The term has resumed at a frenetic pace. Last night we hosted a large number of prospective year 7 students for 2013. If you were unable to attend, or know of someone who is considering enrolling in the college in 2013, please contact the College for an enrolment package. If applications can be returned by 4 May, we will be able to include you in the first round of interviews scheduled for 14 and 16 May. The enrolment package includes a new prospectus. This is due to the excellent work Mrs Bronnie Doolan has done in developing this publication. Thanks also to Brendan Graetz (12L3) who has provided several professional quality photographs, including the cover, for this document.

Last Saturday the College competed in the annual, Independent Schools Head of the River competition at Lake Barrington. Thanks to our rowing team, pictured below, who were well supported by their coaches: Kerry Gretton; Graham Scattergood; Merv Tippet; Michael Wilson; Andrew Streeter; Ian Sansom. Particular thanks are made to the Ulverstone and Mersey Rowing clubs who train our team members. Without their support we would not be in a position to field a competitive team. Congratulations go to Gabriella Gretton who won the division 1 U13 Girls 1000 single sculls in a time of 4:04:54, bettering the record by an amazing 42 seconds. Also to Madeline Greenhill who won the division 2 U13 Girls 1000 single sculls in a time of 4:39:47, which was 7 seconds faster than the division 1 record set last year. These two girls also won the division 1 U13 Girls 1000 double sculls. Thanks also to Kirsty Tyson and Rhiannon Orme who volunteered to assist the running of the event on the day, and David Bennett who acted as Team Manager in place of Renee Sushames.

Congratulations to Sam Curtis (8D2) who participated in the Australian Age Swimming Championships in Brisbane during the Easter break. He achieved many Personal Bests and won Bronze in the 800m Freestyle; and a 4th in the 400m Freestyle. Also to Meg Graham (College Co-Captain) who has been selected in the U19 State Badminton Team to compete in Darwin in July.

Congratulations to our NSATIS Boys Firsts basketball team who will host the finals of this competition. When the date and time has been finalised, I would hope to see a strong home support to cheer our team to victory.

Congratulations to our Junior debating side (Caitlin Hendrey, Tara Lupus and Laura Wood) who won against St Patricks in the round we hosted last night. The Seniors (Jesse Bouma Callie Buchwald and Owen Zolati) came a creditable second to Scotch Oakburn College, also hosted by us. Thanks to Mrs Rachelle Littler who manages and coaches our debating team.

Just prior to Easter, we farewelled Ms Renee Sushames as she began a five week Rotary teacher Exchange trip to Canada. She will return shortly, enriched personally and professionally (I feel sure) by this experience.

Once again our staff has been touched by illness with the unhappy news over the break that Mrs Tanya Rataj’s young daughter was diagnosed with Leukaemia. Both mother and daughter have had to move to Hobart while treatment is given. Our prayers are with the family. Mrs Gabrielle Hay has been offered a contract to teach Mrs Rataj’s classes. Mrs Imelda Saunders continues treatment for her illness and Mr Matt Ward has had his contract extended for term 2 to continue to take her classes.
**Reports**

Students in Year 7-10 will receive Interim Reports this week. Parent-Teacher Interviews for these students will be held from 3.30pm until 6.00pm Thursday 26 April. Senior reports will be available late May and there will be a Parent-Teacher Night for senior students on 23 May.

**NAPLAN**

All Year 7 and Year 9 students will be completing NAPLAN tests on Tuesday May 15, Wednesday 16 May and Thursday 17 May. A calculator, an eraser and a 2B pencil will be needed.

More information is in the leaflet attached to this newsletter.

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**NOTE TO PARENTS**

**2012 SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME**

The school immunisation programme for Year 7s will be taking place at St Brendan-Shaw College NEXT WEEK on Friday 27th April.

If you have returned a consent form for your child, he/she will be vaccinated as requested, unless you have been otherwise notified by the Health Department.

**IMPORTANT:** If your child has received vaccinations elsewhere since completing the consent form, is unwell or has commenced taking some form of medication – YOU MUST advise the Devonport City Council Health Department immediately on 6424 0576.

Please **DO NOT** expect school staff to pass on this information. Parents are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of information provided on the consent forms, and for any necessary alterations to that information being passed on to the Health Department.

Thank you

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**Harold Carroll Memorial scholarship**

**Pictured:** Bryony Scott (right), a graduate of the College last year, was awarded a Harold Carroll Memorial scholarship.
In 2008, the National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced in Australian schools. The program is scheduled to continue in 2012 with all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 to be assessed using common national tests in Reading, Writing, Language Conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and Numeracy.

Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 students in Tasmania have been participating in literacy and numeracy tests for a number of years, so there is familiarity with the test formats and the types of questions.

The scheduled dates for the tests in 2012 are Tuesday 15 May, Wednesday 16 May and Thursday 17 May.

These national tests will provide information on how students are progressing against national minimum standards of literacy and numeracy skills expected for each year level, as well as performance across the whole range of student abilities. The results will support improvements in teaching and learning for students.

Parents will receive an individual report that shows their child's results and a comparison of their child’s performance against all other Australian students in their year level. The report will also indicate how your child performed in comparison to the national average and the levels of achievement expected at that year level.

For students in Years 5, 7 and 9, the results from the 2012 tests will provide parents and schools with important information on progress made since they last participated in NAPLAN testing in 2010.

The best way you can assist your child is by making them feel comfortable about the nature and purpose of the tests, and assure them that the tests will give them an opportunity to show what they have learned in class.

For more information about the national tests, including test samples, frequently asked questions, the test schedule and a parent information brochure, please visit the national NAPLAN website at: http://www.nap.edu.au.

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Helen Williams at the College.

Mrs Helen Williams
Deputy Principal—Learning & Teaching

Devonport Girl Guides will be launching their 2012 biscuit campaign with a sausage sizzle at William Street Meats, (at the Valley Rd intersection)
Saturday, 28th April 2012, 9 am - 1 pm.

Please come along and buy a sausage and a packet or 2 of biscuits and support Girl Guides!

Mrs Sue Arrowsmith
Uniform Shop Manageress

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