

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

In the space of a few weeks, we have seen profound changes to the way we live and function as a society. With the current COVID-19 situation, we are faced with change on a daily, sometimes hourly, basis.

As I write this, we are moving towards a remote learning environment for students studying from home, and parents will need to play an active role in supporting their child with their learning. For further information go to <https://www.education.tas.gov.au/parents-carers/learning-at-home/>

While we will continue to update parents, carers and students as information comes to hand, I would also advise you to visit the Tasmanian Public Health [https://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/communicable\\_diseases\\_prevention\\_unit/infectious\\_diseases/coronavirus](https://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/communicable_diseases_prevention_unit/infectious_diseases/coronavirus) and Department of Education websites <https://www.education.tas.gov.au/about-us/alerts/> to stay up-to-date with the constant change.

I would like to assure you that we have increased the frequency of cleaning at the College in general, particularly regularly touched hard surfaces such as desks, light switches, handrails and backs of chairs. Our staff are also communicating the importance of social distancing and good personal hygiene to minimise the risk of infection. Central to this is the importance of thorough and regular hand washing.

Currently our teachers are continuing to provide learning for students on our campus, and are also working towards the provision of teaching resources and information for students who are studying from home. Please remember to contact the College if your child/ward is not attending class.

Year 12 certification is unique and work is being undertaken nationally to manage the possible long-term implications. This will consider internal and external assessments and the impact on student pathways to further education (including ATAR). Please see the update from the Tasmanian Office of Assessment, Standards and Certification <https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/>

As you are probably aware, we have cancelled various college events, including our Meet the Teacher evening and Annual Prize Night, in keeping with the guidelines on large social gatherings. We still want to celebrate the outstanding success of our students in 2019, and to see all of our award winners, Prize Night program and recognition of our duxes for 2019, please visit our website: [www.elizabethcollege.tas.edu.au](http://www.elizabethcollege.tas.edu.au)

This pandemic finds us all in an unprecedented situation. Understandably, we are concerned for the wellbeing of those whom we love, our friends and our neighbours. It is important that we continue to look after each other and care for those in our community who are most vulnerable. Our students, teachers and support staff have demonstrated great resilience under the circumstances, and we, as parents, carers and mentors, need to model a calm and reasoned approach to events as they unfold, so that our children feel supported during these trying times.

Dr Dianne Purnell



*A student reading a novel studied in one of our pre-tertiary English courses*

*Linoprint by Breanne McGuinness, Visual Art 2*



## REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS FOR EXAMS

(previously known as Special Exam Considerations)

Each year the Tasmanian Office of Assessment, Standards and Certification (TASC) provides Reasonable Adjustments to a small number of eligible pre-tertiary students for their external exams. Eligible students include those with a pre-existing condition in one or more of the following areas: significant health impairment (e.g. diabetes, epilepsy, anxiety, depression); significant physical disability (e.g. muscle and tissue damage to a hand making it difficult to write for extended periods); learning disability (e.g. dyslexia; illegible and slow hand writing, ADHD, or Autism); hearing impairment; vision impairment and refugee status.

Further information regarding eligibility and evidence requirements can be found at the TASC website: <https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/years-11-and-12/preparing-for-exams/reasonable-adjustments/>

Applications for Reasonable Adjustments for Exams opened on Thursday 26th March and close on Friday 29th May. The only exception will be emergency cases, such as a physical injury that occurs after this date. In such cases, Emergency Special Arrangement applications will apply.

All submissions will require specific and current evidence (less than 3 years old) in relation to the condition, from the applicant's medical or other relevant professional. In order to process this effectively, students who have pre-existing conditions and believe they may be eligible to apply, should contact Student Services (6235 6559) by Friday 3rd April. Please note that current Year 12/13 students who received Reasonable Adjustments last year will not automatically receive it this year and will need to contact Student Services by Friday 3rd April, if they wish to apply again this year.

## STUDENT AND STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

- Perri King, Jemma Webster, Angelica Clark and Stephanie Griffiths have been selected into the Tasmanian Devils U18 AFLW squad
- Teacher, Adam Bester has been appointed Tasmanian Devils U18 AFLW Runner
- Teacher, Jamieson Smalley has been appointed North Melbourne AFLW Assistant Coach and Tasmanian Devils U18 AFLW Line Coach
- Jessica Pursell has been selected along with four other students to represent Tasmania at the National Schools Constitutional Convention in Canberra
- Annwen Roberts, Harry Tunks and Maighn Johnson will make up three of the four students selected to represent Tasmania at the Australian Nationals Schools Debating Championships in Hobart

## UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 3 April	Applications for Reasonable Adjustments for Exams due to Student Services
Friday 3 April	Last day of Term 1
Monday 27 April	First day Term 2