FROM THE PRINCIPAL
MR DAMIAN MESSER


Gala Dinner Auction
Saturday is rapidly approaching and our community looks forward to coming together and enjoying our major social gathering for this year, the Gala Dinner Auction, being held at New Town Bay Rowing Centre, Marine Parade New Town at 6.30pm.

Tickets are selling fast and if you would still like to attend the evening, I would ask that you please contact the Front Office at either campus or go on line before 10 am Friday to ensure you get a seat.

ST VIRGIL'S COLLEGE – THE STAR
Attached to this copy of The Star is the full auction items list which includes over 150 different items to go under the hammer, either by out loud or silent auction. The College would like to thank all of those members of our extended community who have been so generous in making donations.

For those who are unable to attend the night, there is the option of putting in bids prior to the night on any of the items listed. So far the College has received a number of pre-bids and if you would like to consider making one, please contact Damian Messer dmesser@stvirgils.tas.edu.au or Mr Mark Waddington mwaddington@stvirgils.tas.ed.au.

The Parents & Friends Association under the leadership of President Mrs Susan Roberts have put an enormous amount of effort into this event and I thank them for their continued support. I look forward to seeing those who can attend on Saturday night.

Professor Ian Colrain – Sleep Workshop
As outlined later in The Star, Old Virgilian and internationally renowned sleep expert Professor Ian Colrain will be conducting Parent Information on Wednesday August 6 from 7.30 pm at the Junior School Library. The workshop ‘If you Don’t Sleep, You Die’ provides a parent’s guide to sleep in children and adolescents and why it’s important and how you can manage it!

It promises to be a fascinating session and an invaluable discussion starter for parents and their children.

Details: Wednesday August 6, Junior School Library, 7.30 pm.
Gold Coin Donation to support the Edmund Rice Foundation
RSVP for Catering purposes to mwaddington@stvirgils.tas.edu.au by August 5.

Hamilton Wing
It was with great pleasure that we welcomed His Grace Archbishop Julian Porteous to preside over the Blessing and Re-Opening of the Hamilton Wing Re-development. Archbishop Julian spoke at length to the boys about the importance of their commitment to St Virgil’s and the opportunities that are provided in Hobart through being a Virgilian. He spoke of the significant contributions Virgilians have made to the wider community and challenge incumbent upon current students to expand upon these traditions, take advantage of all opportunities provided and be good men of faith and courage.

The event was also attended by a significant number of invited guests and I spoke of the commitment made by those involved with the project. The College would like to thank the members of the Building Committee for their guidance in planning the project. The Oceania Christian Brothers for their financial support in providing significant funds to ensure the project was successful. Tim Penny Architecture for their extensive planning and design and VOS Construction for completing the project within the prescribed time frame. I also took the opportunity to thank those directly involved in the College for their fantastic support during the construction phase, both staff and students who put up with significant disruption but are now reaping the rewards of these first class contemporary learning and teaching spaces.

Our guests were impressed with our the design of the new facility with many comments passed about the obvious correlation between design and our pedagogical approach to best practice learning and teaching. Guests were also extremely complimentary of the behaviour of the boys throughout the ceremony. Whilst it is gratifying to receive such comments it is of little surprise as we are always proud of our boys and know that they will behave in a manner that is a credit to themselves, the College and their families.
Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
It was great to see so many parents take up the opportunity to meet with teachers this week to discuss their son's progress in Semester 1 and to set new goals for Semester 2. Whilst we acknowledge that a student free day can be inconvenient for parents, we believe that Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences are an essential ingredient in the home-school educational partnership which we value and continually seek to promote at St Virgil’s.

Thank you to the P&F Association who provide a wonderful meal for staff. Parents who were unable to attend but who wish to obtain feedback about their son’s progress should email staff in the coming weeks.

Canteen
The canteens on both campuses provide a valuable service to students and parents through the provision of a range of food and drinks at different times of the day. For students travelling long distances to Senior School the canteen provides a breakfast service that ensures boys do not go into class hungry – as we all know hungry boys don’t learn! For busy parents the canteens can provide a relief from the challenge of coming up with exciting and nutritious luncheon options – or just a respite when the household runs out of bread or ham!

