

Weekly Newsletter



Early Learning to Year 12
Co-Educational Catholic College

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Senior School Awards

Last Friday 26 November, the College held its annual Senior School Awards Celebration. The major award winners are as follows:



UFS Chemist Music Scholarship Award Winner, Maixence Williams, with UFS Chemist Director and Board Chair, Terry Strickland.



Australian Defence Force Awards Long Tan Leadership and Teamwork Award Winner, Claudia Proserpi-Porta and Austin Rossi, with Member for Mount Gambier, Troy Bell.



ADF Future Innovators Award Winners, Hayden Luo and Lachlan Clements, with Member for Mount Gambier, Troy Bell.



Sinclair Wilson Business Award Winner, Mykaela Thiele, with Sinclair Wilson Manager, Hayley Neumann.



Giovanni Bueti Most Improved Italian Student Scholarship Winner, Grace Kentish, with Giovanni Bueti's nephew, Joe D'Agostino.



MEGT Australian Apprenticeship Support Network Provider Apprentice Award Winner, Luke Oldaker, with Kelly Agnew from MEGT.



University of South Australia John Petkov Excellence in Mathematics Award Winners, Mykaela Thiele and Cody Levison, with Education Lecturer from the University of South Australia, Chelsea Cutting.



Poplars Award Winner, Andrew Maria, with Principal, David Mezinec.



Dycer Constructions Award Winner, Claire Brooker, with Shane Dycer.



Group Training Employment Award Winner, Blake Neshoda, with Greg Megaw from GTE.



Banner Mitre 10 Hardware Building Trades Scholarship Winner, Joel Day, with Principal, David Mezinec.



Frank Shea Community Service Award Winner, George Wimshurst, with John D'Souza OAM from the Saint Vincent de Paul Conference.



YMCA Award Winner, Craig Baker, with Naracoorte Lucindale Mayor, Erika Vickery OAM.



Ian Mullen Award Winner, Lucy Denton, with Ian's brother, Doug Mullen.



Michael Doube Biology Award Winners, Sarah Taylor and Tyla Damhuis, with Deputy Principal, Michelle Coote.



Green Triangle Electronics Ecology and Sustainability Award Winner, Daniela Ortiz Kaiser, with GTE Director, Mark Kranz.

For more award recipients please see page 8:

Making the ordinary extraordinary at Tenison Woods College



From the Principal

Advent, Christmas and Gifts

During Advent, a time of preparation for Christmas and the birth of Jesus, we are drawn to think of gifts. Likewise, as we conclude the school year, my appreciation is extended to the students, staff and parents who are the precious gifts of our community. I trust, as we prepare for the birth of Jesus and the wonderful gift for our humanity, that we are also drawn to see the people in our lives as gifts who have assisted us in our individual and communal journey. I trust that we have also learnt to look beyond the wrapping and external presentations of those gifts to see their intent, hopes and care they have for us.

My gratitude is also extended to the many people who have contributed their services to the school community in 2021. Thank you for your commitment to "making the ordinary extraordinary." The quality of education at Tenison Woods College is due to the contribution of many people who support our committed staff, most particularly the members of the School Board, Parent Class Representatives, LAP volunteers, and all those who have volunteered their service in a variety of ways throughout the College community. Thank you for your contributions and I trust there is a sense of satisfaction, knowing that you have been a gift to students and played a part in the ultimate quality of your child's learning, and that of many others.

May the joy of Christmas embrace you and your families, and the opportunity for regeneration enliven you as you enjoy the Christmas Season and holiday period.

Thank you to Staff

As we conclude the school year, I extend thanks to staff who have offered service to the College community and conclude their service.

Retiring Staff

I highlight the service of Tory Brett, who has offered 49 years of service and commitment to the school from 18 years of age, as Librarian and an inaugural staff members of Tenison College in 1972. At that time Tenison College was the amalgamation of Mater Christi College for girls and Marist Boys Agricultural College so that the Catholic community could offer Year 12 to males and females.

Many students and families have been impacted by Tory's presence, her love of story and her love of our College story, creativity, her attention to the detail of her library craft and attention to the detail of human relationships. As Tory leaves us, we say thank you for her commitment to our community, her wisdom and her wonderful legacy through her service of Tenison Woods College.

