



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Hope lights the Way

Tenison Woods College Early Learning to Year 12 Co-Educational Catholic College

WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2025 WEEK 7, TERM 1

TWILIGHT TOUR

Last week, we were thrilled to showcase our College at our wonderful Twilight Tour. It was great to offer our hospitality to potential, newly enrolled families and community members. Guests toured our College, with a few surprises along the way including a Popcorn Machine and Juice Bar hosted by our Academy of Hospitality Students. We look forward to welcoming many new faces joining our College community in 2026.



From the Principal



Stronger Families: A Positive Parenting Conference

We are delighted that the Catholic Schools Parent Association of South Australia have chosen the South East of South Australia as a location for their next Parenting Conference, with two outstanding speakers in two locations; Mount Gambier and Millicent.

Come and listen to two nationally recognised practitioners and speakers:

Madhavi Nawana Parker

Helping children & teens respond to friendship difficulties and bullying

Nathan "Dubby" Want

Navigating inescapable moments

Check out cpsa.catholic.edu.au/events for more information.

There is a \$10 + Booking Fee per person, per location. Light refreshments are included. Tickets available at Humanitix:

Tenison Woods College Mount Gambier Pam Ronan Centre

Monday 17 March
6pm Sharp to 7.30pm

www.events.humanitix.com/stronger-families-mount-gambier

St Anthony's Catholic School Millicent

Tuesday 18 March
6pm Sharp to 7.30pm

www.events.humanitix.com/stronger-families-millicent

STRONGER FAMILIES:
A POSITIVE PARENTING CONFERENCE
The South East Tour...
Two Locations!

TENISON WOODS COLLEGE MOUNT GAMBIER	MONDAY MARCH 17	6PM SHARP TO 7.30PM
ST ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL MILLICENT	TUESDAY MARCH 18	6PM SHARP TO 7.30PM

MADHAVI NAWANA PARKER
Helping children & teens respond to friendship difficulties and bullying

NATHAN "DUBBY" WANT
Navigating inescapable moments

PRESENTED BY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARENTS SA
cpsa.catholic.edu.au/events

Board Annual General Meeting – 26 March, 7:00pm

I remind parents and caregivers of the Annual General Meeting of the Tenison Woods College Board, which will be held Wednesday 26 March at 7:00pm in the Pam Ronan Centre. Nominations are also sought for people interested in serving on the Board this year. The associated correspondence has been sent to families and can also be found [here](#).

The School Board is responsible for the governance of the School in the areas of policy review, financial management, pastoral care (staff, students and parents), maintenance and development and strategic planning. School Board meetings are held once a month with each member of the Board also belonging to a sub-committee, which meets between Board meetings. Elected members serve a two-year term on the Board.

Parents/carers are invited and strongly encouraged to participate in the governance of the School by nominating members of the School community to the School Board.

The timeline for nominations and elections is:

Monday, 17 March 2025	Nominations close 2.00pm
Tuesday, 18 March 2025	Voting papers sent to parents if required
Monday, 24 March 2025	Voting closes
Wednesday, 26 March 2025	AGM of the School Board

Thank you for your time and attention given to the formation of the School Board for 2025.

Lenten Season and Project Compassion – Unite Against Poverty



During Lent students are being encouraged in class to develop a communal action during the Lenten season to bring about change in our world. Fundraising throughout the six weeks of Lent will contribute to **Caritas Australia's Project Compassion Campaign**. Once again, this Lent Caritas Australia calls us to support Project Compassion under the theme of **'Unite**

Against Poverty,' which is an expression of hope, and reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come. It invites us to make the world a better place by working together now and finding long-term solutions to global issues.

Tenison Woods College Reconciliation Action Plan

I thank members of our Reconciliation Action Plan Working Party for their commitment to the process of reviewing and refining our College Action Plan, in accordance with Reconciliation Australia's process, as indicated [here](#).

The RAP Working Party Members includes community members: Aunty Michelle (Boandik Elder); Tara Bonney (Acting CEO of Burrendies); Bryan Haywood (Glenelg Nature Trust) and Uncle Ken Jones (Boandik Elder). Staff members who have committed to the review process are: Chris Lloyd; Suzanne Pepe; Francesca Dickson; Hayley Morgan; Lisa Goodfellow; Nicole Phillipson; Fran Scanlon; Sophie Morrison; Chris Raymond; Narelle Ryan; and David Meziniec.

