FROM THE PRINCIPAL
MR DAMIAN MESSER

“How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard”

Carol Sobieski and Thomas Meehan, Annie

Grade 10 Farewell/Thanksgiving
Last Thursday evening the community gathered at the Derwent Entertainment Centre for the Thanksgiving and Awards Ceremony for 2013. I was pleased to see a number of students who won academic awards across the evening. The major focus of the night was farewelling our Grade 10 students and many members of our community have commented on the singing of the song ‘Band of Brothers’ as an
amazing tribute to a lost friend.

The Grade 10 students carried themselves with great dignity and pride and it was a fitting farewell to their time at the College. I know you will join me in praying for them as they make the transition to the next stage of their lives and wishing them all the very best for the future.

**Confirmation of 2014 dates**

Below are listed the commencement dates for our 2014 school year. With the introduction of a number of regulatory requirements and the disruption to the College with the re-development of the Hamilton Wing, Grade 3 to 7 and all new students will commence the academic school year on Friday February 7. Grade 8 to 10 will commence on Tuesday February 11 2014.

2014 promises to be another year of exciting change and development and we look forward to it. Official dates are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term Starting Dates</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 3-7 and all new students</td>
<td>Friday February 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8-10</td>
<td>Tuesday February 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 1</td>
<td>February 7 – April 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 2</td>
<td>May 5 – July 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 3</td>
<td>July 22 (July 21 student free day) – September 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Term 4</td>
<td>October 13 – December 18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We respectfully ask that if you are planning family holidays during the 2014 school year that where possible you fit them into the scheduled holiday times.

**Hamilton Wing**

The building is progressing well and we were informed in our last site meeting that we are slightly ahead of schedule. We hope for fine weather over the coming months so there is no disruption to the programme. The final completion of the building is due mid-late March, however approximately 80% of the new building will be available on January 31, enabling College staff and contractors to have time the following week to prepare and fit out the rooms for the return of the students as per the scheduled outlined above.

**Grade 6 visit**

As part of our primary transition for new students to the College, our Grade 6 students came out to Austins Ferry last Friday. This enabled the rest of our Junior School boys to move up into their new Grade and spend the day with their new teachers for 2014. We welcomed 45 new students across Grade 3 to 6 and the teachers reported some really positive feedback about the day.

**Grade 5s visit**

Over the coming week we will welcome a number of our Catholic primary school students to the Austins Ferry campus as part of the annual secondary school transition experience. Whilst it provides an invaluable insight for students into life in secondary school, it also marks the beginning of the enrolment cycle for 2015. It is worth noting that enrolments for Grade 7, 2015 are due by the end of Term One.
Reporting
As we come to the end of 2013, final academic reports are being prepared for delivery. At the Junior School these reports will be distributed to the students on Friday December 13. At Austins Ferry the Grade 7 to 9 reports will be posted on Friday December 13. Grade 10 students are invited to return to the Senior Campus on Monday December 16 to collect their reports and also their 2013 copy of ‘The Virgilian’.

Dates for the Remainder of 2013
Parents and students are reminded to check the College website for full details of upcoming events. Please see below details of events for students at the Senior and Junior campus.

Senior School December
Final Day for Students
December 13
Grade 10 Report Collection
December 16

Junior School - December
Grade 5 Band Concert
December 5
Southern Schools Grade 6 Leavers Mass
December 6
St Mary’s Social for Grades 5 and 6 boys
December 12
Volunteer Appreciation Evening
December 12
End of Year Assembly
December 13
Junior School Picnic Day
December 16
Thanksgiving Liturgy
December 18
(Please note change of date)

In the spirit of Blessed Edmund.

Damian Messer

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
MR TERRY BLIZZARD

“Every end should be followed by great new beginning” Aditia Rinaldi

Final Day for Students - Friday December 13
It is important that all Grade 7 to 9 students are present at the College for this day. The school day will conclude at 12.30pm and buses will then transport students home. It is always really positive to allow closure to a school year to occur and it would be a shame if all students were not present. Finishing 2013 on a positive note enables students to start the transition process to experience an even more successful 2014 ... “a great new beginning”.

The timetable for the day allows boys to say goodbye to each other, their teachers and their House as well as concluding in a prayerful and joyous manner. I hope parents are able to support us in emphasising the importance of such a day. If there is
an issue as to why your son is unable to attend please contact me or the relevant House Head. Formal uniform must be worn on this day.

