From the Principal

This year has started wonderfully. All teachers embraced our campaign of “Every Lesson Counts” and I hope students fully understand the importance of regular attendance. It’s pretty simple really: if you are not at school or in regular contact with your teacher, then it is very difficult to achieve a positive result. If you are unable to attend school then contacting your teacher via email or accessing work through the College Moodle can be a great help. But, for most of us, the most effective way of learning is through face-to-face teaching. We have also increased the amount of support available to students. All teachers are able to access support staff to work with small groups or individuals and we also have a large group of mentors who are current university students. Personal support is provided by our team of Student Counsellors and we have two Youth Workers employed now as well as a team of agency personnel including a midwife, housing support person, psychologist, financial counsellor and workers from STIARS.

The College continues to work towards improving buildings and we have commenced the process of designing a new Library as the current facility is not big enough to provide the very best service to over 1200 students who want to access learning resources in a flexible, 21st Century environment.

We were recently visited by Dr Chintamani Yogi an educator and spiritual leader from Nepal. He worked with several classes to spread the message of peace-building and caring for humanity. He had a profound effect on both students and staff and we look forward to forging stronger links with his schools in Kathmandu.

This is the time when all students need to be establishing sound study habits. Identify the people who can support you with your learning and study and use them! Finally, remember this is your College and, as part of the Thebarton family, I look forward to your suggestions as to how we can make this excellent school even better. If you would like to see me, do not hesitate to make an appointment through our reception staff.

Kim Hebenstreit
Principal

Leadership Development Camp

I am Win Naing. I am a student at Thebarton Senior College and I am surf lifesaver from West Beach SLSC. In the summer holidays I went to Kangaroo Island for a State Youth Leadership Development Camp. We stayed there for four days and it was a fantastic time. Steve Cornish, from Surf Lifesaving SA, was our manager and the organiser of the Leadership Development Camp. There were 11 other young people on the camp and it was the first time we had met each other. Not only were they young people from other surf clubs, but they were from mixed educational backgrounds too. I thought they were students from high school, but not all were because some were from different universities too.

While we were on Kangaroo Island, we did many activities. On the first day we got up early and travelled south to catch the ferry. The ferry crossing was ok, but some people on-board were a little sick. Once there we just had fun getting to know each other and doing things like kayaking, sand boarding, surfing and swimming at Vivonne Bay beach. It is a very popular and beautiful place in Australia.

On the second day we had to do some planning because we had some students from a nearby school coming to meet us at the beach. We worked together to organise what to do with the students. After the planning we visited some caves, walked in the forest for two hours, and learned new things at the Coastal Ambassadors evening. It was really interesting and useful because we studied about the natural environment and our part in it. I am really interested in the natural environment because it is important for all people and me. I realised how bad we are treating it and what happens if we throw plastic, metal and other things in the ocean, or even on the land. The things we do can really damage the planet and wildlife.

On the third day we delivered a surf education session to one of the Kangaroo Island schools. This was a chance for us to work together and be leaders. I was nervous about talking in front of people, but it was a good day. Later we moved to another camp, which was not too far from Remarkable Rocks. That evening I cooked Asian food (some noodles) for everyone and everybody liked it. It was great to do something for the others and share a part of my culture with them.

On the fourth day we visited Remarkable Rocks, the white house and then went to see the sea lions at Seal Bay. This was an amazing day for me, I got to see many new things. Finally, on the fifth day it was time to head back to Adelaide. We drove for many hours on the way across the island. We visited some more last minute places and Kingscote, the biggest city on Kangaroo Island. Then it was back on the ferry to return to Adelaide.

This camp was a good opportunity for me and I feel very lucky that I got to go. I learned a lot of new things and met many great people. From these people I learned of other guys’ experiences and how they deal with situations. I had a lot of fun as this was my first camp and my first time to Kangaroo Island. Sometimes I found it hard to understand some of the other young people because they are Aussie and speak lots of slang, but it was good practice and I got better. I really enjoyed the experience and want to thank Steve Cornish for giving me the opportunity.
MINING EXCURSION

Late last semester, 11 students from the VET Resources & Infrastructure Certificate 2 class plus teachers, Peter Bowen and Ian McMahon hired a bus and travelled south to the very new Adelaide Desalination Plant which is soon going to provide up to 40% of Adelaide’s water needs into the future.

Desalination is a process that removes salt from sea water leaving fresh water suitable for drinking. This is achieved by using a series of very fine membranes through which sea water is passed under pressure to remove the salt. The buildings and tanks are huge and there are many workers on the site while the desalination plant is being completed. Some jobs during the construction phase would be suitable for people who complete this VET course.

