

Hope lights the way

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

WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2025, WEEK 10, TERM 1

CARITAS FUNDRAISING OFF TO A 'RACING' START

The Middle School Mission Leaders, Alida and Luca, planned and ran a bucket challenge for the Middle School students to raise money for Project Compassion. With the help of the other Year 9 Student Leaders, an obstacle course was organised, and Middle School teachers were nominated to take part. Students paid \$1 to attend the event in Gilap Wanga at lunchtime. It was lots of fun and raised \$120 for people in need. The compassion and initiative of these students is to be commended.



From the Principal



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

The Annual General Meeting of the Tenison Woods College Board, was held the evening of Wednesday 26 March at 7:00pm in the Pam Ronan Centre Lecture Theatre. Tania Sigley, Director of Wellbeing, and two College Counsellors, Laura Herbert and Mary Castignani, offered an insightful and engaging presentation on the way our wellbeing approach at Tenison Woods College is conceptualised and enacted.

The College Board comprises Ex-Officio (non-voting) Board Representatives, which include:

- Father Peter Zwaans – President
- David Meziniec – Principal/Executive Officer
- Michelle Coote – Deputy Principal
- Neal Turley – Business Manager
- Mary de Nys – Minute Secretary
- Trudi Dempsey – WHS Coordinator
- Amy Turnbull/James Roughana – joint Staff Representatives

The continuing voting Elected Members are:

- Peta Baverstock
- Linda Carter-Shepherd
- Shayne Haggis
- Lisa Hogan
- Fran Scanlon – Early Learning Representative
- Peter Holmes
- Jim Cornolo

New elected members are:

- Malcolm Barkle
- Warren Fennell

Acopy of the 2024 Annual Report can be found [here](#).

I am excited about the work of the Board and its subcommittees going forward in the next significant chapter of the College's development.

Three way Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences - Conversations About Learning

We are nearing the conclusion of our three way conversations, which commenced last Tuesday with our first R-6 session. These conversations provided valuable opportunities for the teacher, student, parents and/or carers to share and learn more about the student socially, emotionally and academically, while at the same time facilitating increased student agency and responsibility. As such, students are asked to attend all conferences with their parents/carers and teachers. The Years 7-12 Conferences occurred Thursday 27 March and Tuesday 1 April, while the second session of R-6 conferences will take place Thursday 3 April.

Rest in Peace Beatrice Eva (Betty) D'Souza

We offer condolences to John D'Souza and his family at the passing to eternal life of Beatrice Eva (Betty) D'Souza, on 17 March 2025. John and Betty, and their children Sunita, Shalini, Santosh and Sunil, and their respective children have been strong supporters of the College and the Mount Gambier Deanery through their active school and parish membership, as well as offering leadership and advocacy for those in need in our community. We offer our prayers and thoughts to the family at this challenging time of loss, and trust that their strong faith will comfort them at this time.

Parish Farewell for Fr Olek – Easter Monday, 21 April

Father Olek will be transferring to Adelaide next month to assume the role of Assistant Priest in the Croydon Park Parish. This move will take place after Easter on 24 April after Father Olek's trip overseas.

On Easter Monday, 21 April there will be an 11.00am Mass in St Paul's Church, followed by a Shared Lunch in St Paul's Hall to offer our appreciation to Father Olek. Please bring a plate of food to share. Everyone is welcome.

We will extend a warm welcome to Father Prathap Katta who will be joining Father Peter Zwaans in the Mount Gambier Parish following Father Olek's departure. Father Prathap is currently Assistant Priest in the



Brighton Parish.

Week 11- School Observance of Holy Week

Next week, Week 11, will be a significant week in preparing our students for Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, as this year Holy Week falls in the school holidays.

We will be having a 'School Observance' of Holy Week in week 11, where we will still journey through and reflect upon the events of Holy Week. Please note that this isn't Holy Week, but our opportunity whilst still at school to focus on these events with students. As a Catholic School we ensure that the key messages of Lent continue through to Easter Sunday. These continue to be prayer, giving to those in need and living simply.



