

Weekly Newsletter

Happy Holidays!



END OF YEAR EVENTS!

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Wishing everyone a Holy Christmas

And a safe and joyous New Year

From the Tenison Woods College Community



LET
YOUR
light
SHINE



MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Growing our Gifts Together at Tenison Woods College

From the Principal



Rites of Passage in the Junior School, Poplars and Middle School

The Junior School Year 6 Graduation Ceremony and Poplars Concert on Monday, 11 December, and the Middle School Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, 12 December were wonderful community celebrations and rites of passage. Thank you to the PR and Events Team, ICT Team, Heads of School, Francesca Dickson and Nick Patzel, and Poplars Coordinators, Natasha Davis and Alex Window, as well as the respective teaching staff for planning and presenting the celebrations. It was wonderful to see the students acknowledged and celebrated for their achievements, but also in their time of transition.

The Year 9 End of Year Celebration on Tuesday evening was another wonderful rite of passage event, and poignant reminder of just how fast our young develop and how precious, as it is fleeting, is this time with them. Thank you to Nick Patzel, Brad Maney, and the Year 9 staff for their efforts this year in creating the 9Shine program, leading to the 9Shine camp and the significant family event for our young.

As we have celebrated over the past two days we have accentuated this year's theme "growing our gifts together" and how we have lived our PERMA framework, which we have made our own through SHINE. During the Year 6 and Year 9 Graduations I asked the audience to think of a time this year when they felt good about being a member of Tenison Woods College.

I asked was it when you:

- S – were striving to be successful and you gave it your best?
- H - helping others to be their best?
- I - getting involved and in the flow?
- N – when you were known by name, seen and you mattered?
- E - enjoying positive emotions that lifted your spirits?
- + - being healthy and nourished in your body?

I reiterated that if they felt good about being at Tenison Woods College they were expressing our SHINE approach to being well, living well or wellbeing.

We then turned our thoughts to a time when they did their best, or achieved at their best.

- I asked, was it because of your Skills – when you 'nailed' your learning and you showed that so well?
- What about your Work ethic – did you achieve because you tried hard as long as it took?
- How was your Attitude? Did you not give up? Did your attitude create your altitude? How did your attitude effect those around you?
- Did you know your Game – what you were doing and why? Did your God, our God, help you play well, to see what was important and how we work together? We remember God's game is a game of respect and care for others.

I queried, whether in achieving did you SWAGGER? I then put it to the audience that if you felt good and that you belonged you were SHINING (in the right place) and if you did well you were most likely SWAGGERing (achieving your pathway). At Tenison Woods College we say every learner has a place – expressing SHINE, and every learner has a pathway – using your SWAGger I underlined that having a place and a pathway are the two critical keys to a full and fulfilling life.

I finally thanked all present for their commitment to SHINE and SWAGGER, which has left a lasting impression on the fabric and story of our community; who we are and what we value. I am thankful to our community for stepping up to "grow our gifts together" to bring out the best in others so that we all have confidence to SHINE and SWAGGER.

Rest In Peace

In recent weeks the Mount Gambier Parish has farewelled to eternal life loyal parishioners and people who have also been committed to the development of the Tenison Woods College community. At this time we offer our condolences and prayers of support to the families of Jeremy (Jerry) Leech, Kevin Davids and Ron and Shirley Johnson. We enjoy the Tenison Woods College school community of today because of the passion, ingenuity and prudence of stalwarts such as Jerry, Kevin, Shirley and Ron. In our support of these families we also express our deep appreciation for the legacy which continues through their families and the cultural weave of our College community.

ELCC Graduations – Stepping up from Stepping Stones

This week we are enjoying four Early Learning and Community Centre Graduations, which mark a significant transition for the young children of our community. The children are stepping from the Stepping Stones Program (Kindergarten) to Reception.

I thank the ELCC staff who, under Frances Scanlon and Angela Cutting's passionate, experienced and nuanced leadership, have created a warm, inviting and engaging centre. I trust our children, who are well prepared for reception, confidently enjoy the benefits of our R-12 school community and look with fondness on their learning and care in the ELCC.

Book Collection

Students in Years R-6 will have Book Collection Day at school on Wednesday 24 January 2024. Books can be collected from their new classroom between 8:30am – 10:30am, and 12:30pm – 1:30pm.

Year 7 -12 stationery can be purchased from any location. As part of the College's focus on sustainability we encourage, where possible, to reuse folders or stationery from previous years. Booklists have been distributed to your child and will be followed up with a Broadcast to parents.

