It seemed fitting in 2012, the year of Olympic Games, for Year 12 to adopt the motto ‘Challenge Accepted’. Learning should be about extending ourselves, moving into unfamiliar territory, making mistakes, practicing new skills, reflecting on progress and seeking support of, or feedback from, teachers or peers. It should be about gaining a sense of achievement and the satisfaction that comes with knowing that our hard work and effort has brought about new understandings, skills and knowledge.

John Hattie’s ground-breaking research (Visible Learning: A Synthesis of over 800 Meta-Analyses Relating to Achievement, 2009) on influences on achievement in school-aged students has been a focus for staff at PLC across the 2012 year. ‘A major message within the book is that what works best for students is similar to what works best for teachers. This includes an attention to setting challenging learning intentions, being clear about what success means, and an attention to learning strategies for developing conceptual understanding about what students know and understand.’

Four initiatives were commenced in 2012 that will support the implementation of some of the key findings of Hattie’s research – Visible Thinking; Conceptual Based Learning; an audit of Visible Learning at PLC and Personal Learning Plans.

Across the year, four PLC teachers completed an online course on Visible Thinking through Harvard University. The course, based on the pioneering research of Ron Ritchart and David Perkins, offers strategies to extend and deepen students’ thinking to become part of the fabric of
everyday classroom life. Over time students will learn which routines work best for them, enabling them to take an idea and support it with the rationale to build a valid argument. The trained staff have commenced sharing strategies with colleagues who, in turn, have implemented the strategies with students in the classroom.

Deputy Principal, Kim Edwards, attended a Summer Institute on Concept-Based Curriculum and Instruction in Montana, USA, that was led by world recognised educator and advisor to the International Baccalaureate curriculum leaders, Lynn Erickson. Additionally a number of staff attended workshops run by Lynn Erickson in Adelaide and Singapore. The Parents’ Committee has generously undertaken to sponsor a second staff member to attend the Summer Institute in Montana in 2013. The basic premise of concept-based learning is that “because the current global economy demands a new kind of knowledge worker who relies heavily on using his mind for productivity, classrooms must change from the traditional ways we think of teachers disseminating knowledge to one in which students create knowledge based on their deep understanding of facts, processes and concepts in combination. Previously we’ve emphasized just facts and processes. This does not, however, mean students don’t need to know facts and processes. Rather, it is that facts and processes should be in service to understanding concepts and developing collaboration skills, critical thinking skills, creativity, and problem solving’.

In Term 4 an audit of teaching and learning at PLC was undertaken under the guidance of John Hattie’s team of researchers. The audit included classroom observations, student forums and surveys as well as analysis of student performance in NAPLAN and other diagnostic assessments. The data will be collated and presented to staff at the commencement of 2013 with a view to establishing future teaching and learning objectives. All three initiatives – Visible Thinking, Concept-Based Learning and Visible Learning will shape professional training, dialogue and sharing across 2013 and beyond.

Another initiative for 2012 saw two Year 8 Tutor groups engaged in a pilot project, Personal Learning Plans, whereby students met once a term with their Tutor to set goals for the coming term. Using the acronym, SMART, the students have identified goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Timely. Each term the students have met with their tutor to discuss progress made on their previous goal, discussed refinements necessary, and re-established their goal for the coming term. This programme formalises what has always been good advice to PLC students to set and strive to achieve goals. As an unknown author states, “in absence of clearly defined goals, we become strangely loyal to performing daily acts of trivia.” The Personal Learning Plans, however, allow teachers, students and parents to work in partnership in order to support individual’s ambitions and challenges. In 2013 PLC will offer the opportunity and training to all Year 8 and Year 9 students.

In 2012 a pioneering group of nine girls became PLC’s inaugural International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma cohort. With its emphasis...
on global mindedness, these students elected to maintain breadth of studies (six subjects); learn a second language; engage in community action and service; deepen their understanding of knowledge and thinking through Theory of Knowledge and demonstrate self-directed learning by undertaking a 4000 word Extended Essay. In keeping with the holistic philosophy of IB all components are assessed and contribute to their globally benchmarked IB results. They will be well prepared to take on the rigour of a university education anywhere in the world.

