



December 2016

Pelican

The biannual magazine of St Edmund's College Canberra



COVER STORY

Vale Brother Matthew McKeon

Farewelling Brother Matt as he finishes his time at the College after 20 years of service, also marking the end of 62 years of continuous service at the College by the Christian Brothers since its opening in 1954.

Page 14

INSIDE

Renewed College Crest

Page 4

Raising Money with Gingerbread

Page 9

From Acting Up To Short+Sweet

Page 10

Careers Information Night

Page 16

Indigenous Rugby Round

Page 25

Old Boys & Friends Golf Day

Page 26

A student in a school uniform is shown from the side, focused on a task. They are wearing a grey sweater over a white shirt with a red tie and a blue and white striped collar. They are holding a screwdriver and working on a wooden board. The background is blurred, showing other people in a school setting.

In this issue

From the Board Chair	3
From the Principal	3
Renewed College Crest	4
2017 College and House Leaders	5
Year 5 Camp	6
Floriade	7
Book Week	8
Fathers' Day Mass	8
Raising Money with Gingerbread	9
From Acting Up To Short+Sweet	10
Big Band Bash	11
Band Camp	11
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program	12
EdMums High Tea Luncheon	13
Vale Brother Matthew McKeon	14
Career Information Night	16
Boys' Art Education Symposium 2016	17
Northern Territory Mission Trip	18
India Immersion Trip	19
Treacy House Report	20
O'Brien House Report	20
Treacy and O'Brien House Camps	21
Year 10 Social	22
Language Trips	23
Snow Sports	24
Indigenous Rugby Round	25
Old Boys & Friends Golf Day	26

A special thank you to Mr Darren Leech, Mr Norman Foskett, Ms Pauline Mills and Ms Mary Jane McLeod for their assistance with this publication.

From the Board Chair

For St Edmund's, this year ends in some ways much as it began: with our boys, teachers and leaders working to improve teaching and learning and lift results.

Every year, every boy should be making progress towards his own goals for his schooling and his future life. Our great task as a wider school community is to make our own progress – so that we give every boy his best chance to make that progress with us, here.

This year and next, the board is working to collaborate, advise, support and endorse all the work being done to strengthen our school for the future.

A number of members complete their terms this year- Marnie Edwards, Peter Romano, Mark Sander and Kristen Risby. We welcome Stephen Buckman and Christa Gordon, two long-serving board committee members, and Lara Kirk, who has formerly served as a board chair of Mt Carmel School in Yass. Thank you all.

Finally, you will know by now that Br Matt McKeon will leave our community at the end of this year. It's quite beyond me to express adequately his contribution to us, or our feelings on his departure.

Thank you Brother, and please pray for us.

Michael Cooney
Board Chair



“But most of all, the Christian Brothers wanted to get the best out of the boys... to reach their God given potential through education”.

From the Principal

The departure of Br Matthew McKeon from St Edmund's College at the end of 2016 gives Edition 32 of Pelican special significance.

Br Matt has served at the College for 20 years, now in his 92nd year of age and after 74 years as a Christian Brother, which includes being Principal of four schools. In 2017, for the first time the College will not have a Brother on staff.

When St Edmund's College opened in 1954 it was the Brothers who were the founders and teachers of the College – coming to Canberra to fulfil the hopes of the local Catholic population by providing a quality education for their sons.

What features in the pages of this edition is legacy to what they built: camps, careers, arts, sports, leadership,

prayer and mission, global and national education programs, and quality pastoral care that suits boys. But most of all, the Brothers wanted to get the best out of the boys.

As inclusive of all boys as their mission through education was and is, they did not compromise on ambition and achievement. To honour their legacy and spirit, this remains the goal of St Edmund's – a broad program that includes all and aims high, to enable boys to reach their God given potential through education.

Best wishes for a happy and holy 2016 Advent and Christmas season.

Daniel Lawler
Principal



Renewed College Crest

In 2017, St Edmund's College Canberra will be represented by a renewed crest and branding following a review undertaken earlier in 2016. These changes aim to strengthen the College's public face and further reinforce our values and heritage within our branding.

The review of the crest stemmed from difficulties in reproducing and using the current crest in modern media, the existence of differing versions from different stages of history and other difficulties.

A historical review of the crest interestingly identified various changes in the crest since the College first opened

in 1954. The review was able to identify approximately 8 different crests with differences in colours and detail.

When the crest refresh project began, extensive research and community engagement was undertaken to ensure that careful consideration was given to all decisions that were made relating to the crest. The renewed crest being introduced next year maintains similarities to the current crest. Specific changes have been outlined below.

Attention was paid to refining the lines and detail, removing unnecessary elements while retaining and enlarging the most identifiable elements such as the Pelican. The renewed crest

also reproduces better in all modern applications such as the uniform, website, print publications and everywhere else it appears.

Together with the renewed crest, we are introducing new design elements that will be seen on publications, forms, business cards and other printed items.

We are excited about the launch of the renewed crest, it is a part of holistic changes that are being made across the College and a small part of the continuous improvements that are being made to educate boys for another 60 years and more.

The Current and Renewed Crests

Comparing the current crest to the renewed notable differences include:

- (1) the Triple Tiara and Papal Keys of Pope Pius X have both been simplified.
- (2) the shield has retained its shape which is unique to the College.
- (3) the rope embellishment has been removed due to its intricacy and to make way for the Pelican which is now represented with its wings wide open.
- (4) the banner has been simplified and our motto "Christus Lux Mea" or "Christ be my light" is more legible than before.



The renewed crest and new design elements in application.

2017 College and House Leaders

The student leadership model at St Edmund's College from 2017 has been developed and modified. This change was brought about from the developing needs of the school and the community it serves - in particular with reference to the College's commitment to service and mission.

