

# Weekly Newsletter



Early Learning to Year 12  
Co-Educational Catholic College

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## Senior School Awards

On Tuesday 22 November we held our Senior School Awards ceremony. We thank our Sponsors and award presenters, whose contribution is valued by the entire college community. These awards recognise the high level of success students have achieved in their subjects and service to the school and wider community.

Congratulations to all our award and scholarship winners on their outstanding achievements.



*Be The One at Tenison Woods College*

# From the Principal



## Thanksgiving Mass

This morning 23 November we gathered in the Barrie Holmes Stadium for our whole College Thanksgiving Mass. At this celebration of Mass, presided by Father Peter Zwaans, and an event which is the source and summit of our Christian lives, we celebrated and gave thanks to God for the many gifts and blessings we have received throughout this school year. We remembered our successes and our struggles, our joys, and our sorrows in a year that we have "Been the One."

Celebrating as a large learning community, that is comprised of and nurtures smaller learning communities, we asked for God's blessing especially on our Year 6's moving into Middle School, our Year 9's into Senior school and our Year 12's who move into a journey beyond school.

## Senior School Awards Celebration

The Senior School Awards Celebration on Tuesday 22 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 "been the one" 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 "be the one" to help others shine.

## Congratulations! Changing Tunes Concert 2022

What a great concert! Congratulations to all the committed staff, enthusiastic students and supportive parents involved in preparing and presenting the Tuesday evening's concert. It was an excellent showcase of wonderful talent, dedication, love of music, innovation, and performance leadership.

Congratulations to Ethan Hopgood and Julio Teodoro, College Music Leaders, on their efforts as masters of ceremony, a role performed with warmth, good humour, and enthusiasm.

Thank you to all who made the evening such a success, and special thanks to Penny Mansell, Performing Arts Coordinator, and Lucy Rossi, Performing Arts Support Administrator, who played significant roles in coordinating the wonderful opportunity for our students to shine.

At this time, I also take the opportunity to thank our local businesses who support the music program through our scholarships:

- Joe D'Agostino and Associates
- Rosedale Funerals
- DB Music Solutions – Adelaide
- Presto Music Repairs – Adelaide

Their support is greatly appreciated and richly validated by the opportunities, efforts, and progression of our young, which was all on display at the Changing Tunes Concert.

## Advent begins – Open to Christ in our Lives

The Season of Advent begins this Sunday 27 November, and so does the beginning of a new Liturgical Year in the Church. The Advent Wreath is a sign to us of the coming of Christ Our Light into our lives and our world.

I invite you to see Advent as a time to pause and reflect upon our lives and decide what's important and where our energy and attention should be focused. The more we consciously pause and reflect and exercise our gift of freedom to do what's right and good, the more human we become. As Christians, the more consciously we pause and reflect, the more open we become to the presence of God in our lives and the power of his grace and to shape our lives. Advent then is the time for conscious reflection upon our lives in the light of the presence of Christ amongst us.

As we prepare for Christmas, there's always a real challenge for us. This time of year, we all become so much busier with all the break ups, socials, and preparations for Christmas. Instinctively, we speed up and busy ourselves attempting to do so many things. The invitation to us today is the opposite. Pause, slow down, reflect, listen, and pray – make the experience intensely personal. Advent is a time for more prayer as individuals, families and as parish community.

In such a way Advent will be an opportunity for real change and renewal in our lives, unleashing the power to reflect upon our lives, humbly name our challenges, be freed and forgiven for past poor choices and experiencing the loving forgiveness of God as we move forward with hope and confidence.

## The Giving Tree

As a College community we annually erect the Giving Tree in the Front Office, and this is an opportunity for everyone in our community to share the joy of Christmas. Gifts and money donated to the Giving Tree will be shared between AC Care and Vinnies who will assist local families this Christmas.

Families may also wish to consider the gifts that ensure others not necessarily known to us enjoy a better Christmas and life; a gift that keeps on giving. Such donations can be made by visiting the websites of such preferred Catholic charities as Caritas, Vinnies, and Mercy Gifts. Other charities to consider in such a way may be Oxfam, World Vision, Salvation Army, and The Smith Family.