Offering the Diploma at PLC has been a natural extension to the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) and Middle Years Programme (MYP) that we have now been teaching for eight years. It is also in keeping with the School’s desire to provide a diverse range of course options that permit students to choose according to their interests, motivation, strengths and destination. Girls in Years 11 and 12 can now elect to study the WACE, Diploma or undertake a vocational pathway. The School community needs to be mindful that undertaking the Diploma as an alternative course of study will impact on the standing of the School in the State academic awards and League tables as students undertaking the Diploma are excluded from the results.

2012 will be remembered as the year PLC rowers had an historic success in taking out the Head of the River race, the Head of River Regatta as well as the cup for the season. This is the first time in 21 years of rowing that PLC has won the Head of River title. Much of the success was due to the number of Year 12 students who were prepared to accept the challenge of balancing their Year 12 academic studies with the discipline and demands of rowing. Persistence, hard work, teamwork and self-discipline are a powerful combination.

All traits were evident in four members of the PLC community selected to represent Australia in the Olympic games – Fiona Boyce (2004 Hockey), Janine Murray (2007 Rhythmic Gymnastics), Kobie McGurk (staff, Hockey) and Hannah Vermeersch (2009 Rowing) as well as Nikki Chung (2012) who was selected prior to injury in the Olympic squad for gymnastics. We were all very proud of, and inspired by, their achievements.

Beth Blackwood
Principal
PLC Council is responsible for the governance and strategic direction of the College and reports to the Uniting Church in Western Australia. Council members are all volunteers and offer significant commitment of time, professional skills and experience in areas such as education, law, finance, planning and business.

PLC has been working collaboratively with the Uniting Church and its member schools on a review of Constitutions recognising contemporary governance practices and the ever-changing environment in which schools are operating. We anticipate PLC’s revised Constitution will be ready for submission in early 2013.

PLC management regularly reviews and reports to Council on internal policies and procedures to ensure all regulatory requirements are met and to provide the highest level of safety and care for students and staff. Further regulatory changes at State and National levels mandated during 2012 included revisions to the School Education Act 1999, School Education Regulations 2000, enactment of the Education & Care Services National Law (WA) Act 2012 & Regulations, introduction of the National Quality Framework for early learning and Outside School Hours Care and the Non-Government Schools Registration Standards 2012.

Council is also reviewing the School Strategic and Master Plans. It remains committed to the redevelopment of the Senior School to offer contemporary academic facilities. However, it is a necessary requirement to first invest in parking and traffic management for staff and parents.

Plans are therefore being finalised for the development of Junior School playing fields on top of a new carpark. This development will have the benefit of providing enhanced sporting facilities as well as significant additional parking on campus. Improvements to the Junior School drop off and pick up area in McNeil Street will further enhance the flow of traffic around campus. Council will be considering state-of-the-art teaching and learning facilities for Senior School students and staff in early 2013.

In September 2012, after 13 years on Council including one year as Deputy Chair and the last five as Chair of Council, the Hon Justice John McKechnie
retired from Council. As reported in Blackwatch, John provided unfailing support of the Principal, commitment to every Council sub-Committee and invaluable guidance and leadership of the Council. He also offered his personal time to students and staff in the classroom and supported the Foundation in its endeavours to provide scholarships for students who may not otherwise afford an education at PLC.

Emeritus Professor Tracey Horton was officially introduced as Chair of Council to the PLC community at the 2012 Speech Night. As a member of Council since 2010 she offers extensive governance, management, strategic and business expertise. She is an exemplary role model to our students of a successful and professional businesswoman balancing her busy career, including numerous Board appointments, with family life.

Mr Simon Read retired from Council at the beginning of 2012 having served a total of six years. Simon is an experienced Accountant and business advisor who made significant contributions to the strategic direction and financial management of the College through his chairmanship of the Strategy Committee and membership of the Finance Committee.