At St Edmund's we support the idea that leadership has many facets and that learning to be a leader and actually leading are mutually inclusive as part of a journey of personal growth. While leadership is not explicitly taught as a separate topic, we do educate our students to be mindful citizens who are willing to take up opportunities and to learn from both the experience itself and those individuals with whom they have worked.

Leadership opportunities are available to all boys. Whilst not all boys seek to lead others, it is our belief that all boys are first and foremost leaders of self and this underpins many of the expectations we place on all boys with regard to their commitments, interactions, behaviour and appearance. Leadership is therefore inculcated as part of the development of leadership of oneself and then of others.

Pat Langtry
Director of Pastoral Care



2017 College Leaders

College Captain: Jack Dowling
College Vice Captains: Bertram O'Brien and Darcy McLeod
College Academic Captain: William Lloyd
College Faith & Mission Captain: Nicholas Delchau

2017 House Leaders

Clancy

Captain: Kane Kilmister
Vice Captain: Liam Harrison
Co-Curricular Captain: Jean Vincent de Masson
Service Captain: Benjamin Jelfs-Smith

Haydon

Captain: Jack Ellis
Vice Captain: Matthew Gould
Co-Curricular Captain: John Truscott
Service Captain: Lachlan About

Mulrooney

Captain: Rory Davison
Vice Captain: Tom Drummond
Co-Curricular Captain: Kyle Priest
Service Captain: Jack Jensen

O'Brien

Captain: Henry Mahony
Vice Captain: Alexander Overall
Co-Curricular Captain: Reed Stevens
Service Captain: Gerard Teng

Rice

Captain: John-Paul Romano
Vice Captain: Riain O'Sullivan
Co-Curricular Captain: Xavier Kuruc
Service Captain: William Taylor

Treacy

Captain: Sam Stubbs
Vice Captain: Jacob Wilson
Co-Curricular Captain: Zane Marolt
Service Captain: Tom Stewart

“All boys are first and foremost leaders of self and this underpins many of the expectations we place on all boys”.

Middle School

Year 5 Camp

On Wednesday morning at 8.00am, after we had said goodbye to our parents and family, the two buses left school for the trip to Tuross. Everyone was really excited to be on the road.

After about an hour or so, the buses pulled up at a park in Braidwood. There, we stretched our legs and had a play on the equipment while the bus drivers had a break. Soon, we were back on the buses winding our way down towards the coast while we watched Bear Grylls eat worms!

Finally we arrived at Tuross. We could all smell the salty ocean essence and feel the beautiful, warm sunshine. We unloaded our bags off the buses and were then allocated to a cabin. Luckily it was lunchtime because everybody was hungry and could smell the delicious, warm chicken and gravy rolls.

That afternoon we played on the basketball court, oval and of course the

'rec room'. Soon, it was time for a dinner and dessert of schnitzel and icecream. After our meal we participated in a Trivia Night. There were a lot of tough questions which narrowed the competition down to two teams who tied. That meant that the two teams had to pick a member to try and answer the final question. In the end the "Space Cupcakes" won.

In the morning we had a quick breakfast and then journeyed down to the beach where we had a sandcastle building competition. Afterwards we played some beach footy.

We headed back to camp and made our lunches ahead of our short bus trip over to the Mogo Goldfields. When we arrived we split up into four separate groups to go and tour the fields. We did many fun activities including panning for real gold, walking through the old, historic model town and learning about how people used to mine gold. It was great to be greeted by our Principal, Mr Lawler as

we disembarked the bus and shared the day's activities, as we learnt and experienced life in a gold mining village.

When we got back to camp we walked to the local shops to buy some treats for Movie Night! We all enjoyed this sense of being a community as we watched the show.

The next morning it was time to say goodbye to Tuross and hop back on the buses to go back up the winding mountains and all the way through to Canberra.

When we arrived back at school we were all happy to see our families again. Camp was great fun! Thank you to Mr Lawler, our Year 5 Teachers and the amazing parents who all helped make this a truly wonderful Year 5 Camp.

Dylan Bathgate & Callum Carniel
Year 5



Middle School

Floriade

As Term 3 comes to an end, Year 6 always know it's that time of the year to bring on this year's gnome challenge, as St Edmund's supports the hard work done by the Rotary Club of Canberra at Floriade.

We submitted three entries to the school section of Floriade this year and as always, our gnomes looked stunning; the effort gone into them by the boys being very evident. This was the first year that we didn't have much of a theme to follow, so this really opened up the creativity of

the boys in Year 6 (Flags of the gnome world), the Gardening Club (Healthy, sporting gnomes) and the Senior Art Students (Avant-Garde-n).

Art is an important area of the curriculum, as it allows the boys to access many areas of the brain that other subjects do not. By being able to break away from the Australian Curriculum and allowing the boys to create on a blank canvas - with thought towards the origins of gnomes and why we have them in the garden - we were able to discuss the importance of

the garden and healthy lifestyles from a naturally flowing conversation.

Gnomes will, as always, have the chance to go home with their owners and should gnomes find themselves getting up to mischief at home, please feel free to take a snap and send in for us to pin up!

Yours in all things gnome.

Holly Ellem
Middle School Curriculum
Coordinator



Middle School

Book Week

Children's Book Week originated in the belief that children's books and literacy are life-changers and for 70 years, Book Week has been held in schools across Australia in support of this.

The theme for 2016 was 'Australia: Story Country' and our activities paid special attention to the many wonderful Australian children's stories and the talented authors who create them.

Our celebrations were held over three weeks, kicking off with the Book Fair in Week 4 where our library was transformed into our very own book store. This was followed with a visit from David Faulks, a local author who creates picture books and donates all proceeds to the support of refugee children. The boys were lucky enough to be invited to help illustrate his upcoming book, due for release in 2017.

