FROM THE PRINCIPAL

MR DAMIAN MESSER

“During Mass, the ashes which give Ash Wednesday its name are distributed. The ashes are made by burning the blessed palms that were distributed the previous year on Palm Sunday. The distribution of ashes reminds us of our own mortality and calls us to repentance and renewal”.

Ash Wednesday

To mark the beginning of the Season of Lent and our journey to Easter, we held Ash Wednesday ceremonies yesterday. Junior School staff and students attended a Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral. The Austins Ferry staff began their day with Mass in the Chapel at school, and during the day all students received ashes, a symbol of repentance and renewal, at liturgies held throughout the morning.
At both of our Austins Ferry ceremonies we were able to welcome our new Parish Priest, Fr Suresh who is based at St Bernard’s Parish in Claremont. It is the first time in over 15 years that there has been a Parish Priest based at the Claremont Presbytery and we look forward to working closely with Fr Suresh.

**Uniform Shop – Arrangements for Collection of Blazers**
The College greatly appreciates the understanding and patience of parents as we transition to new uniform arrangements with Midford. After a number of quality issues were resolved we are very pleased to report that blazers are now in stock at the College Uniform Shop. To enable parents to acquire them as soon as possible, the following arrangements have been put in place:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 19</td>
<td>7 pm - 9pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday February 20</td>
<td>1 pm – 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday February 24</td>
<td>8 am – 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday February 25</td>
<td>8 am – 4 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your understanding and support of the College.

**New Parent Evening**
Parents of all Grade 7 and new Grade 8, 9 and 10 students are invited to attend the New Parent Evening being held tonight in the Joyce Performance Centre commencing at 7.30pm.

I hope that you are all able to attend this information evening. After some formalities you will have the chance to meet other parents over supper.

Thank you to the hard working Parents & Friends Committee members for providing the supper this evening.

**EREA Renewal Assembly and House Representatives Commissioning**
Next Friday the Grade 8 and 9 House Representatives and the Junior School House Leaders are being commissioned in a ceremony at Austins Ferry. I congratulate these boys on their position and look forward to working with them during the year.

Our assembly on Friday will also celebrate our successful EREA School Renewal. Dr Wayne Tinsey, Director of Edmund Rice Education Australia and Mr Paul Williams, Director of Regional Support will be in attendance. Our successful School Renewal provides accreditation as a Catholic school in the Edmund Rice tradition for the next five years.

**New Beginnings**
The New Beginnings programme for our Grade 7 students commences next week. Full details are included in this newsletter.

**Junior School House Swimming Carnival**
I wish all the Junior School students competing in the School House Swimming Carnival the best of luck on Thursday. Participation is the key element in these Carnivals and I encourage all boys to have a go and score valuable points for your team.

**Board**
Last night the Board of Management held their first meeting for the year, welcoming four new members. The Board’s discussions revolved around the normal reporting of Publicity, Promotions, Policy, Building, Information Technology and Workplace Health & Safety. The Board meets monthly and I will continue to update you on the discussions during the year.
2016 Grade 7 Enrolments
The enrolment process for Grade 7 2016 has commenced. Prospective parents and students are encouraged to attend the Open Day on Thursday March 5 from 9.00am. If you know of anyone intending to enrol their son into St Virgil’s next year, please encourage them to lodge an enrolment form as soon as possible. Enrolments for Austins Ferry students close on Friday April 24.

The Junior School Open Day is being held on April 29, 9.00am – 5.30pm. Further details for enrolment are available on our web site – www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au

College Commissioning Assembly
Last Friday we welcomed guests from far and wide for the annual College Commissioning Assembly, where our 2015 Grade 10 and Junior School leaders were commissioned. It was a wonderful occasion and particularly pleasing was the opportunity to welcome back former Principal Br Russell Peters who thanked the College for their wholehearted support of the Mary Rice Centre and Olympic Gold Medallist, Old Virgilian Dr Scott Brennan.

Scott spoke eloquently about his Olympic journey, his challenge of combining medical studies and training and the battles he has fought in recent times with severe injuries. His address contained some poignant points for all students, staff and members of our College community and is re-produced with Scott’s permission below. Scott also gave a wonderful address to guests at the Rowing Club reunion on Saturday night and left all in attendance with no doubt as to what a fine exemplar of the values and traditions of St Virgil’s he is.

Address to Commissioning Ceremony
Dr Scott Brennan, Olympic Gold Medallist

Good morning,
The last time I spoke at St Virgil’s was just after the Beijing Olympics. I stood in the hall and watched as our race was played on the screen, thinking back over all that had happened since I first sat in class as a Grade 7 schoolboy and was handed the "come and try rowing" form by the boy who would be the school captain the year before me - the late James Dunsby. At that stage of my life an Olympic gold medal seemed just an impossible dream.

But that impossible dream came true and the year following this I was about to embark on my chosen career as a doctor, so life, at this point it would seem, had been exceptionally kind to me. For this I was enormously grateful, and I still am.