We further thank Joanne MacLean (VET Coordinator, FLP Coordinator and Business teacher - 13 years) David Gritton (Science Laboratory Technician-10.5 years), Mary Robson (Canteen - 28 years), Ian Tucker (Poplars Co-educator - 12 years) and Melissa Taylor (8 years) for their service respectively. All have been outstandingly committed to serving and inspiring young lives with their wisdom, sense of fun and collegial support of others.

Teaching staff concluding their service

Francine Bannister (Middle and Senior School Teacher) and Sean Quirke (SACE Coordinator and Mathematics Teacher) will continue their service to Catholic Education in Adelaide after 14 and 13 years of service where attention to detail, steadfast support of our young, loyalty to the College and a strong commitment to building community have been the hallmark of their service.

We also thank the following staff for their service to the College as they conclude their time with us and move to new adventures:

Teaching staff

Jeremy Fitzpatrick	Year 6 Teacher
Nathan Fleetwood	7-12 HPE Teacher and HPSP Head Coach
Jordy Jones	Year 1 Teacher
Xavier Player	Year 5 Teacher
Alessandro Vecchiarelli	Italian Teacher

ELCC

Hannah Proud	ELCC Teacher
Sally Seebomh	ELCC Educator

Co-educator

Ellen Brown	Home Economics Assistant
Bec Mason	Sugarloaf Café
Callum Unger	Project Recology Centre Educator

Trainees

Emily Dawe	Sports and Recreation Trainee
Letitia Izzo	Italian Language Co-educator
Broc Linden	Grounds Trainee
Dylan McCarthy	Information and Communication Technology Trainee
Ella McIntyre	Front Office Administration Trainee
Ruby Moore	Education Support / OSHC Trainee
Jessica Snell	Public Relations and Events Trainee
Rosie Van Eyk	Early Learning and Community Centre Trainee

Students and families have been impacted by the presence, creativity, passion and investment in our young as people. As these staff leave us, we say thank you for their commitment to our community, their inspiration and their wonderful legacy through their service of Tenison Woods College.

We also wish the following staff the very best as they take a year of leave in 2022:

Heidi Clark	Sports Coordinator, HPE and Outdoor Education Teacher
Vanessa Courtney	Junior School Teacher
Alana Fensom	ELCC Educator
Saad Habib	ICT, Mathematics and Research Project Teacher
Amanda Sinkunas	Year 3 Teacher
Jacqui Weedon	Middle School and Senior School Teacher

COVID-19 Immunisation Clinic - Thank you

Thank you for your support of the SA Health for a COVID-19 vaccination program at Tenison Woods College for students aged 12 and above. It was a wonderful success and I am pleased that Tenison Woods College played its part in working toward the common good, increased vaccinations and global herd immunity.

HDDL Four Point Plan

I thank you for your attention to the HDDL Four Point Plan; good health, good hygiene and hand washing, good distancing and care for others and good learning regardless of student location. This approach has stood us in good stead for twenty months, and I ask that we all continue deliberately with the HDDL approach, now more than ever, as border barriers are reduced. As always we remain alert, not alarmed.

Carpark Care and Phone Usage

SAPOL officers have completed some traffic duties around the College campus. Parents have been 'cautioned' in the "kiss and drop" line for using their mobile phones, and as such I remind our community of the legal imperatives regarding telephone usage in cars:

"The driver of a vehicle must not use a mobile phone while the vehicle is moving, or is stationary but not parked, unless:

- (a) the phone is being used to make or receive an audio phone call and the body of the phone
- (i) is secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle while being so used; or
- (ii) is not secured in a mounting affixed to the vehicle and is not being held by the driver, and the use of the phone does not require the driver, at any time while using it, to press anything on the body of the phone or to otherwise manipulate any part of the body of the phone."

The fines are quite hefty - currently at \$646.00 (inclusive of a victim of crime levy) and three (3) demerit points, so I urge our community to pay due diligence to this issue for the safety of all, not least our young.

