Cover: Hands across Zambia

Editor’s Note: The aim of the newsletter is to keep you informed of life at Pulteney. I value your input so if you have any articles or suggestions, please contact me on 8216 5504 or by emailing mark.bourchier@pulteney.sa.edu.au Advertising in news@pulteney is limited to members of the school community. Many of those who advertise are generous sponsors of the School and I would encourage you to support their businesses if the opportunity arises. Mark Bourchier

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“When planning for a year, plant corn, when planning for a decade, plant trees. When planning for a lifetime, train and educate people.”

Inspire, Challenge and Empower

The sentiments expressed by Confucius are appropriate to the historical and current circumstances of the School. For a School with such history, yet extending its outlook, the education for students has always been for a lifetime. In the much-anticipated, and recent information presentations for parents, the staff and the community, four key aspects of the School’s near future were outlined.

The four aspects included the School’s response to:
- the parent survey of last term,
- an update on the internationally-foocussed adventure learning program,
- the intentions for a BYOD (bring your own device) technology environment, and
- the plans for phased capital works over the next handful of years.

Each aspect has arisen from the centrality of the strategic plan, 2012-2016. In specific terms, there are fourteen priorities relating to capital works! Moreover, our strategic plan, for recall, commences with a statement of purpose: “Pulteney Grammar is a vibrant city school which inspires, challenges and empowers young women and men to achieve their full potential in life.”

In striving to fulfill the School’s purpose, three guiding principles are also applied:
- to inspire,
- to challenge and
- to empower the students of the School.

Therefore, the public presentations were framed by the strategic plan, our School purpose and the three guiding principles. The outcome is that the words of Confucius continue to define an education for a

Pulteney student. In Pulteney terms, Canon Ray’s summary of Pulteney’s origins under E.K. Miller in 1847, stated “…every child’s mind is kept occupied during the whole of the school time.” The intention, in our times, is to extend the students beyond their school time too!

Parental Survey

In asking the parents to respond to the present status of the School, seven questions provided the insight. Among the responses to questions it is clear that the quality of teaching, the academic results and the value of the School community are keenly sought. Therefore, while the overall rating of the School led to 94% of the 219 responding parents rating the School either a 7, 8, 9 or 10, from then there is acceptance that certain areas can be improved. For example, questions, such as, “if you were Principal for a day what one thing would you change?” gave a response “there’d be a lot more than one!” However, what gained more universal support were the responses to the qualities a Pulteney graduate should exhibit? If I were to encapsulate the responses a number of key qualities are offered: confident, determined, empathetic, global-minded, happy, humble, holding integrity, kind, learned, motivated, resilient, resourceful, a sense of community.

Adventure Learning Program

Adventure learning at Pulteney has a foundation with the year level camps, commencing in the Prep and well supplemented in the unique Venture Club. More recently, David Andrewartha’s own adventurous spirit has led to the Pulteney Challenge and participation in the Hillary Challenge inter-state. More recently, the well-reported international trips to Nepal and Zambia have followed with the outreach by Pulteney students and staff aiding communities in each of those countries. The return of Ishwor Ghimere from Kathmandu to complete his senior studies at Pulteney is a genuine sign of the global nature of our times. Imagine, then, the return of ten Zambian students in 2014? Such expansive programs are only possible due to the preparedness of staff and parents to support the life-changing experiences of travel with giving at its core.

BYOD

The pervading influence of technology in the education of students continues to re-shape teaching and learning. The digital age, its transportability, access to abundant knowledge and its first reference to many students necessitates the School’s judicious direction to the way technology supports learning. The introduction, from 2014, of a progressive roll-out of support for students to bring their own computing devices to School is one response. The importance to ensure that the curriculum and teaching capabilities enhance learning, however, remains immovable. Good teaching, no matter the technical support, cannot be supplanted. Nonetheless, the scope of enriched learning capable of being provided through technology is appealing and necessary as students of 2014 learn for an age that is their own.

Capital Works

The fourth item presented in recent times was the most appealing array of capital works projects that the Board is committing much time and energy towards. A series of projects commencing with a major overhaul of the Gilles Street buildings in 2014 results in the senior school students of Years 10, 11 and 12 finding themselves in a new home. The re-location of one ninety students allows for the relocation of the School Reception, Principal’s office, Business and Community Relations offices to Wheaton House, accompanied by the Learning Support rooms move to the Nicholls building before the major South Terrace development occurs in late 2015. Not to be outshone, Adelaide City Council’s new master plan provides the School with a possibility for a long sought-after pavilion on the Parklands.

One can but dream!

I commend this latest edition of the News@Pulteney to you and convey my gratitude to Bob Gigney, Mark Bourchier and the many contributors to this outstanding publication.

E.A. Groughan
Board Chair’s Address

Pulteney students and families, staff, distinguished guests, Principal Dr Eddie Groughan and fellow Board members.

What a big year it has been at Pulteney!

A Vibrant Learning Environment

It all started shortly after our last Speech Night with the announcement of what has been described as the best set of Year 12 results ever. By whatever measure you wish to apply, the academic outcomes were truly a credit to the Class of 2012, their teachers and all who supported them through their educational journey.

We have had a new cohort of leaders and students at the senior end of the School in 2013. I am sure they have acquitted themselves as well as their predecessors, and are prepared for the next stage of their life’s journey.

On behalf of the Board and the whole school community, I congratulate all our graduating students of 2013 and wish you well in whatever path you have chosen.

As the Board of Governors of your school, we are charged with furthering the objects of the school as outlined in our Constitution; the predominant one of which, for me, is to encourage each student to develop his or her academic, moral, spiritual and physical abilities so that he or she is adequately prepared for entry into higher educational institutions or vocations.

Now, the language might be a bit olde worlde – but it is not bad for a Constitution – and it is a pretty good point of reference.

This object challenges us as a Board to always think about how we ensure we have a focus on all components – the academic, the moral, the spiritual and the physical – without an undue obsession with one at the expense of others.

So, as proud as we are of 5 students with an ATAR over 99 and 45 over 90, and 40% of all subject results being an A, (and we are very proud!) the Board is keen to ensure we have a comprehensive understanding of what success means for a Pulteney student – covering each area of the object of our charter. We need to ensure that we have measures of success for our academic outcomes, particularly for those students seeking higher education entry, AND we need to know that those students seeking vocational pathways are also succeeding. Not to mention ensuring that we are improving and succeeding on the sporting field and in our creative endeavours as we seek to grow and develop outstanding human beings, ready to provide leadership to our community and the world.

The variety and breadth of learning at Pulteney never ceases to amaze me – both as a parent, and as a Board member. The effort expended by the School’s leadership to continually improve our students’ learning is enormous – whether it is improved coaching...
of sporting teams, development of programs to increase self-awareness and knowledge of our world, providing assistance with reflection and learning or teaching fundamental underpinnings of education. We certainly employ great teachers and educators who enable us to be a great school and on behalf of the whole school community I thank you for your dedication.

Build and Maintain Great Facilities

The Board has spent a significant amount of time and effort in 2013 on the facilities of Pulteney.

Those at last year’s Speech Night may recall an announcement of the Board’s intention to begin planning for the construction of a building on South Terrace housing, amongst other things, an Auditorium and Arts precinct. Almost as soon as this had been announced, an opportunity came up for us to complete one of our real estate gaps in the school by buying a property on Gilles St.

Now that we owned the entire strip of Gilles St from Symonds Place to Osmond St, the Board felt the most important component of the Master Plan to proceed with was the building of a purpose designed teaching and learning space for our Year 11s, and 12s. While the outcomes of 190 have been fantastic, the responsibility of the Board is to ensure that the physical space enables and maximises the chances for outstanding learning outcomes – academic, moral, spiritual and physical.

From 2015 our senior students and their teachers will have an outstanding facility – flexible, open, integrated and purpose built learning spaces. And all close to The Wave.

In 2014, the Board, with senior staff, will also conduct a complete review of the Master Plan for facilities development of the School to ensure we are ready to continue improving the physical environment of Pulteney.

Supporting our facilities development, as well as our vibrant learning environment, there has been a significant investment in ICT during 2013. The federal government’s investment in technology in schools comes to an abrupt conclusion at the end of this year. We have readied ourselves for the introduction of BYOD in 2014. There is nothing revolutionary in this; many of you would be aware that it is a strategy being adopted in many schools who wish to see technology continue to grow as an tool to assist with educational. The Board certainly hopes that its investment in data storage, wireless coverage and infrastructure will never be noticed by staff or students. As is the case with all technology – we only notice it when it doesn’t work.

Exude an Inclusive Community Spirit

There can be no doubting the community spirit of our school. When we were interviewing prospective principals earlier this year, we asked “why do you want to be the next Principal of Pulteney?” Many of them made comment about the strength and sense of community that makes our school stand out.