Step forward to now however and my London post-Olympic experience has been vastly different. Injury crippled our efforts
at the last moments of the campaign, shattering not only my dreams of further Olympic glory, but seemingly also my body itself, rendering me completely unable to do the sport that has brought me so much joy for so much of my life.

Since then I have travelled the country and the world at great expense of money and time, spending hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars in painful treatment, tedious rehab and relentless frustration. Yet despite all of this, I have remained less capable in a rowing boat than I was as a St Virgil's schoolboy.

Life of late, it seems, has not been fair.

But who ever said that it would be? Where was the contract signed? The promises made? All too often the belief is that if we work hard for something then we will achieve it and good things will come our way. Olympians stand up and tell you to follow your dreams and train hard and you will succeed. And while it's true that without work there is no chance our dreams will ever come true at all, the presence of hard work alone does not guarantee success, it only increases our chances of it. Whether we think this is fair or not has absolutely no relevance.

The thing is though - "fairness" doesn't actually matter.

After years as working as a doctor I've seen a lot of sick people come and go. Fortunately in Australia, the vast majority get better and go home, back to their normal lives. Others only get a little bit better but still get to go home anyway to struggle on as best they can. Others don't get to go home at all. Mostly they are much older than us, those ones. Perhaps that makes it slightly easier to deal with. Some of them are younger than me though, like James Dunsby was. Some are even younger than you.

Sometimes it seems like they have had a fair innings. Sometimes it seems they were dealt a terrible hand. No two people are ever the same. But there are some things that never change.

When I stand at the end of the bed and listen, nobody ever tells me they wished they had worked more hours, earned more money, been more famous, or had a bigger house. But they do tell me about the dreams they didn't chase, the desires they set aside, the decisions they regret. Decisions they backed away from because they were afraid. Afraid of failing. Afraid of what other people would think of them if they followed their own path. Afraid of being different. Afraid of what they thought of themselves. Afraid to say sorry.

"If I had my time again" can be the saddest sentence a health professional comes to know.

But the happy ones don't tell me about what they achieved or the attention they received for it, even when some of them did truly great things. The majority of them didn't, living what many would call "ordinary" lives. They tell me about the way they faced their fears, the times they forgave, the way they persevered despite setbacks and remained true to what they felt was right for them, regardless of what the task was or the challenges life threw at them.

Often it was the simplest of things - being a good father, a loving partner, a true friend. I've treated cleaners, labourers, renowned authors and military generals, people of vastly different backgrounds but all united by the challenges, triumphs and failings that face every human being every day. They did these things without the promise of reward or the applause of others watching on.

Nine days ago I achieved one of the greatest feats of my life. I woke up without pain, in a body that once again felt like my own, and I put a rowing boat on the water and I rowed. That's all. No records broken. No races won.

No one will ever write about that in the newspaper, ask me for my autograph or give me a medal that I can show to others. But what I endured in these past two years to get to that point required more determination, learning, persistence and sacrifice than anything else that was ever required of me to become an Olympic champion.
I may never be able to race again, and this is heartbreaking. But when I look back on this time I will see that I faced my fears head-on, I suffered, I persevered, and I learned. There was nothing more that could have been done, and so there is nothing left to regret, whatever the outcome.

In short, it’s only been through this struggle that nobody’s seen have I been able to discover, test, and finally become, the man I believe that I was meant to be.

Ostensibly today we are here to recognise our leaders. This is an important role, and I congratulate the recipients. We look to them to embody the characteristics that we aspire to in ourselves. This is a challenging task and one that should never be taken lightly. While it may seem unlikely to you now, your role as a leader lends your actions, or inactions, a weight that can have continuing impact many years from now. What will that impact be? Many people will be watching.

But just as important, perhaps even more so, is what becomes of the rest of us? A leader’s formal title is no guarantee of a good man, but neither is its absence any reason we can’t be great men. Nothing to stop us being true to ourselves, and true to those around us. Not just the ones that we love, but to those who have no permanent place in our lives. To be the best we can for those who may never even know of our efforts. Or the greatest test - even to those who resent us for it.

Because what a great thing it would be, to live our lives such that when our time comes we could look the person standing at the end of our bed right in the eye, and know in our heart:

“I was a good man when no one was watching”.

Volunteers
The College as part of its commitment to community and the integral home-school partnership, welcomes parental involvement in a wide range of College activities including music, sport, canteen, camps, events, classroom help, tutoring and fundraising activities. With new legislation for volunteering coming into effect on April 1 it will be essential that all parents having a ‘Working with Children Card’. These will be required for all community organisations including scouts, sporting clubs, art, craft and music activities – any activity that brings adults into regular contact with children.

More information about the Working with Children Card (including online applications) can be obtained through the Service Tasmania Website - http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/working_with_children/application

More information about the card and the College’s arrangements for management of card requirements will be outlined in upcoming editions of The Star.

Sharing the Good News
A reminder to all in our community that we are committed to educating boys about the importance of sustainable living practices. This requires the College to model these learnings and so we endeavour to reduce paper usage by utilising electronic forms of communication wherever possible. This is consistent with the touchstone, Justice and Solidarity.

