Nelson Eastern Suburbs FC
FREE Football Clinic
For 9 - 14 year old boys and girls
Saturday, February 16, 2013
Edgeworth Street Oval
10.30 am - 12.30 pm
Sessions conducted by FFA accredited coaches
and premier league players.

The Nelson ESFC Youth Registration Day will be run in conjunction with the clinic.

For more information contact:
Michelle Castle - 0407 561 548 or Max Caulfield - 0448 908 764

Maria Island Ferry & Eco Cruises
Invitation to all Students and Staff of MacKillop College
We invite you to bring 3 or more of your family members or friends for a return trip and you will travel as our guest.

To make your booking please call us on 0419 74 6668 or by email to: info@mariaislandferry.com.au

Authorised by: Anne Cole-Cook Expiry: 30/4/13

Some conditions apply: not to be used between 23rd December and 14th January. 1 complimentary ticket per group.

Clarence City Band Development Program
Are you interested in learning to: play woodwind, brass or a percussion instrument? Read music? 10 years of age or older? Wanting to make music with other people?

Then come along and hear what the Clarence City Band’s long standing Development Program can offer you.

There will be an information session on Tuesday, February 26 at 6.00 pm at the Lindisfarne Citizens Activity Centre, Lincoln Street. Phone Tom Goninon on 0418 123 296 or email: tom.goninon@gmail.com for more information.

Sorell Junior Football Club
Registration Day - Saturday, February 23 - 11.00 am - 2.00 pm. Sorell RSL Supper Room

For more information contact
Tony (President) on 0439 826 902 or Jenelle (Secretary) on 0418 242 808

Welcome back to the 2013 academic year. It is always wonderful in the first few days of the school year to meet up with students and staff who arrive back safely from the Christmas holidays. In welcoming all students to the new academic year we especially welcome our new Year 7 students. On Wednesday, 6 February, we held our Year 7 Orientation Day. There were many smiling but nervous faces as they prepared for their welcome assembly. Orientation Day is always a successful day but it does not happen without a lot of work and support by many staff. I would especially like to thank Ms Sharyn Wilson and the Year 7 staff and Mr Nicholas Lahey and the Peer Support and College Leaders.

We also welcome other new students in Years 8-10 and their families and hope that they feel comfortable, supported and challenged during their time at MacKillop.

It would be remiss of me to write about the events of last week at MacKillop Catholic College without mentioning the bushfires and floods that have affected so many people throughout the country, in particular the bushfires here in Tasmania. While the toll of these events is still yet to be determined, it is moments like these in our lives that give us the chance to reconnect to what really matters.

As a community we will be responding to the Tasmanian Bushfire Appeal in a number of different ways. Teachers are currently working with students to design ways in which we can positively contribute to affected communities.

Be Your Best - Be Engaged - Be Respectful

Last year we launched our School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (SWPBS) project. The purpose of the project is to establish a school climate in which appropriate behaviour is the norm for all students. SWPBS provides a framework for ensuring that the learning environment of our school is focused on creating a positive regard and engagement. In 2012, we introduced three College wide expectations that were collaboratively developed and will continue to be promoted, taught and reinforced with all college members throughout 2013.

Staffing
It is my pleasure to welcome a number of new staff to MacKillop in 2013. Joining us this year are:

Mr Jerrick Chivers (Business Manager)
Mr Michael Conneely (Maths/RE)
Miss Philippa Coward (Drama)
Miss Caitlyn Webb (Outdoor Education / Sport Trainee)

If students or parents have any concerns, their first contact should be made with the Home Room teacher. Home Room teachers will soon make themselves known to you in their own letter of introduction.

Student Leadership

At the end of 2012, College Captains and Deputy Captains were selected from the Student Leadership Team, following a student leadership camp in December. It is with great pleasure that I announce the following:

House Captains also announced at an assembly in December last year. Congratulations to the following students:
Kirby – Jayd Lockley and Brooke Amos
Lochaber – Toby Jackson and Caitlin Stalker
Penola – Erin Ewington and Alec Willing
Tension – Jamie McShane and Eliza Westland

Lent

Today, 13 February, is Ash Wednesday and this marks the beginning of Lent. It is a period in which we examine our lives and think more widely about those less fortunate than ourselves. One way in which we do this is supporting Caritas through Project Compassion.

