TENISON WOODS COLLEGE

Early Learning to Year 12 Co-Educational Catholic College

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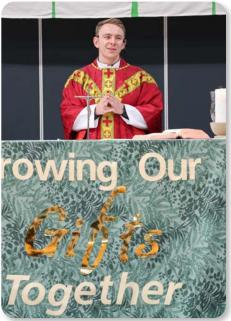
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Weekly Newsletter TENISON WOODS — COLLEGE

End of Year Mass

Last Thursday, the College held its End of Year Thanksgiving Mass - celebrated by Father Olek. Students were encouraged to reflect on and give thanks for the gifts and talents they have been blessed with and the opportunities they have had to grow to nurture their gifts this year. The Mass banner was a fantastic display of our collective achievements this year.















From the Principal



Thanksgiving Mass

Thursday morning 30 November we gathered in the Barrie Holmes Stadium for our whole College Thanksgiving Mass. At this celebration of Mass, presided by Father Olek Stirrat, 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 "grown our gifts together."

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.



Year 10 Exploring Identities and Futures – The Adelaide Experience

While half of the Year 10 cohort are enjoying work experience this week the other half are completing their Exploring Identities and Futures (EIF) Experience. EIF provides a unique opportunity for students to tailor their experience to meet their needs, and co-construct their week based on the key principles of the Living, Learning, Leading Framework. The Experience provides the opportunity for students to tackle the provocation: thriving people, capable learners, leaders for the world God desires, with each student able to create their own unique experience in Adelaide, while unpacking the CESA Key Capabilities Continua.

During a week of individualised challenge and provocation, our students also met up with our very good friend, Father Dean Marin, now Vicar General of the Adelaide Archdiocese at the St Francis Xavier Catholic Cathedral. Father Dean celebrated mass with the group and enjoyed some time with the students.





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 at 5:30pm that Monday evening, the Middle School awards Ceremony 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."

Staff concluding their service

As we conclude the year with various rites of passage experiences at Tenison Woods College we also thank the following staff for their service to the College as they conclude their time with us move to new adventures:

Teaching staff

Shasta Bowman Junior School Teacher

Justine Forrest Middle school and Senior School Science Teacher Saad Habib Senior School ICT and Mathematics Teacher

Brad Maney Wellbeing Coordinator, Agriculture Teacher and HPE Teacher

Kathy O'Connell Junior School Teacher

Chloe Shanahan Religious Education Coordinator and Teacher

Co-educators / Education Support Officers

Caitlin Barrett Public Relations and Events Officer

Nada Brookes CIM Support Officer and Poplars Co-educator

Ben Hardy Middle School Co-educator
Richard Hill High Performance Basketball Coach

Dan Hough Poplars Co-educator Tracey Kourmouzis Sugarloaf Café

Amanda Stevens Senior School Administration Support

Ally Tucker Poplars Co-educator

Trainees

Ashley de Jong Classroom (Italian) Support Trainee
Alyssa Duncan Classroom Support Trainee
Administration Support Trainee

Mia Van Gaans ICT Support Trainee Ethan Hopgood Performing Arts Trainee

Aiden Mustey ELCC Trainee
Liam Nott ELCC Trainee

Sarah Taylor Classroom Support Trainee Riley Turnbull Sports & Recreation Trainee

Staff taking leave in 2024

George Adamopoulos Technical Studies Teacher Stacey Bradley Junior School Teacher Donna Denton High Performance Netball Coach

Tom Linnell Middle School Teacher and Ecology and Sustainability

Coordinator

Tara Millard HPE and Outdoor Education Teacher
Tessa Richardson ELCC Leader of Learning and Educator

As these staff leave us, we say thank you for their commitment to our community, their inspiration and their wonderful legacy through their service to Tenison Woods College

The essence of Advent On Waiting, Preparing and Rejoicing

We commenced Advent Sunday 3 December. Advent is a season or time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word "adventus," meaning "coming" or "arrival."

The essence of Advent invites us to anticipate the birth of Jesus by preparing our hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth. At this time, Advent symbolises hope for the future and the fulfillment of God's promises. The lighting of Advent candles, arranged in a wreath, represents the increasing light of Christ entering the world and dispelling darkness.