Our weekly College newsletter, ‘The Star’ is a tangible and practical example of this commitment and is readily available online from the College’s website: www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au. Parents are encouraged to go to the website, scroll to the right side of the page and find the link ‘Sign Up’. Please follow the prompts and enter your preferred email address to register to receive this weekly publication.

The College also uses Twitter to communicate news to the College community –Follow the conversation @svctas

In the spirit of Blessed Edmund.

Damian Messer
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
MR TERRY BLIZZARD

“For many boys a lack of structure at school and at home early in the year can become problematic as the year progresses”.

It is hard to believe that we are already completing week three. The busyness of the start to the year tends to make Term One go by very quickly. It is important therefore that boys are by now firmly focussed on their studies. For many boys a lack of structure at school and at home early in the year can become problematic as the year progresses.

As I outlined to some of the Grade 10s this week, it is very hard for some boys to change bad study habits, particularly if these bad habits are formed early in the year. With this in mind we will be conducting sessions with all grades over the coming weeks offering support and suggestions around topics such as study habits, time management, goal setting, organisation and so on. How can parents support us with this? There is much to be gained when there is a very structured home study regime in place which supports the kinds of structures we have at school.

Getting Involved
Experience tells us that the boys who gain most from their school life are those with structure and who take up the opportunities available to them. It is very pleasing to see so many boys getting involved in a range of offerings in music, sports, service and many other activities. For those boys unsure of how to become involved they can speak to Mrs Williams for Choir, Bands and other Arts activities, and Mr Dalton for Sport related activities. They can also access the Sports page on the College website or www.sport.stvirgils.tas.edu.au

Drop Off and Pick up
Could I please ask parents who drop off and pick up their sons on College property to please be cautious around the buses and please observe speed restrictions. Whilst we have had very few incidents we do have a large number of boys getting on and off buses and the chance of a serious event is very real. The safety of boys is our number one priority.

Mobile Phones
We acknowledge that many (most) boys have and may need a mobile phone, but for very good educational reasons we have a policy that forbids their use during school hours. The distraction that phones cause to the learning of many boys is significant. We have a policy of confiscating any phone that is being used in class requiring boys to collect them at the end of the day. For repeat offenders we will ask that parents collect the phone so as to highlight our commitment to this policy.
We understand that there are times when parents need to contact their son’s and we ask that this is done through the front office whenever at all possible.

**College Commissioning**
At the recent Commissioning our College Captain Alec Hastie challenged the students to consider the acronym T.H.I.N.K (Is it True?, Is it Helpful?, Is it Inspiring?, Is it Necessary?, and Is it Kind?). He went on to suggest that “words, actions and deeds can be much more powerful than we believe”. My experience suggests that Alec’s T.H.I.N.K challenge is exactly what is needed in a school full of adolescent boys. Adolescence for boys could be summed up by the following:

- Life can be confusing.
- Massive increase in testosterone – very active.
- Move from being family focussed to peer focussed.
- Search for identity and groups to belong to.
- Frustrating!

Let’s hope that Alec’s challenge was heard and that in all we do we T.H.I.N.K.

**Grade 7 Immunisation**
A reminder that Grade 7 Immunisation Forms are due back to the Front Office by this Friday February 20.

**Drama Workshops for Children with ASD**
Cassie Xintavelonis will be running some new social skills groups for students aged between 9 and 16 years of age. The groups are called “Drama Groups” and are run through React Drama School. Cassie has combined two of her loves - drama and working with people who have ASD and she is using drama to teach specific social skills, primarily non-verbal behaviours and working cooperatively with others.

There is a five week term starting in March and then a 10-week term commencing in Term II. Medicare rebates are available. The course flyer can be found at [http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/news-publications/](http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/news-publications/)

**COLLEGE MINISTER**

**BR PETER FLINT**

**Prayers and Words**
I am writing this 24 hours ahead of an introductory prayer I have to lead at the night for our new parents.

I have reflected on this a lot since I was asked. It occurred to me that more prayers are said by parents over their children that anywhere else in creation. These prayers may even be formal, but I suspect there is just an ever present awareness of their children in the lives of parents and an unvoiced wish/prayer that all goes well for them. God may not be consciously thought of. But prayer it is.

So many think prayers are words said, words sung, and words listened to. The Mystery I call God does not need prayers, although I may need to say them. The Divine can be found in stillness, dance, art, in music, on mountains, in the football match, and for me, on the sea.

For many, closeness to creation is closeness to the Creator. Words not needed.
This was brought home to me last night when I attended a lecture: “The Known Unknowns of the Universe.” It ranged from muons, quarks and photons to galaxies, clusters of galaxies and super clusters with the great known unknown of Dark Matter. It again brought home to me that this Mystery we call God is a mystery that exceeds the capacity of the human mind to grasp or even have the language for.

I live with mystery and question.

