The Old Nick Hobart Theatre Summer School is back for its 12th year, performing The Addams Family at the Mount Nelson Theatre (Hobart College). This year we have 56 young performers aged between 14-19 from 39 schools in and around Hobart (government and private) taking part (41 cast and 15 orchestra). The season runs for 9 shows from February 26 – March 5th. Rehearsals have been underway at Old Nick HQ since the start of January and the show is shaping up spectacularly. This year’s show features many past and present students from MacKillop Catholic College - including Luke Visentin (2012), Joshua Scott (2013) and Laura Cruise (2016).

Old Nick’s shows are always fun and entertaining for the whole family. Tickets are available through the try booking link above. Several Year 9 and 10 students have been provided the opportunity to attend a night at the theatre March 3 to see the show.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**MACKILLOP CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

**VOLUME 24 NO. 01 FEBRUARY 17, 2016**

Wellbeing. Dr Shelley O’Reilly takes on the new role of Head of Humanities and Ms Jeremy Scott commences his teaching career at the College in the areas of Maths and Science. Ms Mel Francis has taken up a full-time position at the College in the areas of Art, Food Technology and Applied Technology. Mrs Sandra Doyle joins the Maths Department teaching across all year levels and Miss Kaylee Bonfield returns to the College teaching in the areas of English and SICL and will be the Acting Year 8 co-ordinator. Mr Sam Cramer will continue to work as the Student Support Teacher for Indigenous Students, work in Sustainability and teach in the areas of Science and Outdoor Education. Mr Adam Blackburn has been appointed to teach Health and Physical Education.

At the end of last year Mrs Pat Graham and Mr Graham Absalom resigned from the College. Mrs Naomi Elwell also recently resigned from the College. Naomi worked in the Office for the last two or so years and her attention to detail and general helpfulness are already being missed. We also wish Naomi well in her new employment. We thank them for their very significant contributions to MacKillop over many years and wish them well in their future endeavours.

**SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH SESQUICENTENARY**

This year it is 150 years since St Mary MacKillop and Fr. Julian Tenison Woods founded the Sisters of St Joseph. The Sisters in those 150 years have left an indelible mark on the history of Australia and New Zealand, as well as other countries around the world, educating and caring for those in most need. As Mary herself said, “Little did I dream what was to spring from so small a beginning.”

The work of the Sisters always revolves around prayerfully reading the signs of the times and responding through the values of the Gospels. We have seen further evidence of this just this month with the Sisters of St Joseph joining with other churches and religious congregations to offer sanctuary to those asylum seekers facing deportation to Nauru. More information may be found at the Homepage for the Sisters: http://www.sosj.org.au/.

**WHAT IS EDUCATION?**

The word of education is derived from the Latin word, educare, to ‘lead out’. The idea education is drawing out what is within may sound a little odd, but the longer I am involved in education the more I think there is truth to it. As teachers we want in a sense to ‘light end a night at the theatre March 3 to see the show.

**BELLERIVE LINDBISFARNE PARISH DATES TO SAVE:**

**STATIONS of the Cross at Corpus Christi**

- **Friday, February 19 at 7.00pm.**
- **Weekly Mass Times**
  - Saturdays: 6.00p.m. at Lindsfarne
  - Sundays: 8.30a.m. at John Paul II, Rokeby on Sunday 20.30a.m. and 6p.m. at Corpus Christi, Bellerive on Sunday

**BELLERIVE LINDBISFARNE PARISH OFFICE**

An Administrator Office (part-time casual)

- **Bellerive/Lindisfarne Parish Office**
- **Are you interested? Please send your resume together with a brief outline addressing the selection criteria to:**
  - Fr Peter O’Loughlin
  - Parish Priest
  - Corpus Christi Catholic Church
  - 2 Alma Street, Bellerive 7018
  - Or email: bel.lincathparish@bigpond.com
  - Closing date for applications: Monday, March 8, 2016.

**STAFFING**

As well as myself, we have the following new staff this year:

- **Ms Donna Brown** joins the College as the Director of Student

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**LENT**

Last week we commenced the start of Lent with Ash Wednesday. Thank you once again to Fr Peter for his generosity in leading the
ceremonies. We are now in a very significant part of the Church year as we prepare for Easter and renew ourselves by reflecting on our lives in the light of the Gospels.

COLLEGE ANNUAL

We are looking forward to distributing last year’s College Annual, as created by the 2015 Media and Communications Class. Unfortunately, there have been some minor delays and we thank you for your patience.

We are sure it will be worth the wait.

NEWSLETTER

As per previous years the Newsletter will come out fortnightly. We would like to send this electronically, as far as possible, via email and Skoolbag. If you would still like to receive a hard copy please let the Principal’s Secretary, Mrs Tania Burgess, know by emailing: enquiries@mackillop.tas.edu.au

BEST WISHES

Every good wish for a positive and successful year.

Mr Eamonn Pollard
PRINCIPAL

PARENT-STUDENT-TEACHER GOAL SETTING CONFERENCES

As mentioned in Mr Pollard’s letter of introduction to the College year our Parent-Student-Teacher Goal Setting Conferences are very important to help develop positive relationships that are life giving, collaborative and respectful. We recognise the importance of parent involvement in achieving the best possible learning outcomes for all students. To this end the Parent-Student-Teacher Goal Setting Conference involves input and discussion from all three groups. Students have been working on setting their goals in recent Personal Development sessions. Please continue these discussions at home and ensure you have used our booking system to book your conference appointment with your son’sdaughter’s Home Room teacher.