Classes will be participating in activities centred on the Advent theme. Advent wreaths in classrooms are the symbolic reminders of the prayer and action we focus upon during Advent. In the midst of the activities occupying us in these final weeks of the school year, the advent reflection speaks to our school community:

*Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world.  
This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice,  
and focus on what's really important.  
We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts,  
to celebrate your birth on Christmas.  
Amen.*

## BYOD – Year 6 Families, ready for Year 7 in 2023

As the year flies by and we look also to 2023, I remind families that if they are thinking about purchasing a device for next year, just check out our Bring Your Own Device page on our website [here](#).

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

With 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 2023.

## Key dates for the commencement of 2023:

A full list of 2023 key dates will follow soon, but to assist with planning I inform our College community of dates to commence the 2023 academic year:

Wednesday 25 January 2023	All Teaching Staff commence
Thursday 26 January 2023	Australia Day Public Holiday
Friday 28 January 2023	Book collection day and Staff planning day
Monday 30 January 2023	Reception, Years 7, 10,11, 12 commence Term 1.
Tuesday 31 January 2023	All other students commence Term 1.

God Bless,

**David Mezinec** | Principal

## Key Dates

### Thursday 24 November

- Year 11 Exams - Thursday - Tuesday
- Year 8 Outdoor Ed Surf Camp 2 - Cape Bridgewater - Thursday - Friday
- Scholastic Book Fair - 8:30am - 8:55am and 3:20pm - 3:45pm - Upstairs Gallery in Front Office

### Friday 25 November

- Year 12 Graduation - The Barn
- Year 8 Outdoor Ed Surf Camp 2 Returns
- Years 3 - 6 Assembly - 2:05pm
- Years R - 2 Assembly - 2:40pm
- Scholastic Book Fair - 8:30am - 8:55am and 3:20pm - 3:45pm - Upstairs Gallery in Front Office

### Monday 28 November

- 2023 Term 1 Reception Orientation Visit - Group 1, Day 2
- Stage 1 Outdoor Ed Surfing and Caving Camp - Monday - Tuesday
- Year 11 Exams

### Tuesday 29 November

- 2023 Term1 Reception Orientation Visit - Group 2, Day 2
- Year 9/10 Knockout Tennis
- USA Information Evening - 6:00pm - Upstairs PRC

### Wednesday 30 November

- Christmas Appeal for Vinnies and AC Care - Gilap Wanga - 10:55am
- Year 1-6 Transition Visits
- College Board Meeting - 7:00pm
- 2023 Year 12 Beginnings



## CIM Team News



### Whole School Mass

With the end of the school year nearing an end, the College community gathered today for our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass, celebrated by Fr Peter. A beautiful banner was also revealed to the community. Within the design were all of the ways each class lived out the College theme, "Be the One" throughout 2022. It was wonderful to have parents and families join us for this wonderful celebration of the Eucharist.

### Sharing your Christmas – the Krist Kindl Giving Tree

What can your family give to the 'Christ Child' this year? When we give to others in need, we are remembering the gifts of the Three Wise Men to the baby Jesus, whose birth was a great gift to us all. As Jesus loved, we show through selfless giving that we love others, including those we don't know.

The Krist Kindl Giving Tree has been set up in the Front Office at Tenison Woods College this week. 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.

### Blessing of the Crib

On Friday 2 December, the Early Learning Centre and Junior School will celebrate the Blessing of the Crib in the Barrie Holmes Stadium during their assembly at 2:00pm. Fr Peter will say a prayer of blessing for all families as they enter into the Advent season. Students are encouraged to bring the crib from their Nativity Scene or if this is not possible just one piece from their nativity.

### Family Mass

Family Mass is held on the 4th Sunday of the month at the 11:00am Sunday mass at St Paul's Church, Penola Road. The next Family Mass will be held this Sunday, 27 November. The readings at this mass are led by the young people from the College and the Parish.