Our Year 5 and 6 classes were invited to see a performance of 'A Swag of

Tales' where they were taken along on a hilarious live-action re-telling of Australia's colonial history.

Without doubt, the highlight of Book Week 2016 was the return of the Middle School Costume Parade. Our college hall was filled with creativity, colour and excitement with some amazing costumes from so many of our favourite stories. We had a host of Harry Potter and Dr Seuss characters, as well as the B.F.G, Robin Hood, The Hungry Caterpillar, Ned Kelly and The Cat in The Hat and the teachers were well represented in their Man From Snowy River themed outfits.

Thankyou to all the Middle School boys for their enthusiastic participation in what was a highly successful Book Week for 2016.

Martin O'Rourke
Middle School Librarian



Fathers' Day Mass

"God couldn't be everywhere that is why he invented our fathers and grandfathers".

On Friday 2 September, Middle School celebrated and gave thanks to God for the precious gift of fathers and grandfathers. This special event brings sons together with their fathers and grandfathers to share in a faith experience.

The mass had an extra significance on the day as it was the first mass celebrated for the wider St Edmund's community by our new College Chaplain for Semester 2 Father Baiju Thomas. It was also

the first time there was a great grandfather present.

I would like to thank Father Baiju Thomas for leading the celebration and the fine young men of Middle School for entering into the celebration of mass with such prayerful reverence.

Bridget Cusack
Middle School Religious
Education Coordinator



Raising Money with Gingerbread

Gingerbread Cathedral

For two weeks, a group of us from Middle School together with students from High School have been putting together a Gingerbread Cathedral to be donated to HOME in Queanbeyan - a place of welcome for people in need.

Our main jobs have been cutting out the gingerbread with different shapes, moulding and kneading the dough and fondant into the right shapes, and of course, lots and lots of cleaning for Mr Parkes (we personally think that he should hire us to be his cleaners because we did a pretty good job!). We have loved helping out and it has been an enjoyable experience.

When the house was completely finished, the first thing Leo wanted to do was to eat it which everyone else didn't agree to! But one thing we did agree with was it looked amazing with all of the decorations.

Hopefully, HOME in Queanbeyan will enjoy this excellent Gingerbread Cathedral that St Edmunds College has created for them. Thank you to Mr Parkes, Mrs Moeller and Mrs Brown who gave us this opportunity to help out. We have loved every moment of our hospitality experience.

The St Edmund's College Hospitality Department has had a long-standing relationship with HOME in Queanbeyan. The Department wishes all residents of HOME a very Merry Christmas and gives a big thank you to the students who helped with the project: Leo Antolovic, Dylan Bathgate, Oliver Peisley, Seth Welsh, Ryan Slater, Oliver Efkarpidis, Zane Hogan, Ben Johnson, Nathan Alexsoski and Patrick Byrne.

Dylan Bathgate, Oliver Peisley and Leo Antolovic
Year 5

Gingerbread House

As the year draws to a close our thoughts turn towards the celebration of Christmas. It is an opportunity for us to reflect upon the ways that we can assist those in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves. Middle School is focusing their fundraising efforts on supporting Karinya House, a Canberra-based charity which supports mothers and babies in need.

As part of the Food Science Curriculum individual students were tasked with designing and constructing a gingerbread house as their end of year project. The house was then donated to the Middle School for raffling. We hope to raise over \$500 for Karinya House this year.

Paula Moeller
Food Science

Bridget Cusack
Middle School



Students with the Gingerbread House to be auctioned for Karinya House.



The Gingerbread Cathedral.

From Acting Up To Short+Sweet

Congratulations to the Years 11 and 12 Drama and Year 10 Extended Drama classes who took part in this year's Acting Up! Drama Festival at the Canberra Theatre.

Three Drama groups participated in the festival producing outstanding pieces of work. The Year 11 and 12 group consisting of Austen Saunders, Bertram O'Brien, Callum Brown, Lachlan Bellas, Tom Stonehouse, Thomas Stewart, James Rainey and Patrick Mortlock, performed a play written by Pat Morlock and directed by Bertram O'Brien, entitled 'Staying Alive'.

The piece is about a group of struggling actors trying to perform a work of art about a very serious issue. The boys' performance was incredible and went on to win the inaugural Best Production prize in the Acting Up! Festival. This is a phenomenal achievement for the boys and the Drama Department.

The school has participated in the competition for many years (previously under the name of Fast+Fresh) and this is the first award we have won.

As part of the prize for winning this competition the group was given the opportunity to perform at the Short+Sweet Festival also at the Canberra Theatre Complex. Short+Sweet is a 10 minute Drama festival, holding competitions worldwide.

The Canberra Festival takes place every year over a period of 2 weeks and comprises 30 of the best short plays chosen from local playwrights as well as from across the country and the globe; it is a highlight on the Canberra Theatre scene.

The boys performed in Week 2 of the competition performing to over 400 people over the course of the week. At the end of each performance the

audience get the chance to vote for their 2 favourite plays choosing the 'People's Choice' winner.

The winner of each week then performs in the Gala final, performing with the Critic's Choice winners from performances in Week 1 and a Wildcard performance. The St Edmund's College Drama boys won the People Choice Award for week 2 by a landslide and performed in the Gala final.

Although they did not win an award in the Gala final the boys performed and won during the Short+ Sweet festival. This is an accomplishment many Canberran writers, actors and directors would love to achieve.

Nigel Palfreman
Teacher in Charge of Drama



Big Band Bash

“Music multiplies all that is beautiful and of value in life” - Kodaly

The tradition continues. A large and appreciative audience welcomed an array of Ensembles and Bands that performed at this year's Big Band Bash held in St Edmund's College Hall.

