FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR DAMIAN MESSER

“We thank each boy for their contribution to the ongoing story of St Virgil’s College”.

Thanksgiving and Awards Ceremony

Last Thursday our Grade 10 students officially left the College to move to the next stage in their education. With the whole secondary school present along with some Junior School boys and nearly a thousand others, we joined in the celebration of the Liturgy.

As is tradition, after the boys had received their certificates and sung their leavers song, we finished with the official handover of leadership to the leaders of 2015.

Thank you to all who attended and helped make this celebration such a memorable event for all. We now look forward to our Grade 6 students celebrating their
leaving Junior School at the Ceremony on Wednesday December 17.

**Business Office**
As we approach the end of another busy year, the Business Office is keen to finalise its financial reports for 2014. There are currently a significant amount of Term 4 fees outstanding and we would appreciate accounts being settled as soon as possible. If there are any problems or queries regarding your account, please contact the Business Manager, Mrs Narelle Green to organise settlement of the outstanding account.

**Clothing Store**
As part of the clothing store re-development, the Uniform Shop service will be closed as of today until January 23. In the coming days you will receive a letter fully explaining the changes to operation of the clothing store.

If you have any queries please contact the Austins Ferry office.

**Finishing Dates and Times**
All students finish the 2014 school year on Wednesday December 17.

Austins Ferry students will be dismissed at 12.30pm.

Junior School students finish their day at 3.00pm.

**Office Opening Hours – 2015**
Please note that the Administration Offices on both campuses close on Thursday December 18.

The Senior School Office re-opens on Monday January 12.

The Junior School Office re-opens on Thursday January 22. For all enquiries please contact the Senior School Office on 6249 6555.

In the spirit of Blessed Edmund.

**Damian Messer**

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**Touchstones of the EREA Charter**

**Liberating Education**
We open hearts and minds, through quality teaching and learning experiences, so that through critical reflection and engagement each person is hope-filled and free to build a better world for all.

**Gospel Spirituality**
We invite all people into the story of Jesus and strive to make his message of compassion, justice and peace a living reality within our community.

**Inclusive Community**
Our community is accepting and welcoming, fostering right relationships and committed to the common good.

**Justice and Solidarity**
We are committed to justice and peace for all, grounded in a spirituality of action and reflection that calls us to stand in solidarity with those who are marginalised and the Earth itself.
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
MR TERRY BLIZZARD

“As hard as it is for some boys at this time of year, the expectations of the school in regards to teaching and learning do not change”.

This week we welcomed the first of a number of Grade 5 classes from Catholic Primary schools to visit Austins Ferry for an experience of a secondary setting. It is important for schools such as ours to offer these experiences to support the transition for the students from primary to secondary schools. I would like to commend the newly appointed student leaders for the wonderful job they have done with these students. They are a great example of the kind of young men we work to develop.

Finishing Off
As hard as it is for some boys at this time of year, the expectations of the school in regards to teaching and learning do not change. Boys are expected to work until the completion of their last class and are expected to behave in a way that allows all boys to learn. I have been a little disappointed with a small number of boys who have “dropped the ball” in this regard. Learning is sometimes referred to as “habit forming”, that is, developing a set of practices that are conducive to a learning environment, and bad habits formed in the last weeks of school can have lasting effects. As always parental support with this is appreciated.

Upcoming Events
Please note that the final day for students is Wednesday December 17 with school concluding at 12.30pm. The usual bus services will be provided at this time. This is a compulsory school day and is a Formal Uniform day for all students.

COLLEGE CHAPLAIN
BR PETER FLINT

I did have some other thoughts for today, but at the last minute I came across this and I thought: Fantastic - so true!”


To change the topic!

I am one of many people around Australia who disgusted with the Government’s illegal and inhumane treatment of legal asylum seekers. In protest a number of churches in Launceston are ringing their bells regularly. I’ll doing what I can to push the idea down here. Regretfully, my church does not have a bell, but yours might. The number of churches around Australia involved is slowly increasing.
If you are a regular attender of a church, of any denomination, may I invite you to have a look at the Facebook page and invite your Church community to ring the bells.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ring-The-Bells/507437249359711

Matthew’s Gospel has Jesus’ family fleeing persecution in his own country and seeking refuge in Egypt. (Matt 2: 13-15) If they came to Australia, our government would say: “No,” and / or put them in some wretched refugee camp indefinitely.

JUNIOR SCHOOL

MR ANDREW PINELLI, HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

“To achieve greatness: start where you are, use what you have, do what you can”.

Arthur Ashe

2015 Orientation Day

The Junior School Campus was a hive of activity this week with our orientation day for new boys for 2015. Our current Grade 6 boys travelled out to the Senior School Campus to do some different activities in the kitchen and workshop. Over 50 new boys across all grades joined with our current boys in Grades 3-5 for a busy day of activities. Our current Grade 6 boys made videos of different locations at our campus which we uploaded to Youtube.

