From the Principal

ELC Opening
After celebrating the Mass, the Blessed Joan of Aza Early Learning Centre was officially opened. The facility has been very popular, with outstanding reviews in relation to the design and the program being offered through the Reggio Emilio philosophy. Mrs Karen McEntee and her staff have been outstanding in their flexibility and professionalism. Ms Jacqui Gagliardi joined the ELC team this year, as the program expanded and the numbers increased.

We acknowledge the outstanding work of the architect, Mr David Romaldi, for not only his design and innovation, but also for his tireless support in maintaining the deadline. Thank you to Mr Derek Butler of Black Squid Design, interior designer, Mrs Rachel Hutton for their contributions, and the contractors Marshall and Brougham, for their exemplary management and scope in completing the task on schedule, and to such quality standards. Mr Vince Fleming was also a stalwart in working with the various contractors on registrations and with the business team to progress this development, and in achieving the vision.

Diamond Jubilee Ball
The Jubilee weekend began in style on the Saturday night with the Diamond Jubilee Ball held at the Adelaide Convention Centre, which provided a trip down memory lane for the 350 plus staff members (both past and present), old scholars, parents and friends in attendance. The numerous recollections and splendid speeches will remain with many of us for quite some time.

Diamond Jubilee Mass
On the Sunday morning, the Diamond Jubilee Mass was held in the beautiful School Chapel. Concelebrants, Fr Kevin Saunders OP, Fr Dennis Hallinan OP, Fr John Neill OP, Fr Joseph Vnuk OP, Fr Chris Dowd OP and Fr Mannes Tellis OP lead the packed congregation in joyful prayer and celebration of the Blackfriars Jubilee Anniversary.

Picnic/Fair Day
Finally, with the formalities completed, several hundred people gathered on the front lawn of the school and participated in the Jubilee Birthday celebrations. The atmosphere created by the various food stalls, numerous children’s activities and school tours, was alive with community spirit. The Mayor of Prospect, Mr David O’Loughlin, on behalf of the City of Prospect, acknowledged Blackfriars contribution to the local community over the past 60 years.

60th Anniversary Publication
This occasion provided our community with the perfect opportunity to launch both the Blackfriars Priory School Foundation Inc, and the 60th Anniversary Commemoration Book, written by Br Brendan O’Hearn. This historical Jubilee publication created much interest and enjoyment for both the current and former students, as they looked through the various generations and developments made over the years. There were many reflective speeches and stories told over the weekend and many promises made of fetes, balls and various celebrations to be planned in the future. Congratulations to Br Brendan for his acknowledgement on the Saturday evening, and also to Mrs Patricia Patience, Mr Peter Eglinton, Mr Jon Harmer, Mrs Rachel Elgar and Mr Vince Fleming for their preparation and dedicated efforts. Books are still available for sale from the school office for $35.

Foundation Launch
The Foundation was officially launched at the Jubilee Dinner and has already proved to be very successful in generating support for various building developments and scholarships. It will develop further over time with the increased circulation of ‘The OPtimist’ and the growing involvement of old scholars at the school.

Jubilee Acknowledgements
On behalf of Blackfriars Priory School, I would like to thank the many people who worked so hard to assist with the many facets of the weekend, including the Diamond Jubilee Committee, Blackfriars Parents and Friends, staff and students who were specifically involved, and also the individual volunteers, particularly Jon Harmer, Rachel Elgar and Vince Fleming. During this year, Mr Harmer will be working solely for the Foundation and will chair the social sub-committee.

Vietnam Pilgrimage
Late last year, the Year 11 Pilgrims travelled to Vietnam with Mrs Burford, Fr Mannes and I. The various experiences they had in Vietnam were quite challenging and at times overwhelming. The students were exposed to the poverty and wealth of the country and recognised the stark differences that exist in relation to politics, religious tolerance and human rights. Throughout this year, the students will no doubt reflect on their experiences within our school community.

Whilst in Vietnam, the boys were able to provide financial support to the various institutions they visited assisting them to have a genuine immersion experience with the various orphanages, hospices for the mentally ill, the elderly, AIDS sufferers, and the terminally ill. All of these facilities run under the governance of the Dominican Fathers or Sisters, or other Catholic Congregations. They rely on charity to continue and were extremely grateful for the school’s support and to the students for their interest and care.

Another pilgrimage will be held later this year, with a slightly different program to ensure that the students have every
opportunity to be ‘hands on’ in the community at Bien Hao, Can Tho and Vung Tao.

The school and students are grateful to the Dominican Fathers in the St Martin de Porres Parish in Bien Hao, and to Fr Leung, Fr Dominic and Fr Anthony for their wonderful hospitality, organisation and support through the week. The students extended their appreciation to old scholar, Mr Denis Voight who lives in this Parish and was very generous with his time.

**Buildings**

With the conclusion of the school year, the building plan recommenced with the restoration of a further two Primary classrooms and prepared for the start of the new school year. During Term 4, preparation and approval was determined for the new Performing Arts Theatre and throughout this term, the final design and application will be made for the Maher, Kingston and Masters buildings. The Master Planning team and consultants have been busy generating various designs for community consideration. Once the design and planning is finalised, the application will be forwarded to Council in anticipation of the commencement of the project during Semester 2.

**Student Achievements**

Congratulations to the students who received the various awards on the last day of school. It was decided to hold the presentation during school time to enable the other students to acknowledge the achievements of their peers and to celebrate their efforts.

A list of the various recipients is as follows:

**St Albert Award** – Awarded to the student who consistently achieved academic excellence during the year and was one of the highest achievers in his year level.

- Year 7: Yonatan Halawa, Alexander Muscat
- Year 8: Lachlan Valente, James Renney, Martin Duku, Zidan Nguyen, Joshua Santillana
- Year 9: Max Hilton, Caelan Grooby
- Year 10: Tommy Nguyen, Zachary Rodrigues, Gabriel Rus, David Nguyen
- Year 11: Thomas Lawler, Riley Snowsell

**VET Student of the Year Award** – Awarded to Tom Berry

**St Martin de Porres Award** – Awarded to student who epitomises the spirit of Blackfriars, as demonstrated through his commitment to community life at the school, in faith to his religion and to academic study

- Year 7: Lorenzo Ravida
- Year 8: Connor Watson
- Year 9: Michael Tran
- Year 10: Steven Despotakis
- Year 11: Martyn Nguyen

**Frassati Sportsman of the Year Award** – Awarded to the student who has provided outstanding involvement/achievement in the school’s co-curricular program

- Year 7: Alex Muscat
- Year 8: Carlo Armiento
- Year 9: Angus Ralph
- Year 10: Andre Acuna
- Year 11: Cameron Richards

**St Dominic’s Award** – Awarded to the student who has displayed a positive approach to all aspects of his schooling at Blackfriars. He does not need to excel in any one area, but must work hard in his studies, show a strong commitment to his faith and religious studies, and be fully involved in extra or co-curricular activities.

- Year 7: Vincent Muneretto
- Year 8: Peter Burgess
- Year 9: David Calleja
- Year 10: Gabriel Rus
- Year 11: Jonathan Trieu

**Caltex Leadership / All-rounder Award** – Awarded to the Year 11 student who has displayed an all-round ability to demonstrate leadership and to excel in his efforts in a number of pursuits.

- Year 11: Cameron Richards

**State Government Citizenship Award** – Awarded to the student who has demonstrated these characteristics on a regular basis.

- Year 11: Thomas Lawler

**Enrolments - 2014**

We commenced the new school year with our highest ever enrolment numbers. The Early Learning Centre added significantly to this figure with the expectation that it will be at capacity in Semester 2. There may be some vacancies at certain year levels in the Secondary School, but many primary year levels now have waiting lists.

**School Board**

I would like to thank the Dominicans and the School Board for their continued support. Several new members joined the Board this year, and Mrs Leonie Ebert retired after nine years of dedicated service to our community. I would like to thank the School Executive for their efforts in what has been a challenging year, and in particular I wish to acknowledge Mrs Anna Mirsagentis, the Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching, for her professionalism and dedication in her role. We also thank Mr Andrew Whiteman, the Acting Deputy Principal, Wellbeing and Administration, for ably replacing Mr John Lambert during the year, and for accepting an extension of the role into Term 1.