2015 Student Leaders

JUNIOR SCHOOL

MR ANDREW PINELLI, HEAD OF JUNIOR SCHOOL

Inclusive Community

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

*Edmund Rice Education Australia Touchstone*

Parents are the primary educator of their children. From their day of birth, every child learns from their parents, and those around them. They watch, listen and they touch until they are old enough to also communicate. Parents are critical in the ongoing development across all domains for their children. This is not an easy task and is also quite often thankless. Many researchers have documented how critical to the relationship is between home and school. In our modern society so many people, especially parents, are time poor however the lines of communication between home and school need to stay open and positive so that your child benefits.
At St Virgil’s many opportunities, formal and informal, are afforded parents so that they can be partners in the education of their son. We have already had the parent information sessions where parents could find out first-hand what opportunities and activities their son will be engaged in during the year. Next week there is the House Swimming Carnival and the welcome BBQ. These are great opportunities for parents to meet and talk with the teachers and other parents. Later in the term will be the more formal parent-teacher interviews. I strongly encourage as many parents as possible to take advantage of these formal and informal opportunities to foster the relationship between home and the College.

Woodwork
This week, Grade 6 C travelled to the Senior School Campus to commence their rotation of woodwork. Once the boys had been inducted into the workshop again they were very busy measuring their timber and then cutting so that they would have their pieces ready to construct a bird house. We look forward to tracking their progress.
Lent
This week saw the commencement of the Lenten period in the calendar of the Catholic Church. The boys will be given many opportunities during this period of time leading up to Easter to reflect on how fortunate they are as well as undertake activities and opportunities that will help others in our community – both near and far.

**Shrove (Pancake) Tuesday**
Our activities commenced on Tuesday with the boys given the opportunity to buy pancakes. This is an old tradition that the boys willingly embraced. A special thank you to Grade 5 O who mixed up our tasty batter and to the very enthusiastic group of mums who cooked up and distributed the pancakes. In excess of $220 was raised to commence our fundraising efforts for Caritas Australia.

**Ash Wednesday**
Yesterday, all the boys attended Mass in the Cathedral along with parishioners and the wider community to celebrate Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday formally commences our Lenten observance. Thank you to Mrs Chambers for preparing such a beautiful liturgy and to Mrs Williams and Mr Ellis for assisting with the music.

**Assembly**
Thank you to those parents and friends who were able to join us for our first assembly of the year. Congratulations to Grade 6 C for the well prepared liturgy. Well done to the ‘Green Thumbs’ boys who sold their fresh produce after assembly.

**Sport**
This week boys in Grade 5 and 6 commence the tennis roster and boys from Grade 3 and 4 commence Flippaball. We wish these boys all the best as they represent the College and hope that they enjoy the opportunity to play sport with their mates against students from other schools and clubs. Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to help with managing and coaching teams.

**iPads**
All the boys should have their iPads by now and they should be fully functioning. The teachers are aware of some slight difficulties in downloading/installing some of the College apps. The teachers will be troubleshooting this during the next week and seeking assistance from the ICT Department to get this fixed up. If your son is experiencing difficulties with his iPad, please contact his teacher via the diary or an email in the first instance.

**P & F Association**
The Junior School P & F Association is a critical link between parents and the College. Thank you to those parents who made it to the first P & F meeting last night. It was great to see some new faces in the group. Planning is underway for the welcome BBQ next week. Looking forward to seeing as many families as possible at this first event.

**Entertainment Book** – This is a great fund raising opportunity for the Junior School. Proceeds from the sale of the Entertainment Book last year were in excess of $1200 for the P & F. This year we need a new co-ordinator. The co-ordinator is well supported by the Office staff at the Junior School. If you are interested and available to assist with this, please contact the Junior School Office on 6234 2440.

**Junior School Swimming Trials**
Today, all the boys have travelled to the New Norfolk Pool for the swimming trials. Results from these trials will be of great assistance in preparing for the House Swimming Carnival which will be held at Glenorchy Pool next Thursday, February 26.
Permission and Information Notes
Many parents and families are active users of the College website and find it full of a wealth of information. This year we are striving to make even greater use of this resource by placing permission and information notes in the “In The School Bag” section of the site down the right hand side. We know that sometimes ‘paper’ notes don’t always get home or get out of your son’s school bag so this will be an invaluable resource for parents/guardians to check so you are even more aware of information that is available.

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

February
Week 3A
Swimming Trials @ New Norfolk
February 19

Week 4B
House Swimming Carnival @ Glenorchy
February 26
P & F Welcome BBQ @ 5.30pm
February 26
House Captains Commissioning @ 10.30am Senior School Campus
February 27

Week 5A
Grade 5 Camp to Port Arthur
March 4 - 6

Canteen
Mrs Olga Leon

Due to Ash Wednesday and swimming trials, the commencement of canteen has been postponed to next Wednesday February 25.

Wednesday February 25
L Strong

Thursday February 26
No Canteen School Swimming Carnival

Friday February 27
No Canteen House Commissioning

If parents are able to assist between the hours of 11am – 1.30pm Wednesday/Thursday or Friday, approximately 8 times a year please contact the Mrs Olga Leon on 62342440 or oleon@stvirgils.tas.edu.au
New Parents Evening
Tonight, Thursday February 19 we will once again hold our annual New Parents Evening. This is a fantastic way for parents to meet their son’s teachers, especially their Pastoral Care Teacher, as well as to hear some important information in regards how we can best work in partnership to serve your son. Drinks and Nibbles will be supplied by the Parents and Friends Association after the gathering.

