Phoebe’s top history honour

TEENAGER WINS NATIONAL AWARD

ST Mary’s Anglican Girls’ School student Phoebe Blaxill has won the National History Award.

The 15-year-old Floreat student accepted the award at a ceremony at Parliament House in Canberra.

Phoebe said she wrote her winning essay on Royal Flying Doctor Service founder John Flynn.

“The competition had a theme of leadership and legacy,” she said.

“I’d like to study medicine, that’s why I’m interested in John Flynn.”

Phoebe said her love of history had grown since going to high school.

“I’ve always been interested in the past and what it means today,” she said.

“It’s just so interesting to learn about things that affect us in the future and some of those events have shaped us in our lives today.”

St Mary’s humanities and social sciences teacher Irene Cumming said Phoebe had a talent for research.

“What sets Phoebe apart is her great capacity for meticulous research,” Ms Cumming said.

“She has a very inquisitive mind.”

Next year Phoebe will travel to Malaysia as one of just 10 students chosen for the Premier’s 2016 Anzac Tour, which will take in areas crucial to the Australian experience during the Indonesia-Malaysia confrontation in the 1960s.