



Helping those in need: Taylor, Ruby, Charlotte, Ariella and Harriet packed shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse Christmas campaign

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## The Gift of Giving



Gifts for homeless youth: Sandrine (Year 12) helps Anglicare's Kelly Keall load donations from Senior School students

The generosity of Perth College students has been felt across the city.

A \$6,000 donation from members of the School's Amnesty Club has enabled ASeTTS (the Association for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors) to launch new activities to support young women from refugee backgrounds. Students fundraised over several years and chose to direct their collection to a humanitarian organisation making a difference in the local community.

ASeTTS has launched a programme that helps young female refugees develop their knowledge about civil rights and health matters to empower them to make decisions that will improve their wellbeing.

Principal Jenny Ethell said it was heartwarming to see students raising awareness of important community issues and actively trying to make a difference.

"Our students from Kindergarten to Year 12 have developed relationships with a range of local groups to give their time, resources or monetary donations," she said.

"Whether it's volunteering at Inglewood Triangle, running a stall at a fair or festival, or creating toys for children in hospital, the girls are demonstrating all of the Perth College values – being capable, courageous and caring."

Three Christmas appeals organised by students ensured a brighter festive season for children overseas and at home.

Years 7 and 8 girls filled 50 shoeboxes with items to wear, love and play with or use at school as part of Operation Christmas Child, run by international aid group Samaritan's Purse.

To help homeless youth, Senior School students donated drink bottles, headphones, sunscreen, sunglasses and vouchers for Anglicare to add to care packs which were distributed by its Street Connect mobile outreach programme.

The Preparatory class co-ordinated a Junior School collection of toys, books, clothing, toiletries and school items for Orana House, which provides shelter and support to women and children experiencing family domestic violence.

If you would like to support any of these worthy causes, please contact:

- ASeTTS .....9227 2700
- Samaritan's Purse .....1800 684 300
- Orana House .....9420 7264
- Anglicare Youth Services ..9325 7033





## A Note from the Principal

Dear friends,

As you read the first edition of *Community Link* for 2018, our girls have settled in after the summer break and are preparing for a busy year.

Our recent Open Day was a great success. We welcomed both prospective families and local residents who were keen to see beyond the Perth College gates. We occupy a small patch of land relative to other schools but educate more than 1,000 girls each day, and many people often wonder how we fit them all in!

After much planning and hard work, our Senior Learning and Leadership Centre – to be officially known as Excelsior House – is now

available for students to use. We are deeply grateful to our neighbours for their patience and understanding as the project progressed. I was overjoyed that our former Chaplain, the recently installed Archbishop of Perth, Kay Goldsworthy, has agreed to cut the ribbon to officially open this state-of-the-art facility.

I hope you enjoy this issue and extend a warm invitation to you to join us at our upcoming events.

Warm regards,  
**Jenny Ethell**



## Hard Work Pays Off

High achievers return to celebrate their results: Clarissa Luk, Cianina Lo, Zoe Webber, Kiera Ellis, Riley Abbott and Sinead Thompson

Perth College's most recent graduates have the world at their feet after impressive results in their final exams.

The 2017 Leavers are pursuing tertiary studies – in courses as diverse as Anthropology, Biochemistry, Fashion Merchandising and Stage Management – in Perth as well as interstate, with several receiving scholarships.

Perth College was one of just 14 schools to achieve a 100 per cent graduation rate, with 137 Year 12 students achieving their WA Certificate of Education.

Seventeen students completed a Vocational Education and Training Certificate II or higher, through which four girls earned direct entry to university.

Clarissa Luk, Dux in 2017, was one of 16 students in WA to achieve a perfect ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) of 99.95. She plans to study Engineering and Law (both with Honours) at the University of Sydney, having received three scholarships towards her tuition and accommodation fees.

Principal Jenny Ethell said the School's median ATAR of 89.45 was a positive reflection of the students' strong work ethic and determination.

"Their achievements were remarkable given the number of co-curricular or leadership commitments that many of the girls had in addition to their studies," she said.

Thirty-two students who received special awards from the School Curriculum and Standards Authority were recognised at a special assembly at Perth College in January.

## Going Underground

Since 1973, countless Perth College girls have safely crossed Beaufort Street using an underpass.

