

# Newsletter

9 JUNE 2017

Dear Calvin Community,

Education issues are currently a much debated topic in our media. One major focus for many is the government funding of schools. Another is the general performance of schools. Our students' results are compared to national averages (NAPLAN). The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) informs us that scientific and mathematical literacy is falling in Australia against other countries.

So, it is appropriate for parents to ask where Calvin, their chosen school, fits within this educational landscape. I want to give you a perspective here and some information to encourage you.

In an article in *The Australian* (Monday, 5 June, page 11) entitled, "When Will We Ever Learn", Stephanie Balogh collects several sentiments from the national debate.

She writes that, "Every child deserves at least one year's growth for a year at school no matter what the starting point". We have been speaking about this at Calvin for a number of years. Our NAPLAN results from 2016 attest that standard is being achieved in Maths and Literacy. In December 2016, we released data demonstrating that excellent progress was being achieved against this measure in a range of areas.

Stephanie Balogh cites two issues as important in student progress: underachievement and cruising.

Data about Calvin released this past Monday by the Office of Tasmanian Assessment, Supervision and Certification (TASC) confirms our progress on Maths and Science. TASC is the authority that governs all Year 11 and 12 studies in Tasmania. A TASC level three subject is effectively a Year 12 subject. Their records indicate that:

- **90% of our students did some Maths at Level 3.** This is an increase of 10% over previous years
- **62% of our students did some Science at Level 3.** This is an increase of over 7%.
- **93% of our students did at least four Level 3 subjects.**

TASC advise that the number of students taking Level 3 Maths and Science is seen as an indicator of student aspiration.

Three points are important here:

1. We are not enrolling smarter students;
2. Students believe that they can achieve at higher levels;
3. They are succeeding at those levels.

The data validates our innovations and emphasis on Maths and Science in Years 7 to 10 and proves it is translating into improved outcomes.

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Mr Iain Belot  
PRINCIPAL

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT *continued*

Our senior students have a study day in preparation for their Mid-Year exams this week. Any parent of these students should be encouraged by both Calvin's results and their child's application today.

In her article, Stephanie Balogh also quotes Megan O'Connell, Acting Director at the Mitchell Institute at Victoria University, who believes that it is essential to focus on the 'very start' of the learning journey.

Students at Calvin receive an excellent foundation in Years K-3. There is a substantial body of evidence to this effect on the MYSchool website. Comparative to other independent schools in Hobart, students have an advantage being at Calvin.

We have intensified and continued our focus on this area through our focus on THRASS as a school-wide approach to language acquisition.

All this data proves that if students want to achieve they will. Our emphasis on Be your Best is to encourage students to be people of character and to develop the confidence and belief in themselves.

Our school aims to be transformational. We have valuable external affirmation that our academic approach is transforming students' attitudes to learning.

Rest assured, that our hearts are still anchored in Christ. Our community still prizes its Christian ethos. That is thriving in its transforming purpose as well.

We are a Christian School. We are flourishing both as a Christian community and as a School.

Iain Belot



SENIORS STUDY DAY

# Primary

Dear Parents

Congratulations to Harry Davies who represented Tasmania at the Australian Gymnastics Championships. Harry competed in the under 12 boys event and ranked in the top 30 of competitors from across Australia. He currently competes at Level 7 in gymnastics which is an incredible achievement considering there are only 10 levels in gymnastics and currently only 40 boys in Australia who can compete at this level. Well done Harry!



School reports aim to celebrate each child's successes and achievement across the curriculum while recognising their social and emotional growth. These reports are a good guide for families and school in identifying how we can work in partnership to further support the learning of each child. Teachers are currently working hard to finalise student results and are writing their reports on your child's progress. School reports will be released on Friday, 23 June. We then follow up our reports with Parent Teacher interviews which will be held on Monday and Tuesday 26 and 27 June. Next week, you will receive notice of when you can start booking your interviews. Both reports and parent teacher interviews are being held a week early this year due to staff PD taking place in the final week of term.



This week Tas Fire conducted an appraisal of our new evacuation procedures in the primary school. Their feedback was very positive and affirming and we await the formal letter of acceptance of our new evacuation procedures. A reminder to all parents and visitors that if you are on site during an evacuation then you must immediately make your way to the emergency evacuation point which is located on the oval.