### 15 Minutes with Father - Advent Edition

We will be back for one last time this year! This Advent, the children will be taken on a journey in a rather unique Christmas story. We will be looking at a different character each week and their story during the times leading up to the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The children will take home a small activity pack to re- create that character, a Gospel reading to reflect on and a prayer card. We hope to help the children and their family to better prepare their hearts to receive Jesus on Christmas day.

Fifteen Minutes with Father Advent Edition will start on the First Sunday of Advent 27 November immediately after 11.00am Mass at St Paul's and continue until Christmas Day. All children are welcome.

### 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.

### Masses for Term 4

Week 7 Thursday 1 December – Year 7  
Week 8 Thursday 8 December – Year 8

Chloe Shanahan | Religious Education Coordinator

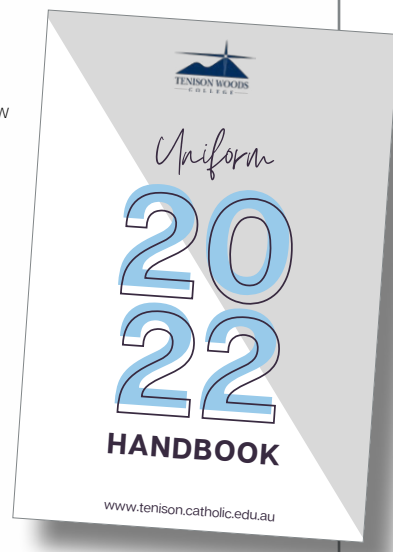


## Uniform Focus of the Week!

### Socks, Shoes and Hats

- Boys are to wear Charcoal grey plain crew socks (no logos)
- Girls are to wear plain white crew socks
- Approved black school shoes (lace-ups, Velcro, elastic-sided boots) are to be worn.
- Hats are required to be worn when the UV rating states 3 or above.

Tania Sigley | Director of Wellbeing



## Week 6 ShineFM Podcast - Welcoming our 2023 College Captains

Tune in to this week's SHINEfm Podcast as we welcome 2023 College Captains, Gael Chizungu and Aden Clarke, as they discuss who inspired them to apply, what previous Captain had the greatest impact on them and their plans for their first act as School Captains.

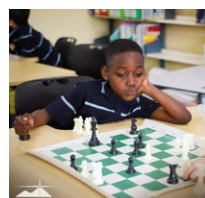
Listen on Spotify - <https://spoti.fi/3TVG4gB>

Listen on website - <https://bit.ly/3tQJkiO>

## Lost Property!

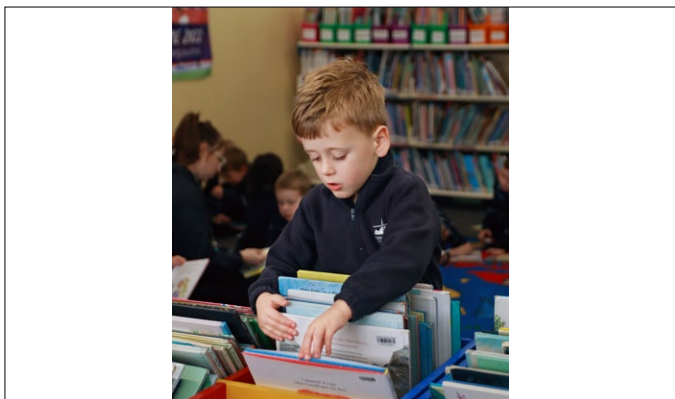
There is an array of items in the Front Office waiting to be collected! These include: rugby tops, woollen jumpers, sports tops, shoes, hats, drink bottles and more! Please come in and have a look!

Aleisha Hunter | Administration



tenisonwoodscollege  
Tenison Woods College

tenisonwoodscollege Chess Club concentration 🧠



## End of Year Book Returns!

After a big year of borrowing and reading it is time for the library's books to be returned and borrowing has now finished for 2022.

Please ask your child to return all their borrowed library books and textbooks by no later than the end of Week 7 (Friday 2 Dec) to avoid being invoiced or unable to borrow at the commencement of the 2023 school year.