A concert of this calibre is the culmination of planning and practice. Gerry Foster, conductor of the St Edmund's and St Clare's Combined Colleges Band is recognised as being the instigator of this

year's success. Mr Nigel Palfreman also played a large part in the presentation with enhanced lighting and organising microphones and cameras.

A feature of this year's concert was the use of more ensembles. These included percussion, clarinets, saxophones, flutes and the chamber ensemble consisting of strings, flutes and keyboard. We are grateful to Mrs Kylie Bayada for preparing the Chamber group, Mr Justin Lingard for his work with Middle School Band and Mr Derrick Brassington for tutoring the

Percussion group at Band Camp.

We farewelled Year 12 students and Band Captains, Sam Woods (baritone saxophone) and Kate Yesberg (flute), Alex Taylor (trumpet), Will Mortlock (electric bass) and Isabelle Bartholomeusz (clarinet). They were presented with a trophy and acknowledged for wonderful years of service to the Band.

Margaret Thomas
Head of Music



Band Camp

It is a challenge to explain the essence of Band Camp to those who don't know.

This year, my first Band Camp trip, I became aware of what a treasure it was. Altogether, an astoundingly worthwhile musical learning experience for our students.

The strength of the camp lies in the sheer amount of full band rehearsals and sectionals the students do. A sectional means that each, similar group of instruments, rehearse together, such

as all the saxophones, flutes, clarinets or percussionists. These groups spread themselves around the beautiful venue of The Pines to rehearse.

It is greatly to the credit of Mr Greg Stenning and previous Music Directors that this routine functions so well. Senior students had the capacity to run these rehearsals, while junior students co-operated and worked hard. It was an invaluable learning experience, socially, musically and simply as a life experience. Gerry Foster worked the students hard in full band rehearsals.

There were walks each day and an evening activity. Year 12 students adjudicated with Sam Woods acting as 'Good Cop' and Will Mortlock taking the role of 'Bad Cop'. So many genuinely talented and funny acts stopped Will and the rest of us in our tracks. Band Camp was fun, worthwhile and invaluable.

Margaret Thomas
Head of Music



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program

Our annual Camp was held at The Pines, Tuross Heads and we were privileged to have local elder Roderick Slockee spend a day with the boys.

The boys all participated in the wide range of activities which included traditional painting, didgeridoo playing, spear and boomerang throwing, as well as exploring the Congo Beach area. Another highlight was a taste of bush tucker skewers including crocodile, emu and kangaroo for dinner.

Bill Bashford also ran some activities around team building, self-esteem, taking pride in yourself and reaching your potential through active learning at school.

This year also saw the boys wanting to participate in the Didgeridoo and Empowerment Program. It is a program for Aboriginal Youth that strengthens self-respect, self-esteem and self-confidence. The boys were introduced to traditional 'Men's Business', while being provided with a raw didgeridoo which they were shown how to sculpt and decorate to strengthen their connection to culture.

It has been wonderful to see them mature in their outlook over this time and be confident enough to perform their dances, fully painted up, in their laplaps, playing their didgeridoos both at the opening of the 'Boys' Art Symposium' and at the First XV Indigenous Rugby Round.

Anne Urquhart
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Education Coordinator



Didgeridoo and Empowerment Program with Bill Bashford.



Jahrod Foley learning boomerang throwing techniques from Adrian Brown.



Exploring Bush Tucker at the Arboretum.

EdMums High Tea Luncheon

The annual EdMums Luncheon this year was high tea themed and held in the College Senior Centre. Past and current mothers, grandmothers and carers came together to catch up, share their stories and enjoy refreshments.

Br Matthew McKeon welcomed all guests with a prayer, a short story and then joined some of our current staff for high tea.

The luncheon on the day included high tea favourites like sandwiches, scones with jam and cream and macaroons.

The EdMums Luncheon is an important yearly event that brings together women who share in common the Eddies community.

All attendees left with a College Cookbook as a token of thanks. We hope they are able to enjoy some of

the amazing recipes within and we look forward to hosting this event next year.

Simone Movsessian
Community Development and Marketing Manager



Vale Brother Matthew McKeon

2016 marks a significant turning point in the life of St Edmund's College Canberra as Brother Matthew McKeon retires at the end of this year.

Brother Matt is an icon of St Edmund's College and his influence will live on forever. He has been a member of the St Edmund's College community for 20 years having first begun his time at the College in November 1996.

"When I was about 14 or 15 years old. I was searching as to what to do in life and saw a pamphlet in the back of the Church that said...there are thousands of kids out there who will never know Christ unless somebody volunteers to go out and tell them. Shortly after this time a visiting brother came by and talked about the Christian Brothers and I decided that I should join up and commit my life to that work."

Not only is Brother Matt the living legend of St Edmund's College, he has been involved with schools for almost 70 years and has been a Principal for 21 years in different schools. Brother Matt was Principal at four schools over this time including St Patrick's Technical School, Goulburn (1960 – 1965); Christian Brother's College Young (1965 – 1970); St Michael's High School Wagga (1973 – 1978); and St Edward's College Gosford (1992 – 1994).

He says possibly his most challenging role was at Goulburn where he taught every period of every day and had no secretary so he just took the phone with him to class and plugged the line in. In addition to this demanding schedule he also trained Cadets after school.

Brother Matt was also part of the group that helped facilitate the process of Government funding being opened up

to Catholic schools in 1962. He was the Principal of St Patrick's Technical School, Goulburn when it went on strike. As a result of that strike the principle of direct state aid to non-government schools that had divided the nation for nearly a century was closed.

Brother Matt currently provides spiritual direction to many members of the community and is constantly praying for all families in our community. An exceptional man with a generous nature, we wish Brother Matt McKeon a very happy retirement and thank him for over 20 years of service to the St Edmund's College Community.