Senior School Awards Celebration

The Senior School Awards Celebration on Friday 26 November in the Barrie Holmes Stadium was a significant milestone in the learning journey of our senior students and a time to reflect on how we have made the ordinary extraordinary this year. I trust students, parents and staff will take confidence from this celebration; confidence to 'let your light shine' and use your gifts to serve others, so that in their giving and service we become the type of people our God is inviting us to be, and the type of people who will, on a daily basis, make the ordinary extraordinary.

Year 12 Graduation

The Year 12 Graduation this Friday 3 December from 6:30pm at the Barn Palais is not only an opportunity to celebrate the journey of the students in our community over the years, but also an opportunity to wish them well as they greet life and take their place in our community.

BYOD - YEAR 6 Families, ready for Year 7 in 2022

As the year flies by and we look towards 2022, I remind families that if they are thinking about purchasing a device for next year, to check out our Bring Your Own Device page on our website. The link is attached [here](#).

You can also find this page in SEQTA Engage by choosing the Portals option and selecting BYOD Parent / Guardian Information.

With the current COVID-19 situation and associated wait times for products, we encourage families to think about their child's needs a little earlier than they might to ensure that the device is ready for the start of 2022.

Key dates for the commencement of 2022:

I inform our College community of dates to commence the 2022 academic year:

Wednesday 26 January 2022	Australia Day Public Holiday
Thursday 27 January 2022	All Teaching Staff commence
Friday 28 January 2022	Book collection day and Staff planning day
Monday 31 January 2022	Reception, Years 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 commence Term 1.
Tuesday 1 February 2022	All other students commence Term 1.

God Bless,
David Mezinec | Principal



CIM Team News

Advent

The Church season of Advent began last Sunday. Advent is a period of preparation, extending over four Sundays before Christmas. One of the most well recognised symbols of Advent is the Advent Wreath. The wreath has three purple candles and a pink candle surrounded by greenery representing life. Each Sunday, a new candle is lit and the themes of Advent are focused upon Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. In the lead up to Christmas, it is easy to become caught up in the busyness and commercialism of society. Advent helps us to focus on the importance of Christmas where Jesus brought love hope peace and joy into the world.

Christmas Eve Vigil Family Mass

Would your child like to be involved in the Nativity play at the Christmas Eve Family Mass? Mass is on Friday 24 December at 6:00pm, at St Paul's Church. Children who would like to be involved in the play are required to attend a rehearsal on Saturday 18 December at 11:00am at St Paul's Church. Costumes for the play will be distributed at the rehearsal. Participating in the Nativity play is a wonderful way for children to deepen their connection to the miracle of Christmas and be a part of the St Paul's community. We welcome all to be involved and attend. Please email me at shanc@tenison.catholic.edu.au if your child would like to be a part of the play.

Faith Facts

Answer to last week's question: Have you ever wondered what is Advent?

Advent is the season that comes before Christmas and is four weeks long. It uses the colour purple which is symbolic for preparation and waiting. It is a time when Christians are preparing for the birth of Jesus.

Little Lambs Open Day

The Little Lambs Faith Formation program is inviting young families to an open day on Thursday, 9 December, from 9:30-11:30am. There will be a variety of activities available for pre-school children (3-5 year old) as well as junior primary school children (6-8 year old) in the hall and St Joseph room. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, please contact Cisca at the parish office or the Little Lamb Coordinators on mgp.littlelambs1@gmail.com.

New Altar Servers

The Altar Server Ministry is inviting children who are interested in altar serving to come along to their initial formation day which will be held on Saturday, 11 December from 2pm until 3:30pm. During this time, the children will be shown how to serve at Sunday Mass and be given some background information about the role of the altar server. Parents will be required to stay for the first part of the session to be briefed upon the expectations. As part of the formation program, children will be required to serve every weekend from then until Christmas time. Please note that this invitation is for children who have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation.

Please see Deacon Olek if your child is interested, or email mgp.altarservers@gmail.com.

Sharing your Christmas – the Krist Kindl Giving Tree

The Krist Kindl Giving Tree is now set up in the Front Office at Tenison Woods College in the coming weeks. We actively encourage families to support AC Care, Sunset Community Kitchen and Vinnies in their work to support local families in need. Unwrapped gifts, toiletry items and/or cash donations can be placed under the tree between now and the end of term. We thank you in

advance for your kindness and generosity towards those in need within our community.