**Congratulations**

I extend the school’s congratulations to the graduates of 2013 and for achieving such outstanding academic results. Once again the successful students were those who were committed to all aspects of life within our community, and who were selfless in their dedication to service across the wider school.

A summary of the results and tertiary placements is on the following page. This cohort’s achievements were rightly celebrated in school publications and at the Laureate Assembly in Term 1. Our congratulations are forwarded to Alex Lai, our Dux of School in 2013 who achieved an ATAR score of 99.95 and five merits. This is the most outstanding result in Blackfriars academic history. Alex, and Hao Doung 99.9 and Jamie Hua 99.85 all achieved outstanding academic results.

**Mr Brian Turner**

Principal
Outstanding Year 12 Results

The Blackfriars Priory School community is extremely proud of the academic achievements of the 2013 Year 12 students. We wish all the graduates of 2013 every success for the future.

The Highest ATAR achieved was 99.95 by Alexander Lai followed by Hao Duong who gained 99.90 and Jamie Hua who gained 99.85, placing them in the top 1% of the state.

The success achieved by our students has been across a range of disciplines, allowing each student to use their unique gifts and talents to achieve their personal best.

Outstanding results are gained through continued perseverance, rigour, organisation and application. All of our high achievers appreciated the importance of a positive, mature relationship with the teacher in the classroom and being actively involved in the pastoral, co-curricular and Dominican aspects of the school that makes Blackfriars so successful.

Thank you to all staff for their commitment and professionalism and to the families for their support and guidance which has enabled the Year 12 students to achieve such excellent results.

Congratulations to the 2013 Year 12 students and as a Dominican community we wish them all the best in the future.

Mrs Anna Mirasgentis
Deputy Principal Learning and Teaching

Alexander Lai, School Dux
99.95 ATAR with Merit Awards in Chemistry, Japanese, Mathematical Studies, Specialist Mathematics, Physics

Hao Duong
Chemistry, Mathematical Studies, Specialist Mathematics

Jamie Hua
Chemistry, Physics

University Offers by Category
• 25% Medicine and Health
• 22% Humanities, Social Sciences and Religion Studies
• 16% Engineering
• 7% Business and Economics
• 7% Law and Legal Studies
• 7% Science and Mathematics
• 5% Computing and Information Technology
• 4% Education and Teaching
• 4% Architecture, Building Design and Planning
• 1% Tourism, Hospitality, Sport and Recreation
• 1% Art and Design
• 1% Environmental Studies

University Preferences Received
• 59% (48) first preference
• 24% (20) second preference
• 4% (3) third preference
• 6% (5) fourth preference
• 5% (4) fifth preference
• 2% (2) sixth preference
‘Building on the Past Securing the Future’

As we look back on the celebrations of our wonderful Diamond Jubilee last year, the Blackfriars Foundation is very aware the present time provides us with a unique opportunity to engage with so many generations of our school community in a way we have never done before. The various events that were conducted in 2013 saw old scholars from every era of Blackfriars united in celebration. We are sure those who attended any of these occasions will attest the atmosphere generated through the camaraderie of shared experiences was infectious.

It is this sense of a vibrant and living community that the Blackfriars Foundation aims to support - not only in significant celebratory years - but every year. After all, being a member of the Blackfriars Community is worthy of celebration any time!

And so to keep the engagement ball rolling, the Foundation Board is seeking support in forming an events committee. Headed by Foundation Deputy Chair, David O’Loughlin, and fellow Director, Peter Doukas, the Events Committee wants to know from you, the Blackfriars Community, what sorts of events will bring you and your family ‘Back to Blacks’. These are the ongoing occasions that will allow you to catch up with classmates from years gone and to create new networks from among fellow old scholars and their families.

Sporting fixtures. Cultural festivals. Religious celebrations. Black-tie dinners. You name it! We’d like to hear from as broad a cross-section of our community as to how best the Foundation can assist you in getting together to celebrate your connection Blackfriars.

To register your interest in joining the new Foundation Events sub-committee, or just to provide us with some of your ideas, please contact Jon Harmer at Blackfriars at jharmer@bps.sa.edu.au.

As mid-year approaches, the Foundation will again be seeking your financial support for a number of initiatives to be undertaken during 2014 - 2015 and for student Scholarships. The Foundation Board has chosen the upcoming Performing Arts Centre development as the capital project focus for the next Annual Giving campaign. As outlined in the enclosed Please Take Your Seat flyer individuals, families or groups can donate to this very worthy cause by selecting a seat category Gold, Silver or Bronze and in recognition the donor(s) will have a plaque permanently allocated. Please respond generously to this campaign which will directly support a fantastic development at Blackfriars. For more information on the Performing Arts Theatre project please contact Vince Fleming at Blackfriars by email vleming@bps.sa.edu.au.

Mr Patrick Kelly ('90)
Foundation President

Mr Vince Fleming
Executive Director: Strategic Development
Pastoral Care and Wellbeing

Term 1 has certainly come and gone in quick fashion and it seems like only yesterday that the term had begun. The start of the new year always brings anxiety for new students but it was a pleasure to see so many new students settle so quickly into school life.

Swimming Carnival
In Week 3 the school Swimming Carnival was held at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre on 27 March. To be at Santos Stadium with over 700 students all participating for their Houses was a sight to behold. After a close battle for much of the day it was Burke House who were too strong for the rest and took out their second consecutive Athletics Carnival. Head of House, Mr Marcus Trimboli and House Captain George Papanicolaou were very happy to be able to say they hold the swimming, athletics and overall shield. A stellar performance by Burke House, well done boys. Aladin Irabona broke the U16 3000m record in a time of 10.28, well done Aladin. Congratulations to Mr Blair Wimshurst and all staff who helped officiate on the day and made the day run so smoothly.

Athletics Carnival
It was almost a repeat performance in the Athletics Carnival held at Santos Stadium on 27 March. To be at Santos Stadium with over 700 students all participating for their Houses was a sight to behold. After a close battle for much of the day it was Burke House who were too strong for the rest and took out their second consecutive Athletics Carnival. Head of House, Mr Marcus Trimboli and House Captain George Papanicolaou were very happy to be able to say they hold the swimming, athletics and overall shield. A stellar performance by Burke House, well done boys. Aladin Irabona broke the U16 3000m record in a time of 10.28, well done Aladin. Congratulations to Mr Blair Wimshurst and all staff who helped officiate on the day and made the day run so smoothly.

Student Leaders
Blackfriars is pleased to announce the Student Leaders for 2014. We have an outstanding group of boys who are very excited about the opportunity to be part of the student voice for this year. These boys were presented to the school community at the Ash Wednesday Liturgy.

Year 7
Benny He
Jordan Mareolas
Jesse Taylor

Year 8
Dyson Hilder [Captain]
Ryan Bailey
Antonio Baxter
Vincent Muneretto
Jonathon Francis

Year 9
James Renney [Captain]
Phi Nguyen
Connor Watson
Conor Rowland
Peter Burgess
Lachlan Blow

Year 10
Michael Tran [Captain]
Gerald Jones
Gabriel Ngeno
Kenny Cao
Rainer [RJ] Acuna

Year 11 House Vice-Captains
Patrick Mori [Aquinas]
Andre Acuna [Burke]
Michael Metcalf [Denifile]
Anthony Cremona [Devittoria]
Emilio Lacar [Horten]
Tommy Nguyen [Jarrett]
Gabriel Rus [Lacordaire]
Harrison Brickhill [Lagrange]

House Captains
James Cosenza [Aquinas]
George Papanicolaou [Burke]
Mitchell Spencer [Denifile]
Ryan McCulloch [Devittoria]
Liam Ryan [Horten]
Anthony Gosti [Jarrett]
Kazem Ali [Lacordaire]
Harry Sytnyk [Lagrange]

Prefects
Thomas Lawler, Head Prefect [Burke]
Cameron den Dekker, Deputy Head Prefect [Devittoria]
Cameron Richards [Burke]
Matthew Astachnowicz [Devittoria]
Jarrod Meneses [Burke]
Kelvin Hoang [Burke]
Sing Hoang [Nicky] Nguyen [Jarrett]
Kristofer Bergamaschi [Lacordaire]
Gianluca McKenna [Devittoria]
Jonathan Trieu [Horten]
Kent Wei Chau [Horten]
Martyn Nguyen [Lagrange]

Laureate Assembly
The Laureate Assembly held in Week 5 of this term was a fantastic occasion to celebrate the achievement of the class of 2013. The gymnasium was full of pride for what the graduates had achieved, particularly our Dux Alexander Lai, who presented a very entertaining and thought provoking speech! Afterwards the current students were able to reflect on their own study habits and plan how they were going to get the most out of the school year.