Thanks to the generosity of our parents who volunteer for Canteen duty we are able to keep prices low and also provide another opportunity for parental engagement in the life of the College. This year we have had challenges in fully staffing the canteens with volunteers which might impact upon how it is operated and ultimately the prices we are able to charge. In recognising that parents are very busy, I would ask that if you can spare a few hours once a month that you contact Mrs Carol Hilyer (Austins Ferry) – chilyer@stvirgils.tas.edu.au or Mrs Olga Leon (Junior School) – oleon@stvirgils.tas.edu.au to enquire about getting on the roster. Please be assured the College greatly appreciates your support.

In the spirit of Blessed Edmund.

Damian Messer
“The education of our boys is very much a communal effort and your attendance is a wonderful sign of support.”

My thanks to all those parents who were able to attend the Parent / Student / Teacher Conferences on Tuesday. To say the elements challenged our commitment was an understatement! The education of our boys is very much a communal effort and your attendance is a wonderful sign of support. We cannot underestimate the importance of the home-school partnership in the education of our boys, and in fact many noted educators suggest that the primary educators of young people are their parents.

For those parents who were not able to avail themselves of the day please feel free to contact the relevant teachers at the College to discuss your son’s progress. Contact can be made in person, by phone or an email. To email simply use the initial and surname followed by the St Virgil’s address, eg tblizzard@stvirgils.tas.edu.au. As always I welcome contact from parents in regards to any issues at school.

What Did You Do Today?
As a father of a son (now an adult), I experienced the frustration many parents do when they ask the question “what did you do at school today son”? The result of this question for many parents would have them believe that their sons had slept through the day! I found a better approach was to try things such as “gimme 5”, i.e. tell me 5 things you learnt today, or “what was the most challenging thing you learnt today?” Questions like this can stimulate conversation and open up the question about what was done at school that day. Never settle for “nuthin”!

Formal Uniform
I was disappointed with the number of boys who wore their Sports Uniform on Wednesday for the formal opening of the Hamilton Wing. There are days during the school year when only formal uniform is acceptable and expected and boys are always given sufficient notice of this. This coming Friday August 1 is one such day and I would hope for a much better effort.

Cyber World
I was taken recently by an article in a national newspaper about teenagers and internet use. I have included below some snippets from that article that may be of interest to parents.

Most Australian youngsters believe their parents are oblivious to their web activities, while some admit to making fake social media profiles and fudging browser histories to deceive tech-savvy ones, a new report shows.

Seventy per cent of children aged between 8 and 17 said their parents did not know about all their internet activities, a survey involving 1000 tweens and teens by cyber security firm McAfee shows.

The same number said they had attempted to hide their online deeds, with nearly half clearing their browser history or using the private mode, a third hiding or deleting files, and a tenth creating extra social media accounts to fool their parents.

“If you ask most families: ‘How did you set up your wireless network at home? They’ll say: ‘my son, my daughter did it’,” he said. “Kids are the digital natives, they are the ones that can easily set up and use the technology. They’re ahead.”
The top online fear for tweens, aged 8 to 12, was cyberbullying. Teenagers, aged 13 to 17, were more concerned about their computers being hacked, losing privacy, and losing data.

Of all surveyed, 80 per cent had witnessed cyberbullying – a steep increase of 56 per cent a year ago. Nearly 40 per cent identified themselves as victims, while 15 per cent admitted to being perpetrators.

As simplistic as it may sound, as we continue to tell the boys, we should stop and think before we press send. Many of the cyber problems we deal with at school are as a result of a misunderstanding of the intended tone of a message.

**CAMPUS MINISTER**

**BR PETER FLINT**

Some interesting sites with some good material.

**Astrophysics and Atheism**

Something I have a bit of a passion about and where I find my God. (In the Astrophysics, not the Atheism. It is a bit of a heavy read but worth it.

http://www.mercatornet.com/articles/view/of_astrophysics_and_atheism

I’ve always been somewhat concerned about boys who decide that they are gay as teenagers. My concern is that they publicly label themselves too early in the unfolding of their sexuality, and in time, when hormones and other issues settle down, some may discover that they are not gay.

May I commend the following article from an Australian doctor who has access to some remarkable statistics.

http://www.mercatornet.com/articles/view/is_the_gay_bullying_plague_in_our_schools_a_myth#sthash.GkiL1I06

Mercator makes some excellent reading available.

**Music wanted:**

I am always looking for the music that could have been on Jesus iPod! I put out a plea among the leaders involved with Edmund Rice Camps and among the replies I received was “Where is the Love.” by the Black Eyed Peas. It is Rap and real Gospel in its theme. I’d welcome further suggestions.
JUNIOR SCHOOL

MR ANDREW PINELLI, HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

“The more reasons you have for achieving your goal, the more determined you will become.”