We will also be supporting the Community Christmas Lunch held on Christmas Day. Staff will be donating toiletries and wrapped chocolates and/or lollies to be placed into gift bags for those attending. Any families who would also like to contribute items for this event can do so by placing them under the Krist Kindl Giving Tree with the gifts.

Christmas Hampers and Toys

St Vincent de Paul Society Mount Gambier are now taking registrations for Christmas Hampers and toys for families who are struggling financially due to loss of income or employment. The Society is there to lend a hand in helping families celebrate the birth of Christ like others do. Please ring Vinnies on 8724 9322 to make a confidential appointment to discuss your family's needs this Christmas.

Sacramental Program 2022

The Mount Gambier Catholic Parish recently held their Enrolment Night for families planning to enrol in the Parish Sacramental Program for 2022. During the Sacramental Program students, together with their families, will be prepared for full initiation into the Catholic Church by the celebration of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist. There is also an opportunity for Baptism to be included in this program if requested. All enrolment forms are due to be returned to the Parish Office by Friday 3 December.

For further information about the Sacramental Program please contact the Sacramental Coordinator on 8725 6566 or mgpsacraments@bigpond.com.

Term 4 Masses at the College Chapel

A Mass is held each Thursday of the term and is led by a different class or year level each week. Mass is held at 9:15am in the College Chapel. Until further notice, due to current restrictions, only staff members and students of the College are permitted to attend.

The roster for Term 4 Masses:

Week 8 Thursday 2 December – Year 6

Chloe Shanahan | Religious Education Coordinator



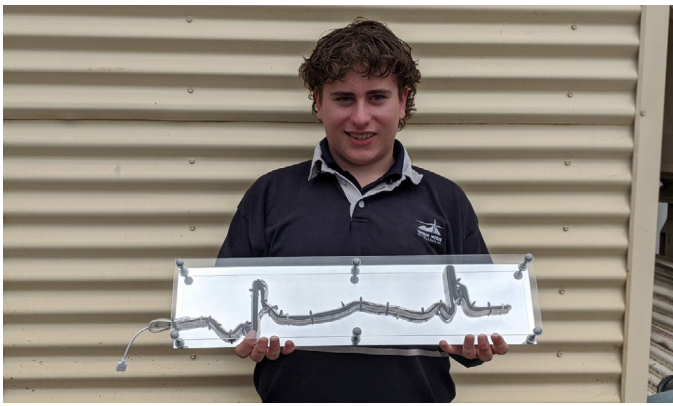
St Vincent de Paul Society Ladies Conference – 100 Year Anniversary

2021 marks 100 years since the St Vincent de Paul Society Ladies Conference in Mount Gambier began. With a long legacy of wonderful service in Mount Gambier and surrounding districts, the Ladies Conference continues to live out the work that Blessed Frederic Ozanam envisioned when he started the Society over 200 years ago.

The Ladies Conference marked the occasion with a special mass, celebrated by Archbishop Patrick O'Regan and concelebrated by Fr Dean Marin, Fr Peter Fountain and Deacon Olek Stirrat, followed by an afternoon tea and the cutting of a special cake.

We look forward to continuing to work closely with Vinnies as a College community in the years to come and congratulate the Ladies Conference on this special milestone.

Chloe Shanahan | Religious Education Coordinator



Harry Opperman's Touching Tribute

As part of their Major Product in Metal Technologies this Semester, students were asked to create an LED Sign. In the beginning stages of this project, students had to select or create a logo to make. After some thoughtful deliberation Harry chose to re-create the last heartbeat of his Nonno (Grandpa) who is sadly no longer with us.

We are very proud of Harry and his decision to make such a meaningful sign and we hope this tribute is a lasting memory of his Nonno's life. Well done Harry.

George Adamopoulos | BET Teacher



Oscar Adams – AFL Draft

A huge congratulations to 2021 Year 12 student, Oscar Adams, as he was selected by St Kilda Football Club at Pick #51 in last Friday night's AFL Draft!

Oscar spent his entire schooling at our College, starting Reception with us in 2008. Oscar grew up playing for South Gambier Football Club, where he played for 10 years, Oscar became the first South Gambier Junior player to be drafted by an AFL club.