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 aged 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 by clicking [here](#).
- Callback, webchat and interpreting services are 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 by clicking [here](#).

Care on the Shepherdson Road Driveway



I remind the community that speed on the Shepherdson Driveway and throughout the school is 15km per hour.

Cars overtaking stationary cars on the College two-way roads with oncoming cars from other direction does create a significant safety concern.

Anything you can do to assist in caring for the safety of all in our community would be greatly appreciated.

Enrolment of Students

I am very pleased to see that the College is experiencing significant demand in relation to enrolments. To assist with our medium and long-term planning I encourage parents to lodge an enrolment form with the school as soon as they have made a decision to enrol their child at the school. For some families this decision is made very early in the newborn's life and contacting the school at this time, no matter how early it may seem, will assist us to plan in the best possible way for your child's experience of education in our College community. Should you wish to discuss this further please contact our College Registrar, Tracey Davey (tel. 87255455, or davet@tenison.catholic.edu.au).

God Bless,

David Meziniec | Principal

CIM Team News



Project Compassion Caritas BIG Water Walk - Casual Clothes and Gold Coin Donation

This Friday, 4 April, we will be holding our annual Whole School Caritas Event. On this day, students are invited to wear casual clothes and everyone is asked to bring along a gold coin for Project Compassion. Throughout the day,

classes will walk laps of the school oval, being tasked with different challenges at for each lap, in solidarity with those worldwide who need to walk long distances for basic necessities and who do not have easy access to safe and drinkable water.

Casual Clothes guidelines-

- Students are to wear neat casual clothes that are appropriate for general learning and for the walk, including sports clothing if it is a PE day.
- Shoes must comply with safety standards: they must be closed in and protect feet: No thongs, sandals, Ugg boots or heels are to be worn.
- General clothing must be of a respectable standard: no brief or skimpy shorts, tops or skirts, or inappropriate slogans.



To further support Caritas, you are welcome to make a donation by scanning the QR code:

Year 7 Reflection Days

On Monday and Tuesday, April 7 and 8, the Year 7 Cohort will be travelling to Penola and the Mount Burr Swamp for their Year 7 Reflection Days.

In Penola, the day will begin with Mass at St Joseph's Church. Students will then visit the Mary MacKillop Interpretive Centre, the School House, Petticoat Lane and Stable Park, to focus on two of our College Founders. On returning to Mount Gambier, students will visit St. Paul's Catholic Church to reflect on the Stations of the Cross.

Mount Burr Swamp activities will connect our students with caring for country and engaging ecological awareness and practices. They will be supported by the Glenelg Nature Trust and the Landscape Board SA Limestone Coast.

We look forward to hearing about their experiences in next week's newsletter.

Holy Week

This year, Holy Week begins on Sunday 13 April (the first week of the school holidays). Holy Week is the week before Easter Sunday. It begins on Palm Sunday and ends on Holy Saturday. Easter is not part of Holy Week, but rather the beginning of the Easter season of the Liturgical year.

The Stations of the Cross are a beautiful, traditional practice for Christians to take part in during the Lenten Season. The Stations of the Cross recall and meditate on the events of the Passion of Christ.

Throughout Week 11, we will be observing the events of Holy Week whilst we are still here at school. All classes will be involved in learning about and reflecting on the significant events of Holy Week, the Stations of the Cross, and the Easter Triduum.

Giving of Easter Eggs

At Tenison Woods College we discourage the giving of Easter Eggs during the Lenten season prior to Easter Sunday in line with the liturgical calendar. As we finish off this term, we are still in the Church's Season of Lent, where Catholics fast and abstain from luxury items in the readiness for the Easter event. The focus during Lent and Holy Week, is still on preparing for Easter Sunday when the fast ends and the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is celebrated. Part of the tradition of Easter Sunday is the giving of eggs as a symbol of new life and joy. It is from Easter Sunday, that we enter the season of Easter with 50 days of joy and celebration until Pentecost.

Students who do wish to share the joy of Easter with their friends or class mates are asked to refrain from doing so at school until after Easter.

