Contents

Pages
3: Upcoming Events and Reunions
4-5: From the Principal
6: Chairperson of the School Board
7: Outstanding Year 12 Results
8: Religious Identity and Mission
9: Blackfriars Graced by a man of Grace
   Reflection of Fr Timothy Radcliffe
10-12: United in our Pursuit of Excellence
13: Boys to Gentlemen Initiative
14-15: Early Learning Centre
16-17: Primary School
18-19: Student Wellbeing and Events
20: Soccer of Excellence Academy
21: Community Day
22: Blackfriars’ Anzac Liturgy
23: The Simpson Prize Success
24: Blackfriars Music
25: National Schools Debating Championship
26: Ecological Sustainability
27: Blackfriars Foundation - Annual Giving Campaign
28: Blackfriars Old Scholars Football Club
29: Blackfriars Old Scholars Soccer Club
30: Old Scholars - Rohan Dennis
31: Old Scholars - John Schumann
   Old Scholars - Major Matthew Barletta
32: Old Scholars Obituaries
33: Old Scholars - Class of 1995 and 2005 Reunions
34: Old Scholars - Inaugural Christmas Reunion
   Old Scholars - Inaugural Foundation Lunch
35: Old Scholars - Class of 2014 Reunion
   Old Scholars - Foundation Business Lunch 2
Community Events - Save These Dates!

**Blackfriars Foundation Feature Footy Game**
Support the Hounds! – Saturday 1 August - start time 1 pm.
Join other old scholars, staff, parents and friends in supporting the Blackfriars Old Scholars Football Club in their A5 home game at St Dominic's Oval vs Pulteney Grammar Old Scholars in the Old Scholars / Foundation Marquee.

**Blackfriars Quiz Night**
Friday 14 August, 7.00pm for a 7.30 start
Tickets: $10ea [80s Dress up theme]
Tables of 8 to 10 to be booked by 12 August 2015 through Tribookings www.trybooking.com/IDPJ

**Blackfriars Foundation Feature Soccer Game**
Supports the Hounds! – Date and time TBA.
Join other old scholars, staff, parents and friends in supporting the Blackfriars Old Scholars Soccer Club at their home game at Cain Reserve, Churchill Road

**Blackfriars Foundation Wine & Cheese Soirée**
Blackfriars Gymnasium - Saturday 5th September, 7.30 – 11pm
Contact Jon Harmer email: jharmer@bps.sa.edu.au

**Blackfriars Foundation & Business Lunch**
Friday 27 November 2015
Barton’s Restaurant, Caledonian Hotel

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2015 Old Scholars Reunions

Calling all graduates from the classes of 1990, 1985, 1975 & 1955!
Reunions are being organised for the following dates.

Please contact Jon Harmer for more information or to register on 8169 3936 or via email: jharmer@bps.sa.edu.au

**Class of 1985 – 30 Year Reunion**
**Friday 14 August 2015**
Contact:
John Belton email: john.belton@fyfe.com.au
or Andrew Saint email: tax@asaint.com.au

**Class of 1975 – 40 Year Reunion**
**Friday 23 October 2015**
Contact:
Paul Belton email: pbelton@stpauls.sa.edu.au
or Joe Bayer email: jj_bayer@outlook.com

**Class of 1990 – 25 Year Reunion**
**Sunday 1 November**
Contact:
Patrick Kelly email: pkelly@stpatstech.sa.edu.au
or Pierre Caiazza email: pierre.caiazza@eldersinsurance.com.au

**Class of 1965 – 50 Plus Year Reunion**
**Friday 20 November 2015**
Contact:
John Balwick email: thenook@chariot.net.au

**Christmas Eve Reunion** – All very welcome – particularly those who have flown home from overseas or interstate for Christmas!
Caledonian Hotel – Thursday 24 December 2015
New Partnerships and New Directions

It has been a great privilege to take up the position of Principal at Blackfriars Priory School. Commencing in January this year, my overall impressions are extremely positive. Each day, I consider myself so fortunate to work in such a vibrant and dynamic school community. Our teachers and support staff are clearly committed to providing the best possible learning outcomes for our students. I have been so impressed by our students and their willingness to present themselves well and apply themselves conscientiously to their studies. They are clearly very proud of their school and it shows in everything they do.

I enjoy playing and watching sport, so visiting tennis, football, soccer, cricket, volleyball, water polo, athletics and swimming carnivals has been an enjoyable and rewarding experience. It is great to see our students compete with such enthusiasm, while also having the opportunity to meet and talk with parents.

Background

My school experiences stem from five R-12 schools both in the Catholic and Independent sectors in Melbourne and Adelaide. I have also been fortunate enough to gain a strong educational perspective across all three school sectors, through state, national and international study and work.

I completed my secondary education in Melbourne at Marcellin College, before completing my Bachelor of Education at the University of Melbourne and Master of Education at Deakin University. My teaching career began in 1991 at Kingswood College (a co-educational Uniting Church College, Kindergarten – Year 12) as a secondary Mathematics and Information Technology teacher. At Kingswood College I was a Head of House before being appointed to Head of Middle School (Years 9-10) in 1998 at Sacré Coeur (Prep to Year 12 Catholic Girls School in Melbourne). From this position I was then appointed to Woodcroft College in 2000 (a large co-educational R-12, Anglican College) in South Australia as Head of Middle School (Years 6-9).

During my time at Woodcroft College, I completed my Doctorate of Education (University of Adelaide titled, “Adolescent challenges and the process of change in developing pastoral care programs in an Anglican R–12 co-educational day school”). This work led to considerable changes in the school organisational structures and the delivery of pastoral care at the College. In 2007 I was appointed Deputy Principal at St Francis de Sales College (a co-educational, R-12 Catholic College) in Mount Barker.

I remained Deputy Principal at St Francis de Sales College, with leadership experience across both primary and secondary areas, before being appointed as the Acting Principal of the College for a year and a half. After this appointment, I decided to broaden my experience by working for the SACE Project Office and SACE Board [2011], working in a cross sector role at the Department of Education and Child Development (DECD) for Catholic Education, South Australia (CESA) to complete the implementation of the new SACE. During this period, I completed my Graduate Certificate in Catholic Education (University of South Australia and CESA).

When the SACE implementation was complete, I was appointed in 2012 as a Senior Education Adviser in Data Analysis at the Catholic Education Office. In this role I led Catholic schools across the state in the area of evidence based learning and data analysis to drive continuous improvement across all areas of schooling. During Term 3 2014, I was the Acting Deputy Principal at Christian Brothers College, Adelaide.

I am very fortunate to be married to Rachel, a registered nurse, and we have two beautiful young children, Emma and Edward. I see the importance of keeping fit, so I swim with a fitness group at Marion Swimming Club. I am an avid supporter of the Sydney Swans, having been brought up in Melbourne and following South Melbourne. Along with an enjoyment of reading and the theatre, our family are active members of the Brighton Catholic Parish.

My Vision for Blackfriars Priory School

In my opening remarks to both staff and students I spoke about defining new levels of excellence in everything we do. This is about being on a journey of continuous improvement, through seeking regular feedback, using evidence
based practices and identifying how we can be a better person each day. In the Dominican tradition we are about seeking the truth and living out the gospel values daily, through a life of prayer, study, engaging in community and action through ministry. It is striving to be the best we can possibly be. We know today’s global society requires problem solvers, collaborators and team players who can address many of our world’s conflicts. In our Open Day survey, the top three responses (totalling 45%) from prospective parents when considering a school for their son were:

1. Strong academic results (19%)
2. A safe and secure environment (14%)
3. Religious Catholic dimension (14%)

These factors are, and will continue to be positioned in our vision and strategic plan for the future. As a professional learning community, we have presented staff with a total picture of our past NAPLAN and SACE results. From this work, staff have identified strengths, weaknesses and areas for improvement. We have also engaged the services of Mr Andrew Fuller (Clinical Psychologist) to support us on a journey of developing a pedagogical framework for boys’ education. Andrew Fuller provided professional learning to all staff on Boys Education and will continue to support our school in developing best practices based on brain research in neuroscience and on proven effective strategies. As part of the strategy we have also developed a Literacy Project in our Primary years, led by our staff with support from consultants at the Catholic Education Office, to complement the Reading to Learn program and improve our results in writing, spelling and grammar and punctuation.

As an integral part of developing a contemporary pedagogical framework, we have also initiated a ‘Boys to Gentlemen’ program. In the area of sport, we recently formally welcomed both Michael Valkanis and Robert Matosevic to Blackfriars Priory School, to join Mr Ernie Luongo and our other soccer coaches. We now have three internationally recognised coaches including two from the Adelaide United Soccer Club and the current Blackfriars Soccer Director (Mr Ernie Luongo) who will provide expertise and a wealth of training skills which will greatly benefit our junior and senior soccer students. The aim of the Blackfriars soccer program is to give our young players the best possible soccer training sessions and training environment to help improve their skill levels so that the boys can reach their full potential and perhaps represent the state or Australia in the future. The formal welcome to Michael Valkanis and Robert Matosevic was featured on Channel 9 news recently and was excellent publicity for our school.

Given our success in soccer, we will now focus on other sports, music, arts and cultural pursuits to cater for the needs of all boys. This was highlighted by the recent Channel 7 media coverage of a round of the National School Debating Championships held at Blackfriars and opened by two successful old scholars the Honourable Jack Snelling MP and Mr David O’Loughlin, Mayor of Prospect and newly appointed Chair of our School Board. In music, we recently enjoyed our most successful music performances at the Generation in Jazz event at Mount Gambier.

Global Citizens

As global citizens, we need to think both at a local, national and international level in terms of learning more about our environmental responsibilities. We have hosted Professor Paul Clarke from St Mary’s University in London to speak with staff and students about ecological conversion. Professor Clarke was a member of the Advisory Board to Pope Francis on the recent encyclical. We were also fortunate to hear from Fr Timothy Radcliffe (OP) from Oxford University who shared his experiences, wisdom and knowledge about our Catholic faith in today’s society. Fr Radcliffe has recently been named by Pope Francis as consultor of the Council for Justice and Peace. We look forward to maintaining a positive relationship with him.

