In the past few months the College has continued to develop its ICT infrastructure with some significant expenditure to increase the College's reliability and access for students. Students are able to bring their own technology and connect to our internet, and the use of iPads in Year 7 has been beneficial. Next year every classroom will have a data projector. These changes are to aid in the use of “assistive technologies”. This is an important definition. These technologies assist, not replace, good teaching. They do not stop students from writing or thinking, but lead to greater engagement and better learning. I am old enough to see the parallel in the increased use of technologies, and the introduction of calculators into the classroom. The same arguments were made. Now, we could not conceive of a world where classrooms could function without calculators, and their use in senior classes allow for greater depth and complexity to be explored, and in a much shorter timeframe. Our next focus is planning for the best model of computer access for students, especially in Years 10 to 12.

Next week will see the final formal classes for Year 11 and 12 students as they prepare to sit final exams in a little over two weeks from now. Parents of year 12 students should have received a letter outlining the functions that are planned for next week, culminating in the final full school assembly next Friday. If you have not received this, or have any questions, please contact the College.

On Saturday a small, yet loyal Athletics team enjoyed a fine and sunny day competing in the SATIS carnival. I would love to have seen a larger contingent, however those who represented us did us proud, with several wins, and high placing’s, including relay teams. Thanks to Ms Elle Brown, Mr Richard Chapman, and Ms Renee Sushames who accompanied the team.

We are delighted to confirm that Margaret Shearer has been selected as a State and Territory Award recipient in the 2013 Australian Scholarships Group, National Excellence in Teaching Awards (NEiTA) for Inspirational Educators.

NEiTA received 1558 nominations from school communities across the country this year and Margaret was selected from 698 finalists who met with the judging criteria.

Margaret is highly regarded by the local Aboriginal community for her passion and work for Reconciliation. Her work as the Aboriginal Students Support Teacher drives this passion. She is also a long-term supporter of citizenship building initiatives such as Youth Parliament and Model United Nations Assembly where we have enjoyed great success and good learning experiences.

Congratulations Margaret.

Mr Frank Pisano
Principal

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. - Psalm 34
“Around 20 per cent of the world’s poor live at Australia’s gate. Although this region has seen rapid economic growth and a significant decline in poverty, the gap between the rich and the poor continues to widen. In Indonesia, China and India, for example, despite strong growth, there are still millions experiencing extreme poverty and marginalisation.”

From the Australian Catholic Bishop’s Social Justice Statement 2013-2014: Lazarus at our Gate: A critical moment in the fight against world poverty.

Japanese Trip Report

The Thursday before school holidays a group of 24 students, teachers and parents embarked on an adventure to Japan. This was an organised school trip with almost 3 years of planning and excitement. It was to be the first Japanese trip for many years as the subject was newly reintroduced when our current Year 10’s began Year 7. The trip was led by Miss Sherriff and Mr McIver with assistance of Mrs Joanne Bussey. Our journey was to last 12 days and become a learning curve for many with Japan being so culturally different to Australia and of course the language barrier that put our Japanese skills to the ultimate test.

During our time in Japan we travelled to the cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Hakone, Nara, Kyoosan and Miyajima Island. We explored Tokyo over the first three days and discovered that it was a very fast pace and enormous city alive with culture. Our stay in Tokyo saw a day spent with Mickey Mouse and his fellow Disney characters at Tokyo Disneyland. We had a wonderful time in Tokyo. Our travels continued and led us to Kyoto, the old Capital of Japan rich with history and traditions.

Hiroshima was a strong highlight for all as it is the place of the atomic bombing over 50 years ago. This was a very emotional part of our journey and a well-remembered experience. With thanks to the school community we had the opportunity to place cranes at the Hiroshima peace park.

After enduring almost Japan’s entire Transport network we arrived at our final destination of Kyoosan where we stayed at a Buddhist Monastery with the Monks. There we experienced Japanese culture, traditions and food to the greatest depths. It was a challenge for many as the bathrooms were completely communal, meditation was lengthy, the food was different and the futons were solid.

