The Junior School of A.B. Paterson College is a vibrant and active environment, both for the students and for the dedicated and caring College staff who are fortunate to engage with them every day. I have worked at the College now for almost six years, initially as a classroom teacher, then as an eMentor and, for the past two years, as the Deputy Head of Junior School in both the Pastoral Care and Curriculum roles. I feel privileged to be part of the College community, and have come to know a great many of our families as I have worked with them throughout the years. Prior to beginning at the College, I taught at a number of schools on the Gold Coast at all year levels across the junior years of schooling, right through to Year 7, and as a leader in developing innovative teaching practice. In 2012, I completed my Master of Education in the field of Literacy, and this continues to be an area in which I take an active and keen interest.

I consider myself privileged to work in a community that shares common values and where high expectations for our students, good manners, consideration for others, respect for learning and reward for effort is valued. It is our shared understanding that the best outcomes for our students are achieved when positive partnerships between families and school are maximised - that is the key to success. It is in this way that I am committed to maintaining our excellent record of providing our students with the best possible Junior School experience we can - one that allows our students to develop independence, resilience and the confidence to embrace their future, whatever that may bring.

Karen Roman – Head of Junior School

I was delighted to join the Junior School team at A.B. Paterson College at the beginning of 2015. The highlight to date has been working with dedicated and professional staff, and meeting the lovely and lively Junior School students. I joined the College from an independent school in Logan City, where I had worked for the past 17 years, the last six as Deputy Head of Junior School. I mainly taught in the early years after completing a Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) at QUT. I also completed a Master of Leadership and Management in Education at the University of Newcastle in 2013.

My role at the College is diverse and varied; however, my main priority is overseeing the pastoral care of the Junior School children. This involves overseeing the Personal Development (PD) programme, promoting positive behaviours and developing each child’s sense of well-being and social responsibility. I believe that learning and well-being are inextricably linked. Children learn best when their well-being is optimised; and they develop a strong sense of well-being when they experience success in learning.

In response to this precept, our teachers explore various pastoral care themes, including social skills, friendship, bullying issues and resilience during timetabled PD lessons. The children are taught the importance of building connections for resilience, using skills to overcome difficulties associated with relationships and the need to understand different types of communication.

I look forward to continuing to work with our children to build their strengths, nurture their resilience and empower them to flourish.

Belinda Farley – Deputy Head Junior School – Pastoral

I am the newest member of the Junior School Leadership team and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with such a dedicated and passionate team of educators. I have worked in various roles in schools in New South Wales, Western Australia and Queensland. I have been a Curriculum and Team Leader, Head of Faculty, as well as an Educational Consultant.

I joined A.B. Paterson College in 2013 and have most recently been Head of Academic Talent Development and Learning Enhancement at the College. I studied at Sydney University where I obtained my Bachelor of Education, Primary Degree. I have taught from Prep to Year 10, and this has allowed me to have an extensive knowledge of Curriculum, and Teaching and Learning Practices, in a Prep – Year 12 context.

I went on to study at the University of New England, where I received my Masters of Education Degree, Gifted and Talented. I am a published author and one of my passions is to engage in Professional Learning and share my knowledge of Curriculum and best evidence-based practice at conferences. I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to present at State, National and International Conferences over the past years.

In my new role as Deputy Head of Junior School - Teaching and Learning, I look forward to working with the teachers, parents and students to continue building and shaping the outstanding curriculum offered at the College. I will strive for continuous development of innovative curriculum and pedagogy.

Meagan King – Deputy Head Junior School – Teaching and Learning
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On 28 May, 2015, World Vision held its annual Leadership Conference at the Dream Centre, Carrara, here on the Gold Coast. Eight students were invited to attend from A.B. Paterson College. Kate Stokes, Ryan Usher, Timothy Freeman, Ashleigh Swadling, Brooke Musty, Vanessa Mihov and myself, were all fortunate enough to attend this extraordinary day.

World Vision did not fail to intrigue and connect with each and every one of the students who attended the Leadership Conference. The theme of the day was Stand and, without fail, by the end of the day, every student and their accompanying teachers were inspired to ‘stand’ up for the rights and privileges of those in impoverished and undernourished nations.

The day began with a game, where we were randomly placed into teams that were, in fact, countries. In this game we were set free to capitalise and raid other countries with the aim of gaining power. The game had no winner, and few rules. It was a psychological test and we all fell for it. We all were power hungry and thus identified the aim of the game as being to gain power; however, the aim of the game was actually never stated.

“We were able to work with other people in the simulation game and learnt many strategies on how to raise funds and awareness for World Vision to assist us back at school,” reflects Year 10 student, Brooke Musty.

From here, the hosts of the day, Murray Bunton and Rosie Gallagher, explained how we took advantage of power and related this to the real world. From conceptualising the true experiences of being poor and truly understanding what poverty is, it opened all of our eyes to the corrupt and harsh world around us.

“In the opening session of the World Vision Youth Conference, we ask the students a question: What if the power to change the world was right here in this room? Our aim throughout the day is to inspire and challenge a young generation of passionate people to realise their potential to lead the movement of ending world hunger. We suggest that a great first step to achieving this is to participate in the 40 Hour Famine and to raise funds for communities who go without enough food every day,” explains Rosie Gallagher.