School Commencement Days for 2024

Reception, Year 7, 10,11, 12 and Poplars students will commence school on Monday 29 January with all other Year levels starting the school year on Tuesday 30 January, 2024. We also invite all parents, and particularly new parents to a Welcome Morning Tea in the College Staff Room at 9:00am on 30 January.

School Front Office Opening Hours

The Front office will be closed Friday, 15 December for our Whole Staff Development Day, and then closing for the year on Friday 22 December 2023 and reopening Monday 15 January 2024.

2024 School Calendar

The 2024 Tenison Woods College School Calendar will be available on the Tenison Woods College Website at, <http://www.tenison.catholic.edu.au/school-calendar/> accessed through SEQTA and will be emailed to families on 18 December 2023.

Timetables for Year 7 to Year 12 - Available Next Friday

Timetables will be available for students to view through their SEQTA Portal page from Friday, 22 December 2023. New Year 7 to 12 students will have a copy of their timetable mailed to them.

School reports

Parents and students will be able to access End of Year Reports via SEQTA today, Wednesday 13 December. Reports can be downloaded as a .PDF file and viewed on a device or a computer and printed, if a hardcopy is preferred.

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 [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:

A full list of 2024 key dates will follow soon via the school calendar, but to assist with planning I inform our College community of dates to commence the 2024 academic year:

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, Poplars, Years 7, 10,11, 12 commence Term 1.
Tuesday 30 February 2024	All other students commence term 1.

God Bless,

David Meziniec | Principal





CIM Team News

Sharing your Christmas – the Krist Kindl Giving Tree



Today, the Krist Kindl Giving Tree gifts and donations were collected by representatives from Vinnies and ac.Care. They spoke with gratitude and thanks for the generosity of our school community and the difference our donations will make in the community this Christmas.

We will also be supporting the Community Christmas Lunch held on Christmas Day and the Sunset Community Kitchen in the lead up to Christmas. We would like to thank all families and staff who have so generously supported the Tenison Woods College Krist Kindl Giving Tree this year.

Christmas Mass Times

Please see the attached timetable of Christmas mass times across the South East Deanery.

Wishing you all a safe and blessed holiday season.

From the Parish

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Sat, 23 Dec - 4th Sunday of Advent

10AM ST MARY'S, MT GAMBIER

4.30PM ST JOSEPH'S, PENOLA

4.30PM ST ALPHONSUS', MILLICENT

6PM ST PAUL'S, MT GAMBIER

Sun, 24 Dec - 4th Sunday of Advent

9AM ST PAUL'S, MT GAMBIER

Sun, 24 Dec - Christmas Eve

4.30PM ST THERESE'S, KINGSTON

4.30PM ST ALPHONSUS', MILLICENT

6PM ST PAUL'S, MT GAMBIER

7PM ST JOSEPH'S, PENOLA

MIDNIGHT MASS ST PAUL'S, MT GAMBIER

Mon, 25 Dec - Christmas Day

9AM ST AUGUSTINE'S, PT MACDONNELL

9AM ST BRIGID'S, BEACHPORT

11AM ST PAUL'S, MT GAMBIER

11AM STAR OF THE SEA, ROBE



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](#)



End of Year Book Returns - Final Days

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 2023. All remaining books are to be returned to the Front Office by Wednesday 20 December.

Alexandra Nicholson | Library Manager



Students participate in 'Engage Asia'

Last Friday during lunchtime, Lesson 7 and Lesson 8 our Year 7 students of Chinese engaged with Year 7 students in Shouguang Century School, Tenison Woods College's sister school in Shandong Province of China.

The Students enjoyed chattering, singing songs and laughing together.



Gifts for the Sunset Community Kitchen

Menna and Molly our 2024 Wellbeing Leaders helped to package gifts for the Sunset Community Kitchen and the Mount Gambier Community Christmas Lunch. Gifts have been donated by our school community and processed by our wellbeing team. Great work Menna and Molly!



Project Mural Class complete Artwork

Congratulations to the final group of 2023 Year 9 Project Muralists. This piece was completed as a vintage-style nod to the local area and walking trails. Students worked together to develop ideas for this space through research, a series of sketches, mock-ups, and class meetings. They then began the mammoth task of painting, working in many layers, developing technical skills and bringing their vision to life. We welcome our community to view the piece at Marist Park oval at any time.



Year 1s Build a City

Mrs Buick's Year 1 class has been learning about geography and residential areas in class. The students used recycled materials such as box's and plastic containers to create the base of their buildings and further used arts and craft materials to make their visions come to life.





Science Experience

Five young future scientists spent four days in week 8 exploring the world class Adelaide University City and Waite Campuses. They stayed at Lincoln College and got the full student experience, mastering public transport and exploring the city shops and Glenelg beach.

