## Middle/Senior Newsletter



# Howard Springs Campus

## Term 4, Week 5

### **Upcoming Events**

#### WEEK 6

#### Mon 11 Nov

Year 7 Camp 2 (Batchelor)

Remembrance Day

#### WEEK 7

#### Thu 21 Nov

Yr 12 Graduation and Awards

#### Sat 23 Nov

Yr 12 Formal

### WEEK 8

#### Tue 26 Nov

Years 6-7 Info Evening

## Thu 28 Nov

Yr 9 Rite Journey Celebration

#### Fri 29 Nov

Years 6-11 Award Assemblies

**WEEK 9 - STEP UP** 

**WEEK 10 - STEP UP** 

#### Wed 11 Dec

Students last day of term



## From our Head of Teaching and Learning 6-12

"The best way to predict the future is to create it." - Peter Drucker.

This quote emphasizes the proactive role of education in shaping students' futures.

At Good Shepherd Lutheran College, we're excited to share updates on our evolving curriculum, guided by our commitment to Free to Flourish, a set of core learning values within Lutheran Education Australia. For years, our Middle Years Programme (MYP) has been instrumental in fostering inquiry-based learning and developing essential skills. However, as we move forward, we saw the opportunity to enhance our curriculum by fully transitioning to the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority's (ACARA) Version 9, which will better support our students and teachers in achieving their learning goals.

The new ACARA curriculum will be implemented in 2025, with notable changes including a shift from the MYP's 1-8 grading system to an A-E scale for Years 6-10, offering clearer insight into student progress for families. Our dedicated teaching staff has been working behind the scenes on this transition all year, and their dedication has been outstanding.



Shane Rumbold Head of Teaching and Learning (6-12)

Meanwhile, at the time of writing this article, our dynamic calendar is bustling with activity. Year 7 students are preparing for Camp Week, ARTiculate, a special event that showcases student creativity and achievement in the arts, is fast approaching, and our Year 12s are about to begin their external examinations. Our new Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) course, a Stage 1 subject for our Year 10s, has gained external recognition for our teaching team's innovative approach.

As we look to 2025, we're excited to introduce a Certificate II in Music for interested Year 10 students and a Business III Certificate for interested Year 11s, as part of the nationally recognised Australian Qualifications Framework, broadening our curriculum to meet diverse student needs. Teachers involved with these new certificate courses have been engaged in intensive upskilling, dedicating significant time to prepare for next year. Some of our English teachers and Student Support staff have completed intensive days of professional development in readiness for a new literacy support programme for select students of our Years 6 and 7 cohorts next year.

The transition to ACARA, alongside these new initiatives, will bring a more tailored and impactful learning experience for our students. Our senior SACE (NTCET) Stage 1 & 2 courses will remain unchanged, ensuring continuity. The PYP curriculum at our junior campus' will continue. I am grateful for the teamwork and commitment of our staff in building these new curriculum enhancements, and I look forward to the positive impact that 2025 will bring to our learning community.

### **Shane Rumbold**

Head of Teaching and Learning 6-12 | shane.rumbold@ntschools.net



**Kyle Cantrill**College Chaplain

## **College Chaplain**

If you wish to contact our College Chaplain, Kyle Cantrill, you can email kyle.cantrill@ntschools.net

"Do your best to live in peace with everyone." *Romans 12:18* 

## **Year 12 Final Week Celebrations**

As the school year draws to a close, our Year 12 students marked their final week of classes with a series of memorable and heartfelt activities that brought laughter, reflection, and joy to the entire Good Shepherd Lutheran College community.

### Monday: A Step Back in Time

The week kicked off with an imaginative start as Year 12 students dressed up to recreate their childhood photographs. The school grounds were filled with smiles as students, transformed into their younger selves, posed for side-by-side photos reenacting their childhood moments. It was a nostalgic day that reminded everyone of how far these young adults have come.

## **Thursday: Bling Up Your Uniform**

Thursday saw the creative spirit in full swing with a theme of "Bling Up Your GSLC Uniform." Sequins, dyed shirts, feathers, and dazzling accessories brightened the campus as students added their unique flair to the school uniform. The vibrant display of personality and humor made the day one to remember.

