Looking forward

Monday 8 April
USA NASA Science Tour concludes

Wednesday 10 April
Guys & Dolls rehearsal, 10am-4pm, Ansett Hall

Thursday 11 April
Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, 10am-4pm, Ansett Hall

Friday 12 April
Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, 10am-4pm.

Saturday 13 April
Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, 10am-4pm, Ansett Hall

Sunday 14 April
Chapel Service, 10am, Chapel of the Resurrection

Monday 15 April
Staff Conference Day
Tuesday 16 April
Term 2 commences

Wednesday 17 April
Units 1&3 Drama to School Dance Production, 4pm-9.30pm
Swimming Presentation Evening, 7pm, Pavilion

Thursday 18 April
Parent/Teacher Interviews A-G, Sen/Mid, 4pm, Perry B

Friday 19 April
Guy's Golf Championships at Royal Melbourne
Yr 12 Formal, 7pm, Peninsula Country Golf Club

Saturday 20 April
AGS Girls 'Runner' Tests Round Robin
AGSV/APS Boys' Round Robin
TOPSA Joint Clubs Function, 7pm, Pavilion

Sunday 21 April
Chapel Service, 10am, Chapel of the Resurrection

Monday 22 April
Immunizations - Yr 10, 11am
District Basketball Trials, Yr 6 (Selected students), 9.30-10.30am, 6pm
Parent/Teacher Interviews H-M, Sen/Mid, 4pm, Perry B
District Team Boys/Girls Soccer Trials, Yr 6 (Selected students), 3.30-3.30pm

Tuesday 23 April
District Team Netball Trials, Yr 6 (Selected Students), 1.30-3.30pm
Boys' Summer Sport Presentation Evening, 7pm, Pavilion

Wednesday 24 April
PDP Activities, pm

Thursday 25 April
ANZAC Day Public Holiday

Friday 26 April
First X11 Football, 2.30pm, Macdonald Oval

Saturday 27 April
AGS Boys' Winter Sport, Girls' Boys' First & Cross Country only
Cadet Bivouac departs

Sunday 28 April
Chapel Service, 10am, Chapel of the Resurrection
Guys & Dolls Rehearsal, 10am-4pm, Ansett Hall

Monday 29 April
Jnr School Maths Expo, “World of Maths”, 8am-3.45pm, Pavilion
Yr 9 English ‘Runner’ exclusion, 10.30am-3.30pm
Parent/Teacher Interviews N-Z, Sen/Mid, 4pm, Perry B
Lemmshol Scholastic Concert, 7pm, PAC
Cadet Bivouac returns

Tuesday 30 April
Jnr School Maths Expo, “World of Maths”, 8am-3.45pm, Pavilion
Yr 9 English ‘Runner’ exclusion, 10.30am-3.30pm
Girls' Summer Sport Presentation Evening, 7pm, Pavilion
Musical Scholars Concert, 7pm, PAC

Wednesday 1 May
Singers’ Concert, 7pm, Lewington Room

Thursday 2 May
Yr 9 English “Runner” exclusion, 10.30am-3.30pm
Unit 3 Media to VCE Top Screen, 9am-3.30pm

Friday 3 May
Mt Gambier School Band Competition departures, 8.00am
The Age Careers Expo, 11am-3pm

Saturday 4 May
AGS Boys / APS Girls Winter Sport commences

Sunday 5 May
Mt Gambier School Band Competition returns, 10.00 pm

Dear Parents,

It’s hard to believe that Term 1 has come and gone and that we are now moving into Term 2. Despite the extraordinarily hot weather conditions in March, our students didn’t seem to miss a beat, which is a great testament to their academic resolve.

Positive emotions were flowing freely in our mid Term Mile, Smile for Arts Week. This five day extravaganza, saw our Art, Design & Technology students and staff working alongside those in our Performing Arts area, hoping to bring a smile to our community. This was certainly the case for those who were entertained at drop-off time each day by our girtta-suited drummer and his guitar-mate, who were positioned in the flag pole area. The valets in the car parks, helping young students with their bags, the many ensembles, the wandering musicians, the off-beat dramatists and the lunchtime mob dance were also great hits. Well done to all concerned, you certainly achieved your aim of brightening up our days that week!