As Brother Matt is the last remaining Christian Brother on the staff of St Edmund's, his departure marks the end of 62 years of continuous service at the College by the Brothers since its opening in 1954.





A young Patrick later to be called Br Matt (2nd from right).



Br Matt's 90th Birthday.



Br Matt with his sisters.



Br Matt as Principal of Christian Brother's College Young.



The day Br Matt joined the Christian Brothers.

Career Information Night

On the night of July 19, St Edmund's College held its first Career Information Night for students from Years 10 to 12.

The main feature of this night was that it was specifically designed to invite back Old Boys of the College, and also invite parents of current students, to attend and provide our students with honest and personal accounts of working in their career field. While it is very important for our students to consider their subject and study options, it is also important for the students to speak to people who work in their desired occupation to gain first hand reviews of their intended future career.

The College was privileged that over 50 stallholders were willing to volunteer two hours of their time to discuss their career pathways with more than 250 students and parents who were in attendance. The stalls ranged in occupations from nutritionists, mechanics, lawyers, real estate agents, research engineers, surveyors, primary teachers, nurses, fisheries managers, architects and musicians. This list is by no means complete as the list of careers on offer was varied.

Government Departments such as Department of Finance, ACT Policing and the Australian Defence Force were very popular, as were the stalls for Tertiary Educators such as CIT and the

University of Canberra. Many stallholders commented afterward how enthusiastic and inquisitive the students were and how readily they asked questions and engaged with the information being provided to them.

As the night was such a success and there was such positive feedback from parents and students alike, the College will hold this night again in 2017. It is quite clear that it will further expand and continue to provide our students with valuable information for their decisions for their future study and career aspirations.

Leigh Pirie
Senior Studies Advisor



Boys' Art Education Symposium 2016

This year the college facilitated the second incarnation of 'Breaking the Stereotype' a symposium for teachers and academics of Visual Art education.

This event followed the 2014 symposium that was described as a first of its kind, and received international recognition when Dr Donal O'Donoghue published his paper 'On the Nature of Boys' Art Education' which he wrote as our keynote address in the International Handbook of Intercultural Arts Research. This second symposium was again supported by the National Gallery of Australia and the International Boys School Coalition, and once again challenged the notion of boys' disengagement in secondary school Visual Arts and explored the promotion of boys' art education in a healthy and meaningful way. This event also examined the inquiry and framing of the complex issues faced by art educators today; including the pedagogies and technologies that facilitate boys' creative needs. Activities included presentations, artist's talks, gallery visits, workshops and case studies to an audience of secondary art educators, pre-service educators, school leaders and policy makers from across Australia.

The symposium heard from prominent academics in the field of art education, masculinities and education research. Dr Laura Scholes from the Faculty of Education at Queensland University of Technology, spoke about her research which includes both quantitative and qualitative approaches to boys' education; including the benefits of the arts to learning along with diversity

and engagement in the classroom, and pedagogical strategies for overcoming stereotypes. She also explored her latest book that focuses on the construction of masculinities in schools in diverse contexts and pedagogical implications for teaching. This Keynote was also complemented by Dr Ian Davis from Griffith University who spoke about his research in masculinities, narrative inquiry and education.

Both of these academics gave gravitas and validity to the discussion on creativity, gender and appropriate pedagogies. Delegates also explored a United States Charter school model and a whole school perspective from Paul Treesuwan, Assistant Principal of instruction at The School of Arts and Enterprise in Pomona, California. His presentation included issues such as the 'school-to-prison pipeline', gang culture, immigrant education and project-based learning, and art integration in schools where he coordinates art integration in the curriculum. We also heard from Lisa Dempsey, a past staff member of St Edmund's when she spoke to us about her role with the ACT Department of Education and Youth at risk; she kindly joined us to discuss a snapshot of how boys in Canberra fit into a national snapshot of boys at risk in Australia.

The symposium also had very practical applications- Delegates visited the National Gallery of Australia to engage with a program that integrated technology within a gallery environment, focusing on ideas of self-portrait and perspectives. This program was generously organised and staffed by the National Gallery and

allowed participants to take the role of a student, using technology to respond to works at first hand in an environment of prominent artworks. The theme of technology was also extended to a workshop at the Academy of Interactive Entertainment, where participants were tutored in the basics of state of the art computer rendering for the film industry. The AIE has been involved with us since 2014, and it was wonderful to see teachers putting their skills to the test with software used to create 3-D character animations that we only normally see in the cinema.

Delegates were exposed to the work of Geoff Filmer from "Graffik Paint" in his presentation that plotted his rise from school student to a leading Canberra graffiti artist. Geoff has worked very closely with us over the last few years, coming into the College to do workshops with Year Nine, and now facilitating a workshop for art teachers who are often at odds with graffiti art sensibilities.

This symposium was a tremendous success, as it not only allowed collaboration and discussion around the subject of boys' art education amongst practitioners, academics and classroom teachers on a national level, but it highlighted the commitment by the College to engage our young men with current pedagogical research and practices to enhance their learning.

Andrew Jones
Head of Visual Arts



Mission

Northern Territory Mission Trip

Over the past five years the St Edmund's College CSYMA Youth Ministry Team has conducted an eight day ministry trip up in the Northern Territory (NT). The NT Mission Trip has enabled us to build relationships with our Indigenous brothers and sisters in a number of remote communities in the territory, particularly in areas such as Darwin, Daly River, Katherine and the Tiwi Islands. The trip in its entirety is the embodiment of our EREA touchstones while particularly being an experience of Liberating Education that transcends the classroom walls.