We also had guest speakers, the World Vision ambassadors for 2015. They were able to share their first-hand experiences with us and enlighten us on what it was like visiting countries like East Timor and Bangladesh, and how saddening it is to watch people living below the poverty line, whilst we complain that there is not enough food in our own fridges. In fact, in their world, we have the equivalent of three months’ worth of food supplies when we claim we have nothing.

The eight students, who were afforded the opportunity to attend such a wonderful conference, walked away both enlightened, yet saddened by what was learned.

“The convention was extremely rewarding - it really highlighted how students (like me) can make a difference in the world with my leadership and determination. It was a great day of learning about modern day problems, meeting new people and planning some exciting things for the future. Definitely a worthwhile experience,” says Kate Stokes, Year 12, Wright House Captain.

So, I implore all of you, to get involved in World Vision’s 40 Hour Famine for 2015. It is the 40th anniversary, so let’s take a ‘stand’ in 2015 and support countries like East Timor and Bangladesh, who are unfairly living way below the poverty line.

Rebekah Tenebom - Year 10
**What does it mean to be an Australian?** In a time of global uncertainty, when many people have a genuine concern for our National security and ask legitimate questions about the right to hold citizenship, is it not time to ask what does it mean to be an Australian? Has Australian society changed so much that we no longer have the same bond of ‘mateship’ that gave birth to our country? Has our rhetoric become so politically correct that we can no longer discuss such matters openly? How do the rights of an individual compare against the rights of many?

These are complex questions that evoke much debate, emotion and polarised views, and I do not intend to ignite such debate in this forum, but it seems that the question of what it means to be an Australian is as important now as ever.

Like so many people from foreign lands of wide-ranging ethnicities, I am proud to be an Australian, and truly believe in the values that gave birth to the ‘Australian spirit’. Our National Anthem provides a genuine welcome to those from foreign lands to share in the wonderful resources of our Country, but to do so with an expectation of combining together, of uniting with courage to advance “Australia Fair.” Have these expectations been so readily forgotten? Do the ‘wants’ and ‘desires’ of the individual override or surpass the expectation and obligations of others when living in a community? What obligations should we have of an individual who chooses to enjoy the benefits of citizenship, the benefits provided by our social security systems or government programmes? How should these be expressed? Again, these are difficult questions.

There are a number of values, ideals, behaviours and attributes we would like to think are ‘Australian’. Do these contribute to our Australian identity? For many years, such questions have been asked and by many notable Australians. In his day, A.B. (Banjo) Paterson asked these questions, and helped a country shape its beliefs and gain a unique and enduring identity. His song Waltzing Matilda played a significant part in defining the Australian identity. Australian life in the bush, romanticised in literature, art and music since the 1790s, has been revered as a source of national ideals by the likes of Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson. Stories from the ‘Bush’ became legend and, for some, myth. Tales of bushrangers and stories of people surviving in the harsh Australian outback evoked themes of struggle, endurance, courage, mateship and a never-quit mentality. These stories, brought to life and passed on through the generations by Australian poets and song writers, are regarded by many as important Australian values.

One of Banjo Paterson’s most famous ballads, Waltzing Matilda, most likely written in response to both the Great Shearers’ Strike of 1891, and the battle between law enforcement and the Shearers at Dagworth Station in Winton, motivated the development of the Waltzing Matilda Centre in Winton. Founded in 1998, this educational centre was recently engulfed by fire, destroying many priceless images of our history, including student artwork donated by the College over many years. The loss of such important historical documents, drawings, equipment, and images of Australian history is a great shame. It is the history and story of a nation, of a people struggling to establish society and survive in a demanding, harsh climate; the story of people searching for freedom, and rights that many now take for granted.

Our Year 6 students prepare to leave for Winton as this magazine goes to print and it is my hope that their journey to Winton is not only a physical one, but also a journey of the spirit, as they start to ask the questions that many adults struggle with. What does it mean for me to be an Australian? How do I contribute to our country? How do I help make others feel welcome? How do I be all that I can be and help others to do the same?

Sometimes there is a need to look into our history to find paths and solutions to the problems experienced here and now. Could an examination of our history, and the story of those Australians who grew our society out of the ‘bush’, help us re-imagine what is truly important? There is no easy answer, but one thing is certain, how can we as a Nation address these issues, without a firm perspective of who we are and what is truly important?

I commend the articles contained within this edition of Vision Splendid to you. May they show you the strength, character, quality and purposeful endeavour of members of our community, and provide you with hope that our young people have a strong sense of their identity and ability to contribute positively to the world around them.

Brian Grimes
Principal
Old Collegians -
Big kids at heart!

It was wonderful to welcome more than 50 of our Old Collegians back to the College on Saturday, 16 May, for our Annual Old Collegians’ Sports and Social Day. Whilst the weather may have kept some at home, those Old Collegians present trumped the current students’ team in football; however, not to be beaten, the current students’ team won the touch football game. Volleyball, basketball and netball were also played enthusiastically in the Multi-Purpose Centre.

The highlight of the day for the past students was a visit to the newly completed Prep classroom, renovated classrooms and playground extensions. Reliving their own years in the Junior School, Old Collegians spent time ‘playing’ in the new cubby house, as well as making sure the slide into Gumnut Gully was “good enough” for the current students. Many Old Collegians were overheard commenting, ‘We certainly didn’t have a playground like that when we were here!’.

