FeteFeat

During the past year, Perth College has welcomed local residents through its gates for a variety of events and special occasions. The biggest of these was the triennial Fete in November. A special day in the School calendar, the campus came to life and crowds poured in to join the fun.

“It’s a fantastic event that brings everyone together – the School and broader communities; so many people came along and they all went home happy,” Principal, Jenny Ethell, said.

A generous group of parents and staff formed a planning committee in late 2012, working with local authorities and residents to ensure the day ran smoothly. Students were involved in all aspects of the Fete, with visitors impressed at their handiwork and the pride the girls took in serving at stalls, performing on stage and showing off their school. A jam-packed entertainment programme included fashion parades, performances (including local band Room for Reason), and various Perth College ensembles.

Sideshow alley took over Lawley Crescent and was abuzz with a variety of activities. Bouncy castles, bubble-making, a cuddly animal farm, pony rides, a fairy grotto and an inflatable pirate ship slide kept children entertained while adults could peruse vintage goods and clothing, and sample gourmet produce.

“The Fete was a fabulous day of celebration and demonstrated the PC magic – there was a great sense of pride and spirit amongst the community,” Mrs Ethell said.

Funds raised will be used to upgrade the swimming pool change rooms used by the girls and members of the Perth Swim Academy.

A video of Fete highlights is at www.perthcollege.wa.edu.au.

Perth College thanks its corporate sponsors for their support and generosity. They included: Irving & Keenan Real Estate (Gold); Margaria Cleaning Group, Tara Uniforms (Silver); Advance Press, Bonanza Paints, Chefmaster, Envar Services, Harcourts Central, Thermomix in Australia, Office of Road Safety, MisKIN Holistic Skin Clinic (Bronze).
Dear friends,

As you read our first edition of Community Link for 2014, our students are settling into their classes and the School is preparing for a busy semester. Many events are scheduled for not only our girls and their families, but also for local residents to enjoy.

We are very fortunate to be a part of the Mount Lawley community and I was pleased to see many of you at our triennial Fete and at celebrations throughout 2013 to mark the Old Girls’ Association’s centenary. Community support has also been integral to the success of the School’s InsideOut self-leadership programme, which now enters its third year and offers workshops for Perth College girls, staff and parents as well as educators and students across the city and parts of regional Western Australia. As the national facilitator of the GirlPower friendship courses, Perth College is leading the way in girls’ education and making a positive impact on our developing adolescents.

A list on the back page outlines upcoming events until July, and we invite you to join us in some of these wonderful activities.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Community Link and look forward to seeing you soon.

Warm regards

Jenny Ethell

Serving Our Community

Perth College has always instilled in its students the importance of making a difference in the community.

Whether collecting items for a food appeal, helping at local events, assisting with Junior School Clubs and Old Girls’ Association functions, raising awareness for charities or visiting residents at St David’s Retirement Centre, all students at Perth College undertake community service projects or volunteer work.

Children at Princess Margaret Hospital benefited during 2013, with Year 10 girls giving up their lunch breaks and time during their Form classes to decorate colourful caps for youngsters in the oncology unit, while students in the Year 9 Textiles class made comfortable, huggable cushions using soft fabrics.

“We wanted to provide some cheer and comfort, and just let these patients know other children are thinking about them,” Social Science teacher, Brooke Tonev, said.

One fundraising event last year attracted particular attention. Year 11 boarder, Georgia Roberts, approached the Principal, Jenny Ethell, to join her in losing her locks during the World’s Greatest Shave. Mrs Ethell agreed – but only if Georgia could raise $20,000.

“For so many people – and we all know someone affected by cancer – losing their hair is not a choice. Making this temporary sacrifice is a privilege for both Georgia and me, and we are extremely grateful to everyone for their donations.”

With the support of the Perth College family and the wider community, the challenge raised $32,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation of WA.
Giving Back

Freya Shearer, a Perth College Old Girl, has been named Western Australia’s latest Rhodes Scholar.

Ms Shearer was chosen to study at Oxford University based on her exceptional intellect, character, leadership and commitment to community service. She will pursue a Master’s degree in Global Health Science and Research in Public Health.

The 24-year-old has a Bachelor of Science with Honours from the University of Western Australia and a Diploma in Modern Languages. She was drawn to Science while studying Chemistry and Biology at Perth College, which she attended from 2001 to 2006.

Principal, Jenny Ethell, praised Ms Shearer as an amazing young woman who thoroughly deserves this recognition. “Freya excelled academically during her secondary education but was also actively involved in co-curricular activities, as a champion athlete and talented musician,” she said.

“Since graduating, she has given her time generously to the School, coaching our athletics team, and has also been heavily involved in social justice activities.”

Ms Shearer was the guest speaker at the Perth College presentation night for secondary students in early December. This followed her return from a month in Nepal where she continued her work for Upside – a not-for-profit organisation that partners with Nepalese villages to develop community-owned agricultural businesses, which, in turn, provide funds for education and health.

She has spent the past year working in the emergency department at St John of God Hospital (Murdock) and for the past two years has organised weekly soccer matches for volunteers and detainees at the Perth Immigration Detention Centre.