Over the term break, both Ms Fang Liu and I were in China with the Catholic Education Office, Connected Learning with China opportunity. Catholic Education South Australia (CESA) and the Confucius Institute (CIF) at the University of Adelaide have a well-established project to support the building of partnerships between schools in Australia and China. This project represents a great opportunity for teachers and schools to link with the Australian Curriculum (Languages, History, Geography, Intercultural Understanding, ICT capabilities, Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia, etc) and the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers. I am pleased to inform you that we have signed a letter of intent with the Middle School attached to Shandong University. This provides a sister school relationship with a Middle School over three campuses with around 5,000 students. With so many opportunities into the future, Blackfriars Priory School is well positioned to build its International Student program and provide a holistic and global education for all our students.

Boys to Gentlemen

The “Boys to Gentlemen” initiative is a holistic approach to educating boys that encompasses life skills in the areas of:

- Etiquette
- Confidence
- Image and Styling
- Public Speaking
- Financial Literacy

To support us in this work, we have engaged the services of Mr Paul Giles as an Artist in Residence. An ongoing commitment to develop polite and well-rounded young men.

Already we have seen many positive effects with our Year 12 student leaders working with Paul receiving excellent feedback on their presentation, etiquette and conduct at the annual St Dominic’s dinner.

Please see the Boys to Gentlemen feature article on page 13.

I thank the School Community for its warm welcome to my family and me. In particular, I would like to thank our Executive Deputy Principal, Mrs Anna Mirasgentis, who has greatly supported me in transitioning into the role, along with the two Board Chairs, Fr Alex Vickers and Mr David O’Loughlin, Mrs Aileen La Forgia, Mrs Amanda Dyson (Personal Assistant and Registrar) as well as the Executive team. I look forward to meeting you and discussing some of our plans as we move Blackfriars Priory School into a new chapter.

Dr Sean Mangan
Principal
Old Scholar David O’Loughlin appointed as Chairperson of Blackfriars Priory School Board

Blackfriars Priory School is proud and honoured to announce the recent appointment of Old Scholar Mr David O’Loughlin (1982) as the first lay Chair of the School Board. David has a distinguished professional and community career and is currently the Mayor of the City of Prospect.

David, a former Head Prefect of Blackfriars, was awarded the School Spirit Award and his son Jack also attended Blackfriars and graduated in 2010. He is a founding member of the school’s Capital Works Committee and the Blackfriars Foundation. He recently completed his two year term as the President of the Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA) and has been appointed to a significant new role as the Local Government representative on the Development Assessment Commission (DAC).

Concurrent with his 12 years’ experience in Local Government, David has held executive positions in the private and public sectors of the construction industry for over 25 years, after studying Architecture and Project Management at university. David is also known for his passion for design and twentieth century architectural heritage.

Elected as a Ward Councillor in 2003, David served on many Council committees before being elected as Mayor of the City of Prospect in November 2006, and again in 2010 and unopposed in 2014. David’s involvement in local government spans over a period of more than 12 years.

His commitment to the community is evident through the numerous Boards and committees he sits on, including the Property Council’s Mainstreet Committee, the Art Deco and Modernism Society, Prospect Kiwanis, the Prospect Arts Action Network Group of the Prospect Gallery, and the Advisory Board of the Uni SA Architecture Museum.

We congratulate and welcome David to the role of Blackfriars Priory School Board Chairperson. His extensive experience together with his passion for Blackfriars will facilitate excellent leadership and successful outcomes for our school community into the future.
Blackfriars Priory School community is extremely proud of the academic achievements of the 2014 Year 12 students. We congratulate each student on their achievements and wish all the graduates of 2014 every success for the future.

The Highest ATAR achieved was 99.70 by Thomas Lawler followed by Riley Snoswell who gained 99.55, 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 that have enabled the Year 12 students to achieve such excellent results.

Congratulations to the 2014 Year 12 students and as a Dominican Community we wish them all the best in the future.

Mrs Anna Mirasgentis
Executive Deputy Principal

University Offers by Category

- 28% Medicine and Health
- 18% Engineering
- 12% Business and Economics
- 11% Computing and Information Technology
- 10% Humanities, Social Sciences and Religious Studies
- 7% Architecture, Building Design and Planning
- 6% Law and Legal Studies
- 4% Education and Teaching
- 4% Science and Mathematics

University Preferences Received

- 62% [59] first preference
- 22% [21] second preference
- 6% [6] third preference
- 2% [2] fourth preference
- 6% [6] fifth preference
- 2% [2] sixth preference
It is Jesus that you seek when you dream of happiness. [Saint Pope John Paul II]

World renowned Dominican priest and academic Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP visited South Australia during April and worked with a variety of stakeholders in our Archdiocese. Blackfriars was honoured to host Fr Timothy on Wednesday 29 April. Fr Timothy is a former Master of the Order of Preachers and it was a blessing to be in the presence of someone who radiates the happiness of Jesus which Saint Pope John Paul II referred to.

Fr Timothy is a most engaging speaker, an accomplished author, world renowned academic and theologian and member of the Blackfriars Hall Community at Oxford University. Fr Timothy has written numerous books and spoke about our baptismal call in an educational context. A brief biography and links to his works can be found here: http://aquinas.emory.edu/radcliffe.php and the topic of Baptism can be further explored in his book, *Take the Plunge*.

Staff and students from St Mary’s College, Cabra Dominican College and St Dominic’s Priory College also attended, along with visitors from the Catholic Education Office and the Archdiocesan Office. Our student leaders were privileged to have Fr Timothy work with them in the afternoon. His ability to engage both adults and youth ensured we were all captivated and eager to ask questions.

Fr Timothy stated when he visited Blackfriars, "People don’t die for Aromatherapy, but they do for Christianity!" Faith filled, positive role models are essential in nurturing and developing the faith both in our young and in the lives of all. The receiving of the Holy Spirit should be testimony to us that spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ has never been easy, but never lonely. We all have a crucial role to play in spreading the Good News through our own baptism and the radiating of our Christ centred happiness.

As part of our commitment to our pillar of prayer and our Thank God for Friday focus, all students have received a modern wooden Rosary bracelet. As Fr Timothy reminded us, the importance of prayer in our life cannot be understated and the explicit reminder that the bracelet rosary beads provide will assist us on our faith journey as we place our trust in God through the ebb and flow of our life.

Fr Timothy left us with a desire to seek Jesus at a new and deeper level. He challenged us to seek Jesus at the margins and to love others deeply; He enlivened our Baptismal call to joyfully live and promote our faith in a spirit of non-violence; He reminded us that we need to slow down, pray regularly and connect with Jesus through the Eucharist; He radiated a true happiness forged in Jesus Christ and recognising God in the simple joys in our everyday life.

Since visiting Blackfriars, Fr Timothy has been appointed Consultant for the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace by Pope Francis. We hope he will be wearing the Blackfriars First XI cricket cap and jumper we gave him in the Vatican!

We have recently returned from our inaugural Blackfriars Indigenous Immersion which coincided with Reconciliation Week. Mr Farrugia, Mr Fleming and I accompanied a group of Year 10 boys to Nepabunna Aboriginal Community located in the first Indigenous Protected Area [IPA] in Australia in the Northern Flinders Ranges. We were immersed in experiences of faith, culture, nature, spirituality, stories, friendship and family. The experience destroyed stereotypes for our boys and built bridges of true reconciliation. We left Nepabunna richer and with a desire to live slower, with greater simplicity in true community and with a deeper faith.

2015 is our warm up year for the biggest celebration in our Dominican History as the Order of Preachers celebrates 800 years in 2016. Next year there will be numerous celebrations to mark this auspicious occasion with many opportunities for Old Scholars to be involved. The most significant celebration will be the pilgrimage, In the Footsteps of St Dominic, and World Youth Day. The pilgrimage, organised by our Chaplain Fr Karl Emerick OP, will be available for anyone interested in walking through the history of St Dominic in Europe and experiencing World Youth Day in Poland. If you would like to be involved in assisting in the organisation of our 800 Years, please email me at druggiero@bps.sa.edu.au

Mr David Ruggiero
Assistant Principal, Religious Identity & Mission
Blackfriars Graced by a man of Grace

A guard of honour at the driveway of Dominican school Blackfriars Priory, at Prospect, was quickly broken up when Fr Radcliffe jumped out of the car to shake hands with students. After addressing Dominican school staff he met with school leaders, without adults present to ensure frank and fearless discussion. Students reported that they learnt a great deal from his “wisdom and inspirational stories” and enjoyed the opportunity to ask questions about current global issues.

When talking to principals and religious education teachers, his opening words were “there is nothing more important than teaching”. He recalled that as a young friar he was taught that “all teaching and preaching begins with listening”. He stressed that leadership in schools was about building unity, holding people together and reconciling people. “Pope Francis is inviting us to move beyond the culture of control,” he said on more than one occasion. “Leadership is about having courage to let go, let things happen, let some things die.”

The keynote speaker at the National Pastoral Planners Conference in Adelaide, Fr Radcliffe spoke of “a crisis of truth in the Church”. “For Christians a lot of the education in truthfulness is in attending to the Word of God...the great temptation is to use the Scriptures to support what I want to say; I may be for or against gay marriage, I may be for or against the ordination of women, the temptation is to use the Scriptures to support what I already believe. God’s right because he agrees with me, God’s on my side. “I think that becoming truthful means that when we turn to the Word of God we let is surprise us, we let it say things that we never would have guessed or anticipated, we let us be puzzled.”

His call for us to be seekers of the truth comes a time when the Synod on the family is creating tensions between different elements of the Church. Fr Radcliffe stressed the danger of defending the Church’s teaching without “entering the lives of the people”.

“I detest abortion but what can I say about abortion until I put myself in the shoes of a 16 year old girl who is terrified because a child is on the way. What am I to say until I know her pain her terror, what am I to say until I have a word of grace for her, a word of good and gracious words that are not true unless gracious? Jesus has the words that are true and gracious,” he said.