During the year, we welcomed a new member to Council, Mr Stuart Love. Mr Love has over 15 years of international strategic consulting experience with leading global advisory firms.
2012 Council Members

Rev Ken Williams and Rev Ron Larkin
Moderators of the Uniting Church in Australia (WA)
Emeritus Professor Tracey Horton
Chair of Council from Sept 2012/Deputy Chair to Sept 2012/university/business
Hon Justice John McKechnie
Chair of Council to Sept 2012/past parent/law/university
Mrs Katrina Burton
Deputy Chair/past student/current parent/law
Ms Robyn Ahern
Current parent/business
Mr Alan Atchison
Current parent/finance
Mrs Kathy Bonus
Past student/past parent/planning

Mr Philip Idle
Planning
Mr Stuart Love
Business/strategy
Mrs Jenny Playford
Current parent/medicine
Mr Simon Read
Current parent/finance
Prof Karen Simmer
Past parent/university/medicine
Mrs Gillian Swan
Uniting Church/educator
Mr Tony Taylor
Current parent/finance/recruitment

PLC also thanks the following people who have provided their time, knowledge and experience to Council Sub-Committees during the year:

Mr Morgan Ball (Finance)
Mrs Hazel Day (Master Plan & Infrastructure)
Mr Ned Franetovich (Master Plan & Infrastructure)
Mr Jamie Lutz (Chair, Audit)
### College Leadership Team

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beth Blackwood</td>
<td>Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keith Anderson</td>
<td>Deputy Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Edwards</td>
<td>Deputy Principal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Pope</td>
<td>Head of Junior School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Anderson</td>
<td>Head of Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neesha Flint</td>
<td>Head of Senior School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sam Kronja</td>
<td>Director of Finance and Corporate Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Cook</td>
<td>Human Resources Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Robinson</td>
<td>Head of Staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Hu</td>
<td>Director of Information Systems and Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm McTavish/Leanne McTavish</td>
<td>Co-Directors of Boarding</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff Farewells

MALCOLM MCTAVISH

Malcolm has filled many roles across his 20 years at the School from teacher of Business and Accounting to Year Co-ordinator, Head of Middle School, Head of Staff and Co-Director of Boarding. His warm personality, interest in young people and pragmatic approach to life’s challenges has placed him at the centre of pastoral care roles at PLC. The School has been the beneficiary of Malcolm’s camaraderie, strong sense of community and commitment to fostering the best in students.

BOB NIVEN

Bob Niven resigned as Director of Operations mid-year after 13 years at PLC. During his time at PLC Bob was responsible for completing such projects as the refurbishment of the Junior School and Boarding House, construction of the Middle School building as well as the Swim and Recreation Centre. Bob gave generously of his time and support to the School and was instrumental in ensuring financial management, operations, risk management and building projects were successfully and prudently managed. The facilities that staff and students currently enjoy are testimony to his stewardship.

ADELE PHILPOT

Adele retired after 10 years teaching History and Humanities at PLC and as Head of the Senior School Humanities Department. She has earned respect as an inspiring teacher who has motivated and challenged students to engage deeply with Humanities subjects, especially her passion, History. She has always been available for assistance and given 'head, heart and hands' to all she does at PLC. Adele has led and supported colleagues, developed curriculum programmes and taken great pride in the achievements of students in her learning area. We thank her for her grace, integrity and love of teaching and wish her well as she transitions to have more time for family, especially grandchildren and other pursuits.

PLC farewell three long-serving staff members in 2012 - Malcolm McTavish, Bob Niven and Adele Philpot.

Their longstanding contribution, dedication and loyalty to PLC has been appreciated.
2011 Results Snapshot

In 2011, 100% of Year 12 PLC students achieved secondary graduation (Western Australian Certificate of Education). In WACE examinations:

- 3.4% achieved an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 99.00 or above - top 1% of candidates in the State.
- 29.9% had an ATAR above 95.00 – the top 5% in the State.
- 50.3% had an ATAR above 90.00 – the top 10% of the State.

Top 15 Performing Schools in the State

PLC also was listed among the top 15 schools in 17 WACE subjects/Courses of Study: Biological Sciences, Dance, Drama, Economics, Geography, Human Biological Science, Literature, Materials Design and Technology, Mathematics 3AB, 3CB and Specialist, Media Production and Analysis, Physics, Psychology, Visual Arts, Applied Information Technology, and Food Science and Technology.

