This morning, at staff briefing, a proud coach of our girls NSATIS hockey team was keen to share the news of the team’s win the previous day. This effort was especially commendable given that, just prior to the departure to the playing ground I encountered this same coach seeking someone to fill in for an unexpected injury so that we could field a full team. The coaches of both the boys and girls soccer teams were in the same desperate search, with both having to take to the field without a full complement of players (and the girls team co-opting the year 7 girl who was to run the line, and who played a very good game – well done Zoe Lowry 7 G4). It is disappointing that students who have indicated a willingness to play for a College team have displayed such a lack of commitment to their peers, coaches and opposition – yesterday, we faced the very real possibility of teams travelling to Devonport from Launceston and to have not had a team to play against. The College does not mandate that students must play for the College, but we are keen to participate in interschool competition. It is not appropriate that, having committed to a team; players do not follow through on this commitment. The lessons of selflessness – of putting others before self – are important.

This Weekend a number of our Netball Teams compete in Finals in the Devon Roster. We wish them good luck.

An area next to the Canteen has been re-furbished to provide a more comfortable location for students to eat their lunch, and for seniors to be able to spend their study times, giving them three locations. The older Honour Boards have been moved from the Genesis Centre to this more public location. Having been contacted by a graduate from 2007 to support his application for a Rhodes Scholarship, I am keen to introduce a new Honour Board acknowledging past scholars who have been awarded Rhodes Scholarships. I am aware of two, at least. If you know of any scholar who we need to include on this Board, please contact me at the College.

Congratulations to:

- Tegan Byard (11 D4) who has been selected to represent the State in the U18 Women’s Touch Football Team travelling to the Sunshine Coast next month; and
- Sam Curtis (9 D2) who will be representing Tasmania at the All Schools Swimming Championships in Adelaide in mid-September.

I wish all fathers and father figures a very happy Fathers’ Day for this coming Sunday. The Parenting Ideas article included in this week’s newsletter is on this theme.

Mr Frank Pisano
Principal

God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor. - Psalm 68
“Families are pulled apart by social and economic structures that dehumanise and compartmentalise people, and deny them time together - 'the raw material of life'. We need to ask whether these structures are serving people, or people are being forced to serve the system. In the fast pace of the modern world, characterised by the competition for time, we need to consider what is most important to us, to give priority to family and friends, and to realise that our strivings at work and at home are a means to an end. We must find the space that is necessary to come home to ourselves and there to satisfy our hunger for the sacred.”

From the Australian Catholic Bishop’s Social Justice Statement 2012-2013: The Gift of Family in Difficult Times - The social and economic challenges facing families today.

PAT TESTING
Year 7, 8 and 9 students will be participating in PAT (ACER Progressive Achievement Tests) during English and Mathematics next week. Please address any inquiries to Mrs McDonald.

SUBJECT SELECTIONS FOR 2014
These are now overdue for Year 9-11 students. Current Year 7 students will receive their sheets next week.

Mrs Helen Williams
Deputy Principal—Learning and Teaching

UNIFORM
Students are expected to continue to wear the winter uniform throughout Term 3. During Term 4, students will have the option of wearing either the winter or summer uniform. If the weather warms up throughout September, we may allow the option of summer uniform to be worn earlier. HOWEVER, if this is the case an official announcement will be made in the College newsletter and on the website. If the announcement is not seen, assume the wearing of winter uniform will continue until the end of Term 3.

School Social
Thursday September 5th is our second 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 7:00pm and ends at 9:30pm. Students should be picked up from the Genesis Centre at 9:30pm.

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 7:00pm and 9:30pm.

As stated in the letter on 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
IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS
2013 SCHOOL BASED IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

The Devonport City Council immunisation team will soon return to St Brendan Shaw College on the 3rd September to administer vaccinations for Grade 7 and Grade 9 students that are due:

**Grade 9 (boys)**: Human Papillomavirus - HPV (3rd dose - final)

**Grade 7 (boys and girls)**: Human Papillomavirus - HPV (3rd dose - final)

**Grade 7 (boys and girls)**: Hepatitis B (2nd dose - final)

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 missed and/or 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.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding immunisation, please contact the Devonport City Council Health Department on 6424 0576 directly, **not through the school office**.

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**SCHOOL-WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT**

This week: At School Events like the Social

At St Brendan-Shaw College we strive to:

**Do our best** - which means we dress appropriately, support each other and participate to the best of our ability.

**Be safe** - which means we follow instructions from the events, be in the right places at the right times and drink lots of water during the evening.

**Welcome diversity** - which means we accept people of different talents, we include people in groups and we encourage each other.
Last week was an exciting week for the Year 9’s as it was the first of their Pathways Weeks.

We were very fortunate to hear from the inspiring Sebastian Terry from NSW who has written a list of 100 Things. Sebastian travels the world achieving goals on his list and at the same time has raised over $100,000 for Camp Quality. While Sebastian was with us we also had an a student attempt a world record for the number of Ferrero Rochers eaten in one minute. Unfortunately he fell a few Ferrero’s short.

Students also participated in the Hollybank Treetop Adventure, worked through their booklets, had Reflection Days and finished off the week with a challenging Amazing Race around Devonport. I am so grateful the weather was kind to us and I truly hope students had a fantastic time and developed significantly during the week.