Beyond the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations, Advent encourages spiritual preparation. This involves self-reflection, repentance, and a focus on the deeper meaning of Christmas – the arrival of God in human form to bring salvation. As such Advent is marked by a sense of joyful expectation. We not only reflect on the birth of Jesus but also anticipate his second coming. This dual focus reinforces the idea that Christ's arrival has both historical and future significance.

Overall, the essence of Advent lies in the profound spiritual journey of waiting, preparing, and rejoicing as we celebrate the incarnation of Christ and eagerly anticipate his return. It is a time that encourages us to deepen our faith, cultivate hope, and embody the virtues of patience and joy in the midst of our society's allurement to the commercial first world entrapments of our society's abundance.

Let us appreciate the essence of Advent this year, as we wait, prepare and rejoice.

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, check out our Bring Your Own Device page on our website. The link can be found by <u>clicking here</u>.

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:

Tuesday 23 January 2024 Wednesday 24 January 2024 Friday 26 January 2024 Monday 29 January 2024

All Teaching Staff commence Book collection day and Staff planning day Australia Day Public Holiday

Reception, Poplars, Years 7, 10,11, 12 commence Term 1.

Tuesday 30 January 2023

All other students commence term 1.

God Bless,

David Mezinec | Principal

CIM Team News

Advent

We are now in the first week of the Church season of Advent.
Advent is a period of preparation, extending over the four
Sundays before Christmas. Despite the many celebrations,
gift-buying sprees, and decorating of our homes during the
weeks before Christmas, Advent invites us to walk towards
Bethlehem and to welcome Jesus into our lives once again.

Let Henri Nouwen's prayer remind us of this most important of

life's pilgrimages:

"Lord Jesus, Master of both light and darkness, send your Holy Spirit upon our preparation for Christmas. . . . We are Your people, walking in darkness yet seeking the light. To You, we say, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Blessing of the Crib

Last Friday, our Junior School enjoyed the Blessing of the Cribs Assembly. Students were invited to bring in the crib from their Nativity scene to be blessed by Fr Peter, with students also acting out the Nativity. 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. Many students will have brought home a symbol of the nativity that was created in class and blessed at the assembly. We hope these find a special place in your homes.

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.

The recent Junior School Disco raised \$360.40 which will be used by the Junior School STAR representatives to purchase gifts to go under the tree. The Year 11's also held a pizza lunch with proceeds going toward gifts.

We encourage families to bring unwrapped gifts, toiletry items and/or cash donations to place under the tree between now and Tuesday of next week. We thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity towards those in need within our community.

Masses at Tenison Woods College

We invite family and friends to join us for the final Masses and liturgies for the term in the school Chapel. Upcoming Masses and Liturgies are as follows:

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.

Tenison Woods College Carols in the Church - TONIGHT

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 tonight, 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.

Multicultural Christmas Lunch

A multicultural Christmas lunch will be held at St. Paul's Hall- Sunday, 10th 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.



SACE Football Pilot Kicks Off

The SACE Open Boys Soccer squad travelled to Mount Barker on Sunday to compete against the Adelaide Hills under 16 JPL side.

In warm conditions the squad started well with an early chance falling to Jack Latham and Finn Dickson having a shot cleared off the line in the first few minutes. Latham scored the first on the ten minute mark and made it two soon after. Dickson made it three with a shot from the edge of box before Latham finished off a super move getting into a Mee Reh Htoo cross, thundering in his third. The Hawks fought back towards the main break with Kade Turnbull in fine form making several top saves.

The break was well received with the temperature heading towards 30 and with a few minor injuries the Titans shuffled the pack with Alex Obedi moving into the midfield and Richard Kinyabuguna dropping deeper. Moo Bya Hsar was working hard combining well with Marcus Gajic and it was this combination that put Latham through to score his fourth. Mee Reh Htoo made it six with a world class strike from outside the box before Obedi found the net and Moo Bya wrapped it all up with the final shot of the game to make it 8.