Pastoral Care
The introduction of a buddy system across the primary and secondary schools has begun with some outstanding results. A member of the Senior School is paired up with a student or two from the Primary School and then becomes their year long buddy. It has been fantastic to see so many older students nominate to be a buddy and want to get involved. The buddy sessions will continue throughout the year during the extended Home Group, pastoral care lessons, on Tuesdays and Fridays. Having the primary and secondary schools on the same campus allows us the opportunity to work closely together and form some meaningful bonds with students before they enter the larger world of the Secondary School.

Camps
Our Year 8 camps to Kangaroo Island were a highlight for our six Year 8 classes during Term 2 and 10. Our Year 7, 8, and 9 camps are run by Wilderness Escape and offer some fantastic opportunities for our boys. The camps are designed to challenge the boys and allow them opportunities to develop some bush skills while at the same time having the opportunity to be away from school and getting to know their fellow classmates. Whether it was hiking through Snake Lagoon or watching the seals swim at Admirals Arch all boys came back with a great appreciation of what the Island has to offer. Our Year 7 camp is held in week 4 of Term 2 and the Year 9 students head off to the Flinders Rangers in Week 2 of Term 3.

We now look forward to the winter months ahead and hope for another successful and productive term.

Mr Andrew Whiteman
Acting Deputy Principal, Wellbeing & Administration
Welcome to the 2014 Autumn Optimist.

When I speak with parents on school tours, there is a common desire for their sons to reach their full potential. In John’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that God’s reason for coming among us as man was so that we may have life, and live it to the fullest. Our school’s Mission Statement states that; Our Mission is founded on our stewardship of God’s creation to reach its full potential. Blackfriars Priory School is a Catholic Dominican school which promotes the spiritual, intellectual, physical and social development of each member of the school community. It aims, in co-operation with parents, to engage students in an educational experience within the context of a Christian community which is fulfilling and rewarding.

So how do we become fully alive and reach our full potential? This is a question that we will hope to address as part of our Virtues Education integration.

We are well aware that the happiness from a new car, overseas trip, bigger home or a swimming pool does not last. What does last are the simple, daily actions that bring others, and hence ourselves, to feel alive with life. Virtues Education or Character Education as it is wildly known in the UK and USA, is based on the core (cardinal) aspects of humanity that when habitually lived in a positive manner, allows all people to be the best they can be.

For example, being conscious of our need to curb our reactionary desire to express anger towards another, is living out the virtue of temperance. Recognising when we have felt anger, reflecting on our reaction, examining how we lived out the virtue of temperance in the situation and thinking about how we can improve next time, is part of the Virtue Education reflection process.

The guiding virtue of prudence was beautifully defined by St Thomas Aquinas as, “right reason in practice”. In our underlying quest for good, it is prudence which guides our conscience and leads us to make life giving choices. A virtue lived out requires reflection and disciplined application, until it becomes second nature and assists us on our life journey in reaching our full potential.

A virtue is an habitual and firm disposition to do good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts, but to give the best of them self. The virtuous person tends toward the good with all their sensory and spiritual powers; he or she pursues the good and chooses it in concrete actions. (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1803).

Through our Virtues Education program, our students will draw parallels from their Pastoral Care lessons to the virtues being taught. Reaching our full potential must not be confused with corporate success. For example, the CEO of a multinational company who has no regard for the poor and does not spend quality time with their family, is not an example of reaching one’s full potential. Instead, one who loves God, loves their neighbour, and does their best to bring about justice and peace through a life of charity, service and commitment to the common good and to the reign of God, is on the path to become fully alive and reaching their true potential – regardless what job title they have. St Augustine summarised what it means to live the virtuous life from a position of Divine love which penetrates all we do.

“To live well is nothing other than to love God with all one’s heart, with all one’s soul and with all one’s efforts; from this it comes about that love is kept whole and uncorrupted (through temperance). No misfortune can disturb it (and this is fortitude). It obeys only God (and this is justice), and is careful in discerning things, so as not to be surprised by deceit or trickery (and this is prudence)” St Augustine, De moribus eccl. 1,25,46-PL 32,1330-1331.

Blackfriars will concentrate on the four Cardinal (core) Virtues and the three Theological Virtues. The Cardinal Virtues include:

- Prudence – Discerning true good (life giving) in every situation.
- Justice – The moral call to give of oneself to God and their neighbour.
- Fortitude – To have courage and resilience in difficult situations.
- Temperance – Concerns balance with our life and positive responses to our desires.

The Theological Virtues include:

- Faith – The loving recognition of God’s active involvement within our life.
- Hope – The aspiration to be ‘happy’ as God calls us to be. To rise above discouragement and feel sustained during times of abandonment, knowing that with God’s help we will continue.
- Charity – Love God with all our being and our neighbour as ourselves.

As you can see the Virtues are not something abnormal or new, instead they are integral ingredients for the education of the whole person as part of God’s creation. Over the course of the year the Virtues will develop through the Pastoral Care lessons and assist your son in reaching his full potential as a human being, who was created by God to have life abundantly!

Blessings and Peace

Mr David Ruggiero
Assistant Principal: Religious Identity and Mission
A Brief History of the Priory Vineyard at St Laurence’s North Adelaide

In 1999 Blackfriars staff member, Mr Michael Emery, noticed two struggling vines at St Laurence’s Priory. He worked with Fr Martin Wallace and the St Laurence’s community to establish a vineyard of the Shiraz variety for students to learn viticulture and winemaking theory and skills. Mr Gavin McGlaughlin coordinated the task, and with the assistance of some other schools, including OLSH, CBC and Wilderness, had the students clearing the ground, planting the vines and adding the infrastructure necessary to maintain a vineyard. Since 2002 there have been eleven harvests which have created vintages of wine, one vintage even won a Bronze Medal in a State Wine Competition! The vineyard is now very well established producing quality Shiraz fruit in what many would agree to be the most unique vineyard location in SA or even Australia.

Vintage 2014… a very special one

Thanks to the vision and dedicated effort of our Prior and School Board Chair Fr Alex Vickers, Parishioner and past parent Mr Dennis Spizzo and student and staff volunteers a very special milestone has resulted this year with 2014 being the first year the Priory vineyard harvest has been processed on site at St Laurence’s.

On a beautiful Saturday morning in early March members representing the diversity of our community, students, staff, old scholars, parishioners and Dominicans worked alongside each other together to harvest and crush almost a tonne of Shiraz grapes. The vats of crushed berries open fermented for the next week, regularly monitored for temperature and sugar levels by Mr Spizzo, Dominicans and Blackfriars maintenance staff.

Pressing of the fermented juice and berries took place the following weekend; again it was great to see so many giving up their time to take part in this unique process. The pressings were then pumped to three wine barrels located in the cellar of St Laurence’s Priory where they continued to slowly ferment until late April.

The grapes from this vintage were of top quality, picked at the ideal time. This along with the winemaking expertise of Mr Spizzo and use of industry standard equipment will, I am sure result in a very drinkable drop! Good things take time so unfortunately this very special Estate Wine (grown and produced on the one site) won’t be available for purchase until 2016. However, we have a solution in the interim, the 2011 vintage of Priory Block wine will be released this year; this wine has been made at a reputable Adelaide Hills winery using only our fruit from St Laurence’s. Please visit the school website www.bps.sa.edu.au to order.

Mr Vince Fleming
Executive Director: Strategic Development
29 July 2013 saw the opening of the Early Learning Centre (ELC) with 26 families. Moving on two terms sees us with 62 families. At the beginning Term 1, 2014 the original staff team welcomed Mrs Angela Plisko and Miss Jacqueline Gagliardi, both taking up teaching positions.