We have seen that again in spades this year – from the Long Lunch to the myriad of other social functions, but also in the way our students engage in the life of the city and their community; exuding a sense of inclusion and service.

The desire to be more engaged and have a better understanding of what is going on behind the scenes at Pulteney is a logical extension of this. The Board received feedback that there was a desire from at least sections of our community, to have a better understanding of issues, directions and strategies being adopted by the Board.

As a response to this, Board members have emerged from their cloak of invisibility and anonymity and are identified on the website, I have begun providing a report to the community in the PRW following each Board meeting, and the Board and the Principal hosted an information session for parents, outlining our progress on a number of strategic items, explaining future directions, and giving opportunity for question and comment.

We will continue to build this engagement in 2014.

Be Financially Strong and Efficient

Our state’s economy continues to be challenging, as does the nation’s. We see this reflected in enrolment statistics.
The last few years have seen Pulteney increase enrolments at a greater rate than any other high fee independent school in Adelaide. Along with our competitors, we have seen that growth stop dead in 2013. Enrolments in Independent schools across Australia have increased 30% since the year 2000 and we have certainly played a part in that growth, however, in a sign of the economic times, even our enrolment growth has absolutely flat lined this year.

The Board understands, from personal experience, that many families make real sacrifices to send their children to Pulteney. I am pleased to report that we finish the year in a very sound financial position indeed, having held our enrolment numbers firm.

In 2013, we have been able to pay off the remaining debt carried from the build of both the McKinnon Building in Kurrajong, as well as the last of the debt relating to the Robert Henshall Sports Centre.

This puts us in a very strong position, not only to finance the multi-million dollar senior school building in 2014, but our next priorities to enhance the facilities at Pulteney.

To assist with ensuring our long term financial security, just today, the Board and the Old Scholars Association executed Deeds agreeing to the merger of the Old Scholars Foundation and the Pulteney Foundation. This will transfer the capital of the Old Scholars Foundation into the Pulteney Foundation and provide a single, focussed corpus of funds to be used for the benefit of the entire school community.

Whilst not show stopping in itself, this is an important part of the Board's strategy to ensure the long term financial stability of the School.

I acknowledge and thank David Griffiths and his Old Scholars Association Committee as well as the Trustees of both Foundations, for their collaboration, vision and commitment to seeing this important step taken.

Leadership

All of which I have spoken tonight is absolutely important. However, the most fundamental and significant responsibility held by a School Board is the employment of its Chief Executive – our Principal.

Unfortunately, we were required to exercise that responsibility in 2013 when Eddie Groughan indicated his intention to resign as Principal of Pulteney.

Eddie has accepted a great career and lifestyle opportunity, and we wish him, Krysty and their family warm wishes for their life in Queensland.

Eddie has been at Pulteney for a relatively short four years. In that time, however, he has left his mark. This is the time that we outstripped all other high fee schools in enrolment improvement. This is the time when the Arts received unprecedented support – and demonstrated outstanding improvement and contribution – as we have and will bear testament to this evening. This is the time when our senior staff have had unparalleled opportunity to explore the offerings of other schools around the country as a means of pricking their imagination and challenging how they intend to enable outstanding learning for Pulteney students.

Eddie's influence has also been felt right through the student body. Student sentiment was summed up beautifully by the students of 2P in Kurrajong at last week's Christmas concert where the following story was told by Abbey Wilkinson:

Once upon a time there was an awesome principal called Dr Groughan. He was not too strict, not too soft but juuuuust right! One day he got a job at another school in Queensland. All the school were sad to see him go. "He is an epic principal!" shouted the children. The school wished him and his family good luck for the future and hoped that he will come back to visit us one day. The end.

Eddie, on behalf of the entire school community I thank you for all you have brought to Pulteney, and for the legacy you leave. Be assured of our good wishes as you embark on the next stage of your career, life and family journey.

So, out with the old and in with the new.

In 2014, Pulteney welcomes Mrs Anne Dunstan as our 19th Principal.

Anne has already captured the imagination of the Pulteney community with the early engagement she has had. She brings a broad experience across a number of Independent and Government schools, having held numerous leadership positions. Although currently in Tasmania, this appointment is a homecoming for Anne and her family. The Board looks forward to an exciting time ahead as we push new boundaries and seek even better outcomes for our students.

The Board will host a welcome and commissioning event for the new Principal early in the new school year – no doubt with considerable assistance from the Friends of Pulteney. The entire school community will be welcome.

Thanks

There is one other person I would like to acknowledge tonight, even though she is not an employee directly responsible to the Board.

Mandy Hore leaves Pulteney after a total of 21 years service; the last few as Deputy Principal. Mandy has been on a year's leave of absence this year working with the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia and in 2014 she takes up the role of Deputy Principal at Saint Peter's Woodlands, at a time where that school is planning some significant development.
On two occasions, Mandy has served for a term as Acting Principal of Pulteney, a role that she has fulfilled faithfully and most capably.

While Eddie will speak further of Mandy, on behalf of the Board, I offer a heart-felt thank you for your service and leadership to this school, and wish you well for your own career ahead.

In closing, I want to acknowledge all of my colleagues on the Board. This year we welcomed Brooke Willshire, Colin Dudley and Deb Fyfe to Board membership. I thank them and all existing members for their outstanding and collegiate service to the school. Early morning and Friday evening meetings do not dampen the commitment of your Board members, all of whom give freely of their scarce time and their abundant talents.

I thank all the staff of the school who provide support and advice to the Board and its committees. And I thank those additional community members who serve as members of Board sub-committees.

I thank my own family for their forbearance and tolerance of my Pulteney time.

Finally, I reiterate my thanks and appreciation to all who make this a great school by entrusting the education of your children to it. I wish you all a wonderful Christmas season. Enjoy the break, and look forward to another busy year in 2014.

Thank you.
Principal's address

And so this evening approaches an end.

Good evening Pulteney students, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, colleagues.

In each of my previous three Speech Night addresses I have spoken upon people.

I have spoken of eminent Old Scholars: Charlie Gardner, Roneal Naidu, Ted Mullighan and Brian Fenn. I could add in Sam Leaker tonight, too, for all the functions we hold behind Allan Wheaton House in the courtyard bearing his name.

I have spoken of the outstanding calibre of students. To emphasise my point, I recall one favourite story of a prospective parent who became a parent. He arrived for a Principal’s tour in his work shorts, safety vest and boots. He heard the speeches and enjoyed the preliminary hospitality. On the tour he happened to meet a Year 10 class coming the opposite direction. They merged at a door and as he arrived first he held the door open for the passing students. He was sold on the School when every single student thanked him. This is the School we all share where common courtesy, respect and consideration must always abide.

For the Year 12s recall, especially, I spoke, previously, of Ollie Poole, who would, cheekily I imagine, have been among you tonight. I also recall, with fondness, Tom Weeks.

Yet, we are here tonight as a School to commemorate the school year of 2013 in their absence. In the absence, too, of many who have called Pulteney home since 1847.

In the School’s illustrious history many mornings commenced with a “muster”. All students would assemble in our beloved Quad, in diligent lines, while names were called and each student dutifully replied “present Sir.” Those school days are memories as, too, are the lives of all but those students who wear the Pulteney uniform here this evening or throughout this year past.

I speak of people...

For it is not buildings that make a school, for they are mere shells without the scuff and shrill laughter of young people.

It is not reputation that makes a school, for that may wax and wane like a tide.

Nor is it affluence, or parsimony, that define the inherent wealth of a school. Wealth can be but a material thing that has no worth without meaning.

In my contemplation it is people, their passage through the school as students, as parents, as staff, as Old Scholars and friends that remains an absorbing constant.

I stand here this evening and see all around me those people who make Pulteney the school that it is in 2013. A school that is welcoming, accepting, honourable, tolerant, fair, mostly fun, prepared, sincere, and most necessarily, wishing to make a difference in the lives of the children and young adults who are students. It is, of course, not without blemish nor is its Principal. However, it is a school, in its greater complexity, that we can all be proud to be a part.

Appropriately, I take this moment to thank my colleagues for their endeavour and care for all those they seek to better by their influence. As Barry Lopez might suggest, ‘we lean into life as we might be buffeted by a wind of sometime contradiction.’ We remain a school, not an enterprise, people not objects, seekers of fulfillment, not solely success.

For the Year 12s, I thank you for your year. For the leadership of Julie, Jenny and Apostoli we have been enriched by your calming influence, compassion and generosity of spirit.

I make mention, too, of the fourteen students who commenced in ELC and Reception: Henry Burford, Harry Deadman, Jack Franklin, Jack Holmes, Harris Jessen, Apostoli Kikianis, Josh Kurpita, Tom Laity, Richard Mammone, Sarah Oliver, Max J Peters, Stewart Sanson, Charlotte Sexton and William Tolliday.