## **Friday: Creativity and Community**

Friday was a whirlwind of clever decoration as Year 12 students showcased their artistic talents by adorning the upper senior school and a few lucky staff offices. Their creativity knew no bounds, turning familiar spaces into works of art filled with fun and surprises.























## **Year 12 Final Week Celebrations**

Students also wore their special memorabilia shirts, which held the heartfelt signatures of friends, teachers, and members of the school community. These shirts became cherished symbols of their time at GSLC, filled with well-wishes and memories.

To show their appreciation for the support and guidance they've received, Year 12s organized a special lunch for all staff, coinciding with World Teachers' Day. It was a gesture that underscored the strong bonds between students and faculty and celebrated the dedication of our teachers.

## **Final Assembly and Reflections**

The week concluded with the much-anticipated final student assembly. Awards were given to recognize outstanding staff and celebrate the Year 12 peer awards. The assembly was filled with touching moments as we watched video clips chronicling the students' journey from their early days at GSLC to their last week of high school.

Perhaps the most poignant part of the assembly was when students opened letters they had written to themselves at the start of the year. Accompanied by a special box of letters collected from their peers throughout the year, it was an emotional moment that captured the spirit of growth, friendship, and resilience.

The Year 12 cohort's final week was a beautiful blend of fun, creativity, and deep reflection. As we bid farewell to this incredible group, we wish them all the best in their future endeavors and thank them for the joy they've brought to Good Shepherd Lutheran College.







## **Subject in Focus: Physical and Health Education**

The GSLC Physical & Health Education faculty has been buzzing with energy, growth, and hands-on learning. From skill-building in diverse sports to in-depth health education and leadership opportunities, students across all year levels have embraced challenges, developed new skills, and deepened their understanding of wellness. It's been a remarkable year of fostering fitness, teamwork, and lifelong health habits!



Year 6 PE and Health classes have had an exciting and enriching year, exploring a range of activities that promote fitness, teamwork, and healthy living. Through Dance Fitness, students discovered the fun in staying active as they danced to the beat, engaging different muscle groups and staying cool at the same time. Team Building activities encouraged them to work together and develop strong collaborative skills. In Growing and Changing, students learned about their bodies and how they develop over time, building an understanding of health and wellness. On the courts, they mastered the essentials of European Handball and strengthened their skills in Netball, gaining both confidence and technique. The Drug Education unit provided them with essential knowledge to make safe, healthy choices. Lastly, in Healthy Living unit & Fitness Plans, students discussed how to make wellness a lifelong goal, exploring how fitness and physical activity benefit us at every stage of life.

**Year 7** PE and Health classes have had a dynamic year, celebrating diversity, creativity, and personal growth. Beginning with Cultural Diversity, students explored the rich cultures that make up GSLC, creating meaningful cultural displays that showcased their unique backgrounds and deepened their understanding of community. The Create a Game project allowed them to put their creativity and teamwork to the test as they designed, developed, and ran their own modified sports, inventing new ways to play and engage. In Nutrition, students learned about making healthy food and drink choices, setting a foundation for lifelong wellness. The Kicking Sports unit honed their skills in AFL and Soccer, blending skill-building with spirited gameplay. Through Sexual Education, they gained essential knowledge on body changes and development, supporting their transition into high school. Lastly, Gymnastics pushed many out of their comfort zones, challenging them to explore new movements and build confidence.



Year 8 PE and Health classes have enjoyed a diverse and enriching year, discovering new sports, enhancing their fitness, and building essential health knowledge. Students were introduced to Gaelic Football, where they developed skills in a sport new to many of them, and tackled Touch Rugby, gaining confidence in game play. In the Fitness & Gym unit, they made the most of GSLC's gym facilities, designing personalised fitness plans for themselves and their friends, promoting both health and camaraderie. Through units on Alcohol & Other Drugs and Smoking & Vaping, students learned about the effects of these substances on the body, empowering them with knowledge to make healthy choices. They also embraced Sofcrosse - a school-friendly version of lacrosse - and a miniunit in Baseball 7s and T-ball, with Baseball NT guiding their learning. In Health, GSLC introduced the SHINE SA program, which supported students in building important knowledge around relationships, consent, and reproductive health. The year wrapped up with Martial Arts, where students engaged in karate, with guidance from Ms. Cusack's Dojo and special guests from Karate NT.