“What do I say to a kid, an 18-year-old gay person with the prospect of enforced celibacy – how do I know what it is like to live their life from the inside. What’s the word of grace I can speak that will give him joy and make his heart burn.

“Sometimes we live with truths that seem to be in opposition....we have to be patient as we try to find our way forward. The truth is...with God.”

Written by: Jenny Brinkworth, The Southern Cross.

Reflection of Fr Timothy Radcliffe

On Wednesday 29 April, staff and student leaders from St Dominic’s, St Mary’s, Cabra and Blackfriars, were blessed with the wonderful opportunity to have attended, met and interacted with Father Timothy Radcliffe. It was truly an amazing opportunity to have met a such highly regarded name within the life of our school and the Order which founded it. He was a great speaker with an ability to connect and relate to the audience, making us laugh and enlightening all with his countless experiences. I have learnt many things through his presentation, which I can now apply to my life for my own benefit. I can honestly see him as an inspiration, and role model, devoting his life to the Order and to his faith in God, with the addition of achieving many rewarding experiences. I want to thank Fr Timothy for taking the time to present to us students, it was a fun and insightful experience, I wanted to wish him all the very best.

Andre Acuna
Head Prefect
United in our Pursuit of Excellence

“Each brain and every mind has the potential to change the world in ways we cannot imagine. This is the magic that is learning.” (Mark Treadwell 2014)

Our role as educators is to provide opportunities for students to be creative, innovative and resourceful and equip them with the ability to solve problems in ways which draw upon a range of curriculum areas. Through our curriculum we want to empower the students; give them a voice and broaden their perspectives as global citizens.

In Semester 1 I met with each Curriculum Leader, Coordinator and Key Teacher to discuss:
• What opportunities in the curriculum promote creativity, critical thinking, communication and collaboration to prepare students for their future.
• 2015 improvements or innovations in the curriculum
• Capabilities and Cross Curricular Priorities which support the formation of identity and wellbeing and the development of confident and creative individuals and active and informed citizens. The work with Paul Giles will support the development of personal and social capabilities.
• Gathering of different forms of data to personalise the learning for the cohort of students in the class.
• Pedagogy (learning and teaching strategies for boys shared by Andrew Fuller).
• Assessment Practices and Quality Assurance Processes.
• Use of student assessment to inform teacher practice and improve student learning outcomes or progress.

As a school we are committed to continually improving our planning, design and delivery of the Australian Curriculum. We are currently planning for the implementation of Stage 1 and Stage 2 English and Mathematics subjects for teaching at Stage 1 in 2016 and at Stage 2 in 2017.

Andrew Fuller – Clinical Psychologist
In 2014 the Learning and Teaching Team participated in planning days where we reviewed our performance as a team and established new goals for 2015. The goals to be implemented are:
• Offering excellence in boys education and having a point of difference from other schools in what we offer and how we deliver it.
• Reviewing our curriculum with a focus on innovation, inclusion and ensuring it is contemporary.
• Developing a pedagogical framework specific to boys learning and teaching.
• Adoption of Reading to Learn (RTL) as a ‘whole school’ literacy strategy to improve student outcomes.
• Closely analysing data collected to identify areas for improvement and allocate resources.

As a result of these improvement goals in 2015 we have engaged the services of Andrew Fuller, a Clinical Psychologist to support us in working collaboratively with the school community to provide instructional leadership in the development of a pedagogical framework for boys which improves student performance and develops successful lifelong learners. Blackfriars Priory School will implement a research-validated pedagogical framework that:
• Describes the school values and
beliefs about learning and teaching which responds to the local context and the levels of student achievement
• Outlines processes for professional learning and instructional leadership to support consistent whole-school pedagogical practices
• Details procedures, practices and strategies for learning and teaching, differentiating, monitoring, assessing, moderating – which reflect school values and support student improvement
• Will provide a common language, shared understanding of boys’ education and a commitment to action.

Andrew Fuller was an engaging and inspirational speaker. He demonstrated how we can use neuroscience to increase learning outcomes for boys. He presented some key messages and practical ideas which the staff I have implemented in their classrooms. Andrew provided us with a template for learning which will support us in improving student retention of information and transforming that information to knowledge through the transfer and application of this in different contexts. He has strengthened our understanding of how students learn. He identified for us the enhancers of boys learning:
• Quality feedback
• Building on student strengths
• Using visuals as most boys are visual learners
• The importance of repetition
• Integration of instructional teaching and inquiry-based learning
• Teaching concepts before asking questions
• Goal setting
• Building on strengths
• Relationships

We look forward to strengthening our partnership with Andrew Fuller to continually improve our performance and provide excellence in boys’ education. As part of his commitment in this work a parent information session will be organised.

Andrew energised us and motivated us to reflect on our pedagogy and release the genius within us and our students.

CESA Re-Imagining Childhood Research

‘Childhood itself has a direct relationship with God. It touches upon the absolute divinity of God not only as maturity, adulthood and the later phases of life touch upon this, but rather in a special way of its own.’ Rahner, "Ideas for a Theology of Childhood," 36.

Blackfriars was successful in receiving funding to participate in an educational research project on the principles and research of Reggio Emilia. Karen McIntee, Todd La Forgia John Niedzwiecki, Michelle Rodgers and I will lead this project. We attended two seminar days which were facilitated by Professor Carla Rinaldi and workshops facilitated by CESA staff. We are beginning to shape our inquiry project which will have implications for our pedagogy in the ELC, Primary, Middle and Senior School. Our pedagogy is to make the learning of all children from ELC to Year 12 visible as a child has a hundred languages and we would like our learning and assessment practices and environment to incorporate the belief that children use many different ways to build knowledge, show their understanding of the world around them and express their thoughts, opinions, innovation and creativity. This work will be strongly connected to the work of Andrew Fuller as we develop the pedagogical framework for boys that is inspired by Reggio Emilia and our Dominican faith.

The Reggio Emilia approach is an innovative and inspiring approach to education which values the child as strong, capable and resilient; rich with wonder and knowledge. Every child brings with them deep curiosity and potential and this innate curiosity drives their interest to understand their world and their place within it. We would like to nurture this curiosity as we believe each person has the ability to construct their own intelligence from direct interaction with their environment and in social groups.

“We see a child who is driven by the enormous energy potential of a hundred billion neurons, and by the incredible curiosity that makes the child search for reasons for everything and who has all the strength and potential that comes from the ability to wonder and to be amazed. A child who is powerful from the moment of birth because of being open to the world, and capable of constructing his or her own knowledge.” (Professor Carla Rinaldi Report to the SA Government 2013, Reggio Emilia)

The general principles of Reggio Approach will be incorporated into our pedagogical framework for boys. These principles include:
• Children are capable of constructing their own learning – they are driven by their interests to understand and know more.
• Children form an understanding of themselves and their place in the world through their interactions with others. There is a strong focus on social collaboration, working in groups, where each child is an equal participant, having their thoughts and questions valued. The adult is not the giver of knowledge. Children search out the knowledge through their own investigations.
• Children are communicators - Children are encouraged to use language to investigate and explore, to reflect on their experiences. They are listened to with respect, believing that their questions and observations are an opportunity to learn and search together. It is a process; a continual process. A collaborative process. Rather than the child asking a question and the adult offering the answers, the search is undertaken together.
• The environment is the third teacher – The environment is recognised for its potential to inspire children. The space encourages collaboration, communication and exploration. Our Primary Precinct play area will be redeveloped to promote social, emotional, cognitive and physical development and designed to reflect and respect our Dominican faith.
• The adult is a mentor and guide – Our role as adults is to observe our children, listen to their questions and their stories, find what interests them and then provide them with opportunities to explore these interests further. The Reggio Emilia Approach takes a child centred approach.

In Reggio Emilia inspired schools there is an emphasis on carefully displaying and documenting children’s thoughts and progression of thinking, making their thoughts visible in many different ways: photographs, transcripts of children’s thoughts and explanations, visual all designed to show the child’s learning process.
Financial Literacy

Each student before they leave school should have the essential knowledge, skills and values to underpin their life journey and enable them to make a successful transition from school to further education, training and employment.

Blackfriars Priory School believes financial literacy is one of the core life skills which is required to successfully participate in modern society. The boys are growing up in an increasingly complex world where they need to take charge of their own financial future. On Tuesday 19 May Sam Walker, Mark Blundell and Bechara Boutros from Aussie Home Loans in Prospect gave a presentation to the boys on financial literacy. The aim of the session was to familiarise the boys with the structure and implications of consumer credit. They covered the following topics:
- What is Credit?
- The five C’s of Credit
- Credit Scoring
- Preserving your Credit Reference
- Bankruptcy
- Good Debt vs Bad Debt
- Secured Loans vs Unsecured Loans
- Interest and Compounding Interest
- Interest Rates
- Developing Good Saving Habits
- How to Buy a Home

At the end of the presentation Aussie Home Loans kindly donated $100 as prize money for a competition which challenged the boys thinking. Each boy had 24 hours to submit their answers to the question.

We hope the presentation assisted the students to acquire the knowledge and skills to build responsible financial behaviour throughout each stage of their life.

Student reflections on the session include:
- On Tuesday the Year 12 students were visited by Aussie Home Loans in Prospect who provided us with vital information regarding our financial futures. They outlined some of the main issues young people experience with their finances post-secondary school. We learnt how important it is to manage our finance and take particular care not to place ourselves in financial debt associated with credit cards and failure to pay bills.

This was a particularly valuable lesson for the Year 12 cohort who are about to enter a world of far greater independence. Ehsan Danish

The Year 12s were given a presentation by Aussie Home Loans who gave us an insight into what it’s like to be an adult dealing with investments and paying bills. They focused on our credit rating and how it is vital to keep a good credit rating in order to be able to borrow money. Overall, we were able to gain valuable information on investing, interest rates and the importance on paying your bills. A very worthwhile experience by Aussie Home Loans which I will take with me when I finish school.