Open doors into the future is the theme for this year’s appeal, which is taken from Pope Benedict’s 2007 encyclical Spe Salvi where he wrote ‘we work together towards a brighter and more humane world so as to open doors into the future’. Students are strongly encouraged to show their financial support for those less fortunate, pray and make some action of service for others.

Project Compassion is one of Australia’s largest humanitarian fundraisers, bringing thousands of Australians in solidarity with the world’s poor.

Supervision at the College does not commence until 8.15 am. It is advisable that students are dropped at the College from 8.15 am onwards.
MEET THE TEACHER EVENING
Tomorrow night is our Meet the Teacher Evening. This is an informal opportunity for staff, students and parents to connect in casual surroundings. The evening will commence at 6:00pm with a BBQ. Weather permitting, this will be held on the basketball court.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
This Friday, 15 February, MacKillop will hold its annual swimming carnival at the Hobart Aquatic Centre. As in previous years we expect all students to attend the carnival as it is a compulsory day of school. If for any reason your child is unable to participate in events please have them see Mr Justin O’Brien, College Carnival Co-ordinator, as there are many jobs that students can help with on the day.

YEAR 10 VET STUDENTS – HOSPITALITY AND BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION
On 28 February there is an information evening for all Year 10 students enrolled in the two VET courses offered at MacKillop – Hospitality and Building and Construction. This will take place at Guilford Young College in the Bosco Centre, Glenorchy Campus. More details will be provided over the next few weeks.

GRIEVANCE POLICY
The College’s Grievance Policy and Procedures are attached to this newsletter. The policy recognises our desire to resolve grievances promptly, justly and in accordance with relevant legislation and policies. These documents will also be available on our website in the coming weeks.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT
Congratulations to Matthew Harris (9 White) on his selection to represent Tasmania in the Australian National Grasscourt Championships being held in Victoria this week. All the best, Matthew.

Congratulations to Marshall Kruse (9 White) on his selection to represent Tasmania in the National Boxing Championships being held in Adelaide this week. All the best, Marshall.

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
Dr Sally Towns

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY

COLLEGE PHOTOS
As per our calendar for Term 1, photos will be taken in two separate sittings. Years 7 and 8 on Monday, February 25 and 9 and 10 on Friday, March 8. Gold will have photos with the 9 & 10 students. Photo information packs were distributed to families last week.

MEDICAL FORMS
Any updated medical information must be forwarded to the front office. If your son/daughter needs to take prescribed medication, either short term or long term, a medication form must be completed. These are available from the College Office. Penaloid is not available to students from the College Office.

Please remember we are a kewi fruit free College, and please think twice prior to packing nut products in school lunchboxes as we have a growing number of students with nut allergies.

CAR PARKING
We strongly recommend that parents drop students in Goondi St. The car park in Currajong Street is a staff only park and at no time can it be used for drop off or as a thoroughfare.

RETURN OF FORMS
This year we have a number of forms that were sent home to Parents/Guardians (eg. Fee & Levy payment arrangement form, iPad Agreements, College Guidelines). Please ensure these are completed and sent back to the College ASAP.

Please note our College Office closes for business at 4.15 pm. Students will not be supervised after this time.

BUS CHANGES FOR 2013
There is only one change to bus routes for 2013. The 407 to Howrah Heights and Tranmere bus will now travel as far as the end of Camelot Park. This bus now will finish at the Shoreline Interchange and will no longer travel down Clarence Street. Students living in the area of Clarence Street will now need to travel home by bus either via the Eastlands or Shoreline Interchanges.

THANK YOU
I would like to thank the large number of parents who supported Anne Morling in the uniform shop prior to the return to school. Without their support the distribution of uniform would not have been as efficient. Marlene Nichols, Kathy Leisk, Jan Pretty, Carolynn Mazengarb, Mary Donovan and Janine Crook, packers - Ella Rossetter and Demi Crook all played an important part in helping Anne.

Welcome to the 2013 school year. As we begin the year I am very conscious of some dramatic changes to the structure of the day. We will have a 5 x 1 hour period day, but we now have two periods prior to recess and only one period after lunch. Lunch begins at 1.05pm and concludes at 1.50pm. A designated silent reading time, 15 minutes duration, occurs at the beginning of period 5. I have been impressed with how quickly these changes have become the norm in just less than a week. We have noticed the need for both larger breakfast and recess snacks.

Any student arriving after 8.30am now go directly to their Home Room.