## **Subject in Focus: Physical and Health Education**

**Year 9** PE and Health classes have been packed with engaging activities, hands-on learning, and new skills this year. In Nutrition, students focused on teen-friendly tips, exploring which foods best support both daily life and physical activity. They embraced the outdoors with Orienteering, mastering compass use, map reading, and map-to-ground skills to find orienteering flags. Striking Sports introduced them to Table Tennis, Bat Tennis, and Mini Tennis, where they developed techniques and enjoyed spirited gameplay. The excitement peaked with an Amazing Race unit where students designed their own challenges for classmates, blending creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork in a race against time. The SHINE SA program continued to provide valuable insights, focusing on respectful relationships, consent, contraception, and STI knowledge, building a solid foundation for healthy relationships. Rounding out the year were Court Sports, where students honed their skills in Volleyball, Netball, and Basketball, taking gameplay to the next level.





This year, our **Year 10** PE elective classes have been packed with exciting opportunities for students to delve deeper into fitness, sports science, and teamwork. In Sports Biomechanics, students chose their favourite sports and explored the intricacies of body mechanics required to perform specific skills, gaining insights into how our bodies move and function. In Volleyball, they honed essential skills and worked toward putting them into action in game scenarios. The Fitness unit allowed students to take ownership of their health by developing personalised fitness plans focused on improving a selected fitness component. The First Aid course equipped students with life-saving skills, including CPR, with the chance to earn their First Aid certification by the end of Term 4. Finally, in SEPEP's Ultimate Frisbee program, students ran their own league, stepping into leadership roles as captains, referees, and managers, making the experience both empowering and unforgettable.

Stage 1 SACE PE students tackled a range of challenging and thought-provoking projects aimed at deepening their understanding of fitness, inclusivity, and coaching. In AT1 Performance Improvement, students focused on enhancing a specific fitness component related to Touch Football, developing personalised gym programs to track and demonstrate measurable progress. The AT2 Physical Activity Investigation allowed students to delve into the inclusivity of AFL, exploring how sports can be modified to increase participation across diverse groups. This investigation extended into AT3 Modified Games, where students created their own inclusive game designs to pitch in a "Shark Tank"-style presentation, advocating for greater accessibility in sports. Another Performance Improvement project AT4 saw students step into coaching roles, guiding Junior School students in a chosen sport. They crafted detailed lesson plans, collected data, and reflected on skill development, building a comprehensive coaching portfolio.



## **Subject in Focus: Physical and Health Education**



This year, Stage 2 SACE PE students undertook in-depth studies and hands-on projects, exploring the science behind sports performance and coaching. In AT1 Diagnostics, they analysed the biomechanics of a tennis serve, comparing their performance to peers and elite athletes, with a goal to enhance their own serve through data-driven adjustments. They also investigated Energy Systems within volleyball, examining how elite athletes utilise different energy systems during gameplay. By collecting heart rate data, heat maps, and game statistics, they drew insights into athletic performance. Their AT2 Self-Improvement Portfolio challenged them to focus on an individual skill in a sport of their choice—from basketball free throws to Driver in Golf —applying biomechanical and energy system knowledge to make measurable improvements, all meticulously documented in a research-backed portfolio. In AT3 Group Dynamics, students took on coaching roles with Year 11 PE students, leading volleyball sessions where they analysed the impact of their coaching style on players' participation and performance.

As we reflect on an exciting and dynamic year in the GSLC Physical & Health Education faculty, we're also looking ahead to 2025 with even more to offer. With the SHINE SA program rolling out from Year 6-9, the Australian Curriculum being implemented for Year 6-10, and brand new PE elective classes for Year 9 and 10, there's a lot to look forward to. These exciting additions will continue to empower students with knowledge, skills, and experiences that support their physical and personal development. 2025 is set to be another fantastic year for PE and Health at GSLC!



## Year 6 Students Embark on a Creative Adventure at MAGNT

Over four unforgettable days, Year 6 students were immersed in local history, culture, and the arts as they underwent a collaborative project involving the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory, Darwin Symphony Orchestra and Tracks Dance.