**Time:** 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
**Location:** Joyce Performance Centre, Austins Ferry

Grade 7 - New Beginnings
The Grade 7 New Beginnings Programme is a key component of the wider transition programme to assist our Grade 7 students successfully transition into the St Virgil’s College community. The programme consists of four, two day programmes that run over four weeks, with each House group rotating through each activity. The activities are based around important aspect of your son’s life at the College and provide opportunities to build strong relationships with fellow students and staff, as well as build a sense of belonging to their pastoral Care Group, House Group as well as the College itself.

SPORT
Please visit the SVC Sport Website!

Ever sat at your office desk wondering whether cricket, tennis or sailing will be on tonight due to inclement weather? Or more practically, where is the Bell St Oval?

The website, accessed from the front page of the College website [www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au](http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au) features a range of informative features including:

- Calendar of events
- Fixtures, ladders and results tabs
- Ground locations – including google maps
- Latest news from the Director of Sport
- Sport sign up forms – for students and parent helpers/coaches
- A Red/Green traffic light system which indicates if games are on or off.
- Uniform requirements for all sports
- Photo galleries from out in the field!

Please visit the site in the coming week to sign up for Term 1 sports such as cricket, tennis, basketball, mountain bike riding, rowing and sailing.

For all sport enquiries please contact the Director of Sport, Mr James Dalton  
jdalton@stvirgils.tas.edu.au
All boys received detailed information this week in their Welfare Lesson which is included below for families:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Outdoor Education</th>
<th>My Service Journey</th>
<th>My Relational Journey</th>
<th>My Spiritual Journey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Location**         | College camp site, Cliftonvale | Tue. – Austins Ferry  
Wed. – Various Locations off campus | Tue. – Hobart City  
Wed. – Austins Ferry  
Wed. – SVC Junior School | Tue. – Austins Ferry  
Wed. – SVC Junior School |
| **Uniform**          | Appropriate free dress, please refer information sent home | Tue. - Free dress, appropriate for land care work. Wed. – College Sports Uniform | Both days - College Sports Uniform | Both days - Formal uniform |
| **Food**             | BYO lunch on Tue. & healthy snacks. All other meals provided | Tue. – as per normal school day. Wed. – bring packed lunch, healthy snacks and drink. Wed. – as per normal school day. | Tue. – bring packed lunch, healthy snacks and drink. Wed. – as per normal school day. | Tue. – as per normal school day. Wed. – bring packed lunch, healthy snacks and drink. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Doyle</strong></td>
<td>My Service Journey</td>
<td>Outdoor Education</td>
<td>My Relational Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dwyer</strong></td>
<td>Outdoor Education</td>
<td>My Relational Journey</td>
<td>My Spiritual Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hessian</strong></td>
<td>My Relational Journey</td>
<td>My Spiritual Journey</td>
<td>My Service Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Joyce</strong></td>
<td>My Spiritual Journey</td>
<td>My Service Journey</td>
<td>Outdoor Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Time and Space Programmes - Save the Dates!**
Details will be available closer to the dates of each of these programmes; however, you may wish to add them to your calendar now:

**Grade 9/10 Time and Space**
Night 1 Tuesday March 17 – 7:00pm  
Night 2 Wednesday March 18 – 7:00pm  
Weekend Friday March 20 (evening) – Sunday March 22 (early afternoon)  
Dinner Monday March 23 – 7:00pm  
Final Night May 18 – 7:00pm

**Grade 7 Mother/Son Evening**
Thursday March 19 – 7:30 – 9:30pm

**Grade 8 Stepping Up Evening**
Tuesday May 19 – 7:30 – 9:30pm
**Australian Defence Force Academy Roadshow**

ADFA Student Recruitment Officer Vanessa Dawson will be visiting Hobart to conduct a presentation to students in years 10 – 12 who are considering a career as an officer in the Australian Defence Force.

The Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) is a tri-service military Academy that provides military and tertiary academic education for junior officers of the ADF in the Royal Australian Navy (RAN), Australian Army and Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

- **Date:** Thursday March 5 2015
- **Time:** 11:30am (approx. 1 hour)
- **Location:** Defence Force Recruiting building, at Anglesea Barracks, Davey Street, Hobart.

**DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING**

**MRS BEV PETTIT**

**Herbert River Experience**

Mr Simon Harder

All boys interested in participating in this year’s Herbert River expedition need to see Mr Harder in his office (above the stairs down to the Main Oval) during pastoral care this week (Tuesday – Friday)

On Friday during recess we will be meeting as a whole group and working out trip selection and other logistical arrangements. This needs to be finalised by the end of this week so if you are interested make sure you make this a top priority this week.