After a fabulous two weeks we returned home tired but with a new stamp in our passport, a fresh sense of cultural diversity, developed Japanese vocabulary and a wonderment of the world.

Sarah Crawford L1 and Lucy Costello D3
Japanese Students

Year 10 Reflection Days

Over the past week, the Year 10 Reflection Days were held at the Devonport City Soccer Club. The theme of the Reflection Days was on ‘Social Justice’ and Br Sean McManus (a Christian Brother who represents Edmund Rice Network Tasmania) continued his long association with the college by facilitating the days. On the days, students explored; the concept of social justice, contemporary social justice issues and what action students can take moving forward.

Highlights of the days included listening to, asking questions about and quietly reflecting upon the moving stories of three young asylum seekers (some of whom were present each day), learning about the recent Nobel Peace Prize nominee young Pakistani Malala Yousafzia, and Mr Douglas’ recess and lunch time soccer skills display.

Br Sean was assisted by some energetic and passionate young adults – part of the Edmund Rice Network through Eddie Rice Camps - in delivering the program each day. All of the students and staff involved thank Br Sean and his team for running such an eye-opening, enjoyable and engaging program.

Mr Kamil Douglas
Ministry and Religious Education Coordinator
On Saturday 19th October we had 30 enthusiastic students travel to Launceston to compete in the SATIS Athletics Carnival. Our team was competing against 17 other independent schools from around the state. There were a number of outstanding results on the day, including:

Inighion Quinn 1st Open Girls 3000m
Brooke Jones 1st Under 14 Girls 100m
Brooke Jones 1st Under 14 Girls 200m
Brooke Jones 1st Under 14 Girls 400m
Holly Ross 1st Under 14 Girls Discus
Nikki Burton 2nd Under 16 Girls 1500m
Olivia Moore 2nd Under 13 Girls 200m
Aaron Brown 2nd Under 16 Boys Discus
Max Green 2nd Under 14 Boys 800m
Max Green 2nd Under 14 Boys 1500m
Max Green 3rd Under 14 Boys 400m
Braden Van Buuren 3rd Open Boys 100m
Jake Gleeson 3rd Open Boys Long Jump
Olivia Moore 3rd Under 13 Girls 100m
Brooke Jones, Steph Nichols, Georgia Burley 3rd Under 14 Girls 4 x 100m Relay

We got off to an excellent start with Inighion Quinn (year 7) winning the first event of the day, the Open Girls 3000m, in a photo finish by just 0.01 seconds. Brooke Jones won the under 14 girls sprinting trifecta by winning the 100m, 200m and 400m events. Holly Ross won her under 14 Discus with a throw of 20.85 meters. Congratulations to these 3 girls who now hold the SATIS State Title for their events.

Thank you to all staff that assisted with coaching the NSATIS & SATIS Athletics teams this year as well as Mr Richard Chapman, Mr Brad Tolson, Miss Elle Brown and Mrs Paula Brown who came along and assisted on Saturday.

Miss Renee Sushames
Head of Sport

On Wednesday we held our student election for next year’s prefect body.

This was run by the Australian Electoral Commission and assisted by the current prefect body.
TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS
10AM-4PM

LEAVERS 2014 RUGBY TOPS:
These need to be ordered and paid for by Wednesday 30th October.
Cost: $87.00

- Blue/White S/S Shirts $20.00
- Grey Shorts $27.00
- Navy Shorts $32.00
- Grey/Navy Socks $13.00/$8.00

14 October 2013

Dear Parents

Year 10 Students need your help.

We are looking for parents or friends of the College who may be able to help us give our Year 10s a great experience during their Mock Interviews in November.