WA Course Exhibitions
Sarah Ransom (Biology)
Dinu Kumarasinghe (Drama)

WA Certificates of Distinction
Sarah Ransom (Biology)
Natasha Graham (Dance)
Dinu Kumarasinghe (Drama)
Elizabeth Alderson (Geography)
Alice Garbutt-Wilkins (Human Biology)
Emily Warton (Human Biology)

WA Certificates of Excellence
Elizabeth Alderson, Jessica Armstrong, Mia Carlton, Jia-Ying Choong, Dinu Kumarasinghe, Katie Lloyd, Siobhan Mews, Abigail Pearson, Sarah Ransom, Patricia Soegiantho, Emily Warton
Academic Achievement

In addition to the excellent results of our 2011 Year 12s, PLC students continued to achieve in state and national competitions. Some of these successes include:

Merry Li (Year 12) won four reputable literature prizes, including the Senior Secondary division of the national Dorothea Mackellar Poetry Awards, Australia’s oldest and largest poetry competition for school aged children.

Students in Years 10 – 12 continued to perform well in the Alliance Francais Examinations, with Merry Li, Sophie Taylor, Kate Franklyn, Arielle Tay, Eleanor Norman (Year 12), Alexandra Malone (Year 11) and Abbey Mardon (Year 10) all placed in the Top 30 in the State for their year group.

The Mock Trial team of Siobhan Deacon, Alma Jovanovic, Ashley Dunne, Zoë Maxwell, Madeleine Lofthouse, Alisha Maclean, Rose Shaber-Twedt, Olivia Jurat and Anneliese Donaldson (Year 11) won the State Final of Mock Trials run by the Law Society of Western Australia.

Ashley Dunne (Year 11) received a High Distinction and Bronze Medal for Chemistry in the Australian Science Olympiad Exams. Ashley was also selected to attend the 2013 National Youth Science Forum at the Australian National University, Canberra.

Abbey Mardon (Year 10) was one of two WA State winners of the BioGeneius Challenge of Western Australia. She travelled to Boston to compete in this international science challenge in June.
PLC achieved 30 Distinctions in the International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) for Science (top 10% of students in Western Australia) with four girls scoring in the top 1% of students: Katherine Curtis and Jane Lai (Year 7), Isobel Cole (Year 8) and Jaimi Quinlivan (Year 9).

High Distinctions were awarded in the Australian National Chemistry Quiz to Abbey Mardon and Katherine Butler (Year 10), Ashley Dunne, Meike Hindenberg and Madeleine Lofthouse (Year 11), Kylie Yu, Hannah Bougher, Merry Li, Madeleine Lutze and Ella Nield (Year 12), placing them in the top 10% of students.

In the 2012 International Competition and Assessment for Schools in Mathematics 16 Distinctions were achieved with Nicola Armstrong (Year 8) receiving a High Distinction, placing her in the top 1% of students.

Alexandra Cowan (Year 7), Miranda Bruce (Year 8), Xiangmeng Tao (Year 8) and Yiling Xu (Year 10) placed in the top 2% of students in the Australian Mathematics Competition, receiving High Distinctions while Isobel Cole (Year 8) received a High Distinction in the Australian Mathematics Trust Competition.

Merry Li (Year 12) won four reputable literature prizes in 2012.
National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing for 2012

This is a summary of our National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing for 2012.

In 2008 the NAPLAN commenced in Australian schools with all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 being assessed using national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation) and Numeracy.

See below and on the following page the percentage of our girls achieving in one of three bands nationally (top 20%, middle 60%, or lower 20%) for each area.

### Reading

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>PLC Year 3</th>
<th>PLC Year 5</th>
<th>PLC Year 7</th>
<th>PLC Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Writing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>PLC Year 3</th>
<th>PLC Year 5</th>
<th>PLC Year 7</th>
<th>PLC Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Assessment Program Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) testing for 2012

### SPELLING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>PLC Year 3</th>
<th>PLC Year 5</th>
<th>PLC Year 7</th>
<th>PLC Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GRAMMAR & PUNCTUATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>PLC Year 3</th>
<th>PLC Year 5</th>
<th>PLC Year 7</th>
<th>PLC Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### NUMERACY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>National</th>
<th>PLC Year 3</th>
<th>PLC Year 5</th>
<th>PLC Year 7</th>
<th>PLC Year 9</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Top</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Performing and Visual Arts

Our Performing and Visual Arts Departments showcased a range of vibrant and creative cultural events this year that included the Year 12 curriculum production Minefields and Miniskirts, the Dance showcase He Said She Said, the wonderfully successful School musical Seussical featuring students from Years 9 to 12, the Year 11 curriculum production The Servant of Two Masters, the IB Diploma Theatre production Devised Commedia dell’Arte Performance while the annual student Art Exhibition Flight showcased artworks from students in Years 6 to 12. Dance performances included the IGSSA Dance Festival, Original Solo Composition Evening and Jigsaw MYP Dance and Drama workshops.

