From the Head of Middle School
Independence and Responsibility in the Middle School
Your daughter’s journey through Middle School will help her to develop a huge range of skills and attributes that assist her development as a young adult. It is our aim to ensure that her journey through the School sets her for the next steps in her life, armed with everything she needs to successfully and passionately pursue her dreams.

In the Middle School girls begin to take their first steps toward the development of genuine independence and as a consequence begin to recognise the responsibilities that partner it.

As girls enter Year 5 we begin by developing each girl’s understanding of the basic academic responsibilities which they must begin to assume themselves. As a consequence we introduce them to our application and work skills criteria. These aim, quite consciously, to encourage all students to value the attributes of preparedness, engagement, respect and meeting requirements as a way of developing personal responsibility.

Over the course of Years 5 and 6 we also aim to work with and support parents in a process of genuinely handing over many other responsibilities to their girls as they begin to take responsibility for their own choices and actions. Throughout this process we hope that girls learn, in a protected environment, how to approach adults (teachers) independently to resolve minor conflicts, restore situations, negotiate alternatives, meet obligations and so on; very important life skills that allow them to learn to appropriately assert themselves in a multitude of important future situations.

As girls move into Years 7 and 8 they find themselves working these matters through with a greater variety of adults and as a consequence, when given the opportunity, learn to deal with the different ways people approach each issue. It is also a time when, from an educational perspective, it is important that the ramifications of not meeting these responsibilities and/or personal obligations occasionally need to be increased to help girls realise the importance of developing these skills.

During this time, for example, girls must return permission forms by due dates or miss out on excursions, and incomplete work may result in them needing to complete it at lunchtime and so on.

It is important to remember, however, that our purpose is not to punish but to educate and encourage girls through this development. Our restorative processes are a wonderful support to this process. They ensure each situation is worked through in partnership with girls (and at times with parents). Through conversation we share perspectives, recognise the needs of all and aim to work towards win/win solutions to all issues but, more importantly, aim to ensure the outcome of similar situations is different and/or more positive into the future.

......continued.

From the Head of Middle School  continued.
Developing independence and responsibility takes on a whole new meaning in Year 9 and by the end of the senior years the processes begun in the Junior and Middle Years ensure all girls are ready for the next step: Set for life.

I feel blessed that every day I have the great fortune to work with so many wonderful and caring people in pursuing such worthwhile goals.

Mr Charles Kemp
Head of Middle School

Australian Olympic Committee Education Event
It was with great pleasure last week that the Year 9s accepted an invitation to attend the inaugural Australian Olympic Committee education initiative, Talk to a Champ. This was the first time the program had been provided to students in the Hobart region and our school had the privilege of hosting the event. Two outstanding Australian Olympians talked to the girls about the highs and lows of their sporting careers while stressing the positive impact sport has had on their lives. The two hour discussion was themed on the Australian Olympic Team’s a.s.p.i.r.e. values; namely attitude, sportsmanship, pride, respect, individual responsibility and express yourself.

The two female Olympians that spoke were Marieke Guehrer and Kerry Hore. Marieke is a current member of the Australian Swim Team, who competed at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens. She is a current world champion and former world record-holder of the 50m butterfly and backstroke short course. The other female Olympian, Kerry Hore, is a Tasmanian who rowed in the women’s quadruple sculls at Athens 2004. They were fourth across the line in the final, but after the medals had been presented it was discovered that a member of the third-placed crew, from Ukraine, failed a drugs test and Australia was elevated to the bronze medal position. The Olympians presented the school with a signed boxing kangaroo and a signed Team Australia jacket. The Year 9s had their photo taken with the Olympians and received their autographs. The program was highly beneficial to the Year 9 students, especially as we draw closer to the London Olympics in 2012. We wish Marieke and Kerry all the best for London 2012!

Mrs Alanna Wighton
Acting Head of Year 9
Autism Awareness

Autism is a lifelong developmental condition that affects what an individual sees, hears and senses. This results in problems of communication, social interaction and behaviour. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a neurological condition that occurs on a continuum. This means that symptoms can occur in many varieties and with varying degrees of intensity. Some people might have a diagnosis of Autistic Disorder; others might have a diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome or High Functioning Autism; while others may have a diagnosis of Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD) or otherwise referred to as atypical autism. Each individual person with an ASD is unique; they each share 3 core characteristics – people with an ASD may have difficulties in social interaction; communication; and lack of flexibility in thinking and behaviour. These difficulties arise from the way that the information from their senses is processed, stored and retrieved by the brain. It can create confusion, frustration and anxiety with everyday activities and often accounts for the unusual behaviours that occur. This condition is lifelong and can have a significant impact on the life of a family. Parents often face enormous challenges understanding, supporting, and raising a child with an ASD. This job is often made all the more complex by a lack of community understanding and awareness of the condition, with parents regularly enduring critical comments or unfair assumptions about their child’s behaviour or their parenting. Whilst great strides have been made in ASD research, a cause is yet to be found. With 2005/06 data, the estimated prevalence of ASD in Australia was one child in every 160. Subsequent research puts this closer to 1 child in every 100. It is no longer considered a low incidence condition. On these estimates, every 20 minutes in Australia a person is diagnosed with an ASD. This is often made all the more complex by a lack of community understanding and awareness of the condition, with parents regularly enduring critical comments or unfair assumptions about their child’s behaviour or their parenting.