Day 1: The Adventure Begins The students' adventure kicked off with a visit to MAGNT, where museum experts guided them through captivating exhibits exploring history, culture, and nature. This initial exploration set the foundation for the creative process. Students began to engage with the museum's rich collection, sparking their imaginations and laying the groundwork for their upcoming workshops. They would soon be transforming their knowledge into a performance, bringing the museum's collection to life through music and movement.

Day 2: Creative Brainstorming and Movement On the second day, the students began brainstorming ideas, drawing inspiration from their museum visit. With guidance from DSO Education Officer Stephanie Arnold, they linked their ideas to various music composers, expanding their understanding of how sound could enhance storytelling. Meanwhile, Tracks Dance Animateur Spillett led the students through early choreography explorations, teaching them how to express their ideas through movement.

Day 3: Preparing for the Big Day The third day saw the students working hard to prepare for their upcoming performance. With support from Tracks Dance Animateur Spillett, they polished their choreography while the Darwin Symphony Orchestra musicians provided the music.

Day 4: Showtime! The grand finale arrived on Friday, with Year 6 students delivering a stunning performance at MAGNT to music played by the Darwin Symphony Orchestra quartet. The performance was the perfect conclusion to their four-day journey, showcasing not only their newfound knowledge but also their artistic growth.

Special thanks go to the DSO musicians, Tracks Dance Animateur Spillett, and all involved in making this experience so memorable for the students.











## **2025 Captains**

On October 16, candidates for 2025 College Captains took to the stage in a special assembly, addressing their peers, teachers and special guests with thoughtful presentations outlining their visions for the College's future. Voting then opened, with all staff and students casting their votes for those they believe embody the values of Good Shepherd Lutheran College

Students then moved to their respective house assemblies, where they heard from those vying for the 2025 House Captain positions.

Each candidate delivered their pitch with passion, confidence, and respect for their peers, making it a challenging decision for voters. A huge congratulations goes out to every student who stepped up for these leadership roles - they exemplified courage, dedication, and an impressive commitment to our school community.

We are thrilled to announce the 2025 Middle and Senior College Captains and House Captains. With such promising leaders at the helm, we look forward to seeing Good Shepherd Lutheran College continue to thrive. Congratulations to all, and best of luck as you take on these important roles!



## SENIOR SCHOOL COLLEGE CAPTAINS



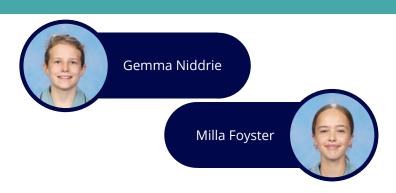








## MIDDLE SCHOOL COLLEGE CAPTAINS



## **HOUSE CAPTAINS**



## **ARTiculate**

Last night's annual Arts & Design showcase, ARTiculate, brought together students, parents, and staff for a vibrant evening of creativity, achievement, and community spirit. The showcase was filled with great performances, inspiring artwork, and mouthwatering food crafted by the Year 10 Food Technology students.

The evening kicked off with an exhibition that transformed the campus into a vibrant gallery of student work. Attendees were treated to a stunning array of projects from students of all year levels, including intricate artworks, innovative design pieces, woodworking projects, 3D printing, digital music compositions, textile creations, pottery, and much more. The showcase truly highlighted the incredible diversity of artistic expression nurtured at Good Shepherd Lutheran College.

This year's People's Choice Award saw an unprecedented number of votes, reflecting the community's enthusiasm and support. The competition was incredibly close, leading to a remarkable outcome: two first-place awardees and two runners-up.

The winners of the 2024 ARTiculate People's Choice Awards, in a tie for first place, are:

- Doug Dupree, for his exceptional ceramic tea set.
- Madeline Irving, for her striking artwork of famous faces.

Runners-up were:

- **Sophie Nunn**, for her beautifully rendered watercolour landscape.
- **Tiger Stafford**, for her thought-provoking circular pencil artwork, *In the Eye of the Beholder*.













## **ARTiculate**







After exploring the exhibits, students, families, friends, and staff gathered in the chapel for the highlight of the evening: a formal awards presentation and live performances. The ceremony celebrated students who had excelled in various disciplines within the arts and design, recognising their consistent effort, dedication and excellence. Guests were also treated to live music and dance performances, each a testament to the students' skill and enthusiasm.