Concerts from the Music Department included the annual Proms Concert, the Solo and Chamber Music Concert, Junior School Winter Concert, Vocal Recital Evening, Year 12 Music Recital and Concerto Evening, PLC Spring Concert, Piano Recitals, Senior Spring Concert and the Junior School Spring Concert. The PLC/Scotch Symphony Orchestra established this year gave several stunning performances under the baton of Ashley Arbuckle while two of our outstanding young musicians, Marissa Loh (Year 12) and Lucy Yang (Year 11) treated appreciative audiences to Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto in E minor, 3rd Movement and the 1st Movement of the Grieg Piano Concerto in A minor respectively.

PLC’s Visual Arts students were this year recognised in a number of State platforms. Year 12 students, Jorja Gammage and Elinor Scott each had their artworks chosen by the Art Galley of Western Australia for the Year 12 2012 Perspectives exhibition.
Sporting Excellence

PLC’s First Eight Rowing crew made history at this year’s Head of the River Regatta, taking out the title for the first time in Schoolgirls’ Rowing. The win capped off a brilliant season that saw PLC win every regatta in the lead-up to the Head of the River.

The PLC Rowing squad was also triumphant in winning the Perpetual Trophy for Schoolgirl Premiers for the 2012 season.

The School’s Rowing reputation looks set to continue to grow on the world stage with oarswoman Natasha Gay (Year 12) being awarded a full Student Athlete Scholarship to attend the University of Washington in the Husky’s Rowing programme for 2013.

Nikki Chung (Year 12) won the WA Institute of Sport’s Athlete Career and Education Award at this year’s WAIS Champions Breakfast for her commitment to Gymnastics and her schooling. Nikki was also selected in the Australian Gymnastics squad for the 2012 London Olympics but was unable to compete due to injury.

PLC was very well represented at the Olympic Games with a number of former students competing for Australia: Hannah Vermeersch (2009) in the Women’s Eight Rowing, Janine Murray (2007) in Rhythmic Gymnastics and Fiona Boyce (2004) and PLC staff member Kobie McGurk in Hockey.

PLC welcomed a new Head of Sport, Annette Pearce to the role in 2012. Annette and Head of Physical Education, Chonny James, have embarked on developing a strategic plan for the sporting programme at PLC with an emphasis on skill development in the Junior School as well as a balance between competitiveness and participation across all years of the School. While co-curricula sport is not compulsory at PLC all students are strongly encouraged to participate and consider physical fitness as an important component of general well-being and a healthy lifestyle.
Connecting the Community

At PLC we foster the vital partnership between home and school and we are especially grateful for the ongoing support we receive from our active School community. From loyal alumni to committed and passionate volunteer parent groups, the School relies on the continued dedication of a large number of support groups who foster friendships and communication as well as support PLC with important events and activities.

The PLC Auxiliary continues its long history of organising a great number of social and fundraising events, including the ever-popular Open Garden Day. For the first time this year, the Visual Arts Department ran the PLC Art in Bloom event as part of the Auxiliary’s largest fundraiser, Open Garden Day, inviting members from all walks of the PLC community to interpret artwork from around the School into a creative floral arrangement. This was a wonderful, spirited addition to what has always been a successful event.

The Auxiliary continued to support Community and Service opportunities through the joint family service initiative this year. This innovative programme sees parents join their daughters, volunteering with various service projects such as Soup Kitchen Patrol and Ronald McDonald House.

The City Country Lunch brought together country and city parents while many parents of day girls enjoyed the opportunity to visit Boraning on the Country Day Trip. The Auxiliary also hosted the fourth annual Outdoor Cinema Evening and Tennis Morning and supported the Junior School Disco and Valedictory Dinner.

In addition to providing fundraising support to several infrastructure projects such as automatic doors for Middle School, a performing platform for the Junior School and sheet music compactus for the Music Department, the Parents’ Committee has been active in supporting School events and networking opportunities. This year the Parents’ Committee expanded its role in supporting professional development opportunities for teaching staff at PLC, sponsoring 30 staff to attend a conference on Positive Psychology and funding two staff research/travel grants. In 2013, Niamh Fitzpatrick will attend the World Congress on Positive Psychology in Los Angeles, and a member of the Junior School staff will attend a workshop on Conceptual Based Learning, also in the USA.

