While there has been a variety of activities this term, there has been a clear two pronged focus which I have tried to capture in the headline DIY and Do it for others.

We were all a bit disappointed when we returned from the winter holidays to find that no work had been done on the gym, but what a difference two weeks can make. First the walls were finished, then the girls set to and painted the inside, ably assisted by the boarding staff. It was a great team effort and completely changed the look of the place. Next came the lovely blue carpet - how much better that made it look! Then the equipment was set up and we were ready to go.

At this point we turned our attention to the outside and a number of groups painted different outside walls. Then came 6 cubic metres of gravel and 60 metres of edging to put outside the gym and in the outdoor washing line area. The hardest part was wheelbarrowing the gravel around to the washing area and setting the edging in place. There was a lot of hard work done that weekend, but the vast majority of boarders helped and it was all completed.

By the end of the term we had not only painted the gym area, but also all the way along the back wall of the boarding house. This was a win win for all of us. Not only did we improve our boarding environment, but we also raised money for the Fred Hollows Foundation as the school had agreed to pay us for our labour.

Early in the term Donal and Annie had talked to the girls about the wonderful work of the Fred Hollows Foundation, restoring sight both in our own outback and overseas. At the end of their talk, everyone committed to personally raise $25, enough money for at least one person to receive their sight back. I am delighted to report that every boarder has honoured...
On 31 July the school held its 12 Hour Sports where we played a variety of sports for 12 hours. It went from 12pm to 12am. It was tiring, but it was fun.

A few days before the event, Louise and Danielle Noonan made our flag. We were called the Bentley Bombers, the name of our football team, and Jen Waterhouse contributed by letting us use the uniforms.

We did all sorts of different sports. Around 12 o'clock we started our first game, which was football. There were lots of different activities we had to do like, netball, football, soccer, volleyball and dodge ball.

Sadly we lost our first game, but we won the rest. We lost three or more games after in different activities. Mikaela was our captain and Cindy painted our faces yellow, blue and red. The day seemed long.

Around lunch time we had pizzas and Stevo shouted us Powerade's because we were so tired.

When we got back to the boarding house we were all tired and went straight to bed.

Sunette Mndebele

This term was the second time the boarders have been to the new town pool since it opened. It was lots of fun!

Groups of boys and girls who were interested that weekend all went.

Everyone including juniors and seniors enjoyed what the pool had to offer.

We especially enjoyed the new slides, the red one being the long one and the yellow one being the small one. The whirlpool was also a favourite.

We got to race in the racing lanes and played games such as Marco Polo in the waist length pool, doing handstand completions and in general we just made up games and activities to keep ourselves occupied. Overall everyone enjoyed themselves and I am sure next term we will go again, seeing as it is getting warmer.

Cyndy Uzzell

On 3 September the girl boarders had an amazing sleep-out on the College oval with the Christian Centre Community Youth Group.

The day didn’t start too well because of all the fires around the town, so our Headmaster, Mr Tudor, told us it would be safer to sleep on the oval instead of going to Simpson’s Gap, which we had intended to do.

When the CCC people arrived they had the best welcome from Hannah who rushed to meet them.

After a great BBQ for dinner, cooked by Annie, Margo, Zoe, Mikaela and Kate, we spent the night just mucking around with a couple of games of hide and seek, and spent the rest of the time just hanging around with our new friends.

In the morning some of the CCC teenagers made a fantastic cooked breakfast of bacon and eggs and juice. Everyone had a fantastic night with so much fun.

Hanna UrePearce

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Hanna UrePearce
Close Encounters at the Reptile Centre

This term the Girls’ Boarding House plus some of the boys went to the Reptile Centre. Crystal drove us there and we are very grateful for this because we had a great time.

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon when we went to the Desert Park and had a walk around and learned about desert animals.

The giant crocodile was great as usual and it was pretty cool to look from the glass tunnel into its cage. It was a great trip and we had lots of fun.

Margo Sullivan

We all got to see snakes, lizards, crocodiles, turtles and frogs. Some of us were even lucky enough to hold the giant snake there.

There was also a goanna that was just walking around the park that we could pat, but we weren’t allowed to touch its head because it might bite us.

As soon as we got there, we divided ourselves into groups of three or four and went our different ways around the Park.

Sunette Mndebele

Most people went to the birds’ cages and looked at the different types of birds.

Others went to the theatre and watched documentaries on animals.

The rest, for whom it was their first time there, took a walk around as many places as possible to see as much as they could see.

Finally the most awaited show of the day was the bird show.

Here they show different types of birds found in Alice Springs and the Northern Territory.

It was an amazing show and we all agreed that we learned a lot of new things.

The Desert Park was an amazing getaway.

Martha Ondeyo

Leadership is bringing peace to your people and taking them to a place that they have never been before

Sunette Mndebele
Term 3 brought with it the best part of the year, in my completely unbiased opinion – footy season!

There was a lot of interest in girls' footy this season, especially from the boarding house, and it was great to see the girls not only coming out and playing on Wednesdays, but being dedicated enough to come and train on Tuesdays as well.

Unfortunately this year we were unable to get any games against the younger Centralian Middle School team, and instead played four games against Centralian Senior School, who outsized our young team easily.

Despite the small matter of playing against girls up to a foot taller than us, the Bombers showed great courage and often superior skills, winning our second game by a narrow margin, though the size and age disparity got the better of us during the other games.