I hope you, and your fellow Year 12s, as Nicole Laughton, Max C Peters and Greta Stark recently sang at the Valediction, “had the time of your life.”

We might agree with Josh Carver’s reasoning, as the guest speaker at the Valedictory Dinner, “that School days are truly the best days of your lives, for you spend each and every day with your friends.”
There has been much that inspires the School.

In the days of 2013, students enjoyed the company of their friends, for example, as they ventured to the contrasting, yet beguiling, worlds of Nepal, Zambia, Japan and Germany, or to the sites, such as, the Belanglo National Park for the Hillary Challenge and Kangaroo Island for the Year 7 camp. The students toured Sydney, as bands and ensembles, or played cricket, netball and softball in Perth, and also swam in the pristine waters of the Indian Ocean on Rottnest Island.

With friends, students paraded in Wyatt Hall in Book Week, sang together at the Kurrajong Christmas carols or the Preptacular. Students performed, together, in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest as actresses and actors, musicians and stage-hands at the Bakehouse Theatre. The Drum Corps marched in the Pageant and set the rhythm for our Head of the River rowers, much to the delightful annoyance of our rivals. The three grand final debating teams spoke as one Pulteney voice in Parliament House, while the Year 9's continued the growing history of City Week with their fine research and ready acquaintance with every fast food outlet in the square mile of Adelaide's CBD. An Anglican Cup victory after eight attempts capped a year when the School's senior sporting teams, collectively, achieved enormously. Yet again, the Intercol sporting teams played with heart and passion through the summer and winter competitions, albeit forlornly. If there is one news item I wish to hear in the future it is that Pulteney have finally won the Intercol!

Together, students raised much-needed funds for any number of organisations such as the Mary Magdalene Centre, Legacy, Mother Rajan's Orphanage, the Blue Sky School, Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust, 40 Hour Famine and Anglicare.

Other events are embedded each day in the life of the School as different classes, groups and sub-schools create memories. The very presence of Ishwor Ghimere, of course, makes every class he attends a connection to other exotic worlds! In Viva Italia, as the Long Lunch, Pulteney's parents were at their finest.

All of these life-recalling, and in some instances, life-changing moments, among numerous others, are made possible by staff who gave of their time. Such is the type of school that makes Pulteney what it is today.

I also ask Bill Davis to please join me for a moment on stage. Bill would you please accept our public congratulations for thirty-five years of teaching and service to the School?

I wish the ladies, on staff, who take maternity leave the very best wishes for the beautiful children they will bring into the world: Kirsty Raymond, Nicole Maxwell, Rachel Brown and Sister Sally Leonard we await your news. I also wish Bianca Dujomivic, Reverend Sonja Paterson, Mignon Day, Nelson Lee, Kirsty Lake, Rachel Brown, Abbey Rawson, Kathryn Clarke and Alex Brockbank inspiring days beyond Pulteney and thank you for your time among us. We are better for your presence. To those on leave, exciting or tranquil travels! I also offer the School's best wishes to Reverend Andrew Mintern who will also relinquish his Chaplaincy position but, fortunately, will continue his place on the School's Board.

I wish, now, to pay a tribute to Mandy Hore. Mandy commenced at Pulteney 21 years ago. She has been influential through her leadership, twice as Acting Principal, and since 2005, as Deputy Principal. Mandy has provided organisational, educational and pastoral guidance of the highest order. Many of us have been profoundly influenced by her remarkable capacity for hard-work, innovation, yet with people, students most especially, as her primary focus.

Mandy leaves the School for a senior position at St Peter's Woodlands and tonight we
acknowledge her remarkable contribution to Pulteney.

For the parents, your continued support of the School needs acknowledgement. I thank you for the opportunity for the School to work with you to bring your child’s potential to reality.

For the volunteers, specifically, The Friends, The Boat Club Committee, volunteers to the Tuck Shop, the LSC, Venture Club and the Foundation, our collective gratitude. Bob Gigney, as President of the Friends, our gratitude and esteem for your sublime leadership and joie de vivre as we welcome Bella Busto to the role.

For the Board and the Foundation, thank you, on behalf of the School. As volunteers, your devotion of many, many hours, absence from family and friends, deliberation on pressing issues, your professionalism and selflessness compels me to acknowledge you and your work on the behalf of us all. On this occasion, I especially wish to thank my two Board Chairs, Richard O’Dea and Tim Goodes. Thank you.

For my Executive colleagues and closest supporters, Ruth Barnden, Mandy Hore, Mark McLaren, Virginia Evans, Denise O’Loughlin, Paul Ryan, Michael Holmes, Malcolm Dolman, Catherine Hunter, Chris Cartwright, Alex Brockbank and, of course, Mark Bourchier, I am indebted to each of you and ever grateful for the privilege to have worked with you these last four years. There is much that will be missed.

Thank you.
On Friday morning of week two in Term 4, we witnessed the farewell of the class of 2013. After a breakfast cooked by the 2014 Leadership Group, the entire senior school community gathered in the hall to listen to reflections from three of our Year 12 students. Emma Sara, Jack Holmes and Ellen Messenger reflected on their memories of interactions with teachers, peers and time spent at Pulteney Grammar.

Emma Sara
It’s a difficult task, writing a speech about your high school years. Sitting down to write this, I had no idea where to start. No, don’t worry; I’m not going to tell you about how I turned to Google to help me. Instead, I’m just going to have to go back to the start.

Coming from a small primary school, I was a big fish in a small pond. So starting at Pulteney was a real shock. Suddenly I was a little fish again. Safe to say that on my first day of school here, I was terrified. I had come alone from primary school, and I knew no one at Pulteney, so very quickly I had to make friends. I was surprised at how welcoming and friendly everyone was, and how quickly I was accepted. Being forced together so quickly on yr 8 camp was daunting at first, but proved really enjoyable in the end. Not only was it a great chance to get to know my fellow classmates, it also provided some hilarious moments. To be honest, nothing beats watching people get swept away on windsurfing boards.

For most year levels, yr 12 is the year that everyone really comes together and gets really close. However, for our year level, I think yr 9 was the year this happened for us. I know especially within our home group, that was certainly the case. 9JJ started the year as 24 individual people, and we finished the year as a family. We shared so many hilarious memories together, such as Ben putting an LED light into a power point, and losing Mr. Johnson on camp and having to walk extra far in the rain to find him. Personally, year 9 was a year full of growth for me, and the challenges it threw my way helped me develop into a stronger person. I remember how quickly the year ended, and how scared I was to be going into one ninety.

Year 10 had it’s fair share of challenges, but also many hilarious moments. One of these challenges would have to be doing exams for the first time, and while at the time many of us didn’t really take them seriously, in the long run they were great practice for future years. In comparison, yr 10 camp was full of the most hilarious moments, and some very interesting fashions. This included Belinda’s very special mustard suit, Deb and Max’s two layers of pants, and Max’s red, satin boxers.

School is what you make of it. You can sit back and wish the days away, waiting desperately to get out of the place. Or you can make the most of it, and take every opportunity that is thrown your way. School is not just a place for academics, there is a world of activities that you can immerse yourself in. Don’t hide away, get involved in as much as you can. School sport is a great way to break up your week, and have heaps of fun, and leadership roles can help you develop amazing new skills. Your school life will be so much more fun if you get involved, and have a balanced life.

To the teachers. Thank you for your patience with our year level, we know it wasn’t easy and we all really appreciate your effort and support. The dedication to the students that all the teachers possess is a credit to the school, and I’ll miss the close connections shared.

To my fellow classmates, the class of 2013. Thank you for all the fantastic memories, I can honestly say that I’ve met some people here that will be with me for the rest of my life. I wish everyone all the best for the future, and I look forward to seeing you all at a reunion one day. I hope you had as much fun as I did.
Hey everyone. Today I would like to speak to you about the Amazing Race. As most of the year 12 cohort would know I have an extreme obsession with this TV show. It’s not something I can explain but as an avid fan who has never missed a season since I was 8 years old I thought it was only right to base my valedictory speech on the show that has made Ellen Louise Messenger Ellen Louise Messenger.

In the Amazing Race there are many different components that racers have to undergo which is not unlike being a student at Pulteney Grammar. There are also tricky times in school and these are like ‘Road Blocks’ on the Amazing Race. In each episode one team member must perform a challenge by themselves. This causes a lot of stress and tears and I reckon us year 12’s can totally relate to that!! All the assignments and tests of this year are now over thank goodness, but we still have our final, biggest ‘Road Block’ to face!! But after the end of this super duper ‘Road Block’ a sense of accomplishment will be achieved, I hope. Other than work related ‘Road Blocks’ there are other hard times in our daily lives.