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 9: Thursday, March 27, 9:10 am Year 5 Mass, 10:00am Year 1 Liturgy Week 11: Thursday, April 10, 9:10am Year 6 Mass, 10:00AM Year 2 Liturgy

From the Parish

Fish Friday

After last year's success, Fish Fridays returns this Lent! Join us on Friday 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 are available to buy on the night. For catering purposes & dietary requirements, please book online or contact the Parish Office. We hope you can join us! Book [here](#).

Australian Catholic Youth Festival

Our parish is hoping to send a delegation of young people from Year 9 to Year 12 to the 2025 Australian Catholic Youth Festival (ACYF) in Melbourne. This three-day festival, running from Sunday, November 30 to Tuesday, December

2, will bring together thousands of young Catholics from across Australia for an unforgettable experience of faith, community, and celebration. The festival is a great opportunity for the youth of parish to connect with other young Catholics, and to share and deepen their faith and relationship with Christ.

If you, or a young person you know, would like to be part of our delegation or would like more information, please contact youth@mtgcatholic.org.au Applications close 11 April.

We are seeking **expressions of interest** from **young people** who are currently in **Years 9-12** to join a parish group to participate in this festival. **Fundraising** efforts will be organised to help support our young pilgrims, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to take part in this wonderful experience.

Please register your interest by **11 April 2025** to youth@mtgcatholic.org.au

Sally Telford | Religious Education Coordinator



Upcoming Key Dates

Week 10

Thursday 3 April

- Year 8 Caving and Surfing Camp B (Lindner)
- 'GRIP' Student Leadership (Junior & Middle School) 8:45am-2:45pm
- 3-Way Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences Years R-6 | Child's Classroom, 4pm

Friday 4 April

- Year 8 Caving and Surfing Camp B (Lindner)
- Caritas Big Water Walk

Week 11

Monday 7 April

- Year 7 Reflection Day Penola and Mount Burr
- School Observation of Holy Week
- SAPSASA State Swimming Championships
- Titans New Zealand Netball Information Evening | Pam Ronan Centre 5:30pm

Tuesday 8 April

- Year 7 Reflection Day Penola and Mount Burr
- School Observation of Holy Week
- Year 8 Netball Academy Trinity College Netball Visit 9am

Wednesday 9 April

- School Observation of Holy Week
- Year 8 Caving and Surfing Camp C (Burstion)
- Whole School Assembly | Barrie Holmes Stadium 12:30pm

Thursday 10 April

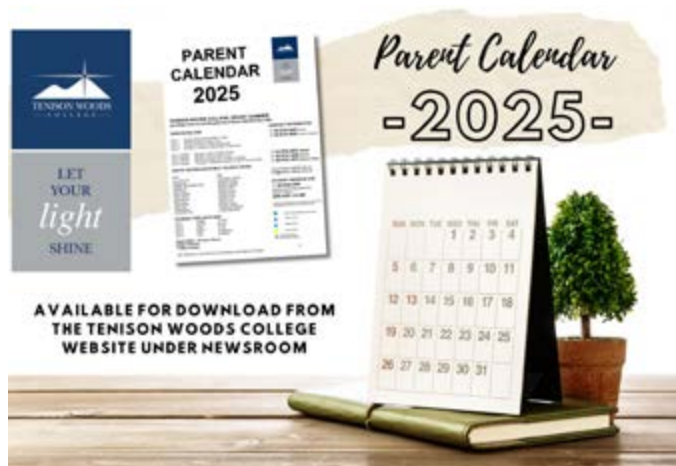
- School Observation of Holy Week
- Year 8 Caving and Surfing Camp C (Burstion)

Friday 11 April

- School Observation of Holy Week
- End of Term Early Finish R-6 2:15pm, Years 7-12 2:20pm

Saturday 12 April

- School Holidays begin



See our Parent Calendar [here](#) for Holy Week dates and ELCC and OSCH opening times during the holiday break.