Patrick Mori ‘Aussie Home Loans’ visit on Tuesday was both insightful and rewarding. The cohort learnt about the importance of credit rating, as well as the best ways in which to save money for major future purchases. Ultimately, I believe that the day was not only beneficial for me, but also for the vast majority of the cohort. Adam Lawler

Enterprise Program - Boys Magazine

The following Enterprise Program allows young people to be innovative and enterprising individuals who are able to communicate and work effectively with their local, national and international community.

An enterprise project has been developed for Year 10 and 11 students to research, plan, design, produce and publish a boy’s magazine for the school community and beyond. Students will research their target audience and take ownership of the magazine’s layout, design, content, editing, printing and online publication and promotion. There will be a range of mentors for the students who will guide them through the various stages of development. These mentors will include a statistician, journalist, editor, publicist and graphic designer. The students will also build partnerships with business, industry, local government, Universities, TAFESA and community organisations.

The students’ involvement and ownership of this enterprise project will provide opportunities to manage their own learning and support them in their transition beyond school. Some of these skills are:
- Using initiative
- Being creative and innovative
- Positive and flexible
- Making decisions, solving problems, planning and organising
- Communicating and negotiating
- Managing resources and people
- Working collaboratively
- Collating and analysing data
- Reviewing and evaluating progress

This Enterprise Project links the curriculum to the world of work enabling students to network with businesses and develop key competencies and enterprising skills that promote lifelong learning.

Mrs Anna Mirasgentis
Executive Deputy Principal
From boys into Gentlemen

Blackfriars Priory School has engaged the services of internationally recognised image consultant Paul Giles. Paul has a wealth of knowledge in the fashion industry having spent 15 years as an international model and more recently Director of Style Shift, an image consultancy firm. Paul also writes a weekly column for the Advertiser Weekender Magazine.

Paul Giles gave a presentation to our Year 6 -12 students at Assembly on Monday 23 February. The interactive presentation covered the following topics:
- The importance of first impressions
- How to be a gentlemen
- Knowing yourself
- Tips on fashion
- Social Etiquette
- Confidence and image
- Style and men’s grooming
- The importance of role models for boys

The “Boys to Gentlemen” initiative is a holistic approach to educating boys that encompasses life skills in the areas of etiquette, confidence, image and styling.

As an ongoing commitment to develop polite and well-rounded young men the school will be engaging Paul’s quality services to work with specific year levels such as the Year 10 Personal Learning Plan (PLP). This subject focuses on supporting students to plan for their future beyond school through relevant topics such as personal reflection and analysis, career and pathway planning, job seeking skills and work experience. It will also support students who are studying Workplace Practices Stage 2 with structured work placements.

Further to work across the curriculum, Paul will also assist the boys’ social development and preparation for significant school events such as socials, formals and graduation ceremonies.

Blackfriars Priory School is excited to have formed this unique partnership with Paul Giles. This initiative will enhance our curriculum and wellbeing programs to provide our students with the essential skills and knowledge to positively contribute to society during and post school.

by: Dr Sean Mangan and Mrs Anna Mirasgentis

1. Lewis Barrington, Brayden Kirk, Paul Giles, David O’Loughlin, Emilio Lacar. 2. Emilio Lacar and Paul Giles
Blackfriars Early Learning Centre continues to offer quality care and education. Servicing over 100 families and with a staff team of 8 the Centre is at its capacity of 60 children per day.

**Curriculum Highlights**

Just before Easter we took charge of an incubator, 12 eggs and a couple of chickens. During the next 2 weeks the children excitedly observed the hatching of the eggs and the growth and development of the chicks. They lovingly fed, watered, cleaned and carefully held the babies. Observational drawings showed their understanding of growth, change and new life.

As part of our Science program the Centre borrows creatures from the Nature Education Centre. Each fortnight we exchange specimens. We have seen axolotyls, fish, finches, hopping mice and green tree frogs to mention just a few passing through our doors. Provocations (inquiry questions) revolve around life cycles, habitats, needs and care. Some creatures the children are able to hold and observe closely, others need to remain in their enclosures. Either way the children eagerly await the arrival of new exhibits. We really appreciate those parents who assist with the delivery to and from the Nature Education Centre.

Mrs Rodgers and the children have worked extensively to develop the ELC vegetable garden. It is truly a highlight of our work to see, smell, pick and taste the fruits of their labours. At the moment we have spinach, potatoes, carrots and snow peas. Brussel sprout seeds have also been planted in the ‘Garden Club’ area but are not quite ready to transplant into the actual vegetable garden as seedlings. We have also recently acquired more seedlings courtesy of Bunnings. These include beetroot, spring onions and herbs. They too will be planted out in the garden beds.

**Integration with school students and staff**

As part of the Pastoral Care and Wellbeing program both Mr Stanborough and Mr Knowles classes began a weekly interactive visit to the Early Learning Centre. The Year 8 boys were buddied with our children and assisted them to practice and accomplish the necessary skills to take part in the
Primary Sports Day. They have continued the weekly visits; now reading to children, constructing, playing games, experimenting, doing puzzles; all activities at which the ELC children can experience success. The older boys will then move on to design activities they can implement with their younger buddies. This interaction encourages our children to further explore relationships within the Blackfriars community and to develop meaningful mentor relationships with the older boys. The Year 8 boys take on a leadership/mentor role and experience success in the ELC. Those boys from the Early Learning Centre who will begin reception in 2016 will have another familiar face and friend they can turn to in times of need.

Mr Brickhill’s Year 12 Psychology class has begun a program of ‘observation’ in order to identify some of the concepts involved in learning “in context”. Some of his students will be observing and documenting whilst others will be actively taking part in experiences. We look forward to their visits.

This year Mrs Wilson has implemented a ‘Guided Inquiry’ session with one of our home groups each term. Term 1 saw her working with Mrs Ballestrin and the Purple Room. They began by looking at identity, progressed through individual interests and finished with fiction/non-fiction, with the purpose of encouraging children to make deliberate choice in their book selections.

This term she is working with Mrs Rodgers and the Yellow Room exploring children’s probing questions. After listening to the story “Questions, Questions” the children were asked to come up with their own questions to research. Hayley asked “Why do the waves bump into the sand?” Some time was spent thinking about where and how we can find information and new ideas.

“A clever professor” said Kiva
“Trying things out” said Max
“Sharing and showing” said Luca
They then proceeded to experiment with wind and water.

Next question is Gabby’s. “Why do people go under the waves?”

So many wonderful experiences and activities happen in the Early Learning Centre every day. Learning is everywhere. Participation is everywhere. Happy children are everywhere.

Mrs Karen McEntee
ELC Director
The 2015 school year began with 252 students enrolled in the Primary school with students placed in one of eleven classes from Reception to Year 6. We once again welcomed a number of new students and their families into the Blackfriars community.

House Captains

The 2015 House Captains were announced at a Primary Assembly on Friday 13 February.

Congratulations are extended to the following Year 6 boys who were elected by their peers as House Captains & Vice Captains:

Dowling - Blue:
- Captain – Charlie Griffin
- Vice Captain – Lewis Saint
Candler - Red:
- Captain – Lachlan Sewart
- Vice Captain – Kane Mareolas
Cussen - White:
- Captain – James Ellis
- Vice Captain – Will Abbott
Spence - Gold:
- Captain – Tommy Karamatic
- Vice Captain – Morteza Rahimi

Student Leaders

Congratulations are also extended to the following boys who were elected Student Action Council (SAC) Representatives for 2015. The boys represent their class and year level at meetings and provide an avenue for student voice in relation to issues around the school. This is a great example of student leadership and we look forward to real action created from the fortnightly meetings.

REC M
- Gheimi Adejoro

REC S
- Fletcher Wright

Yr 1
- Ben Glaister

Yr 2
- Max Bagnato

Yr 3
- Mahdi Mohammadi

Yr 3/4W
- Jack Hobdy

Yr 4H
- Ethan Renton

Yr 5L
- Matthew Vanderwoude

Yr 5NC
- Andre Fratini

Yr 6 VR
- Isaac Mazzachi

Yr 6 W
- Jose Ravida

National Young Leaders Day

On Tuesday 3 March ten Year 6 student leaders attended the National Young Leaders Day at the Adelaide Convention Centre. The day aims to inspire students to engage with learning about leadership in the hope that the students return to school knowing they can lead change in their community.

The theme for the day was “Nothing Significant, Enduring or Amazing Ever Began That Way”. A number of guest speakers shared their stories around this leadership theme.

The guest speakers were all from Adelaide and included:
- Andrea Boyd - International Space Station Flight Controller
- Rachael Leahcar - Musician
- Matt Cowdrey - Australian Paralympian
- Victoria Cox - Doctor and Young South Australian of the Year 2015
- The boys were undoubtedly inspired throughout the day and I know a highlight for them was meeting Rachael Leahcar!

Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Thursday evening 19 March, five students from the Primary school celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation at Rosary Church, Prospect. Congratulations is extended to the following boys:
- Sebastian Zajaczkowski
- Oliver Saint
- Anton Renna
- Hunter Griffiths
- Charlie Morkunas

Blackfriars was successful in its submission to participate in Catholic Education SA’s Oral Language Project. The project has enabled two Junior Primary teachers (Bianca Meus and Cara Oosterbaan) and their classes (Reception and Year 2) to work side by side with a speech pathologist (Naomi Bowering) to implement strategies to develop oral language skills which are critical in the formation of literacy success. The project will run for the entire 2015 school year with the Naomi visiting each class every fortnight.

Primary Sports Day

I wish to thank the Blackfriars Primary community for their great support on Friday 27 March at the annual Sports Day. I would particularly like to thank the parents who volunteered their time to work on stalls during the day and to all those parents who baked sweets for the cake stall. I also wish to acknowledge Mr Nick Cheary for his organisation which ensured the program ran smoothly throughout the day.

I congratulate Candler (Red Team) on their victory and Cussen (White Team) for winning the Spirit Shield. All teams were ably lead by their House Captains and Vice Captains.

Auskick

Our Auskick participants (from Reception to Year 3) were thrilled to play during the half time break of the recent Showdown between Port Adelaide and the Adelaide Crows. Thank you to Miss Bianca Meus, Miss Jessica Sullivan, Mr Henry Vo and all the parents for their support and obvious excitement!