When I was a new, scared kid in year 11, I had to overcome my nerves and get on with it just like I assume Evie, Jarred and Claudia had to do as well. Then there was that time in yr 11 when a guest speaker put the fear in me by making me think stress caused cancer, not one of my proudest moments. As a class we had to overcome the sadness at losing our common room privileges after some very silly person left the sandwich press on overnight, however we were still really lucky coz we got to keep the fridge which Tash describes as having a lovely ripe smell coming from within.

So then there are ‘U-turns’ which are where racer’s alliances come into play. The first team to get to the box has an opportunity to make another team perform both detour tasks, so it’s not good to be ‘U-turned’. Our year level actually cracks me up because I swear we are the only cohort I have heard of that actually names their social friend groups. From the Socialites to the Cottage Crew, the Sexy Six the Second to the group that cannot be named, there are many different alliances. These groups at times can be seen as warring enemies but to be honest most of the wars occur within the groups anyway. From personal experience at a different high school I know that social groups are normal, however Pulteney differs in this way as we actually have a year level that is very close. There is a lot of intermingling between groups and although we may argue at times, this is actually a sign of our love for each other coz we are like each others’ brothers and sisters, we can pay each other out but if anyone else does, they are dead.

On the theme of friends I think it is important to thank all my friends for being my friends. From the double J’s (Jenny and Julie) who welcomed me on day one and to those who currently put up with me like Henry who I never let leave the Maths room without me in case I get kidnapped along the way and Greta who I constantly distract when she is trying to learn in Biology, I know that I truly could not make it without each and every one of my friends. Friends are the people who are your partners on the Amazing Race, they are the people who shape who you are. Also, teachers are like Amazing Race team mates. They are there by your side for the whole year, helping you get through each obstacle that comes your way. And despite the grades they might give you, or the telling off you might receive from them if you talk too loudly, or if you talk at the wrong time, or if you talk too much, they are actually on your side and want you to do well. So thanks teachers, we love you even though we might not always show it and we are sorry for being annoying.

Finally I come to the main reason why people engage in the Amazing Race and that is for the one million dollar prize, or if you live in Australia the 250 thousand dollar prize, I think America must be a lot more expensive or something. In school the reason why we take on the race of our lives is to finish and end up with a certificate that says we have completed school. This piece of paper allows us entry into the world of adults and also enhances our employability. However, like the Amazing Race there is much more achieved in 13 years of school than just a piece of paper. Along the way...
we develop experience, maturity, resilience, responsibility and all those other words that we hear all the time and never think about but that actually define who we are. Without Pulteney we never would have had the opportunity to meet all these wonderful people sitting right here and to learn all the wonderful things we now know like mitosis, binomial distribution, kwashiorkor and the word … I am so thankful that I have been able to spend two wonderful years at Pulteney and I am going to miss it like crazy. The whole school and everything about it will forever be in my heart, in a special place right next to the Amazing Race.

Jack Holmes
My Pulteney journey has been a long one, now in my 15th year at school, the thought of leaving so soon seems crazy to me. Thinking back over my time at Pulteney there are so many happy memories that spring to mind.

My story at Pulteney began in 1999. I was in ELC 5, and under the watchful eye of Ms. Silcock I built houses out of blocks, ate play-dough and slept every day for almost two years. While my memory of Kurrajong is about as good as any 3 to 7 year olds I do remember a few things here and there. One of my fondest Kurrajong memories was learning how to overflow the toilets in the Kurrajong bathrooms with Max Peters. Upon discovering this neat party trick we gathered up all of our friends and showed them what we had found. When we overflowed the toilet the whole bathroom erupted in cheering and applause. Empowered by the emotional gravity of the moment, I decided to climb on top of the back of the toilet like a boy possessed, only to slip off and crack the toilet.

Middle School tends to sit in my memory as the most tragic period of my schooling life. With braces, pimples and a mess of long curly hair, you could say I had it all going for me. While I do look back on most of our Middle School hairstyles thinking WHY? I am confident that my hair was not quite the most tragic of our cohort.

Taking all things into consideration, I think I have enjoyed Year 12 more than any other year. There are so many things I will miss about Year 12 at Pulteney. I will miss the way that Mr. Taylor drops perps, the way Mr. A tells Harris to ‘get a haircut’ every lesson. I will miss Mother Sonya’s bass solos and Dr. G’s inspirational speeches. I will miss the $4.90 hot dogs at the IGA. Most of all I will miss the people of Pulteney, the staff and the students, the mostly lovely group of people that sit before me represent the thing that I think makes Pulteney so great.

As the journey of the 2013 Year 12 cohort comes close to it’s end I ask that we remember the lives of two very special peers who are no longer with us. Ollie Poole and Tom Weeks were two amazing boys who passed away before completing their individual journeys through Pulteney Grammar. Today as we graduate, they do to, forever etched into the memories of those who knew them, those who called them a friend.

As this speech comes to a close I hope to impart you with the knowledge I wish I had earlier this year. Year 12 is not as scary as it seems. Listen to as much advice as you can, but make your own decisions. Manage your time well, but be always open for spontaneous fun.

Rushing to complete an assignment at the last minute is usually a result of a Breaking Bad’ marathon not an unfair deadline, it’s up to you to choose what’s important and to motivate yourself to make the most of your final year. Finally, enjoy yourself, it’s your final year before getting kicked out into the big wide world.
The 2013 Navy Blue Formal was once again a highlight of the school calendar and deserves high praise. The students returned to the Hickinbotham Hall at the National Wine Centre of Australia after a number of years of absence.

Much appreciation is expressed to the Forum of Prefects who did so much of the overall organisation of the evening, and the logistics of the night. Formals do not just happen, and the dedication, commitment, planning and organisation undertaken by these students is greatly appreciated.

The girls looked stunning in their lovely dresses and the boys were dashing in their evening suits and the evening ended all too soon.

Jasmin, Alison, Ruby, Ashleigh, Greta and Alice

Ishraq Murshed and Jay Baker

Wilson Tran and Jenny Pham

Dennis Gouskos

James Kieu and Sarah Golfis

Louis Felki and Cartia Borrelli

Tash Culley, Apostoli Kikianis, Bianca Melzner, Joshua Kurpita, Harrison Hughes and Claudia Davey
Stewart Sanson and Olivia Cirocco

Jack Franklin, Brad Stone, Daniel Ball and Harris Jessen

Lucky man!

Future leaders!

Thomas Laity and Clara van Duivenbode
In Term 1 we began working with over thirty students teaching them a variety of higher order thinking skills and how to think creatively. These sessions occurred twice a week and culminated with selection for the Tournament of Minds teams. The Tournament of Minds teams were chosen based on the skills and talents of each member while considering the whole group dynamics. This was a complex task as teams need to be made up of people that can act, sew, write scripts, dance, sing, negotiate, etc. Each team also needs some leaders and some followers, as teamwork is essential. Tournament rules also state that students have to be from certain year levels (i.e. you can’t have more than four students in one particular year level) and there can only be seven students in the team. Pulteney Grammar School is pleased to be able to choose 3 teams for Tournament of Minds this year, two in the Prep school and one in Middle School. The teams for 2013 are as follows:

**Prep Language Literature Team**
Rebecca Monck
Katherine Baigent
Alannah Grasso
Joseph Jantke
Thomas Baker
James Burgess
Anna Evans

**Prep Applied Technology Team**
Jordan Bender
Jack Buenfeld
Anna Champion
Amelia Nikoloff
Luka Kilgariff-Johnson
Lauren Bull
Zach Nicholls

**Middle School Team**
Claire Noack
Erin Pegler
Erin Morello
Jennifer Finlay
Samuel Lee
Joshua Nicholls

During Term 3 the students will solve their chosen challenge through a performance. In the six weeks leading up to Tournament Day, the students will also continue to work on solving spontaneous problems, as this will be a separate part of what they are judged on during the competition. The students will present their challenge and answer their spontaneous problem at Flinders University on Sunday, 8 September. We wish the Pulteney Grammar School teams every success for this prestigious event.

Sue Mavropoulos, Cathy Lange, Wendy Stewart and Karen Penn

Tournament of Minds Coordinators
What does Reconciliation mean?

Reconciliation is learning about Aboriginal people.

It’s about learning to understand and listening to what other people have to say.

Reconciliation is about talking to each other and fixing things.

It’s about learning about the importance of land to Aboriginal people.

Reconciliation is about acknowledgement of Aboriginal people and their culture.

We saw Jack Buckskin and his dancers and they were dancing about spirits and animals because it’s a tradition.

In our class, we learn Kaurna Aboriginal language because we live on Kaurna land and we can say our names and we can sing songs too.

We were on the Channel 7 News.

By Michael Trenwith, Alice Sabine, Kayla Howe, Olivia Cardillo and the students in Year 2 Yaku

Reconciliation Week activities at Pulteney were spectacular with Jack Buckskin’s dancers involving students and staff in traditional dances about animals that live on Kaurna land. We were treated to yadaki (digeridoo) playing, singing in language and the dancers wore traditional kangaroo skin capes and white paint. It certainly was a spectacular sight!