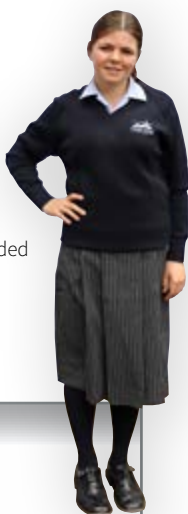
Weekly Uniform Focus

Winter Uniform

If the temperature is forecast to be below 23 degrees students may wear winter uniform. In preparation for the cooler weather we ask that families ensure skirts are below knee length and adjust if required.

Please refer to the [Uniform Guidelines](#) to confirm what is included in the Winter Uniform.

Tania Sigley | Director of Wellbeing



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](#).

Kylie Watson | Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will be trading in the second week of the school holidays:

**Tuesday 23 April
9am – 2pm**

**Wednesday 24 April
9am – 2pm**



Catholic Co-Educational Athletics Carnival Records and Results

A huge congratulations to our 23 athletes who competed at the Catholic Co-Educational Athletics Carnival in Adelaide. It was a fantastic effort from all, with our team making the most of the incredible opportunity to compete at the Adelaide Athletics Stadium. Despite being a small team, we finished 5th overall, bringing home an impressive 24 first-place ribbons, 20 second-place ribbons, and 9 third-place ribbons.

Special congratulations to our record-breakers:

Sophie Pearce – U/13 200m & 400m
Hazel Hamilton – U/13 Discus

Well done to all our athletes on an outstanding day of competition!

Angela Queale | 7-12 Health and Physical Education Coordinator



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

Lost Property



If you notice your child has any lost property, please visit the front office to check if they have been found and turned into the lost property box. Any unnamed belongings will be donated during the school holidays.

Additionally, we strongly advise that any uniform or personal items be labelled with your child's name to reduce the chance of becoming lost.

Tracey Davey | Office Manager

Canteen Reminders

- Please ensure the Student Profile in the QKR! App created for ordering is your child's name (not the parent name);
- QKR! App Orders need to be in by **NO LATER THAN 8.30AM** for same day orders;
- Please carefully check day / date of order when using the QKR! App, and the details of all orders before proceeding to checkout.
- If you have any questions regarding the Qkr! App, please contact Jess Herring at herrj@tenison.catholic.edu.au.

Leanne Sandow | Canteen Manager



SE SPORTS ZONE GOLF TOURNAMENT

This week, nine students went to the SE Sports Zone Golf Come-and-Try Ambrose and individual Stableford day. Jack Pilkington and Kyrin Pettman represented the College well in the individual Stableford competition. Jack played well with a score of 27, but it was Kyrin who won the day with an amazing score of 45 Stableford points. The remaining seven students participated in a coaching clinic and then played nine holes of Ambrose style competition. The team of Will Humphries, Toby Drew, Max Turnbull and Kobe Sears tied for first place with a stroke score of 37 across 9 holes.

Congratulations to all of the boys for representing the College with pride.



NARRATIVE WRITING IN YEAR 5



Year 5 students are engaging in a task where they view a scene (or provocation) set up by their teachers and then use this as their inspiration to plan and write a narrative. The scene prompted some amazing discussion amongst students, and they are super excited to start writing.

Louise Vivian | Year 5 Teacher

THE BIG WATER WALK

Currently, 292 million people walk more than 30 minutes to collect water. Show your compassion for those living in poverty this Lent and help provide clean, safe water to communities in need.

Join us!

Date: Friday 4 April

Location: Tenison Woods College- Oval

Details: Casual Clothes with Gold Coin Donation

Additional Donations can be made online!



1. Scan the QR code
2. Donate today!

fundraise.projectcompassion.org.au



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT
COMPASSION

Printed on a sustainable, purpose-grown fibre and fully recyclable ABN 90 970 605 069

"Rising Cycling Star"



Year 9 student, Molly Opperman recently competed at the 2025 AusCycling Junior Track Nationals in Queensland, and delivered a performance nothing short of outstanding. She competed in four events, finishing fifth in the sprint, bronze in the 500m time trial and silver in the Keirin.