At Tenison Woods College, we understand that reconciliation is an ongoing journey that aspires to foster respect and justice, so that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children will have equal and equitable life chances, choices, opportunities and outcomes. This Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is our college's commitment to continuing to work towards a reconciled Australia. Our vision for reconciliation is lived, co-created and evolved daily in our school community. Whether it be in our classrooms, in formal or informal events and through daily interactions, our appreciation of reconciliation begins with our acknowledgement of the Boandik people, the Traditional Owners and First People of the Land on which our school is located, and to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Original Custodians of the beautiful Lands across Australia. The Tenison Woods College RAP and supporting documents will be available shortly on the College website.

Volunteers Enthusiastically Welcome

If you would like to volunteer in any capacity at Tenison Woods College, please read and complete the [Volunteer Registration Information Booklet](#) and hand it in to the Tenison Woods College Front Office. This booklet includes a Work Health and Safety induction which must be read and signed prior to commencing any volunteering at the College. Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect Training must also be completed [here](#). You will need to register and create an account before completing the training. Click on the first training option - *RRHAN-EC 'Responding to Risks of Harm, Abuse and Neglect - Education and Care online training'*. Please print the certificate on completion of training.

A Catholic Police Check or an existing DCSI Working with Children Check is also required prior to volunteering and this can be arranged through the College free of charge.

For further information, please contact our Work Health and Safety Coordinator, [Trudi Dempsey](#) or Director of Wellbeing, [Tania Sigley](#).

A Quick Survey:

Please complete this short 2 minute survey to help inform us about how we can support your involvement with the College:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z28NVSK>

Free Internet Access

During 2025 the Federal government is offering an initiative to provide students free internet access until 2028 through the National Broadband Network (NBN).

Called the School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI) the program aims to provide NBN's 50 download /20 upload speed tier and is available for up to 30,000 families who meet some criteria:

- Have a school age student at home (full or part time), enrolled in an Australian school (up to year 12 including reception).
- Not have an active NBN network internet service at your current residential address now or in the past 14 days (having a mobile internet service does not affect eligibility).
- Live in a premise that can access the NBN network through a standard connection.

To check if you qualify and take advantage of the offer:

- Contact the National Referral Centre, on **1800 954 610** (Mon–Fri, 10am–6pm AEDT), or click [here](#) to visit their website. Callback, webchat and interpreting services also available.
- The National Referral Centre team will check your residential address and ask you some basic questions to determine if you qualify for the Initiative.

Full details about the program can be found at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts [website](#).

God Bless,
David Meziniec | Principal



CIM Team News

The Season of Lent

The Season of Lent is the preparation time before the Season of Easter. During the 40 days of Lent, which starts on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Thursday, Catholics around the world take part in fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

We invite you to access this Lenten Calendar by clicking [here](#) to follow the Lenten journey with your family. The calendar will help guide prayer, giving, fasting and includes links to the Sunday Gospel and Caritas Videos.

Pillar of Lent- Prayer

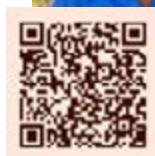
In the Christian tradition prayer is addressed to God and expresses a relationship with the God of Jesus of Nazareth. Prayer opens the believer and the faith community to the possibility of a reciprocal encounter with a personal God. People from many faith traditions use the practice of prayer to seek guidance, strength, and peace.

The practice of prayer invites individuals to reflect on their faith journey, seek forgiveness, and grow in their commitment to Christ. The practice of prayer also allows for deep reflection on how to better serve others and live out Christian values in daily life.

Project Compassion

Throughout the six weeks of Lent, students will learn about the work of Project Compassion and how it has provided help to individuals and communities. We'll meet Toefuata'iga - (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah) from Samoa, Lam from Vietnam and Irene from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This supports the practice of almsgiving during lent.

To get involved or make a donation, scan the QR code:



2024/2025 Sacramental Program

A reminder that SESSION 3 for those currently involved in the Sacramental Program will be held this Saturday 15 March at 2pm in St Paul's Hall.

We keep these children and their families in our prayers as they prepare the celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation next term.

