Year 12 Knox boarder, Benjamin So, attended the prestigious National Youth Science Forum held in the summer school holidays at the University of Western Australia.

"National Youth Science Forum (NYSF) is a twelve day residential program for Australia’s best and brightest science students,” said Mr Andrew Weeding, Senior Academic Master at Knox Grammar School.

“It is a prestigious event and selection is very competitive involving numerous interviews with members of Rotary International who sponsor students to attend the Forum”.

One of the most important elements of the NYSF is the program of visits to research and industry facilities.

Established by CSIRO, ANU and Rotary, this program exposes students to a range of leaders in various fields, ranging from physics, mathematics and computing, chemistry, biomedicine, animal and plant biology, earth and environmental sciences, and engineering.

The aim is to inform, inspire, and challenge students to consider what working in different fields is really like. Students have a unique opportunity to talk with dozens of practicing scientists and engineers about their work with the added advantage of seeing the work situation.

Benjamin says the highlights of the program included “meeting like-minded students from around Australia and learning about university choices from the mentors.”

He went onto to say “the program was very well organised, and packed with fun activities and presentations; I wished it was even longer!”

Benjamin likes the technological aspects of science; what new technologies have lead to new understandings and new concepts.

This, as well as his interest in engineering and medicine sees him leaning towards a degree in biomedical engineering.

“Attending NYSF has definitely helped me clarify some ideas about university and degrees, and I am now considering interstate universities and their benefits,” said Benjamin.

Mr Weeding also added, “Benjamin has a genuine passion for science and this opportunity will help him to pursue a career in science.”

[Image: Dubbo's Benjamin So is passionate about all aspects of Science and attended the National Youth Science Forum during the summer holidays.]