Parents can book their conference time online. Please go to the Parent Access button on the top right-hand side of the MacKillop website (www.mackillop.tas.edu.au). A booking instruction sheet can also be found on the College website. Parent-Student-Teacher Goal Setting Conferences will be held on Thursday, February 25 4.00p.m.-7.00p.m. and on the Student-Free Day on Friday, February 26 10.00a.m.-3.00p.m. Both parents and students will need to attend the conferences with the Home Room teacher. All conference meetings will take place in your son’sdaughter’s Home Room classroom.

SKOOLBAG APP

We have begun to use an app communication tool known as Skoolbag. This app allows us to communicate directly to all parents and students of our need to send an SMS message. It will alert you to the publication of our Newsletter each fortnight, any mail sent home and the cancellation of sporting events, just to name a couple of tools it provides. The Skoolbag App is available for parents to begin downloading from the App Store and is available for all smartphones. A how to guide is included in your Newsletter.

EDiARY PARENT ACCESS

In 2016 all students will be provided with an electronic planner which will give parents direct access to home-study programs and assessment due dates. This week we will be sending out email invitations to our new school EDiary, so please check your email.

This EDiary can be accessed by any browser on a personal computer, smartphone or tablet.

We are strongly encouraging all parents and guardians to take advantage of this opportunity by signing up. Some of the major benefits of joining this system are listed below:

- You will be able to view any homework, tests, assignments and reminders that have been sent to your children by their teachers;
- You will be able to message teachers directly when an issue arises or you have a question, and similarly a teacher will be able to contact you when required;
- You will receive regular updates regarding the progress of school work, as well as notifications of overdue work.

We hope that as many parents and guardians as possible sign up as the benefits listed above will help us all to work together to support the students and achieve the best educational outcomes possible.

If you do not receive an invitation in the coming days please contact the College and provide us with a correct email address so we can send your invitation. There is no limit to the number of adults attached to any one student, so multiple family members may sign up.

If you are not someone who is great with technology, we will be offering a few sessions in which parents and guardians can come in and get an overview of the system and how to access it. The sessions will be held at the following times:

- Tuesday, February 23 at 3.30p.m.;
- Thursday, February 25 at 9.00a.m. or 10.00a.m.;
- Tuesday, March 1 at 3.30p.m.;
- Thursday, March 3 at 9.00a.m.

Simply come to the College Office at your preferred time if you need support in any alternative. Please contact Mr Murray Herbert by email at mherbert@mackillop.tas.edu.au

COLLEGE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our College Swimming Carnival will be held on Tuesday, February 23 at the Hobart Aquatic Centre. This is a great day on the College calendar and parents are welcome to attend. This is a whole-day event and we ask that parents do not request that their son or daughter leaves early as it is important students are present for the end of the Carnival. Please note that the canteries at the Aquatic Centre is not open to students and we ask that food is not purchased by parents for students, as this is an equity issue as all students do not have the same privilege.

COLLEGE COMMISSIONING ASSEMBLY – WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

As this is the opening of the College year for our community all students should be dressed in their full formal Summer Uniform. We ask parents and students to not ask the students to not book appointments on this day and ensure our students are present for the official start time of 8.30a.m. If your son or daughter is scheduled to have an HPE lesson on this day they must bring their gear for this class to school but should arrive in formal uniform as the Assembly is being held from the end of Home Room.

DUTY OF CARE

Parent support in the use of student mobile phones in the College. The first point of contact for parents during the school day is the College Office. Please do not contact your son or daughter via their mobile phone during the day, as our policy dictates that phones should be “off and away” between the first and last bell for the day. If students require contact with you during the day they have work to complete, they are feeling unwell, contact with you will be made by our reception staff. We ask for your support in this matter, as on a number of occasions students have phoned home, parents arrived and we were unaware of what had gone on to necessitate this call.

Mrs Sue Howard, DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM FR PETER O’LOUGHLIN

Fr. Peter as soon as possible – 6245 0501 or bellincathparish@bigpond.com

ASH WEDNESDAY

All students participated in the Ash Wednesday liturgy last Wednesday, led by Fr Peter O’Loughlin and the Year 10 Student Leaders. Students were marked with ash in the sign of a cross to remind us to turn away from selfish behaviour and build right relationships with our families, friends and communities.

LENTEN MESSAGE

A LENTEN MESSAGE FROM FR PETER O’LOUGHLIN

As I ponder what might have been if I was two metres tall and in slim and athletic build, with tonnes of talent, I may well have been drafted by Essendon. So much for daydreaming!

We all know that any successful AFL player needs a lot of self-discipline and dedication. Think of the pre-season training, the expectations of the club, attention to diet, sleep and social life. All this to achieve a high goal.

Most don’t have the desire or ability to reach the great heights of the elite players but we can all aim to be good people. This too requires some discipline and purpose.

Lent gives us a ready-made program, helping us to focus on being better Christians and citizens.

Perhaps many parents and definitely grandparents have an impression that Lent is a time for GIVING up – by not eating sweets, giving up sugar in tea and coffee, limited food etc.

Lent should be more a time for GIVING. A time for making an extra effort to be considerate and helpful at home, work and school.

Whatever your sporting ambitions, apply the same attitudes to your human and Christian development during the weeks leading up to the celebration of Easter, which will focus on the new life and hope of the risen Lord.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM IN THE BELLERIVE – LINDISFARNE PARISH

Catholic children aged eight and upwards who live in the Bellerive-Lindisfarne Parish, or who attend Mass there, will soon be prepared in the parish for First Holy Communion and Preparation for First Reconciliation. Parental support during the classes and in home exercises will be an important part of the program. Anyone who has not been confirmed or celebrated their first Eucharist should contact Fr Peter as soon as possible – 6245 0501 or bel.lincathparish@bigpond.com

FUNDRAISING WITHIN THE COLLEGE

I would like to remind parents, students and the wider community of the Addendum to the College Charities Policy. You can read the