The second stop (after lunch of course) was the copper mine at Kanmantoo in the Adelaide Hills. This mine has been reopened by Hillgrove Resources and they are using modern methods and technology to obtain good quantities of copper ore (which needs to be separated from all the other dirt and rock on site). The group heard about OHS procedures from the chief safety officer, and we moved from place to place over the mine site while the environmental officer excellently explained many of the features which are protecting the local environment. No more abandoned holes in the ground! The mine began producing concentrated ore for export in November.

SACE Merit Ceremony

The photo of Emma Majcen, a Stage 2 student at Thebarton in 2011, with Biology teacher, Greg Sara was taken at Government House on Tuesday 14th February at the 2011 Merit Ceremony.

Emma received her merit for her outstanding performance in Stage 2 Biology last year. Emma is continuing her studies this year in Stage 2 Chemistry, Psychology and Mathematical Studies.

Perhaps she’ll even be back at Government House again next year to receive another merit certificate. We wish her well in her studies this year.

Bronzed Aussies!

The students, pictured with teacher Charlene McGrath, at left recently achieved their Bronze medallion. This involves practising for rescues by swimming in clothing, helping a “drowning” person and using flotation devices such as a surf board to support a “drowning” victim.

‘Introduction to Trades’ at St Martin’s Aged Care Home

Last year the Intro to Trades group worked at St Martins Aged Care Facility. Jason Allan, the Target Work site supervisor, was impressed by their steady work ethic, initiative and excellent team working skills. “They have been the standout group, they are my ‘A’ team and I always look forward to my Thursdays with them,” he said.

On the final day the group presented the facility with a garden seat that has storage for gardening tools. It will be used in the newly completed garden area by residents who welcome the opportunity to tend the raised garden beds that the students had installed. The seat was constructed in the new Thebarton College workshops under the guidance of Greg Dowling who developed a great rapport with the group. His workshop sessions provided an excellent introduction into a range new trade skills for the students. Many of the students are continuing at the College and Greg’s focus on language acquisition will be a valuable foundation for their future studies in Building and Construction.

The Target Work Manager, Brian Nadilo, was so impressed with the students’ efforts that he presented each student with a Certificate of Achievement.

“They persevere with the difficult task of upgrading and repaving the St Martin’s carpark area has been inspiring and is worthy of special praise. I hope that their on–site experience will serve them well into the future and will assist them in gaining employment in this area,” he said.

Darryl Whicker, the site manager at St Martin’s, echoed these sentiments saying that he would certainly recommend these students to others.

“The surface of our carpark is now stable and has resolved some of the safety issues we had previously. The residents have also enjoyed having the ‘guys’ around. Their progress has been watched with keen interest and their cheerful polite manner and respectful ways have endeared them to many residents.”

For myself, it has been a rewarding and enriching experience and I have enjoyed my association with this keen and enthusiastic group who I have come to regard as friends.

Peter Bowen
Apprentice of the Year 2011

Late last year at the VET awards, two of the College's students were key-note speakers and both were nominated for Apprentice of the Year in the South Trade Schools network. Both gave very inspiring accounts of their paths to success in their chosen careers. Miriam Astles-Phillips has a traineeship with an accountancy firm and Alfa Ruekenya is an apprentice with an engineering and fabrication company.

Miriam worked in the Business Studies area at TSC with Nadene Histed and Alfa worked in the Metal Trades program at TSC with John Colley and Peter Bowen.

Of the five finalists from a range of schools and occupations, Alfa was awarded first prize as Apprentice of the Year!!

We heartily congratulate both of these young people for their efforts and success, not just in the recognition of their vocational work, but also in having presented such wonderful personal stories to other students and parents at the awards night, through their thoughtfully prepared speeches.

Also a big thanks to our apprentice brokers, Russell and John for the often unseen support that they provide to both students and employers, in the complex process of selecting staff and signing indentures.

Well done everybody!!

Doug Gordon
Coordinator - Design Technology & Trades

Boardies Day

Boardies Day is an annual fundraising event coordinated nationally to raise vital funds for lifesaving services throughout Australia. It’s a day to celebrate summer, our beaches, our lifestyle and our volunteer lifesavers who give up their leisure time to protect us all at the beach.

Surf Life Saving Clubs throughout Australia rely on funding from Boardies Day to assist in the purchase of vital rescue equipment; training and development of our surf lifesavers; and delivery of educational programs to save lives well into the future.

