It has been a busy time this week. On Tuesday, we had representatives from CARITAS Australia in to speak to some students. I was unable to join the presentation, but was able to speak with several students at its conclusion. Every comment was positive and indicated that it was thought provoking and interesting. On Wednesday, a group sponsored by the Devonport City Council ran a “respect” program with our Year 7 and 8 students. Also, on both Tuesday and Wednesday, we hosted a professional learning seminar, coordinated by the Catholic Education Office, for four other schools as well as our own. This was part of our participation in the process of School Wide Positive Behaviour Support. It was encouraging to have it confirmed that the culture of our College puts us well down the path to creating a positive, safe and happy environment where learning is encouraged.

Today, as a way of marking International Women’s Day, over 30 “Diamonds of Devonport” were acknowledged as part of an initiative of the Devonport City Council. We have known how valuable our own Mary Hansen is to us here, and we were delighted to have her acknowledged in the broader Devonport community. Congratulations, Mary, on a most deserving award.

Today and tomorrow a Staff vs Student Pink Cricket competition will take place at lunchtime as part of an initiative to raise Breast Cancer awareness.

This week-end will see the College advertise for a middle school teacher and an administrative assistant. These vacancies arise, largely, as a consequence of internal restructuring. The College has taken the decision to put stability of teachers for year 7 as a priority. More information will be provided once contracts have been put in place.

The year has begun well. I wish to thank parents for their support in relation to facial piercings. This has been able to be managed in a cooperative manner, without compromising teacher-student relationships that are instrumental in supporting quality learning. I am also encouraged by the way students have responded to my message of making learning a top priority.
Senior students from Mr Lane’s Design and Production class have taken on the task of tutoring one of Mr Bellchambers Grade 7 classes in Applied Technology. With a tutor-student ratio of 1:2 they have been demonstrating the basic skills of woodwork as the younger students start their first project, a wooden pencil case. The Grade 7’s are not the only ones to benefit as the Design and Production students have had to analyse and demonstrate the steps needed to take this simple project to completion.

Congratulations to Maggie Jones for winning the Women’s Trans-Mersey swim at the Devonport Regatta last Sunday.

Here is Maggie pictured with the sash and trophy for winning.

Thank you to those students who submitted their applications for the World Challenge Expedition to Cambodia and Laos, occurring next year.

Our first team meeting (Launch Meeting), will take place on Wednesday March 14, from 3:30pm – 5:30pm in the Founders’ Theatre at the College.

This meeting is once again, facilitated by World Challenge and is an important meeting for team members to attend. While intended for students only, parents are more than welcome at the meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require more information.

Mrs Emma McIver & Miss Renee Sushames
School Leaders
In 2012, the Science Department will provide an opportunity for science students to challenge themselves by taking part in the national ‘Big Science competition’:

**The Big Science Competition**, sponsored by Rio Tinto: This one-hour competition is open to students of all abilities at three difference levels: Junior (Years 7 and 8), Intermediate (Years 9 and 10) and Senior (Years 11 and 12). Questions (developed by Australia’s leading test developer: the Australian Council for Education Research) are aligned to the Australian Curriculum - Science and test students' critical thinking and problem-solving skills as well their science knowledge.

Each student will receive a Certificate as well as detailed feedback on their performance in the competition. Each participating student also goes into the draw to win prizes including iPod Touch’s, iTunes vouchers and Movie vouchers.

Our school will receive a comprehensive report for each paper level showing how each student performed on each question, the percentage of students in the cohort who answered correctly, and a comparison with the national results. Each participating school also goes into the draw to win interactive science tools for the classroom.

The Big Science Competition will be held on **Wednesday 23 May**. Entries need to be in by **Monday 16th April** (See elsewhere in the newsletter for entry form).

The Big Science Competition is run by Australian Science Innovations Inc., a not-for-profit organisation promoting learning science by engaging students and encouraging their natural enthusiasm. To access sample questions or to find out more about the competitions, please visit their website: [www asi edu au](http://www.asi.edu.au).

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Head of Science Mrs Rochelle Taylor (rtaylor@sbsc.tas.edu.au).

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2012 Science and Mathematics Competition

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Wednesday, May 23rd</td>
<td>7 - 12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>Thursday, August 2nd</td>
<td>7 - 12</td>
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The Big Science competition is run by Australian Science Innovations and the Maths competition is conducted by the University of Canberra. All participants receive a certificate and a detailed results letter. Credit, Distinction and Medal awards are also achievable. These documents are suitable for inclusion in a portfolio.