Investigation, exploration and curiosity continue to be the focus for program development within the ELC.

Inquiry Based Learning

Inquiry based learning is the approach which enables our program to reflect this.

Inquiry based approaches reflect a view of the child as a constructor of their own knowledge and learning rather than simply as a passive recipient of someone else’s. This active view of the learning process reinforces the need for learning experiences that allow children the chance to follow their own interests and shape their own learning’ - National Quality Standards Newsletter.

What does this mean for every day interactions in the ELC?

• The environment (both indoor and out) is constructed in such a way as to encourage discovery, experimentation and reflection.
• Provocations (inquiry questions) can be child initiated or adult instigated. Once posed the children decide in which direction their learning will take them.
• Educators are co-learners

How are plans implemented?

A snap shot taken in one day-

• Literacy comes alive in the ‘Purple Room’

The discovery of an owl in a tree within the school grounds led to much observation, discussion, research and learning. Mrs Plisko turned off the lights and used a torch to emphasis the words and pictures whilst reading the story Owl Babies.

• The ‘Yellow Room’ had been exploring the Easter story, using written word and figures to re-enact the story. Here is Aedan’s re-tell

“Jesus lived in Jerusalem. He rode his donkey to Jerusalem. He come with his friends. The palm leaves were over here near the mud. Then they were waving palm leaves and they put them near the donkey so he didn’t have to walk on the mud.

Then there was some bad spirits that didn’t like Jesus. Then they put Jesus on the cross so he died. Then he put them in a tomb, then they put a rock on him. The Angel comed and he came back to life.”

Aedan followed up his inquiry after Easter Liturgy by questioning (probably grilling is a better word) Brother Karl. They chatted for some time and Aedan came away feeling happy, comfortable and well versed in his learning.

• Explorative/experimental play with clay

Before even attempting to construct something when using clay the children were given the opportunity to fully explore its properties. They used both hands and feet to ‘feel’ the art medium. This then moved on to adding water and being able to mould the clay.

Every day in the Early Learning Centre is one in which children bring great joy and wonder to a beautiful facility. Learning is child centred, active, play based and encourages the exploration and development of deeper thinking.

The Primary and Secondary school has embraced the implementation of an Early Learning Centre wholeheartedly. We access the Primary Library three times per week, children take turns to take part in Ernie’s soccer workshop on Mondays, we took part in Primary Sports Day and we often visit the tuckshop and front desk where we are greeted warmly. The boys of Blackfriars are always eager to interact and help our children wherever possible.

Enrolments are continuing to increase. Term 3, 2014 will see us engaging with over 75 families. We welcome each and every one into our community.

Mrs Karen Mc Entee
Director Early Learning Centre
Left: ELC children cutting the ribbon at the Official Opening of the Early Learning Centre
Welcome to the 2014 School Year!
We welcomed many new students to the Blackfriars School community across all classes. The Primary school again consists of ten classes from Reception to Year 6 and has a current enrolment of 231 students.

In addition to our new families this year, we welcomed back staff member Diana Hatzipalousis from leave. Diana is working alongside Stephanie Oliver in a Year 5 class.

Mrs Cara Oosterbaan (Year 2 classroom teacher) has recently embarked on maternity leave for the remainder of the year. As a community we wish Cara and her husband Tim, the very best as they look forward to the birth of their second child and a sibling for Gabby. Miss Amanda Hickey has replaced Cara in the Year 2 classroom. We welcome Amanda to this role for the remainder of the year and look forward to her contribution to the Year 2 classroom.

**Learning Spaces**
The refurbishment of the Primary learning spaces continued over the summer holidays. Two classrooms were refurbished- the Year 3/4 and Year 4 classrooms. The learning spaces again include indoor/outdoor learning spaces, wet areas and new interiors.

**Pastoral Care Program**
In 2014 the school has introduced a Pastoral Care program that involves students from Reception to Year 12. Each Tuesday and Friday morning from 8.40-9.20 the students participate in a variety of activities that build relationships and community across the school, provide leadership opportunities for students, explore topics relevant to the students’ year level and importantly as a Catholic school, help the students live out their faith in their everyday life.

**Project Compassion**
The season of Lent challenges us to think about our relationship with God, ourselves and other people. The school, as it does annually, has been supporting Caritas Australia’s Lenten appeal, Project Compassion. All classes have again supported the initiative. As part of the Pastoral Care program the Primary School students, along with their senior buddies created interactive games that when played across the school raised money for Project Compassion.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the community for their continued support of those in need.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**
On Tuesday evening 1st April, fourteen students from the Primary school celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Rosary Church, Prospect, along with students from Rosary and St Dominic’s schools.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation invites us to acknowledge the poor choices we have made and then make an attempt to make things right and highlights the forgiving, compassionate nature of God. Congratulations is extended to the following boys:
- Jai Harte
- Denis Byers
- Luca Provenzano
- Stefan Zienkiewicz
- Jack Hobdy
- Sebastian Dos Santos
- Anthony Troiani
- Aedan O’Reilly
- Dominic Nguyen
- Mattas Piep Regan
- Declan Dunne
- Angus Souter
- Alexander Zeuner
- Nathaniel Forby

**Open Day**
Open Day was again a significant event for the Blackfriars community and showcased the varied curriculum offerings across the school, the many dimensions of school life and the wonderful facilities Blackfriars offers its families. It was great to meet so many new families and a pleasure to ‘tour’ the school alongside them.

**Young Leaders Day**
The Year 5 and Year 6 Student Action Council leaders, Max Smulders, Morteza Rahimi, Peter Le and Kai Lovett attended a Young Leaders Day at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Wednesday 26th March. The boys participated in interactive activities and listened to guest speakers about what it means to lead yourself and others in today’s world.

Peter (Year 6BR) has recounted his thoughts of the day:
Max, Morteza, Kai and I travelled from our school to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre to attend the National Young Leaders Day. While we were there we listened to and met Mike Martyn, Anneka Deaton, Julia Gillard, Andy Griffiths and Daniel Flynn.

During their talks, we learnt that not everything awesome, cool or outstanding starts off that way. To become a great leader you should be fair, confident and prepared to take action.

**Co-curricular Sports Tops**
In 2014 a new system of providing team shirts to our Primary students for co-curricular sport has been introduced. The feedback regarding this initiative has been very positive. A special thank you is extended to the Parents and Friends for their support in making this initiative a reality.

**Primary Swimming Carnival**
The Blackfriars Primary Swimming Carnival was held at the Adelaide Aquatic Centre on Friday 7th March. The students represented their House Team with excitement and determination and a very healthy dose of good sportsmanship. Cussen [White Team] was the winning team on the day. The event ran smoothly and was very well supported by the parent community.

**Sports Day**
The annual Sports Day was held on Friday 4th April. The students, staff and families enjoyed participating and supporting in glorious autumn sunshine.

We congratulate Dowling (Blue Team) on their victory and Candler [Red Team] for winning the Spirit shield. All teams were ably lead by their House Captains and Vice Captains.

Sports Day is a great example of the school community working together for the benefit of the student body. Thanks are warmly extended to the parents who volunteered their time to work on stalls, those who baked sweets for the cake stall and to Mr Nick Cheary for his organisation, who along with the staff, ensured the program ran smoothly throughout the day.

**Mr Todd LaForgia**
Deputy Principal - Head of Primary
Primary School

Hussein Alrahim and Kai Lovit, Cussen House Leaders with the winners shield

Age Champions: Jai Harte, Peter Le, Sam Ellis and David Rus

Yaya Dukuly, Julian Cornish, James Ellis and Sam Ellis

Candler House winners of the Spirit Shield

Peter Le and Yaya Dukuly Dowling House

Dowling House Primary Sports Day Winners
Celebrating 60 Years

Thank you to our Community; Past and Present!

On the weekend of November 9 and 10 our school community celebrated the 60th anniversary of Blackfriars being founded on February 10 1953.

The weekend’s celebrations were centred around six unique events:

- The Diamond Jubilee Ball
- The Official Launch of the Blackfriars Priory School Foundation
- The Official Launch of the Diamond Jubilee Commemorative Book
- The Diamond Jubilee Mass
- The Official Opening and Blessing of the Blessed Joan of Aza Early Learning Centre
- The Diamond Jubilee Community Birthday Celebrations.

