Last night we farewelled the graduating class of 2012. The Mass provides a dignified rite of passage, while the dinner that follows it, to me, symbolises their transition from students, to adults and past scholars, and a changed relationship with the College and its staff.

The photo from the dinner last night shows those graduates who were in Mr Peters’ Year 7 core class from 2007.

Then, this morning, the cycle that is school life was brought to the fore with us celebrating the end of year for our year 10s as they embark on the journey as senior secondary students. In two years time, they too will have graduated.

Congratulations to Megan Burton (U16 women’s 100m sprint), and Aaron Brown (Discus and Hammer throw) who have been selected to represent Tasmania in the Australian All-schools Track and field championships.

As I mentioned in last week’s newsletter, this week you will find an explanation, and link, to assist parents and other members of the community to provide feedback in relation to the College. Results will help guide our strategic planning.
Principal
Mr Frank Pisano
Extends an invitation to
Parents & Students
To join us for
Presentation Night 2012
Tuesday 11 December 2012
at 7:30pm
In the Genesis Centre

School Improvement Survey

In 2012 the College has started a process of School Improvement. We have surveyed staff in accordance with the Tasmanian Catholic Education Commissions' School Improvement Framework. We have drafted an interim 5 year school improvement plan based on this data.

This week we have surveyed the Year 10 students before they leave for holidays and it is now the turn of the Parents. We value the contribution that Parents can make towards our ongoing improvement as a Catholic College. Please take the time to complete the survey.

This should take less than 15 minutes to complete and will provide the College with valuable feedback on the College’s performance across several areas.

How to complete the survey:

We will email a link to the survey for all parents who have provided email addresses to the College on Monday December 3rd. If you would like to participate and do not receive an email then please email your name to survey@sbsc.tas.edu.au and we will send you a link. The survey will close on Monday December 10th.

Thank you very much for your assistance.

Mr. Gavin Hicks
School Improvement Coordinator

2013 JAPAN TRIP

Thank you to all who have shown interest in Japan Trip.

If you were unable to attend the Parent Info Evening last Monday and would like more information, please email ksherriff@sbsc.tas.edu.au and I will be more than happy to send through additional information.

Kaoru Sherriff
Trip Organiser

HEAD LICE

As we have received reports of head lice please be vigilant in checking your child’s hair on a regular basis and if lice or eggs are found please treat accordingly and remove all eggs before your child returns to school. Head lice are experts at seeking out your child’s clean hair to start the cycle again. If you are unsure of how to treat head lice please contact your local Pharmacist for advice.

Further information can be found on the Department of Education and, Department of Health and Human Services web pages.

LAPTOP/DESKTOPS FOR SALE

As part of our annual replacement schedule we will have a group of Desktop and Laptop Computers available for purchase at the end of the year.

Item 1 - Dell Desktop Computers with general specification of - Intel Core2 Duo processor with 2GB of RAM, 80-160GB Hard Drive, Keyboard, Mouse plus 19” LCD Monitor

Cost is $40 per Computer System

Note 1—** The above specifications is the general standard however some components may vary in type, size, brand and style and you are not guaranteed to get the exact system as specified.

Item 2 - Dell Laptops with Intel Centrino Core 2 Duo, 2 GB RAM, 80-150 GB HDD, DVD, USB, Firewire ,15” Screen** Laptops are generally in very good order however most have minimal battery life. (Battery replacements can usually be purchased for $60-$90)

Cost is $70 per Laptop

Note 2 - Equipment is sold "As Is" and we are unable to offer any after sales support. We have conducted general testing but offer no guarantee of 100% functionality.

Note 3 - Desktop Computers do not come with any preloaded software or operating system.

Note 4 - Laptops come with Microsoft Vista Preloaded Equipment will be available for pick up between the 12 & 14th of Dec only.

To pre-order a computer please email to pkennedy@sbsc.tas.edu.au and then make payment at the Caritas Office before the 6th December, sales will be on a first order first payment basis.
Vietnam Veteran, Mr Gerald O’Dea Visits Year 9 History

On Tuesday, fifty Year 9 students had the great privilege of listening to Mr Gerald O’Dea who in 1965 was called up in the first ballot for National Service and spent time on active service during the Vietnam War.

Mr O’Dea came to tell of his experiences of war and conscription or National Service. His story kept the students enthralled with his experiences of training, being in the jungle in Vietnam and what it was like to come back home to Australia. He brought with him items from the war that included a Viet Cong bugle, his boots and medals along with two books written by his friends.

Mr O’Dea also told us of his association with the College. The library is named after his father.

Afterwards Maddi Aylett commented that she enjoyed hearing about Mr O’Dea’s service in Vietnam. Natalia Ayesu said it was a pleasure to listen to his great story telling. All the students came away with a better understanding of the conditions of war and the ANZAC spirit.

We sincerely thank Mr O’Dea for coming to share his experiences and giving students the opportunity to live history.

Excursion to Narawntapu National Park

Fifteen brave students headed out to Narawntapu to experience Aboriginal culture led by Emma Lee, an archaeologist who studied at the Australian National University. As a proud Aboriginal Tasmanian, she was able to pass on her passion and knowledge of Aboriginal culture, use of land and resources.

It was fun walking and talking through the bush, with at least three hundred photos to remember the day!