The questions tested in the competition cover a wide variety of skills and processes that are an integral part of all of these subjects. The papers test the application of these skills across all disciplines.

Student participation is voluntary, and will involve withdrawing students from their regular classes for 90 minutes. Students are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity as achievement in these competitions is recognised throughout Australia. If your son or daughter wishes to participate and you support their decision, please complete the permission slip provided (more slips are available from the school office) and return this to your homeroom teacher by Monday 16th April. (No late entries accepted).

As the College pays a $7.00 entry fee per student, a firm commitment is required by students who enter.

Further information is available from:

- Mrs Rochelle Taylor, Faculty Head of Science;
- Mrs Shelley Keightley, Faculty Head of Mathematics.

2012 Science & Mathematics Competitions

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I _______________________________(name of parent) give permission for ________________________ (student’s name), Year _______ Homeroom _______ to participate in the following competitions at St Brendan-Shaw College.

- [ ] Science
- [ ] Maths

Please tick competitions to be entered

Parent’s Signature: ………………………………………………….

Student’s Signature: …………………………………………………
Mr Steve Ryan
Coach

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.

Mr Steve Ryan
Coach

The NSATIS competition came to the Nazareth Gym on Monday afternoon with our first home game against Marist Regional College. The boys again started well and established a nice 10 to 15 point break which they held until the middle of the second half. Marist applied some pressure but the boys rallied and ran out winners 51 to 40. The teams aim now is to play a consistent brand of basketball for the full 40 minutes. Thanks to Cameron Hingston and Henry Callander for officiating the game and Mrs Cook and Ethan Hind for her work on the scorebench. The next home game is on 19th March versus Launceston Church Grammar School. All supporters are welcome with tip off at 3.30pm.

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

STOMPIN DANCE EXCURSION!

On Friday the 2nd March, the 9/10 Dance class went down to Launceston to the Hollybank Reserve where we watched Stompin Youth Dance Company’s magnificent show for 2012 called ‘Restore.’ Two students from our college were in this performance; Hayley Johnson and Laura Briant. Hayley and Laura both exhibited the exceptional skills they developed and achieved while belonging to the Stompin Youth Dance Company. Good job girls!

This one hour performance dazzled the senses with a variety of musical pieces including ‘The Pumped up Kicks’ where the audience went wild. The choreography was exciting and full of energy. The lighting created the effect of being at a dance party.

The dancers performed on the grass in the park, their movement kicked up the dust which gave the lighting an eerie effect. The audience were engaged for the entire performance, which lasted a full hour. My personal favourite was a piece in which the music, choreography, lighting and park setting gave the effect of a graveyard scene where people were rising from the dead. It was rather creepy but visually amazing. It was one of the best dance pieces I’ve seen. I would highly recommend this event for all students next year!!!!!
**Palm Sunday Pilgrimage**  
**Sunday 1st April**

This massive state-wide event for people of all ages is back, bigger and better than ever in 2012! Featuring the pilgrim walk, concert and family fun day, street procession and Mass at St. Mary’s Cathedral there is something for everyone! You also do not want to miss our very special guest performer Fr Rob Galea.

Fr Rob is a newly ordained priest and an amazing singer/songwriter with a comparable international fan base. He has recorded with a number of pop idols and has released four of his own albums. He has played in front of hundreds of thousands at key World Youth Day events, and our Tassie WYD pilgrims are some of his biggest fans. Celebrating Palm Sunday, Young People and our Tasmanian Catholic Church we would love to see as many people from our school communities there as possible! Go to [www.cymtas.org.au](http://www.cymtas.org.au) for more information.

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**Uniform Shop**

**Tuesdays/Wednesdays**  
**10.00 am — 4.00 pm**

New stocks of rugby tops have now arrived. $77.00

**Please Note:** You are asked to keep your receipt from uniform sales for tax purposes. We are not able to issue written receipts.

Mrs Sue Arrowsmith  
Uniform Shop Manageress

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**An Invitation for women**  
**to a day of retreat**

Mums, have the school holidays left you feeling drained? The Mersey Leven Parish offer you the chance to relax, replenish and renew with a day of retreat on Saturday 31st March from 10am until 4pm at MacKillop Hill, Forth.

There is no cost and lunch is supplied. Bookings are required.

Phone: 6428 3095 or email: rsiforth@bigpond.net.au or for more information contact Amanda Cleary-Schofield (6429 1162) or Belinda Chapman (6426 1835).
YEAR 7
CAMP