College.

Cultural Cambodia Week, or CCW2017, provided students with a snapshot of Cambodian history and culture, while also exploring the College's relationship with the country and its people.

Throughout the week, students engaged in a variety of experiences to deepen their cultural understanding. Some of the program highlights included:

- A guest presentation from Australia Lutheran World Service (ALWS) representative, Susan Hawke, who gave an overview of how Lutheran schools in Australia have been helping Cambodia by raising money to provide better food, water and health facilities.
- A trip to the Khmer Buddhist Society of Queensland in Brisbane to visit the Cambodian Temple. Here, students were invited to view a Buddhist ritual where monks prayed.

- Learning about Pacific's relationship with the Rainbow Hostel in Phnom Penh and the Life Centre in Kruss Village and how students and staff were treated as guests in 2014.
- Investigating Social Enterprises and starting to produce promotional materials for products bought from Friends International (watch out for our pop up stalls selling these products in the future!).
- Cooking up a storm of Cambodian inspired dishes to sample the food of the nation.

The week concluded with students sharing their newfound knowledge of Cambodian culture with the Year 4 cohort.

Students learned a great deal about Cambodia and the special bond it shares with Pacific. Perhaps in the future, some of these students will travel to Cambodia to experience all of these things first hand.



# SENSATIONAL SIDE SHOW

MRS JANINE DELANEY, SIDE SHOW DIRECTOR

In May, a talented cast of 40, a professional band of 16 as well as dedicated staff and parents combined to deliver four powerful performances to packed crowds at The Events Centre, Caloundra.

Side Show was a heart-warming musical that dealt with themes of love, vulnerability and acceptance. It was nominated for four Tony awards in its Broadway revival in 2014 and Pacific Lutheran College was very proud to be able to bring it to the Sunshine Coast.

Inspired by conjoined twins Daisy and Violet Hilton, the musical captured the trials and successes of the twins and their incredible journey to the stage as performers.

The audience were treated to fabulous music, exciting staging, brilliant costumes and strong performances from the well trained and highly polished cast. Not to mention, unforgettable songs such as 'Come Look At The Freaks', 'You Will Be Loved', 'Typical Girls Next Door', 'Stuck With You' and the show's signature, 'I Will Never Leave You'.

Side Show was a team effort of giant proportions. The combination of hard work, attention to detail and long-term commitment of a group of creative people with a common purpose made it the great success that it was. Thank you to all those involved for their talent and dedication, which enabled this beautiful story to be brought to the stage so gracefully.







# 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY STREET ART

DR KYM RODGERS, ART TEACHER

Year 9 Art students at Pacific Lutheran College have undertaken a course in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Street Art during Semester 1 this year.

Students were required to research the subject matter, themes and principles of the topic before creating their major works of art, which combined digital and handmade 2D and 3D work.

Each student created a personal tag sculpture known as a 3D TAG, based on the conventions of Street Art design and in the shape of each student's initials. The works made both social and personal comments in order to convey a message.

Throughout the semester, students also completed a variety of tasks in their visual diaries that explored and experimented with conventions of Street Art to demonstrate their understanding of these concepts.

The course aimed to provide students with an understanding of how to create and apply a variety of stencil and graphic art designs in different media; how to use Photoshop to create stencils designs; how to construct a large 3D art work in cardboard; the application of the visual principles of line, shape, colour, space, and balance; the visual qualities of other artists, their own work and their artistic intention; the effects of Street Art on contemporary society; and how to use Street Art motifs as a form of social comment.

Students reported that they enjoyed the course and are happy with their sculptures, which will be on display at this year's K-12 Student Art Exhibition.





# ROARING START TO 2017 MUSIC PROGRAM

**MRS ALEISHA TUAINE, HEAD OF MUSIC**

With students and staff at Pacific Lutheran College involved in the Side Show musical earlier this year as well as 12 ensemble groups in our instrumental music program, there has hardly been a quiet moment!