**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

**MRS JODIE WILLIAMS**

*“Music can change the world because it can change people” – Bono*

**Music Rehearsals**

Senior Band and Senior Choir are now up and running. Senior Band is from 3:15pm–4:15pm every Monday and Senior Choir is from 8:15am-9:15am on Friday mornings. Junior Choir has also started, held from 8:30am–9:15am on Wednesday mornings. Please encourage your sons to participate in these great co-curriculum offerings.

**Private Music Lessons**

All private music lessons commence in the week beginning Monday, February 23. If your son has not returned their private music lesson form, can parents/guardians please remind them to do so by end of this week.
Grade 7 Instrumental Programme
Most Grade 7 students have completed their instrument selection forms and will be assigned an instrument by the end of this week. All Grade 7 students will begin timetabled group instrument lessons next week on their selected instrument. Grade 7 will receive a timetable this Friday, which will indicate the times that they will have group instrument lessons for the remainder of Term 1.

The timetable will be uploaded to their iPad on Friday morning. This can be found by going to:

**File Browser – Subjects – Arts – Music – Instrumental Timetables Semester 1**

All group instrument lessons are held in the studio rooms in the Music Block.

The following Music Tutors will be teaching the Year 7 cohort during 2015:

- Mr Alex Bannister - Trumpet
- Mr Craig Russell - Trombone/Euphonium
- Mr Kevin Cooney - Bass Guitar/Guitar
- Mr Jamie Pregnall - Guitar
- Mr Derrick Grice - Flute/Clarinet/Saxophone
- Mr Matthew Ives - Percussion
- Mr Mitch Ellis - Clarinet/Saxophone

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on jwilliams@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

Grade 5 Instrumental Programme
All Grade 5 students have completed their instrument selection forms and were very excited to hear which instruments they were assigned.

All Grade 5 students begin grouped instrumental tutorials next Wednesday, February 25, as well as Class Band. 5M tutorials are 11:15am–12:00pm and 5O tutorials are 12:00pm–12:45pm.

The instrumental tutors at the Junior School for 2015:

- Mrs Amanda Parsons - French Horn/Euphonium
- Mr Alex Brown - Trumpet
- Mr Kevin Cooney - Bass/Percussion
- Mr Craig Russell - Trombone
- Mr Nick Nugent - Saxophone/Clarinet
- Mr Mitch Ellis - Clarinet
- Mrs Jodie Williams - Flute

All Grade 5 students will receive the instrument that they will be playing within the next three weeks. Additional instruments were required and therefore we have hired extras and awaiting their arrival before distribution.

Once lessons start in earnest, it is expected that boys should be practising at least four times a week.

Grade 6 Instrumental Band Programme
Grade 6 students received their instruments and an instrument hire form in Music on Wednesday. Could all parents/guardians please check the condition of the instrument that has been assigned to your son, sign the hire form and return to the Junior School office by Tuesday February 24. Thank you.
All Grade 6 Instrumental Music lessons begin on Wednesday February 25.

For all enquiries about music @ SVC - please contact me at:

jwilliams@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

Yours in tune,

Mrs Jodie Williams

Director of Music
SPORT NEWS

1st XI Cricket

Mr Cameron Alexander

SVC Blue 3-151 (Declan Waddington 45, Austin Keeling 44, Nick Haydon 24 no, Reece Williams 18) defeated SVC Gold 10-78 (Hudson Wakefield 15, Oscar Walker 12, Charlie Gerke 10, Harry Burgess 2/4, Kade Applebee 2/7, Brad Percey 2/10)

This year the College has entered two teams in the SSATIS 2nd XI competition. In a competitive, fun and actioned filled first game, the Blues came out on top due to some solid batting and tight bowling. All players acquitted themselves well and will be ready to take on other schools in the competition next week (February 25). Round 2 game details:

SVC Blue v Friends @ Bell St Oval
SVC Gold v Hutchins Magenta @ St Virgil’s Main Oval

From the Admiral

Br Peter Flint

St Virgil’s put up a brave fight last night, the first night of the Nutgrove Sailing series. (“brave fight” = we lost!) There was some serious discussion this morning about more intensive training, and an earlier identification of the State Titles Team as the Titles are just four days after the final event in the Nutgrove series.

At the other end of skill, the first evening of the Try Sailing and/or Learn to Sail took place at Austins Ferry Yacht Club. Assisted by Lucas and Henry five boys had a good introduction to sailing. The best(?) part of the evening was the capsize drill which is a safety activity. Boats can capsize with little warning at times and the boys on board need to know their drill for a quick and safe recovery - the first step of which is to check that their mate is OK.

Boys can still join this group. Give Br Peter a call for more details, or send an email: pflint@stvirgils.tas.edu.au

Good Luck Jack!

Best wishes to Jack Direen who will be representing Tasmania in March at the National Triathlon Championships.
COLLEGE COMMUNITY NEWS

GL Curtis Scholarships for Old Virgilians

Applications are invited for the GL Curtis Scholarship for first year university students.

The GL Curtis Scholarship provides a sum of $1,000 to an Old Virgilian beginning university studies. It is a once only payment to assist with the costs of attending university in the first year and is to be used for the purchase of essential texts or materials, the payment of university charges or the establishment costs necessary to provide university accommodation (country or interstate students).