Late last Term we received the great news that Year 11 student, Lydia Waycott, was to be one of just 124 Year 11 & 12 students from around Australia to attend the 18th National Schools Constitutional Convention, being held at Old Parliament House in Canberra. The Schools Constitutional Convention program provides senior students with an opportunity to become better informed about how Australia’s constitution provides a democratic framework and encourages them to take an active interest in the operation of government. A great achievement Lydia!

The School’s VCE Program in China, which is going from strength to strength, has recently attracted strong interest as a model way of offering Australian education in other countries. During Term 1, the Victorian Minister of Education, Martin Dixon, visited The Peninsula School’s VCE Campus based at the Nanjing Foreign Language School – Xianlin Campus. This off-shore VCE program boasts very strong enrolments and excellent academic outcomes which, in most cases, give graduates direct access to universities such as Melbourne and Monash.

An important motive for the visit was to explore opportunities for young Victorian scholars of the Chinese language to have extended placements in schools in China. The Nanjing school duly offered to run a pilot program for up to 100 such students. Once further developed, this opportunity will provide an exciting incentive to LOTE students at Peninsula.

Congratulations go to House Connover, Mrs Boag, and the Heads of House who recently staged a very successful Athletics carnival on the North oval and the Detmold. This annual event is always a holy contested highlight on our House calendar. Well done to the students of Newton House on yet another win; they are certainly going to prove hard to catch as the competition progresses.

Inevitably, tragedies will befall all communities. Dealing with those tragedies becomes more manageable when the community bonds together to provided support for one another. Such was the case with the sad passing of much admired, Jason Hammond, towards the end of last Term. I have the greatest admiration for our students, staff and parents, alike, who looked after each other so well over the difficult period leading up to and also following Jason’s funeral. Jason’s family and friends were similarly overwhelmed by the kindness with which they were surrounded. A fine example of how strength will often shine through adversity.

Best wishes for the Term ahead.

Stuart Johnston
Principal
Mother Duck
A tale of Optimism and Resilience

During the first semester staff at The Peninsula School are focusing on teaching the concepts of Optimism and Resilience to the students. I am currently using stories (such as ‘5 Little Ducks’) to highlight these concepts. During the story, Mother Duck can’t find her children and becomes worried she has two choices as to what to do. She can continue worrying and ruminating, keep calling them, become upset and fall into a heap (“Oh no, they have gone forever!”) or she could do something about the situation! Go and look for them in the hope that she may come across them and bring them home.

We talked about the fact that when you have a problem, it is more likely that not only will you find a solution if you think optimistically and do something positive towards reaching your goal.

During the week several children forgot their ‘pillowpets’ for rest time and became upset. One of these situations was after our ‘Mother Duck’ talk. I asked, “What would Mother Duck do?” Sit down and cry or try and think of an alternative solution to the problem.” Another child overheard this conversation and said, “Well, what you should do is ask Mrs. McKeelar what she would have you do.” This situation made me think about the situation that you can cuddle at rest time for today. And then try and remember to bring it tomorrow!

This conversation reminded me, yet again, how astute 4 and 5 year old children can be and how they are quite capable of processing abstract concepts! For the remainder of the day, a few situations arose where I asked the question “What would Mother Duck do?” This scenario reminded me of the importance of teaching the children the value, not only of finding solutions to problems, but developing the resilience necessary to cope when things don’t go to plan. It was also a salient example of the benefits of having an optimistic outlook (i.e. I can turn things around so I feel better).

In an article in Parenting Magazine (March 2007) Meredith Adams stated that, “Life is full of disappointments. (They come) thick and fast for kids. As much as we’d like to spare our children pain, and even if we could shield them from every letdown it wouldn’t be good for them. “The ability to feel disappointment, bear it and move on is a critical ingredient of mental health. It’s the disappointments that provide the greatest opportunity to build up this muscle.”

She suggests: “To help your child with the punches; let them be disappointed. Instead of making the disappointment go away, empathise. Your child will recover faster if they feel understood. If you resist the urge to rescue your child and instead let her feel the letdown, she’ll discover she can handle it.”

She also advises to “Give them a little control: Choice is key. When disappointment strikes kids feel they have even less control over their lives than usual. Give them a small decision to make straight away. (i.e. in our ‘pillowpet’ situation it was “Come and choose which cuddly you would like today”). This way they feel that they still have some control over the situation.

It is important to encourage an optimistic outlook in the children but it needs to be realistic optimism! Not everyone can come first in the race! Or be invited to every single party held. Or, (at Kindergarten), have the turn of cooking today, or be the leader on our walk to the Library etc.