Classes and Home Groups are receiving regular borrower list updates to assist students in returning their borrowed items.

We appreciate parent/care giver support in having our library resources returned.

**Alexandra Nicholson** | Library Manager



## Master of Meals

The Year 7 'Master of Meals' class recently did a sensational big breakfast cook up. There were some amazing creations by the chefs, very proud of how they all worked!

**Lisa Goodfellow** | 9SHINE, 9 Global Perspectives and 7-12 HPE

## Transition for Years 1 - 6 2023 Students

On Wednesday 30 November and Tuesday 6 December between 2:00pm and 3:00pm students will transition into their classes for 2023.

This is an opportunity for students to meet their 2023 Homegroup teacher as well as getting to know their peers for next year. If possible please avoid booking appointments for your child during this time.

On the last day of term, students will receive a letter that outlines book collection day, room numbers, and important beginning of year information.

**Francesca Dickson** | Head pf Junior School R-6



## Year 10 Student Wins Regional Tennis Competition

Year 10 student, Josh Milan, recently won the Lower South East Tennis Association's B Grade Boys Regional Singles competition.

He remained undefeated over 7 sets of hard-fought tennis, including several tiebreakers! A great day of high standard competition was had by all.

Josh has only just commenced his second year of playing tennis, playing for Moorak Tennis Club.

Great work, Josh!



## Knockout Basketball Finals

Our Year 9-10 basketball squad travelled to Adelaide to play in the School Sport SA Knockout Basketball Finals.

Both the girls and boys teams faced some tough competition; the girls had a sleepy start, but they recovered well to make the finals for 3rd and 4th place. In a nail-biting match, they came away 3rd overall. The boys spirits never wavered and their determination found them line up against Concordia College in the grand final. The boys put forward a strong fight however narrowly missed out on the win, going down by 2 points.

A massive congratulations must go to all players who worked relentlessly all day, our High Performance coaches Tom Daly and Richard Hill for preparing the students prior to the completion and guiding them throughout, and all staff who assisted in organising the trip, scoring and supervising on the day!

**Elyse Willoughby** | HPE and Sports Trainee





**TAKING FLIGHT:** Sarah McDowell has been tackling multiple sclerosis for nearly five years and hopes a bone marrow transplant in Mexico will stop the disease in its tracks. **Photo: AIDA OUSTE**  
**CANINE SUPPORT:** Sarah McDowell has relied on assistance dog Cali in her fight against multiple sclerosis.

# Flying to Mexico for MS aid

**AIDAN CURTIS**  
 aian.curtis@borderwatch.com.au

A MOUNT Gambler woman is going to extraordinary measures to seek treatment for a degenerative disease in the hopes of maintaining her quality of life.

Nearly five years ago, Tenison Woods College teacher and sightly dog competitor Sarah McDowell was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS).

While Ms McDowell has not let the incurable disease stop her from doing the things she loves, she has had to live with the knowledge that it will progressively worsen in time.

After two courses of chemotherapy failed to halt her MS, she became eligible for a bone marrow transplant - a treatment option with a high chance of pausing the progression of MS for up to 10 years.

There was just one problem: bone marrow transplants are not easily accessed in Australia.

"You can't get one (bone marrow transplant) in Australia unless it's on trial, and to get on trial you've got to have failed two treatments, which I have now failed," Ms McDowell said.

"So I meet the criteria for that, but they're saying I need more severe disease and more severe disability."

"Myself and a lot of people are not prepared to wait until we're literally wheelchair bound or unable to toilet ourselves or feed ourselves."

She said while Australia could potentially fail to fund other countries and make the transplant a treatment option here, she does not want to wait that long and risk things getting worse.

Instead, Ms McDowell decided to apply for treatment in Mexico, which will not only set her back around \$95,000, but has also caused a lot of anxiety.

"The cost, that's terrifying to think how much money it costs and how much I'm having to pull out of my house and all that sort of stuff, then flying into Mexico itself, which isn't the safest city even though they pick you up from the airport and take you to the hospital," she said.