At the end of school on Wednesday we assume that all boys are going home, although some students will have been given permission to go to the city by parents. Please notify the College if this is the case as this is of course, a parent decision. I would remind boys however that they are identifiable as St Virgil's students and their behaviour should reflect this. Any boys who make poor choices on the way home in any way will be asked to come back to school on the following Monday. I do not wish to spoil their fun but I can never accept behaviour that reflects poorly on our Community.

Returning 2014
Please be aware that Day one for Grade 7 and other new students will be Friday February 7 and for Grade 8 to 10 students, Day one will be Tuesday February 11.

Primary School Visits
Next week we will be hosting Grade 5 students from some of our local Catholic Primary schools in a programme aimed at giving the youngsters an experience of what it is like at High School. The boys and girls will enjoy our climbing wall, a tour of the school conducted by some of our fine young men, a barbecue lunch and finally a question and answer session.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

MR ANDREW PINELLI, HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

“Study without desire spoils the memory, And it retains nothing that it takes in.”

Leonardo da Vinci

Movember
Thank you to all those people who have already donated to our cause. During Movember, all visitors to the Junior School campus have had the opportunity to donate to the Movember cause. Also, last Thursday, the boys could come to school in free dress and choose which staff member their donation went to. When all this was tallied up, $730 was raised by the boys, parents and staff at the Junior School campus for Movember. When added to online donations, the grand total jumped to over $2000. What a fantastic effort! Thank you to everyone who supported this worthwhile cause which is tackling men's health issues.

Orientation Day
We were blessed with good weather for our orientation day last Friday. Close to 50 new boys visited the Junior School campus for the day while our current Grade 6 boys ventured up the highway to Austins Ferry campus for a further taste of what secondary school has to offer.

The day started with an opening liturgy lead by current Grade 5 boys along with an information session for new boys and their parents. All the new boys then headed off very excitedly to their new classrooms to get to know each other as well as boys who have been at the Junior School Campus for some time. One activity that was thoroughly enjoyed was the orienteering course where boys had to find their way around the campus by following QR Codes. The course was designed and created by some of our current Grade 5 boys; Samuel Cornelius, Lachlan Borsboom, Alec Spencer and Laughlan Freeman.
A number of boys from Grade 4/5 also produced movies to accompany the orienteering course. The boys enjoyed the sausage sizzle lunch cooked up by members of the P & F before participating in a variety of games/sport activities to finish off the day.

**RHH EMU Ward Presentation**

At our assembly last Friday, a special presentation was made to the Junior School campus by Royal Hobart Hospital as a sign of appreciation for the work the boys did earlier in the year. Each boy, under the guidance of Ms Stary, produced an ‘emu for the EMU’ (Emergency Medical Unit) which is a new ward of RHH. The boys’ work has been framed and is now a central piece in the ward. Well done boys and Ms Stary.

**Grade 5 Band Concert**

Tonight, the Grade 5 Band will perform for their parents as the Band programme winds up for the year. The boys have certainly come a long way since the commencement of the year. All the boys, teachers and tutors are to be congratulated on their efforts during the year. The boys and their parents, at the conclusion of the concert, will be asked to consider if they will continue with the Band programme into Grade 6.

**End of Year Assembly**

Our final assembly will take place next Friday, December 13, commencing at 1.15pm in the Nagle Centre at St Mary’s College. Parents, guardians and friends are warmly invited to attend. Please RSVP via the Junior School Office.

**Christmas Cards**

The Christmas Cards produced by the boys this year are exceptional and were sent home to parents last Friday. Thank you to the many parents who have not only paid for theirs but have also placed orders for more! The boys, but also especially Ms Stary, are to be congratulated on the great quality of their work – everyone should be quite proud of their efforts.

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of Jacinta at Focal Printing for printing and then donating the actual card – thank you. We are hoping for many re-orders of these beautifully made cards. Remember, packs of 5 cards will cost $5 (same price as last year!) Also, please consider if you would like to order additional cards to send out to family or friends.

**Junior School Library Book Amnesty Competition**

Could all boys please return any books belonging to the Junior School Library. A competition will run over the next two weeks. We are offering 20 House points per book. If you are unsure if it is a library book or not check with Mrs Sutton. There will be boxes in the library marked with each House for books to be put in. Please check in classrooms, cars and homes. You may just get your house over the line for the end of the year sought after house title.