Term 1 Masses in the College Chapel

Mass takes place every Thursday at 9:10 am in our school chapel, with a different year level preparing for and attending the Mass each week. We welcome family and community members to attend. The upcoming roster is-

Week 7: Thursday, March 13 – 9:10 am Year 4 Mass, 10:00 am Reception Liturgy, 10:30am Year 3 Liturgy

Week 8: Thursday, March 20 – 9:10 am Year 10 Mass

From the Parish

Fish Friday

After last year's success, Fish Fridays return this Lent! Join us on Fridays, 21 March and 4 April at the parish hall, followed by Stations of the Cross at St Paul's Church. The hall opens at 5.30pm with meals served at 6.00pm. Cost: Main Course size \$18, Entrée size \$15 & Children (8 & under) \$8. All meals include hot chips, bread & salad. Drinks available to buy on the night. For catering purposes & dietary requirements, please book online or contact the Parish Office. Don't let the cost be a hindrance for anyone to attend. Please speak to one of the priests for assistance. Booking is now open [here](#) until 5.00pm Wednesday 19 March. We hope you can join us!

Youth Ministry Mass and Youth Group

The next Youth Mass will be held this Saturday 15 March. The ministries at this Mass are led by young people from the College and the parish. We are hopeful that of some students may offer their musical talents this year. Please contact either me or Chris Lloyd if your child would like to be involved in offering their service as a reader, musician, altar server, data projectionist, or partake in the offertory procession. The monthly Youth Mass is followed by a Youth Group dinner, activities and discussion. This week the focus is on Lent and Giving Service. Students in Year 7 and above are encouraged to attend. Please register interest with [Matthew Glynn](#) to ensure you receive information about upcoming Youth events.

Sally Telford | Religious Education Coordinator

Student Update Form

Over the next few days, students should bring home a Student Update form. Since the last Student Update form was issued, a new Administration system has been implemented at the College. It is important that you check the information on this form carefully, mark any changes on the form and return to the College as soon as possible. In an emergency, we need to ensure that your child's details are up to date. If all of your child's details are correct, there is no need to return the form.

Tracey Davey | Administration Manager



Upcoming Key Dates

WEEK 7

Thursday 13 March

- NAPLAN
- Year 10 Budj Bim & Surfing Camp (Aldridge) | Cape Bridgewater
- Open Boys and Girls Tennis | Olympic Park
- Years 2A (Domaschenz) & 2D (Agnew) Echo Farm Excursion | Echo Farm, 9:00am
- Reception Liturgy | Chapel, 10:00am
- Year 3 Liturgy | Chapel, 10:30am

Friday 14 March

- NAPLAN
- Year 10 Budj Bim & Surfing Camp (Aldridge) | Cape Bridgewater
- SAPSASA District Golf Day | Penola
- Open Boys T20 Cricket | Millicent Football Oval

WEEK 8

Monday 17 March

- Year 6 Swimming Lessons | Wulanda (Gogel and Davis) 11:30am-1:00pm (Ransom and Lock 10:00am-11:30am)
- Catholic Schools South-East Positive Parenting Conference | Tenison Woods College 6:00pm

Tuesday 18 March

- Year 6 Swimming Lessons | Wulanda
- Catholic Schools South-East Positive Parenting Conference | St Anthony's Catholic Primary School 6:00pm
- P.A.R.T.Y Program | Mt Gambier and District Health Service, 9:00am
- Caritas Lunchtime Bake Sale | Under the Sails

Wednesday 19 March

- Year 6 Swimming Lessons | Wulanda
- Years 7-12 Interschool Athletics | Naracoorte, 8:30am

Thursday 20 March

- Year 6 Swimming Lessons | Wulanda
- Harmony Day

Friday 21 March

- Year 6 Swimming Lessons | Wulanda
- South East Lucindale Field Days | Lucindale, Site 37 Yakka Pavillion
- SAPSASA District Athletics Day | Grant High School, 9:00am
- Years 4-6 Assembly | MacKillop Centre, 2:05pm
- Years R-2 Assembly | MacKillop Centre, 2:45pm



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

Music Camp

During week six, 56 music students ranging from years 7-12 went to Portland for the annual Senior Music Camp. This was the largest music camp we have had in years. The camp gives the students two goals, musical improvement and cross-age team building. While participating in intensive rehearsals, students form friendships, develop a sense of belonging, and benefit from mentoring.

To support new friendships each student was put into a team that linked with the theme chosen by Leah Creedy (Performing Arts Leader) and Fred Grey-Smith (Music Captain). In these teams they participated in chosen activities where they earn team points, such as creating a team chant, painting a team banner, participating in a relay, etc. The team with the most points at the end of the camp wins!



