News From Our Principal

This is the last newsletter for 2013. It has been a year rich with diversity. I commend the efforts of staff who are prepared to give so much of their energies to our students, be it in class, in the grounds, or managing and supervising a broad range of extra-curricular duties. I would also like to acknowledge the support of so many parents and friends who are willing to volunteer their time to supervise and assist, as, without this input, it becomes extremely difficult to offer opportunities while satisfying the rigorous Workplace Health and Safety expectations required of us by legislation.

This week, alone, we have a group of Year 9 and 10 students participating in a football and cultural immersion experience in the Northern Territory, and all Year 9 students participating in their second Pathways week. The last two days have seen them at Narawntapu or climbing Mt Roland, and today they are participating in a range of Community service activities. The Northern Territory students arrived in Darwin late Thursday evening, minus their luggage. The very next afternoon, having to deal with a new time-zone and a very different climate, they were thrilled to win their game against the host school, a fellow Catholic College, St Johns.

Congratulations to Zoe Lowry on her selection in the Tasmanian U15 cricket team which competed in Sydney at the national championships. The competition concluded on Tuesday with Tasmania being placed in 6th position. Zoe played very well and set a bowling record for Tasmania U15’s with 4/32, however was forced to retire from the competition with an injured ankle.

The College had a number of students competing in last week’s Devonport Triathlon. Anecdotally, I am aware of a third placing by a Year 7 girls team but I have no other feedback about performances. I did, however, receive feedback from the event organiser about the work that our teachers, Renee Sushames and Steven Ryan, and some of our Year 10 Aussie Sports Leaders who helped set up for the event. I quote: “your students represented the school proudly and have helped out significantly with providing this event to so many others.” This type of community service and leadership opportunity is just another aspect of the event I want to build, in so that we can involve senior students each year and teach them that you can be involved in many different ways with such a large event.

While on the topic, I am pleased to announce the Aussie Sport Leaders for 2014 and acknowledge their work with next year’s Year 7 students on their Orientation Day yesterday. These students have been selected following a rigorous and transparent selection process. Space does not allow me to describe this, but I am happy to explain to anyone who wishes more information.

The Aussie Sport Leaders for 2014 are: Tyler Jones, Erin Filler, Sam Curtis, Maddie Higgins, Henry Callander, Lucy Wootton, Phoebe Grant, Elloize Galpin, Briana Tobin, Jacob Marshall, Emma Taylor, Rebecca Wells, James Watson, Matilda Lutwyche, Bowen Wagenknecht, Megan Burton, Phoebe Williams Bryce De Haan, Maddison McCormack and Tom Dahya.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

- Romans 15:13
I take this opportunity to acknowledge some staff who are leaving the College this year:

Miss Anita Doherty has chosen to travel abroad next year. Having joined us in 2012, Anita took on the responsibility of coordinating the very first Year 9 Pathways Block experience which was a great success.

It was with regret that I accepted the resignation of Mrs Jane Dutton due to health reasons. Jane joined us in 2007, and in her six years with us has filled the key positions of Junior School Coordinator (now Transitions coordinator), before being appointed Head of Dillon House.

Miss Angela Henry joined the College in 1997 and has excelled as a classroom teacher. She has also held several positions of responsibility in the College. She moves to Western Australia.

Dr Helen Williams retires after 26 years as an employee of the College. During that time she has held a number of positions of responsibility. These have included: English Coordinator; Religious Education Coordinator; Human Resources Coordinator; and will complete her service to the College as the Deputy Principal (Learning & Teaching). Helen has contributed to the broader Catholic Education Community as a member of the Tasmanian Catholic Education Commission, and has served the wider Catholic community in many ways. In 2012, Helen was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the Australian Catholic University.

Lastly, I wish every member of our College a blessed and holy Christmas, and pray that the New Year brings us peace and that our hopes are realised.

STATE REPRESENTATION
Congratulations to Jordan Quaile who has been selected to represent Tasmanian at the State Under 19 Cricket Championships. We wish him all the best

SCHOOLS TRIATHLON CHALLENGE
On Thursday 28th November, 26 students participated in the inaugural Schools Triathlon Challenge at the Devonport Bluff in near perfect conditions. The individual events were up first with competitors in Years 7 and 8 completing a 200m swim, 6.5km ride and 1.5km run. Inighion Quinn and Georgia O'Rourke won the Year 7 and 8 Girls’ events respectively. Sam Watson put in a good performance in the Year 7 boys finishing second and Max Green and Daniel Littler also finished well, earning second and third respectively in the Year 8 Boys event. In the Year 9 event the distances increased with a 250m swim, 8km ride and 2km run. James Watson had a good result in his age group, finishing second.