Kurrajong children painted hands for a garden sculpture and made posters to reflect their learning about Reconciliation. Year 2 Yaku visited classes and taught peers Kaurna songs and language.

Prep school students were involved in excursions to Tandanya and classes created artwork, reflecting Reconciliation images and words to describe Reconciliation concepts. Middle School students viewed a DVD called Kanyini – a wonderful documentary narrated by Aboriginal elder, Bob Randall, where he explained the four pillars of traditional society: spirituality, beliefs, land and family. Jack Buckskin was on hand to answer questions and he also spoke about his own life. Year 2 Yaku had fun with Dr. Christina Jarvis’ Year 9 class using ‘woomeras’ (ball throwers to simulate spear throwing) to measure distances. We discovered that woomeras would definitely have been a useful addition when hunting!

Reconciliation Week was certainly a wonderful experience for our students!
SSSSA/SAPSASA CROSS COUNTRY TITLES

It is all too often that we leave sunny conditions on the plains before passing through the Heysen Tunnel to find the fog and mist settling about the Adelaide Hills. Oakbank in late May can be a damp old place, one where it is difficult to warm up and run. But this year we found ourselves in balmy conditions, or at least it was sunny. And with the sun on our backs we performed beyond all expectation. Our running was sunny, our dispositions were sunny and our results bright……and sunny.

The day started well with the 4 girls in the 14 Year old Girl category all performing well. This gave us great hope and it only got better as the day progressed.

I had taken teams to Oakbank before where athletes were lucky enough to medal but none since I had taken over the team at Pulteney. We had come close and had regularly found athletes in the top 10, a wonderful result in itself. The aim is top 20 if in form, personal bests if up there to try.

The run of remarkable results began with Sophie Zuill who ran in to a third placing and bronze medal in a race containing 179 runners. Great things were expected of Nick Laity, particularly by himself, but Oakbank has been a difficult environment for him and the nerves showed prior to the event. But on the gun he took off like last weeks pocket money and dominated a field of 257 runners to win easily. But this was not just a big run from Nick. His teammates, Daniel Bourke (14th), Tom Sibly (35th) and Charlie Rowe (87th) performed well enough to claim the Silver Team Medal, something I’d not experienced in 20 years of going to these titles. Cross-country is an individual sport, but what a thrill to be part of a team that captures such a medal. I’m still stoked. I might mention that the winning team from Coromandel PS finished their 4 runners in 3rd, 6th, 8th and 38th place. They breed ‘em quick in them thar hills.

The day could have ended then and there and we had had a day to remember, but it wasn’t over yet. Seth Dolphin ran 19th in a field of 314 12 year olds. Imagine throwing a birthday party for 314 twelve year olds. Lara Kittel and Grace Bourke both ran their hearts out to finish in the top 20% of their enormous field, as did Declan Beard. James Cartwright showed he was in form with an 18th placing.

Pulteney had a couple more aces up it’s sleeve but to look at Matthew Gluyas you might have been excused in thinking the nerves may have got the better of him. He is another who has found Oakbank a difficult course and one that has provided good runs, but not the great ones he has wanted. Maybe today is the day. It was. I watched Matt run the last 300m of his 3km race and he was as ragged as I’ve ever seen him run. His jaw was locked, his head thrust back and arms swimming. Not a pretty sight. But what it explained was the effort given to the first 2700m. He wanted the race and he made it his own. He won by lots.

Had we finished yet? No. A field of 362 Year10 Boys lined up and took off. It was as if someone had told them they got free ice-creams at the top of the hill. The fact that there
wasn’t may have disappointed a few, but not the 2 boys from Pulteney. In a remarkable run Guy Radbone finished 7th in this massive field and Angus Winter ran in 54th, another great run.

We aren’t a big school but today we were huge, punching above our weight and claiming positions within races that were just wonderful.

As I’m typing this, a man called Jagger is suggesting he can’t get no satisfaction. At Oakbank, in late May, I did. The satisfaction of seeing a group of young people accept a challenge and give their all to succeed in mastering that challenge. Well done to you all.

Mark Barnett,
Coordinator of Cross Country

HIMEJI HIGH SCHOOL VISIT IN TERM 3

Our exchange program wouldn’t be the success it is without the amazing support of our Pulteney community and my personal thanks to all the generous parents who hosted this year. For the Winter family it was the 3rd time! Mr Yamamoto accompanied the students from Himeji High School for their annual visit in July/August for one week. Mr Yamamoto had previously been to Adelaide and enjoyed the changes in PGS since his last visit over 10 years ago, particularly the new gym. Being at school, interacting with the students and being a part of our classes is always the highlight but this year the students got to hold a 4 metre long (friendly) python at Cleland. That experience rivalled everything! We are already planning our trip back to Himeji in 2014!

Linda Davis,
Head of Languages
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In 2013, a number of one ninety students have participated in a variety of skill based training including child studies, visual arts and fitness to name a few. The skills gained through these courses enhance a student’s employability skills whilst achieving their SACE and nationally accredited qualifications. Jacob Faulkhead (pictured) completed the Certificate II in Transport and Distribution (Coastal Marine Operations – Coxswain) at the Australian Maritime College, Tasmania. He is the youngest person to have completed this award at the College. This is a great achievement and will enable him to pursue this career path in the future. He hopes to complete his Certificate III in Transport and Distribution (Coastal Maritime Operations – Master Class 5), which will enable him to drive a commercial vessel up to 24 metres in length. Another outstanding achievement was the completion of Certificate III in Community Studies (Child Services) by Belinda Nagy. Congratulations to Jacob, Belinda and all of the students studying VET courses this year.

Sharon Pearce,
Acting Careers Coordinator

KESAB AWARD

We would like to congratulate Danielle Van Schie, Pulteney Science Lab Technician, on a recent award from KESAB and the National Resource Management Board for the Best Practice 10c Collection System for R-12.

Danielle was recognised for her initiative in placing collection cages within the School grounds for cans and other recyclables. This has resulted in $600 collected in 2012 and at least double this amount this year. This money will go toward costs for students from Zambia to visit our School in the future. The added benefit of course, is that many thousands of waste items are not going to landfill. Keep up the good work everyone!

Danielle Van Schie with year 9 students
HELPING IN THE SCIENCE LAB

In our free time we come into the science lab to help with the animals and do other odd jobs. These include:

• Cutting up food for the lizards and hopping mouse
• Feeding wood roaches to the frogs and lizards
• Spraying the frogs and stick insects with water
• Feeding the fish and turtles
• Picking out dead roaches and old carrot in the roach enclosure
• Changing the leaves in the stick insects enclosure
• Any other jobs that need to be done

We like to help out because it helps us learn more about science and the environment around us. Over the time we have spent helping we have done many things that we wouldn’t have been able to do otherwise. For example, in term 3 we helped rescue a 2-week-old possum that had fallen out of a tree. You will be glad to know that the possum has recovered and now lives happily at a possum sanctuary in the Adelaide Hills. We both really enjoy our time spent helping out at the lab.

By Grace Neuhaus and Olivia Veronese from 5D

10C CONTAINER RECYCLING

In an effort to raise money for a variety of charities and to help our planet, this semester we have a group of Middle School students helping with can and bottle recycling. We have bought new recycling cages and put them in places where many students get together at recess and lunch. The new cages are a big improvement on the bins we had in the past. These new cages do not get as much rubbish in them because everyone can see what is being put in the recycling. However there is still some rubbish going in to the cages and so please be more careful with what is placed in them.

Although the recycling has improved a lot since the new cages have arrived, the Conservation Corps and myself are planning to take a further step with encouraging people to recycle. The Conservation Corps are looking at ways to do this with 3 of the bins and I am designing a basketball ring to go on top of the others. This will hopefully encourage people to use the bins as they shoot their bottles and cans into the hoop.

If anyone has any further ideas of how we can improve our recycling please see Ms Van Schie or myself.

Thomas Roubos, 8JP.
MIDDLE SCHOOL

Extra, Extra, Extra!

The Middle School program at Pulteney is far greater than the regular subject timetable suggests. In Terms 2 and 3 our students have had the opportunity to experience a diverse and interesting and highly engaging and useful in and out of the classroom programs. At the end of Term 2 all our students were fortunate to hear about life in Nepal from the charming Sanjeev Dahal, a young University Social Science lecturer from Kathmandu. The Year 9’s were taught juggling, as part of a Rite Journey challenge. We had Dr Dean Hutton (Curiosity Show) bedazzle our students with Science. Students in the Conservation Corps participated in the Monarto Zoo camp and learnt an enormous amount about conservation and the Monarto Zoo programs. Liberty Papas (Yr 9), a Cancer Foundation Youth Ambassador, organized a Casual Clothes Day with a yellow theme to raise funds for Daffodil Day. The Year 8/9 footballers thoroughly enjoyed their co-curricular with an undefeated season and celebrated their Intercol win against Scotch College by diving in the mud - as you do! The Year 9’s thoroughly enjoyed their camp in Term 2 and all our students have experienced some excellent wellbeing presentations. Students looking for an academic challenge have also had the opportunity to participate in some excellent inter-school academic competitions and programs.