After speaking with our past student guests during the social part of the afternoon, it was encouraging to hear just how many of them are enthusiastic about their membership of Old Collegians and about ensuring a bright future for our alumni association, as well as motivating others to join and participate.

The hunt for past students with whom we can re-connect is never-ending, so past students, if you have not already completed a membership form, please contact the Association via email to register for membership at ahh@abpat.qld.edu.au or, the College, at abpat@abpat.qld.edu.au.

Angela Hirsch – Old Collegians Co-ordinator
The New Discovery Sport is the first in a new generation of Land Rover SUV design. This is a modern, relevant and compelling vehicle, with its well-proportioned compact body and purposeful stance. Its distinctive silhouette and beautifully sculptured surfaces all combine to create a vehicle that truly connects on an emotional level.
The Royal Flying Doctors Service (RFDS) was begun in 1928 by John Flynn, whose picture appears on our $20 note. He witnessed the struggle of people living in rural country areas, where just two doctors provided the only medical care for an area of almost two million square kilometres, and was inspired to help them.

In the 1950s, the RFDS was recognised by former Prime Minister, Sir Robert Menzies as being, ‘Perhaps the single greatest contribution to the effective settlement of the far distant country that we have witnessed in our time.’

In the 1960s, the RFDS started to purchase their own aircraft and employ their own pilots and engineers. Prior to this, contractors were used to provide these services.

Today, the RFDS is operational 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and has 61 aircrafts, 21 bases, five health facilities and 10 other facilities across Australia. They have 1150 staff, doctors and pilots. The RFDS pilots annually fly the equivalent of 25 round trips to the moon, and the doctors and flight nurses are responsible for the care of over 270,000 patients!

The Royal Flying Doctors Service is a non-profit organisation, which means they get very little government funding and rely heavily on donations to remain in operation. It takes approximately $6 million each year to keep the Royal Flying Doctors Service operational. Most of this money is donated from fundraisers, such as A.B. Paterson College.

On Monday, 18 May, the Year 6 Sausage Sizzle was held to raise funds for the RFDS for the third year in a row. The Sausage Sizzle is a major event on the A.B. Paterson College calendar - cooking over 1000 sausages, using 60 loaves of bread and 10 bottles of sauce to make the sandwiches, and chilling 780 poppers!

Year 6 students were each assigned a job they had to do and, with the help of the amazing parents, were able to deliver upwards of 350 pre-orders to the hungry Prep-Year 3 students in no time at all. Delivering the sausages to the classes was wonderful; you could see the excitement was hardly contained when the smell of the barbecue was in the air. The entire Year 6 cohort all had genuine smiles on their faces. It was contagious - from the wonderful parent helpers, who gave up their day to help this amazing cause, to the teachers and learning assistants who helped, right down to the fellow sausage buyers - everyone was happy to support such a worthy organisation.

At lunchtime, it was almost as if it was Burke Street in Melbourne! Rush hour had certainly started when the task of feeding the rest of the school began! It was all hands on deck, as Years 4-6 and the Senior School paraded in to join the lines and purchase their sausages and poppers.

We were lucky enough to have a visit from Janine Gardner, the Community Fundraising Co-ordinator from the RFDS Queensland Section. Ms Gardner addressed the entire Year 6 cohort, explaining how the RFDS operates and where the money we were helping to raise will be used. It was fantastic to have Ms Gardner attend our event, and her help on the day was very much appreciated.
‘A.B. Paterson College has been a major contributor to the RFDS with their fundraising efforts. They have kindly donated close to $5000 over the past two years through sausage sizzles and the Year 6 Winton camp. The students and staff have done an outstanding job and we are very grateful for their generosity. Thank you A.B. Paterson College for your continued support and helping us to keep the Flying Doctor Flying.’ J. Gardner

The Year 6 cohort will be presenting the cheque of the proceeds to a representative of the RFDS on the 17 July at the Stockman’s Hall of Fame in Longreach, as part of our Winton Camp experience, and could not be more proud of themselves for helping the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

Rihana Jamal, Keeley Barlow and Alissa Kouzmenkov – Year 6

Upon the announcement of the ASX Sharemarket Game results, we sat down with Kosuke Takahashi, Daniel Jackson and Lachlan Wardropper for a chat. As the top three place getters within the College, they provided some excellent insight, with Kosuke even placing third in Queensland.

The ASX School Sharemarket Game is run twice a year, for 10 weeks at a time. A.B. Paterson College has a long history of entering Economics students, plus other interested students in the Senior School. This year, 116 students were involved in the game from Years 7-12.

For those who don't know anything about it, could you please explain the ASX game?

Kosuke: The ASX game is a simulation of real life events in the share market; it perfectly represents the unpredictable fluctuations in value for shares, and the aim is to make as much money for your account as you can, either through dividends or capital gain. It is a challenging game, but creates an understanding of the share market and how to invest in shares, whilst taking into account macroeconomic factors, and causes and effects.

So Kosuke, how did you choose which stocks to invest in?

I chose shares that had a lower value to begin with, less than a $1, so price movements would have a larger impact. The first move is the most important; the higher the risk, the higher the reward, so I decided with my initial account of $50,000 to buy four companies in the mining and energy industries. You can see from the graph of Kosuke’s portfolio that he started to outperform the S&P/ASX 200 index in late April. The upward trend shown is impressive! Kosuke decided to sell out in May before the game finished – perhaps he should have stayed in the market longer!