Each of the above events presented their own significance relating to Blackfriars having established itself in the Prospect community as part of the North Adelaide Parish, but also as a very well recognised and respected institution on the Adelaide educational landscape.

The weekend began in style on Saturday night, with the Diamond Jubilee Ball at the Adelaide Convention Centre, which provided a trip down memory lane for the 350 plus Blackfriars staff, past and present, old scholars and parents and friends in attendance. This gala dinner also provided our community with the perfect opportunity to launch both the Blackfriars Priory School Foundation Inc and the 60th Anniversary Commemoration Book, written by Br Brendan O’Hearn.

On Sunday morning the Diamond Jubilee Mass was held in the beautiful school Chapel. Concelebrants, Fr Kevin Saunders OP, Fr Dennis Hallinan OP, Fr John Neill OP, Fr Joseph Vnuk OP, Fr Chris Dowd OP and Fr Mannes Tellis OP lead the large congregation in joyful prayer and celebration of the Blackfriars Jubilee Anniversary. The school’s first family of three generations to attend Blackfriars (Dean Hodby, 1950s, Shane Hodby, 1980s and Luke Hodby, current), gave readings which showed the link between the school’s early beginnings to current day in a very poignant fashion.

The Mass was immediately followed by the Official Opening of the Blessed Joan of Aza Early Learning Centre. The new facility continues to impress all who visit, with the state-of-the-art facilities being heralded as being among the best, if not the best, in South Australia.

Finally, with the weekend’s formalities completed, several hundred people gathered on the front lawn to participate in the Jubilee Birthday Celebrations. The village green atmosphere our front lawn provides was augmented with food stalls, numerous children’s activities and tours of the school. Finally, an official presentation and congratulatory gift was made by the Mayor of Prospect, Mr Pat Hodby, Alexis Lebedew, Shane Hodby and Jon Harmer, at the Old Scholars Bar at the Community Birthday

In closing, on behalf of Blackfriars, I would like to thank all those who worked so hard to assist with the many aspects of the weekend. To the Diamond Jubilee Committee, the Blackfriars Parents and Friends, the Blackfriars staff and students who were specifically involved and to the individual volunteers, a sincere thank you.

You collectively made the Diamond Jubilee weekend the success it was.

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison
Old scholars Shane and Dean Hodby at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass and below Primary Choir members with Miss Jessica Repucci at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass.


Fr Kevin Saunders (Prior Provincial) - Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass

Old scholars Shane and Dean Hodby at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass and below Primary Choir members with Miss Jessica Repucci at the Diamond Jubilee Celebration Mass.

Above: ELC Official Opening
Below: 60 Year Community Birthday
1953 - 2013
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS
DIAMOND JUBILEE BALL

Ralph Armiento, Bruno Giovanello, Robert Sergi
Nick Heath and Jeff Glue
Michael Taylor ('12), Tammy and Paul Taylor

Patrick Kelly, David O’Loughtlin, Brian Turner and Fr Alex Vickers with the donation cheque from the Blackfriars Foundation

Carols Barca with parents Sam and Octavia
Rolf ('87) and Sonia Scharfbillig

Class of 2011 graduates Back: Justin Le, Riley Lum, Patrick Nash, Lachlan McAlister Front: Sam Budden, Oliver Dearsley, Luke Weinel, Jordan Barbara (2011 Head Prefect)

Wayne and Monique Lawrence
Adam Ellis and Jade Honan


Back: Candy Saint, Sean & Leisel McPeake, Alexis, Pat Hodby, Richard & Mira Verco. Front: Andrew Saint, Shane Hodby, Coralie and Marie
Maria Battistella, Paul Battistella, Cathy Armiento, David D’Argenio, Bernie D’Argenio, Ralph Armiento, Mario Romaldi, Dr Robert Sergi, Daniella Sergi, Bruno Giovaniello

Jonothon Trieu and Anthony Gosti, Year 11 performing in the foyer

Old scholar members of the Vikings Water Polo Club

Maria Battistella, Paul Battistella, Cathy Armiento, David D’Argenio, Bernie D’Argenio, Ralph Armiento, Mario Romaldi, Dr Robert Sergi, Daniella Sergi, Bruno Giovaniello

Steve Dabrowski and Fr Kevin Saunders OP

Dr Michael Cox, David Ruggiero and Victoria Ruggiero

Matt Turner, Matthew Richardson and Bruce Duckworth

Jono Harmer presenting Br Brendan with a special gift to acknowledge his years of service to Blackfriars (marble statue of Mary to be placed outside the Blackfriars Chapel)

Simon Lewis, Damien Brown and Mark Yates

Zora and Peter Doukas and guests
Empathy is the trait that makes us human and epitomises what a Blacks boy should aspire to be. Stepping into the shoes of the marginalised and living their lives shows what empathy is truly about, and the Blackfriars Vietnam Pilgrimage of 2013 provided 13 Blackfriars students with an opportunity to do just this.

From the 23rd of November to the 6th of December, 13 students along with Mr Turner, Mrs Burford and Fr Mannes travelled to Vietnam on a pilgrimage, to gain a greater understanding of injustice in the world and to be energised to contribute to the poor and have an effect on the injustice they have seen back home.

As the first group to undertake the pilgrimage, we were not quite sure what to expect; despite being warned that we may not be entirely ready for what we would see, we were still blindsided upon arrival. Amongst the screaming traffic, yelling strangers and some of the most interesting food we’d ever seen, our first day in Ho Chi Minh City proved a highly enjoyable experience. Over the course of the next few days we saw some of the fascinating sights of Vietnam, and explored the country as tourists; after seeing the beauty behind the country, we then drove out to the smaller rural town of Bien Hoa where the pilgrimage experience really began.

“Your simple presence there means so much to these people; they feel they have been forgotten by the Western world, and you are a symbol to them that they are important.”
Visiting many poorer communities and the downtrodden of the country, some of the things we viewed as a group were highly confronting; the poor, disabled and the desperate, those who had been abandoned by society and forgotten in the desperate struggle for wealth, where people struggled to live day to day lives whilst we carried possessions in our bags worth more than everything they owned. We were truly touched by seeing a nun at a Dominican school, where those who attend could not afford $4 a year for tuition, close to tears after receiving a $200 donation for her school. This was something I will never forget; saving the nuns at the school months of begging for simple food and water for students, the money meant more to her than we could imagine. We visited a shelter for disabled where one man and a small number of volunteers ran the overcrowded facility; some occupants of the shelter literally had to be tied to walls so they didn’t hurt themselves, or wander off. I’d never before seen teenagers willing to perform manual labour all day without a single complaint; it was humbling to see the direct impact of your efforts on others, and this motivated all of us throughout the day.

Despite our contributions, the experiences of Vietnam still left us feeling like we could never do enough, and should help more; I still remember one of the students commenting on how terrible they felt that they could not help out at every place we went to, to help every person we met, to which I vividly remember Father Mannes’s response: ‘Your simple presence there means so much to these people; they feel they have been forgotten by the Western world, and you are a symbol to them that they are important.” The Vietnam pilgrimage of 2013 was a once in a lifetime experience that had an effect on everyone that attended; a truly humbling experience, I feel every boy who attended was changed by the event.

Extremely rewarding, going through the Pilgrimage with your friends and peers around you made the event so worthwhile and rewarding; you always had somebody to talk and reflect with about the places you went and things you did. The trip provided us with a fresh incentive to change our community back home and work towards social justice for the disadvantaged; the pilgrimage was an unforgettable experience.

Thomas Lawler, Year 12
Farewell Steve Dabrowski

Blackfriars has been a huge part of my life, and I am so grateful for the wonderful people I have had the privilege of working with over the years. Steve Dabrowski is one of those wonderful people, and I know that my life has been enriched for having Steve as a colleague, a mentor and a friend.