A reminder that next week the ICAS Writing Competition will be held on Tuesday, 13 June and ICASS Spelling Competition will be held on Wednesday, 14 June.

I trust you all enjoy the long weekend,

Caleb Cooper  
Deputy Principal

## PRIMARY SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday  
8:30 am - 12:30 pm  
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm  
Phone: 6229 3814

## SCHOOL ABSENTEES

Primary School Absentees  
Phone: 6229 3814  
or email:  
[primaryschool@calvin.tas.edu.au](mailto:primaryschool@calvin.tas.edu.au)

## STUDENT HEALTH

Have your child's health  
or allergies changed?  
Please let the office  
know as soon as possible.

## SMALL WONDERS PLAYGROUP

A free early years  
program for children and  
their parents/carers.  
Thursday mornings during  
school term 9:00 - 10:30 am  
in the Kindergarten room.



## YEAR 1

The students in Year 1 have been studying Australian marsupials and monotremes. Over the last few weeks they have been learning to sew felt Koalas. They began by stitching the nose and stomach on the first piece, then stitched the back and front together up to the ears. Next came the stuffing and the final sewing to finish their creation. All students did an amazing job and demonstrated patience and perseverance to finally achieve the end product. Here are some of them.

Mrs Kim Denholm  
Teacher - Year 1



It's **WORKING BEE** time



at Calvin Primary School!

Join us on

**Saturday 24th June**

**1pm - 4pm**

*We have big jobs and small jobs.*

**Refreshments will be provided**

*All are welcome. If you cannot commit to the entire time, fee free to to come and give an hour or two instead. Every bit helps!*

 **CALVIN**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

**SCHOOL COUNCIL**



School Council Parent Forum  
Inspirational speaker Glenn Gerrey  
speaking on Positive Parenting

**Working Together**  
council@calvin.tas.edu.au

# Secondary

## SSATIS CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday, 31 May, a Calvin Secondary Cross-Country team headed over to the Rokeby Police Academy for the annual SSATIS Cross-Country event.

With the backdrop of what was a fantastic day, our team matched it perfectly. From the, let's be honest, flat but boisterous rendition of "happy birthday" in the bus, to the Ebony Webb directed warm-up, and the amazing effort given by the whole team, the students participated extremely well, representing themselves, and their school, proudly.

Some results from the day included;

Ebony Webb 1st  
Tristan Webb 9th  
Caleb Boonstra 9th  
Rory Kent 7th



These were fantastic results on the day as it was made even more memorable by the way our team cheered on every runner and celebrated every effort. A special mention goes out to the magnificent involvement from our year 7's and year 8's as they led the way with participation and enthusiasm, what a great example!



## SECONDARY SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday  
8:00 am - 4:30 pm  
Phone: 6229 4829

## SCHOOL ABSENTEES

Secondary School Absentees  
Phone: 6229 4829  
or email:  
[absences@calvin.tas.edu.au](mailto:absences@calvin.tas.edu.au)

## STUDENT HEALTH

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or allergies changed?  
Please let the office  
know as soon as possible.



# Secondary

## YEAR 9 & 10 DRAMA

The Years 9 and 10 Drama classes recently enjoyed a theatre outing to Hairspray at Rosny College. A lively and very entertaining production was a hit with the capacity audience and students later practiced their analytical skills as we reflected on the show.

Mrs Emily Di Pretoro  
Head of Creative Arts



## UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA DISCOVERY DAY - YEAR 10

Yesterday, Year 10 attended the University of Tasmania Discovery Day. They participated in a variety of workshops designed to pique their interest in one of the many courses available to study at the university.

Mrs Alison Whiteley  
Head of Year 10  
Careers Coordinator



## PRAISE & WORSHIP

On Thursdays from 8:00 - 8:30am, a group of us meet in the Conference Room on the Secondary campus to Praise and Worship our faithful God. We would like to invite parents, friends and students to join us whenever possible. We believe God is calling us to lift His name high and to bless Him in this way. King David's exhortation to worship is relevant today! 1 Chronicles 16:8-36.