The boys currently in Grade 5 were ‘buddied’ up with the Grade 3 boys for 2015 to do an orienteering course around the campus. The boys enjoyed each other’s company during lunch sharing a sausage sizzle followed by some energetic games and assembly with merit cards to end the day. We look forward to seeing all our new boys in February next year.

Grade 5 Band Concert

The Grade 5 boys certainly put on a fantastic show this week for their concert to cap off a wonderful musical year. The boys have practices hard with the support of their parents and tutors and should be very proud of all that they have achieved during the year. Performances at the Clarence Eisteddfod and recently at the College’s own Gala Concert were other highlights that the boys should be proud of.

Parents of Grade 5 boys are reminded to return the expression of interest forms for Grade 6 Band 2015 as soon as possible. Well done boys.

Art Exhibition

This week, the Junior School Campus Art Exhibition was official opened by Mr Tony Woodward (Principal Education Officer- Curriculum, Dept. of Education). Mr Woodward was most impressed with the great variety of art works on display and also commented on the high standard of the works. Every boy has pieces of work on display.

The official opening was also the commencement of silent auction of framed Grade art works. These works are on display in the Library where further bids can be placed. The silent auction will run all of next week with the winning bids announced at our End of Year Assembly next Friday December 12.
Congratulations and Welcome
I would like to congratulate and welcome Mr Brent Scanlon to our teaching staff for 2015. Mr Scanlon will be joining us from Dominic College. We were fortunate that Mr Scanlon could join us for our orientation day this week and be introduced to the boys – especially the new Grade 3 boys.

Grade 6 Mass
This week, our Grade 6 boys joined with over 700 students who attend Catholic Primary Schools in Grade 6 to celebrate Mass and the end of their Primary Education with Archbishop Julian Porteous. This is a very special occasion for the boys and one that we hope they remember in the years ahead.

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:

December
Grade 6 Southern Tasmania Schools Mass December 4
Invitational Cricket game vs Sydney Grammar December 8
Volunteer appreciation evening December 11
End of Year Assembly December 12
Social with SMC for Grades 5 & 6 December 12
Junior School Picnic Day December 15
Junior School Thanksgiving Liturgy December 17
Last day of school year for boys December 17

Canteen
Friday December 5 R Ferguson / A Excell

Friday December 5 will be our final canteen day for 2014.

Thank you to all the wonderful parent help this year.

Olga

Junior School Sport
Congratulations to Lachlan Boorsboom, Samuel Collins and Luke Kreune who have been selected in the Under 13 Southern Storm team to participate in the Commonwealth Bank Intrastate Cricket Cup to be held in Launceston in January. Well done boys!
SPORT

Tennis – Grade 7 / 8
November 26 2014

SVC defeated Hutchins 6 – 0 (36 – 11)
S. Plunkett-Smith won on forfeit 6 – 0; O. Bresnehan d G. Mackey 6 – 1; A. Graham-Daft d D. Taylor 6 – 1; J. Rhodes d E. Newton 6 – 5; O. Bresnehan / O. Haigh won on forfeit 6 – 0; J. Rhodes / H. McShane d D. Taylor / E. Newton 6 – 4.

Final December 3 2014
SVC defeated Sacred Heart College 3 – 3 (26 – 23)
S. Plunkett-Smith d J. Petryk 6 – 4; O. Bresnehan lt 4 – 6; O. Haigh lt J. Carter 2 – 6; A. Graham-Daft d A. Zeeman 6 – 0; S. Plunkett-Smith / O. Bresnehan lt J. Petryk / N. Daniels 2 – 6; O. Haigh / J. Rhodes d J. Carter / A. Zeeman 6 – 1.

After a very successful season winning every single rubber’s game, pressure of finals took its toll the players. Some very close contests made the Final a very close fought affair with the match coming down to the final rubber. With Sam playing an excellent and very entertaining singles game, he handed SVC the tie and overall victors for 2014. Congratulations to the boys and Hugh McShane and Steven Roach for contributing in having an excellent season.

Geelong College scoreboard!
Grade 7&8 SSATIS Cricket Grand Final
SVC Gold 6/160 from 20 overs defeated The Hutchins School 5/138
(Oscar Walker 52 no, Will Poland 51 no)

St Virgil's v St Patrick's College, Ballarat

Learn to Sail
Anyone interested in trying out sailing is encouraged to attend Br Peter 0439 738327.
St Virgil’s, St Mary’s and Guilford Young Colleges Rowing Club
PO Box 20, Newtown 7008, Tasmania

A reunion of the St Virgil’s, St Mary’s & Guilford Young College Rowing Clubs
Will be held at the new rowing sheds, New Town Bay on Saturday February 14 2015

The reunion is an overdue chance for any rowers, coaches, committee, parents, teachers, brothers, sisters & helpers involved in the proud history of rowing at the colleges to get together, take a tour through the new rowing shed facility to see how far the club has come. It’s an opportunity to catch up with old friends, coaches, rowers in the convivial atmosphere and additionally it will be a chance to raise some money for our rowing clubs. It is an informal function with people welcome whether they can make it for 10 minutes or 10 hours.

