

WEDNESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2023
WEEK 7, TERM 4

TENISON WOODS COLLEGE

Early Learning to Year 12
Co-Educational Catholic College

Shepherdson Road
PO Box 965, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Telephone (08) 8725 5455

Email: news@tenison.catholic.edu.au

www.tenison.catholic.edu.au

Cricos Provider Code: 01751G

ABN 25 508 850 572

Weekly Newsletter



2023 Year 12 Graduation

On Friday 24 November we held our Year 12 Graduation at the Barn, celebrating our Class of 2023 and presenting students with their well-earned graduation certificates.

This was an incredibly special night commemorating the hard work our Year 12's have put in this year, as they marked the end of their secondary schooling!

We wish you all luck in wherever your journey in life takes you.



Growing our Gifts Together at Tenison Woods College

From the Principal



Year 12 Graduation

The Graduation on Friday 24 November at the Barn Palais was 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.

In amongst the thanks to the students themselves for the significant contribution they have made to the school community; of all they have done, but mostly for all that they have been to us; I also offered thanks to their parents for the support of our community and the partnership we have shared together. It was also a time to extend appreciation to our dedicated staff for their steadfast commitment to these young people and their families, as well as the priests of our South East Deanery, Father Peter Zwaans, Father Olek Stirrat, and Father Arun Dev (in Naracoorte) for their outstanding support to the College in a range of significant ways.

In reflecting on the year and how they were able to “grow their gifts together” we acknowledged how they let their light SHINE, with an understanding that when we shine at Tenison Woods College it is shining with a deep understanding of the recognised PERMA wellbeing framework, which we have made our own:

- S - Strive to be successful
- H - Help others to be their best
- I - Get Involved
- N - known by Name
- E - enjoy positive Emotions
- + - being healthy

So any time we SHINE, our head, heart and hands will help others SHINE.

However on Friday evening as the students graduated to be citizens for the world, I encouraged them to SHINE with SWAGGER, and to be a person who:

- Takes pride in excellent skills,
- Knows that a strong work ethic will be rewarded.
- Has a positive, resilient attitude that colours their days.
- Has a strong team game that draws confidence from a God who is with them, guiding them and inspiring them to let their light shine, and be the type of person who will, on a daily basis, helps others to SHINE.

Samantha Burke and Suad Awsee, joint Principal Award recipients, assisted us to appreciate the essence of SHINING with SWAGGER, as expressed in their own life. I also asked our graduates to remember that at Tenison Woods College when times were tough, our staff, their families and their faith were offering them the hope to get them through things. Remembering that we never gave up on our graduates because we had a strong sense of hope for them. We are people of hope, because we have a faith of hope and I asked graduates to remember this, and pay it forward as they move through life, as young people, who SHINE with SWAGGER and HOPE.

Congratulations Junior School Showcase 2023

What a great concert - Junior School Showcase 2023! Congratulations to all the committed staff, enthusiastic students and supportive parents involved in preparing and presenting the concert. It was an excellent showcase of wonderful talent, dedication, love of music, innovation and performance leadership.

Thank you to all who made the evening such a success, and special thanks to our Performing Arts Staff, 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 and Menna of Joe D'Agostino and Associates
- Dave Longdon of DB Music Solutions - Adelaide
- Simon and Fiona of Presto Musical 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 Concert.



Junior School and Middle School Rites of Passage

In amongst the transition days which are occurring we look forward to the Year 6 Graduation at 9:00am on Monday 11 December. The Poplars Concert will be at 5:30pm that Monday evening, the Middle School awards Ceremony on Tuesday 12

December at 9:00am and the Year 9 Graduation at 5:00pm that evening; Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 December will see us celebrate the ELCC Stepping Stones Kindy Graduations at 10:00am and 2:00pm each day. We look forward to these significant milestones in the learning journey of our students and understand that they are also opportunities to reflect on how we have made lived the school's theme this year of “growing our gifts together.”

Senior Student Leaders Planning Day

I had the wonderful pleasure of witnessing the strong, committed and thoughtful discernment of our College 2024 Senior Leaders, who conducted their planning day last Friday 24 November under the guidance of Mrs Tania Sigley, Mr David Cole and Mrs Sally Telford. It was a pleasure to hear about the gifts of the student leadership team, how they want to work together and with the school community and also how they want to be remembered as student leaders. In amongst the wonderful discernment about the types of initiatives which would assist us as the Tenison Woods College community to serve with “open hearts and open arms” it was clear that this student leadership group is committed to serving our community so that all enjoy equity, access and wonderful experiences that are underscored by lots of fun.

