Mr Dan McMahon

I share the following information received from our Vicar General, Fr Mark Freeman:

Fr Dan McMahon died peacefully at 12.05pm on Monday 7 May 2012 in St Luke's Campus of Calvary Healthcare, Launceston. Ordained at Ulverstone on 8 December 1994, Dan served as a priest in Devonport, Bellerive, Bridgewater-Brighton and the West Coast parishes. He had worked as a seminarian at Invermay. In more recent years, due to failing health, he has lived in retirement at Turners Beach near Ulverstone. Before entering the priesthood Dan had been a Christian Brother. Recently he marked 50 years since his religious profession. Dan celebrated his 75th Birthday last Friday 4 May. He is survived by his sister Connie Bennett, her husband John and their children and grandchildren.

Please pray for the repose of Fr McMahon’s soul. May he rest in the peace of the Risen Lord!

Staffing

Mrs Jackie Riley has joined the College’s administration staff working in the Caritas Office. We welcome back Ms Renee Sushames who has returned from her teacher exchange in Canada, and we thank Mr Stephen Walsh who took her classes in her absence. Mrs Susan Winkler has begun as an aide in the Arts department.

2013 Term Dates

As has been reported in the general media, Catholic schools are moving to a four-term year in 2013. The dates for our students are as follows:

**Term 1**
Mon 4 February - Friday 19 April.
(Note: Years 8, 9 and 10 begin Tuesday 5 February)
**Public Holidays:** Eight Hours Day: Mon 11 April
Easter: Friday 29 March – Tuesday 2 April

**Term 2**
Mon 6 May - Friday 5 July
(Note: Moderation Day is Friday 28 June and may be a student free day.
**Public Holidays:** Queens Birthday: Mon 10 June

**Term 3**
Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September

**Term 4**
Mon 14 October - Wednesday 11 December.
(Note: Year 10 end Thursday 28 November; SS Exams end Friday 22 November)
**Public Holidays:** Northern Recreation Day: Mon 4 November
Devonport Show Holiday: Friday 29 November

Traffic Management

I draw your attention to the notice on page 2 of this letter. I urge drivers to be conscious of the danger that the crest on James St presents, especially at peak times in the morning and afternoon. This is compounded by the narrowing of the road due to parked vehicles. Construction of additional car-parking onsite will commence next term. We have also contacted the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources who agree that there needs to be an extension of the 40kph zone onto Percy Street. Electronic speed signs are scheduled to be installed shortly. Our goal is the safety of our students.

The Tim Blair—Run for Kids on page 3 is for Charlotte Ratak daughter of staff member Tanya Ratak.
School Social

Thursday May 17th is our first school Social for the year. As parents, here is a checklist you might want to go through if you are signing your own child or another parent’s child into the Social:

Do I know where my child will be in the time leading up to the Social? If they are not with me, are they with a responsible adult who I know? – Most issues at our previous Socials have centred around students who have gathered as a group before the Social without a responsible adult present.

Am I and is my child fully aware that normal school rules apply at our school socials? – That means we treat each member of our College Community who is at the Social with dignity and respect. Students who fail to do so will have their parents called to come and collect them.

Do I know what my child will be wearing to the Social? – The College reserves the right to exclude any student from the Social who arrives in inappropriate dress or who changes into inappropriate dress during the evening. If in doubt, ask beforehand to avoid embarrassing situations during the evening.

Have I organised how my child will be getting to and from the Social? – The Social begins at 7:30pm and ends at 10:00pm. Students should be picked up from the Genesis Centre at 10:00pm.

Am I and is my child aware of other things about the Social? – Water and lollies are available for sale at the Social. Upon arrival, any bag must be placed in the allocated space. Security will be present during the evening. Students need to stay in the Genesis Centre between 7:30pm and 10:00pm.

As stated in the letter attached to this newsletter, no student will be allowed into the Social without a parent signing them in. If a student is being signed in by a friend’s parent, it is expected that the friend’s parent has permission to do this from the other parents.

Mr Richard Chapman
Deputy Principal—Pastoral Care

Traffic Management

Please note that there is a designated and signed student pick up and drop off area located off the James Street entry. When using this, please move around to allow other users access to the drop off.

Some parents are electing to pick up/drop students at the entry to the College. This can cause traffic issues in cars behind them backing up into James Street. This impacts on bus drivers and other vehicle users.

There have been cars undertaking U-Turns near the College entry. This is particularly dangerous noting limited visibility due to the James St hill crest and busy traffic during peak periods. Please note the No Standing zones in James Street.

Thank you for your support.
Tim Blair Run For Charlotte Rataj Launch

The official launch for the Tim Blair run for Charlotte Rataj is this Friday, 11th May. We need all who can, to come to the launch and support Tim’s fantastic work. Please bring your children and let anyone else know who may be interested.

If you are involved with school leadership/prefect groups please come along and see how your school students can participate. Even better, bring the leadership students along.