During the rehearsal times, ensembles would work on new pieces. Four ensembles came to camp these were Showband, Senior Vocal Ensemble, Concert Band, and Senior Girls Choir, we also had the Storm Drum Corp showcase their abilities at the final concert. At the end of the camp all the ensembles put on two shows which allowed the students to showcase what they have been working on while also giving them the chance to practice performing for a live audience. The first show was held on Thursday night where we also had students volunteer to do their own little performance including dances, songs, and drama skits. On Friday morning, we put on a performance at St Stephens Anglican Church for many primary school students from various Portland schools.

This year's camp was a huge success! New friendships were formed, ensembles showed great musical improvement, and participation and support from everyone was outstanding. All staff, students, and leaders should be incredibly proud of their accomplishments.



Leah Creedy and Fred Grey-Smith | Music Leaders

Scholastic Book Club Issue 2 Out Now

Your child would have received Issue 2 Scholastic book club catalogue recently. All 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 2 need to be in by Friday 28 March.

If you purchase books as a gift, please let your teacher know so this can be passed on.

Jess Lucas | Library Staff



Year 9 Agriculture

Our Year 9's were presented with an opportunity to meet and chat with local vet Denis Goulding when one of Mrs Jenkin's horses had developed a cough due to the recent dry conditions. This is common with the extended long period without rain, as animals struggle with the amount of dust, and must have their diets supplemented with hay. Denis consulted regarding Woody's symptoms, advising his temperature fell within normal range, he had no concerning lung sounds when using the stethoscope to listen to his breathing before & after exercise. Denis recommended Woody be given a treatment to suppress the cough that includes antibiotics to support a return to full health. This will be fed to Woody as a powder in a damp feed each day. Denis then shared with the group his experience as the official Veterinarian for our Australian Olympic Equestrian teams. This began in 1992 and continued into each Olympics in the 2000's. In that time our Olympic Equestrian team, especially our eventers have had great success including many gold medals.



Judy Jenkin | Agriculture Teacher

Library Over Due Books

With the large amount of book loans, we are now starting to have students with overdue books. Generally, students have a two-week loan for their borrowed book however, we will extend that once if required, but the book must be brought to us to renew the loan. Classes have weekly reminders with a list of students who have overdue books, and we will send an email home once they have been overdue for 4 weeks.

Please encourage your child to return their books promptly to the library when they have finished them as they may also be wanted by another student.

Alexandra Nicholson | Library Manager



MR VIRGO IS AMONG THE STARS

In light of his passion for mental health, and enjoyment he attains from giving his students a reason to laugh during lessons, Senior School Maths Teacher, Brody Virgo has put his hand up to compete in Swinging with the Stars for 2025, and has been selected.

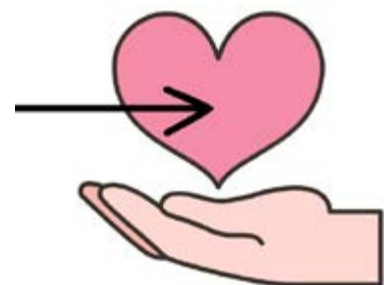
Swinging with the Stars is the Stand Like Stone Foundation's annual charity fundraising event for the Limestone Coast. It is an event consisting of 8 'celebrities' from our community being partnered with dancers, and learning dances from waltz, to foxtrot, to hiphop for months leading up, to perform on the big night in June, all whilst raising money for a charity of their choosing along the way.



Mr Virgo will be raising money for the Mental Health and Wellbeing Limestone Coast Sub Fund. In the time leading up to the night, he will be hosting various fundraisers and events to raise money, so stay tuned if you are looking to support him. Individuals and organisations have the opportunity to make a donation anytime from now until the event. These donations are tax-deductible, and are appreciated no matter the size.

Go Mr Virgo, we are so proud of you!

Make a TAX-DEDUCTIBLE Donation Here



**Save the Date: Saturday
28th June 2025**

MUSIC CAMP - GALLERY



STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

On Tuesday, all teaching staff gathered for a professional development day. The day was complete with multiple presentations and activities for the purpose of moderating assessments, reviewing curriculum, refreshing teachers on our Catholic approach to all students and families, and teacher responsibilities in raising youth to be capable learners and also members of the world community.



TWILIGHT TOUR - GALLERY



International Women's Day

To celebrate and step forward in solidarity for International Women's Day, we were thrilled to have the Honourable Clare Scriven MLC, old scholar, to speak with the young women of Tenison Woods College on Friday at lunchtime in the Lecture Theatre. As the first woman to be elected into State or Federal Parliament, and the first female Minister, she took the opportunity to inspire our female students to know they have a place in decision making and can take up leadership roles.

Did you know:

At the current rate of progress, it will take until 2158, which is roughly five generations from now, to reach full gender parity, according to data from the World Economic Forum.