Some of the more enjoyable sessions included the Deltahedra Maths Activity, where students had to make shapes then hypothesize different scenarios such as how many sides they could have (odd or even number). The Edible Insect Research talk and tasting was also very interesting although not all students enjoyed the tasty mealworms. They did all agree though that working collaboratively in the research and development of edible insects would be a very interesting career pathway.

Bernadette Fisher



Work Experience

During Week 8, Year 10 student Charlotte Tarr who worked in the Forestry Division at OneFortyOne. Charlotte had a great few days with OneFortyone and learnt alot from her experience.



Fiji Soccer Tournament

Year 8 students Samuel Swiggs and Liam Bidese were recently selected for an Australian team that travelled to Fiji to compete in a soccer tournament. The Under 15's team consisted of players from Mount Gambier, Sydney and Canberra.

Their team finished third in the tournament, missing out on the grand final by one point. It was an incredible effort, as they played against Fijian teams who were not only used to the hot and humid conditions, but also had numerous Fiji National Team players in their side. Samuel and Liam both played some awesome soccer and showed incredible resilience in the harsh conditions.

It was a wonderful sporting experience, but the trip also had an important humanitarian element to it. The players were able to travel to a number of towns across Fiji's main island, seeing firsthand the third-world living conditions many of the children come from. They visited schools, trained with local kids and took donations of soccer boots, soccer uniforms and school stationery supplies.

The Fijian people with their warmth and genuine happiness, were a real inspiration to Samuel and Liam. It will be an experience they remember for many years to come.





Key Dates 2023/2024

2023

Wednesday 13 December

- End of Term 4

Thursday 14 December

- ELCC Graduations: Thursday 14 December 10.00am and 2.00pm
- Student Free Day

Friday 15 December

- Student Free Day

Monday 18 December

- SACE Results Day

Tuesday 19 December

- ELCC Picnic in the park 5.00pm -7.00pm at Gilap Wanga, Childrens carols at 6.00pm.

Wednesday 20 December

- ELCC Last Day
- OSHC Last Day

2024

Monday 8 January

- ELCC and OSHC Re-Open

Monday 15 January

- Front Office Re-Opens

Friday 3 February

- Year 7 Parents Welcome BBQ, Gilap Wanga 1:40pm

Please mark in your diaries the following important events:

JUNIOR SCHOOL DATES:

Monday 29 January	Reception Students begin school
Tuesday 30 January	Year 1-6 Students begin school Welcome Morning Tea for new parents – Sugarloaf Café, 9.00am
Tuesday 6 February	2023 DUX and Academic Awards Ceremony, 9.00am
Thursday 15 February	R-12 Welcome and Community Gathering Evening, 4.00pm
Thursday 22 February	Beginning of Year Liturgy – Marist Park, 9.00am
Wednesday 28 February	Year 3-6 Sports Day – Marist Park, 9.00am – 3.00pm
Thursday 29 February	R-2 Sports Day – Marist Park, 9.00am-12.00pm

MIDDLE/SENIOR SCHOOL DATES:

Monday 29 January	Year 7, 10, 11 & 12 Students begin Popars Students begin
Tuesday 30 January	Year 8 & 9 Students begin Welcome Morning Tea for new parents – Sugarloaf Café, 9.00am
Tuesday 6 February	2023 DUX and Academic Awards Ceremony, 9.00am
Monday 12 February	Years 7-12 Swimming Carnival, Wulanda Recreation Centre
Thursday 15 February	R-12 Welcome and Community Gathering Evening, 4.00pm
Thursday 22 February	Beginning of Year Liturgy – Marist Park, 9.00am



Year 2 Student Lyla Woolston wins State Pony Dressage Championship at only 8 Years of age

Year 2 Student Lyla Woolston is 8 years old, and was accepted to compete at the Victorian Dressage Festival at the Werribee Park Equestrian Centre on the weekend.

Lyla was honoured to have been accepted to compete at the event, as this is done by having high enough scores in dressage throughout the year. Plus, she was the only child competing in this class, and the youngest in the whole competition.

She was competing against 12 other adult riders and won her first test with a personal best score of 72.411%. Overall from both tests she was the highest scorer and won the title of State Champion in Preliminary Pony dressage. She was awarded a beautiful rug, ribbons and prize money.

Lyla is still 4 years too young to compete in the FEI children's tests as the minimum age is 12 years. This is why she is having to compete against the adults until she is of age.

Lyla works and trains extremely hard, and her pony *Loriot Skyes The Limit* is an absolute superstar & the ultimate dancing partner for Lyla.