After the game the squad headed to Glenelg for a recovery session and dinner before spending the night at Aquinas Residential College.

The squad will return to training before and after school next week in preparation for a home and away clash against the Adelaide Hills Hawks JPL under 18 squad. The SACE Co-Curriculum Football Pilot has been created to support students involved in the 2023 Open Boys Knockout Soccer Squad to complete their SACE. For further information about this initiative program please contact Scott Dickson, Director of Learning dicksc@tenison.catholic.edu.au



2023 Titans USA Tour

Stay up-to-date with the latest adventures of our Students and Staff in the USA, visit the link below or check out our facebook page.

To follow along with the tour click here



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.



Timor-Leste Fundraiser 2024 Calendar

Availabe in the Front Office, for \$25 each. All proceeds go towards Timor-Lestethis is a fantastic Christmas gift!







Senior School Awards

Congratulations to Hay Kler Moo (pictured top) for winning the Poplars Award, and Holly Flint (pictured above) for being the recipient of the John Benjamin Award

Pictured above L-R: Melissa Taylor, Matthew Flint, Holly Flint, Simmone Flint and Prinicpal David Mezinec.



Extra Funds Raised for the Giving Tree

On Friday 1 December, the Year 11 cohort came together in their newly claimed territory (aka the Common Room) to share a pizza lunch and raise much needed funds for the College Giving Tree. Members of the Senior School leadership team stepped up to help collect money and set up the space, whilst Anna Cory deserves a special mention for helping prepare the order the night before whilst on her usual shift at Dominoes. Thank you to Miss Graney who went and collected the dozen pizzas to help keep everyone happy. Collectively, over \$250 was raised and seven \$20-25 "Ultimate FUN Gift Cards" were purchased for teenagers to visit Kaboom/Flip Out in the new year. Great work everyone!

Pictured: Yr 11 Wellbeing Coordinator: David Cole, Yr 11 Student Representative: Kaylee Naude & CIM 7 - 9 Leader: Chris Lloyd



Hands-on experience for Agriculture Students

Over the course of the semester our Year 9 Agriculture Class have been monitoring the development of a selection of Angus steers located at a property in Wandilo. Students have weighed the animals multiple times tracking their weight gain whilst developing their individual livestock handling.

Last month these animals were processed at Teys Australia.

Last week David Woolard from Teys Australia and Darren Maney were able to visit the class and talk through how to read a kill sheet as well as look at the profit/loss of these particular animals. Students were engaged throughout and gained a lot from their visit. We thank David and Darren for their time.



Gap Year Mission

2023 School Captain Gael Chizungu is getting ready for the most exciting gap year job, accepting a 6 month placement volunteering in Kong Poi Per, Cambodia. Gael will be spending her time mentoring students from Year 1-12 providing them with assistance with their studies.

Gael applied for the volunteering position with the Cagliero Project, an organisation that provides overseas volunteer experiences for Australians who wish to work with the disadvantaged and marginalized. The Cagliero volunteers commit themselves to working in the 'Salesian Way'. This means that young people are the central focus in all work. The Salesian way also means approaching life in a joyful way with a loving heart. This single sentence sums up Gael and the leadership she displayed this year.

We congratulate Gael on being accepted into the program and wish her all the best for her time in Cambodia.



Year 7 Students of Chinese Shining in Adelaide

At the end of November, Alva Aquino and Oliver Stapleton participated in State-Wide Chinese Video Competition 2023 organised by the Chinese Language Teachers' Association of South Australia. Alva won the third place in Year 7 - Year 9 Chinese as a Second Language Group and a bronze medal with her recorded speech entitled as My Name Is Future, while Oliver won the Certificate of Excellent Performance with his performance of My Future Isn't A Dream, which is a household Chinese song. Alva also won the Best Student of Chinese of 2023. In Australian Singing Chinese Songs Competition, an event sponsored and organised by the Sino-Australian Friendship Promotion Association on 18th November, Alva Aquino, Raia Haggis, Harrison Freckleton, and Oliver Stapleton all won Best Expression Award certificates and vouchers for their recorded Chinese song singing performance. Harrison Freckleton had the honour of singing Heaven, a household folk song in China, in Elder Hall of the University of Adelaide, winning an ovation from the six hundred audience members and a nickname "Chinese Tenger". Tenger is the original singer and writer of Heaven. It is great that our amazing students worked hard on a very foreign language and won recognition from a wider audience on a bigger stage.