In the teams events we had 6 teams complete the Year 7/8 and Year 9/10 course consisting of a 250-300m swim, 6.5-8km ride and 1.5-2km run. Many of our individual competitors lined up for a second time to compete as a member of a team. We had a number of excellent performances, including Inighion Quinn, Morgan Gillon & Thea Crantock winning the Open (Years 10, 11 & 12) Girls’ event. A great effort considering they were competing against much older competitors. Keilee Lynd, Nicola Murfet and Isabelle Sharman won the Year 8 Girls’ team event and our Year 7 and 9 competitors all finished in the top 5 for their age group.

A fantastic effort by all competitors and I encourage you all to come along and participate in next year’s Schools Triathlon Challenge. A big thank you to Mrs Cherryl Sheehan for accompanying the team on the day and to our 2014 Aussie Sports Leaders who assisted at the event.
“Tackling hunger and malnutrition is about more than just supplying enough food and increasing incomes. The structures that inhibit people from building their own food security must also be challenged.”

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

GIRLS’ CRICKET T20 BLAST SCHOOL CUP

Seven keen and motivated students headed off to the Ulverstone Showgrounds on Monday, 2 December 2013, to participate in a fun day aimed at encouraging girls to think about playing cricket.

Four schools participated, Reece High School, Burnie High School and Ulverstone High School and St Brendan-Shaw College. Despite the title of the event mentioning a cup, scores were really not kept. This was a real shame as my personal scoring indicated that the girls did the College proud achieving results such as 2/100 and 2/113 with their batting in several games.

A hearty “Well done!” needs to go the SBSC Flamingos and their great sportsmanship shown, also to Miss Sushames for organising it all and the good Lord for the beautiful weather on the day.

SBSC Flamingos


Valedictory Dinner Photos
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 2013. Families who have been in receipt of STAS 2013 have been sent correspondence regarding STAS 2014 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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Birchalls Book Orders
Ordered book packs will be available to be picked up on Tuesday 28 January 2014. 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.

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

Book Sales Day Times
Book Sales Day will be Tuesday 28 January 2014 in the Genesis Centre. Book sales will commence at 9.30 am and conclude at 6.00 pm.

Levies
Levies are $500.00 for all students. Payment for the general levy in 2014 will be included with the monthly fee statement. This amount will therefore be payable over 9 monthly instalments.

Art Folders
These are to be purchased from the Caritas office.

Fees 2014
Year 7 - 8 $3007
Year 9-10 $3129 Inclusive of Levy
Year 11-12 $3262

The family discount system shall continue.

Mr Bob Farr
Business Manager

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STUDENT ASSISTANCE SCHEME (STAS) 2014

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INCOME TEST FOR THE SCHEME - TAXABLE INCOME TABLE 2012-13

<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>$608</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>$797</td>
<td>$902</td>
<td>$1,012</td>
<td>$1,136</td>
<td>$1,258</td>
<td>$1,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Parental Income #</td>
<td>$31,616</td>
<td>$36,400</td>
<td>$41,444</td>
<td>$46,904</td>
<td>$52,624</td>
<td>$59,072</td>
<td>$65,416</td>
<td>$71,96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more than 8 children, add $128 per week or $6,656 per annum for each additional dependent.

Parents of guardians of, or independent students who are full time, kindergarten to grade 10 students attending a Tasmanian State or registered non-government school and grade 11 and 12 students who are required to pay a general levy at a college. Students who have previously completed year 12 should check with their campus or school.

To be eligible you and your partner's gross taxable income must be no more than the figures shown in the income test table below.

You must have a minimum 50% care of a child for them to be considered your dependent.

Part-time students in special circumstances may be eligible if an application is supported by a statement from a student counsellor.

Grandparents raising children are also eligible to apply for and receive STAS.
Term Dates 2014

Office Opens  Monday  20 January

**Term 1**
- Teachers Commence  Wednesday  29 January
- Years 7,11,12 Commence  Tuesday  4 February
- Years 8,9,10 Commence  Wednesday  5 February
- End Term 1 (Students)  Wednesday  16 April
- End Term 1 (Teachers)  Thursday  17 April
- Easter Break  Friday  18 April — Tuesday 22 April

**Term 2**
- Commences  Monday  5 May
- End Term 2  Friday  4 July

**Term 3**
- Commences  Monday  21 July
- Student Free Day (Teacher Moderation)  Friday  (TBC)
- End Term 3  Friday  26 September

**Term 4**
- Commences  Monday  13 October
- SS Students Classes Finish  Friday  31 October
- SS Swot Vac until  Friday  8 November
- SS TQA Exams Finish  Friday  21 November
- All Students Finish  Wednesday  10 December
- Teachers Finish  Tuesday  16 December

* Year 10 Finish TBC (See Newsletter 21 November 2013)