The programme of the day will be:

5pm to 6.30pm  Club rowers putting the boats through their paces on the water.
                Tours of the new clubhouse facility.

6.30 to midnight Reunion function in the upstairs bar. Drinks available at bar prices.

During the day and into the evening there’ll be a BBQ where food can be purchased.
So get around your rowing mates, get a group together and let us know who will be coming. We need numbers purely for catering.

Please RSVP to rowing@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

Photos: We hope to have club photos on a PowerPoint display. If you have club photos from yesteryear, please scan them and send them through to the email address above. Make sure you provide the names of the people involved, their role in the club and the year. Don’t worry about the photos in the Annual Virgilian as we will get these separately.

Sponsorship: We will hold a raffle on the night so if you are willing and able to donate a prize for the raffle, please let us know through the same email address. Your support in either donating prizes or buying tickets will be greatly appreciated.
COLLEGE COMMUNITY NEWS

Austins Ferry Canteen
Mrs Carol Hilyer

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<td>Tuesday</td>
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Parents are asked to please complete and return the 2015 Canteen Volunteers Form which is an attachment to this newsletter – www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au

Uniform Shop
Mrs Cindy Gangell

Uniform Shop Closure for 2014
Please note that to facilitate the smooth transition of the Uniform Shop from its current operations to the new Midford Shop in 2015, it is now closed. Uniform can still be ordered online and emergency stocks of some standard items will be available from the Front Office on both campuses. The new Midford Store will open on Friday January 16 2015.

A Farewell from Cindy – but not goodbye!
As I closed the doors to the Uniform shop today for the last time as the Clothing Store Manager, I recalled memories of all the students & their parents I have met and welcomed to the College over the past 19 years. I also remember the changes to uniform during that time.

As a new door opens for me with my change of role within the College, I look forward to the challenge of working as the Grade 10 Work Experience and Work Placement Coordinator.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who have assisted me throughout my time in the Clothing Store, but particular mention must be made of the following people - Lorraine Williams, Jane Allright, Monica Nugent, Sonya Knight and at the Junior School, Olga Leon and Gina Graves.

To all the volunteers who have helped in any way over the past 19 years, the ladies in the front office at both campus, and the Parents and Friends of the College Community who volunteered so willingly at our busy times at the beginning of the school year, thank you one and all for your help, support and your friendship.
Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

Dear St Virgil’s College

The Secondary Schools Tax File Number (TFN) Program will not continue beyond 31 December 2014. This means that School TFN forms will no longer be processed beyond this date.

How students can apply for a TFN from 1 January 2015

The Australian Taxation Office in partnership with Australia Post is making it easier for individuals to apply for a TFN.

Students can now apply for a TFN online and have their identity verified through an interview at a participating Australia Post office.

Applying online is the fastest and most convenient way for students to get a TFN. More information on applying online can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC27248'

Students who are unable to visit a participating Australia Post office will need to complete the application form Tax file number - application or enquiry for individuals form (NAT 1432). More information about lodging this form can be found at ato.gov.au by searching for 'QC22604'

The ATO will continue working with teachers to educate students about tax and superannuation. The curriculum resource Tax, Super & You is a free, easy to use, online educational resource aligned to the school curriculum of each state and territory. This resource can be accessed at taxsuperandyou.gov.au

In the coming weeks we will provide more information by email on how students can apply for a TFN and the educational services we can provide. In the meantime if you require any further information you can phone 1300 130 282 between 8:00am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday.

Regards

Steve Vesperman
Deputy Commissioner of Taxation
Thanksgiving and Awards Ceremony – DVD For Sale

A high quality DVD of the Thanksgiving and Awards Ceremony will be produced and will be available for purchase.

**THE COST OF THE DVD IS $15.00**

If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please complete the section below and return it to either the Senior or Junior School Office, with payment attached.

**THANKSGIVING AND AWARDS CEREMONY DVD ORDER FORM**

Student: ___________________________ PC Grp/Grade ______

I would like to purchase the Thanksgiving & Awards Ceremony DVD at $15.00 per copy

Number of copies required: __ Total cash enclosed, if paying cash: ___

Alternatively payment can be made by cheque or credit card.

Please attach payment with this order.

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CARD NO: __________________________

EXPIRY DATE: ____________

NAME ON CARD: ________________________________________________________

PHONE NUMBER: ______________________

PARENT SIGNATURE: ______________________

DATE: ______________________
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