"The fact we know it's not a safe city also bothered me, but at the same time you weigh up the positives and the fact there haven't been any reports of patients having safety issues there and if this treatment works, then it should halt my MS and I won't need any treatment for hopefully another 10 years or more."

She said she is determined to see it through, though, with the support of agility-champion-turned-ovulation-dog Cali.

"She's just been able to make me feel like I'm not going through the journey of the treatment or the disease course alone," Ms McDowell said.

"All my family are over in the UK, so I don't have any support, which is why I have to rely on Cali."

To help cover the financial side of things, Ms McDowell has set up a crowdfunding page called "Sarah and Cali beat MS together" and said anything the community can do to contribute to would go a long way.

She also said her friends have been doing great work to help her raise funds as well, which will all add up in the end.



# 2023 Titans USA Basketball Tour - Information Evening

The world is opening up again for Tenison Woods College students, with international travel experiences back on the calendar from 2023.

Students interested in participating in the 2023 Titans USA Basketball Tour are invited to an information meeting on Tuesday 29 November at 6.00PM upstairs in the Pam Ronan Centre. Anyone interested in finding out more details is encouraged to attend.

The three-week tour is a once in a life-time experience for participants as they take part in a sight-seeing, cultural and basketball tour along the west coast of the United States of America and is open to current Year 8-11 students.

In what will be the 9th biennial tour, students will play basketball against various high school teams (including homestays), while also enjoying sight-seeing experiences which could include Alcatraz Island, Fisherman's Wharf, Disneyland, California Adventure Park, Universal Studios, and did we mention they may even finish the trip with three days in Hawaii.

Our band of intrepid travellers will also experience the thrills of an NBA game, College basketball games, ice hockey, US College tour, a luau, plus a little bit of shopping (retail therapy).

If you are unable to attend the evening but would like to receive information from the night, please email Tanya Thompson ([thota@tenison.catholic.edu.au](mailto:thota@tenison.catholic.edu.au)) who will email a copy of the presentation and paperwork after the evening has been held.

For any questions regarding the tour please contact Tour Coordinator, Ciaran Buckley ([buckc@tenison.catholic.edu.au](mailto:buckc@tenison.catholic.edu.au))

# Awareness for Tenison Woods College Staff Member

We wish Sarah the best of luck with her treatment journey.

Please click [here](#) to see the full article.

Article courtesy of the Border Watch.



# Hundreds of Students Participate in Cross Country

Great conditions last Friday for the Cross Country event! Year 7-12 students tackled the course up and around some of the beautiful Sugarloaf.

Congratulations to the winners of each age group, and to all for their great effort on the day! The winners are as below:

- Year 7 Boys: Thraviz Coronel
- Year 7 Girls: Lucy Crowe
- Year 8 Girls: Maggie Collins
- Year 8 Boys: Joey Ottoson - Crossing
- Year 9 Girls: Ella Guest
- Year 9 Boys: Kobe Cole
- Year 10 Girls: Lillie Paul
- Year 10 Boys: Jonty Collins
- Year 11 Girls: Jorja Mitchell
- Year 11 Boys: Campbell Fox



# SAPSASA Cricket

Four Tenison Woods College students recently represented the Lower South East in the SAPSASA State Cricket Carnival . Year 5 student Joel Clayfield and Year 6 students Austin Smith, Paddy Sigley and Isaac Salmon played a series of games over the three days with the competition being quite hard. The boys enjoyed the few days away, taking the experience as a great learning opportunity. Well done boys!

Tina Opperman | R-6 Sports Coordinator





Ryan Creedy and Isabella King



Madi Derrington and Alex McDonald

## 2023 Music Leaders and Sustainability Leaders Announced

We are thrilled to announce our Music Leaders and Sustainability Leaders for 2023;

Music Leaders - Ryan Creedy & Isabella King  
Sustainability Leaders - Madi Derrington & Alex McDonald

Congratulations! We can't wait to see you in your roles next year!