**Uniform Shop**

**TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS**

**MONDAY**
- 10th December
- 10.00am - 4.00pm

**TUESDAY**
- 10th December
- 10.00am - 4.00pm

**WEDNESDAY**
- 11th December
- 10.00am - 4.00pm

**Important Dates 2013**

Wednesday, 16 December
- 2pm - 8pm
- Sale of new and secondhand uniforms—last day (For 2013 Sales)

**Principal,**
Mr Frank Pisano
**Extends an invitation to**

**Parents & Students**

**To join us for**

**Presentation Night 2013**

**Tuesday 10 December 2013**
-at 7:30pm

*In the Genesis Centre*

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**Parade Route**

Come and join us for the Devonport Christmas Parade on Saturday 14 December starting at 1pm.
See decorated vehicles, fantastic costumes and Santa, as they go through the streets of Devonport.
Prizes for the best floats and individuals will be awarded in the Roeke Street Mall at approximately 2.10pm.
In the case of bad weather, the alternate date will be Tuesday 17 December from 6pm.

For more information please call Devonport City Council on 4424 0511 or go to www.devonport.tas.gov.au for further details.
Target Golf Junior Activities!

Cost: $10 (All equipment supplied.)

Time: 10am until Midday. Every Sunday in the School Holidays

Where: Target Golf – The Driving Range (240 Wilmot Road Forth)

Ph: 0408 695 330 for more info...

The Emerging Roar Program is an intrastate series for girls from the ages of 9 through to 17 with the regions—Northern Force, Southern Storm and North West Lightning competing in a carnival held in Hobart from the 26th—29th January 2014.

The main objective of the Emerging Program is to provide young and aspiring female cricketers with an opportunity to participate in a cricket program focusing on the key principles of participation, engagement, skill acquisition and enjoyment, whilst also testing players skills and challenging them along the pathway offered by Cricket Tasmania.

Please go to the PE office for more information.
Teach your kids to SHRUG!

The secret to having resilient, confident and optimistic children is to teach your kids to shrug!

It was so irritating, yet so effective.

I’m talking about my boyhood mate Terry’s habit of shrugging his shoulders whenever anyone teased him or tried to persuade him to their way of thinking.

‘Hey Terry, you’re a “&@&&E@&!”

Shrug.

‘Hey Terry, everyone says your…….*&@TR!’

Shrug.

‘Hey Terry, I’m going to tell on you!’

Shrug.

His nonchalance used to drive everyone nuts!

So much so that he was rarely targeted for teasing despite the fact that he wasn’t sporty, he wasn’t cool and he was late maturing – all of which back then, as now, would put a boy in the ‘to be picked on’ category.

I thought of Terry recently when I was coaching a young person about how to respond to some schoolyard taunts.

This young person wore his heart on his sleeve, taking taunts and even witticisms too seriously for his own good. Unfortunately, some of his so-called mates used to enjoy seeing him become angry.

The best way to break this toxic cycle of taunt-react-taunt was for him to change his reaction.

So we did some coaching in the art of shrugging and before long my young charge was shrugging his shoulders, as if to say ‘Whatever’, and walking away at the first sign of a taunt.

Eventually he was channelling Terry so well that his nonchalance even began to irritate me.

four brothers. I guess he would have perfected the art of shrugging out of sheer necessity.

So, if you have a sensitive child who wears his or her heart on their sleeve, or a child who reacts impulsively to both taunts and Witticisms alike, you may wish to introduce the art of shrugging into their repertoire of responses.

How to create a good shrug

Kids can practise shrugging in front of the mirror so that they can see what a good shrug looks like. There are 4 ingredients:


2. A shrug of the shoulders.

3. A simple, non-combative, non-sarcastic line such as ‘You may be right’, ‘Whatever’ or ‘I hadn’t thought of that’.

4. Some things can’t be ignored

Don’t get me wrong. Kids cannot and should not ignore all negative comments directed at them.

There are times when they need to stand up and be counted. They don’t need to be aggressive about it, but they do need to be assertive from time to time. Sticking up for a friend, rescuing someone who is being taunted or even looking out for a sibling’s best interests at school are times when children need to assert themselves rather than shrugging off a problem.

Kids practise on their siblings

Socially savvy kids know that some of the negative peer comments directed at them need to be ignored. However, this is quite a skill.

Ignoring comments and choosing your arguments is something many kids learn in their battles with siblings.

Those noisy sibling skirmishes that annoy the hell out of parents actually toughen kids up for the less-than-pleasant social interactions that take place in the schoolyard.

Interestingly, my boyhood mate Terry was the youngest of 4. A final breaking of eye contact that indicates that they are in control.

A word of warning

If you teach your kids to shrug, you need to be prepared for them to use this shrugging technique against you when you direct some criticism or constructive feedback their way. If they do, you’ll find out how damn infuriating nonchalance (even when it’s fake) can be.

Oh, and you’ll be seeing a child or young person who is exercising a degree of personal power that, when used smartly, will increase their overall social effectiveness.