Associate Professor Lea Waters reminded the staff at the beginning of the year that: “Optimism pulls us towards the future. It makes us feel better in the present because we see a happy future. Optimism gives us a higher success for the future by putting more effort into achieving our goals and are therefore more likely to achieve it.

Even if the future doesn’t work out we bounce back from disappointment because we expect a better future next time.”

Studies on student’s explanatory styles regarding results obtained as presented by Lea, highlighted that “optimism was significantly associated with higher levels of achievement. Pessimism was significantly associated with lower levels of achievement in the classroom and pessimism was significantly associated with higher levels of depression.” (Lea Waters Jan 2013 TPS Staff Day Conference).

Lea also emphasised that optimism needs to be realistic! As Chris Peterson (A Primer in Positive Psychology) said in 2000, “Dreams but not delusions – When there is room for doubt, people should fill the gap with hope.”

I know that in Kindergarten M that there are likely to be many more “What would Mother Duck do?” discussions during the year!

Jenny McKeellar
Kindergarten M

School may be more important than Education

Resilience and emotional intelligence may contribute more to career and life success than academic intelligence

This year our Positive Psychology program has turned its attention to the areas of Resilience and Optimism, two great attributes for students to develop. In a recent article, renowned author and Psychologist, Andrew Fuller, pointed out that 2013 is the “Year of the Snake”. He says

“The snake is the symbol in many indigenous communities of creative re-growth and re-invention. Helping parents and students to be aware that great learning involves the ability to make mistakes, get over them and try again is an important role of any school.”

Head of Year 12, Sharyn Curtis spent some of her holidays reading Andrew’s book Raising Real People – she has recorded some of the important points made by Andrew in the following report:

I have finished the book “Raising Real People” by Andrew Fuller and one chapter was very relevant to education and I thought it may be worth passing on to everyone in the School Community.

There are certainly some points that are an excellent refresher at any time.

The Chapter was titled “School May Be More Important Than Education”. Some of the key pieces of information were:

- In surveys of young people, fitting in and feeling that you belong at your school was thought to be one of the major factors promoting well-being, self-esteem and resilience in young people.
- School is like a second home. You spend more of your waking time at school and see more of your teachers than you do of your parents. You should like it like a second home.
- When students were asked about the positive aspects of schools they listed: socialising with friends; particular subjects; learning; being prepared for the future; specific teachers; and the physical layout and facilities including size, location and appearance.
- When students were asked about the negative aspects of schools they listed: authoritarian behaviour by teachers and students; bullying; the punitive and boring nature of school; homework; the lack of choice over subjects, hours and workload; and specific teachers.

I really enjoyed this analogy: “Why do so many young people feel that they don’t belong at school? Imagine you had a job that was a bit strange. In this job you have many bosses, all of whom come in and tell you to do different things. Management for some reason have decided that the way that you will work best is by moving you from room to room about once an hour. In each room is a different boss with different expectations. Any work that is not completed during working hours will have to be completed in your own time. Each boss doesn’t know what work the other bosses have already asked you to do. You have no say over timelines. Your co-workers are an uneven lot: most are friendly, though there are a few who seem to believe that organisational issues should be sorted out physically. You are unsure of their intentions towards you. You are also unsure whether management would be able to protect you if these co-workers were to take matters into their own hands. What is your likely level of job satisfaction? This, of course, is effectively the position of many secondary school students”

Surveys of young people have asked them how schools can be improved. Consistently they suggested increasing the sense of control and participation that students can have and providing more choice over what they learn. Specifically they suggest:

- Offer a wider range of subjects
- Making schools friendlier
- Making work easier by offering more time and adapting assignments
- Supporting students and providing respect and understanding for them
- Improving teachers attitudes
- Making school more interesting by changing the curriculum
- More choices over subjects/students involvement
- Providing more practical work
- Giving responsibility to the students to improve the physical appearance of the school

As the year progresses we will include snippets of advice from Andrew, ways by which parents can foster resilience and optimism in their children. On 1 August our PSRA will be hosting Andrew in the Ansett Hall where he will share his thoughts on raising resilient children.

Ansett Hall Perths

House report with a difference...