The highlight of the girls' season was undoubtedly the Juniors versus Seniors match, the Bentley Trophy, which was held on Wednesday of Week 9. The boarding girls dropped everything to participate in the prestigious match, and there was a great mix of seasoned veterans and debuting rookies on field.

The game was a true battle of the giants, with the Juniors leading from the outset with their large contingent of Bombers players, and the Seniors staying in the match with some sharp shooting and solid defence.

In the fourth quarter the relatively comfortable margin held by the Juniors slipped to a nail-biting 1 point, before the Juniors managed to rally in the dying stages, kicking 2 points and locking the ball in their forward zone to run out victors, 41 point to 38.

Danielle Noonan and Martha Ondeyo received the Best and Fairest awards for their respective teams: Danielle for her superior effort in the forward line and Martha for her outstanding perseverance and skills in defence.

Alicka Stafford impressed enough to win the Encouragement award.

I would like to give a huge thanks to all the girls who played through this term, from those who played every game, to the girls who were brave enough to step out and play their first game in the Trophy match.

We are very grateful to Seb Noonan and Mitch Scott for umpiring our Trophy game too.

We would also like to thank Jen Waterhouse, who was very dedicated coaching and supporting us, despite her hectic schedule; Garry Bentley for his continued management and endorsement of the team, and Stevo, who, despite claiming to dislike AFL, was a very good recruitment officer, orange wrangler and cheer squad member, and was even overheard explaining to a student what a 'shepherd' was!

Jess Sullivan
More work, less play .... but all in a good cause

If the girls didn’t have muscles at the start of the term, they sure have them now!

Over Term 3 the girls have been hard at work with the new features that have been added to the boarding house. The main feature that the Girls’ Boarding House has recently got up and running is the gym.

It took a while to get the funding, but we eventually received it, and after spending many days painting the inside and the outside of the gym it was complete and looked great with its new carpet. Most of the gym equipment we already had, but we acquired a few additional pieces from staff and boys’ boarding.

The other major activity that took place in the boarding house this term was the landscaping of the outside area at the back. Many girls worked hard, either laying out gravel that went from the gym all the way into our clothes line area, putting in the edging and painting the back wall of the boarding house, which took two teams of girls a number of days to complete.

Not only did the girls improve their own boarding environment by their hard work, they also donated the money the school paid them to the Fred’s Hollows Foundation, which they had all committed to raising at least $25 for at the start of the term.

Without the help of the girls in the boarding house and the boarding staff members who were willing to help the younger girls out, the gym and the outdoor area would not have been completed in such good time, ready for a great start next term.

Annie Murphy

Many thanks to

ICPA
Centrecorp Foundation
Connellan Airways Trust
Grant & Janice Headsip

for financing these improvements.
On a very cold Saturday evening we went on a moonlight bike ride. Even though it was cold, the night was perfect for a bike ride, and the moon gave all the light we needed.

Our night involved driving out to Simpson’s Gap with a bus, car and two trailers. The track was 17km to Flynn’s Grave and from there we rejoined the road back to St Philip’s.

Although the night had its many accidents and stops along the way, everyone seemed to enjoy it and had a positive sentiment about it.

During the ride we also came across a dingo, and some of us had a more personal and close experience like having the dingo trying to eat our back wheel! The other problems we had were mostly mechanical with the bikes unsurprisingly. Chains and brakes seem to have been the cause of our many stops though sharp braking accounted for at least one person coming off.

We would like to thank everyone who participated and helped with the organizing and especially a big thank you to Mr. Leesong for being our leader and taking us.

Umema Curtis
Term in pictures
On a lovely Sunday afternoon the girl and boy boarders went out to Simpson’s Gap for a picnic. First we ate our sandwiches and fruit, then we went for a walk to the water hole. Later we played a few games. The first game we played was Zip, Zap, W hoosh. Other fund raising efforts included painting, landscaping, helping at a wedding, car washing, busking and selling lucky numbers. Well done to everyone for their efforts.

At home we’ve had a sleep-over with the Christian Community Centre Youth Group, played sport in the stadium, been to the school musical, lost to the boys at netball (though both Juniors and Seniors put up a good fight) had camp fires and, of course, used our gym and new swinging seat.

This term is the one in which Year 12 Prefects finish their service and hand over to their Year 11 counterparts so it seems an appropriate time to pay tribute to our outgoing Boarding Prefect, Donal. She has in all respects shown great leadership. Her running of our evening meetings has been exceptional, and her handling of discussions has been outstanding. She has been an excellent role model as a young person of the utmost integrity and in terms of her work ethic and dedication to personal fitness she has been exemplary.

I wish Donal and all our Year 12s all the best as they take their exams next term and I look forward to working with Annie, our Boarding Prefect for 2011/12.

Margaret Stevenson

Honour Roll
Most Improved Boarder
Jen
Contribution to the Boarding House
Annie
Boarder of the Week
Wk 2 Sunette
Wk 3 Milco
Wk 4 Annie
Wk 5 Margo
Wk 6 Danielle
Wk 7 Hannah
Wk 8 Jen
Wk 9 Rhiannon
Wk 10 Margo

For information on boarding at St Philip’s tel: 08 89504511; fax 0889522822; email info@stphilips.nt.edu.au