What tips do you have for younger students who are starting to play the ASX game?

Kosuke: My first tip would be to study the market daily and be careful with your first decision on which stocks to invest in – do not let greed get to you, but rather have faith in businesses in growing industries. I made most of my money in two stocks: Sundance Energy Australia (oil and gas) earned me a return of 55% and Evolution Mining (gold) earned a 36% return.

Daniel: I made almost $3000 on one stock – LNG, Liquefied Natural Gas Ltd.

How has the ASX game influenced your economics study?

Lachlan: The ASX game formed an economic foundation of understanding for my share market assignment last year - it enabled me to comprehend how and why stocks change. I used that knowledge this year to help make investment decisions.

Has the game influenced your career path in any way?

Daniel: It really confirmed my plan to go to university for Business and Commerce – it provided realistic insight into the inner workings of the share market, which forms the foundation for a lot of business and economics study.

Time for a “serious” question – Economics is the study of key relationships, so what is your favourite cause and effect word?

Daniel: Therefore.

Lachlan: But.

Kosuke: Consequently.

These are words that show interpretation and analysis, key skills in this subject. They help us to add depth in our responses.
Now that you are share market professionals, do you think you could predict the future of the economy?

Daniel: The sharemarket will be slow this year to reflect the economy, as it is currently in a weak position. Interest rates are very low because the RBA is trying to stimulate the economy.

Kosuke: I agree – but with population increases, GDP around 2.5% and unemployment stationary, the share market will show an upward trend in the longer term.

What do you think about the implementation of economics as a subject in middle school?

Lachlan: It’s a really important subject for everyone to know something about how the economy works, because it affects us as consumers and workers. It’s great to see the younger students gaining some basic understanding and playing the ASX game is also a good way of learning. The transition into Year 10 was a steep learning curve, so hopefully this change will minimise the difficulty for students who choose to continue with economics.

Any final words?

Kosuke: Economics – don’t leave school without it.

Dana Raguz, Abby Heslop and Emily Selleck - Year 12
William Padman and Matthew Robertson love their hockey. That is why selection in the Queensland U19 squad to tour New Zealand later this year is just reward for that dedication and passion, so evident when these two Year 12 students speak about their game.

From eight years of age and six years respectively, William and Matthew have enjoyed mastering their chosen sport through school and club teams. Both have played for Labrador Hockey Club, and whilst at 14 years of age, William became a member of Bulimba Hockey Club, he still recalls the moment when the Labrador club came into school and life as a hockey player began. For Matthew, his Year 1 teacher introduced him to hockey and he has never looked back.

Training for William involves the Brisbane squad on Mondays, his club on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school, games on Friday and Saturday, and representative training on a Sunday. Matthew’s schedule is similar as he trains and plays with both Labrador Hockey Club and the Gold Coast Under 18s.

Representative hockey is not an unknown factor in these young men’s lives, as both have played for South Coast regional teams along the way. As a defence player, William is quite an old hand in winning selection for state teams, in fact as early as 12 years of age, but for Matthew, this is his first time in gaining a place as an attacking player for his state.

“When I heard my name get called out for the Queensland team, I was really excited as it was my first time making it into one of the state teams,” recalls Matthew.

Selection for the state team took place over a number of different trials across various levels. First came the trial for the Hinterland Hockey team, followed by a selection day two weeks later, where the boys competed against two other regional teams in the south coast area, resulting in the South Coast team. William captained this team.

Once the team was selected, they trained for a month before taking part in a four day tournament on the Gold Coast, involving nine other teams across Queensland. From this group of players, the Queensland team was chosen. The South Coast team placed second in the tournament, losing out to Wide Bay in the Grand Final.

“It was an honour to captain the South Coast team, and then to be selected into the U19’s Queensland team,” reflects William.

Along with 16 other young men and eight shadow players, William and Matthew train with the squad under the Regional Coaching Director, prior to their 12 day tour of the North and South Islands of New Zealand against the top squads of their schools. Unfortunately, for this particular team, there are no inter-state equivalents, so challenging competition is sought overseas.

Hockey is simply more than just a game to these two young men – so it goes without saying that both boys will continue to play hockey once they graduate from A.B. Paterson College later this year. Under 21s beckon and the Super League in Queensland.

Congratulations, William and Matthew on your Queensland selection.
Introducing a born competitor bred for one purpose only – to be the best. The new BMW 1 Series is sportier inside and out with even more of that unmistakable BMW character, while the latest BMW TwinPower Turbo engines deliver a truly dynamic driving experience. Connect to the road and the world around you like never before with Rear View Camera and BMW ConnectedDrive* Lifestyle package including Remote Services and Real Time Traffic Information – now as standard. With its unbeatable performance and aggressively sporty stance, this is an Ultimate Driving Machine that’s as lively as it looks. Go one better in the new BMW 1 Series. Take a test-drive at Bruce Lynton today.

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Next stop? Montenegro!

Throughout all of my experiences in Water Polo to date, I have never had the opportunity to be a part of something so extraordinary – from being selected into the B98 Australian squad training camp with over 30 skilful players, to having the opportunity to play for the B98 Australian team with 14 other incredibly talented boys.