It is normally expected that the student will be enrolled at the University of Tasmania unless there are significant reasons why this is not the case (such as the courses not being offered there).

Criteria

1. Recipients must be graduates of St Virgil’s College.

2. The recipient will be enrolled for the first year of a university course.

3. In line with the terms of the endowment, priority may be given to those enrolled in medicine, law or chemistry.

Applications

Written applications are invited by March 27 in the year of intended university enrolment. Applications should outline:

- the intended university and course, including proof of enrolment;
- the reason for this choice of course;
- the intended use of the funds;
- the personal circumstances of the applicant, particularly any relevant financial difficulty.

Selection

The selection panel will include the Principal and two Board members of St Virgil’s College. The panel may wish to make personal contact with applicants to gain further information about the application. As funds are held in trust by the Archdiocese the final decision will be ratified by the Archbishop.
Austins Ferry Canteen
Mrs Carol Hilyer
The Summer Menu has commenced for Term 1. Parents are also reminded that lunch orders can be placed and paid for via secure online portal from the College website or via QKR mobile device payment system – please see the attachments to the newsletter for how to download and use QKR to order lunch for your son from your smartphone - http://www.stvirgils.tas.edu.au/news-publications/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Staff Name</th>
<th>Staff Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Catherine Bresnehan</td>
<td>Janine Hickey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>February 23</td>
<td>Shane Poulson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 24</td>
<td>Rachel Kyle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>February 25</td>
<td>Elisha Berry</td>
<td>Shae Schultz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>26 February</td>
<td>Leanne Masters-Bellgrove</td>
<td>Charlyne Geeves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>February 27</td>
<td>Linda Bennett</td>
<td>Sally Feldmanis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Parents and Friends Association
Mrs Susan Roberts
President

Welcome back to a New School Year! I hope that you all had a great Christmas / New Year break.

The March 18 meeting is our AGM – please see the note below about positions within the P&F Committee and the process for nomination.

I look forward to seeing you at coming meetings for the start of another fun-filled and rewarding year.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
ST VIRGIL’S COLLEGE PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting of the St Virgil’s College Parents & Friends Association will be held on Wednesday March 18 in the Joyce Performance Centre at Austins Ferry commencing at 7.30 p.m. At this meeting nominations will be called for the election of Office Bearers of the Association for 2015.

St Virgil’s College Parents & Friend operates over both the Senior & Junior Campus’ of the College as one organisation. The Parents & Friends primary functions are, firstly, to represents interests of the parents of the college by providing a vital link between the college and its parent community; thus creating an avenue for information sharing with in the college. Secondly, it promotes the interests of the college by organising and assisting with social and College events and fundraising activities.

For the P & F to continue to carry out its primary functions it needs the ongoing support of the parents of the college. Parental involvement is paramount to the ongoing success of the P & F. The mainstay of the P & F is its Executive Committee and without that small group of parents then the P & F would cease to exist. Each year the P & F suffers a natural attrition rate where parents who have sons in grade 10 leave the College, along with their sons. Consequently, new parents are needed to replace them.
I would ask all parents to give some thought and consideration to becoming an active member of the P & F in 2015. A Nomination Form for the election of Office Bearers for 2015 accompanies this letter. The Nomination Form lists the various roles and capacities in which parents can serve the school community in the course of the year. Please feel free to put your name forward for any position, which might interest you. If you wish to discuss any matter pertaining to the P & F, please feel free to contact me on the following number: 0416 278 721 or by email: twtt.rad@bigpond.com

Nomination forms are to be returned to the Austins Ferry Campus Office by **Friday March 13**, in an envelope addressed to: - Susan Roberts, President, SVC P&F Association.

Susan Roberts
President

**ST VIRGIL’S COLLEGE PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION**

**PROFILE OF ELECTED OFFICE BEARERS**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE BEARERS (SENIOR CAMPUS):**

The **PRESIDENT** is the chief executive and spokesperson of the Association. The President represents the Association at official functions, supports other office bearers and normally chairs the monthly meetings.

The **VICE-PRESIDENT** deputises for the President when necessary.

The **SECRETARY** provides secretarial support to the Association, including Agendas, Minutes and correspondence.

The **TREASURER** undertakes the receipting & banking of monies; the keeping of proper books of accounts on behalf of the Association and presents an audited balance sheet (audit organised by the College) at the Annual General Meeting.

The **EXECUTIVE MEMBERS: (2-4 NOMINEES)** TO: - Provide support to the executive as required.

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE BEARERS (JUNIOR SCHOOL):**

The **JUNIOR SCHOOL VICE-PRESIDENT** - Chair of Junior School Executive - takes responsibility for the operation of the Parents & Friends Junior School. Liaises with the SVC President.

The **JUNIOR SCHOOL SECRETARY** provides secretarial support to the Association.

The **JUNIOR SCHOOL TREASURER** is required to keep proper books of accounts on behalf of the Association and present an audited balance sheet at the Annual General Meeting.

The **JUNIOR SCHOOL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS (2-4)** provide support to the Executive as required.