Mr Todd La Forgia
Deputy Principal - Head of Primary
Pastoral Care

During Term 1, our Pastoral Care program focussed on the theme of ‘Belonging’. With so many new members joining our community, this theme was a great way for the new boys across the school to be welcomed to their new environment.

Throughout the term the boys were involved in a range of activities to develop:
• Their understanding of the Dominican Pillar of Community
• Their understanding of how the virtue of Charity is grounded in Community
• A sense of belonging to a range of groups; class, House, school, Dominican, family, sport
• An understanding of how they contribute to their communities
• Their understanding of the responsibilities inherent in being a member of a community

Both our Swimming and Athletics carnivals were also a great way for new boys to the school to feel part of their House and the spirit on each of the days was outstanding. Once again, it was a clean sweep to Burke House who won both the Swimming and Athletics carnivals.

School Camps

So far this year we have had two year levels spend time off-site in an outdoor education camp experience.

Our Year 8 boys travelled to Kangaroo Island for a 4 day/3 night camp. I was fortunate enough to join the boys this year and it was one of the best camps I have been involved in. The boys were outstanding and were involved in a range of activities such as adventure caving at Kelly Hill Caves, snorkelling and beach games at Stokes Bay and fishing and camping at Antechamber Bay. The boys were also involved in a day walk to Snake Lagoon and visited Admiral’s Arch and the Remarkable Rocks in the Flinders Chase National Park.

Early in Term 2, our Year 7 boys spent 3 days and 2 nights in the Adelaide Hills. One night was spent at the Douglas Scrub camp site in McLaren Flat and on the other night the boys camped overnight during a bushwalking expedition in Kuitpo Forest.

As well as the overnight expedition, where the boys cooked for themselves on Trangia’s, they were also involved in a High Ropes Adventure Course, Rock Climbing Wall, Billy Cart riding and team building problem solving activities.

Student Leadership

During Term 4 of 2014 we introduced our senior leaders for 2015 and held a student leaders planning day. The energy and enthusiasm of both our Prefects as well as House Captains was encouraging and it is pleasing to report that the quality of this leadership group so far in 2015 has been outstanding. Our 2015 senior leaders are:

Head Prefect: Andre Acuna,
Deputy Head Prefect: Adam Lawler

House Captains:
Aquinas: Joseph Monteleone
Burke: Zachary Rodriguez
Denille: Aladin Irabona
Devittoria: James Phillips
Horton: Yianni Sianis
Jarrett: Dion Lussetich
Lacordaire: Thien Vu
Lagrange: Liachlan Bolzon

Senior Leaders Formation Evening

On Friday 15 May our senior school leaders; Prefects and House Captains, were involved in a leadership formation evening with the senior leaders at St Dominic’s. This annual event is an anticipated event of on the calendar and the boys hosted the girls with aplomb. The evening started with a get to know you session and school tour at St Dominic’s followed by an equivalent tour of the Blackfriars campus. Following this the students enjoyed a shared meal in Frassati Hall before engaging in a leadership formation exercise.

The session was conducted by Mr Steve Lacey from Leading Teams. The Leading Teams model establishes a clear behavioural framework in order to enable open, honest and constructive dialogue to take place between members of the team in order to improve performance by increasing accountability.

During his workshop with the students Steve outlined through examples and interactive activities, that creating a high performing team is based on relationships and through developing a strong culture and agreed set of behaviours. The workshop helped the boys in their current role but also gave them an insight into leadership that they can carry with them into their lives after leaving Blackfriars.

Mr Lee Swiderski
Deputy Principal
Wellbeing and Administration
Blackfriars scores Valkanis as coach.

A star-studded line-up of soccer coaches, including former Socceroo and Adelaide United assistant coach Michael Valkanis, is hoping to give Blackfriars Priory School students that extra edge on local playing fields and beyond.

Valkanis joins Robert Matosevic and Ernie Luongo as coaches of the Blackfriars Soccer of Excellence Academy. Matosevic, whose sons attend Blackfriars, and Valkanis were officially welcomed to the Academy on April 30.

The pair, both educated at Catholic schools, said they were keen to take part in the Blackfriars Academy – an opportunity they would have relished at their own schools.

"Blackfriars is taking a tremendous step in giving students the opportunity to be educated and to play football in such a wonderful environment," said Valkanis. "I wish when I was in school that I had a soccer elective."

The soccer elective run by the Academy is offered to Year 9 and 10 students, while a soccer practical is available to students in Years 5 to 8. There are currently 120 students involved in the soccer program.

"We are aiming to have the best soccer program in the State," said Matosevic. "We’re looking to take them to another level."

Luongo, the school’s soccer director, said the academy started in 2012. He said soccer was a popular sport at Blackfriars, with 275 students in 13 school soccer teams equating to a participation rate of almost 30 per cent.

Luongo played for Adelaide City in the national soccer league and in Italy, has coached the Croydon Kings and Metrostars Football Club in the super league and has coached at training camps in America and Canada. Matosevic is currently the goalkeepers’ coach for Adelaide United and the U20 Australian Women’s National Team. Valkanis is assistant coach at Adelaide United, is a 100-game veteran of the sport, having played in the Greek league, the national soccer league and making his debut for Australia in an Asian Cup qualifier versus Kuwait in 2006.

Principal Dr Sean Mangan said the academy provided students with a wealth of expertise and training skills.

"The aim of the Blackfriars football program is to give our young players the best possible soccer training sessions and training environment to help improve their skill levels so that the boys can reach their full potential and perhaps represent the state or Australia in the future," he said.

Written by: Rebecca DiGirolamo, The Southern Cross

A Day to Remember

Much had already been spoken and written about Anzac Day and the 100th Anniversary of Gallipoli, when Blackfriars Priory School students and staff returned to school to commence Term 2 on 27 April.

The school community gathered on that day for an Anzac liturgy to reflect on the sacrifices of Australians who have fought in the many conflicts from Gallipoli to current day conflicts and to pray for peace in our world.

What made the Blackfriars liturgy so special was the involvement of two particular Blackfriars Old Scholars with quite different associations with the Australian Defence Forces.

Major Matthew Barletta returned to his alma mater having graduated in 2001. Matthew shared his experiences of his life and progression through the military ranks in the fourteen years since his graduation, having most recently been deployed in Afghanistan.

The second guest at Blackfriars was old scholar John Schumann. Having graduated in 1969, John quickly rose to prominence as a singer / songwriter, best known as lead singer of the band “Redgum” best known for their iconic war anthem “I was only 19”.

John’s life in music has become inextricably intertwined with the lives of military veterans returning from Vietnam leading to him being awarded an Order of Australia medal in 2014 not only for services to Australian music but also to the welfare of Australian military veterans.

The involvement of former students Matthew and John throughout the Anzac liturgy added gravity and significance to the occasion. It also brought the Anzac message closer to home to the one thousand plus Blackfriars students in attendance, who sat in absolute silence as John played and sang a haunting rendition of “I was only 19” at the conclusion of the liturgy.

The poignant liturgy, and the attendance of Matthew and John certainly made it day to remember, LEST WE FORGET.

1. Major Matthew Barletta. 2. trumpeters from the senior school band. 3. John Schumann performs his song. 4. A wreath in remembrance.
The Simpson Prize Success

Blackfriars’ South Australian Simpson Prize Winner 2015

Khuong-Daniel Nguyen, Year 10, is the South Australian winner of the prestigious National History Competition - The Simpson Prize.

Eight students are selected as Simpson Prize winners, one student from each Australian State and Territory to travel to Gallipoli to commemorate Anzac Day.

To win the prize Khuong – Daniel needed to write an essay last year while in Year 9, answering the following question:
To what extent did Australians enlist to serve the mother country, with the mother country being the British Empire?

Students were required to use three sources from a selection provided by the Australian War Memorial collection, combined with further research of their own to provide relevant and reliable evidence to argue their viewpoint and answer the question.

Khuong – Daniel’s prize included a trip to Canberra in March where he was officially presented with his prize, and participated in a number of tours which included the National War Memorial and Parliament House. Then during the April school holidays he travelled overseas to Turkey for 10 days touring Istanbul and then travelling to the Gallipoli Peninsula to take part in the Gallipoli Dawn Service and Lone Pine Memorial Service.

Mrs Kathleen Johnson
Sociocultural Curriculum Leader

The Simpson Prize Experience.

During the holidays, I managed to obtain a once in a life time experience of going to Turkey and Gallipoli, in time for the 100th anniversary of the campaign. At the beginning of our trip, our group met our Turkish guide and we took a cruise around the Bosphorus Strait where we saw the city skyline. Moreover, we found out that it actually is a borderline between Asia and Europe. Over the course of the next few days, we managed to visit several historical and religious locations in Istanbul such as the Hagia Sofia, the Blue Mosque, the Grand Bazaar and the Spice Bazaar.

After spending six days in Istanbul, my group then took a five hour bus ride to the Gallipoli peninsula. This location was also the site of historical naval and land operations. At our hotel in Gallipoli, we were also treated to sunset views over Greek islands which were once used as locations for hospitals in battles.

After this came the dawn service, a touching and fitting tribute to Australian and New Zealand soldiers from all wars. Many dignitaries such as Tony Abbott spoke during the service. This service combined with music from the army band and a sail past of naval ships resulted in moving and touching moments.

This service was then immediately followed by the Lone Pine service where I and several other Simpson Prize winners had the opportunity to read epitaphs of fallen soldiers. Moreover, I also had the chance to speak to Tony Abbott briefly prior to the service.

After this, we returned to Istanbul to buy some last minute souvenirs and postcards before returning home on 29 April.

Khuong Daniel Nguyen
Year 10
Music to our ears

The Music Department has seen a very positive start to 2015 with a great sense of enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by the Blackfriars Music Students and Music Community.