Brian Tracy

Woodwork
This week Grade 6 W commenced their rotation of Woodwork at the Austins Ferry Campus. The boys have started marking out their timber for the construction of a bird house. We look forward to sharing pictures of their progress with construction over the coming weeks.

Term 3 Assembly
Tomorrow, Friday August 1, Grade 3 will be leading us in our first Assembly for Term 3. All parents and guardians are warmly invited to join us for the assembly which will commence at 2.30pm.

Junior School Grounds
A big thank you to Mrs Graves and her enthusiastic group of Grade 5 & 6 helpers who have constructed some retainers on the bank area between the Grade 6 classrooms and the top court. Made from recycled treated pine timber generously donated by Greenwood Pine the boys had to measure, cut, drill and screw the timber to the support posts. This was an important project to complete in readiness for our participation in this year’s tree planting (which will have to wait until it stops raining!)
P & F Association
Gala Auction
All Junior School families are asked to support the upcoming Gala Auction to be held next Saturday August 2. This will be a great College event where parents can socialise whilst also raising funds for the P & F. We look forward to seeing many parents in attendance.

2014 Junior School Fair
The P & F are having a special ‘Fair Meeting’ on Tuesday August 5 at 7pm to formalise plans for the 2014 Fair to be held on Sunday September 14 (please mark this date on your calendar). As is tradition, ALL boys are expected to be in attendance and to assist with their class/grade stall. We would encourage all parents who can to attend – please RSVP to P & F President, Mark Waddington, via email mwaddington@stvirgils.tas.edu.au.

Calendar update
Parents and guardians are reminded to subscribe to the College’s online calendar. The great advantage of this is that if there are necessary changes to dates these changes can be made immediately. Please check the calendar at: http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/calendar/

Significant, upcoming events are summarised below:

August
P & F Gala Auction August 2
5 M Excursion August 4
5 O Excursion August 5
Grade 5 attending National Hockey Championships August 8
Grade 6 Footy game against Hutchins August 8
Catholic Education Week commences August 11
ICAS Mathematics Assessment August 12
Junior School Open Day August 12

Junior School Sport
Water Polo
This week’s game (Friday August 1) is at 8pm v Mt Stuart PS.
Training for those who can attend is on Tuesday mornings at 6.30 am.

Soccer
With this week’s heavy rain please check the website for game times and match status.

Football
This week’s scheduled Grade 6 Football game against Hutchins has been postponed till Friday August 8 due to wet weather and ground unavailability.

Junior School Canteen
Friday August 1 F Nuss / S Ashby
Wednesday August 6 F Oliver / C Monks
Thursday August 7 J Bourke / Help Needed
Friday August 8 K Bridgland / J Gray

If any volunteers are available on the following dates, please contact Mrs Leon on oleon@stvirgils.tas.edu.au - August 27, September 24 and October 22.
ACTING DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING
MR CAMERON ALEXANDER

Grade 8&9 Subject Selection Evening
The Subject Selection Evening for Grade 8 and 9’s will be held on **Tuesday August 26**, beginning at 7.30pm in the Joyce Performance Centre. This evening is a chance for current Grade 8 and 9s to begin the process of selecting their elective subjects for 2015.

The information session in the JPC will be followed by a Subject Exhibition in the Edmund Rice Hall, where parents and students can discuss possible subject choices with the teachers.

**Homework Club**
**Ms Claire Graham**
All students are invited to attend ‘Homework Club’ each Wednesday after school. A number of teachers will be present to provide assistance in a range of learning areas. Homework Club runs from 3.15 pm to 4.15 pm and students will be provided with a Milo and snack prior to the session commencing. A bus will run from the College to the CBD following each session.

For more details please email cgraham@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

**Tasmanian Aboriginal Reconciliation Group Excursion**
With Sharni Everrette from the Palawa Corporation. Students are to please meet at Palawa’s office in North Hobart at 9am. They will then travel for an afternoon tour of Risdon Cove. Boys will return to school by bus to catch their 3.15 service home from school.

**SPORT**
Mr James Dalton
Director of Sport

**Jarrod is Right on Target!**
Jarrod Hunter has achieved some outstanding results in archery in 2014. In April Jarrod went to Adelaide to compete in the 2014 Archery Australia National Youth Championships.