A very big thank you to Emma for making our trip to Narawntapu so enjoyable and filled with new awareness and appreciation of some traditions of Tasmanian Aboriginal life kept alive today.

Year Five ‘Fun Day’

On Thursday 22nd November, Year Five students from Our Lady of Lourdes, Sacred Heart, St Patrick’s School and Our Lady of Mercy visited St Brendan-Shaw College.

They participated in cooking, art, science and computing lessons. The students had a barbecue lunch and were treated to a fine display of talent at a concert.

A great day was had by all.
For more information please see PE Staff
STAS application forms are to be issued to new enrolments only or to families who have not applied for, or been in receipt of, STAS in 2012. Families who have been in receipt of STAS 2012 have been sent correspondence regarding STAS 2013 directly from the Department.

STAS application forms can also be downloaded from the Department’s web site at: https://www.education.tas.gov.au/documentcentre/Documents/Student-Assistance-Scheme-Application.pdf.

If you have any queries regarding the forms please contact our Service Centre on 1800 816 057.

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INCOME TEST FOR THE SCHEME - TAXABLE INCOME TABLE 2011-12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Dependent Children</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income Per Week</td>
<td>$586</td>
<td>$675</td>
<td>$768</td>
<td>$869</td>
<td>$975</td>
<td>$1,095</td>
<td>$1,213</td>
<td>$1,334</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Parental Income #</td>
<td>$30,513</td>
<td>$35,073</td>
<td>$39,980</td>
<td>$45,189</td>
<td>$50,762</td>
<td>$56,940</td>
<td>$63,117</td>
<td>$69,297</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* For more than 8 children, add $123 per week or $6,204 per annum for each additional dependent.
# Gross Taxable Income

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NOTICE IN REGARDS TO OUTSTANDING FEES

At the current time, there are many fee accounts overdue for payment. The College is reliant on up to date payment of fees and it would be appreciated if parents could attend to payment as soon as possible.

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Important Dates 2012

- **5 December 2012, Wednesday**
  8.30am - 4.30pm
  Sale of new and secondhand uniforms
  (Year 7 Orientation Day)

- **5 December 2012, Wednesday**
  7.00pm - 8.30pm
  Secondhand Text Book - Swap/Sale Evening (Years 7 - 12)

- **12 December 2012, Wednesday**
  Return of Booklists to College

- **17 December 2012, Monday**
  2.00pm - 8.00pm
  Sale of new and secondhand uniforms—last day
The College will be closed on Friday, 14th December 2012 for our Staff function and then will be closed from Tuesday 18th December 2012 for the holidays.

### Term Dates 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term Dates</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Opens</td>
<td>Thursday 24 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Commence</td>
<td>Tuesday 29 January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 7,11,12 Commence</td>
<td>Monday 04 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Students</td>
<td>Tuesday 05 February</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter Break</td>
<td>Friday 29 March — Wednesday 3 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Term 1</td>
<td>Friday 19 April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commences</td>
<td>Monday 6 May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Term 2</td>
<td>Friday 05 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commences</td>
<td>Monday 22 July</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Free Day</td>
<td>Friday 23 August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End Term 3</td>
<td>Friday 27 September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Term 4</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commences</td>
<td>Monday 14 October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS Students Classes Finish</td>
<td>Friday 1 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS Swot Vac until</td>
<td>Friday 8 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SS TQA Exams Finish</td>
<td>Friday 22 November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10 Students Finish</td>
<td>Thursday 28 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Students Finish</td>
<td>Wednesday 11 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers Finish</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Closes</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Second-Hand Book Sales/Swap

The College has made available the Undercover Area on Wednesday 5 December 7.00 pm — 8.30 pm for parents to negotiate second-hand book sales/swap. With the introduction of the Australian Curriculum there are several changes to books. Please check the booklists before purchasing second-hand texts.

#### Book Sales Day Times

Book Sales Day will be **Tuesday 29 January 2013** in the Genesis Centre. **Book sales will commence at 9.30 am and conclude at 6.00 pm.**

#### Birchalls Book Orders

Ordered book packs will be available to be picked up on Tuesday 29 January 2013. The books are to be paid for on the day to Birchalls who will be located in the Genesis Centre. Please make cheques payable for text books and stationery to Birchalls. EFTPOS/Cash also accepted.

Book packs not collected on the day will be taken to the Birchalls store at Don College and will need to be collected and paid for from there and levies paid at the Caritas Office.

**PLEASE NOTE: BIRCHALLS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTING PAYMENTS FOR LEVIES.**

#### Leaxes

These are payable on Book Sales Day to the Accounts Department who will be located in the Foyer of the Genesis Centre. **Levies are:** $470.00 for all students. Please make a separate cheque payable for levies to St Brendan-Shaw College. EFTPOS/Cash also accepted.

**PLEASE NOTE: LEVIES ARE TO BE MADE AS A SEPARATE PAYMENT TO TEXT BOOKS/STATIONERY. ALL LEVIES ARE TO BE PAID AT THE GENESIS CENTRE NOT CARITAS OFFICE.**

#### Art Folders

These are to be purchased from the Accounts Department who will be situated in the Genesis Centre Foyer.

#### Fees 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7 - 8</td>
<td>$2434</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 - 10</td>
<td>$2552</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>$2682</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The family discount system shall continue.

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**Mr Bob Farr**  
Business Manager