All Australians were encouraged to wear their favourite board shorts or beach-themed clothes to work or school and pay for the privilege by making a donation to help our volunteer surf lifesavers. As you can see, our students (and staff) participated enthusiastically.

The Promise of the Fourth Monkey

Dr James Pandian entertained an audience of current and past Thebarton Senior College staff when he launched his book ‘The Promise of the Fourth Monkey’ on Thursday 8th March. Many of us were James’ students at university when we studied TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).

Speaking in the Language Centre, James related stories of his youth growing up in Malaysia and the impact on the setting and characters in the book. This is the first of James’ five novels to be published and it tells the tale of a Welsh engineer appointed as Superintendent of a power station at Chenderoh Dam in the middle of the Perak jungle.

According to James, “The community there was engaged in producing cheap electricity to run the numerous tin mines, rubber plantations and light up the towns. In Chenderoh there are no cinemas or theatres, but there’s plenty of drama. There is no court house but there is no shortage of kangaroo courts. There are no big shops, just one that sells everything. There are people - beautiful, crafty, cunning, poor and even funny.”

James certainly brought laughter to his audience. He read a section from the novel and left us wondering about what would happen to the watchman, in trouble for being in his pyjamas and in his kitchen instead of being at his post.

James also related some of his experiences as a migrant to Australia, in particular the fact that thoughts of his homeland were in his mind every single day. They are lurking there and pop out randomly when he hears certain smells or certain words or music or tastes. James urged us to continue to teach with dedication and empathy for our students.

“The Promise of the Fourth Monkey” will be available for loan from our library shortly.

The Promes of the Fourth Monkey

Lunchtime (12.40pm-1.20pm)

Cafeteria Lawns

• Students/staff will be invited to perform. This will be advertised through the bulletin from next week.

How Many Languages Competition

List all the languages you think are spoken by the students at TSC.

Write all the languages on a piece of paper together with your name and contact details and place your entry in the Blue Box (in the Welsh building foyer) by next Tuesday, 20th March at 7 pm.

The student who gets closest to the correct list will win a great prize.

Winner announced on Harmony Day.
Carpe Diem

NAP student, Diem Hoang Ngoc from class 316 is not sure what the fuss is all about.

The College motto of Carpe Diem (Seize the Day) has meant she has had lots of attention from her fellow students.

Like the motto, Diem intends to make the most of her time at the College and “make every lesson count.”

Just Ask AL!

AL is Thebarton’s technology tutor, and he’s available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

AL stands for Atomic Learning, an online resource for software training. AL is available to all our students in the College, and also at home if you have both a computer and an internet connection.

Atomic Learning works by answering common questions you have when learning and using software. How do you cut and paste in Word? How do you add animation to a PowerPoint slide? How do you crop a photo in Photoshop? Just ask AL.

At College
- At the College home page go to the internet menu and select Atomic Learning
- NB. You will need your own earphones to listen to the movie

At home
- Go to http://www.atomiclearning.co.uk/
- Enter the following user name and password:
  User Name: thebarton
  Password: innovation

Do not share this logon information
- Type your question in the search box and click on Go!
- An answer will be provided in the form of a one to three-minute tutorial movie. The movie will walk you through all the steps needed to complete the task

Thebarton Senior College is dedicated to providing the highest quality technology resources available in order to prepare you, our students, for your futures. That is why we are making Atomic Learning available to you.

Dr Chintamani Yogi

Recently, a number of students, community and staff members attended the talk in the Study Centre where Dr Yogi, founder of Values Education Nepal spoke about ‘Living in truth and understanding the absolute truth; practising love and understanding unconditional love. Let’s realise inner peace and create global peace’.

Dr Yogi also spent some time talking with teachers and students in classes. Here he is pictured with our Principal, Mr Kim Hebenstreit.

Sustainability in Action!

Over the past few years, David Lawry has been a student at Thebarton, where he has used his time to perfect an innovative way to use storm water to water street trees.

David is the director of TREENET, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving the urban forest by learning more about appropriate street trees and advising organisations about the choice and on-going support of street trees.

It is appropriate that David has developed his innovative storm water catchment system that feeds water that would otherwise flow down to the sea, to the trees planted in our streets.

The West Torrens City Council is funding a trial of the system and the very first installation is in the gutter outside the College on Ashley Street.

We congratulate David on his vision and hope that this is the first of many successful installations and the consequent preservation of our beautiful street trees.