For more information call 1300 288 476

NeiTA Nominations 2011

Nominations are now open for the NeiTA (National Excellence in Teaching Awards) 2011 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards – Australia’s only national, independent community-centred teaching awards. The program gives Australian secondary students, parents, early childhood education and school communities the opportunity to thank their inspirational teachers formally. NeiTA acknowledges that teachers are the greatest influence on a student’s learning and performance outside the family. The NeiTA 2011 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards theme for this year, Teachers Count. Under this theme, NeiTA reminds us that outstanding teachers count because of the profound impact they have on our students, our community, our education system and ultimately our country. Nominating a teacher is a great way to say thank you, and to recognise, celebrate and congratulate an inspirational leader, principal or director. Parents are encouraged to look at the NeiTA website http://www.neita.com for more details and to consider nominating someone they think is worthy of this significant public acknowledgement. Parents may nominate individually or contact me on 0407 247 006 to suggest someone for the CPA to nominate.

As you are no doubt aware, we had two special teachers reach the finals of the competition last year - Deb Williamson and David Witcomb.

Mrs Jenny Coombes
CPA President

Learn to Swim

June Holiday
Week 1: Monday 6 to Friday 10 June
Week 2: Tuesday 14 to Friday 16 June
Cost: Week 1 - $70 Week 2 - $60.00
2 weeks for $120.00

Term 2
10 weeks - $130.00
Lessons: Monday – Friday afternoon
Saturday AM/Sunday PM
Free assessments for new students!
Please phone 6211 4919 to enrol today

ICT Tip of the week
Keep personal details private online!
Tennis 2011
The Firsts, Seconds and Thirds tennis teams for 2011 had an extremely successful season. As always the teams were faced with some challenging and strong competition throughout the season. The Firsts team, consisting of Lucy Clark, Sarah Pascoe, Olivia Butler and Phoebe Kennedy, finishing 3rd overall, had a consistent season showing positive signs for next year.
The Seconds tennis team, consisting of Lillian Jones, Caitlin Alcock, Monica Oltowski and Mia McLean, were a winning combination finishing the season at the top of the ladder and subsequently winning the final. It was a brilliant effort by the girls. The Thirds team, comprising of Sophie Warner, Harriet Farquhar, Ella Keys and Rachel Baier put on a skillful display, also winning their final. Both teams are to be congratulated for their stunning performance throughout the season!

Tennis commences in Term 3 for girls in Years 7 to 10. I recommend that girls get involved in the sport as Collegiate has a bright future ahead with many of the younger girls showing a great deal of talent. As always the teams learnt a lot throughout the season, and enjoyed a positive team spirit. A big thank you to Mrs Kathryn Webb (Sports Coordinator), Mr Ray Harrison (Tennis Coach) and all the parents for their encouragement and enthusiasm throughout the season. Congratulations to all the girls for the time, effort and commitment they gave to tennis. Well done!

Sarah Pascoe
Captain of Tennis

Collegiate Chamber Music Series
The Elanée Ensemble will open the 2011 Collegiate Chamber Music Series with a concert on 23 May in the foyer of the McNeill Performing Arts Centre. Since being appointed ensemble-in-residence in 2010, Elanée has gone from strength to strength. Their 2011 concert season comprises eighteen concerts, with a particular emphasis on building a strong presence in Northern Tasmania. They have recently performed Dittersdorf’s Sinfonia Concertante with the Hobart Chamber Orchestra at the Town Hall. To find out more, you can visit their website at http://www.elaneeensemble.com. Much more importantly – to hear them, you can come to their concert: 23 May, 7:00pm. McNeill Performing Arts Centre. Tickets: Adult $15; Concession $10; Family $40.

Ms Jo St Leon
Head of Strings

Our Carp (koi)
Last week at Anglesea we raised a big koi in the playground on the 5th day of the 5th month to celebrate Children’s Day in Japan. In Year 1, we made our own paper streamer of a koi to fly in the wind. The koi is a symbol of strength, courage and determination. Also, many families in Japan display things that remind boys of strength and of the past. Groups of tiny dolls show scenes based on stories of Japanese heroes. Families may also put out armour, helmets and other equipment once used by family members. Some homes may display a silk banner showing the family emblem or crest.