Advent, Christmas and Gifts

We commence Advent on Sunday 3 December. 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 extended to the many people who have contributed their services to the school community in 2023. Thank you for your commitment to “growing our gifts together.” 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 and its subcommittees, 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.

Thanksgiving Mass

This Thursday 30 November we will gather 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 will celebrate and give thanks to God for the many gifts and blessings we have received throughout this school year. We will remember our successes and our struggles, our joys and our sorrows in a year that we have “grown our gifts together.”

Celebrating as a large learning community, that is comprised of and nurtures smaller learning communities, we will ask 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.

Amaya Gamage Thank You Exhibition

If our community would like to see something special, check out the “Thank You Exhibition” in the Front Office of Year 12 graduating Poplars Student, Amaya Gamage. Amaya has found her graphic arts talent during her time at Tenison Woods College and is sharing her gift with our community as a message of thanks, appreciation and hope. We thank Amaya and her parents Rasika and Duminda for the gift of this exhibition and I encourage you to view the exhibition, and be inspired by this talented graphic artist.

BYOD – Year 6 Families, ready for Year 7 in 2024

As the year flies by and we look also to 2024, 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. The link can be found by [clicking here](#).

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

Key dates for the commencement of 2024

2024 key dates to assist with planning.

Tuesday 23 January 2024	All Teaching Staff commence
Wednesday 24 January 2024	Book collection day and Staff planning day
Friday 26 January 2024	Australia Day Public Holiday
Monday 29 January 2024	Reception, Years 7, 10, 11, 12 commence Term 1
Tuesday 30 January 2024	All other students commence Term 1

God Bless,
David Meziniec | Principal

CIM Team News



Whole School Mass

Tomorrow, Thursday 30 November at 9:00am (Week 7), we will gather in the Barrie Holmes Stadium for our whole College Mass. All families, parishioners and friends of the College are invited to attend.

We come together to celebrate and give thanks to God for the many gifts and blessings we have received throughout this school year as we have lived out the school theme of 'Growing our Gifts Together.'

Advent

The Church season of Advent will begin this Sunday. Advent is a period of preparation, extending over the 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 to the world.

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. It has been wonderful to see the generosity from our community so far in supporting 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.

Junior School Lunchtime Disco for the Giving Tree

This Thursday, 30 November, students in the Junior School are invited to a lunchtime disco, in the gym, facilitated by JS and MS leaders. Students are asked to donate a gold coin on the day, which will be used by the Junior School STARS to purchase and place gifts under the Giving Tree. Students are invited to pop on a Christmas hat, tinsel, antlers or similar at lunchtime to get into the theme of the disco. Due to event coinciding with the day of the Whole School Mass, we ask that items are only worn at lunchtime.

Junior School- Blessing of the Cribs Assembly

On Friday 1 December, the Junior School will celebrate the Blessing of the Cribs 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. Many classes have made a nativity item to bring to the assembly to be blessed which will then be brought home.

Masses at TWC

We invite family and friends to join us for Masses and liturgies in the school Chapel. Upcoming Masses and Liturgies are as follows-
Week 7 Thursday 30 November 9am- Whole School Mass (Barrie Holmes Stadium)
Week 8 Thursday 7 December 9:15am Year 4/5 Mass
Week 8 Thursday 7 December 10:15am Reception Liturgy

Final Year Level Liturgies for Middle School students will take place on Wednesday 13 December in the College Chapel.

TWC Carols in the Church

All families and community members are invited to join us for our 'Carols in the Church' event to be held in St Paul's Catholic Church on Wednesday 6 December at 6pm. This is always a lovely celebration as we prepare for the joy of Christmas and showcases the wonderful talents of students and staff.

From the Parish

Christmas Nativity Play

This year we will be filming the Christmas Nativity Play which will be presented at the Christmas Eve Mass. We invite children to register their interest in being part of the play with Sally Telford (telfs@tenison.catholic.edu.au). Filming will take place on Sunday 10 December at 9am (before 11am Mass) and continuing after Mass if needed.

Parish Reflection Day - Advent 2023

Theme: The 'absence of God' and the gift of his long-awaited presence.
Join us this Saturday, 2 December for a day of prayer and preparation for Advent. There will be Mass, talks, personal prayer time, Adoration, rosary, and opportunity confession. Cost \$10 (lunch included). For catering purposes, please register your interest at the parish office.



Multicultural Christmas Lunch

A multicultural Christmas lunch will be held at St. Paul's Hall on Sunday, 10 December, after 11.00am Mass. We are thrilled about the upcoming lunch, where we invite each one of you to contribute a plate from your cultural heritage. This event is a celebration of the beautiful diversity that makes our parish a vibrant community. Bring a dish of food that reflects the flavours of your background, whether it's a cherished family recipe or a traditional dish from your homeland. Let our gathering be a feast that not only tantalizes our taste buds but also fosters a deeper understanding of the unique traditions that shape each of us. Please bring your culinary delights, and join us for an afternoon of fellowship, cultural exchange, and, of course, delicious food.