A heartfelt thanks goes to our dedicated staff members who brought this event to life, from coordinating exhibits to supporting students throughout their creative journeys. We're also grateful to the families whose encouragement fuels our students' drive to explore, create, and excel in the arts.

ARTiculate was a joyous celebration of our students' hard work, creativity, and love for the arts. Congratulations to all the performers, artists, designers, awardees, and their families for their dedication and support. We look forward to seeing the incredible work that next year's showcase will undoubtedly bring!











## From Student to Mentor: Meet our new DSM!

Good Shepherd Lutheran College is excited to welcome Jessica Moon as their new Defence School Mentor (DSM) supporting Defence families across three campuses in Leanyer, Palmerston and Howard Springs. Jess brings a unique perspective to this vital role, having grown up in a Defence family herself.

As a former recipient of the Defence Mentor Program's support as a student, Jess is passionate about giving back and ensuring that Defence students at Good Shepherd Lutheran College feel seen, supported, and welcomed. Her father's service in the Army gave her firsthand experience of the challenges faced by Defence families, and she's excited to use her experience to help students settle and thrive at school.

Principal Matthew Qualischefski shares his enthusiasm about having Jess on the team, saying, "We are thrilled to have Jess join us as the new Defence School Mentor. Her background and understanding of Defence life make her an invaluable asset to our school. We understand the unique challenges faced by Defence families, and we're confident that Jess will provide the guidance and care needed to help our students thrive in our community."

### **How Jess Supports Defence Families**

Settling into a new school can be challenging. Jess plays a vital role in helping students by connecting them to the school community. By fostering friendships and building support networks quickly, she ensures that the transition is smoother and less overwhelming.

When a parent is away for deployment, exercises, or training courses, children can experience emotional difficulties. Good Shepherd Lutheran College runs a 'Deployment Kids Group' every Tuesday and Wednesday during lunchtimes. This group offers a safe space where students can share their experiences through activities like journaling, letter writing and crafts. Participation is entirely voluntary, allowing children to choose when they feel ready to engage.

For those preparing to move again, Jess helps students who are posting out by providing emotional support, helping them say goodbye to friends, and offering positive thinking strategies to ease the transition to their new school environment.

Want to know more? Reach out to dsm@goodshepherd.nt.edu.au.



Principal Matthew Qualischefski with Defence School Mentor Jessica Moon.

## **Bell Shakespeare: Inspiring Young Minds Through Engaging Performances**

Last week, our students had the incredible opportunity to experience live performances by The Players of Bell Shakespeare, Australia's leading Shakespearean theatre company. The performances brought the magic of the theatre to life captivating and inspiring our young audiences.

From the moment the actors took the stage, it was clear that our students were fully engaged. The dynamic performances of classic plays like "Romeo and Juliet" and "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Macbeth" were transformed into an exhilarating theatrical event. Students were seen leaning forward in their seats, laughter and gasps echoing through the chapel as they connected with the characters and stories unfolding before them. Using humour, Bell Shakespeare brought Shakespeare's language and complex themes to life, making them relatable to today's youth.

The talented performers from Bell Shakespeare had a deep passion for their craft. This was evident through their ability to convey deep emotions and meaning. The actors encouraged students to explore the complexities of the characters, demonstrating that Shakespeare's works are not just historical texts but living stories that speak to universal human experiences.

After the performance, the actors participated in a Q&A session, answering students' questions about the characters, their acting processes, and the relevance of Shakespeare within today's modern society. This interactive component further fuelled the students' enthusiasm, as they learned about the artistry and dedication that goes into each performance.

The Bell Shakespeare performances were not just entertaining; they were an inspiring educational experience that fostered a deeper appreciation for literature and the arts among our students. We are grateful for the opportunity to host such an impactful event, and we look forward to seeing how this experience ignites a passion for Shakespeare and theatre in our young learners. Thank you to Bell Shakespeare for their incredible work and dedication to making the Bard accessible and engaging for all!

Sara Martin | Head of English









## **Christmas Toy and Food Drive**

This term, we are excited to launch our annual Food and Toy Drive to support those in our community who may be less fortunate. Many young people and families face challenges during the Christmas season and may not have the opportunity to enjoy a festive meal or experience the joy of opening gifts on Christmas morning.