Music Camp

In Week 2 of the April School holidays, the Stage Band and Senior Vocal Group headed to Woodhouse Camp Site at Picadilly in the Adelaide Hills. We spent three days rehearsing and preparing for our tour to Generations in Jazz. Students worked extremely hard throughout long rehearsals and workshops with myself and Mr Charli Holoubek, as well as special guests who conducted sessions with the students. We did have some activity time, completing the team building obstacle course Challenge Hill as well as an orienteering course around the property. The camp concluded with a concert for parents on Wednesday and we were able to enjoy a shared lunch as a music community. I would like to sincerely thank all of the parents for their ongoing support and congratulate the students on their enthusiasm and commitment to our Music Program. I sincerely thank all of the parents for their ongoing support and congratulate the students on their enthusiasm and commitment to our Music Program.

Generations in Jazz

On Friday 1 May the Stage Band and Senior Vocal Group departed for their musical adventure to Mt Gambier. Each year, Blackfriars enters the national competition Generations in Jazz, which is one of the largest Jazz festivals in the world and in 2015 had a record of almost 4000 students participating. Aria award winning trumpeter player James Morrison is the Musical Director of the Festival and fronts many of the performances throughout the weekend. We experienced high energy and inspiring concerts on Friday and Saturday nights from James Morrison, Aria award winning the Idea of North, world wide band Hot Horn Happening and featured guests Grammy Award winning a capella group Take Six.

Throughout competition day, all Blackfriars students demonstrated a strong sense of spirit and pride for our school. They were very supportive of each other throughout their performances, as well as immersing themselves and socialising with students from other school’s across Australia.

On Saturday night, we were absolutely overjoyed when the Superband for Division 3 was announced and our very own Trombone player Gabriel Ngeno’s name was called out. Gabriel was 1 of 4 out of more than 150 other Trombonists who were selected to form the Superband. It is truly an outstanding achievement and I congratulate Gabriel on his dedication to the Music Program.

On Sunday after workshops, lunch and having our Music Captain’s band Midnight Divide perform on the Yamaha Stage, it was time to hear our results. In a tent holding almost 5 thousand people, we were ecstatic to hear “Blackfriars” announced when we placed 4th in our division for the Stage Band.

We had a very entertaining bus drive back to Adelaide, celebrating our success and excitement. It was wonderful to see the relationships and strong comradery formed amongst the group throughout the weekend. I would like to sincerely thank Mr Andrew Brickhill for accompanying us on the trip and being so supportive to us throughout the weekend.

I’d also like to acknowledge and thank Charli for his continued and tireless work with the Stage Band, thanks to Miss Stephanie Neale who accompanied the Senior Vocal Group in Mt Gambier and thanks to Marie Wohling for her constant support.

This term has also featured our first Music Soirée for 2015 which showcased the talents of our Blackfriars soloists, duets and small ensembles. It was a true demonstration of the variety of repertoire and musical success of our students.

The night was a great success and very well supported by parents, staff and friends. Our next Music Soirée will run in conjunction with the Senior Art Exhibition in Term 4.

We look forward to continuing our musical success and in the words of the recently passed Blues legend BB King “The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you.”

Miss Jessica Reppucci
‘Power of Persuasion’ as Blackfriars hosts sessions of the 2015 National Schools Debating Championships.

Principal, Dr Sean Mangan, said “The Blackfriars school community and indeed all participating schools were collectively in for an exemplary ‘power of words’ when we hosted the debating teams of SA v ACT along with last year’s winner NSW v Victoria on Monday 18 May 2015 as part of the 2015 National Schools Debating Championships.

Old Scholar, Hon. Jack Snelling MP, Minister for Health and the Arts, formally welcomed these debate rounds and re-created past debating history that records; “Jack Snelling, while a student at the school, was actively involved and a keen member of the Blackfriars School Debating Team.” Principal, Dr Sean Mangan, said.

Current Blackfriars SA Team Member, William Thomas, has been debating since Primary School and qualified for the State Team by attending weekend State Trials.

William’s outstanding form in the final series last year secured him a chance to be a part of the 2015 National Championships and William stated; “I’m excited to have participated in such a high calibre debate and to be challenged by our interstate peers.” “Being in the State team has given me the opportunity to learn amazing rhetorical devices and the art of persuasion.”

SADA hosted the Championships for the first time since 2009 and the tournament, held in Adelaide from 17 – 24 May, saw high school students from all states and territories debating political issues and current affairs. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and patron of the SADA, Chris Kourakis, officially opened the tournament on 17 May 2015 and the championships formed the selection process for the Australian Schools’ Debating Team, which will attend the 2015 World Schools’ Debating Championships in Singapore.

Principal, Dr Sean Mangan, commented; “Blackfriars has been associated with the South Australian Debating Association (SADA) for more than 30 years and over that period of time has actively participated in healthy debating competitions with so many schools throughout South Australia.” “This year’s competition involved the best student debaters from all over Australia and many visitors from our wider community attended and witnessed such a high standard of debating talent, from our nations young students, who perhaps will go on to be our countries future leaders in their chosen professions.”
Ecological Sustainability

Blackfriars is turning green.

Blackfriars Priory School students are hoping to turn a rocky garden bed into a flourishing piece of land sprouting edible indigenous plants as part of an ongoing school-wide conversion to ecological sustainability.

The all-boys school of 1000 students is developing the "sacred garden" at their Prospect campus this year as more and more Catholic schools across the State embrace the environmental focus of the Church’s past three Popes.

The garden will include vegetables, fruit trees and indigenous plants. The school’s Indigenous Focus Group last month began selecting the indigenous plants and trees that could be included.

Meanwhile Year 12 students will play an integral part in the design and construction of the project as part of the Religious Education curriculum.

Blackfriars Living Catholic key teacher Oreste Farrugia said established rose gardens at the school would make way for the new scared space, giving students a hands-on education in environmental care and permaculture.

"Students will learn that we are all connected now and forever to God’s creation," said Mr Farrugia.

"The garden will combine our call to be ‘stewards of creation’ with the permaculture principles of caring for people, caring for the earth and sharing the surplus," he said.

Mr Farrugia said students from the early learning centre through to Year 12, parents, old scholars and staff would be involved in preparing the garden beds, planting, harvesting and cooking.

He said harvested produce would be donated or sold, with generated funds returned to sustain the project. He said students could also use the garden’s produce to prepare soup for the needy.

The gardens’ first vegetables are expected around spring.

Earlier this year, Blackfriars joined the Ecological Conversion: Faith in Action Inquiry Project and Network – an initiative of the Catholic Education Office to encourage and support ecological program and activities. More than 20 primary and secondary Catholic schools are part of the network.

Written by: Rebecca DiGirolamo, The Southern Cross
Blackfriars Foundation’s next move.

With 2015 well and truly rolling along, the Blackfriars Foundation is continuing to build as a focal point for our broader Blackfriars community.

At our Annual General Meeting at the end of last year, all members of the Foundation Board were re-elected and office bearers returned in their respective capacities. This stability is significant as we continue to establish ourselves as the school’s primary fundraising body. It was also seen as important during the transition period that has seen new leadership, in Dr Sean Mangen, appointed as our new Principal.

As Foundation President, I have been meeting with Sean on a regular basis to ensure that the Foundation is working in harmony with the School Board to ensure that we continue to support initiatives that are in keeping with school’s aspirations. In matters closely related to this, on behalf of the Foundation I would like to congratulate David O’Loughlin on his appointment as Chair of the Blackfriars School Board. David’s appointment will further galvanise the link between the Foundation and School as he also holds the position as Vice-President of the Foundation.

Over the past few months, the Foundation has held two enormously successful Business Luncheons at the Caledonian Hotel. Each has been headlined by some fantastic guest speakers. Late last year we featured former Port Adelaide Football Club captain, Domenic Cassisi, and South Australian Minister for Sport, Tourism (and a couple of other things), Blackfriars Old Scholar, Leon Bignell; while in April we welcomed another former Old Scholar, Australian and South Australian cricketer, Calum Ferguson. Both events were over-subscribed and hence I encourage any member of our community wishing to link with businesses connected with the school to book early when the lunches are announced.

As you may already be aware, the Foundation’s major fundraising campaign of 2015 has recently been launched. The Primary School courtyard and playground area has been identified as being in need of an upgrade to enhance its use as a functional education space as well as a recreational one. This project is a natural follow-on from recent development at Blackfriars such as the development of the Early Learning Centre and the upgrading of our Primary School classrooms. As well as the elements of this project that will be easily seen above ground, crucial engineering work beneath the surface will be undertaken between the O’Hearn and Primary School buildings.

Concept drawings of the project will be available for the community to look over in the coming weeks along with some designers’ concepts. Much work is being done by Blackfriars Executive Deputy Principal, Anna Miragantis and the project subcommittee to ensure that the development is in line with the Reggio Emilia educational philosophy and reflects something of our Dominican heritage.

I hope that you will join me in supporting the Primary Precinct Outdoor Learning Project that will greatly enhance the Primary School environment as well as the educational opportunities for students from across all year levels today and into the future.

The Foundation will continue its support for Scholarships as part of the 2015 fundraising campaign. When the Blackfriars Old Scholars Association was established in the 1990s, support for Scholarships was at the heart of its purpose. The Blackfriars Foundation maintains this aim as a core element of our aims and objectives. If you would like to support the Scholarship program at Blackfriars, please indicate this as appropriate on your year’s donation slip. As an Old Scholar it’s been great to watch the progress of our two Blackfriars Old Scholars sporting clubs of late. After taking out the SAAFL Division 6 premiership last season, the Hounds footballers have made an impressive start after stepping up a division for the 2015 season. At the same time, the BOSA Soccer Club has established a magnificent new home base at Charles Cane Reserve on Churchill Road. As well as a great playing surface, the social facilities at the Club are among the best in the SA Amateur Soccer League. If you’re looking for something to do over a winter weekend, please consider supporting Blackfriars with a dose of really good quality local football or soccer.