Ineke Laning - Acting Deputy Principal

## TONIGHT!!

Calvin's Senior Drama Class presents

### **Groping for Words**

**A dramatic comedy about literacy,  
learning and life**

*by Sue Townsend*

*Directed by Emily Di Pretoro*



At the Performing Arts Centre

**Wednesday 7th June | 1.25pm matinee**  
free entry

**Friday 9th June | 7pm**

Adults \$10

Concession by gold coin donation

Door Sales Only

03 6229 4829

admin@calvin.tas.edu.au



After a great success with their matinee, the Senior Drama Class is looking forward to performing *Groping for Words* for you tonight at 7 pm. Come along and support the Arts at Calvin and have a great time with this very entertaining dramatic comedy.



# Secondary

## CAREER MATTERS

When it comes to career exploration, research is key. Our students have the opportunity to access a number of research tools to enable them to seek information about occupations that are of interest.

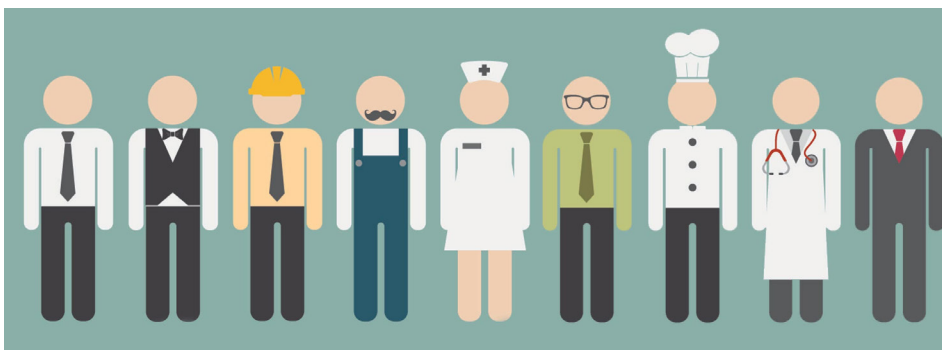
Recently all Year 10-12 students were encouraged to make use of the Australian Government Website, MY Future (<https://www.myfuture.edu.au/>). This Website utilises a particular career development theory called Trait and Factor, whereby a user undertakes a careers quiz to determine likes, interests, abilities, educational aspiration and work knowledge to determine suggested occupations. Whilst this is only one career development intervention, and some of the suggested occupations may seem to come from left field, what the website does do is provide many opportunities for researching occupations. There are case studies to read, videos to watch, suggested pathways, projected employment opportunities, resume and cover letter templates on to name but a few of the resources on this site. I encourage all parents to go to the site for yourselves and create a profile so that you may explore the website and discuss it with your child.

For specific course information, I strongly recommend the Good Universities Guide website [www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au](http://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au). This website gives valuable insight into what courses are on offer across all states in Australia and it provides a direct link to the websites of all institutions so for entry requirements and pathways. Please note that pre-tertiary English and often mathematics are required for most university courses on the mainland.

If University is not the pathway for your child, these websites also offer information about alternative training. As well as this, the website, Skills Tasmania, <http://www.skills.tas.gov.au/> offers insight into apprenticeships and traineeships within Tasmania.

If you want realistic information about the current and future trends of the Australian Labour Market so that you can encourage your students into occupations that are sustainable, you can access that at the Australian Labour Market Information Portal <http://lmip.gov.au/default.aspx?LMIP/IndustryInformation>.

Mrs Alison Whiteley





# Whole School



**Emmanuel**  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Expressions of interest are invited from suitably qualified practising Christians for the following positions:

## **Home Economics Teacher (Secondary)**

18 months fixed term (to 31 Dec 2018), 0.15 FTE  
and

## **Relief Teachers**

**Primary & Secondary | General & Specialised**

For enquiries: Mr Scott Winkler, Principal - 6247 8476

For an application package: [admin@emmanuel.tas.edu.au](mailto:admin@emmanuel.tas.edu.au)

**Applications close: Friday 23 June 2017**

[www.emmanuel.tas.edu.au](http://www.emmanuel.tas.edu.au)

*Opening Minds to Life's Possibilities*

EMMANUEL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL IS A PART OF CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS TASMANIA

## **CALVIN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP**

### **SOFT SHELL JACKETS**

ALL SIZES except Size 16 are now back in stock.

The Calvin Christian Uniform Shop is open every  
Tuesday & Thursday 8.30 am to 4.00 pm

**03 6240 1883**

Email: [ccs.kingston@midford.com.au](mailto:ccs.kingston@midford.com.au)