Year 9 Camp

This year we connected the camp experience with The Rite Journey program and to do this we changed the camp location from Mt Crawford to Wilpena Pound in the Flinders Ranges and focused more on the concept of ‘challenge’. The camp was held in Week 5 of Term 2 beginning with a long drive to the Pound. Each Home Group participated in a 60 metre abseil, a walk across the Pound, mountain biking, community service at Rawnsley Park station and a ‘solo’. Unlike the Year 7 and 8 camps, the Year 9 camps have been a five day expedition with the students camping out each night, organizing their own menu and supplies and cooking for themselves on trangia stoves. An added dimension to the camping was the ‘solo’...
challenge. The solo demanded that each student spend an evening, night and part of the morning on his or her own. Held in the Rawnsley Camping Park confines the students were set up with their tent and gear on their own and given some reflection tasks to complete. Many of the students saw the solo as the highlight of the camp. Another highlight was the abseiling and astonishingly every Year 9 student completed this challenge. An accomplishment, the Year 9’s collectively, are very proud of.

The camp was a great success. Many thanks must go to the Wilderness Escape staff who organized and ran the camp. A special thanks must also go to the Year 9 Home Group teachers who took time away from their families to ensure the experience for their students was such a positive one.

Well Being program

The Rite Journey forms the basis of the Year 9 Wellbeing program, but we continue to tap into other programs that we believe will benefit our students. Once again Danielle Miller ran a day session with our Year 9 and 10 girls and while this was happening the boys partook in the Rock and Water program run by Tim Brenton. We also had Bob Morcomb from Life Ed working with our Year 7’s, 8’s and 9’s on drug and alcohol awareness. Kids Biz, was also brought in to work with our Year 8’s on Body Image and Sonya Ryan, founder of the Carly Ryan Foundation spoke to the Middle School about Cybersafety. Early in Term 3 we also assessed our students wellbeing using the ACER online Wellbeing audit. The information gained will form the baseline data to allow us to assess the effect and validity of our Wellbeing program and initiatives.

Middle School Gifted and Talented Programs

Middle School students who enjoy an academic challenge have had many opportunities this year through the Tournament of Minds, The DaVinci Decathlon and the Extended Curriculum Cluster. All credit goes to Wendy Stewart, for enthusiastically leading and managing Pulteney’s involvement in these programs.
DaVinci Decathlon

The Da Vinci Decathlon was held for the first time in South Australia on June 4th this year with the host school being Saint Peters’ Girls School. As this was the introductory competition, and time to prepare was restricted, the competition was open to Year 7 students only. The Da Vinci Decathlon is a team event and the team is central! The Da Vinci Competition also places particular emphasis on higher order thinking skills, problem solving and creativity. Team members had to get to know each other, respect each other’s skills and limitations and learn to work collaboratively. The theme to be researched was Light and Colour. Students worked collaboratively in teams and competed in ten tasks that encompassed philosophy, engineering, mathematics, code breaking, games strategy, art and poetry, Science, English, creative production and forensic sleuthing. Jordan Buttery, Jennifer Finlay, Stella Healey, Karolina Kocimska, Erin Morello, Claire Noack, Delys Russell and Elliot Ridgway all volunteered to take part and were delighted to win the Art and Poetry section. Everyone enjoyed the competition and hopefully will compete as Year 8 students in 2014.

Tournament of Minds (TOM)

TOM is a problem-solving program for teams of students from both primary and secondary years. Teams solve challenges from a choice of disciplines: Applied Technology; Language Literature; Maths Engineering; and Social Sciences. TOM aims to develop critical and creative thinking skills, enterprise skills, time management skills, and the ability to work collaboratively within a competitive environment. This year for the first time in many years, we have a Middle School TOM team. After weeks of intensive training, Claire Noack, Jennifer Finlay, Samuel Lee, Erin Morello, Joshua Nicholls, and Erin Pegler were selected for the TOM Middle School team. The team chose to compete in the Social Science section and been working very hard on a script, props and spontaneous performance. The state finals competition will be on Sunday September 8th at Flinders University.

Paul Ryan,
Head of Middle School
In week 8 of term 2, I set off on a canoeing and sailing camp with Year 10 students and had no idea at the beginning of the week how rewarding and inspirational this trip would be.

The group was split into two from day one – girls in one group and boys in another. I stayed with the canoeing group whilst Kym Wilson looked after the sailors’ welfare with his fine rescue boat. I accompanied the girls’ group for the first two and half days before switching groups.

As the week progressed we got to know each other further and I found the students always positive and enthusiastic even when the canoeing and weather got tough.

I was personally inspired by the whole week and the cooperation of all participants and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each participant for their involvement and thank Wilderness Escape for their professional staff and expertise.

I will remember this experience as one of my more special Pulteney experiences – not just for the spectacular Coorong landscape, but also the fine attitude of the Year 10 students who participated in such an exceptional trip. We are blessed to have such excellent students here at Pulteney.

Rod James,
Lead teacher - Visual Art and Year 10 CN Tutor

PET DAY - 7DP

7DP was fortunate enough to donate a significant amount of pet food to a class fundraiser, earning the right to bring in our pets for a day. Yes, our pets came to school on the 31st of May! They ranged from a variety of dogs to stick insects to canaries and even a sheep. Dr Groughan came and adjudicated the ‘best’ pet, based on a range of criteria, which to everyones surprise, went to the sheep. Unfortunately the weather was not ideal, but the students enjoyed the event and special thanks must go to the parents and Chris Cartwright for the use of Wyatt Hall.
What has been happening in the Prep School Terms 2 & 3?

Terms 2 and 3 were as busy and eventful as always in the Prep School with many learning experiences occurring both inside, and outside, of the classroom.

The Wilderness Escape Outdoor Education program, a firm favourite with the children, saw all year levels in the Prep embarking on challenging and exciting camping programs to a variety of venues throughout the state.

Although the children believe they are going on camp to ‘just have fun’, their learning experiences and timetabled activities have been carefully planned to complement classroom themes and topics taught for the term. The outdoor educational component of the program is also carefully programmed to build on and develop the children’s outdoor educational skills as they progress through Years 3 - 6.

Year 3 Camp

Since this was the first camping experience for many of the Year 3 children there was much excitement as they departed on their two day camp to Woodside in the Adelaide Hills.

As soon as the children arrived at the campsite the instructors from Wilderness Escape Adventure Outdoor Company involved the children in a group discussion. This set the rules and outlined expectations for the time the group would be together. The children loved being involved in this decision making process. They displayed excellent group skills throughout their camp and collaborated well as they rotated through their program of activities in a relaxed and happy environment.

During my visit to the campsite I joined groups of students as they had fun participating in activities that included team sports, an environmental treasure hunt, and making individual ‘dilly bags’. During each activity the instructors worked with the children to encourage further development of the concepts of self awareness, cooperation, sharing, communication, and respect for individual differences.

By the end of the camp it was clear that the children had thoroughly enjoyed their first Pulteney outdoor educational experience.

Year 4 Camp

Escaping to the ideally situated Girl Guide campsite at Douglas Scrub, McLaren Vale, the Year 4 students were treated to three days of exciting activities in week four of Term 2. Led by the experienced staff of Wilderness Escape, the students were involved in three days of rotational activities designed to encourage lateral thinking and collaborative learning. The activities that the children participated in included the making of a worm farm, trangia cooking, problem solving, team building, Indigenous shelter making, and exploring the local environment.

Throughout the camp the instructors placed a strong focus on the importance of cooperation, teamwork and communication. During my visit to the campsite it was pleasing to observe the children utilising these skills in the way in which they interacted with their peers, instructors and teachers.

Year 5 Camp

Thankfully, it did not rain this year as it did in 2012 for the Year 5 camp, so the Year 5 students had a wonderful time during their aquatics camping program at Toc H, Victor Harbor. The main focus of the 4 day program was to encourage independence for each child and to develop skills that become the foundations for future camp programs. The three main themes of the Wilderness Escape program were, aquatics and surf safety, teamwork and problem solving, and the local environment.

Through an emphasis on communicating and working effectively with others the children enjoyed participating in a variety of activities that included surf safety and survival skills, environmental studies, kayaking, boogie boarding, and problem solving. The children embraced all activities with enthusiasm, displaying strong teamwork skills at all times.
Year 6 Camp

A four day camping experience to Walker Flat on the River Murray saw the Year 6 students involved in many activities, including an overnight canoeing journey. During this overnight stay the students pitched tents and cooked their own dinner using portable camp stoves. Although it was a challenge for some at times, it was a fabulous learning experience. Wilderness Escape based their four day program on the themes, outdoor living skills, canoeing skills, camp craft and aboriginal history.