One element of the trip which has become a real highlight, is our visit to the Don Dale Juvenile Detention Centre. Last year in 2015, when we were there I was privileged as a teacher to participate in what has been one of the stand out moments of my teaching career.

To provide some background to the story, one part of our mission trip has involved working with Fr Dan Benedetti, an MGL priest who is based in Darwin at St Martin De Porres and is currently the Chaplain at Don Dale Juvenile Detention Centre. Fr Dan had organised with us to bring in a group of six students to visit the young detainees of Don Dale. After our security

checks and processes we entered into the very intimidating facility which happened to be the old men's Jail, now sadly filled with young people.

Upon meeting the young lads we had an opportunity to break the ice and engage and connect through an intense game of football, one that took place under the confines of the prison inside a fully caged basketball court. In hind sight it was a stroke of genius as once we formed mixed teams there was a real team emphasis between both students and the residents, one that enabled them to work together. For the next 30 minutes that we played football, everyone had forgotten about where they were, who was from where and why. There was a real sense of equality amongst us all, as we battled it out with our team mates, gave out high fives and back slaps and affirmed and challenged each other for superiority on the football pitch.

Once the game was over, it was clear that many of the walls and stereotypes that had existed at the beginning of our visit had come down and I sat there watching a group of young people experiencing an inclusive community that none of us had ever anticipated. There was an opportunity here for our students to share their own stories, run some games and proclaim something of the Gospel

“As he prayed the tears were flowing down his face”.

message that we are all 'made for more' and that God has a specific purpose for each of our lives.

At the conclusion of our time there Fr Dan asked the Don Dale residents if they would like prayer for anything and asked our students to sit alongside of them and pray with them. In my naivety, I was surprised to see the real hunger from all to participate and once again our students stepped up to the invitation. As I looked around I noticed one of our students had his arm around one of the younger guys. He was praying for him, and as he prayed the tears were flowing down the face of this young inmate. He was deeply moved by the experience and it's a picture of love and solidarity I have emblazoned in my mind.

There was a real sense of gratitude expressed by our students upon leaving. A gratitude that answered the original questions posed by one of the lads that queried "Why did you come here, all the way from Canberra to visit us?". The comradery and farewelling that followed really demonstrated a brotherly bond between all, even if for just a short period of time. It was a particular moment that reinforced and reminded us all of our common humanity, and that regardless of situation and circumstance we are all children of God made in his image and likeness.

Nathan Galea
Director of Mission





India touring team at the Agra Fort.



Nick Delchau having a turban placed on his head as a gift from Rohtak.



Crowd gathers to welcome the group to their village.



Will Lloyd talking to the Rainbow Girls at the Loreto Day School.

India Immersion Trip

“The laws of life are written into every atom, molecule and heartbeat. We are immersed in the sweet law of unfolding mystery called life.”

- Bryant McGill

The India Immersion has provided opportunities for more than 40 staff and students since its conception at the College. In educational terms, an immersion can be defined as the beginning point of a process of consciously bringing about change at both a personal and political level. Being immersed in another culture and way of life forces the participant to reflect on their own lives and the role they play in actively working for justice and solidarity.

During the Term 3 school holidays, five

students and three staff were able to undertake the 2016 India Immersion and visit the cities of Kolkata, Varanasi, Agra, Rohtak and New Delhi. Each of these places contains a unique insight into the ways of life for the Indian people. The sights and sounds are ones that are almost impossible to explain. The smells and tastes are so varied and different that talking about them does not do them justice.

In addition to working with charitable organisations and school groups, the tour also included visiting many of the most famous Indian sights. These included the river Ganges in India's spiritual home of Varanasi, the Victoria Monument and Eden Park Cricket ground in Kolkata and the magnificent Taj Mahal in Agra.

The India Immersion Team would like to thank all those who supported the tour through the various fundraising ventures. These included attending Year 8 and 9 Socials, the trivia night and other school based activities. We can guarantee that the funds raised have and are making a difference to the lives of many communities that we were able to visit. Our continued support is reflected in every smile, handshake and hug we received throughout this amazing experience.

Jacob Knowles

Head of Clancy House and India Immersion Coordinator

Treacy House Report

“Children should be taught how to think, not what to think”- Margaret Mead

Treacy Tutoring has continued to be a highlight for me this year. When I first initiated after school tutoring; linking it to the College Promotions Program, I spent the majority of my time pestering the students to attend.

Years on, it is the students who pursue me, ensuring I arrive on time so that they can get the most out of our hour together. It is so rewarding and inspiring to see the changing and diverse group of Treacy students that benefit from this program. We create a comfortable and relaxing

environment for learning where the fear of failure just cannot exist.

We focus on skills such as time management, organisation and de-constructing assessment questions by examining language in context. When students understand the demands of a task, they feel more empowered to work independently and challenge themselves to continue improving their writing, research and analytical skills each term.

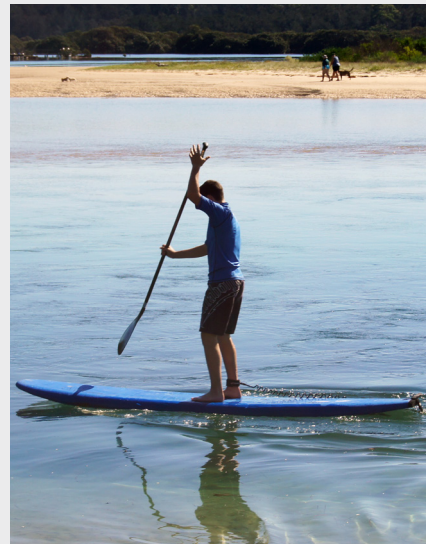
We have students from Year 8 - Year 12 helping each other with assessment, homework and revision. We cover a range of subject areas; however, all the students take delight in the role reversal

of trying to improve my understanding of Mathematics. If nothing else, it proves to them that there is no end point when it comes to education and that happiness and enjoyment in learning comes from the realisation that learning is a life long journey. It is a wonderful opportunity for leadership, mateship and confidence to evolve. I continue to be proud of the students who attend and show they are being pro-active and diligent learners who are achieving today, leading tomorrow.