Mrs Susie Allan
Teacher of Japanese

This weekend’s Sport
Friday 13 May
Water Polo: Col Yr 11/12 v TFS Girls at Dive Pool, 8:30pm, Col Red v MTC Y8 at Change End, 9:00pm, Col White v SMC 7/8 at Change End, 8:00pm, Col 9/10 v MKC at Middle, 8:00pm, Col W 7/8 v Col R at Change End, 7:00pm
Saturday 14 May
Hockey: Col R Yr 6/7 v FAH at Queenborough 2, 11:00am, Col W Yr 7 v MKC at Cornelian Bay 1, 11:00am, Col Yr 8 v Clarence at Cornelian Bay 1, 9:00am, Half Field Blue Col v Hutchins at Cornelian Bay A, 12:00 pm, Half Field Yellow Col W v Kingston Kangaroos at Cornelian Bay A, 9:00am, Half Field Yellow Col R v TFS R at Cornelian Bay B 9:00am, Hookin2hockey Blue Col v Hutchins at THC3A, 9:00am

In Association with Paramount Pictures
St Michael’s Collegiate Performance Class presents

MEAN GIRLS

By Tina Fey

Directed by Jane Polley
McNeill Performing Arts Centre
18th, 19th & 20th May @ 7:30pm
$8 Adult, $5 Concession
Tickets available at Main Office & Door
Ph: 6211 4911

Rated M 15+

Thinking about Thinking
1 Day Camps for students in Years 5 to 8
on Friday 3 June 2011 OR Friday 17 June 2011
8:30am to 3:30pm,
Cost $80
This program will be based at St Michael’s Collegiate School Student Centre, Davey Street Hobart and is open to Years 5 to 8 students from any school. Get together with a small team of like minded students who like solving problems, playing logic games, thinking about thinking and having fun learning, as you explore the idea of thinking in a small group.
Your child should bring their own food and drink for the day, and pen and paper. No laptops please – we are going to think independently!
Application forms are available from the Middle School Office or email: collegiate@collegiate.tas.edu.au

In Association with Paramount Pictures
St Michael’s Collegiate Performance Class presents
**School Calendar**

**Thursday 19 May**  
Chapel: Middle School  
Junior School Cross Country, Ham Common  
Years 6 and 8 Full Reports Home  
Music: Years 7/8 Choir, Middle School, 12:30pm to 1:15pm, Middle School Musical Rehearsals, 4:00pm to 6:00pm  

**Friday 20 May**  
Chapel: Reibey/Dundas, 8:30am to 8:45am  
Years 11 and 12 Full Reports Home  
University Day  
Music: String Quartet, Broughton, 12:30pm to 1:15pm, Seniors, McNeill PAC, 12:45 to 1:15pm, String Quartet, Broughton, 4:00pm to 5:30pm  
Badminton: Year 7 Col v Ogilvie (B) at Ogilvie 4:00pm, Year 8 Col v Fah at Fah, 4:00pm, Year 9 Col v Ogilvie Kellet at Crt 4, 4:00pm, Year 10 Col v Ogilvie Yuki at Ogilvie 4:00pm  

**Water Polo TBA**  

**Saturday 21 May**  
Hockey: Col R Yr 6/7 TBA, Col W Yr 7 TBA, Col Yr 8 TBA, Half Field Blue Col v MTC N at Cornelian Bay B at 9:00am, Half Field Yellow Col W v SCH R at Cornelian Bay B, 12:00pm, Half field Yellow Col R – Bye, Hookin2hockey Blue Col v SMC, at THC3, 9:00am  

**Coming Up**  
**Tuesday 24 to Thursday 26 May**  
Year 6 Parent Teacher Interviews  
**Tuesday 24 May**  
ICAS Computer Skills Testing  
Years 7 and 8 Parent Teacher Interviews  
**Wednesday 25 May**  
Year 9 Try a Trade, Derwent Entertainment Centre  
SPA Vocal Performance, Captain Noah and the Floating Ark  
**Thursday 26 May**  
National Sorry Day  
Years 11 and 12 Parent Teacher Interviews  
**Friday 27 May**  
End of Term Service, Years 5 to 12, Linmor Hall, 1:15pm  

**Term 1 Concludes**  

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**From the Chaplain... From ‘LOL’ to ‘OMG’**  
When we travelled to the Cathedral for our Easter Service last Thursday no one expected to hear the Dean of Hobart, Richard Humphrey, use text speak from the pulpit. The Dean, in re-telling the story of the women’s encounter with the risen Jesus and their passing on of the news that Jesus had defeated the greatest of humanity’s enemies – death, invited our students to imagine the reaction of the disciples to this unbelievable news. ‘LOL’ (Laugh out Loud) they would have responded and texted their circle of friends, had mobile phones existed 2000 years ago. But then the Dean invited our students to imagine ‘LOL’ turning to ‘OMG’ (Oh my God) when they too were faced with the resurrection reality.  
That the early Christians were telling of Christ’s resurrection within months of the events is an irreducible fact of history, which no credible historian, Christian or secular, denies. Add to this the fact that these Jewish men and women, who were strictly and absolutely monotheistic, started post Easter worshipping and speaking of Jesus as God and we find it hard to dismiss the resurrection as an idle tale or progressively invented myth. This post Easter proclamation – Jesus has risen, Jesus is God, Jesus is Lord (not Caesar) brought upon these early witnesses suffering and persecution and yet they steadfastly stuck to their story. They knew what they had seen and not even imminent martyrdom could deter them from telling others that death had been defeated and Christ was Lord. Shalom (Peace),  

Scott Sargent  
School Chaplain

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**The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence. **  
Denis Waitley