The children had a wonderful time learning many new skills in ways that encouraged both personal growth and teamwork.

Junior Orator Competition

Each year students in Years 5 and 6 are invited to participate in the Independent Schools Junior Orator Competition. This year a number of talented Prep School children competed at Pulteney during round one of this public speaking competition. The winner of this first round was Jake Reedman of 6C.

Jake’s next challenge was to compete in the semi finals at Pembroke. He presented very well during this event and although he didn’t progress to the finals we were very proud of him and his performance. Well done, Jake!

Prep Disco

The Junior School Disco was again one of the highlights of the term for the children of the Prep School. After an early evening disco for the Kurrajong students, the Prep School students arrived dressed to suit the theme ‘Rock Stars and Rainbows’. The children had a lot of fun throughout the night, dancing to the music chosen by Joseph Ninio 6V and the entertaining DJ. Everyone enjoyed a fabulous evening.

Co – curricular Elective Activities

A wide variety of co – curricular elective activities were offered to the students of the Prep in Terms 2 and 3.

Computing

The Computer Club continued to be a popular elective choice in the Prep School. Eager students met Mr Cleland each Wednesday after school to further their skills in Information Communication Technology. In Term 2 the focus was on teaching students how to produce animations and multi-media content including movies, podcasts and animations for the web using programs such as iMovie, iPhoto, iTunes, Garage Band, Flash and Scratch. In Term 3 the children had a lot of fun with Mr Cleland and Mr Johnson creating basic apps. This proved to be a very popular activity with all of the children from Years 3 – 6 involved in the Computing Club! Throughout the course of the year the children involved in Computer Club have certainly broadened their skills and produced some very creative work.

Dance

Children from all year levels in the Prep School looked forward each week to attending dance sessions at the Gravity Dance Studios on Gilles St. During these sessions the children were working towards presenting a performance for the Prep School Assembly. Their popular instructor Erin had the children moving creatively to a variety of Hip Hop moves each week. She is a very creative teacher and has a wonderful way of incorporating the children’s ideas into the dance routines.
Authors’ Club

Mrs Sue Brock and Mrs Jenni Forbes encouraged the children’s love of writing during Authors’ club in Terms 2 and 3. Any student in Years 3 and 4 who aspired to be an author was invited to discuss reading material before settling into 30 minutes of creative writing in a quiet space in the Learning Support Centre. This was certainly an activity that was enjoyed by the students who participated.

Debating

A representative from Debating SA ran an excellent Debating workshop for interested participants from Years 5 and 6 at the beginning of Term 2. This was the beginning of our preparation for the Debating SA competition season. Then the students worked very hard with their coaches Mrs Jill Rose and Mrs Liz Simpson Smith to create some convincing arguments when the competition commenced towards the latter part of the term. The competition continues until mid-way through Term 3, with all teams achieving well to date!

Chess

Each Thursday in Terms 2 and 3 the children involved in playing Chess have met with Mrs Mixon and their coach to further their skills in this game. The weekly workshops have assisted the children in Years 3 to 6 who compete in the Chess competition, to build on their knowledge of the game. We always look forward to hearing the scores of each team on a weekly basis!

Yoga

Children from all year levels have thoroughly enjoyed working with their instructor Cate in Yoga classes each Tuesday afternoon during Terms 2 and 3. Absorbing and processing information through moving, seeing, listening, touching, and even singing, yoga helps to develop every aspect of the children’s mind, body and spirit. Cate used guided meditation to begin lessons before taking the children through a number of poses designed to boost their energy when they are tired, to give them positive ways to release their anger, and also to explore ways to feel harmony and compassion. Yoga classes at Pulteney provide the children with the opportunity to develop a supple, healthy physical body while stimulating creative thinking and intellectual growth.

Training Band

Meeting on a Thursday morning before school the training band rehearses with Mrs Ruth Howley. The training band is not only a Prep band, but includes students from all year levels who have only been playing their instruments for a relatively short time. This year, the band has entered into the SA Band Festival for the first time, as well as adding a special atmosphere for events such as the Prep School Book Week parade, Prep Chapel, Middle School Assemblies and Grandparents’ Day.

Each week the band continues to expand its repertoire, which it can then perform for the Pulteney community. The band welcomes new students so once you can play a few notes, come and join in!

Concert Choir

Wonderful music fills the Prep hallways each Wednesday as the Prep School Concert Choir rehearse with Ms Cathy Lange. The Concert Choir enjoys every opportunity to perform for the Pulteney community and is currently in rehearsal for the upcoming Prep School Preptacular Musical Evening, which we are all looking forward to.

String Ensemble

Each week, under the guidance of our Music Specialist Mrs Adrienne Cullity, the String Ensemble continues to expand their ever growing repertoire of music. This talented group of musicians delight their audiences every time they perform at events such as School Assemblies, Prep Chapel and School concerts.
CONSERVATION CORPS

The Corps of twenty students has been busy this year with planting days at Wirranendi Southern Billabong in the Parklands as well as surveying life in the water by catching and identifying water bugs.

This macro-invertebrate study allows us to monitor the health of the water and better understand the native habitat that is the billabong. We have also been testing water quality using a variety of equipment and identifying and recording bird life in the area. Data collected is uploaded to the National Resource Management Board (NRM) website and can be used by both NRM and other school’s to analyse and compare data. During term 2 the Yr 6 Youth Environment Forum leaders accompanied the Conservation Corps to the Billabong where planting demos took place followed by the planting of over 200 plants of 6 different species.

The Conservation corps had a very successful working camp at Monarto Zoo working behind the scenes; the students were able to see up close, all the young animals as well as observing and recording the behaviour of the hyenas and chimpanzees. There was lots of planting and setting up seats as well as group activities and walks. The night walks and solo experiences were exciting. We even had a chance to work in one of the kitchens preparing feed for the native marsupials. This array of activities is typical of the diversity of behind the scenes work we are lucky to have exposure to during our Monarto camps.

Will Bouchier and Lachlan Holbrook

Nicholas Herriot, Thomas Roubos and Lachlan Rawson
While senior members of the corp were planning their trip to Zambia, a new group of year 8 students began working at the billabong in the park lands.

They did some planting and weeding as well as surveying the water for invertebrates and conditions and observing birdlife. After 5 years of work, the plants have grown very well providing a diverse habitat for living things.

In July the group spent 3 days working behind the scenes at Monarto Zoo.

This was a great experience as the group saw many of the new offspring such as the hyena, chimpanzees and rhino. Students planted 300 trees that would provide feed for giraffes in the future as well as weeding some areas of prickly horehound.

"the conservation corp was really fun… with the highlight being Monarto Zoo"

Belinda Greig

"Going M.A.D. at monarto was certainly an experience I will never forget as it really gave me a feeling of making a difference"

Nicholas Herriot

"The Solo night walk was one of highlights of the monarto camp"

William Baigent
“As a member of the Conservation Corps I went on my first Monarto camp this year. The first activity that we experienced was a tour of the zoo where we drove around and saw all the animals. Our first stop was the Mongolian Wild Horses and we ended with the carnivores. We got really lucky on the tour because all the animals were very close to the bus. One of the main activities we did was chimp observation. It was a good experience to help us to better understand our primate relatives. There are 9 chimps at Monarto Zoo and in groups we recorded what they were doing in their enclosures over a period of time on two days. The information we recorded can help the keepers and was a way for us to contribute to their work providing a better understanding of chimpanzee behaviour and interaction.”

Isaac Manuel
On June 22nd, fifteen Pulteney students, three teachers and two Education Officers from ZoosSA headed off on the adventure of a lifetime. Members of the School’s Conservation Corps, the students were participants in the inaugural A-Z International Conservation Exchange in Mfuwe, Zambia.

The Exchange, in partnership with ZoosSA and Zambia’s Chipembele Wildlife Education Trust (CWET) was a fantastic success. Students handled the 35 or so hours in transit with good humour and learnt a lot about managing in big international airports. Arriving in Mfuwe, we were greeted by a huge number of Chipembele students from Mfuwe Day Secondary School. We were overwhelmed by the warm reception and the singing and dancing really let us know that finally, after two years of planning and preparation we were finally on African soil.

Glimpses of the 24 day trip are best provided by the attached student quotes. Highlights included learning about village life, and teaching students about conservation issues in Australia, ongoing lectures from and outings with the Zambia Carnivore Project’s (ZCP) team of dedicated scientists who taught us about the dire state of Zambia’s large cats and Painted Dogs. The South Luangwa Conservation Society (SLCS) educated us about the dreadful impact of wire snares on animals. We saw first hand some injured animals. Human Wildlife conflict is very serious in Mfuwe and something we have not experienced at home.