Leanne Gair
Head of Treacy House



Treacy House After School Tutoring.



O'Brien House Report

Each year in May on a chilly Canberra morning the young men and staff of O'Brien House work with our House charity to collect for the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal. It is an important part of life as a member of this House and in 2016 we again were able to assist.

The O'Brien House Charity that we have been working with since 2010 is Canberra Recovery Services (CRS) which is run by the Salvation Army. The rationale behind each House having a

particular charity flows from the legacy that Blessed Edmund Rice lived his life by. As a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition, we strive to foster and develop within all of our students an understanding of what it means to live out that legacy. It is a legacy that focuses on putting our faith into action and being present to those in the margins of our society.

CRS is a long term residential program, for men and women with alcohol, drug and gambling addiction. The program is

run by the Salvation Army and based on the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous and Gamblers Anonymous. The students and staff of O'Brien House serve this charity in a number of ways, all of which benefit the participants and the running of the charity itself and provide opportunity for the whole House to donate financial help but also that which can be more precious, the gift of time.

Anna Blore
Head of O'Brien House

Treacy and O'Brien House Camps

In May, Treacy and O'Brien Houses set off for their annual camp to The Pines at Tuross.

This is always a welcomed and well anticipated event for the students and, while enthusiasm was high, we were all feeling the sad loss of Eddie Challenger. We were all very appreciative that Allan George was able to assist us and help ensure our camps were successful.

Treacy House students had been working prior to leaving for camp on a Tutor Group performance. They were designed to encourage students to step out of their comfort zone, work collaboratively as part of a team and to demonstrate leadership skills. This was coupled with various other group and individual challenges (physical and academic) that promoted our overall camp themes of **courage and combating a fear of failure.**

O'Brien House was fortunate enough to continue with the more pleasant weather at this time of year and we took advantage of the weather to head down to the beach where they worked on team-building activities in Tutor Groups and Year Groups. We also spent time incorporating the touchstone of Gospel Spirituality in our last activity and of course our liturgy on the first night.

Overall, the teachers and students returned with a strong sense of community within our respective House Groups and some new friendships and bonds being formed.

Leanne Gair
Head of Treacy House

Anna Blore
Head of O'Brien House



Students beginning their team project - to make their House Crest.



Students assisting with the Salvation Army Doorknock Appeal.



Students fashioning their House Crest out of what they could find on the beach.

Year 10 Social

This year the Year 10 Social was held in June on a cold Canberra wintery evening with the rain holding off until the students and their guests had arrived.

The decorating committee got to work in the afternoon to fill the quad with tea light luminary candle bags to light the way from the front of the school to Brother Wallace Hall. A team of chefs set up outside to provide a selection of

tantalizing fresh cooked food for the event.

Year 12 students from the Brothers Program attended the social to assist staff on the night and were a great help in ensuring that all who attended had a great experience.

A local DJ provided a great selection of music and made sure that everyone was having a fantastic time and created a fun

atmosphere for the boys and their guests to enjoy.

Many thanks to all the staff that contributed to making the evening a huge success.

Linda James
College Counsellor and Year 10
Social Coordinator



Language Trips

Last July holidays, a number of students from the Language Faculty went travelling overseas. 16 students travelled to Japan and 14 students travelled to New Caledonia.

Both these trips provided an invaluable cultural and linguistic experience for the boys who participated.

The excursion to New Caledonia incorporated visits to the Melanesian Tjibaou Cultural Centre, Armadee Island and the Parc Forestier. The boys also stayed in homestay family accommodation for the majority of the time as well as participating in French language lessons nearly every day. It was a perfect way to learn French, as the boys could learn in a relaxed warm island setting where everyone speaks French.

The excursion to Japan was a very comprehensive tour incorporating home-stay and visits to a Japanese school in Nagasaki and seeing many interesting sites. They visited Hiroshima, Miyami Island, Momijidani rope-way, watched a

match at Mazda Zoom Zoom Stadium, visited Universal Studios in Kyoto, Nijo Castle and travelled on a bullet train. It was fantastic that our students were able to visit the same Japanese students who visited our College in March. It is hoped that this cultural exchange will now be a regular event with this new sister school from Nagasaki.

All the boys were great ambassadors for our College overseas. What students learn when travelling on these types of trips is hard to quantify but they definitely return with a broader perspective of our world. I would also like to acknowledge the teachers involved: Annette Martin, James Keeley, Ron Widmer, Anne Urquhart, Linda James and Anne Aldis.

We now need to begin planning for the next adventure overseas!

Anne Aldis
Head of Languages

“These trips provided an invaluable cultural and linguistic experience for the boys”.



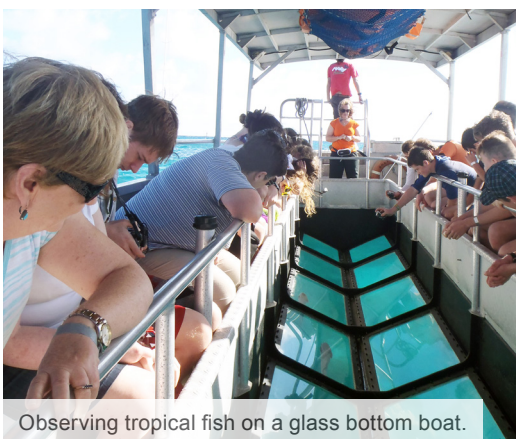
View of Kyoto Kinkakuji.



