Dear Parents and Carers

The Prize winners for 2007 have been finalised and will be announced after Chapel on Monday. Letters will be sent home to prize winner’s parents. To receive a prize is undoubtedly a big honour, a recognition of effort and application and something that children and parents can be proud of. As the boys know, not receiving a prize does not mean that they haven't completed a successful year.

How do we choose the prizes?

**Academic Merits** are fairly straightforward as that is based on the marks for the year’s work, blended in with marks achieved in external and internal tests. These prizes are only offered at Years Five and Six.

**Dux of Junior School** is awarded to the strongest academic performer in all subjects in Year Six, usually this goes to just one boy. However, in some years the marks have been so close that it has been shared by two boys.

**Commitment and Participation Awards** are given to those children in Years Three to Six who consistently give of their best in all endeavours, classroom, Music, Sport, Drama, the playground etc. It does not mean that we keep count of how many activities children are involved in. We do take that into consideration and we do encourage children to participate in all that the school has to offer. However, the quality of the interaction is more important than the interaction itself. We also look at participation on a daily basis, things that may not always be obvious to an outside observer. Commitment is also crucial. The boys need to be committed in all they do, in other words, the three R’s - Respect for self, Respect for others (and the Environment) and Responsibility for all actions. Again the commitment has to be on a consistent daily basis.

Prizes are only given to boys in Years Three to Six. Only the boys in Years 5 and 6 receive Academic Awards. The teachers in Year Five and Six choose the combination of Academic and Commitment & Participation awards that best suit the needs of their particular class. Year Six boys also have other special awards. All boys in Year Six are eligible for these awards whether they have been here for one year or eight years. Teachers spend hours trying to ensure that they have chosen the right boys. Firstly, they compile their own list of contenders. This is discussed in teaching teams and then with specialists. Finally we discuss it as a whole staff.

As you can see all teachers agonise over the choices and would love to add another three or four boys. Although if we chose to include more then that would tend to lessen the award’s value. We could also choose to have no prizes but like it or not we are, in one context, preparing children for a competitive world. Each solution presents different dilemmas. Ultimately who does receive or doesn’t receive a prize is not the most important thing. What is important, is that each child gives of his best and is valued for doing so.

Jenny Manthey - Head of Junior School/Early Learning Centre
**Early Learning Centre**

**Kindergarten**

*Jack Marios at the ELC Athletics*

**Year One**

At the ELC Sports Day there was a running race, three-legged races and sack races. 2S and 2L did the 300 m races. Mr Groves hosted the races. I came 2nd last in the running race.

Sam Carmichael

On Friday it was the ELC Athletics Day. I came 3rd in the running race. I came last in the three-legged race with Hamish because we kept falling over. I came 4th in the sack race because I fell over.

Jack Weeding

**Prep**

*Preps at the start of their Athletics race.*

**Year Two**

Patrick Kearney running at the ELC Athletic Carnival

**Hamish Johnston and Jack Weeding at the ELC Athletics**

**Thomas Young with his TALL hat**
Year Three
On Monday Year 3 went to "All Aerobics" with Guy Franklin. We completed a circuit where all the boys were able to try the different equipment, did some work with the fit balls and learnt about stretching.

The session tied in with our daily PE. We feel it is important for the boys to remain fit as it assists them with their concentration and studies. Most boys have been running 2 laps of the school cross country track daily but with so much enthusiasm we struggle to stop them wanting to run 3 or 4 laps. We had lots of fun and would like to thank Guy for giving us this opportunity. As you can see the boys had lots of fun.

Jayden Stevenson at All Aerobics

Year Four
Last Friday Year 4 went to an All Saints Church Service with Collegiate. We all sang three songs. Father John was there too. The Collegiate girls had been in an art competition to raise money for an orphanage.

James Schmidt

Last Friday Year 4E and 4J went to All Saints Church Service with Collegiate to sing 3 songs. The songs were called “The Sounds in Gods World All Agree, Listen to the Rain Drops and Deep Peace”.

When we finished the songs we participated in an art competition to raise money for an orphanage. After we had morning tea we went back to school.

Connor Spaulding

Year Five
Last week Year 5 went down to camp at Southport for four days. The students had a great time, getting involved in a wide range of activities including orienteering, surfing, fishing (unsuccessfully!), cricket games, exploring and more. There were also excursions to the Hasting’s Caves, where we were taught about stalactites and stalagmites, and a chance to make a fortune gem-fossicking. No giant nuggets were found, but the boys rose to the digging challenge admirably!

All the boys got a chance to spend a night in a tent and to hone their marshmallow toasting skills over a roaring camp fire. Thanks must go to Mr Blackhall and his team for organising a great trip and well done to the boys for looking out for each other responsibly.

Sebastian Milford

Anglican Camping - Tasmania
Summer Camps for Years 3-6 2008 are being held around Tasmania. The camps are an opportunity to explore life and the issues you face as young people. Why not grab a few friends and get them to come along with you!

Camps are held in January at Montgomery Park, Coningham. To register contact Anglican Camping Tasmania on www.anglicancampingtasmania.com.au

Boys can obtain a brochure from their class teacher.

Anglicare Christmas Appeal
Please help with the collection of Christmas food for distribution to the needy families of Hobart. Any items can be left at the School Chapel.

Fame is a vapour, popularity an accident, riches take wings, only one thing endures - Character.
(H Greely)
Year Six
Year 6 Canberra/Melbourne Trip
Recently, 38 Year 6 students travelled to Canberra and Melbourne in the company of 4 teachers.

The students participated in a range of activities which included visits to the following: Parliament House, the War Memorial, Questacon, the MCG, Sovereign Hill and the National Museum of Australia. There were many other activities to keep everyone busy and involved in the daily and evening programs.

Both boys and teachers were very well behaved and earned several positive comments from the public. Re-establishing friendships with the host families was just one of the valuable memories of the trip.

TERM DATES FOR 2008

TERM 1
PD for staff: 4 February – 8 February
Students: 12 February – 23 May
(Easter Break: Friday 21 - 28 March inc)

TERM 2
Monday 16 June Staff PD
17 June -5 September
Mid Term Break: 21 July

TERM 3
22 September – 9 December
Show Holiday: 23/24 October

Junior School Speech Night 27 November
Senior School Speech Night 2 December

Christmas Hospital Appeal
Over the next few weeks Year 5 will be running their Hospital Christmas Appeal.

Any toys, books, games, videos, DVD’s, electronic games etc that your child has outgrown would be greatly appreciated. Please send these along to your sons class. They will be distributed to the children’s ward and Ronald Macdonald House. Thank you for your support.

Recycle Mobile Phones
The Kidney Foundation is leading the fight against Kidney disease. By simply recycling your mobile phones you can help save the environment by limiting the numbers of old mobile phones containing highly toxic metals that end up as land fill.

A box has been placed in the JS Reception area for placement of any old mobile phones.