Thank You
Ms Stary & Mrs Sutton

**Calendar Update**

All upcoming dates are on the College website [www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au](http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au)
End of Year Assembly
Junior School Picnic Day
Thanksgiving Liturgy

Canteen
Mrs Olga Leon
Please note that there is no canteen next week. Sincere thanks to the wonderful volunteers who have assisted feed our hungry boys throughout 2013! Thank you – we wish you a relaxing and joyous Christmas and holiday break.

Junior School Orientation Day
DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES

MR RICHARD LAWLER

iPad Collection for Grade 3 to 9 Boys
Parents have received a letter in the mail, outlining procedures for the collection of your son’s iPad at the end of this year. It is important to recognise that, collectively, the iPads are a significant asset of the College and, as such, need to be stored securely over the summer break to ensure that they are ready to be used as an educational tool upon returning next year.

Please note that we expect iPads, covers, chargers and sync cables to be returned at the time of collection. It would be advisable for you to ensure that your son has backed up his iPad before he hands it in – instructions were in the letter that was sent home.

We are aware that some boys are not looking forward to being parted from their iPad so here are some useful ideas to reduce the stress!

- Go outside and go for a walk with family and friends.
- Pull out a board game or your Lego from the cupboard.
- Consider using ‘old technologies’ such as IPods and PCs.
- Read a newspaper or magazine – it is relaxing to curl up on the couch and provides some very valuable information.
- Help around the house – do some chores, work in the garden, help out an elderly neighbour.
- Approach a charity about doing some volunteer work to support those in need.
- Read a good book.
- Clean your room! It is time to recycle some of your old clothes, games and books – others may need them more than you!
- Cheer on the Aussies as they hopefully re-claim the Ashes!

I would love to hear some other suggestions from parents to assist our boys in coping with their iPad-de-tox! Please email suggestions to rlawler@stvirgils.tas.edu.au for publication in next week’s edition of The Star!

SPORT

Mr James Dalton
Director of Sport

Grade 7&8 Cricket – ‘Hurricane’s Cup’

SVC Blue 9-113 lost to Friends Red 5-115
With five players away on the Melbourne cricket tour the team were heroic in defeat against a very experienced Friends team. Adam Roberts bowled well to take 2/7 whilst with the bat Andrew Bourke 24 no, Luke Swinton 20, Jack Anders 19 no, Hudson Wakefield 15 no batted sensibly and skilfully in a magnificent run chase that came down to the last ball! A great team effort – special thanks to coach Glen Wakefield.

Blue:

Next Week’s Game:
SVC Blue v Dominic at Dominic
SVC Green v MacKillop at SVC

Sailing
Br Peter Flint

‘Learn to Sail’
All current students and next year’s Grade 7 boys are invited to attend ‘Learn to Sail’ classes which are being conducted each Sunday morning at 9.30 am at the Austins Ferry Yacht Club.

To register and to receive more details please email Br Peter Flint – pflint@stvirgils.tas.edu.au
SPORT

1st XI Cricket Tour to Victoria
The St Virgil’s College cricket team concluded a highly successful tour of Victoria with a strong 63 run win yesterday over The Geelong College. The game was played in exceptional conditions with many boys describing it as the best ground they had ever played on – complete with an electronic scoreboard!

The team played excellent cricket throughout the tour but more significantly were outstanding ambassadors for the College receiving high praise everywhere they went. The feedback from host families from St Patrick’s College Ballarat was particularly glowing and highlights the strong links we share through our charism as a Catholic school for boys in the tradition of Edmund Rice.