Sally Telford | Religious Education Coordinator



Upcoming Key Dates

WEEK 7

Thursday 30 November

- USA Basketball Tour
- End of Year Mass | 9:00am, Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Junior School Disco | 1:20pm, Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Celebration of First Reconciliation | 4:30pm, St Paul's Church

Friday 1 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Last Day for Year 11 Students
- Year R-6 Assembly - Blessing of the Cribs

WEEK 8

Monday 4 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Year 10 Work Experience / EIF Experience
- 2024 Year 7 Orientation Day
- Year 3 Beach Clean-Up Excursion
- 2023 Science Experience

Tuesday 5 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Year 10 Work Experience / EIF Experience
- 2024 Year 7 Orientation Day
- 2023 Science Experience
- Year 1-6 Transition Visit

Wednesday 6 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Year 10 Work Experience / EIF Experience
- 2023 Science Experience
- Carols in the Church | St Paul's Church

Thursday 7 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Year 10 Work Experience / EIF Experience
- 2023 Science Experience
- Year 4/5 Mass
- Reception Liturgy
- Reception Community Lunch Excursion

Friday 8 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Year 10 Work Experience / EIF Experience
- Last Day for Year 10 Students
- Year 1 End of Year Excursion | Oatmill Cinema
- Junior School Arts Showcase




2023 Titans USA Tour



Our 2023 Titans USA Tour has begun! To follow along with the daily adventures visit the link below or check out our facebook page.

To follow along with the tour [click here](#)

AMAYA'S GRAPHIC ART EXHIBITION
2023
At the Tenison Woods College Front Office, Mount Gambier
Monday 20th Nov to Wednesday 13th Dec 2023
During school hours
All are welcome!



Amaya Gamage 2023

Blog  Facebook 

Amaya's Graphic Art Exhibition

Talented Year 12 Poplars student Amaya, along with her parents, would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the College, especially Poplars, and her Graphics Teacher Yunita Manfrin for supporting Amaya through her school journey. Amaya's Art display is located in the Front Office and Mall area.

Please pop in and see Amaya's beautiful work on display.



Christmas Pageant Presentation

A selection of students accompanied Kiahna Little a Year 6 Student Leader who participated in the Pageant to be presented with the \$500 prize money for the Best Christmas Theme. Kiahna wrote and read a speech in which she thanked the sponsors, the Mt Gambier City Council, Tenison Woods College staff and students.

We also thanked Harralds Trucks and Williams Cranes for their support. Tenison pledged \$100 back to the Mayors Fundraiser. The students were treated to a visit from Father Christmas and also some tasty snacks. Mayor Lynette Martin also spoke to the students and congratulated them. Judges were most impressed with the theme and also the impact Tenison had with so many parents, students and staff supporting the float.



Teddy Bear Picnic

On Monday 20 November our Year 11 students got to know the Early Learning & Community Centre Children at the 'Teddy Bear' picnic on the Junior School Oval!

Students enjoyed the sunshine as they learnt more about their little buddies, played fun games and read books.

New friendships were made as they look forward to spending more time together in 2024 as some of the children move into Reception.



Little Mermaid Poplars Performance

In Week 6, our Little Mermaid characters donned their costumes for the final time as they put on an interactive performance for the Poplars students.

The Poplars watched on as the cast performed a few of the key musical numbers before a dance party ensued.



Community 
Noticeboard

See the Community Noticeboard for posters and notices of upcoming events within our College, and wider community. Click [here](#) to view this page.



2024 Reception Transition Days

Over the past two weeks, the College welcomed the 2024 Reception students as part of their two days of transition.

The young students have enjoyed meeting their teachers, making friends and learning about the new environments.

Thank you to our Year 5 students who showed leadership when escorting and interacting with the students and their families.



Junior School Transition Visits

Today your child has had their first transition visit to their 2024 class. Please check your child's school bag for a letter outlining their teacher/s for 2024. Their next transition visit will be next Tuesday 5 December.

Francesca Dickson | Head of Junior School.



Scholastic Book Club Issue 8

Scholastic Book Club Issue 8 is out now and will be the last Book Club for the year.

Purchases need to be placed through the LOOP online ordering platform only. LOOP is the easiest way for you to order and pay online for your child's book club order and the books will be delivered to their class. You can place your child's order at [scholastic.com.au/LOOP](https://www.scholastic.com.au/LOOP) or using the LOOP app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play. Just follow the prompts to create a new account if it is your first-time ordering (only one account per family is required). We will no longer be accepting cash payments for book club. All orders for Issue 8 need to be in by Friday 1st of December. If you purchase books as a gift, Please let your teacher know so this can be passed on.