## SAPSASA Tennis Wrap Up

In Week 5, three Tenison Woods College students participated in the State SAPSASA Tennis event. Games were played at various tennis venues in the Adelaide metropolitan area. Lower South East division 2 were undefeated until the final day losing 2 sets out of 90 for the whole week. Another excellent opportunity for our students to gain experience and skills within the sporting arena. Well done guys

This wraps up an exhilarating year of SAPSASA sports. The focus of school sport is to encourage participation and to experience the positive benefits of sports participation can bring. Our students have demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, team work and effort and wear the Tenison Wood College badge with pride.

Tina Opperman | R-6 Sports Coordinator



## STEM Girls Visit Adelaide for Conference

Recently, two students in Year 10 attended the STEM Girls conference in Adelaide. The students got a tour of the very cool Oz Mineral office and participated in a 'speed-dating' activity with industry leaders across a range of STEM-related careers. "It was very interesting to hear about how diverse an engineering degree is and how it can open up travel across the world", said Trixie Crouch of the experience. For Sophie Wight, the highlight of the 2 days was a tour of the Mawson Lakes Uni SA campus where the students got to see all the programs they have to offer.

The main messages the girls took away from the Stem Girls program this year was there is a shortage of females in STEM-related industries, that there are many diverse and interesting careers across a range of areas, that there are lots of scholarships available for study in STEM related courses and to do maths methods to keep your options open.

Bernadette Fisher | STEM Girls Coordinator



## Changing Tunes Concert

Is there any better way to bring together families and friends, than to attend a major music concert that features the Junior School students showcasing their music skills?

The annual 'Changing Tunes' concert featured our Years 3- 5 music classes with an ensemble of students from Year 6-7.

Concert Choir and Saxophone Ensemble added some variety to the night by showcasing how students can progress in music performance.

Thanks go to the amazing work of our music teachers who have nurtured these students to such a high level of music competence.

The evening was also kindly supported by staff and leadership and the students were so proud to entertain the audience.

Penny Mansell | Head of Performing Arts



# Reception 2023 Transition Visits

Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 November we welcomed our Reception 2023 students for the first of their 2 transition visits.

Students were met by their Year 5 buddies and taken to their classroom to meet their teachers and to explore our MacKillop Reception Centre.

The students were greeted with many play-based activities and hands on learning that they shared with their buddies as they settled in to their new learning environment.

Tracey Davey | Enrolment Registrar





# Year 5 TED Talks and Expo

In Week 3 of this Term, the Year 5 cohort hosted the inaugural 'Tenison TED Talks & Expo'. Following a Term-long inquiry into information texts, students chose topics to become experts on. Throughout the process, students researched and presented their expert knowledge with a written text, an oral speech and finally, an expo display. It was great to see all students take the lead in their own learning and thinking about how they could best engage their audience and share their expert information!

Krysten Von Duve | Year 5 Teacher





# Years R-2 Sports Day

On Friday 18 November we held our long-awaited R-2 Sports Day! Students made the most of the great weather, with all getting into the spirit of the day with their Founder colours. A great mix of events were on offer for students, with all participating in events such as Rob the Nest, Sack Race and the Obstacle Course!

A big thank you to the Founder Leaders for their help in running the events, as well as to all other students and staff that made the day possible.





# Christmas Parade!

It was great to see so many of our College Community involved in the Christmas Parade on the weekend! The smiling faces showed how much everyone enjoyed the day.

Special mention to several students – Rielle Carter, Milla Rossouw, Charlie Carroll & Gracie Carroll who volunteered their time walking with the Mayor at the Mount Gambier Christmas Parade, receiving donations for the Mayor's Christmas Appeal, which supports charities in our community. These students braved the weather and did an outstanding job interacting with the public to get their support for this very important appeal which helps so many in our community.







YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

# December High Tea

SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER 2022  
SUGARLOAF CAFE

Tickets are \$30 and include:

A mocktail

Tea or Coffee of your choice

Sweet and Savoury Tea Stands to Share



First Sitting: 12:30pm - 2:00pm

Second Sitting: 2:30pm - 4:00pm

Tickets are available from the Sugarloaf Cafe at

Tenison Woods College

Please call 8725 5455  
for more information