I embarked on a journey, shortly after the good news, to Sydney where we competed in an U20’s state competition as preparation for Europe. We were soon rushed off to countries such as Croatia, Serbia and Hungary, all rich in culture, and offering an unparalleled experience for me. It was in these countries that we trained with, and played against, some of the most renowned Water Polo national teams, securing some games under our belt, but still losing a few against the exceptionally determined and talented European teams.

Nevertheless, it was not about the triumph, but the fight we had all demonstrated which will act as a precursor to our development in years to come. For me, the trip was unforgettable. I faced challenges which called for a strong sense of perseverance and willpower. These challenges not only aided my development as a player, but helped me build character in order to become a better person.

I hope to have the same opportunity next year in being able to represent the B98 Australian team in the Water Polo World Championships being held in Montenegro.

Jared de Vries – Year 12

LIFE’S NOT A RACE”
...SAID THOSE WHO LOST.

THE NEW BMW 1 SERIES HAS ARRIVED AT BRUCE LYNTON.
A Capella, the style of singing without instrumental accompaniment, has quickly become a musical revolution amongst modern vocal groups. In fact, the Gold Coast has quickly become one of the leading acapella cities in Australia, under the direction of Jonathan Albertini. Highly acclaimed events such as the *Voices in Paradise* workshop prompted so much international fame that it caught the attention of the arranger of the *Pitch Perfect* movies, Deke Sharon. Consequently, two of Jonathan Albertini’s groups were invited to perform in Carnegie Hall with stars from the *Pitch Perfect* movie, Shelley Ragner and Kelly Jakle. Amongst these two groups, *The Blenders Chorus* and *Serotonin*, was one of the College’s long-standing Board Members, Edward Klimowicz, and 2013 alumnus, Ruby Sethi. Ruby agreed to share her experience with us.

**Take us back to the beginning of your A Capella journey. How did it start?**

2013 was the start of the *Voices in Paradise* workshop. At that time, I had very limited experience with A Capella, but had enjoyed *Pitch Perfect* and so decided to give it a try. The workshop was a really beneficial experience, despite being in its first year, and became a stepping stone for many of my acapella journeys.

After graduating in 2013, I decided against a career in the Arts, opting to study Law. It was a lot harder than I had anticipated, as I had moved from studying three Arts subjects and participating in extra-curricular activities, to having no artistic outlets. Consequently, I realised I needed to continue my passion on the side, and so I came across a flyer for the 2014 *Voices in Paradise*. Talk about luck! Knowing I would love it, based on my experience from last year, I contacted Jonathan, who also invited me to audition for the Griffith University Choir, *Serotonin*.

On joining *Serotonin*, I practically became addicted to acapella. I was putting all of my spare time into singing and feeling more passionate than ever. I even had the honour of being elected president of *Serotonin*, a mere four months after joining. The group went on to perform in the national A Capella championships in Melbourne, placing in the top eight groups of Australia for 2014. Yet, amongst all of these things, my personal highlight was definitely Deke Sharon’s invitation to perform in Carnegie Hall.

**What was your New York and Carnegie Hall experience like?**

Honestly, the entire week was incredible. *Serotonin* arrived the weekend before the Carnegie Hall concert, so we had plenty of time to explore the city. One night, while we were at The Ritz Hotel eating dinner and singing to some of our US sponsors, the Manager heard us and hired us out on the spot! Rehearsals for *Total Vocal* began on the Friday, two days prior to the show. We were able to meet Deke personally and do some workshops whilst running the songs. These rehearsals allowed me to get to know some incredible people from all across the world, such as some music students from Elon University and a lovely music teacher from Toronto, Canada.

The performance itself was outstanding – we sang as a mass 400-odd choir to a sold-out audience of nearly 3,700 people! *The Blenders*, including Mr Klimowicz, even featured on their own, performing *The Rhythm of Love*. It was by far the most ecstatic, invigorating experience of my life and I am so grateful to have had the opportunity.

After the performance, we collectively travelled to the after party, where the groups inter-mingled and had fun performing individually to one another. Many of the performers spoke with Deke personally, thanking him for the experience and congratulating him on an outstanding event.

**What have you taken away from your entire experience?**

Looking back, none of this would have been possible if I had not gone to the first *Voices in Paradise* workshop. In fact I almost didn’t go! But luckily, Ms McMahon (my music teacher at the time) convinced me otherwise - without it I never would have made my way to Carnegie Hall. There is no doubt that small opportunities can actually pave the way for inconceivable success in the future. Giving up one day of my time back in 2013 ended up amounting to so, so much more.

I also think it is important for graduates to continue to pursue their passions in life, regardless of whether they intend...
to make a career from them. Whilst I am still studying Law and Commerce and intend to pursue an academic career, I need music in my life as both an outlet and a balancing tool. Just because you are leaving school behind, does not mean you need to leave behind your hobbies as well.

For more information about the Gold Coast’s very own Voices in Paradise, visit www.voicesinparadise.com.au. Registrations for the 2015 Christmas workshop open in August.
The 2015 Queensland da Vinci Decathlon was held at A.B. Paterson College from 26-28 May. The decathlon is an initiative of Knox Grammar School, Sydney, and is named after Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519) who was one of the world’s greatest thinkers and scholars.