Uniform Shop



<u>Last day of trading will be</u> <u>Wednesday 13 December</u>



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.

Kylie Watson | Uniform Shop



Paving the way for Early Childhood Education

Our Tenison Woods College Early Learning & Community Centre is leading the region, giving children an early start to quality education with the introduction of teachers to lead their Early Years program for three year-olds.

The move is in-line with a recommendation from the South Australian Royal Commission into Early Childhood Care and Education, as well as being an election promise from the current Labor Government, to ensure three year-olds receive the same level of education as four-year-olds.

In a first for the South East, the Centre will adopt the innovative teaching approach, in a dedicated move to extend children's learning prior to commencing school, introducing the strengthened teaching approach from Term 1 January 2024.

As reported in recent media, Premier Mr Peter Malinauskas has said the evidence was clear that the decisions made in the first 1,000 days of a child's life helped set the course for the rest of their life - with up to 90 percent of brain development happening during this time.

Principal, Mr David Mezinec said the new approach was a huge step forward in early childhood education for the region. "This decision will advance the learning of the children in our Centre by giving them two years of preschool before they commence Reception," he said. "It is part of our school's ongoing commitment to offer a whole family approach from early childhood to Year 12 and beyond. Our aim is to set children up for success from the very beginning of their education." The addition of teachers in the two three year-old rooms, will complement the Centre's existing educational philosophy and demonstrates the continued dedication to providing quality

The Early Learning & Community Centre opened on site at Tenison Woods College in 2014 and celebrates its 10th anniversary next year. The Centre caters for children aged three years-old to school age and is built on Reggio Emilia and Montessori philosophies with child agency at its heart.

"It's such an exciting time to be in the Centre," Early Learning & Community Centre Director, Ms Fran Scanlon, said. "To be part of this new direction in early years education and knowing we are continuing to improve and provide the best possible education for all the children in our Centre is extremely rewarding.













Exploring Identities and Futures Experience

The EIF Experience started earlier this week, with 50 students making their way to Adelaide for the Summer EIF Experience.

The EIF Experience provides a unique opportunity for Year 10 students to tailor their experience to meet their needs, and co-construct their week based on the key principles of the Living, Learning, Leading Framework. The Experience provides the opportunity for students to tackle the provocation: thriving people, capable learners, leaders for the world God desires with each student able to create their own unique experience, while unpacking the Key Capabilities Continua.

With a total of 70 students and 8 staff involved over a 129 hour period it's set to be a big week. With 36 experiences to pick from, student agency has been highlighted with each student able to create their own unique experience.

Day 1: Sunday started early with a group of students travelling to St Francis de Sales College on Mini Bus to compete against Adelaide Hills Hawks JPL Soccer side. Mini Bus 2 left mid morning and headed straight to Adelaide Oval for the Rooftop Climb and the remaining students took a leisurely journey on the Stateliner Coach.

The evening activities included the Rooftop Climb at Adelaide Oval, Gourmet Foods and Ice Cream on Gouger Street and the final group spent a few hours at the North Adelaide Golf Club on the driving range.

The evening concluded at Aquinas Residential College where we will be staying for the week.

Day 2: What a beautiful day. Our day commenced early with the entire cohort attending morning Mass at St Francis Xavier Cathedral with our wonderful friend, Father Dean. We were blessed to once again enjoy his warmth and love at the cathedral, a delightful and unexpected surprise.

After Mass the cohort split into three groups with one group visiting the SA/NT Head Office of the Guide Dogs, an intrepid group of students headed off to the Australian Space Discovery Centre and our budding sports star's experienced a behind the scenes tour of Adelaide Oval.

After lunch we were fortunate to have students tour the Adelaide Festival Centre complex, another group headed to Adelaide Oval and the third group spent the afternoon at the Royal Adelaide Zoo.