In May, students across Prep to Year 8 participated in an exciting music incursion which featured Taiko drumming and shakuhachi flutes. Students gained insight into the Japanese culture and traditional music as they listened to and played the instruments. We were pleased to receive an overwhelmingly positive response from all students who attended!

It has been very exciting to see the growth in our Pacific Junior String Ensemble this year. Under the baton of Mrs Helen Williams, 18 new students have joined the ensemble. Students in Years 3 and 4 are provided with their own instrument as part of the Strings program and it is encouraging seeing the effect this has had on their skill development and learning. Thank you to Mrs Williams for the work she is doing in this area.

In the Middle College, we have had a number of students enter the 'Score It!' competition again this year. 'Score It!' is part of the Queensland Music Festival and is open to

all secondary students across Queensland. We wish our entrants the best of luck and look forward to hearing the results!

As the year continues, we are looking forward to hosting our second ensembles concert as well as a number of tutor concerts. Thank you to all staff and parents for your support; we could not do it without you! And, to the students participating in this year's program, happy playing!



# STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL TIES

MRS MICHIKO HAUSER, HEAD OF JAPANESE 6-12

The sister school relationship between Pacific Lutheran College and Seishin Gakuen has continued to strengthen through both short and long-term exchange programs.

In the June-July holidays, 20 students and 4 staff members from Pacific travelled to Japan for the biennial trip. The two-week program allowed students to experience a 'real taste' of Japan and involved homestays, time at school and touring some popular cities and famous landmarks.

Soon after our return to Australia, we welcomed Akito Iwase and Mayumi Katayama from Seishin Gakuen into our community as a part of our Inbound Exchange Program. Akito and Mayumi are both

Year 10 students who will complete Term 3 at Pacific with their host sister and brother, Tamika Cheney and Harrison Dines.

Following the success of the Outbound Exchange Program last year, Tamika Cheney and Austin Beasley will be flying over to Kashima City to spend 10 weeks at Seishin, completing their Term 4 study.

Developing cultural competency, understanding and empathy has never been more important in today's multicultural, globalised world. We hope these exchange programs will provide opportunities for more students to become international citizens who will serve the wider global community.



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**I'VE LEARNT AS A PERSON THERE ARE VERY FEW THINGS THAT ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN RELATIONSHIPS AND LEARNING.**

**– MALI DAVIS, 2016 OUTBOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT**

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**IT WILL BE GOOD FOR ME TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY AND STEP OUTSIDE MY COMFORT ZONE... I MIGHT NOT HAVE THE CHANCE TO DO IT EVER AGAIN.**

**– AUSTIN BEASLEY, 2017 OUTBOUND EXCHANGE STUDENT**

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# CHESS: A WORTHWHILE ACTIVITY FOR STUDENTS

MR DAVID DRUERY, HEAD OF STAFF AND STUDENTS P-5

At Pacific Lutheran College, an increasing number of students are spending their time engaged in a game that has been around for 1500 years and research shows has many benefits, chess!

Playing chess promotes brain growth, sparks creativity, improves memory and problem solving skills and also teaches planning and foresight.

Students play chess in a club environment at the College and also regularly participate in competitions across the Sunshine Coast. There are no age restrictions and players of all abilities, from novices to experts, are catered for.

At the recent SCIPHA Chess Tournament this year, Pacific entered a team in the open division

for the first time. The open division is for students who play tournaments regularly or who have a ranking. Our team came third, which is an outstanding result. In another first for the College, an all-girl team was entered in the novice division.

In Term 4 the Pacific Junior College Chess tournament will be held. Last year, over 40 students competed in a round robin competition during lunchtimes, until deserving winners were chosen in the two divisions.

Pacific's chess program offers students the chance to enhance their intellectual capacity in a manner that is challenging, enjoyable and worthwhile.



# SOCCER PREMIERS

MR BRETT KERSNOVSKE, HEAD OF SPORT

The Pacific Lutheran College Senior Boys Soccer team has claimed the premiership title at the Sunshine Coast Independent School Sport Association (SCISSA) competition for the second year in a row!