Newton Yr 8 Girls

Although the day may have started off grey, For Newton it ended with Yay! Especially the Year 8 girls,

For some, though not professional, they gave it a whirl, That whirl turned out great,

Leaving behind a fairy-tale win that’s magic to narrate,

Coming 1st in all our races,

No 2nd 3rd 4th 5th or 6th places,

A special mention goes to Steph Howgate,

For racing with the girls from Yr 9, Yr 10 and

That whirl turned out great,

As the year progresses we will include snippets of advice from Andrew, ways by which parents can foster resilience and optimism in their children. On 1 August our PSRA will be hosting Andrew in the Ansett Hall where he will share his thoughts on raising resilient children.

Saskia Zandveld

Year 8

Newton House

Calendar Date: -
Andrew Fuller
Psychologist
7.30pm, 1 August 2013
Ansett Hall
Learning
101
“Lucy: You learn more when you lose.
Charlie Brown: Well then, I must be the
smartest person in the world!!”

Peanuts, Charles M. Schulz

Whilst Charlie Brown’s humility and self-
deprecation are legendary, and indeed enduring,
did not. And this is why losing, or not succeeding
which make us stronger, or enable us to perform or
and indeed enduring, there is a lot to be said for Lucy’s observation.
Losing does often provide us with lessons that
or achieve better in the future. And yet, none of us
make us stronger, or enable us to perform or
she would have to learn. So what is it about losing that helps us learn?

Consider this example:
Two cricketers, Jane and Tom, head to the nets
for batting practice. Jane takes her gloves and
behave: they are important. The important
behaviour can be observed and replicated in the
least, I had never expected to find myself in the
Paris. Throughout my time in France I saw
students to learn the steps to success by asking teachers to
interact. So what is it about losing that helps us learn?

Interim Reports
Our new look Interim Reports in the Junior, Middle
and Senior Schools seek to assist students to
learn the steps to success by asking teachers to
identify what learning habits each student is
employing and a habit that they could draw on
more regularly. The habits of successful learning that
the School has identified are: Accuracy, Co-
operation, Class Work, Creativity, Engagement,
Listening, Organisation, Persistence, Questioning,
Resilience, Self-Discipline and Thinking flexibly. A
description of each habit accompanied the report
distribution and a copy can be found on the school
website. I encourage you to keep a copy of
the list on the fridge door, or the noticeboard at
home, and to talk with your children about how
they are developing each of these habits across
their learning.

Whilst raising student consciousness of the
learning process is the first step for improvement,
the next step, changing behaviour, is the most
difficult. Lucy might well be right, but unless
Charlie Brown learns from his mistakes, he may
never succeed. What Charlie needed was some assistance.
Thankfully for our students that assistance is here.

Parent Interviews
I have previously discussed the importance of the
triangle: parents, teachers and students, and I encourage all parents to have their children
accompany them to the Parent / Teacher interviews in Term Two. Here, all three can meet and
formulate a plan for how we can develop the
habits of successful learning.

Cameron Bachler
Director of Teaching and Learning

Sacré Coeur, Versailles, the Arc de Triomphe and many more. The highlight of the trip for me was
climbing the Eiffel tower at night and seeing all of Paris spread out below me, the Seine running
through the city and all the monuments lit up by thousands of lights and shining in the distance.

However most importantly, this trip was a fantastic opportunity for the boys to improve my French
skills and become more confident when speaking the language. My French family wanted to help
me improve as much as they could and they certainly achieved this. No matter how many times I
asked "could you please speak slowly" they always did it. Not only am I more confident
when speaking French now, but I comprehend so much more than I ever thought possible.

I can honestly say that I will never forget this trip. The experiences I had and the friends I made
will stay with me for the rest of my life. I feel so privileged to have been offered this wonderful
and life changing opportunity. Not only did it open my eyes to the French culture but I have forged
strong bonds with friends I hope to have for many years to come. I will never forget the first time I
saw it snow, or the smell of croissants baking in the village patisserie. Although it was sad to say
goodbye, I can say with certainty that I will be back.

I strongly recommend anyone who has this, or a similar opportunity in the future to go for it. You
may not know what you are getting into but I can assure you that you won’t be disappointed!

Kaitlin Holloway
Year 12

The warmth of French Hospitality

Three months ago when I set off on my adventure to France, as the Notre Dame Scholar, I honestly
did not know what to expect. I was extremely eager, but a small part of me still couldn’t believe that I
was about to spend my summer holidays in France. As I boarded the plane at the airport I was a little
nervous, however, I had nothing to worry about.