This run is all about kids helping kids, this year helping our daughter Charlotte Rataj who is suffering from Leukaemia. It is a beautiful idea and we are so honoured that Tim would like to do this for Charlotte Rataj.

Where: Devonport High School Hall
When: Friday 11th May
Time: 3:30pm
P.S Tell your friends!

Vinnie’s Food Drive

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

The St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive is now on! It needs your community support, especially in these trying times! Please bring a can or any non-perishable food item to your home-room and one of our Vinnies’ members will come to collect it.

The drive goes until May 22nd, so there is plenty of time to bring in heaps of cans. So far, MacKillop is leading the pack with Dillon and Griffin close behind. Not only do you feel good helping, you earn valuable House points. Tuna, soup, baked beans and spaghetti are just a few things to bring in!!!

NOW is the time!!!

Ms. Patty Barratt

Tim Blair - Run for Kids

Register Online:
www.rundevonport.com.au

In 2012, Tim Blair will be running to raise funds for Charlotte Rataj, a 8 year old girl suffering from Leukaemia.

You are invited to join the fundraising effort by supporting Tim either by donation or by participating in the Run for Kids event on 25th August.

Tim’s endeavor is supported by the Devonport High School PTF Committee.

Friday 24th August 2012

Tim Blair will run 100km! (Launceston to Devonport)

For more information, please contact Devonport High School on 63497811.

Saturday 25th August 2012

“Kids Helping Kids”

What are you waiting for? Register Today!

www.rundevonport.com.au

Event:
9:00 am - Briefing
9:20 am - 8km Kinder, Prep 1-2
9:50 am - 5km Grade 3-4
10:30 am - 4km Grades 5-8
10:30 am - 9km Grades 7,8,9,10
10:15 am - 5km - Open

Cost:
$10 per runner (online) www.rundevonport.com.au
$15 to enter on the day.
**Uniform Shop**

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

- Blue/White L/S Shirts $24.00  
- Maroon Jumpers $75.00 $79.00  
- Grey/Navy Trousers $47.00  
- Winter Skirts $99.00  
- Navy Tights $7.50 $8.50  
- Grey/Navy Socks $13.00

*Mrs Sue Arrowsmith*  
Uniform Shop Manageress

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**Social Details**

When: Thursday the 17th of May  
Time: 7.30-10pm  
Theme: Mythical Creatures  
Cost: $4 with costume - $5 without  
Snakes and water available for purchase on the night.

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**Basketball Finals**

NSATIS Basketball Final between  
SBSC and MRC  
will be played in the Nazareth Gym on  
Friday May 11th commencing at 1pm.
10 May 2012

Dear Parents

As we come closer to our first Social for the year on Thursday 17th May I take this opportunity to tell you about the way we conduct our Socials and what has brought this about.

On Thursday May 17th all students from Years 7-10 attending the Social will be required to have a parent to sign them in at the beginning of the evening. This will involve the parent either coming into the Genesis foyer and saying which students they are signing in, or providing the appropriate staff with a form that has already been filled in beforehand as they drop off their students. We realise, however, that some students who live outside of Devonport will stay with friends for the evening. Therefore, the parent who signs the students in does not have to be the parent of that student, but may be the parent of one of the friends. This is permissible.

When you as a parent are signing the student in you are informing us as a school that:

• the students you are signing in have been with you in the time leading up to the Social and that during that time they have not been involved in any unsafe behaviour

• that you believe that what they are wearing is appropriate (although the school reserves the right to make the final judgement in these cases)

• that if the student you are signing in is not your own child, the parents of that child are aware that they have been under your care for the time leading up to the Social.

Because of what you are informing us as a school, we will not allow any student into the Social who does not have a parent to sign them in. Please note that verbal permission will not be accepted, nor will an older brother or sister signing them in be accepted. These students will be asked to leave the school property and parents will be contacted where necessary.

Why this way?
In the past we, as a school, have had no knowledge of whether parents have given permission for their children to be at the Social. Parents signing students in helps us to overcome that issue. Secondly, some students in the past have arrived at our Socials after engaging in unsafe behaviours beforehand, unbeknownst to their parents. The signing-in process also help us to overcome this issue. It allows us to support parents.

We realise that, on the evening, this can provide some extra logistical issues as students can no longer just be “dropped off,” but a letter will be sent to all parents in the coming week to help the process run smoothly. All we request is that parents are patient on the evening as we get all students inside the Genesis Centre. But I’m sure all parents can appreciate that we take these measures for the good of all students who attend our Socials and this is far more important than any small traffic hassles on the evening.

There is another notice regarding the Social in this newsletter and we encourage all parents to read that as well.

We have found that our signing-in process brought about some overall positive results on the evening and we hope again that all students who attend will have a good evening.

Should you have any questions about the process I have outlined above, please do not hesitate to contact us here at school.

Thank you in anticipation for your support with this matter.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Mr Richard Chapman
Deputy Principal – Pastoral Care

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The Caritas office will be closed from 3:15 pm today.

Sorry for any inconvenience.