After suffering a crash in the points race, Molly's resilience was showcased as she got back on her bike to finish the event. She came away with fantastic results, reaching podium at such a high calibre event, a product of her determination and hard work.

Molly finished in seventh place in the Keirin event at the same competition last year, and was determined to improve on that this year. In an interview with The SE Voice, Molly stated "I was shocked when I got second – I was jumping around." Congratulations Molly, you are an exemplar of letting your light shine and demonstrate true grit and passion.

One Forty One "Try-a-Trade Day"



Students from Years 10, 11 and 12 today attended a Try-a-Trade Day with One Forty One. Students participated in presentations about the forestry industry, undertook a site tour and participated in three key activities – in the saw shop, and electrical and mechanical departments. In each activity, students completed specific tasks relating to each trade area, with instruction around safe work practices in the workshop. This dedicated day provided students with a unique and personalised understanding of the forestry industry and the three trades. We thank One Forty One for providing this opportunity.

Jody Elliott | Careers Coordinator

Australian Defence Force Visit

Senior students interested in a career with the Australian Defence Force had the opportunity to attend an information session recently. ADFA representatives from Adelaide spoke to students about career pathways in the Army, Airforce and Navy, together with the recruitment process, benefits and university sponsorship. We are fortunate enough to have the ADFA visit the College every year to speak with students.



Jody Elliott | Careers Coordinator

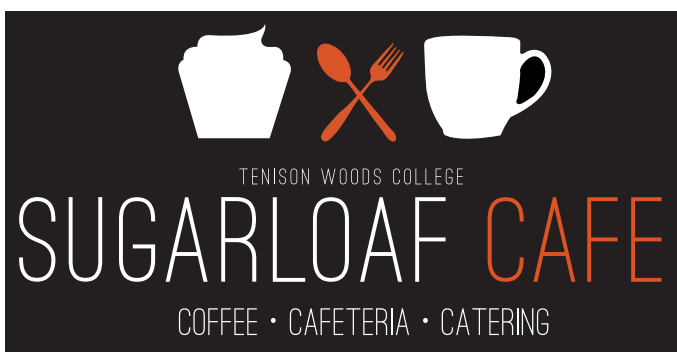


DO YOU HAVE A HAND TO HELP?

Once again, the Timor Leste group will be fundraising for our sister school in Hatolia, and other communities in need by ushering at the annual **Generations in Jazz** event held in Mount Gambier. This is one of their biggest fundraisers, and they are seeking parent volunteers to assist.

If you can help on **Friday, 2 May**, for the opening concert, **Saturday, 3 May**, in the big tent listening to the top schools compete, or on **Saturday night** for the BIG concert and the awards on **Sunday, 4 May**, please send an email to Bernadette Fisher at bernf@tenison.catholic.edu.au

Any time you can spare is greatly appreciated.



SAPSASA Softball



Big congratulations to Harry Leo, Angus Robinson and Blake Humphries for their efforts in Adelaide at SAPSASA softball. They all showed a great sportsmanship over the three day tournament and gained some great skills. Well done boys.

Tina Opperman | R-6 Sports Coordinator

Agriculture Students Get Hands on Experience

The Year 10 Agriculture class today were able to assist and observe with pregnancy test an autumn calving Angus herd. Dr Kyong Nahm from Gambier Vets along with fourth year vet student Lillie were able to show students how to use an ultrasound probe. Students were then able to view the foetus in the ultra sound image of the probe goggles. Thanks to Kyong & Gambier Vets for giving their time and expertise to the class.



Judy Jenkin | Agriculture Teacher

50 Years School Reunion - Tenison College

If you commenced your second year of high school at the then newly formed Tenison College in 1972, and completed any year from then on with that group till 1975, then we would like to inform you that a 50 year reunion is being planned.

The weekend of October 25 and 26 2025, in Mount Gambier, is being considered but not yet confirmed. A preliminary meeting is planned for Tuesday April 22 2025 at 7:00pm at Limestone Coast Pantry, 1/20 Harold Street, Mount Gambier.