Our commitment to rural Western Australia saw representatives from the School visit Dowerin, Wagin, Broome, Karratha, Kununurra, Newdegate, Mingenew and Esperance. The Old Collegians’ Association hosted a Welcome Lunch for past students returning to the School as parents and a morning tea for the 2013 Student Prefecture and their parents. The Annual Art Exhibition was held in the Middle School Gallery and once again featured works by former students.

PLC is proud of the contribution past students make to their communities and continues to foster relationships with alumni.
by hosting a number of events that draw upon their expertise, such as Alumni Connect Breakfasts, mentoring programmes, giving presentations to Senior students, supporting the Junior School Gifted and Talented Programme and joining Junior School students at the Grandparents and Special Friends Day.

In addition to the Year 13 Sundowner and reunions in London, Melbourne and Sydney, class reunions for 10, 20, 30, 35, 40, 50, 60, 65 and 70 year groups were avidly attended.

Members of the PLC community were invited to interpret artwork from around the School into creative floral works as part of the ever-popular Open Garden Day.
Community and Service Learning

PLC has a strong tradition of engaging students to become responsible citizens and active leaders and has developed relationships with worthy organisations locally, throughout the State and overseas.

The School’s Service Leadership Awards model continues to see our students’ growing commitment to serve by encouraging all students to individually gain the understanding that in giving we receive. The model encourages students to demonstrate independent service initiatives within their own close communities in addition to the ongoing opportunities available through PLC.

It is wonderful to see these service initiatives being recognised in the wider community. Ruby Van Beem (Year 12) was awarded Cottesloe’s Young Citizen of the Year while Hannah Bougher (Year 12) won the Future Leaders Role Model Award for 2012 for her efforts and leadership in raising awareness of environment issues. Year 10 students Sannah Maclean, Abbey Mardon, Isobel Payne and Celeste Williamson were selected to attend the World Vision Global Leadership Convention.

House Tutor Groups continue to support a large variety of organisations through lunchtime events and other student fundraising initiatives, raising awareness and funds for over 45 community partnerships.

This year the School has been able to make a significant contribution to the work of UnitingCare West, supporting a number of appeals each term, including the womens’ refuge, homelessness, Indigenous Community and Service Learning.
Service Immersion Tours have become integral to Service Learning and are designed to inspire the intellectual, spiritual, emotional and social development of our girls. PLC students have this year worked with the Mowanjum and Jarlmadangah communities in the Kimberley; have continued house building projects, completed the building of a school and supported orphans in Cambodia; and continued building an education resource centre for a school in Tanzania.

Family Service projects demonstrate a strong commitment from parents and daughters from Years 7 to 12. This initiative aims to embed the idea of service within the home so that the philosophy continues beyond school, making an impact on students’ lives well into the future. The Family Service programme allows girls and their parents to work together in support of such organisations as Amana Living, Royal Perth Hospital, Ronald McDonald House, Manna industries and Police and Community Youth Centres.

Students have also enjoyed the opportunity to participate in co-curricular service activities, supporting Mosman Park Primary School, Good Samaritan Industries, the Earth Carers environmental programme and Sportslink.

A new initiative to the Community and Service Learning programme this year was the building and donation of prosthetic hands for land-mine victims in Cambodia. Over 40 PLC students and staff participated in the Helping Hands project, making 26 prosthetic hands for land-mine victims. PLC teamed with Henricks Consulting to produce the hands and was the first school in Australia to take part in this initiative.
Beyond McNeil Street
International and national tours and exchange programmes enable students to broaden their perspective and expand their studies in various curriculum areas.

In 2012, students continued to take the opportunity to undertake exchanges to Japan, Austria and South Africa as well as the French language exchange programme to Reunion Island. PLC has been host to 17 students from China and one student from France.

This year School tours included the Kimberley Immersion Tour, Cambodia Service Tour, PLC-Scotch College Service Tour to Tanzania, PLC-Scotch College Hockey Tour to South Africa, Year 9 Canberra Tour and the Year 11/12 French language tour to France.