In particular, we are looking for about 15-20 adult volunteers who would be available to give of their time on Wednesday 20th November. During this time the students will be participating in mock interviews for a particular job advertisement for which they have chosen to apply. We will have an interview panel interview each student. The process will include a list of interview questions, so you do not need to be an experienced interviewer.

So if you are able to give a few hours of your time and you would like to get to know some Year 10s a bit better and help our Year 10s build on their strengths in the interview process, we would love to have your help.

If you’re able to assist, please fill out the slip below and return it to the College. If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me here at school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Tanya Rataj
Careers and Pathways Coordinator

(Please return to Mrs Tanya Rataj)

I would be willing to volunteer to help during the following times (please tick):
- Wednesday 20th November 10:50am – 1pm
- Wednesday 20th November 1:30pm – 2:50pm
- Wednesday 20th November 10:50am – 2:50pm (lunch will be provided)

Name: ________________________________

Connection to the school: (e.g. My son, Fred, is in Year 10):

Contact phone number: ___________________________
Little Athletics

Devonport Little Athletics commences Saturday 26th October, 8.30am at Girdlestone Park, East Devonport. Little Athletics covers a range of running (sprints and distance), throws and jumps events for 5 to 15 year olds. Enquiries to devonport@taslittleathletics.com.au or phone: 0459 031 750.

Just a reminder to all parents to please make sure that all Student Medical and Contact details are up to date.

Please call the Caritas office on 6424 7622 if you have any changes.
Parenting when you don’t see instant results

The results of your parenting often don’t come until adulthood but you’ve got to keep doing your best in the meantime. That’s one of the great frustrations of being a parent.

There aren’t too many activities you do where it can take years to see the results.

**Parenting is one of them.**

As your kids grow up, you put in a lot of groundwork teaching them how to behave, how to be confident, how to treat others well and so on. But you don’t always see the REAL results of all that effort until your kids are adults.

Nevertheless, you’ve got to keep doing the right thing regardless, even though it takes a lot of faith.

I was reminded about this when speaking to a mother recently whose son had struggled at school all his life. She’d put so much of her emotional and physical energy into helping him learn, jollying him along and nursing him through the many ups and downs that only struggling kids seem to experience.

Her son, now a teenager, was about to give up trying. And I could see that his mother felt like giving up too!

She asked: “**When do you stop being a child’s coach and cheer leader?”**

The answer, of course, is that you can’t!

She knew that but, like her son, she needed some encouragement to keep going.

We all do from time to time.

That’s why it useful to remind yourself that parenting is a long-term activity.

**The Einstein Factor**

All parents should be aware of the Einstein Factor. Albert Einstein was one of the preeminent scientists and thinkers of the 20th century, yet he maintained that he was no smarter than anyone else. He believed he just stayed on problems longer than most people.

In the same way, there are some children with whom you just have to stay on the job longer than you would with others.

- If you have a shy or socially-challenged child you might have to stay on the job until adulthood, when she finally finds her own way of building a network of friends and colleagues. Until then, it’s all about supporting, coaching and cajoling.

- If you have an ADHD-type child you might have to keep on the job longer to keep him out of trouble. You may not see the results until his mid-20s when all that energy goes into starting up his own business or doing something absolutely amazing. In the meantime, explain, teach and be firm!

- If you have a late bloomer you probably have to keep him interested in learning until he learns the practical skills needed to succeed in the workplace or in business, just as many kids who struggle at school end up doing. In the meantime, encourage, scaffold and model learning.

We all want instant results in whatever we do. Parenting is no different, except that instant results are rare!

**Small hinges swing big doors**

A former parenting mentor used to say, “**Small hinges swing big doors**”. He meant that it’s the little things done by parents on a regular basis that make the biggest difference to kids.

You’ve just got to choose the right actions and keep doing them ... day after day. Have faith that the results will come ... eventually!

**NOTE:** Get your Kids’ Chores & Responsibilities Kit when you subscribe to Happy Kids, Michael’s FREE weekly parenting guide at parentingideas.com.au