This is a wonderful achievement from a team who has worked hard together, at training and during games, over the past two years. A number of players were part of the team for both premierships: Jez Lofthouse, Harry Turner, Jacob Hussey, Reece Upton and Kurtis Modlin.

The success of this team started in 2014 when they made the grand final and were narrowly defeated by Sunshine Coast Grammar School (SCGS). They re-grouped in 2015 and went on to make the grand final where they were defeated by SCGS again, with the same 3-1 score line.

With Mr Brendan Delaney's dedicated coaching and some specialised soccer clinics, Pacific rose to the top in 2016, defeating SCGS 2-1 in a very close grand final match.

The team backed up their performance this year, only losing one game to St Andrew's Anglican College (SAAC) throughout the season. Pacific faced SAAC again in the grand final, taking out the game 2-0 and claiming the championship title again.

Congratulations to all involved over the last four seasons. We look forward to seeing what the future brings for the Pacific SCISSA soccer teams!





# ARMIDALE RUGBY CARNIVAL

MR DARREN HOOPER, HEAD OF JUNIOR SPORT

In April, 17 students across Years 4-6 and three staff members from Pacific Lutheran College made the journey south for the annual Armidale School Rugby Carnival. With 45 schools and clubs competing, it is one of the largest rugby carnivals for 12 year olds in the country.

This year we fielded one of the youngest teams we have ever taken away. Students began training at the start of the year and their skills and knowledge of the game improved tremendously by the carnival's kick off. Playing against teams that were older was always going to be tough, however, the Pacific players were competitive in every match and were able to push opposing teams for the whole game.

The highlight of the carnival was the final games on Sunday when Pacific came up against Somerset College and

Riverview College. In both games Pacific showed great teamwork and improved tackling. Our team drew with Somerset College and recorded a very narrow loss to Riverview College, which is one of the premier Sydney GPS colleges.

Looking ahead to the 2018 Armidale Carnival, 13 of the students who made the trip this year will be able to participate again. With another year of growth in both physical size and rugby skills, next year's team will be ready for a challenge!

Trips like this could not happen without dedicated staff. Thank you to Mr Scott Crompton and Mr Matt O'Keefe who coached and managed the team. Their knowledge, enthusiasm and guidance were greatly appreciated.





# NETBALL POPULARITY ON THE RISE

MS LEIGH FINTER, NETBALL COORDINATOR

With the Sunshine Coast Lightning becoming the coast's first national elite sports team this year, netball at Pacific Lutheran College has continued to grow in popularity.

At the end of Term 1, the College hosted its first Fast5 Mixed Netball Tournament for Middle and Senior College students.

More than 70 players came together to enjoy the social and dynamic game. Teams included students from a range of year levels and even some teachers. Players dressed in a team theme and had the opportunity to colour their hair to raise funds and awareness for the Leukaemia Foundation.

The modified rules of netball were the platform for many laughs and fun, with shorter quarters, rolling substitutions, power plays and opportunities to shoot for one, two or three points!

As the 2017 calendar year continues, a Junior College Fast5 Netball Tournament is in the pipeline for Term 3 and the NetSetGo Program for the Foundation College will take place during Term 4.

The College looks forward to running many more netball development opportunities for our students.



“

EVERYONE DRESSING UP MADE IT REALLY FUN, IT WAS GREAT SEEING SO MANY PEOPLE GET INVOLVED.

– JEZ, YEAR 12 STUDENT

”



# PACIFIC DANCE STUDENTS TAKE CENTRE STAGE

MS JANE LILLINGSTONE, DANCE COORDINATOR

Dance students at Pacific Lutheran College have been in the spotlight this year, with teams performing in the Sunshine Coast Dance Eisteddfod and the Breakthru Dance Competition.