Conratulations Lyla!

Uniform Shop



Last day of trading was today,
Wednesday 13 December



HOLIDAY TRADING HOURS

Thursday 18 & Friday 19 January, 9:00am - 4:00pm
Monday 22 January - Thursday 25 January,
9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday 26 January - CLOSED

Monday 29 January - 8:00am - 12:00pm

Online Store

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

Kylie Watson | Uniform Shop





Carols In The Church



On Wednesday 6 December, our musicians and singers lit up Saint Paul's Church with the annual Carols in the Church. Congratulations to the many bands, choirs and vocal ensembles who were on display and to their music teachers for preparing a beautiful program of music. Special thank you to the Friends of Music committee members who were able to assist on the night.



Junior School Arts Showcase

Last Friday the Junior School students were treated to the annual Junior Arts Showcase. A variety of Art was featured, from visual art masterpieces to outstanding acting skills. The Showcase was a mix of artistic learning experiences throughout 2023. Well done to all involved!





Middle School Awards

Yesterday we held our Middle School Awards, as students end their Middle School journey and prepare for Senior School. We also presented several awards to deserving students. Students and staff enjoyed a great Musical Performance by 'Fat Pony', before proudly accepting their graduation certificates. We also acknowledged our 2023 Year 9 Leadership team, as well as announcing our new Year 9 Leadership team for 2024! Congratulations to all students on completing their Middle School journey!



Poplars End Of Year Concert

On Monday Night, the Poplars' students celebrated the end of the year with family and friends at their annual Christmas Concert. The night started off with a prayer song to 'L O V E, Love' followed by the Junior Poplars students who performed the 'Reindeer Hokey Pokey' and 'It's Time to Go Home'. The Middle Poplars class performed to 'It's Christmas Time'. The Senior Poplars mixed it up with some synchronised swimming and a staff tribute! As always, the students were the stars of the show, displaying how much they have all changed and grown over the last 12 months.





Year 6 Graduation

On Monday we held our Year 6 Graduation, celebrating the achievement of students finishing their Junior School journey, as they prepare for Middle School. Students and staff enjoyed a musical performance, a farewell message from Head of Junior School Francesca Dickson and their teachers, as well as a message from Head of Middle School Nick Patzel. Each student also proudly accepted their Year 6 graduation certificate. We also acknowledged our 2023 Year 6 Leadership team, as well as announcing our new Year 6 Leadership team for 2024.



9SHINE Finale

We said farewell to our Year 9 students from Middle School with the 9SHINE Finale and Graduation on Tuesday night. Parents and caregivers learnt about the values that inspired the 9SHINE experience and also watched a video highlighting the new friendships created, the comfort zones broken and personal developments throughout the year in preparation for the camp. After the finale, students were rewarded for their achievements and hard work throughout the year with a night full of dancing and fun. Thank you to the staff that supervised and helped organise the night. It was a terrific way for our students to graduate from Middle School.





Year 9 Graduation

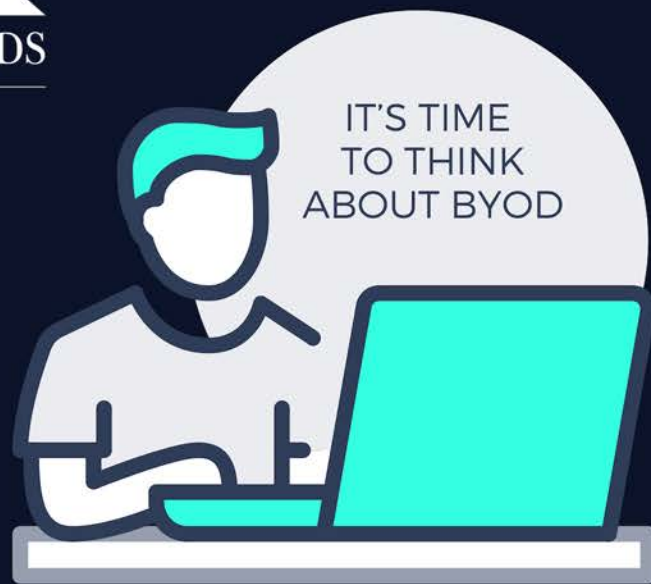




Krist Kindl Giving Tree

We thank everyone in our College Community who came together to donate gifts for the Krist Kindl Giving Tree. All gifts were distributed to Vinnes and A.C Care, to be given to families in need at Christmas time. Members of the Parish Youth Group will be helping organise the gifts with the Vinnies staff next Monday at St. Paul's Hall.
- Jeanette Elliott, Vinnies.





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)