Incredible work, Oscar, we'll be cheering you on as we follow your AFL journey!



Stage 1 Outdoor Education Camp

On Monday of Week 6 the Stage 1 Outdoor Education class headed to Robe for their last outdoor experience of the school year. Despite some unfortunate conditions on Day 1 which saw the cancellation of their Stand-Up Paddle Boarding session, students were still able to participate in 2 x 8km bushwalks, as well as a 2-hour mountain-biking session run by Kylie at Tracx Robe.

It was fantastic to see students put their semesters worth of skills and knowledge into practice with an outstanding display of camp craft and minimal impact camping techniques.

Heidi Clark | HPE and Outdoor Education Teacher



Are you an Old Scholar?

Old scholars are an integral part of the history, tradition and future of Tenison Woods College. We invite all old scholars, past parents/caregivers, friends and former staff members to reconnect through our 'Friends of Tenison' committee.

Keep up to date with all the news in the College community. Register your details today, via our [website](#).



Props to You - A Great Success!

This semester has been the first time that the College has run one of our new super subjects, Props to You. This subject combines the Drama and Tech learning spaces, and asks students to research, design and recreate their own prop from a famous film or show. The results have been absolutely amazing! Some of the props chosen to be made this year included Thor's hammer, Willy Wonka's (nerds filled) cane, the poisonous apple from Sleeping Beauty, the mockingjay pin from The Hunger Games, and the burn book from Mean Girls- just to name a few! This was a challenging subject that required the Year 8s to be problem solvers and think outside the box. We were very impressed with how they rose to the challenge and we can't wait to see what gets made next year!

Eliza Suggate and Tom Linnell | Props to You Teachers





Year 2 Nativity Scene Projects

Year 2 students have been busy preparing for Advent. During Design and Technology lessons, students designed and made Nativity Scenes which included a stable, Mary, Joseph and Jesus. The Nativity scenes were blessed at the Blessing of the Cribs assembly before students took them home to share with their families during the season of Advent.

Kathryn Domaschenz | Year 2 Teacher



Regional SA Country Tennis

Year 7 student Ella Jolley and Year 9 student Jessica Stutley will be representing the Regional SA country tennis team in Brisbane in January.

Well done, girls!

Photo courtesy of West Gambier Tennis Club Facebook page.



Milla Buckingham Gains Traineeship

Congratulations to 2021 Year 11 student Milla Buckingham on securing a Certificate III in Business Admin traineeship at Gebhardt's Real Estate!

Milla was offered the position the same day as her interview, after impressing during the interview process. Congratulations, Milla, we wish you all the best in your bright future!

Pictured is Mother Monique, Milla and Deputy Principal Michelle Coote.



Lucy Denton & Annelise Janssen – State Netball Selection

Well done to 2021 Year 12 student, Lucy Denton, and 2021 Year 10 student, Annelise Janssen, as they have been selected for the 19U and 17U Netball State squad respectively.

Lucy and Annelise will train with their squad in January prior to the final team announcement in February. Well done, girls!



Year 9 Carpentry Academy Table Construction Success

Here are students of the Year 9 Design & Technology Elective Subject – 'Carpentry Academy' standing proudly with their completed Side Tables. They have worked very hard all Semester to complete this challenging project and are to be commended on their fantastic efforts! Great job!

Joe Proseri Porta | Design and Technology Teacher

Junior School Blessing of the Crib

One of the final gatherings of the Junior School for 2021 was the Blessing of the Crib Assembly. Families were invited to bring in the crib from their Nativity scene to be blessed by Fr Dean. Students from Year 2 acted out the Nativity as Fr Dean read the Gospel. The blessing symbolises that all who look upon the empty manger be reminded of the humble birth of Jesus Christ as we await Christmas with anticipation and excitement.



Year 7 Orientation

This week we held our Year 7 Orientation, as we welcomed many new faces to the College with the support of existing students.

There were lots of classes and activities held to give students an idea of what Year 7 has in store for them at the College in 2022, such as drama classes, cooking lessons, science experiments and playing games in the Barrie Holmes Stadium as they got to know more about their classmates for next year!

Students loved the opportunity to learn more about their classrooms and the College grounds, we look forward to welcoming you all back to the College for 2022!