“I am very interested in preventative health; in eradicating disease on a global scale through vaccinations, community development programmes and other preventative measures,” Ms Shearer said.

InsideOut

The InsideOut self-leadership programme, now in its third year at Perth College, continues to evolve.

In 2013, Perth College was the only school in the State to facilitate the suite of GirlPower courses for students aged six to 12, offering the programme to Perth College parents and staff as well as educators, young girls and their mothers across the city and regional Western Australia – helping them manage friendships, develop self-esteem and prevent bullying.

Now, the School is the national facilitator of this programme and its Canadian Founder, Dana Kerford, will return to Perth College to run a community workshop on Saturday 3 May, from 1.30 pm to 3.30 pm.

A GirlPower workshop for mothers and daughters (aged eight to 12) will also be held for local residents and the wider community at the School’s Founders Centre for Early Learning on:

Saturday 22 February, Saturday 7 June, Saturday 28 June from 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Thursday 27 March from 4.30 pm to 6.30 pm

InsideOut Director, Deb Perich, said ‘The Language of Friendship’ session could help mums to better understand their daughters’ emotions and offer advice and support, and family members to communicate more effectively.

“GirlPower provides a common language for students, parents and teachers in the area of friendship and gives them the tools to manage conflict and create healthier relationships,” she added.

“It leads to more harmonious environments at home and at school, creating a community of kindness and respect among young girls.”

Tickets for ‘The Language of Friendship’ are $35 and include the workshop, handouts, merchandise and a Q&A session. Please visit www.trybooking.com/CIIIX to register, or email Inside.Out@pc.wa.edu.au for further details.

A mother-daughter programme for girls in Years 1 and 2 will also be offered later in 2014.
Opening Our Doors

Perth College will open its doors to the community, during the Labour Day long weekend. Despite the public holiday, students will attend their normal classes, allowing visitors to see the School in action.

Students in Years 6 and 10 will guide visitors around the grounds, including the recently-renovated 50m swimming pool and the stunning new Junior School playground, talking about their experiences at Perth College. Staff will be available to answer questions about the curriculum, special programmes and enrolments.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HIGH TEA
Perth College Pavilion, Lawley Crescent
Thursday 27 February, 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm
Support the School’s two social justice programmes in the Solomon Islands and Cambodia at this annual fundraiser with auctions, raffles and gift bags. Bookings are essential via www.trybooking.com/EDID

OPEN DAY
Perth College Campus
Monday 3 March, 10.00 am to 2.00 pm
See what School life is really like by taking a tour with our Years 6 and 10 students and meeting the staff. To register, please contact the Natalie Swannell, on 9471 2124 or at development@pc.wa.edu.au

ART@PC
Perth College Pavilion, Lawley Crescent
Friday 4 April – champagne opening at 6.00 pm (tickets essential)
Sat 5 to Sun 6 April, 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
View and buy the works of talented and well-known artists. Contact Trish Montgomery on 9471 2163 or email Trish.Montgomery@pc.wa.edu.au for more details.

FRIENDS OF PERTH COLLEGE
FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT
Perth College Founders Centre
Saturday 5 April (time TBC)
Bring a rug and a picnic to enjoy a family movie under the stars. The film will be announced closer to the time.

SENIOR MUSIC NIGHT
Judith Cottier Theatre, Perth College
Friday 2 May, 7.00 pm
The talents of Years 7 to 12 Music students are celebrated on this special evening.

INFORMATION SESSIONS
AND COMMUNITY TOURS
Perth College Campus
Tuesday 6 May, Thursday 19 June, 9.00 am
Learn more about the School and its programmes, meet the Principal and tour the campus.

FRIENDS OF PERTH COLLEGE
MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON
Perth College Pavilion, Lawley Crescent
Friday 9 May, 12.30 pm to 3.00 pm
Celebrate mothers at this annual luncheon, featuring a guest speaker.

FRIENDS OF PERTH COLLEGE
FRIENDS OF MUSIC
MAGICAL MUSIC TOUR
Perth College Campus
Friday 23 May, 7.00 pm
Enjoy musical performances at locations across the School campus as well as refreshments and canapés.

JUNIOR SCHOOL ENSEMBLES CONCERT
Judith Cottier Theatre, Perth College
Thursday 5 June, 6.00 pm
Years 2 to 6 students perform in the School’s large instrumental ensembles.

PARENT EDUCATION SEMINAR
Perth College Founders Centre
Monday 9 June, 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm
Author, presenter and educator, Paul Dillon, speaks about drugs and alcohol, equipping parents with the knowledge to protect and educate their children.

SENIOR SCHOOL MUSICAL
Judith Cottier Theatre, Perth College
Thurs 26, Fri 27 and Sat 28 June, 7.00 pm
The Senior School’s annual production. To register contact Natalie Swannell, on 9471 2124 or development@pc.wa.edu.au

For enquiries or more details on these events please email development@pc.wa.edu.au or contact the Perth College Development Office on 9471 2146.