In a way it is both easy, and yet difficult to find words to describe Steve and the gift he has been to the boys, staff and families of the Blackfriars community – easy because images of a calm, wise, self-assured, steady, well-balanced, self-possessed, genuine, self-contained, spiritual man come to mind, but these words don’t really do justice to the remarkable presence Steve has been in all our lives. Steve and his wise counsel will be missed by all, and it may seem that Blackfriars is a little poorer for a while now that Steve is retired; however, Steve’s legacy will live on in what we have learned from him.

When I arrived at Blackfriars in 1981, Steve had already been here seven years, starting in 1974. In his 40 years Steve has done just about everything – he was co-head of the Art and Design Department, one of the original House Leaders, teacher, and counsellor.

My first real opportunity to work closely with Steve was when I joined Horten House in the late 80’s. Steve was an inspiring House Leader who showed concern and care for his teachers and for the boys in his House – nothing was ever too difficult or too inconvenient – if you needed help Steve was a gracious giver of that help – whether it was looking after the Home Group because you were running late, or providing an empathetic ear to help solve a personal problem.

Steve and I both changed roles in the mid-nineties, and I remember with great fondness Steve’s wise counsel in working with difficult boys and their families. The role of counsellor formalised in a way what Steve had already been doing for years, helping our boys and their parents in a manner that empowered them to help themselves. I always felt confident that when getting Steve to talk to a boy, that I was taking positive step.

I remember that it was Steve who gave me the courage and confidence to take up counselling myself 6 years ago. His words of encouragement when I was feeling very low remain with me – ‘it’s what you’ve been doing for years’; he has been a great support and mentor to me in recent years.

Steve can give advice without really saying anything – his smile and the little shrug of the shoulders would say it all. Steve is a great believer in Love – he once told me that ‘fear is the absence of love’ – a little gem of wisdom that I come back to in my mind all the time. Steve would always ask me ‘how are you coping with this’ after a difficult encounter with a parent or boy – he constantly reminded me that ‘you cannot help others if you don’t look after yourself’ – another gem of wisdom.

Steve, is the only person that I know who has never said a ‘harsh word’ about another, or had a ‘harsh word’ said about him. I always thought that he looked a bit like Jesus, but more importantly than looking like him, Steve lives Christ’s message of love.

It has been a privilege to have had Steve in my life for the past 33 years. Our best wishes go with him in his retirement and, I hope he has lots of grandchildren for him and Helena to spoil. Steve will be missed by all.

Mrs Cathie Oswald

Australia Day Honours

On Australia Day, two significant members of our community received the Order of Australia Medal, past Headmaster Fr John Neill and old scholar John Schumann (’69). Fr John Neill OP received national recognition for his service with the Dominican Fathers and the wider community for over 53 years. Fr John’s legacy is still prevalent in the culture of our school community and in the many buildings that were created and refurbished during his long tenure as Headmaster (1972-1988) and teacher (1963-1967). Fr John is still passionate about Blackfriars and he loves to hear any news about the school. He is a great mentor and support to many in the community. His recognition is a just acknowledgement of his service over many spheres of education throughout Australia. Fr John is still very active in his service at Notre Dame University, Sydney and was Prior at Glebe in Sydney until the end of 2013.

Mr John Schumann was the other recipient associated with the school. John is an old scholar of Blackfriars who was recognised for his service to music, and to the veteran community. Perhaps most well known as the lead singer and songwriter for folk-rock group Redgum (1975-1985), John has been performing as part of John Schumann and the Vagabond Crew, since 2005. John has performed for Australian troops serving in Afghanistan, East Timor and the Solomon Islands. Many in the community will remember John’s performance of ‘I was only 19’ at the Blackfriars 50th celebrations. John’s hit song has recently been published as a children’s book, which he read to some of our Primary boys on a recent visit to school.
Grand Final Winners

Congratulations to the Year 8/9 Knockout Cricket team pictured right who won the Northern Zone Grand Final against Faith Lutheran College from the Barossa.

These boys played with great spirit and camaraderie throughout the competition and were excellent ambassadors for Blackfriars.

State Water Polo

Congratulations to Conor Rowland, Jesse Taylor, Brayden Addison and Liam Rowland who have been selected to represent South Australia at the recent Australian National 14 & under Water Polo Championships held in Brisbane.

Particular congratulations to Brayden Addison who has been selected as Captain of the team. Selection marks the culmination of hundreds of hours of training over many years for these boys. I congratulate the boys on behalf of the Blackfriars community.

Congratulations also to Cameron Den Dekker, Year 12 and Liam Cameron Year 11 on their selection in the South Australian 18 and under team which competed in the recent National Championships in Perth.

Mr Jon Harmer

Prospect Fair

A big thank you to everyone who assisted with the Prospect Fair on Saturday 22 March. Our melting moments biscuits were very popular and sold out quickly. It was a nice bonus to win ‘best decorated’ stall and receive a $250 prize!

The fair’s theme was yellow and our bright yellow marquee, adorned with sunflowers (created by the ELC children), certainly stood out. Thank you to all our parents and student helpers who baked, packed and attended on the day. A special mention to the Renney family who all pitched in to sell biscuits and pack up. Funds raised from the day go towards the P&F and are directed back to the boys.

All are welcome to attend P&F meetings and contribute to planning of activities. For more information please contact Rachel Elgar relgar@bps.sa.edu.au.

Mrs Rachel Elgar
Winter is here... and that means footy's back!
The BOSFC Hounds couldn’t wait to be let off the leash to chase premiership points when the SAAFL D6 and 6R seasons kicked off on Saturday 5 April.
Preseason is all about preparation, and those that have taken part are well prepared to aim for lofty goals in 2014. Under the guidance of new coach Aleks Bojanic, BOSFC’s squad of loyal, experienced players and a host of new recruits have trained with energy, enthusiasm and focus since the preseason started late last year.
BOSFC was founded, and has grown with the support of the Blackfriars school community – to provide an opportunity for old scholars to continue playing footy together after leaving school.
Old scholars Jack Sandercock ('12), Peter Varsos ('11), Michael Grgic ('09), Tom Humpich ('09), and Dom Merlino ('10) are among our new recruits this year and follow the likes of James Faik ('12), Ben Hutton ('11), Simon Grgic ('11) and Jake Milne ('11), who signed up in 2012.
These players have brought impressive football ability to the club, improved the depth of our squad and also strengthened our valued and important ties with the broader school community.
The strength of a football team is often related to the experience its players have playing together. In 2014, a core group of players look likely to again lead the way. Matt Brincat ('06), Trav Hillman ('01) (2013 Co-captains), Sam Horsell ('06), Michael Iuliano ('06), Brad Hillman ('04), Andrew Demasi ('00), Paddy Harmer ('05), Phuoc Vo, Sam and Luke Murphy, Dan McKenna and Tom Guerin ('05) have all had solid preseason, and Sean Pratt returned super fit. Since hitting the track in preparation for his second season with BOSFC, former South Adelaide player and BPS old scholar Mark Demasi ('96) has shown plenty of the class that saw him awarded the 2005 SANFL Reserves Magarey Medal and 2008 SAAFL D1 Eric Pfitzner Medal.
New coach Aleks Bojanic comes to BOSFC having coached Mitcham in SAAFL D3 last season. Aleks has put the squad through a preseason set up in three ‘blocks’ – conditioning (including the use of the school weights room), structures and game-sense training. The game-sense training block included the trial game period when the players were able to apply their skills, fitness and football ‘smarts’ in three fixtures at the SAAFL headquarters, Thebarton Oval, during March.
Aleks said the Hounds were pitted against opposition from higher grades in order to put the squad’s fitness levels and structures to the test.
“I’m extremely pleased to say that I’m confident that what we have achieved during the preseason will hold us in good stead for the year ahead. ” Aleks said.
“Against Marion and Westminster we found ourselves comfortably running over the top of them with quick, decisive movement for seven-plus goal wins. I was buoyed by our fast and precise ball movement, which gave our forwards every opportunity to create scoring opportunities.”
“We’ve increased our ability to rotate through the midfield by giving a number of players some valuable experience and education in our trial games. This will enable us to keep up a cracking pace in games and to be unpredictable to our opposition. That should make us a ‘hard team to play against’ – something that will become our mantra in 2014.”
A football club is only as strong as those that support it, so it is with great pleasure that BOSFC welcomes the contributions of our continuing major partners The Wellington Hotel, North Adelaide Village, Thomas Foods, Dulux AcraTex and Lucia’s Fine Foods.
Helping hands are just as important as commercial partnerships and BOSFC always welcomes and values the efforts of any member of the community who is generous enough to volunteer their time. Our dedicated volunteers do a great job and we couldn’t survive without them. If you’d like to help them out, contact the club at blackfriarsos@footymail.com or on 0412 454 978. New players are also always welcome.
If you love local footy, you can support BOSFC at St Dominic’s Oval while enjoying a bite to eat and a drink from our canteen, BBQ and bar. We hope to share our season with you and hear many of you barracking loud in 2014. Go Hounds!