**COORDINATORS OF VARIOUS STANDING COMMITTEES (Austins Ferry Campus):**

Association Members are required to act as coordinators for the following:-

**CATERING COORDINATOR** – Normally calls on a network of helpers to assist when required.

**FAIR COORDINATOR** - To work with Executive and coordinate the Annual Fair.
NOMINATION FORM FOR P & F COMMITTEE 2015

I .......................................................................................................................................................... wish to nominate ............................................................................................................................................ for the office of ........................................................................................................................................... for 2015.

Proposer: ..............................................................................................................................................

Seconded: .................................................. Date: ........................................................

Please return to the Austins Ferry Campus Office by Friday March 13, in an envelope addressed to:
Susan Roberts, President, SVC P&F Association

Sandy Bay/Taroona Parish
Sacramental Program
Catholic children aged eight and upwards who live in the Sandy Bay-Taroona Parish, or who attend Mass there, will be prepared in the parish for First Holy Communion and Confirmation to be conferred by the Archbishop on Sunday 13 September. First Reconciliation will take place earlier in the year, date to be determined. Preparation for First Reconciliation will commence soon.

Parental support during the classes and in home exercises will be an important part of the program.
Parents who wish to enrol their child should contact the parish secretary as soon as possible. Phone Claire on 6224 1423 between 9.30 am and 1 pm on weekdays or email cposb@bigpond.net.au
Fr Brian Nichols
Parish Priest

Glenorchy Parish
Confirmation and First Eucharist
Children of the Glenorchy parish who have celebrated their First Reconciliation and their families are invited to a barbeque and introductory event at St John’s on Friday 20 February from 5.30 – 7.00pm. It is important that you attend this event if your child is to prepare to celebrate these sacraments this year. Preparation will begin in week-end immediately following - Saturday 21 February and Sunday 22 February. RSVP - Parish Office 6272 6363 or Jo 6273 1990.
Changes to the Secondary Schools Tax File Number Program in 2015

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.

CLAREMONT JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB
Under 13s & Under 14s

Would you like to play the great game of Aussie Rules Football?

Training has commenced on Tuesday Nights at 5:00pm.
Friday Night training will commence on 6 March at Cadbury Oval
U/13’s - 6:00pm & U/14’s 5:00pm

REGISTRATIONS are also being taken for other age groups!
For further information please message our facebook page or contact Shelley on 0408 149 474

Glenorcy District Junior Football Club
Auskick to Under 18s.
Information evening, meet the coaches and BBQ.

Monday February 23 at KGV Oval. 6pm.

Registration on line at:

Hobart Junior Football Club
COME AND TRY!

Thursday February 19 , 3.30 – 4.30 pm at:
Albuera Street Primary School
Mt Stuart Primary School
Goulburn Street Primary School

Join the Hobart Junior Football Club in 2015 for all your AFL football!
· All new players from Auskick to U16s who join the club will receive discounted registration
· No experience required
· Fun, friendly and welcoming, that’s the Hobart Junior Football Club

For further information please contact:
Russell Cripps  0408 493145      Phil Geason      0411 454315

Brighton Junior Football Club Registrations 2015 - Auskick to U18s
Player registrations for 2015 are now being taken online at http://www.foxsportspulse.com/club_info.cgi?c=1-110-31344-0-08&lID=319174
Registrations close on the 13th March 2015.
Junior Training commences on Friday 20th February at 4.30pm on Ferguson Oval (U8 to U12)
Youth Training (U13 to U18) will continue on Wednesdays at 4.30pm for U13 & U14 and 5.15pm for U16 & U18.
Auskick recommencement to be advised in due course.
**Autism Awareness and Fundraising Cricket Game**

Fundraising Game between North Hobart Fading All Stars vs Up & Coming Young Guns (including SVC students Joe Turmine and Isaac Manson)

Where: TCA Ground  
When: Saturday February 21, 5:30pm  
[https://www.facebook.com/events/1539640632968545/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1539640632968545/)

**Student Exchange Australia New Zealand**

Is a not-for-profit organisation that is registered with all state and territory Departments of Education around Australia and with the Ministry of Education in NZ. We are the first and only secondary exchange organisation in Australia and New Zealand to be certified to ISO 9001 (Quality Management System) and we ensure the highest standards of care and support to our participants. We invite you to:

**FREE STUDENT EXCHANGE INFORMATION EVENING IN HOBART**

Hear from returned students, find out more about discounts and scholarships available and ask questions.

**Wednesday February 25 - 7.00pm**  
Rosny LINC (behind Service Tasmania offices)  
Bligh Street  
ROSNY

Visit [www.studentexchange.org.au](http://www.studentexchange.org.au)  
or call 1300 135 331 for more information


- 2015 Instrumental Music Programme Enrolment Form  
- OHA Junior Hockey Club Season 2015 Registration Details  
- Metro Letter – Transfer Passes Not Accepted  
- Asthma and Anaphylaxis Flowchart  
- How to Order your Lunch at the Senior School  
- QKR lunch order and App download instructions  
- React Drama Classes for ASD Students
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