The more adventurous students took part in a very demanding Bootcamp with Athletica Fitness, The creative students spent the evening at an all inclusive pottery experience; Mrs Mott lead a tour through the streets of North Adelaide highlighting the residential Colleges; and a large group of students enjoyed a stroll along the foreshore at Glenelg with fish and chips by the sea.















Blessing of the Cribs





















Titans USA Tour



















ELCC Children visit Boandik



















Junior School Disco

















Upcoming Key Dates

WEEK 8

Wednesday 6 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- Year 10 Work Experience / EIF Experience
- 2023 Science Experience
- Carols in the Church | St Paul's Church 6:00pm

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 12:00pm to 1:20pm

Saturday 9 December

- Parish Working Bee for anyone willing and able to help get the Church ready for Christmas - 9:00am
- USA Basketball Tour
- 6pm Mass at St Paul's

Sunday 10 December

- USA Basketball Tour
- 11:00am Mass at St Paul's and Blessing of the Crib

WEEK 9

Monday 11 December

- Year 6 Graduation 9:00am
- Year 7 End of Year Celebration Oatmill Cinema and Icehouse 9:00am
- Year 8 End of Year Celebration Valley Lakes & Oatmill Cinema 9:00am
- Year 9 End of Year Celebration Raillands & Wulanda
- Poplars Concert 5:30pm Barrie Holmes Stadium
- Year 6 Graduation Disco St. Paul's Hall 6:30pm-9:30pm
- USA Basketball Tour

Tuesday 12 December

- Middle School Awards & Year 9 Graduation Ceremony BHS 9:00am
- Reception End of Year Celebration Oatmill Cinema 9:45am
- Year 6 End of Year Celebration Wulanda Rec Centre 10:00am
- Year 9 Shine Finale BHS 5:00pm
- Year 9 Graduation Celebration 7:30pm, PRC Common Room
- USA Basketball Tour

Wednesday 13 December

- 2024 Year 8-10 Orientation
- ELCC Kindy Graduations 10:00am and 2:00pm
- Year R-6 Conclude 3:15pm
- Year 7-9 Conclude 3:20pm

Year 7 2024 Transition









Year 7 2024 Transition



















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

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Old Scholars 'Where are you now'



Andrew Byrne

Graduation Year

1987

Occupation/Profession

Public Servant, Department of Defence

Briefly describe your career path since graduating:

After graduating, I completed both Science and Arts degrees (with a couple of gap years) at Flinders University. I then joined the Department of Defence as a graduate in 1996. Since then I have worked in several different Commonwealth agencies, including the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

I've spent over a decade working overseas in Australian embassies, including Australia's High Commissioner to Solomon Islands and Deputy Ambassador to the Philippines. In 2019, I returned to Defence, where I'm now responsible for building Australia's missile manufacturing industry.

What are you most proud of?

My kids. My son Henry (17) has secured early acceptance into the Australian National University; and my daughter Zahra (13) excels at a range of sports, allowing her Dad to live vicariously through her sporting prowess!

How has your education influenced your career choices?

My tertiary education was quite broad, with majors in Maths, Computer Science and Politics. The 'hard' sciences taught me how to think about and deconstruct complex problems; the social sciences taught me how to express myself clearly. Both have been equally important in my career, and have perhaps given me more choices than if I'd followed a narrower educational pathway.

Any notable achievements or milestones in your professional life?

Representing my country overseas has been a great privilege. It enabled me to see some world leaders up close and personal and sometimes even play a small role in global events.

Highlights have included leading the team that helped build the Timor-Leste Defence Force after independence; working as a peace monitor in Bougainville at the end of the civil war; and leading the response to the kidnapping of an Australian in the Philippines (the hostage was finally released after a grueling negotiation). Being appointed Australia's High Commissioner to Solomon Islands was a particular highlight, and a very rewarding experience.

Advice or lessons learned you would like to share with current students?

Set yourself some goals, work hard towards them, don't be deterred by setbacks, and remember to enjoy life and be kind to people along the way.