In partnership with the Salvation Army, we have the opportunity to make a real difference. By donating food and toys, we can help bring some Christmas cheer to those in need.

#### We are collecting:

- New toys for all age groups
- · Canned goods and non-perishable Christmas foods
- · Soaps, perfumes, beauty products
- Any other items that would make a thoughtful gift this Christmas

Donations will be collected at each campus during Week 9. Collection boxes are available outside Mr. Kyle's office. Let's come together as a school and help make this Christmas special for someone in our community!

## **Kyle Cantrill**

College Chaplain







#### 2025 Term Dates

Term 1

Monday 3 February - Friday 4 April

Midsemester Break

Monday 7 April - Friday 11 April

Term 2

Tuesday 15 April - Friday 20 June

Semester Break

Monday 23 June - Friday 11 July

Term 3

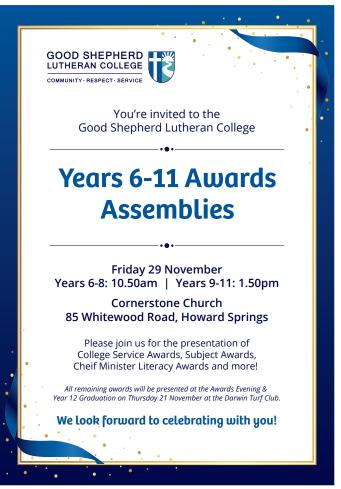
Tuesday 15 July - Friday 19 September

Midsemester Break

Monday 22 September - Friday 3 October

Term 4

Monday 6 October - Wednesday 10 December





## ALWS GIFTS OF GRACE GIVE YOU MORE THIS CHRISTMAS!

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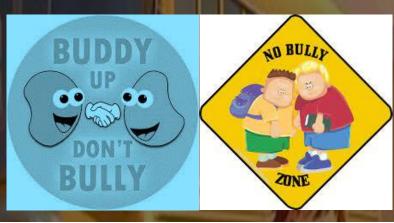






## CDC NORTHERN TERRITORY

## Bussy's Corner Hello Students and Families



Be Kind and Respectful, don't be a Bully.

Bullies can get help. (Including ways to manage your stress and emotions)

why you shoud NOT **BULLY** 

Because it shows you are insecure.

Because it is WRONG to pick on others who are different.

Because you can control your behaviour.

Stop and think what if it is you who is getting bullied.

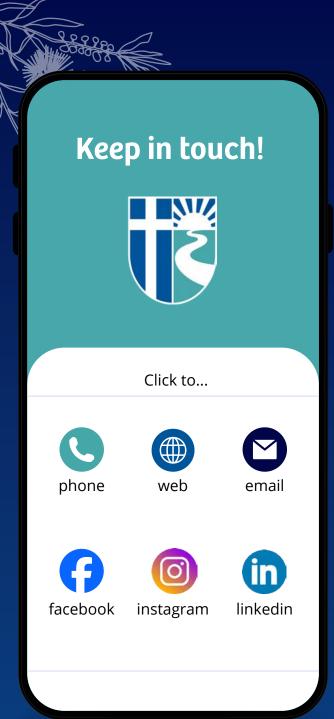
If you are being bullied, help is available. If you are bullying others, take the first step to stop it by getting help.

Can parents/guardians please ensure that students understand their responsibilities as outlined in the Code of Conduct for School Bus Travel. Click on this link for the Code:

https://nt.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf\_file/0010/547624/code-of-conduct-for-school-bustravel.pdf







Do you love our school as much as we do? Please help us spread the word - we appreciate it!

Leave us a Google review!

## **Howard Springs Campus**

Cnr of Whitewood Rd and Kundook Pl Howard Springs NT

## **Leanyer Campus**

94 Leanyer Dr Leanyer NT

## **Palmerston Campus**

Cnr of Temple Tce and Emery Ave Palmerston NT



## **Top End Lutheran Parish**

We welcome you to come and be a part of our community.

Our Sunday morning church service starts: 9:30am

14 Trower Road Milner NT

Phone: 1300 TELP 00 (1300 8357 00)

Email: darwinlutheranchurch@gmail.com