For Jarrod’s Age & Bow Type (Recurve Barebow) his results were:
- Clout - GOLD
- Target – GOLD
- Field – GOLD

Last weekend Jarrod went to Burnie for the 2014 Australian Indoor National Championships, achieving the following result:
- Indoor Target – GOLD

**Rugby Union**
Congratulations to Wayde Ulberg who was selected for the Under 16 Rugby team to represent Tasmania at the National Championships in Victoria.

**Chess**
**Hobart Regional Chess Championships**
Princes Street Primary, Sandy Bay, Tuesday September 9 2014
Register online: https://au.tornelo.com/turnaments:hobart--15
Please bring your permission form from your parents, lunch and wear your sports uniform.

**Health and Physical Education**
All Grade 9 and 10 students (15 years and older) have been asked to complete the 2014 Mission Australia Youth Survey. This will provide us with a fantastic indication of the views that are most important for our current students. The following is an excerpt from the website:

Mission Australia’s Youth Survey is the nation’s largest online annual ‘temperature check’ of teenagers aged between 15 and 19. Run every year since 2002, this highly influential survey gives young people the chance to have their say. Although our survey questions change slightly from year to year, they always aim to discover what concerns young people on a personal and national level, what they value and who they turn to for help. Schools and groups can also request tailored reports that tell them about the views and values of local youth issues, challenges and needs.

Mission Australia strives to ensure the Youth Survey represents our nation’s diversity – cultural, geographic and socio-economic. Among those who take part are young people who are in detention and teenagers who are homeless or are at risk of being so. Each year our survey captures the views of young Australians and the results go on to inform the agendas of governments, policy makers and community organisations so having your say is important.

The survey can be accessed at [HTTP://MISSIONAUSTRALIAYOUTHSURVEY.YOUTHSURVEY2014.SGIZMO.COM/S3/](HTTP://MISSIONAUSTRALIAYOUTHSURVEY.YOUTHSURVEY2014.SGIZMO.COM/S3/)

If your son is absent on either Friday or Monday, we ask that he completes the survey and uses the following unique code: 60011

**DIRECTOR OF TRANSITION**

**MR CAMERON ALEXANDER**

**Grade 10 – GYC Transition**
Grade 10s visited the GYC Subject Expo on Monday at the Glenorchy Campus having the opportunity to hear about the requirements of subject selection, and then talk to the teachers from the various subject areas.

Boys are now required to complete their preliminary subject selection form by **Friday August 22**, which can be returned to the office at St Virgil’s. Next week staff from GYC will visit the College to allow for any follow questions or provide more personalised course counselling to assist with subject selection.

**SPORT**

**Expressions of Sailing Interest Invited.**
The sailing season looms and discussions and preparations are under way. Boys coming into Grade 6 and lower, who are already involved in sailing are invited to make contact.

There could be a place for them in the Team Racing Programme in the fourth term, and/or in Term 1 next year. Our regular sailing programme is being planned out now.
St Virgils Sailing is the only College Sport that gives the boys a chance to compete internationally as a College Team. A number of the current boys have international experience as members of an SVC team.

We also cater for those who just want to “mess around in boats.” We occasionally have a place for sisters of students. If you are interested, please make contact with Br Peter at the senior campus, and through: pflint@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

COLLEGE COMMUNITY NEWS

Austins Ferry Canteen
Mrs Carol Hilyer

The Winter Menu is available on the website or students can obtain a copy at the Office or the Canteen.

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<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>August 4</th>
<th>Marian MacLachlan</th>
<th>Della Williams</th>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>August 5</td>
<td>Rachel Kyle</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>August 6</td>
<td>Joanne King</td>
<td>Sally Crosby</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>August 7</td>
<td>Charlyne Geeves</td>
<td>Frances Terry</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>August 8</td>
<td>Catherine Bresnehan</td>
<td>Susan Roberts</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>August 11</td>
<td>Angela Wiggins</td>
<td>Help Needed</td>
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Uniform Shop
Mrs Cindy Gangell

2014 UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS

SENIOR SCHOOL CAMPUS
Tuesday and Thursday 8.30 am to 3.30 pm

JUNIOR SCHOOL CAMPUS
Tuesday 8.30 to 9.30 am Thursday 2.00 to 3.30 pm

All 2014 Leavers’ apparel orders must be in on or before later than August 1. No late orders will be accepted. Designs for apparel can be viewed at http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/senior-school-grades-7-10/senior-uniform/

ONLINE ORDERS
All on line orders can be collected from recess (10.00 am) on Tuesday or Thursday at the Uniform Shop
If you have paid you order and you son does not collect his order on these day you may collect at the Front Office on Wednesday and Friday.
Parent Information Session – The Importance of Sleep for Children

Wednesday August 6, Junior School Library, 7.30 pm.
Gold Coin Donation to support the Edmund Rice Foundation
RSVP for Catering purposes to mwaddington@stvirgils.tas.edu.au by August 5.

