Ash Wednesday
I was very proud to participate in the College’s Ash Wednesday Liturgy yesterday morning. The students were exemplary in how they participated. Project Compassion is underway during this season of Lent and I urge families to support fundraising for CARITAS Australia. The capacity to give to others for no personal material gain is an important attribute to develop. Today’s morning notices contained the following quote from Albert Einstein (the gender language is his, not mine): The value of a man resides in what he gives and not in what he is capable of receiving.

Gonski Report
The release, on 20 February, of the report: Review into Funding for Schooling, facilitated by David Gonski, has received much comment. This report is the first step in the Australian Government’s plan to introduce a new funding system for all Australian schools from 2014. The following is provided by the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) for your information:

There is no doubt that the review is significant and comprehensive, but it provides only a theoretical framework for a new funding model—key questions remain unanswered. Substantial analysis needs to be done to test the model and recommendations before a sound assessment can be made of what this means for our schools.

The government has announced a consultation phase, including analysis and testing of the proposed model, to commence immediately. This work will be used to help define a concrete funding model.

The government also acknowledged in their response to the review that families face financial pressures and do not wish to see school fees rise beyond their reach.

The National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) will be working hard during the consultation phase to ensure we do not end up with a model that has the potential to put pressure on school fees.

The NCEC strongly backs the review’s call for an additional $5 billion in funding for all schools—this represents less than one half of 1% of Australia’s gross domestic product (GDP)—and has called on government’s to commit to increased funding sooner rather than later.

A full copy of the Gonski Report can be accessed from www.schoolfunding.gov.au. You can also visit www.fundinginfo.catholic.edu.au. This provides, under the “Questions” tab, more answers to questions you may have.

Congratulations to:
- Matthew Towns (8M1) and Nickolas Towns (9M7) who are currently in New Zealand representing Australia in the sub-junior section of the International Shooting Competition;
- Rowena Badcock (10L1) who travels to Melbourne next Month as a member of the Tasmanian U17 track cycling team;
- Aaron Brown (9M4) who travels to Sydney next month to compete in the Australian Age Championships in the Hammer Throw and Shot Put.

Mr Frank Pisano
Principal
Students Need a Greencard for Non-Metro Buses in 2012


Note: students who are eligible for free travel, and who currently hold an un-expired free pass, won’t need to apply, but will be issued with a Student Greencard automatically.

Contact details for enquirers:
Enquiries: Telephone 1300 851 225
Email: buspasses@dier.tas.gov.au

Andrew Marshall from DJSA will be running 2 sessions for Junior Referees at the Meercroft Clubrooms. The referee course runs for approx. 1 ¼ hours and will enable you to referee Primary School games.

Course Dates:
Saturday 17th March 10am
Wednesday 21st March 7pm

This course is open to Grades 5, 6 and High School children who already have an understanding of the game, also to Parents that are new to coaching.

Please bring along your phone number and home email address.

Rates of pay for junior referees are:
Under 5/6/7/8 $3
Under 9 $4
Under 10, Open 5 and Open 6 $5

Please note you cannot Referee unless you have completed this course.

For any queries phone Wendy Squibb 0417 059 924.

The soccer season is fast approaching with the first school game commencing on 31st March 2012.

All registrations will be done on Tuesday or Thursday night, at the Devonport Strikers Club rooms, Valley Road. Karen Griffiths will be available between the hours of 6:30 pm — 8:00 pm, to provide registration, supplementary rego forms and to take payment.

Registration is $50.00 per player, (cheques payable to Devonport Junior Soccer), if you are not playing for a club. Those playing club soccer as well as school soccer will have a $10.00 fee to pay.

REGISTRATION FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED, SIGNED BY PARENTS AND PAYMENT MADE BEFORE 22ND MARCH 2012.

Teams need to be entered in by 9th March 2012, for rostering purposes, so the names of those girls/boys intending to play are required by Karen Griffiths as soon as possible.

Coaches/Managers are needed for some grades, no coach - no team. Anyone interested in refereeing, please see/ring Karen Griffiths.

U/14 boys will be playing at the Devonport Soccer Club on Wednesday evenings at 6pm.
U/16 girls will be playing on Wednesday, and U/16 boys will be playing Monday nights at 4pm

Contact:
Karen Griffiths—SBSC Soccer Co-ordinator
Ph: 6428 6703

Soccer Trials—Girls

The Football Federation Tasmania trials for the 2012 North West Tasmania Regional Representative teams are as follows:

**Female:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Under 13</th>
<th>Under 14</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 26th February</td>
<td>Thursday 1st March</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00—12.30 pm or 5.00—6.30 pm</td>
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The Mersey Leven Catholic Parish is offering a Preparation Programme for the reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist before the celebration of these sacraments in March and May.

Parents and students who wish to receive these sacraments are invited to attend one of the Information Sessions to be held on:

- Monday 27th February, 7.00pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Devonport
- Tuesday 28th February, 7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church, Ulverstone

Because sacramental preparation is now family-centred, parish-based and school-supported, preparation can be done as a family or in a parish group.

For further information, or a registration form, please contact Sr Carmel Jones or Annie Davies at the Parish Office (6424 2783) or mlcathparish-dsf@keypoint.com.au

Mersey Leven Catholic Parish
The Catholic Communities of Devonport, Latrobe, Penguin, Port Sorell, Sheffield & Ulverstone

Sacramental Programme
Family centred, Parish based, School supported

Whooping Cough (Pertussis)

- Notifications of cases of whooping cough (pertussis) to the Tasmanian Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) have increased significantly since late-2011. Cases of whooping cough have been reported from all regions of Tasmania. People of all ages have been affected.

- Please think about whooping cough if your child (or you) has a cough. Please see your doctor as soon as possible if you suspect someone in your household has it. Whooping cough is easily diagnosed and can be treated. Children with whooping cough must stay away from school until they are no longer infectious to others (5 days of treatment).

- Vaccination provides protection against serious whooping cough disease. Infants and teenagers should receive vaccine as part of their routine, free vaccinations. Adults should also consider whether they should get a booster dose.

For more information, and contact details for DHHS, please read the Whooping Cough Fact Sheet, available at http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/peh/infectious_diseases/pertussis
St Brendan-Shaw College Canteen

Expression of Interest
Volunteer for St Brendan-Shaw College Canteen
Wednesday/Thursday/Fridays from
10.00 am – 1.30 pm
For further details please contact
Mr Bob Farr on 6424 7622
Or email
bfarr@sbsc.tas.edu.au

Tuesdays/Wednesdays
10.00 am — 4.00 pm
Cash Cheque Layby Eftpos

Mrs Sue Arrowsmith
Uniform Shop Manageress

Swimming Carnival 2012