Please keep an eye and an ear out for upcoming Foundation Events including reunions and the annual Wine & Cheese Soirée [coming up in Term 3]. These are publicised through The Optimist, Blackfriars Newsletter, on the school’s website and through Social Media channels. If you are an Old Scholar and want to make sure you don’t miss out on an invitation, please contact Jon Harmer at the school to check that we have your correct contact details on file. And if you know of any Old Scholars who are not receiving The Optimist, please ask them to pass on their details to Jon too so that we can add them to our mailing list.

I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming Foundation event soon and to your continuing support of Blackfriars through the Foundation.

Patrick Kelly
President Blackfriars Foundation
Blackfriars Old Scholars Football Club

Blackfriars Old Scholars Football Club buoyed by a brilliant 79-point victory over Rosewater in the 2014 SAAFL Division 6 Grand Final, has begun season 2015 in winning form.

The Hounds earned promotion to SAAFL Division 5 and 5R by winning the flag last season and have continued their dedicated approach in response to this new challenge. Great numbers during the pre-season training period primed the Hounds for three wins from three trial games in March and a flying start to the 2015 premiership season.

Returning players Luke Bortolotti, Matt Rivett and Andrew Constantinou have added depth and experience to the squad, as have new recruits Alex Bland and Aron Fechner, along the new generation of Hounds’ rookies including Locke Bayly, Matthew Milne, Anthony Strangio and David Russo.

This added depth has been particularly important following off-field retirement of a couple of Hounds legends. Brothers Mark and Andrew Demasi both announced their retirements during the off-season – Mark with seven goals in the 2014 Grand Final and Andrew as a three-time BOSFC premiership player and current club all-time leading goal kicker. Their retirements left some very big boots to be filled in the Hounds’ forward line. Travis Hillman, with 23 goals in the first seven rounds, Sam Horsell with 16, James Faik with 11, Jack Sandercock with nine and Matt Rivett with seven have all had a foot or two in those boots at times. Midfielders Matt Brincat, Phuoc Vo, Dylan Richardson and Aron Fechner, defenders Dan McKenna, Sam and Luke Murphy and upcoming ruckman Josh Holmes have all had impressively consistent starts to the season, in a season where all players have performed outstandingly well so far.

The Hounds won the first five games of the season (against Para Hills, Colonel Light Gardens, CBCOC, Elizabeth and Woodville South) by an average of 52 points, with an extremely hard-working, disciplined and skilful style of team football. A common factor in nearly all games this season has been a shared workload across the team and a very difficult job for those voting on best players, who have had the pleasant problem of too many deserving candidates to choose from.

A winning run of 19 straight victories (that began in Round 7 last season) was broken with a loss to our opponents from the 2014 Grand Final, Rosewater. However, the Hounds quickly returned to the winners’ list with a convincing 47-point win over Pulteney in Round 7 on May 23.

Round 3 heralded a historic moment for BOSFC when Co-captain Matt Brincat became the club’s first player to play 150 games in the black and blue. ‘Emu’ as he’s better known at the club, led from the front before a big home crowd in an Anzac Day Inter-Col clash of the Old Scholars variety against CBCOC. He was fittingly best on ground in our 53-point win. We hope Matt will be the first of many to join the 150 club for BOSFC.

BOSFC has welcomed inaugural and 2006-07 premiership coach John Belton back into the coaching fold this season. ‘Belts’ has taken the reins of the Hounds Reserves, who have been showing some strong signs of improvement this year, despite not getting the results on the scoreboard. With continued commitment and more games under their belts together, the club is confident the Reserves will be enjoying more wins in the second half of the season.

The club’s strong on-field efforts last season and to date in 2015 would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors and volunteers.

BOSFC would like to acknowledge and thank key sponsors The Wellington Hotel, Lucia’s Fine Foods, Prospect Village Meats, Signclass, Dulux AcraTex, JS Sports, Farmhouse Fresh & Sports Locker for their generous support.

Tom Zed
President, BOSA Football Club

1. BOSA A Grade Team. 2. Team celebrating another win. 3. Andrew Demasi, Michael Hogan, Tom Zed and Lee Swiderski.
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 Mens competitions and in 2015 has four teams competing in the following grades – Saturday Premier As, Saturday Premier Bs, Saturday Division 5 & Saturday Division 7.

For season 2015 the club has registered a record number of 80 playing members across the four divisions, of which 60% are Blackfriars old scholars with a further 240 non playing members who are predominately from the local Prospect or school community. This is a great indication of the strong relationship BOSA Soccer Club and the Blackfriars school community have forged over the past 18 years, which we are very proud of.

Building on a successful on-field winning culture created over 18 seasons, the club has won the following titles:
- SAASL Challenge Cup Winners: 2005
- Premier As League Championships: 2005 and 2013
- Premier Bs League Championships: 2013
- Saturday Division 5 League Championships: 2012, 2013, 2014

Off-field, having successfully acquired a new home base in the City of Prospect with a long-term lease of Charles Cane Reserve (Pardo Yertal) on Churchill Road Prospect, BOSA Soccer Club has been working tirelessly throughout the off-season renovating the existing clubroom facilities prior to kicking off the 2015 season. All members and supporters who have been at the clubs home games this season would all agree that we now have a fantastic facility we are so proud of and can call our home.

We believe this will provide BOSA Soccer Club’s playing and non-playing members, friends, families and the local Prospect community a long-term base that will enable the Club to continue to grow its culture and become the amateur league club of choice in South Australia.

None of this would have been possible without the generous support of our members and sponsors. A very special mention to the following people (whom are mainly old scholars) who we are so grateful to for the hard work, generosity, time and effort they have put into the new facilities:
- Mario Romaldi from Romaldi Constructions
- David D’Argenio from B&D Floors
- Paul Battistella from PAB Carpentry
- Frank Sergi from Sergi Plumbing
- Joe Marcucci & Marc Caperna - Electrical Contractors
- Ash Berbec from Exquisite Tiling
- Ray Esposito from SA Security Monitoring

BOSA Soccer Club would also like to sincerely thank the 2015 committee who have once again volunteered their time to ensure the off-field operations run smoothly and provide players and coaching staff the best opportunity to achieve BOSA SC on-field goals this year. We believe we have put in place a fantastic on-field administration and support to ensure on-field success and a club community we can all be proud of.

In addition, BOSA Soccer Club expresses its gratitude to Blackfriars Priory School for its support over the past 18 years, we are proud of our strong connection and relationship with the school community, and the fact that we continue to provide a footballing pathway for old scholars who want to continue to play at various levels once they have completed their Year 12 studies.

We look forward to all your support in helping 2015 be another very successful year for the mighty BOSA SC HOUNDS please join us to enjoy our new facility at Charles Cane Reserve

Follow us for up to date news, events, fixtures and results via our website (bosasc.com.au), Facebook page (facebook.com/bosasoccerclub), Twitter (@bosasc), Instagram (@bosasc) and Team App.

Bruno Giovannelli
President, BOSA Soccer Club
Blackfriars Priory School Old Scholar
Rohan Dennis 2015 Tour Down Under Winner

On behalf of the entire Blackfriars community, the Principal of Blackfriars Priory School, Dr Sean Mangan, proudly congratulates Old Scholar, Rohan Dennis on winning the 2015 Santos Tour Down Under and recently becoming a cycling world record holder. Rohan commenced his schooling at Blackfriars Priory School in 2005 and graduated in 2007 and was a keen participant of the school’s physical education and sporting programs. He was regarded by his teachers and his peers as a determined and capable student who had the ambition, focus and drive to become an elite cyclist.

Rohan who raced in front of a crowd of 115,000 fans can now boast a UCI World Tour victory after claiming the Santos Ochre Leader’s jersey by a two-second margin over Tasmanian Richie Porte. It was a deserved win for the 24-year-old who has won world titles on both the road and on the track as well as Commonwealth and Olympic Games silver medals in his short career.

Soon after the Tour Down Under win in January Rohan Dennis achieved the UCI World Hour Record in Switzerland on 9 February 2015. Rohan broke the existing record set by Austrian Mathias Brändle by a whopping 639 metres.

Blackfriars Priory School recognises this outstanding achievement and the achievements of all our Old Scholars who have made significant contributions to community, parish and family life. Our school, through Mr Jon Harmer, (long standing teacher and water polo coach) has been and will continue to be, in contact with Rohan and his family and they were delighted to see Blackfriars Priory School’s continued recognition of Rohan.
John Schumann

John Schumann graduated from Blackfriars Priory School in 1970 and we are proud to acknowledge John’s outstanding contributions to Australian music and culture. John is one of the very few songwriters who has changed the way a nation thinks. Accordingly, he holds a distinguished place in the Australian music industry.

Best known, perhaps, for his leadership of the legendary folk-rock band Redgum, and his Vietnam veterans’ anthem, “I was only 19”, John Schumann first came to national attention in 1980 as Redgum’s lead singer-songwriter.

In the ensuing years John Schumann recorded nine albums and, with Redgum, toured the UK, Europe and Ireland where his songs are still played.

In 27 years in Australian music, as a member of Redgum and as a solo artist, John Schumann has received almost every award the industry has to offer – some twice over.

Prior to going professional with Redgum, John Schumann taught English, Drama and Outdoor Education at Marion High School in South Australia. On leaving the band in 1986, he worked in radio and television before specialising in media and marketing-communications. John also held senior executive positions in the SA Tourism Commission and the Department for the Arts and Cultural Heritage.

In 1998 until 2001, John’s passion for social justice and the environment led him into mainstream politics. In the 1998 federal election he took the Minister for Foreign Affairs down to the wire in the seat of Mayo, reducing Mr Downer’s blue-ribbon margin from 16% to 1.7%.

John Schumann campaigned for three weeks only. The count took 12 days. Described recently by rock historian Glenn A. Baker as “one of the finest songwriters this country has produced”, John’s songs have been paid the ultimate compliment by becoming the property of the people and the country they were written about. His lyrics are on reading lists in schools, colleges and universities throughout Australia.

John Schumann lives in Adelaide with his family where he runs his own strategic communications company.