Focusing on the need to **Accelerate Action** emphasizes the importance of taking swift and decisive steps to achieve gender equality. It calls for increased momentum and urgency in addressing the systemic barriers and biases that women face, both in personal and professional spheres.

Please click [here](#) for further information.



A GENEROUS DONATION FOR SAKG

We are incredibly grateful to Bunnings Mount Gambier for their generous donation of wheelbarrows, seeds, seedlings, gloves, and hand tools to support our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden (SAKG) program. Thanks to their support, our Junior Primary students can get their hands dirty, learn about sustainability, and develop a love for growing fresh produce. From planting seeds to harvesting veggies, these resources will make a lasting impact on their learning and wellbeing.



POP SHOP NOW OPEN – HANDMADE & RECYCLED CREATIONS FOR SALE!



We are excited to announce that Pop Shop is officially open for 2025! Our shop is stocked with a fantastic range of handcrafted and sustainable products, perfect for gifts or everyday use.

Our operating hours are:

- Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 2:00pm – 3:00pm
- Friday: 12:00pm – 1:00pm

At Pop Shop, we take pride in creating unique and eco-friendly items. Our range includes garden stakes, bowls, pens, pots, dog bowl holders, and soap dishes, all made from recycled plastics. Additionally, we offer beautifully handcrafted wooden products, including wooden spoons, crosses, and chopping boards.

We would love to see both staff and members of the public visit our shop, support our initiative, and take home a special piece made with care. Every purchase helps promote sustainability and creativity in our community.

Follow us on social media

TikTok & Instagram: @twc_popshop

Come in, browse our collection, and find something you love at Pop Shop!

Utilising SEQTA Learn For Students

✓ ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND FEEDBACK

✓ TIMETABLE

✓ HOMEWORK

✓ CALENDAR

✓ WELLBEING STRATEGIES

✓ ASSIGNMENT RESOURCES

✓ NOTICES

✓ CAREER PLANNING

✓ ONLINE LIBRARY

✓ FOLDR FOR SHARED FILES

✓ ALSO: NEWSROOM, ACCESS TO SOFTWARE FOR BYOD, TURNITIN PLAGIARISM CHECKER, DAILY UV, STUDIOSTY, CANVA PREMIUM + MORE



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A POSITIVE PARENTING CONFERENCE

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**TENISON WOODS
COLLEGE**
MOUNT GAMBIER

MONDAY
MARCH 17

**6PM SHARP
TO 7.30PM**

**ST ANTHONY'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
MILLICENT

TUESDAY
MARCH 18

**6PM SHARP
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MADHAVI NAWANA PARKER

HELPING CHILDREN & TEENS
RESPOND TO FRIENDSHIP
DIFFICULTIES AND BULLYING



NATHAN "DUBSY" WANT

NAVIGATING
INESCAPABLE
MOMENTS

\$10 + Booking Fee per person, per location. Light refreshments included.

Tickets available at Humanitix:

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www.events.humanitix.com/stronger-families-millicent



**Catholic
School
Parents**
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PRESENTED BY CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENTS SA
cspsa.catholic.edu.au/events



Breakfast Club 2025

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Contact Trent Eitzen to offer your assistance
eitzt@tenison.catholic.edu.au



Are you hungry?

Do you come on the bus?
No time for breakfast at home?

Quick & Easy

Start your day right at

Breakfast Club

Delicious



BC operates
**Tuesday,
Wednesday &
Thursday**
from **8:10am - 8:40am**
in the Home Ec Room
(Room 705, upstairs)



FREE HOME INTERNET ACCESS FOR FAMILIES

Eligible families with school aged children can get a **free National Broadband Network (NBN) internet connection until 30 June 2028** through the Australian Government's School Student Broadband Initiative (SSBI).



CRITERIA

1. Have a school age student at home (full or part time), enrolled in an Australian school (up to year 12 including reception).
2. Not have an active NBN network internet service at your current residential address now or in the past 14 days (having a mobile internet service does not affect eligibility).
3. Live in a premise that can access the NBN network through a standard connection

TO CHECK IF YOU QUALIFY AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OFFER

- Contact the National Referral Centre:

1800 954 610

(Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm AEDT)

Callback, webchat and interpreting services also available

Or, Click [here](#) to visit the website

- The National Referral Centre team will check your residential address and ask you some basic questions to determine if you qualify for the Initiative.

Full details about the program can be found at the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts website: Click [here](#)