Each State in Australia has been appointed a Chapter School and, here at A.B. Paterson College, we are very fortunate to hold this position and, as such, we host the QLD State Decathlon. After the State event, the winning teams in Year 7 and, either Year 9 or 10, are invited to attend the National event in Sydney. This year, selected Year 5/6, 7/8 and 9/10 teams from over 25 schools from the Gold Coast, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich and Toowoomba attended our school to compete in the State decathlon.

Rianna Webster, Year 7: “The da Vinci Decathlon was an amazing event that brought people together from all over the state to compete in an exciting competition throughout the day. Everyone was in a positive and encouraging mood, which I think definitely helped with motivation during the day. I think everyone learned something new about their teammates that they might not have known, and can now work closer than they have before.”

The competition is focused on the principles of a decathlon and, as such, there are 10 events:

- **Engineering Challenge** – A building task designed to test creativity and ingenuity.
- **Art and Poetry** – The team will develop a poem interconnected with a work of art, based on a theme of mystery and mayhem
- **Science** – Students will be provided with higher level scientific concepts and be tested on their ability to apply them.
- **English** – Spelling, word origins, definitions, textual analysis and writing tasks.
- **Creative Producers** – Emphasis on creating under pressure a 60 second dramatic performance.
- **Code Breaking** – Students will decipher complex and mysterious codes
- **Cartography** – Students will decipher maps and apply the principles of map-making to represent spatial information in an imaginative way.
- **Mathematics and Chess** – Emphasis on problem-solving, number patterns and logic puzzles.
- **General Knowledge** – Current affairs, entertainment, the Renaissance, sport and trivia.
Kevina Yau, Year 9: “The da Vinci Decathalon was an amazing experience that allowed us to meet new people and collaborate as a team. Through taking part in several activities, we were able to look at everything from a different angle. When facing problems in solving a question, it was always good to have someone there to help you and hear their view of the problem. I think the most important thing was working as a team and making sure that we were having fun in the experience.”

The school spirit present within a team is a very important aspect of the decathlon. Teams need to pull together to work through each of the disciplines. During different sessions, there are concurrent papers and, as such, teams need to decide who will work on each paper, and they need to carefully manage their time and each member’s expertise to make the most of each event. The A.B. Paterson College student representatives showed amazing team spirit and were outstanding ambassadors for the College. We were fortunate enough to have many Year 11 helpers, who came along at different periods throughout the three-day event. Several of these students, veterans of the decathlon from past years, served as coaches for our teams in 2015. The Year 11s showed their commitment to the College and also to our younger students, which was in fine da Vinci spirit. Thank you to Victoria Swadling, Lachun Miles, Benjamin Devine, Isabella Boyd and Mohanapiyian Muthukumarasamy, who served as coaches, motivators and ambassadors.

We are proud to announce that the students from A.B. Paterson College were very successful in the State Decathlon.

Our Year 5 team: Ethan Gauld, Lily Durdev, Charles Morris, Soraya Comley, Juwon Lee, Priya Virdee-Hero, Jared Tang, Neo Sun, Chloe Britton, Scott Kift, Sophie Fisher, Max Caza, Alex Cannen, Caroline Zhang, Trae Belling and Leo Webster had success with placing in the top five in several disciplines including: Creative Producers, Science, Engineering, English, General Knowledge and Cartography. The 5B team came first in Mathematics and Chess.

The Year 6 team: Diego Madronio, Jodie Down, Dorothy Hou, Maria Nadezhdina, Ayasha Yow, Ruby Storey, Dean Blumson and Luke Homabrook had success with their Creative Producers.

The Year 7 Team: Rianna Webster, Kento Seki, Mina Storey, Sascha Lawton, Zuhayr Safwan, Kelly Zhou, Parker Britton and Callum Janetzki placed first in Creative Producers, as well as placing in the top five in Engineering, English, Cartography and Philosophy.

The Year 8 team: Scarlett Wells, Angie Zhou, Claire Blumson, Evie Rounsley, Sarah Borten, Analiese Parker, Thomas Buenano-Thompson and Rhys Tyne enjoyed the day and participated with enthusiasm in each of the disciplines.

The Year 9 team – the State Champions: Alice Zhang, Timothy Achterberg, Bernard Low, Cecil Mustafiz, Parsha Mia, Nicole Hernandez, Rena Matsunawa, and Isobella Kruger placed 1st overall, as well as in an amazing four disciplines. They came first in Creative Producers, Art and Poetry, Mathematics, and Chess and Code Breaking. They also placed in the top five in Philosophy. This year we debuted a Year 9B team: Rachel Hoch, Adelle Yong, Kevina Yau, Aathavan Subakumar, Lauren Nolan, Charlotte Roche, Theresa Wang and Adrian Rajkamal. They also placed in the top five in Engineering, Code Breaking, Mathematics and Chess – a very impressive effort for the Year 9 teams.
Our Year 10 team were passionate about making it to Nationals and, whilst they had amazing success placing in the top five in seven of the events, including Art and Poetry, Science, English, Creative Producers, Cartography, General Knowledge and Philosophy, they missed placing overall by the narrowest of points. **Congratulations to the Year 10 team**: Rebecca Braniff, Jessica Borten, Rebekah Tenenbom, Brooke Musty, Edith Bentley, Agnes Sun, Nicholas Bassett and Samuel King.