But it wasn’t all doom and gloom. Visits to locally run organic farms and art galleries filled us with inspiration. At sunrise, we were often woken by elephant families gently stepping past our chalets, snacking from trees as they went. Our days were interspersed with buffalo, giraffe, warthog, monkeys, impala – all wandering within sight of our Lodge. Evenings heralded the arrival of hippos up from the river to graze, and, according to footage on camera traps by our rooms, leopard and hyena also visited on occasion. We knew we were truly blessed by the chance to be in such a place together.

As teachers, it was a delight to watch the Pulteney students grow and learn while we were away. All of us were in various ways pushed to learn a lot about ourselves and to reconsider our place in the world, what we truly value and how we want to spend our lives. This wasn’t always easy and to various extents our resilience was tested.

Our thanks go to the Pulteney School Board and Dr Groughan for supporting and believing in the School’s first venture to the African continent. We could not have gone on the trip without the assistance of Monarto Zoo staff, Emma Still, Carolyne Ryan and Ian Walton, and we are grateful for their guidance and support. Chipembele’s Anna and Steve Tolan, staff and students were fantastic hosts in Mfuwe and we can’t WAIT to return the hospitality next year. We would also like to thank the many Pulteney staff who, in various and important ways, helped get the trip off the ground.

Christina Jarvis, Michael Holmes, and Daniel Polkinghorne

“...I chose to go on the Zambia trip because I have always been interested in Africa. When we got there, it lived up to all my exceptions. The people of Zambia were the nicest people I have ever met. They had such little to give but they went out of their way to make us welcome. The wildlife we saw was mind blowing, from elephants outside our rooms to watching a leopard hunt at night, we couldn’t have asked for more. I have gained so many friends from across the globe and I can’t wait to go back...”

Will Bourchier Yr 10
“I don’t think I’ve ever felt like this about a country I’ve travelled to….

I feel Zambia has become part of my home and that part of me shall always stay here. To paraphrase from Perks of Being a Wallflower:

These past 20 days in Africa have been mind blowing. I have been with some of the best people I have ever known and shared some of the most important moments with.

I know that in this moment, we can still go out and Make A Difference, We Are Infinite”

Chloe-Sue Grey Yr 11

“Day 4

These past few days have been the most intense and interesting of my life. I’ve met so many new people who are so enthusiastic and full of life. The students that I’ve got to know really well (Elias, who took me around his village, and George, who took me around school) have been so kind and generous to let me into their lives. They take every opportunity that comes to them and they’re not disheartened if it doesn’t come through. That’s the person I want to be by the end of the trip.

Day 8

When most people go to Africa, they see animals, and maybe one or two villages, but I think the greatest thing about this program is the fact that I can make friends with people – with the local people. That’s not an opportunity you get often … I just hope we can stay connected into the future.

Day 21

This trip has changed me immeasurably. I don’t think I can put my finger on how it’s changed me yet, but once I get back to familiar surroundings, I think I’ll realise how different I am. If I had to make a prediction, I feel more independent, more resilient, and my horizons have been broadened for the future.”

By Cameron Smith Yr 10

“The people in Zambia were amazing, and

the general atmosphere and outlook on life there caused me to change my mindset and views for the better. I became more optimistic. The wildlife there, its’ variety and it’s uniqueness also added to the perfect experience of going there. If I had a chance to do the trip again, I would take that chance immediately.”

Cael Keenan Yr 10

Wednesday 10th July

“The exchange has given me more of a concrete idea about what I want to study next year and where I want go later in life. The organisations we interacted with gave me an insight into a career I could pursue in the near future. Before the trip, my options for next year were very broad and I was unsure as to how I would be able to choose what to do. But since returning, I have more

of a focused plan to study conservation and animal science. Also, the friendships and connections I made on the exchange were an extremely valuable and unique opportunity.”

Max C Peters Yr 12

Dan Polkinghorne

Chomba and Cael

Wednesday 10th July

“Today was our final day with the Chipembele students. It was a very emotional day, as most of us started to realize that the trip was coming to an end, and that it would be unlikely we’d see most of the Chipembele students again.

Two people from ZCP came to Wildlife Camp, to help us collect the data from the camera traps, which we had set out earlier. We looked at our findings and counted the numerous species of animals that were
recorded. We then took part of a panel styled interview with many of the specialists that we met throughout this trip. They were Matt representing SLCS, Thandiwe and Eli from ZCP, Ben from CWET and Dora from Wildlife Camp representing the tourism industry. I found this panel interview very insightful, as it was great to have a chance at the end of the trip to ask any last minute questions. It was great to also find out what type of courses to do in university that would give me the right degrees or qualifications to end up working out here."

Julia Sibly Yr 11

“Part of our work was to collect bricks at the Nature Conservancy. These two little boys just appeared out of the village with bricks so I got them to follow me and throw bricks in the pits. From then, more and more kids came with bricks and more girls came to exclaim about how cute they were. Chloe and I then collected water from the well and sloshed it all over ourselves whilst attempting to carry it back to water the trees we had planted. We went back a second time but this time we carried the cans on our heads and it was so much better. It was hard, but better!

Things I learnt on the trip include the Leopards are changing their hunting habits to avoid tourist safari vehicles. You don’t need money to be happy and differences are nothing when you have at least one similarity.”

Tessa Manning Yr 10

“I now appreciate the chance to go to school so much and I even enjoy maths! I now know exactly what I love most about my life and it’s easy to figure out what makes me happy. I have gained confidence with strangers and can easily hold a good conversation. I’m more interested in any job involving the environment and want to learn more about job opportunities. I have also built relationships with people in Zambia that I want to hold on to forever.”

Sophie Rawson Yr 10

“I feel that the Zambia Exchange gave me an invaluable insight into what I can do in the future. It has shown me that no matter which field I go into, I will be able to use those skills to help with conservation efforts. For me, the best part of the trip was meeting and learning from the staff of the Zambia Carnivore Program, who each bring different skills and experiences to the job.”

Tristram Fyfe Yr 10

“The Zambia trip was only a flash of a culture and an environment too beautiful to imagine, and it went by all too quickly. I am so lucky to have had the chance to participate in the Exchange. I learnt that all things have two sides; whether it be a conservation issue, or a dispute between friends. All the skills I acquired in Zambia have come into my daily life, especially since I can now piece together the experience.”

Zandra Tabe Yr 10
Sophie and Memory

Will, Georgia, Emma and Mervis

Sophie and Memory

Chloe-Sue and friends

Tristram, Tessa and their new friends

Tristram with his new friends

Alannah and Kings

Zandra and George
In recent years there has been a tangible lift in the Arts at Pulteney. With the development of Drama to year 12 and the successes of these students, the amazing development of Music’s ensembles especially the Concert and Stage Band, and Art’s constant rise in both numbers and successes, it is easy to see the development of The Arts since the start of 2011 through to the end of 2013.

No place is this more obvious when the Arts combine to produce the yearly production. Drama, and in particular, the work of Jamie Hibbert, coupled with the professional sound of our students in the production band lead by Mr Glen Mears and the creativity of our Art staff to set the scene with Rod James and Wendy Muir designing.

Members of our School Community should become accustomed to expecting the very highest of standards and entertainment when attending school Arts functions, especially our productions. For the first year in recent memory, our presentation of ‘Disney’s Beauty and the Beast’, was a sell out. Parents, students, friends and staff of our community enjoyed a masterful performance, where it was difficult to say which element stood out the most. The combination of the experience of staff and the energy of students from all faculties of the Arts combined to create an exceptional experience that has set the standard for future performances.

Kym Wilson,
Head Of The Arts

Zoe Tweddell and David Sandison

Aled McEwen as Gaston and Apostoli Kikianis as Le Fou

Nicholas Winter as Lumiere, and Emily Johnson as Babette
It is a long held tradition at Pulteney that the art department constructs and paints the sets for all school drama productions and for the past 20 years I have been involved in the creation of sets for The Pirates of Penzance, The Wizard of Oz, On The Razzle, Viva Mexico, Oklahoma and many other inspiring theatrical productions.

For many months now the art teachers have been busy building castles and village scenes for the 2013 musical production Beauty and the Beast. Kym Wilson, a whiz with the hammer has done much of the construction assisted by myself. I have also focused on design and painting assisted ably by Wendy Muir with her masterly painting skills. The sets have been constructed in Mike Nielsen’s workspace and I take this opportunity to thank him for giving up much of his space for the duration of our construction. As with each production there have been many hours spent designing, building and painting the backdrops. Of course this is all worth it the minute the actors take their places, the curtain goes up and the magic begins. I have no doubt that this year the sets will help create a fairy-tale setting for what promises to be an enchanting production.

Rod James,
Lead Teacher – Visual Art