Where possible appointments should be made outside the teaching periods as students quickly fall behind in classwork.

IMMUNISATIONS
Clarence Council has provided us with immunisation update forms for 2013. Parents of Year 7 and 9 girls and boys and all of our Year 10s should have received these forms during the past week. They need to be returned ASAP to ensure your son or daughter does not miss out on their next immunisation. Immunisations are essential for students on the Immersion Program to East Timor.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MINISTRY
Welcome to 2013. There is a lot happening early in our faith community this year. February is the month of Project Compassion Launch and, of course, the beginning of Lent with our Ash Wednesday Liturgy. Lent calls us to prepare for Easter over the next six weeks with prayer, self denial and reaching out to those who need our support.

STAFF WELCOME MASS
On Friday, February 1, the staff of MacKillop College joined with staff from other local parish schools, St Cuthberts, Corpus Christi and John Paul II in a Mass with Fr Peter. It was a lovely welcoming start to the year, and was followed by morning tea. Thank you, Fr Peter, for inviting us to prayerfully consider the importance our work as teachers of knowledge and faith in our local communities.

YEAR 7 WELCOME
On Wednesday, February 6, we welcomed our new Year 7s to the College. Our Year 10 Peer Support Leaders led the Year 7s in a welcome liturgy about the different colours in the rainbow. All fighting to be more important than the other, they finally came to the conclusion that they all had something different to contribute to create the rainbow, and without different gifts of different colours, the rainbow could not really exist in its brilliance. So it is with entry into a new community – particularly of the College. We all have something to contribute, and it is an exciting journey that the Year 7 students are beginning to take – again, a very warm welcome to all students and their families.

PROJECT COMPASSION
This year, the Project Compassion focus is on Opening Doors Into the Future. Pope Benedict XVI demands that “We work towards a brighter and more humane world so as to open doors into the future.” Caritas provides assistance to communities in thirty of the poorest countries in the world. Their work is life giving and is supported and sustained year after year because of the generosity of Australians, and the commitment of the Catholic Church to social justice.

There is a Project Compassion box in each Home Room and one will arrive home shortly. Please donate generously and to find out more about the work of Caritas, visit www.caritas.org.au. There will be additional fundraising events during Term 1 for Caritas, so get behind them and help MacKillop Catholic College make a difference!!

ASH WEDNESDAY
"Turn away from sin and be true to the Gospel". The forty days of the season of Lent is time for a "spiritual cleanout" where we ask ourselves: are we living as Christ has challenged us to? Are we living in the fullest way that we can - right here, right now? How can we put our energies into reaching out to others in need? Do we lead compassionate lives?

Ash Wednesday and the period of Lent have interesting origins. Historically, the Catholic Church took an existing practice of people renouncing wealth and food, usually wearing a hessian potato sack and smearing themselves with ashes, as well not eating for a period of time. This was a public sign to their communities that they were repenting for wrongdoing. Pope Gregory the Great, in the sixth century, introduced the “Day of Ashes” when Catholics were marked with ash on their forehead to publicly begin their fast, give to the needy, seek repentance and mend their sins during the Lenten season. Ashes were placed on the forehead of the faithful to symbolise death of sin for each person, and to call each person to return to the teachings of God.

Students participated in the Ash Wednesday liturgy today, led by Fr Peter O’Loughlin and the Year 10 CSYMA students. Students were marked with ash in the sign of a cross to remind us of our need to turn away from selfish behaviours and build right relationships with our families, friends and the world.

COMMISSIONING ASSEMBLY
Next Tuesday, February 19, the Student Leadership Team and House Captains will be formally commissioned into their leadership roles for 2013. The assembly will take place in the Br Tony Smith Centre (the College Gymnasium). Fr Peter O’Loughlin will lead us in a Liturgy of the Word, beginning at 9am. Parents and special guests will be in attendance, and it is a pivotal event on the College calendar. All students are required to wear their full, formal uniform. The Commissioning Assembly will be followed by morning tea for all Student Leaders, House Captains, special guests and parents which will be catered for by our Hospitality students.

TERM DATES 2013
Term One: Year 7 - Wednesday, February 6 - Friday, April 19
Years 8 - 10 - Thursday, February 7 - Friday, April 19

Term Two: Monday, May 6 - Friday, July 5

Term Three: Monday, July 22 - Friday, September 27

Term Four: Monday, October 14 - Thursday, December 19