Jess Lucas | Library Assistant

Uniform Shop

Opening Hours

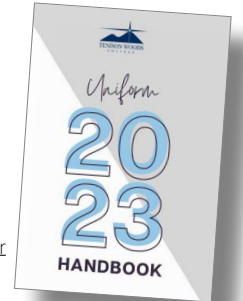
Tuesday 8:00am – 12:00pm
Wednesday 8:00am – 12:00pm
Thursday 12:30pm – 4:30pm

Online Store

To access the online Uniform Shop please [click here](#).

Last day of trading will be Wednesday 13 December

Kylie Watson | Uniform Shop



From the Sports Department

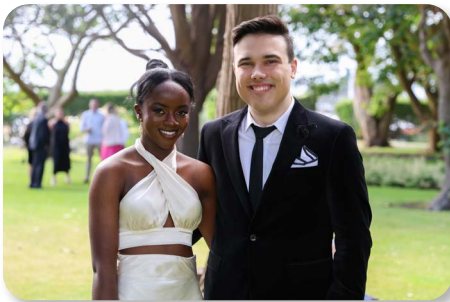


SAPSASA Tennis

On the 22 - 24 November 2023, Abbie Richards, Sophia McCullough and Louis Prosperi-Porta participated in the SAPSASA Tennis in Adelaide. Abbie and Sophia played at West Lakes for the Mid-Southeast team whilst Louis played at Henley Beach for the Lower Southeast. On Wednesday Sophia and Abbie played the hardest team first, who had won it last year. Unfortunately they were too strong once again. Later that afternoon the girls played again and were getting better slowly but lost 6 sets to 12. On Thursday we managed to play our morning team, before it started raining, unfortunately losing 7 sets to 11. After the rain stopped play Thursday afternoon we had to play catchup on Friday. Although we didn't win any games we had a great experience overall and learnt a lot.

Louis's Mid-South east team had a great start to their campaign winning the first game convincingly before going down in a close second match. Thursday was also washed out and unfortunately on Friday Louis played some hard opponents with short game times to catchup from the washout. Overall Louis had a great time and loved the experience.

Year 12 Graduation



Titans USA Tour



Little Mermaid Poplars Performance



Junior School Showcase



CAROLS IN THE CHURCH

WEDNESDAY 6 DECEMBER

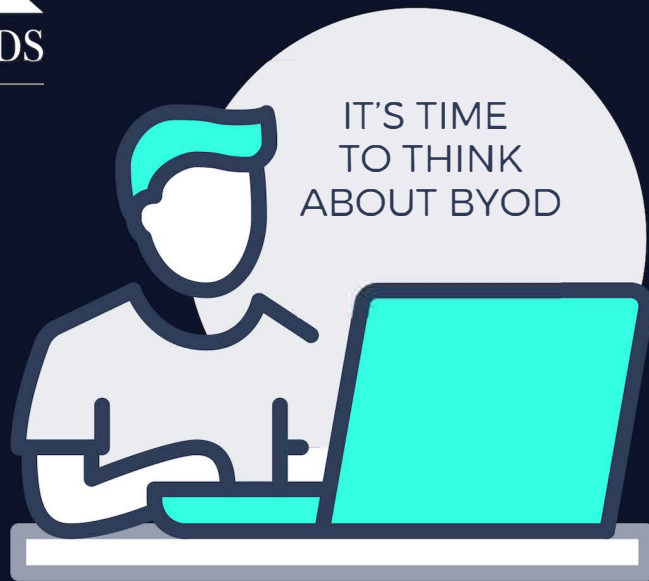
6:00PM | ST. PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH | PENOLA ROAD, MT GAMBIER

FEATURING:

- IGNITE CHOIR
- BLAZE CHOIR
- CAROLS BAND
- SENIOR BOYS ENSEMBLE
- CONCERT CHOIR
- SENIOR VOCAL ENSEMBLE

**GOLD COIN DONATION
CANDLES FOR SALE OR
BRING YOUR OWN BATTERY
OPERATED CANDLE**





ATTENTION YEAR 6 FAMILIES

ARE YOU READY FOR YEAR 7 IN 2024?

Thinking about what laptop to get for next year?

Check out our Bring Your Own Device
page on our website

[HTTPS://WWW.TENISON.CATHOLIC.EDU.AU/BYOD-
INFORMATION/PARENTS-CARERS-BYOD-INFORMATION](https://www.tenison.catholic.edu.au/byod-information/parents-carers-byod-information)