We are now actively preparing for the National event that will take place in the Term 3 holidays (20-23 June) at Knox Grammar in Sydney. A.B. Paterson College is proud to announce we will be represented by our Year 7 and Year 9A teams at this event. Along with competing against the nation’s best in the ten da Vinci Decathlon events, students will also have the opportunity to participate in a ‘Race around Sydney,’ exploring Art galleries, museums, The Observatory, Sydney Harbour Bridge and The Rocks, and presenting to the National group at the Symposia and Great Debate.

Behind the scenes of the da Vinci Decathlon, teachers Meagan King, Mardi Bolton, Debbie de Villiers and Candace Kruger have also had the privilege of writing State and National papers in the da Vinci Decathlon discipline areas of English and Creative Producers. Mrs King and Mrs Bolton will also have the pleasure of accompanying our National representatives on their Sydney tour.

The da Vinci Decathlon offers students a brilliant, innovative and unique learning opportunity, and we plan with anticipation the future of the decathlon at the College.

**Meagan King & Mardi Bolton**
2015 marked the 100 years’ commemoration of the ANZAC landings in Gallipoli, a special remembrance of the sacrifice made by so many young men fighting in a foreign land for the freedoms our nation enjoys today and every day. Many Australian and New Zealand young men and women make the pilgrimage to Gallipoli each year to honour the ANZAC soldiers, to stand as they stood on that hostile terrain all those years ago and to reflect on their courage, mateship and love for their country.

To attend the 100th commemoration of the Gallipoli landings at the Dawn Service on ANZAC Day 2015 would indeed be an honour and a privilege for anyone lucky enough to witness this special event. Earlier in the year, to mark this significant anniversary, a
The Parker family, Michelle and Glen, with children Analiese (Year 8) and Brodie (Year 7), entered the ballot. This is their story.

“Along with 42,500 other Australians, we applied for ballot passes to the Commemorative Ceremony in Gallipoli back in January, 2014. There were 8000 passes being allocated to Australians and, unfortunately, we were not successful and went on to the waitlist. In February this year, in the second last round of wait list allocations, we were very surprised to receive our letter saying we had been successful. With only 10 days to provide confirmed bookings of our travel to secure our place, we scrambled to book flights and accommodation, and decide who from our family would attend. It was decided that Brodie would accompany his mum, as he has quite a strong interest in the wars and history. As a family we also hoped that by taking someone as young as Brodie, it might help him understand the importance of what our ancestors did to shape our country and the life we live now; and help future generations continue the ongoing respect and remembrance for them.

“We were particularly interested in attending the Anzac Centenary Commemorations in Gallipoli as Brodie’s great Grandfather was a World War 1 Veteran, and landed at Gallipoli in April 1915. Private Alfred Bracey No 149 of the 4th Battalion AIF, who had immigrated to Australia from England only a few years earlier, was a barber in NSW, and one of the first civilians to join the call to war in August 1914. He left Australian shores in October 1914, as part of the first army fleet to travel to Egypt and then on to Gallipoli. During our trip, we had many conversations about how different his journey to Gallipoli must have been to ours. There was no way we could possibly complain about long flights, queues at all the extra security checkpoints etc, when his journey took months, and in such harsh conditions.

“In the four days leading up to the ceremonies, we toured many of the battlefields and cemeteries all over the Gallipoli Peninsula, and this is where we really started to understand and appreciate what the ANZACs did for us. We were fortunate enough to have both a Turkish and an Australian historian as our guides, so we were able to learn about the landings and battles from both perspectives.

“Standing on the rocky beach at Anzac Cove in the exact spot where the first Australian troops landed, was truly a moment we will remember forever. We visited many significant places, Plugges Plateau, Shrapnel Valley Cemetery, Cape Helles, Achi Baba, “S” Beach and “V” Beach, Chunuk Bair and The Nek, all with their own unimaginable pieces of history to tell.

“We also took a trip by boat along the Gallipoli coast from Anzac Cove to Suvla Bay, for an unforgettable view of the valleys and ridges from the sea, just as the Australian soldiers would have seen it 100 years ago. Here we were able to really comprehend the enormity of the task they were undertaking.

“On 24 April, we set out at 6am to journey by ferry, buses and a lot of walking, to get to the first of the numerous registration and security check points we would need to pass through to be able to attend the Dawn Service and Lone Pine Service. It was quite unusual to go through airport style security in the middle of a National Park. By 6pm (12 hours later) we had finally cleared all check points and entered the Dawn Service Area. A very cold night followed, but again how could we complain wrapped up in our scarves, beanies and thermal jackets, when our ancestors had nothing like the provisions we had brought with us?

“Peppered throughout the hills that night, as they were 100 years ago, were countless Turkish soldiers, but this time they were there to ensure the safety and security of all of us. Another sobering moment for us, as I imagine they too would have had family members who had fought in the battle that we were here to commemorate.

“As the sun rose on the morning of the Dawn Service, the bay was filled with the most amazing sight of ships from the
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Lest We Forget.

attending countries - I think about 10 ships in total. The lapping of small waves at the commencement of the Service was the only thing to be heard amongst the still crowd and, after spending four days exploring and learning about the many aspects of the Gallipoli campaign, the Dawn Service was an even more emotional experience.