Upcoming Events:

Thursday 2 December

- 2021 Year 7 - 12 Art Exhibition, Board Room Corridor
- Giving Tree Crows Guernsey Raffle, Under the Sails
- Year 10 in Class Exams/Final Assessments
- Year 5 End of Year Celebration, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Millicent Playground and Swimming Lake
- Year 4 Geology Excursion, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Main Corner

Friday 3 December

- 2021 Year 7 - 12 Art Exhibition, Board Room Corridor
- Giving Tree Crows Guernsey Raffle, Under the Sails
- Year 10 in Class Exams/Final Assessments
- Last Day for Year 10 Students
- Reception End of Year Celebration, 10:00am - 3:00pm, Tree House Adventure Centre
- Bookmakrs for Sale, 1:20pm - 2:00pm, Under the Sails
- Year 12 Graduation, 6:30pm - 11:00pm, The Barn Palais

Saturday 4 December

- Parish Mass, 5:00pm, St Paul's Church

Sunday 5 December

- Parish Mass, 11:00am, St Paul's Church

Monday 6 December

- Year 9 End of Year Celebration, 8:50am - 3:20pm, Naracoorte Swimming Lake
- Year 8 End of Year Celebration, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Valley Lakes
- Year 6 Graduation, 9:00am - 10:30pm, Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Year 7 End of Year Celebration, 9:15am - 2:50pm, Railway Lands and Oatmill Cinema
- Year 2 End of Year Celebration, 11:20am - 1:20pm, Treehouse Play Cafe
- Junior School Arts Showcase, 2:00pm - 3:15pm, Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Poplars Concert, 5:30pm - 7:00pm, Barrie Holmes Stadium

Tuesday 7 December

- Middle School Awards Ceremony, 9:00am - 11:00am, Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Year 6 End of Year Celebration, 9:00am - 3:10pm, Oatmill Cinema and Kaboom
- 9Shine Ceremony, 5:30pm - 7:00pm, Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Year 9 End of Year Celebration, 7:00pm - 10:00pm, PRC

Wednesday 8 December

- 2022 Year 1-9 Orientation Visits, 9:30am - 12:00pm
- ELCC Kindy Graduation, 2:00pm - 3:00pm, ELCC
- Reception - Year 9 Finish, Normal Finishing Time



Connor Hall Apprenticeship

Congratulations to 2021 Year 11 student, Connor Hall, on securing an apprenticeship with OG Roberts!

After impressing during his week of work experience, Connor was asked if he'd like to join their team on his last day, he is currently in his 3rd week at OG Roberts. He will undertake a Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology as part of his 4-year apprenticeship. Congratulations, Connor, we wish you all the best in your bright future!

Pictured is Deputy Principal Michelle Coote, Connor and Principal David Mezinec.

Senior School Awards Continued



Tenison Woods College Best All-Rounder Award Winner, Tess Kenseley, with Director of Wellbeing, Tania Sigley.



Conor Flanagan Innovation Award Winner, Alain Alpha, with Conor's mother, Beverley Flanagan.



Muriel Matters Award Winner, Keeva Shepherd, with City of Mount Gambier Mayor, Lynette Martin.



Ferrers Medical Clinic Spirit Award Winner, Lily Engel, with Raelene Kenny from Ferrers Medical Clinic.



Kellie Egan Award Winner, Madison Fatchen, with Kellie's parents, Di Egan and Tony Egan.



Principal's Award Winner, Alice Circelli, with Principal, David Mezinec.



Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West Music 'Shine' Scholarship Winner, Josh Cutting, with Neville Gilbertson from the Rotary Club of Mount Gambier West.



John Benjamin Memorial Scholarship Winner, Isabella King, with Adam Taylor and Di Benjamin.



Barrie Holmes Memorial Basketball Scholarship Winner, Zachary Nulty, with Barrie's sons, Peter and Stephen Holmes.



Anthony Casadio Memorial Trophy Winner, Austin Rossi, with Bob Sandow.



Dean Travers Award Winner, Sarah McKinnon, with District Council of Grant Mayor, Richard Sage.



Australian Olympic Change-Maker Award Winners, Lucy Denton and Austin Rossi, with College High Performance Sports Program Coach, Nathan Fleetwood.