“IF YOU DON’T SLEEP, YOU DIE”

A parent’s guide to sleep in children and adolescents and why it’s important and how you can manage it!

Sleep is crucially important in supporting physical and mental health, cognitive development and academic achievement during childhood and adolescence. Technology use, social and academic pressures and even normal physical and brain development make sleep problematic for many children and most adolescents. Poor sleep can lead to academic failure, increased risk of alcohol and drug abuse and a reduced quality of life for parents as well as children. Dr Ian Colrain (St Virgil’s 1974-1979) has agreed to talk about how parents can help manage sleep in their children and teenagers and why it is important to do so. This practical, fun filled session will provide parents with key information and strategies to assist their children in developing healthy sleep habits to ensure they are ready to achieve their best at school each day.

About Ian
Dr Ian Colrain is the Senior Director and Department Chair for Health Sciences at SRI International in Silicon Valley California. He also holds an appointment as a Professorial Fellow in Psychology at The University of Melbourne.

Ian has a Ph.D in Sleep Physiology from the University of Tasmania where he also completed a B.Sc. Honors degree in Computer Science and Psychology. Following a post-doctoral fellowship in Anatomy, he held academic appointments in Neuroscience at the University of Auckland in New Zealand and the University of Melbourne. Prior to founding the sleep research program at SRI he was the Senior Clinical Research Scientist at the Stanford Sleep Disorders Clinic.

Ian is the author of over 200 scientific papers chapters and presentations, is an associate editor for the journals SLEEP and Frontiers in Respiratory Physiology, and is an active member of the Academy of Sleep Medicine and the Sleep Research Society. He has been funded to conduct sleep studies on children, adolescents and adults by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute of the NIH, and works with early stage medical device companies to develop new treatments for sleep disorders.
Dear SVC Community Member,

St Virgil’s College are excited to be able to offer our members the exclusive opportunity to trial the new Entertainment Book Digital Membership for 7 days for Free!

These free trials are extremely limited. We have been given a small allocation due to our fundraising relationship with Entertainment Publications. Please take this opportunity to try the new digital membership so you can see firsthand the fantastic offers available and the hundreds of dollars you can save through owning one of these sought after memberships.

I have been using my digital membership and I love it! It’s super easy to use and it’s so convenient because you always have it with you.

Should you decide to purchase a digital membership now, you can do so by clicking on the “purchase now” link below.

$65 from each membership purchased goes directly towards our fundraising. We thank you and appreciate your support.

As a supporter of St Virgil’s College, we have organised an exclusive opportunity for you to use the brand new Entertainment™ Digital Membership (what’s this?) for FREE for 7 days, starting today!

- Enjoy 25-50% off at your favourite restaurants, activities and attractions, hotels, travel, shopping and much, much more!
- Simply show your smartphone (is mine compatible?) to redeem valuable offers at Tasmania’s
most popular businesses.
- Use the Entertainment™ Digital Membership for **free for the next seven days**, and watch the value add up!

We know you'll love the Entertainment™ Digital Membership once you've tried it! At the end of your Free Trial, you will have the option to purchase the Entertainment™ Digital Membership for the whole year for only $65. Best of all, 20% from every Entertainment™ Digital Membership you buy contributes towards St Virgil’s College!

**Hurry, your week starts now and will expire on 6/8/2014! These free trials of the Digital Memberships are limited in number so don't miss out, and start your trial today!**

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**St Virgil's College**

Jackie Geale  
Phone: 0418450050  |  Email: jackiegeale@bigpond.com
The St Virgil’s College Community invites you to attend the ‘2014 Luncheon with the Stars’

Friday August 22 2014
12 pm to 2.45 pm
Blundstone Arena Function Centre

Featuring
David Noble (SVC 1980-85) Assistant Coach of Adelaide and other guests from the following day’s game between North Melbourne and Adelaide

Proceeds from the luncheon will go to the St Virgil’s College History Centre and the Edmund Rice Foundation

All ticket information at www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au

- 2014 Instrumental Music Programme Enrolment Form
- Kids Sleep and Screen Time Seminar

Opening and Blessing of the Hamilton Wing Re-Development
A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF THE COLLEGE

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