“After the Dawn Service, we all trekked up Artillery Rd to the Lone Pine Memorial to pay our respects to all of the fallen Australians from the Gallipoli Campaign. There were many special moments we experienced and shared throughout this trip, but one would have to be joining our fellow tour members in locating their ancestors’ plaques at Lone Pine and other cemeteries throughout the Peninsula. As we wandered through the plaques at Lone Pine, Brodie was amazed at the young age of the many Australians soldiers who were laid here to rest.

“One of Brodie’s special memories of our trip was meeting some of the Turkish army and Special Forces. We were very grateful for their friendliness and, on our return trip to Canakkale after the services, one of the Turkish army gave Brodie his personal pin that he had received as part of his role in the Centenary events.

“One of the highlights of this voyage for us was the two hour trek down Rhododendron Ridge from Chunuk Bair, where many New Zealand ANZACs gave their lives. It was one of the most beautiful and scenic places in the Gallipoli Peninsula. How different it must have been for the soldiers that trekked up this ridge so long ago. We were still able to see some of the tunnels and ditches that have been preserved over the last century, and marvelled at how these could possibly have protected the men. There are even shrapnel particles still to be found.

“For our family, the ANZAC Commemorations were an opportunity to thank not only our Grandfather for doing his part, but also to pay our respects to all those who represented our country. We certainly now also have a deeper appreciation of what our current servicemen and women do for us.”

Michelle & Brodie Parker
20 years ago, no one could have ever imagined what the future would hold for two schools oceans apart, and so diverse in language and culture. How could these two, such different schools form such a strong bond, to last 20 years and beyond?

Could it possibly be that although we are worlds apart, we cherish the same core values? Striving to develop young men and women of character – leaders now and for the future?

After all, the Sister School Exchange Programme agreement, is aimed at promoting grass-roots internationalisation and foreign language education between A.B. Paterson College and Honjo Higashi High School. It is, however, more than just this. It is also aimed at developing the character of the young men and women involved. The life-long learnings of a student, Isabella Moore (Year 11) who has been both to Japan and hosted students from Honjo Higashi, are clearly evident from a recent interview with her.

Why did you and your family decide to host a Japanese student?

Being a bilingual family, we know how important and special it is to go to another country and experience its culture and lifestyle, while practising your language skills. We wanted to keep this opportunity available for our Japanese visitors by opening up our home and giving someone an experience of a lifetime. Not only is this special for the Honjo students, it is also a special experience for us.

What were your preconceptions on the idea of hosting?

I knew friends and families who had hosted before and they gave me a lot of feedback, telling me how wonderful hosting a student can be. I was a bit nervous inviting someone I had never met into my home. What if we had communication issues? What if she didn’t like me or became homesick? But from the moment I met her, I knew we were going to be good friends. The Japanese are very kind-hearted, grateful and well-mannered, so all the students are always a joy to host.
What was your hosting experience actually like?

Hosting is definitely always a highlight of my year. We made so many wonderful memories together such as going on the rides at Dreamworld, going to classes, shopping, practising English and Japanese, supporting my house at the Athletics carnival and even going to dance classes.

What was the most meaningful aspect of the whole experience?

The most meaningful aspect of the experience was definitely developing a special friendship with my buddy. Each of the students I have hosted in the past have become a best friend, or like a sibling to me. It's truly incredible to find so many similarities between my student and myself, despite our differences of culture and nationality. It was even more special when I visited Japan last year with my family. It had been over a year since I had seen my buddies from 2012 and 2013, and we were still just as close as we were a year ago. We had so much fun shopping around Harajuku and recounting the wonderful experiences we shared during their stay. I was so pleased to know our strong friendship was still intact.

What advice could you offer to those who are considering hosting?

I would definitely recommend hosting a student. Experiences like these don't come very often for both us and the Honjo students, so it's important to make the most of it. You gain a new friend and memories you will cherish forever.

Celebrating 20 years is a milestone. This milestone can be attributed to the relentless enthusiasm of the students, the host families kindly opening their hearts and homes, and the warm support of all those involved. The bond that our College shares with Honjo Higashi High School has proven time and time again to exude great power, having the capability of changing lives forever. The Japanese have a saying “Ichi-go-Ichi-e”, that one is to treasure every encounter for it will never recur; this is the message that we see and hear time and time again from all those involved.

This year, 30 students will arrive on our shores from Honjo Higashi High School from Friday, 24 July to Sunday, 2 August. We will welcome them into our homes and into our hearts as we share experiences and cultures, and develop lifelong friendships.

Michelle Barriga & Isabella Moore
Experience Bond in a Different Light

Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 2pm to 6pm followed by live music featuring Tijuana Cartel until 8pm

Mila Ivanova
Former A.B. Paterson College student and current Bond University Bachelor of Laws and Commerce student

“I attended Open Day before finally making my decision to study at Bond. It was a great way for me to experience what it would be like to become a student, what I could expect, and what would be expected of me. I was able to chat to academics and students and ask lots of questions about Bond and get their perspective on the workload and student life. I was also able to look around the campus and the faculties that interested me and take part in practical taster sessions. By the end of the day, all my questions had been answered.”

For more information contact:
Stephanie Tuttle
Manager for Schools and Community
Gold Coast North, Toowoomba and Ipswich
Phone: 0419 483 340
Email: stuttle@bond.edu.au