As private car ownership became increasingly popular in the 1960s, parents and staff worried about students navigating traffic to make their way to the School gates. The idea for an underpass was born.

In December last year, essential maintenance works began to improve the structural integrity of the underpass and ensure it can be used for years to come.

Works were completed in late January, as the girls returned for Term One; the stairs on the eastern side of the underpass were replaced, and a glass roof delivers light as well as shelter from the rain. Backfilling and new lawn will provide extra green space for students to use during recess and lunch.



▲ Perth College students using the nearly-completed underpass

▼ Underpass work in progress



Striking: The new sculpture by renowned artist Si Hummerston

## New Sculpture Reflects Growth and Development

A striking nine-metre sculpture made of aluminium and steel marks the entrance to the School's newest learning space – Excelsior House.

The blossoming flower represents students coming into their own as they prepare to graduate. The Perth College crest is incorporated into the leaf shapes.

Created by artist Si Hummerston, the artwork is the final stage of a project that began eight years ago when the Founders Centre for Early Learning was built. Sculptures between the Kindergarten and Preparatory represent seedlings, inspiring ideas of growth and development.

Principal Jenny Ethell said the new artwork showed the seedlings had grown tall and strong, sprouting leaves and beginning to bloom.

"Collectively, these pieces portray the journey of education throughout the years," she said.



# Our New Chaplain

A passion for social justice and experience working with teenagers from around the world will serve Reverend Lisa Ahuja well as she joins Perth College as its new Chaplain in 2018.

Ordained a Priest in Washington DC in 2007, Reverend Lisa has led parishes in Wisconsin and Texas – preaching in both English and Spanish. In 2015, she began working as the Pathway School Chaplain at the University of Melbourne's Trinity College, assisting teenagers from more than 30 countries.

"I am greatly moved by the deep values of the Sisters who founded Perth College – their prophetic vision has stood the test of time and I look forward to continuing to carry out these values in the worship life of the School," Reverend Lisa said.



From USA to Australia: Reverend Lisa Ahuja has moved into the role of Chaplain

## Upcoming Events

We invite our local community to get involved

For enquiries or more details on these events, please email [development@pc.wa.edu.au](mailto:development@pc.wa.edu.au) or contact the Perth College Community Relations Office on 9471 2122.

### 2019 SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for academic, general excellence, boarding, indigenous, music and Old Girls' Association scholarships to attend Perth College in 2019 close on Friday 23 March.

### 33RD ANNUAL COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION

Perth College Pavilion, Lawley Crescent

Friday 23 March – champagne opening, 6.00 pm (tickets essential)

Weekend viewing – 10.00 am to 4.00 pm

Enjoy and buy paintings, ceramics, jewellery, sculpture, glass, textiles and drawings by emerging and well-known WA artists, including Michael O'Connell, the School's artist-in-residence.

Contact Jessica Marantelli on 9471 2163 or email [Jessica.Marantelli@pc.wa.edu.au](mailto:Jessica.Marantelli@pc.wa.edu.au) for more details.

### INFORMATION SESSIONS AND COMMUNITY TOURS

Perth College campus

Thursday 5 April, 5.00 pm

Tuesday 12 June, Tuesday 31 July, 9.00 am

If you're considering a Perth College education for your daughter, come along to meet our Principal, tour the campus and see how we inspire learning.



Artist-in-Residence: Michael O'Connell with Year 12 Art students

### HIGH TEA FUNDRAISER

Excelsior House, Lawley Crescent, Perth College

Wednesday 28 March, 10.30 am to 1.00 pm

Support the School's two social justice programmes in Cambodia and the Solomon Islands at this annual event, with auctions, raffles and prizes. Bookings are essential via [www.trybooking.com/TMMA](http://www.trybooking.com/TMMA).

### JUNIOR SCHOOL STEaM EXPO

Perth College

Tuesday 19 June

Free workshops and activities are offered to the community to encourage girls to take up STEM subjects and pathways. Go to [www.perthcollege.wa.edu.au](http://www.perthcollege.wa.edu.au) for details.

### SPIN DANCE PRODUCTION

Judith Cottier Theatre, Perth College

Thursday 28 and Friday 29 June

The School's major Dance production features more than 100 dancers from Years 7 to 12.

Community Link