Earlier this year, Pacific entered six teams in the Sunshine Coast Dance Eisteddfod, which involved more than 35 schools from Brisbane to Gympie. Students across Years 4-12 participated, with our senior teams setting a new College record with their scores. Overall, the results were as follows:

- Junior SCISSA Jazz: 83/100
- Junior SCISSA Contemporary: 83/100
- Tuesday Extension Group: 83/100
- Middle College SCISSA Hip Hop: 84/100
- Senior Dance Contemporary: 86/100
- Senior Dance Jazz: 86/100 and Highly Commended

In May, Pacific entered the Breakthru Dance Competition for the first time, entering a group in the primary division and a soloist in the secondary division. Our primary group performed a jazz routine to 'Walking on Sunshine' and Year 9 student Courtney Callaghan performed a contemporary solo called 'Remission' in the secondary division. Courtney's moving performance sent her straight to the grand finals where she took first place in the division!

We congratulate all students who participated in both of these events this year.

The popularity of Dance is continuing to grow at the College, with the subject now being offered as a Year 9 elective, as well as through the senior years, and as a sport option from Year 4. Later this year, our Dance students will participate in the Pinnacle Dance Challenge and perform at the College's Grandparents Day and Closing Service. We look forward to developing our Dance program further in the future.









# STUDENTS STRIVING FOR GOLD

**DR PETER MCMAHON,  
HEAD OF OUTDOOR EDUCATION**

This year, the two College Captains at Pacific Lutheran College are undertaking their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an internationally recognised, enriching program for young people that encourages growth and self-improvement. Gold Award participants must complete various activities over a yearlong period. The activities are divided into four categories: volunteering, skills, physical and expedition (both outdoor and residential).

Below, Alli Whitmore and Sam Wilson share a bit about their journey so far.

**How long have you been working towards your Gold Award?**

**Alli:** I started the program when I was in Year 9, completing my Bronze Award and working my way up to now completing the Gold.

**Sam:** I started in Year 9 too.

**What are some of the activities you are undertaking this year to achieve your Gold Award?**

**Sam:** I have been doing a number of activities to help achieve my hours. I helped out as a surf life saver over summer and also worked in the College tuckshop for a bit. For the residential expedition I participated in an aerospace forum at UQ. I also helped with the planning and organisation of the Senior Canoe Expedition as well as participating in this experience.

**Alli:** My dancing counts towards the award, so I have been doing different styles like Jazz and Contemporary. A lot of the performance work I do also counts towards the skills and volunteering categories. At the end of last year I helped out with the Junior College Musical 'Mulan' as well as being a member of Bytes Youth Theatre. Our leadership roles also fit under the volunteering category, which has helped.

**What has been your favourite part of the program to date?**

**Sam:** For me, it was the residential project when I attended the aerospace forum. I got to stay at UQ for a week and learn about aerospace. I enjoyed that a lot.

**Alli:** The most positive thing that has come out of the experience so far is the service aspect, like helping out with Mulan or student teaching at Bytes. I have really enjoyed getting involved.

Alli and Sam are working towards completing their Gold Awards before they finish Year 12. We wish them the best of luck for the remainder of the year.



# PACIFIC LUTHERAN ALUMNI



**TASHA LEE,  
2016 GRADUATE**

I graduated from Pacific Lutheran College last year and am now studying a dual degree in Law and Media and Communication at both QUT campuses in Brisbane. I chose this unusual combination because of my interest in legal studies from Years 11 and 12 at Pacific and my interest in writing. University life has lots of opportunities, such as cultural experiences and classes that can be attended either day or night. I am really enjoying my subjects and am currently learning about legal torts and media representations.

Earlier this year I had the opportunity to visit New York, which was such an incredible experience. I really enjoyed visiting the Metropolitan Museum of Art, eating in Times Square, walking through Central Park and seeing the Statue of Liberty. Perhaps the most memorable part was going to the 9/11 tribute and memorial ground to see where the twin towers once stood. I've also been saving to visit Japan at the end of this year.