Year 12 student, Ellen Kennedy saw how the Kimberley Service Immersion tour related to the reconciliation issues that are still so significant in this country. “We immersed ourselves into the Indigenous culture and the people of their culture also took an interest in our lives and showed appreciation of our help. This was a positive sign of the progression of reconciliation in Australia.”

PLC students participated in Service Immersion Tours in Cambodia, the Kimberley and Tanzania.
College Operations

2012 Income
- Fees: 81%
- Commonwealth Grants: 8%
- State Grants: 8%
- Other: 3%

2012 Expenditure
- Salaries & oncosts: 70%
- Depreciation: 9%
- Utilities & Services: 7%
- Administration: 6%
- Teaching Resources: 4%
- ICT: 2%
- Boarding: 2%
In 2012 the Foundation awarded its inaugural Scholarships to Clare Wray and Jordenne Mills, both of whom will commence at PLC in 2013. The award of the Scholarships marks an important milestone for the Foundation as they are the first fully means tested scholarships offered at PLC. These scholarships will provide opportunities for capable, well-rounded girls to benefit from a PLC education who would not otherwise be able to attend due to the family’s financial circumstances.

The Foundation has committed to funding two new scholarships each year with the eventual goal of seeing twelve Foundation Scholarship recipients throughout the Middle and Senior School.

As each Scholarship covers full academic tuition from Year 7 through to Year 12 the Foundation requires a continuing stream of income to support this initiative. The 2012 Annual Giving programme focused on supporting scholarships and saw $31,000 of the $57,000 raised being donated to the Scholarship Fund.

With prudential fund keeping and regular review of the Foundation’s investment portfolio, income from the Foundation’s funds will help support a proportion of the financial commitment required to fund the scholarships. The need for ongoing support from our community is essential to this initiative and we remain appreciative of the response to date.

At present the Foundation manages current projects and planned future commitments from a relatively small endowment fund of $4.5 million with other funds of $1.5 million committed to building and scholarship projects. Gifts to annual giving, voluntary contributions and income received from bequests all help to ensure the future capabilities of the Foundation in providing a leading centre of educational excellence for our current and future girls.

The School thanks Robyn Ahern (Chair of Foundation), Jenny Thornton (Secretary), Andrew McKenzie, Ian Macliver, Mimi Packer and Sue Hobson as members of the Foundation Board throughout 2012 for their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment. The Foundation welcomes Jane Whiddon to the Board in 2013. Jane brings with her a wealth of experience gained from an international career as a diplomat and will complement and enhance the existing skills and expertise of the Foundation Board.

We thank all those who have supported the work of the PLC Foundation in 2012 and we look forward to bringing you news of the goals achieved in 2013.
2012 Strategic Achievements

- First graduating International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma students.
- Full implementation of Year 6 as first year of IB Middle Years Programme at PLC.
- Mandarin as a second language extended and offered across Years 4, 5 and 6.
- Trial implementation of individual goal setting initiative in two Year 8 tutor groups.
- Redevelopment of facilities for contemporary library space in the Junior School.
- Information Learning Technologies Strategic Plan 2012-2014 implemented, including trial iPad programme in the Junior School, Flip technology and installation of interactive screens in Middle School.
- Full-time Counsellor appointed to Middle School.
- Review of organisational structure for curriculum leadership at PLC with decision to restructure current MYP and Senior School Heads of Department to Year 7-12 Heads of Department in 2014.
- Review of enrolment processes and procedures.
- Review and design of Sports uniform.
- Professional development workshop and audit of PLC’s teaching and learning programme against John Hattie’s Visible Learning research.

2013 Initiatives

- Development of sports and playing fields behind the Junior School and underground car park as well as improvement to drop off and pick up bays.
- Development of plans to upgrade Senior College campus facilities for Years 10, 11 and 12.
- Roll out of Personal Learning Plans programme across Years 8 and Year 9.
- Launch of Coneqt for students and parents (as per ILT Strategic Plan).
- Implementation of recommendations from enrolment and boarding reviews.
- Trial of electronic diary for students, staff and parents.
- Launch of refreshed PLC website.
- The School’s Strategic Plan 2013 – 2018 to be completed.
Cover:
PLC Olympians
Fiona Boyce (2004 Hockey),
Hannah Vermeersch (2009 Rowing)