Mr Tom Zed
BOSFC

BOSFC 2014 Home Games
Rd 7 – Blackfriars v Angle Vale, May 24
Rd 9 – Blackfriars v Mitchell Park, June 14
Rd 12 – Blackfriars v Fitzroy, July 5
Rd 15 – Blackfriars v West Croydon, July 26
Rd 17 – Blackfriars v Ingle Farm, August 9

Note: A Grade games start at 2:15pm and Reserves at 12:15pm, unless stated.
To all our members, supporters, past players and sponsors, welcome to season 2014.

Blackfriars Old Scholars Association Soccer Club (BOSA SC), founded in 1998 is a proud sporting and social club competing in the South Australian Amateur Soccer League (SAASL) Saturday competitions. In 2013, BOSA SC created SAASL Saturday league history winning the highest honours "League Champions" across all of its teams: Premier As, Premier Bs and Division 6, adding to its 2005 success of winning the SAASL Premier As league and Cup double, and Division 6 league winners in 2012.

BOSA SC's success on the field reflects the strong support of our long-term sponsors who have provided the BOSA SC community with the resources to build a successful program resulting in 2013 league winner's status for each of the three divisions. The BOSA SC community would like to thank and acknowledge major sponsors, Get Wines Direct, RP Quality Flooring, Cucina Nuova - Henley Beach and The Archer Hotel for their inaugural support in 2013, in addition to long-term existing sponsors, Star Safety, SJ Electrical and Essential Dental for continuing their support. In addition, BOSA SC expresses its gratitude to Blackfriars Priory School for its support over the past 17 years, and more importantly its support throughout the 2013 season. We were excited to return league winners honours across all three teams to the school community.

On field, building on the success from last year we've had large player numbers throughout preseason which has allowed us to continue to grow and enter our fourth team which will play in the Saturday Division 7 competition. Of the 70 registered playing members, 60% are Blackfriars Old Scholars and live close to the school community which is a great indication of the strong relationship BOSA Soccer Club and school community have.

It's been a busy off-season with BOSA SC successfully acquiring Charles Cane Reserve as its new home base, in the City of Prospect, starting this year. After a lengthy and important due diligence process and following positive public consultation feedback, in March this year, the City of Prospect Council voted for BOSA Soccer Club as the preferred licensee for shared use of Charles Cane Reserve (Parndo Yerta); clubroom all year round and the Oval from 1 April to 30 September of each year. This is a really important and significant step in the club’s future and we believe it will ensure it provides BOSA SC a long term base that we can continue to grow the club's culture and become the Amateur League Club of choice in South Australia. Given the amount of work needed to upgrade the facility, we’re looking forward to commencing playing games at Charles Cane Reserve hopefully from the 1 June 2014.

The BOSA SC members would also like to sincerely thank the 2013 committee who committed their time to ensuring the off-field operations ran smoothly and provided the players and coaching staff the best opportunity to achieve BOSA SC on field goals. With a new Committee voted in for 2014, we’ve put in place fantastic off field administration and support for all three teams to ensure on field success, and a club community we can all be proud of.

We look forward to the support of the Blackfriars community in helping 2014 to be another very successful year for the mighty BOSA SC Hounds.

For up to date news and events you can also follow us on our website, Facebook or the new BOSA SC TeamApp - Links provided below.

info@bosasc.com.au
www.bosasc.com.au
www.facebook.com/bosasoccerclub
http://bosasc.teamapp.com

Bruno Giovannelli
President, BOSA Soccer Club

Blackfriars Foundation Wine & Cheese Night

Please join us at the Inaugural Blackfriars Foundation Wine and Cheese Night. Whilst many of you would have had the pleasure of attending these functions in years gone by, this is the first to be overseen by the Blackfriars Foundation.

Blackfriars Foundation Wine and Cheese Night is on Friday 16 May from 7.30-11.00pm.

Tickets: $10 (paid at the door) and bring a bottle of wine for auction (per person). Includes wines for tasting from 10+ wineries, selection of cheeses and finger food.

Plus door prizes, lucky wheel prizes, wine auction and silent auction.

Please register your attendance online: http://www.trybooking.com/ENSG

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison
Grant Price (’94)
Flying for Emirates

Blackfriars old scholar Grant Price still has his head in the clouds, but now he doesn’t get in trouble for it. Since graduating from Blackfriars in 1994 Grant has moved to Dubai and now works for Emirates Airline as a Captain on their Boeing 777’s.

“As most Blacks boys would know the ILS (Instrument Landing System) for Adelaide takes aircraft down past the school on their way to landing. I’d get a little talking to by our teachers because I would always look up and see what was going past instead of concentrating on the work I was doing”

After Blackfriars, Grant completed an Applied Science Degree in Civil Aviation at the University of South Australia and learnt to fly at their flying school located at Parafield. While at University he worked for Qantas at Adelaide Airport loading bags and cleaning the aircraft that stopped in Adelaide for the night. Once he had completed his training the job of building the hours required by airlines started. This took Grant up to the Northern Territory to work flying light aircraft into remote areas delivering everything from mail and machine parts to KFC in the wet season when the roads were cut. “Flying in the Territory was an awesome experience” Grant says. “The amazing landscapes and the vastness of outback Australia is something not a lot of people get to see”

Once he had a little more time under his belt Grant moved back to Adelaide to work for an Aircraft Charter Company here. Flying all over the state and occasionally interstate he flew everything from Politicians and Bands to the Advertiser and Sunday Mail over to Port Lincoln. “we’d drop the papers off and then pick up 800kg of crayfish and have them back in Adelaide in time for the morning flight to Hong Kong”

In November 2002 he started work with Virgin Blue based in Brisbane. After completing the 737NG conversion training he began flying the 737-7/800’s around Australia. At Virgin he rose to the rank of Captain and also became involved in delivering Virgin’s Crew Resource Management training.

Having always wanted to fly the Boeing 777 Grant applied to Dubai Based Emirates airlines. In 2007 he moved to Dubai to begin work. He became a Captain on the 777 in November 2012. “Emirates is the largest operator of the Boeing 777. We fly all variants of the aircraft to many different places. My roster will have me heading out to Adelaide one week with 300 or so passengers and the next week I’ll be delivering 106 tons of Mango’s to Accra in Ghana. You are always kept on your toes and challenged here. -30 degrees and snowing to +40 and blowing dust. Every working day is different!”

Grant was the Captain of the first scheduled Emirates aircraft to land at Adelaide. Shortly before the direct Adelaide to Dubai service was to start, Grant positioned a 777-300ER from Melbourne to Adelaide for the official launch of the service. “It was a really clear spring day when we arrived. We could see all the way over to the Yorke Peninsular from our Top of Descent point near Lake Alexandrina. The approach down to the airport from Modbury was great too. I’ve done the approach many times but that was awesome”.

The other half of the team is his wife Narita. The two met back in Australia when they both worked for Virgin Blue. They have two children, Mackenzie aged 4 and Hugo, 2. Grant says life in Dubai works really well for the family. “Being in the industry I get to travel a lot and check places out for us all to experience. I’m like the scout. Narita and I both decided to make sure the kids are exposed to as many different experiences and places as we can. We’re in the unique position that when one is doing a project on Italy for example we can just jump on a plane and check it out for a few days”.

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison
Old Scholars

Old scholar Peter Magers visited Blackfriars as the Head Army Representative to present the Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Awards. The first time he had attended assembly in 21 years! Peter presented the awards to winning students Andre Acuna, Year 10 and Sajed Bakhsh, Year 12.