It is amazing to realize that everything I learnt in Years 11 and 12 at Pacific is still useful to me today and has been a great foundation for what I'm working on now. Because of this, it's been a very smooth transition from school to university.



**BROOKE MOODY,  
2008 GRADUATE**

I graduated from Pacific Lutheran College in 2008 and went on to complete a Bachelor of Information Technology from QUT, after being awarded a partial scholarship that Mrs Janine Stone encouraged me to apply for. Janine was a great mentor to me during my time at Pacific. I then went on to study a Graduate Certificate of Business (Public Relations) also at QUT. On completing this degree, I worked for a Queensland Government department before moving to Sydney where I worked in public relations. I currently work at KPMG as a Senior Management Consultant with a focus on IT Outsourcing and Commercial Negotiation. I love this role as it combines my IT and PR experience. I get to work with huge global clients, travelling all over Australia and beyond.

At Pacific, I studied Japanese and have been back to Japan several times since my first school trip in 2007 with Miss Michiko Hauser. I have kept in touch with the Japanese friends I made through Pacific and catch up with them whenever I am in Tokyo. Michiko was such a great teacher and I encourage anyone involved in the Japanese program at Pacific to make the most of these opportunities. On top of my full-time job, my boyfriend and I have recently opened a specialty coffee shop in Toowong, called Josie North Coffee.



**STEPHANIE HEALY,  
2007 GRADUATE**

After graduating from Pacific Lutheran College in 2007, I immediately commenced a degree in nursing at the University of the Sunshine Coast. However after six months of study and few weeks on placement I found that nursing wasn't for me and dropped out. After this I felt quite uncertain about my future – dropping out of uni wasn't part of the life plan I had mapped out at 17! I took a break from study to work out what to do next. I still had a yearning to help people as part of my career, so Mum suggested I study occupational therapy. I wasn't convinced as I didn't know much about OT at the time, but my other option was full time work and I wasn't keen on that either! Fortunately for me I loved OT almost immediately and knew that I had found my niche.

During my studies I completed various placements and found that my passion was working with children with disabilities. When I finished my degree in 2014 I was offered my dream job, working as an OT with the Department of Education and Training in Townsville. In my role I visit schools all over North Queensland, supporting students with disabilities to access education, which I really enjoy and find immensely rewarding. While I was at university I also developed an interest in volunteering and mentoring. I have continued this interest post-university and outside of work I volunteer as a Pyjama Angel with The Pyjama Foundation, mentoring a 9-year-old foster child.





**ALEX MCLEAN,  
2012 GRADUATE**

Upon graduating from Pacific Lutheran College in 2012 I continued my studies at the University of Queensland with a Bachelor of Engineering/Bachelor of Science dual degree under the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship. I elected to major in physics, a continuation of a passion born at Pacific, under the wonderful guidance of Mr Soorya Dhas. After two years of indecision, Software Engineering became my chosen discipline.

In late 2016, whilst still studying, I joined the team at Orange Sky full-time as a Software Developer. Founded in 2014, Orange Sky is an incredible organisation that positively connects communities by providing free mobile laundry and shower services for our friends on the street. These friends are mostly people who are experiencing

homelessness, or other forms of hardship. Orange Sky is now fully volunteer operated in 13 Australian cities. I have personally been able to volunteer on services in seven of these cities, with every shift being equally as unique and memorable as the last. As part of the Technical Operations team, I am responsible for the development, maintenance and automation of all technological systems and processes that go into the ongoing operation of the organisation. Orange Sky has been formally recognised as an industry leader in the use of technology to facilitate and enhance the operations of a charity, as well as to connect communities. I am also excited to participate in a new project later this year that will see Orange Sky operating in remote Indigenous communities.

## GRADUATING CLASS OF 2008...



We invite Pacific Lutheran Alumni who graduated in 2008 (pictured), to make contact with the College if you are interested to lead the organisation of your 10-year reunion event in 2018. Please contact the Middle/Senior College Administration Office on (07) 5436 7315. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with you.



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