Due to the Easter break we have a smaller than usual newsletter.

Congratulations to our SATIS seconds Tennis Team who, yesterday, won the Northern final, playing away in Launceston against St Patrick’s College. Thanks to their coach and manager, Mr Gavin Hicks, who has mentored the team over many years. As he was on leave, the team travelled to the final with Mr Ben Milbourne who reports that the team conducted itself with excellence.

Both our male and female SATIS basketball teams play their Northern Finals shortly.

In last week’s newsletter, I included information about mouthguards for students who play contact sport for the College. This information indicates that “boil and bite” mouthguards do not afford suitable protection. I did not specifically write this, so I would like to be clear that this type of mouthguard is not suitable. In July 2012, the AFL advised: “Dentally fitted laminated mouthguards offer the best protection. Boil and bite type mouthguards are not recommended for any level of play as they can dislodge during play and block the airway.”

Congratulations to Ryan Nelson who is currently in Western Australia competing in the National Flatwater Kayaking Championships. In the recent State Championships, Ryan achieved the following results:

First place:
- K1 - 200m sprint;
- K2 - 200m; 500m; and 1000m
- K4 - 200m; 500m; and 1000m

Third place:
- K1 – 500m

Fourth Place:
- K1 – 1000m

Mr Frank Pisano
Principal
Parents of Year 7 and Year 9 Students
A letter from the government explaining the NAPLAN tests is attached. Students will receive a pamphlet in their homeroom trays to take home. Please do not make unnecessary appointments on the three days in May when testing is in progress. The tests not only satisfy Government regulations but we use them for diagnostic purposes to inform our planning and learning programs.

Academic Authenticity and Integrity
All senior students have “signed off” on the Policy on Academic Authenticity and Integrity. All assignment tasks must be the student's own work or acknowledge use of another's ideas/material.

Mrs Helen Williams
Deputy Principal—Learning & Teaching

National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) 2013

In 2008, the National Assessment Program — Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) commenced in Australian schools. The program is scheduled to continue in 2013 with all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 to be assessed using common national tests in Reading, Persuasive 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 2013 are Tuesday 14 May, Wednesday 15 May and Thursday 16 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 2013 tests will provide parents and schools with important information on progress made since they last participated in NAPLAN testing in 2011.

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
2013 Science and Mathematics Competition

Science: Wednesday, May 29th  Year 7 - 12 students
Maths: Thursday, August 1st  Year 7 - 12 students

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 15th 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 Kelly Hicks, Faculty Head of Science;
Mrs Shelley Keightley, Faculty Head of Mathematics.

2013 Science & Mathematics Competitions

I ___________________________________________ (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: ………………………………………………...
The Come Together Concert to be held in Ulverstone has been organised by the Lions Clubs of Ulverstone and Forth Valley to raise funds to support Fletcher and Spencer, the two boys who were severely burnt in the car fire in Burnie prior to Christmas.

The concert star, Jessica Mauboy who recently starred in the movie, The Sapphires, will be supported by talented local singers.

Jessica’s career has sky-rocketed with the release of the movie in the United States and she had to postpone her visit to Tasmania.

The new date for the concert is Sunday 19th May 7.00pm.

The Concert Committee is thrilled that Jessica who is now an international star, is keen to support this fund-raising concert by bringing her Musical Director and band with her to Ulverstone.

Tickets are available from the following outlets:
Devonport Entertainment & Convention Centre
Mecca Restaurant, Burnie
Maveric Clothing, Ulverstone

For enquiries, please phone Mark Whittle (0407 803 529).