Recently, Blackfriars had a visitor from earlier days. Patrick Hynes was on a break from his work in the USA and called in to look at the progress the school had made since his time here in 1955.

Patrick attended the school coming from Gumeracha each day. He told me that he had a bike secreted in the bushes at the corner of Dutton Terrace and Northcote Terrace. He rose early in the day to catch the bus from Gumeracha, getting off at Dutton Terrace. He would then ride his bike to school from there. He could not understand why Fr F X Brown reprimanded him for being late so often. I suspect he was too concerned to explain the reason. His parents thought that the travel was too much for him, and so he left at the end of that year. Not before being awarded three prizes at the End-of-the-Year concert at the Prospect Town Hall for History, Latin and French.

Patrick sees himself very much as an Old Scholar of Blackfriars. He contacted the school on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee. He remains very positive about the school even though he was here for only one year. He has made a donation towards the Foundation as a testimony of his enthusiastic memories of his earlier days.

Patrick entered the Post Master General after his school days. Later he became a Cadet Journalist with the ABC News Department. He became the editor of publications such as The South Australian Journal of Agriculture. He left Australia for Canada and the United States of America. He continued his studies at the University of Oregon gaining a Master of Arts. In 1982 he went to California and was involved in various positions mainly as a Manager of hotels and restaurants. He was the Director of Public Relations for the Hilton group of hotels for fifteen years. He met many famous people during his time as Director, one of whom is the subject of a photo Patrick sent to us.

He now runs a company called ‘Australia no Worries’ where he advises and encourages Americans to visit Australia. He is especially involved in the process of obtaining Visas to help people who want to come to Australia.

Patrick Hynes (‘55)

Matthew Noakes (‘97)

In recent times The OPtimist has featured the exploits of Blacks ‘old boys’ who are living and working overseas. However many of us come across past students in far flung locations around Australia also.

Whilst recently visiting Eumundi in the hinterland adjacent to Noosa Heads, on Queensland’s Sunshine Coast I had the good fortune to meet old scholar Matthew Noakes.

Matthew left Blackfriars with his parents Roger and Caroline and siblings, to live in Noosa in the late 1990’s. Matthew now owns and runs the Eumundi Post Office. So, if you happen to be up that way, possibly visiting the famous Eumundi Markets, drop into the Post Office and say hello to old scholar Matthew. He’d love to see you!

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison

Peter Magers (‘92)

Old scholar Peter Magers visited Blackfriars as the Head Army Representative to present the Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Awards. The first time he had attended assembly in 21 years! Peter presented the awards to winning students Andre Acuna, Year 10 and Sajed Bakhsh, Year 12.

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison
Josh Kilner (’11) and Tom Oosterholt (’12)
Costa Rican Turtle Project

After graduating in 2011 and 2012 at Blackfriars respectively, the boys are pursuing study in Marine Biology at Adelaide University. In 2013, four days after their final university exam, Josh Kilner and Tom Oosterholt departed for a month long volunteer project in Costa Rica. The volunteer work took place in Playa Ostional, Guanacaste where they worked with 10 other Australians and a number of international volunteers on a turtle project, helping to preserve the endangered Baula (leatherback) turtle. The shifts ran through the night, involving beach patrols for mother turtles coming up onto the beach to lay their eggs. The leatherback eggs are exposed to a zero percent survival rate on the beach due to the high level of bacteria in the sand.

On the rare occasion that a leatherback came up the beach to lay eggs, the job was to collect the hundred odd golf ball sized eggs in bags and relocate them to the hatchery. The hatchery is a 5 by 5 metre pen located on the beach provided a safe haven for the eggs with filtered sand. This presented a survival rate of about 60-70% for the baby turtles. An extremely beneficial and necessary process in order to protect this endangered species.

Josh and Tom stayed with host families where they got to experience the Spanish culture and the way of life of the small beach community of Ostional.

Overall the trip was a great experience allowing the boys to be exposed to hands on experience in the field they are studying.

“We extend our appreciation to all those who made it possible to make the trip overseas through their generous donations and support.”

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison

50 Years Later!

John Balkwill (Head Prefect, 1966) called into the school recently. Following a clean-up at his mothers home, he came across his school blazer, cap and scarf. He very kindly donated these to the school for the Archives.

He noted that his mother had taken off the Head Prefect pocket and sewn on a Prefect pocket to pass on to John’s brother, Malcolm. Malcolm thought that he might be able to wear the blazer with the original pocket and was a little disappointed when mum changed them over.

John was Captain of our successful Basketball team for that year. The team won the B1 Junior Competition for the third year in succession. Michael Fitzgerald won the cup for the Best and Fairest player in the Catholic Competition.

John was also the captain of the Athletic team. His brother, Christopher, was a member of the Combined Athletic team that year. Blackfriars won the Under 16 cup for 1965 - names such as Mark Thompson, Rene Schinkel, Paul Rice and Robert Meaney were in the successful U.16 team.

Br Brendan O’Hearn OP

John Balkwill with Br Brendan O’Hearn and his donation to the archives
Class of 2004
10 Year Reunion

On Friday 4 April the Class of 2004 assembled for their 10 year Reunion. The 'boys' firstly gathered for drinks and nibbles in the Staff Room before joining together for a school tour. Notably the group commented on the remarkable changes that had taken place in their "alma mater" after just 10 years! The night concluded with a meal in North Adelaide where many reminiscences were shared. Particular thanks to Simon Dellamalva for his help in organising the night.

Laurie Brary, Matthew Richardson, Andrew White and partner, Alex Rogers, Simon Dellamalva, Mark Parrish, Tim Delvins and Stuart Frost.

2004 Sportsman of the Year Tim Delvins is pleased to spot his name on the schools Honour Board

Scott Armstrong, Kirk Pitts, Michael Giglio, Andrew Shepherd, Justin Davis, James Warner, Kiel Cunningham

2004 Deputy Head Prefect Simon Dellamalva and Head Prefect Andrew Shepherd

Class of 2013
1 Year Reunion

On Monday 24 March the class of 2013 gathered for their first Blackfriars reunion as old scholars in the Frassati Hall. The boys enjoyed catching up over pizza, drinks and games of lawn bowls and table tennis. It was a great opportunity to welcome the boys to their life long link with the Blackfriars Priory School community as old scholars.

Mr Jon Harmer
Old Scholars Liaison
Congratulations Lam Vuong ('97) & Serin Liu

Blackfriars old scholar Lam Vuong ('97) was married to Serin Liu on the Blackfriars Priory School front oval on Sunday 26 January 2014. The couple met when Lam was visiting his boss at his previous workplace. “I frequently visit my old boss, and I met my wife (Serin) coincidently through him”. The newlyweds have been busy with work and renovations at home since their wedding day, but plan to take a honeymoon in the near future. Fittingly, given the location of the ceremony Lam’s groomsmen were old scholars Kent Chi Kin Cheong ('97) and Tu Thanh Tran ('97). From all at Blackfriars, congratulations Lam and Serin. We wish you the best of luck for the future.

Community Events

Please visit the school website bps.sa.edu.au for the latest details on upcoming events.

- Blackfriars Foundation Wine and Cheese Night - Friday 16 May 2014
- Annual Music Concert - Friday 5 September 2014
- Blackfriars Quiz Night - Friday 15 August 2014
- Grandparents Day (Primary School) - Friday 12 September 2014
- Family Day - Sunday 9 November 2014
- End of Year Mass and Carols Evening - Tuesday 25 November 2014

2014 Reunions

Calling all graduates from the classes of 1994, 1984, 1974, 1963 & 64! Reunions are being organised for the following dates. Please contact Jon Harmer on 8169 3936 or via email jharmer@bps.sa.edu.au for more information or to register.

- Class of 1994 - Friday 23 May 2014
- Class of 1984 - Friday 27 June 2014
- Class of 1974 - Friday 24 October 2014
- Class of 1963-1964 - a lunchtime reunion on Saturday 25 October 2014 (venue TBC) contact Paul Varsanyi, email: varsanyi@aapt.net.au

Groom Lam Vuong ('97) and wife Serin Liu - Groomsmen, Kent Chi Kin Cheong ('97) and Tu Thanh Tran ('97).