Boys overlooking city of Noumea.



Enjoying buffet at Armadee Island.



Observing tropical fish on a glass bottom boat.



Boys in front of Miyajima Torii.

Co-Curricular

Snow Sports

The snow gods had blessed us with four days of fantastic firm powder and sunny skies.

A group of students ranging between Year 6 and Year 11 travelled down to Perisher to compete in the annual School Snow Sports competition in several snowboard and skiing disciplines. In perfect conditions, we were able to get out nice and early each day to enjoy top to bottom runs.

All boys competed well and we left with a placing for Aedan Billiards and Oscar Gordon in the 2nd division Moguls which was an excellent placement considering

tough competition from local schools who are on snow for several days every week of the season. The boys were a testament to the school and displayed great maturity and team spirit during our time away.

A special thanks goes to Natalie Janes who arranged the entire trip, from the team positions, the accommodation and the NRG-MAX (a cheap alternative to Milo). Also to Tim Macarthur who was our trusty driver who coped exceptionally well with the snow-chains, blown tyres and icy road conditions.

Another mention goes to Mr Quinn, father of Caleb, who joined us for the trip and

was extremely gracious to assist with marshalling and cooking.

Finally, a shout out to the school bus' resident huntsman spider who had everyone screaming on their seats while he crawled around the back.

Thank you to everyone involved, we had an amazing couple of days and are already waxing our boards and skis for next season.

Rebecca Lee
English Teacher and
Snow Sports Supervisor



Co-Curricular

Indigenous Rugby Round

The annual rugby fixture of St Edmund's College versus Marist College is always a great occasion for both proud schools.

In recent years, this round has been named the Old Boy's Round and dedicated to all of the former students. To help commemorate these students, the College presents the 1st XV with an 'old-style' jumper. Over its 60 plus year history, a large number of students, parents and staff have been Indigenous and these individuals have contributed greatly to the culture and inclusive nature of the College.

In this context, it was decided by the College and with the permission of local Elders, that, this year and possibly in the future, the round would be renamed as the Indigenous Round. It was regarded as a prime opportunity to celebrate, recognise and acknowledge the Indigenous contributors to St Edmund's College and community.

As with the Old Boy's round, a new jumper was designed, specifically for the round, to be proudly worn by the 1st XV. The design was developed by members of the indigenous community and reflected colours and symbolic

images pertinent to the College and its history. The occasion was opened by a celebratory ceremonial, including Indigenous dancers wearing ritual dress and the playing of didgeridoos, many of which had been made by the students.

The game was as fierce as the dancing and played in a competitive but fair manner, with St Edmund's ending as the victors.

David Mead

Head of Sport and Co-Curricular



Luke Gersekowski, Liam Bashford and Jackson Stuart



Old Boys & Friends Golf Day

The Annual Eddies Old Boys & Friends Association Golf Day was held on Friday 11 November 2016 at the picturesque Queanbeyan Golf Club. It was another great event bringing the Eddies community together.

Like all events hosted by the Association there were a wide variety of people involved from across the Eddies community. About half of the participants were not old boys, demonstrating the inclusiveness and community spirit of the Association.

A big thank you to our generous sponsors, who made the day possible

and ensured there were some great prizes on offer. It was a fun-filled afternoon with many entrants appreciating the 3.00pm tee-off and 9-hole format, which allowed for plenty of time to catch up beforehand and afterwards. The 2016 Champions and winners of the shield and custom made golf shirts were DJ Homes, taking the title from 2015 defending champions Kinsella who put in a valiant effort.

If you aren't already a member of the Association I would encourage you to join. Membership is open to anyone involved in the Eddies community, including family, friends, current and former staff. Memberships for 2017

are now available for \$30 and as a new member you will receive a unique and distinctive membership cap and membership card which entitles you to discounts to events and benefits from a variety of sponsors.

Please note a portion of funds raised is donated to those within the Eddies community who are in-need. This is also a great way to get involved in the Eddies community, meeting new people, whilst contributing to a great cause.

Matt de Jongh
President of the Old Boys & Friends Association





Old Boys & Friends

ASSOCIATION

St Edmund's College Canberra

What is the Old Boys & Friends Association?

The Old Boys & Friends Association aims to encourage all old boys and friends to remain involved in the College community, attend College activities or to just stay in touch or locate lost friends.

The Association commenced in 2015 looking to take over where the original alumni left off. The Association is slightly different to the original Alumni as it is focused on incorporating the College community as a whole.

Our Objectives

- Facilitate an ongoing relationship within the greater College community, and establish and maintain a sense of belonging and inclusiveness to St Edmund's College Canberra
- Encourage social interaction between its members and the College community, inclusive of the facilitation of College re-unions
- Provide or assist in the provision of facilities for academic, sporting and cultural awareness within the College
- To preserve, promote and strengthen the ideals, traditions and history of the College
- To raise the level of pride in being an Eddies Old Boy.
- Raise the level of pride and awareness amongst current students that former students and friends are involved in the school community

The Association aims to bring together the school community with a regular newsletter, which includes a range of events each year for us to catch up, have a laugh and return some support to the school. Initial plans include Eddies sporting game catch ups, a golf day, community day, luncheons and dinners.

Membership

Membership is open to anyone associated with the College. This includes former students, family, friends, College staff both former and current.

You are able to choose an Annual Membership of \$40 or a Lifetime Membership of \$400. As a new member you will receive a unique and distinctive member cap, this will be available for you to pick-up from the front office at St Edmund's College.

Visit oldboysandfriends.org/membership to become a member

For more information please visit our website at oldboysandfriends.org



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St Edmund's College Canberra

A Catholic School in the Edmund Rice Tradition.
Educating boys Years 4 to 12 since 1954.

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