Military College - Duntroon in 2005. Graduating into the Royal Regiment of Australian Artillery, Major Barletta’s first posting was to the 103rd Medium Battery, 8th/12th Medium Regiment as a Lieutenant where he commanded a Gun Troop and subsequently a Combined Platoon as part of the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands during 2006/2007. Major Barletta commanded the 103rd Medium Battery Command-Post as the Gun Position Officer and subsequently a small Joint Fires Team as a Forward Observer / Joint Terminal Attack Controller. Major Barletta spent his first four years as a Lieutenant enjoying the tropical climate of the 1st Brigade in Darwin.

In 2009 Major Barletta was promoted to Captain and deployed as a Forward Observer / Joint Terminal Attack Controller to Afghanistan with the 1st Mentoring Reconstruction Task Force. In 2010 Major Barletta posted to the 4th Field Regiment, 3rd Brigade, Townsville, where he was employed as the Assistant Operations Officer, re-deploying to Afghanistan in 2011 as the Deputy Chief Joint Fires for the 2nd Combined Team Uruzgan rotation. In 2012 upon returning from Afghanistan, Major Barletta was posted to the Royal Military College – Duntroon as an Instructor and Field Training Package Master. During this time he was identified as the Royal Australian Artillery Student of Merit on his Combat Officer’s Advanced Course. In 2014 Major Barletta posted to Headquarters 1st Division / Deployable Joint Force Headquarters in Brisbane where he was employed as Aldé-de-Camp to the Commander, Major General Stuart Smith, DSC, AM.

At the commencement of 2015 upon promotion to Major, Major Barletta was selected as the Battery Commander of the 104th Battery, 1st Regiment, Royal Australian Artillery where he still resides.

Major Barletta hopes to be selected for attendance at Command and Staff College in 2017 and aspires to Command an Artillery Regiment.

Major Barletta and his wife Karen have a nine month old daughter named Katie.

Major Matthew Barletta

Having received an ADFA scholarship whilst completing his SACE at Blackfriars Priory School in 2001, Major Barletta joined the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) in 2002. Major Barletta graduated ADFA with a Bachelor of Science before attending the Royal
Passing of two old Scholars

Whilst the passages of time has resulted in the unfortunate passing of numerous former students of Blackfriars, it was particularly sad for our school with the recent passing, on two consecutive days, of two Blackfriars old scholars who had particular significance in the history of our school.

On 18 March, Blackfriars old scholar Mr David Harnett passed away at the age of 57. David died tragically in a surfing accident. David was a very popular figure at Blackfriars as a member of the group affectionately known as the "Gawler boys". At a time when our school community was significantly smaller, a relatively large group of students would travel from Gawler and Elizabeth to attend Blackfriars. The "Gawler boys" embraced life at Blackfriars with great vigour, enjoying the opportunity to study and participate fully in the school's co-curricular program, despite the time and distance travelled on the Gawler train on a daily basis to do so. David was a leader among this group. Co-incidentally, a large picture of David featured on the front cover of the 1974 Blackfriars Yearbook. A framed copy of the yearbook was presented to the Harnett family at David’s funeral. As a mark of respect to his family David’s funeral was attended by three Blackfriars students and two members of staff. Our thoughts and prayers are with David and his family.

On 19 March Blackfriars old scholar, Mr John Haines passed away at the age of 75. John was one of the first two boys to enter Blackfriars on Day 1 February 10 1953. John was subsequently involved in a re-enactment of that day with his former schoolmate John Robbins as part of Blackfriars’ 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2003. John was a very proud member of our community. His pride in his significant role in the history of Blackfriars was mentioned in his funeral service. As a mark of respect to his family Johns funeral was attended by three Blackfriars students and three members of staff. A framed picture of John’s famous entry to the school was placed on his coffin. Our thoughts and prayers are with John and his family.

Mr Jon Harmer
Community Relations Officer / Foundation

Nasir Ali Anwari

Nasir Ali Anwari was a much respected member of the Blackfriars and Afghan community in Adelaide who we dearly miss since his unfortunate passing on Christmas Eve in 2014. Nasir Ali grew up in Quetta, Pakistan and came to Australia in 2012. He had a strong network of family and friends in Pakistan which he managed to maintain and loved cricket and his motorbike, which he polished with great care each day. Before being sponsored to come to Australia by his father, Nasir Ali was the head of the family and had significant responsibilities in ensuring his mother’s and sibling’s wellbeing. He completed Year 12 in Pakistan and was working in the export/importing industry. Through this he had the opportunity to travel around the Middle East and experience a range of cultures and lifestyles.

In Australia, Nasir Ali made strong friendships. Although Nasir Ali spent only a short time at Blackfriars he was much loved and respected by his peers and teachers. He worked part time in a restaurant on Prospect Road and aimed to finish year 12 and pursue a career path in IT. He was an active and fun-loving person. Everyone respected him because he was quiet and good natured and always had good advice to give. He wanted to be a good role model for his younger siblings and demonstrated great respect for his family. He was much loved by his mother and father because of his level of responsibility and commitment and for the sacrifices he made to his family.

Ali Hassan Hussaini
Class of 1995
20 Year Reunion

The class of 1995 gathered for their 20 year reunion on Friday 15 May. Particular thanks to Tom Zed and Marcello Caiazza for their help in coordinating the evening.

1. Proud Graduates! The class of 95 pose for a group reunion shot. 2. 95ers enjoying their meals at the Wellington Hotel for their 20 Year Reunion. 3. Old Scholars Quentin Fogg, his wife Cara (L) and 95 schoolmates Marco D’Agostino flew from Melbourne for the reunion. 4. Members of the “Class of 95” reminisce and relive memories as they view copies of the 1995 Blackfriars magazine.

Class of 2005
10 Year Reunion

An enthusiastic group of 40 plus old scholars gathered at school and then at the Wellington Hotel for their 10 year reunion in March. The “Class of 2005” proudly accepted the mantle of single biggest reunion group thus far. Well done guys!

Special thanks to Ben Thorn for his hard work in assisting to organise the reunion.

1. Principal Dr Sean Mangan introduces himself to some of the old scholars at the pre tour drinks and nibbles in the staff room. 2. Michael Gallek gleefully ‘reacquaints’ himself with the favourite seat where he and his school mates sat in 2005. 3. The class of 2005 were well represented for the post tour reunion at the Wellington Hotel. 4. Members of the 2005 Reunion group gather in front of ‘St Albert’ after their tour.
Inaugural Old Scholars Christmas Reunion

The Inaugural Old Scholars Christmas Reunion was held at the Caledonian Hotel at 3.00pm Christmas Eve last year. The concept of a Christmas Reunion gained momentum as an increasing number of Old Scholars had expressed disappointment of being unable to make events during the year. They were however home from interstate and overseas for Christmas. Please “spread the word” for December 24, 2015.

1. The raffle is drawn. Grant Price, back from Dubai and Michael Boddington. Back from Beijing pick a lucky winner. 2. Old Scholars Paul Ingram, Julian Stefani, Jack Turnbull and Patrick Hickey “catch up.” 3. Old Scholars All – John McGovern (far left) and Gerard Slade (far right) with brother Michael and Stephen Boddington who returned from overseas for Christmas. 4. Old Scholars Tony Harford, Terry Lewis, Tony Mahoney and past parent David Horsell at the reunion.

Inaugural Blackfriars Foundation Lunch

The Inaugural Blackfriars Foundation Business Lunch was held at Barton’s Restaurant North Adelaide on Friday 21 November 2014.

The lunch brought together a wonderful mix of old scholars, staff, parents and friends. Guest speakers, Old Scholar Leon Bignell, State Member for Mawson, and former Port Power Football Club Captain Dominic Cassisi, entertained the audience with a mix of anecdotes and information about their respective careers.

The event proved to be an excellent opportunity for numerous businesses which have connections with Blackfriars to network and build their business contacts in a very relaxed luncheon environment. Feedback from the Business Lunch were “it has been excellent, and no doubt the event will be a pre-cursor for many more to come.”

1. Leon Bignell, Blackfriars Foundation President Patrick Kelly and Dominic Cassisi. 2. Guest Speaker Dominic Cassisi addressing guests. 3. Guest Speaker Leon Bignell. 4. Guest enjoying proceeding at the Inaugural Business lunch.
Class of 2014 1 Year Reunion

On Monday 16 March the ‘Class of 2014’ were invited Back to Blackfriars for a one year reunion. The night was very successful with a large percentage of the ’14 cohort in attendance having the opportunity to meet with new Principal, Dr Sean Mangan.

The boys shared many and varied stories of where their post Year 12 journeys have taken them thus far. From the school’s perspective the event provided the opportunity to impress on this group, our youngest group of old scholars, that they are still very much part of the Blackfriars community. Those in attendance enjoyed the pizzas and drinks provided, whilst partaking in some table tennis, bocce and a brief quiz.

Thank you to those boys who assisted with the event and to those members of staff who attended.

Blackfriars Foundation Business Lunch 2

Following the very successful "inaugural Foundation Business Lunch" it was decided to conduct another Lunch early in 2015. On Wednesday 15 April, a group of 55 Old Scholars and associates of Blackfriars gathered at the Caledonian Hotel. Old Scholar and leading South Australia Redback Cricketer Callum Ferguson was guest speaker for the lunch. Callum was fantastic, captivating the audience with numerous stories and then very generously staying to mingle and chat with everyone during and after lunch.

The foundation Business Lunch was once again acclaimed as a huge success. If you have not been to one yet – keep an eye out for our next one on Friday 27 November at the Caledonian Hotel.

1. Old Scholar Joe Calabria, Frank Zappia and Sam Bridgewood catch up at the lunch. 2. Guest speaker Callum Ferguson, fields guests from Master of Ceremonies, Jon Harmer. 3. Callum Ferguson (Right) chatting with his former teacher at Blackfriars, Mr Marcus Trimboli. 4. Staff members Carl Todman and Gerard Leahy with Old Scholar and BOSA Football club President Tom Zed.
WINE & CHEESE soirée
Saturday 5 SEPT
for details & bookings visit bps.sa.edu.au

Upcoming School Tours

Thursday 6 August
Thursday 3 September
Tuesday 15 September
Wednesday 14 October
Thursday 5 November
Thursday 26 November