I would like to personally thank all staff, parents, local businesses and volunteers who helped to make the Pathways Week possible. I look forward to the second Pathways Week later in the year.

Mrs Tanya Rataj
Pathways Coordinator

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Uniform Shop

Open Every Tuesday and Wednesday
10:00 am—4:00 pm

Blue/White S/S Shirts  $20.00
Grey Shorts          $27.00
Navy Shorts          $32.00
Grey/Navy Socks     $5, $8, $13
Maroon/Navy Jumpers $77.00 $81.00
Pharmacy, Nursing and Medicine Taster Days are on again in 2013 and applications are now open!

Taster Day offers high school and college students the chance to ‘taste’ a health science degree and gather more information on the career opportunities that health science careers can offer them. Teaching staff and current university students will host the day, giving attendees plenty of opportunities to ask questions and find out as much information about the courses on offer.

**When?**

**Pharmacy Taster Day**
4 September 2013 for Years 9, 10, 11 & 12 students

**Nursing Taster Day**
6 September 2013 for Years 11 & 12 students
22 October 2013 for Years 9 & 10 students

For more information on the health science taster days or to register to attend, please visit [www.utas.edu.au/health-science/taster-day](http://www.utas.edu.au/health-science/taster-day).

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**Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF)**

If you are in grade 9 in 2013 up to 25 years of age you can now sign up for the first ever Australian Catholic Youth Festival! The CYM state-wide group is now open for registration, but spaces are limited and early bird rego closes 1st September.


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**Student Leadership in Sustainability Congress in Devonport**

From 9 to 90 locations in 5 years, "Youth Leading the World" in 2013 is truly a global event Oz GREEN would like to invite students from your school, together with students from other schools in your area to participate in this years’ youth engagement congress which connects change makers across the world working towards sustainable futures.

With 90 locations set to run this year, including Devonport, YLTW is an amazing opportunity for young people to participate locally whilst connecting globally with other congresses using innovative workshop techniques and digital media.
Dear parents

As we come closer to our next Social for the year on Thursday 5th September I once again take the opportunity to tell you about the way we conduct our Socials.

Please note that this term’s Social begins at 7:00pm and finishes at 9:30pm. We have found this a more "family friendly" time, especially for picking students up at the end of the Social.

On Thursday September 5th 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.

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,
Mr Richard Chapman
Deputy Principal – Pastoral Care
Father time is valuable time

On Father’s Day it’s worth reflecting on how good fathering matters. It matters to mothers. It matters to men. And importantly it matters to children.

Building up frequent father points

Prince William is typical of many modern dads. Gone are the days when the only relationship many men had with their children was through their wives. Men, increasingly, recognise that their effectiveness is dependent on first-hand interactions with their kids. That means their presence is needed far more than any presents they may provide for their kids.

For some dads first-hand interactions with children are easier said than done. Family separation, work circumstances and busy lifestyles are all factors affecting their capacity to become involved in their children’s lives.

In these circumstances it’s important that men maintain an emotional attachment to their kids; do their best to know what’s going on in their children’s lives; and respond appropriately to the developmental imperatives of their children.

The impact of fathering on children

Good fathering matters.

It matters to mothers as a supportive father makes a mother’s life easier.

It matters to girls. Good fathering has been linked to higher confidence levels in girls, particularly during the tricky adolescent years. The notion of a father who is present, available and attentive affords a sense of security to a girl, which is necessary for healthy development.

Dads are also the first introduction to the world of men for girls so it’s important that fathers treat their daughters with gentleness and respect, but also encourage them to be assertive. In a sense, fathers teach their daughters how
they should expect to be treated by males as they get older.

Good fathering matters to boys. They learn their first lessons of manhood from their dads. Early primary-aged boys usually want to spend a great deal of time with their dads. Steve Biddulph, author of *Raising Boys*, describes this phenomenon as ‘father-hunger’ and suggests that dads need to be around their sons in the primary school years so they can ‘download the software’ of how to be male.

The father-son relationship during adolescence can be problematic. While teen boys seem to be hard-wired to challenge their fathers, most desperately want their dads to be proud of them. Teen boys need a dad who can be firm when needed as they don’t always make great decisions. They need a dad who remembers the awkwardness and insecurity of being a teenage boy themselves. And they relate best to dads who don’t take themselves too seriously. The judicious use of humour, particularly with boys, is a great fathering strategy.

**Fathering matters to men**

And, of course, involved fathering matters to men. Most health scales state a healthy relationship with their children is a predictor of good health and longevity for men, as well as of life satisfaction levels. I suspect there is something relaxing and de-stressing for a man to get into a child’s space and time. There is a big kid in most men just busting to get out.

Parental well-being would be the last thing on Prince William’s mind as he attends to his young son’s needs. It is through these early forays into parenting that Prince William, like countless other men, will find his feet as a dad, and also discover his place in the life of his son.

**Five fathering tips (whether you live with the children’s mother or not):**

1. Go on dates with your daughters.
2. Have adventures with your sons.
4. Change as your child changes.
5. Discipline with firmness and compassion.