Match Details

Game 1 – T20 v St Bernard’s College Essendon (EREA)
SVC 4-91 defeated SBC 8-88
Liam Devlin 38 retired, Caiden Workman 20, Lachlan McLeod 17 and Joe Randall 9 no.
George Cripps 1/6, Brad Percey 1/7, Alex Blair 1/12, Jacob Arkley 1/12, Nick Haydon 1/17

Game 2 – 40 over v Ballarat High School
SVC 8-140 defeated BHS 3-123
Liam Devlin 31, Joe Randall 29 no, Keegan Oates 27
Jacksyn Mann 1/9, Liam Devlin 1/19 George Cripps 1/27
Game 3 T20 v St Patrick's College, Ballarat (EREA)
SVC 7-95 defeated SPC 3-71
Declan Waddington 27, Keegan Oates II, Brad Percey II, Jacksyn Mann 10 no – including the only 6 on tour!
Declan Waddington ⅓ plus two run outs

Game 4 – 40 over game v The Geelong College
SVC 8-160 defeated TGC 10-98
Liam Devlin again led from the front with a polished 35, ably supported by Lachlan McLeod 46, Caiden Workman 14, Jacksyn Mann II and Joe Randall 10. Alex Blair set the tone bowling fast and straight and we were always in control of their run chase. Our fielding was much better today on the carpet like outfield. Jacob Arkley took 3-23, Austin Keeling 2-11, Caiden Workman 1-5, Brad Percey 1-10 and 2 run outs. Nick Hayden, Reece Williams, Declan Waddington and George Cripps bowled tight, disciplined lines to restrict the opposition to under 100 in an emphatic win against a high quality side.

The trip was a great experience for all participants and the boys are to be commended upon their outstanding behaviour and sportsmanship. We eagerly look forward to the 2014 tour and the possibility of these schools visiting us in the near future.
COLLEGE COMMUNITY NEWS

Uniform Shop
Mrs Cindy Gangell

2013 UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

SENIOR SCHOOL CAMPUS
Tuesday and Thursday 8.30 am to 3.30 pm
Thursday 2.00 pm to 3.30 pm.

JUNIOR SCHOOL CAMPUS
Tuesday 8.30 am to 9.30 am

Please visit our new website www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au – orders for all uniform items can now be placed online and collected from the Office of either campus.

A reminder for all students to please return hire tops as soon as possible.

Austins Ferry Canteen
Mrs Carol Hilyer, Manager
If you are interested in helping in the Canteen next year please return your Volunteer Form ASAP, as Carol is already working on next year’s Roster. Even if you are a current volunteer, please return a new form to confirm your availability.

To download the form please go to http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/news-publications/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Persons</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>Ruth Prichard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>Ysanne Harper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>December 9</td>
<td>Rebecca Hillier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Lindy Laycock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>December 11</td>
<td>Goldy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>December 12</td>
<td>Maureen Lack</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>December 13</td>
<td>LAST DAY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Breakfast and Recess ONLY</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HELP NEEDED:

Parish of Moonah
The Moonah Catholic parish is inviting people to a Blue Christmas Mass of Hope at Midnight on Christmas Eve. The invitation is especially extended to those who have experienced loss, grief or disconnection from the sentiments of those around them at Christmas. Sometimes people can feel broken, and the cheer of the Christmas celebrations can seem out of
step with their own life. As the letter says, this Blue Christmas Mass is aimed at reflecting on the hope that Christ’s birth brings to the world no matter what is happening in our lives at present.

To download an invite please go to: http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/news-publications/

**Brother Sean McManus**
**on behalf of the Moonah Parish Liturgy Committee**

**Second-Hand Book Sale**
The Sandy Bay parish is holding a book sale on Saturday December 7 from 9 am to 2 pm in the Holy Spirit Church foyer, Duke Street, Sandy Bay.

Novels, children’s books, biographies, history, coffee table books etc etc. Proceeds will go to support Fr Eusebius and Fr Zenobius in their work in Tanzania.


- TCEO Reporting and Assessment Information for Parents
- Edmodo Flyer
- Junior School iPad programme – FAQ Brochure
- iPad Information Session – Parent Notes
- Canteen – Summer Menu 2013/2014
- Grief and Bereavement files
- Metro Soccer Club flyer

Please follow St Virgil’s on Twitter - @svctas

Tweet of the Week

1st XI boys arrived Hobart 9 pm. Tired but happy. 4 games, 4 wins. Thank you @spcsport for your wonderful hospitality. pic.twitter.com/IPbJOYqFuy
Each week boys at St Virgil's College are involved in a wide range of exciting curricular and co-curricular experiences. These experiences provide a rich source of learning, fun and personal growth – here is just a snapshot of these activities, captured through the lens of Br Peter Flint and Mr Andrew Pinelli.

Additional photos can be accessed at: Svcpics.phanfare.com