If you would like to be on the committee or can help in any way please contact

Chris Gazzard: 0418 311 207 or Catherine Chandler (Roughana): 0439 344 413



Year 11 Child Studies

Year 11 Child Studies students created Child Safety board games aimed at teaching Reception students about different aspects of child safety. The games focused on a range of areas including road safety, water safety and being safe in the kitchen. The Reception children enjoyed playing the games and interacting with the Year 11's.



Donna Johnson | Senior School Child Studies Teacher

April Vacation Care

School	Monday 14 th April	Tuesday 15 th April	Wednesday 16 th April	Thursday 17 th April	GOOD FRIDAY
	MAKEDO DAY	Colour Green Day	Wheels Day	Easter Arts and Crafts	Good Friday
April Vacation Care	Collaborate to make a large structure. Maybe a castle, bus, spaceship or plane.	Dress in green, do green activities and eat green food. Everything is green today.	Bring your bike/scooter to for the day. Don't forget your helmet. NO helmet NO riding.	Make an Easter basket for home. Make HOT CROSS BUNS.	OSHC CLOSED
					
Easter Week					
	EASTER MONDAY	TUESDAY 22 nd April	WEDNESDAY 23 rd April	THURSDAY 24 th April	FRIDAY 25 th April
	Easter Monday	Easter Egg Hunt Joy week activities	ANZAC DAY ACTIVITIES	Vansittart Playground Visit	ANZAC DAY
	OSHC CLOSED	Scavenger Hunt around the school for Easter symbols.	Make a poppy wreath to lay at the memorial in Vansittart Park. Make ANZAC BISCUITS for afternoon tea.	Play at Vansittart Park and visit the Memorial in the park.	OSHC CLOSED
					



**Click Here for
full program**



Reminder

3-Way Parent, Teacher,
Student Interviews
Conclude Tomorrow Night

OK

Reception to Year 6 – Thursday April 3,
4–6:30pm | Student's Classroom, MacKillop
Reception Building/Junior School

LET YOUR *light* SHINE



YEAR 7 MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENINGS

Monday 5 May
6.45pm

2026 NARACOORTE YEAR 7 MIDDLE SCHOOL
INFORMATION EVENING
Naracoorte Town Hall.

Tuesday 6 May
9:00am

PRINCIPAL TOUR AT TENISON WOODS COLLEGE
Tenison Woods College Front Office
Open to all prospective families.

Wednesday 7 May
6:00pm

2026 YEAR 7 MIDDLE SCHOOL INFORMATION EVENING
AT TENISON WOODS COLLEGE
Pam Ronan Centre, Tenison Woods College.

Monday 12 May
6.45pm

2026 MILLICENT YEAR 7 MIDDLE SCHOOL
INFORMATION EVENING
St Anthony's Catholic Primary School.

Tuesday 20 May
6.45pm

2026 PENOLA YEAR 7 MIDDLE SCHOOL
INFORMATION EVENING
Mary MacKillop Memorial Primary School.



TENISON WOODS COLLEGE PRESENTS:

JAPAN 2026

DEPARTING APRIL 2026

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
EMAIL

japan2026@tenison.catholic.edu.au

Tenison Woods College are proud to announce a 14-day Japan Experience, departing 11 April, 2026 and returning 25 April 2026 for students and family members in Year 7 & above. Tenison Woods College has a rewarding relationship with the Calvary English School in Japan, with their students and teachers visiting us for over 25 years. We have visited them twice in 2017 and 2019, but due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the return trip to Japan has been in recess since 2020. Trent Eitzen and Chris Lloyd will be the hosts of this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Locations Include:

- TOKYO
- KANAZAWA
- SHIRAKAWA-GO
- KYOTO
- HIROSHIMA AND MIYAJIMA ISLAND
- OSAKA

INFORMATION EVENING

8 APRIL 2025 AT 5:30PM
LECTURE THEATRE, PAM
RONAN CENTRE,
TENISON WOODS
COLLEGE



LET
YOUR
light
SHINE

JUNIOR SCHOOL ASSEMBLY - GALLERY