My host family was lovely. Not only did they welcome me warmly into their family, but they
also didn’t care how terrible my French originally was and were willing to spend time teaching me
French and completely misunderstood what was
being said.

Throughout my time in France I saw and visited
many spectacular monuments: Notre Dame,
not only the things that I expected to see, but also
the things that I never thought I would see. The
climate was also different from what I was used

Adventure Club 2013 Expeditions

We are excited to offer up these opportunities to
students, families and friends to experience
adventure in 2013. For further details, please
contact Mrs Alan Wiggs at awiggs@bps.vic.edu.au
or 9788 7732.

SCUBA, snorkelling and family cultural
expedition to North Sulawesi
June 28 – July 07

Our venue for this trip is Sladen Island resort and
Spa, a fabulous luxury dive resort overlooking
Gorgeous sunsets over a distant volcano; walks along
a beautiful white sand beach; dives gently along some of the most colourful and
biodiverse coral walls in the world; or hikes
through a tropical rainforest – this place has it all. Sladen was the site of our successful expeditions in 2008 and 2009 and we have chosen to return
to it as we rank it so highly – the ideal place for divers and snorkelers of all experience levels. Novice can complete an Open Water Course on site and non divers can watch for turtles hitching at the turtle sanctuary, climb an ancient volcano or enjoy a relaxing massage – depending on energy
level.
All inclusive –
• All airfares and transfers
• 7 Nights Sladen Island Resort and Spa all meals (superb quality – huge Asian
European buffets included)
• 11 unforgettable boat dives.
• Snorkelers welcome to freely fill available places on the dive boats.
• 1 night in Singapore’s Carlton Hotel with free Zoo entry; Sentosa
• Leisure centre or a host of other free inclusions.
• Includes all current taxes and airline fuel surcharges
• Divemaster twin share garden view: $3240
• Non diver twin share garden view: $2810
• Child 2-11: $1552
• Child 12-16 $2362

Fiji surf, snorkel and family cultural
expedition July 1 – 8

Our venue for this expedition is a new luxury dive resort, “Vila Markisa” beautifully situated on the north
east coast of the island of Taulomine, site of the famous “Liberty Wreck”, with Bali’s most famous
coral reef “Ganung Agung” providing an inspiring backdrop. The resort House Reef is “Seraya’s
Secrets” – a well known dive site which offers an astounding variety of macro and fish life
just off the beach. Novices can complete an Open Water Course on site and non divers can snorkel,
was and are therefore likely to understand the
important and the appropriate lessons to teach.”

view. Our venue for this expedition is a very highly
regarded new boutique surf resort that is situated
on the superb coral coast of Fiji, close to some
reliable local breaks and all that the coral coast
and Pacific Harbour offers. Matanivusi also offers
accessibility to “Frigates” a more challenging
dive site just off Yanuca Island, that is up there
deemed “Cloudbreak”, but this would be for
the more experienced divers only. The resort
receives fabulous reviews and is run by a friendly
Australian couple and their amazingly hospitable
Fijian staff. Surf guides are provided; Surfing
lessons are offered and all levels of experience are
catered for – even SUP (Stand Up Paddle Board)
are available.
http://www.surfingfiji.com/
All inclusive –
• All airfares and transfers
• Twin share all meals
• All local break for surfers included
• Upgrade surfing Frigates Passage additional $45 per person per day
• Includes all current taxes and airline fuel surcharges
• Surfers $3,240
• Non surfer $3,030

Balinese SCUBA, snorkelling and family cultural
expedition Sept 30 – Oct 7

Bali is well known for shopping and fabulous
restaurants, but there are also some amazing
coral reefs and world class dive sites. The venue
for this expedition is a new luxury dive resort,
“Vila Markisa” beautifully situated on the north
coast of the island of Taulomine, site of the famous “Liberty Wreck”, with Bali’s most famous
coral reef “Ganung Agung” providing an inspiring backdrop. The resort House Reef is “Seraya’s
Secrets” – a well known dive site which offers an astounding variety of macro and fish life
just off the beach. Novices can complete an Open Water Course on site and non divers can snorkel,
visit tropical forests, rice paddies or Balinese
villages. A huge pool in the resort gardens or a massage at the resort spa will fill in the hours in
between dives.
hml
All inclusive –
• All airfares and transfers
• Markisa Villas 7 Nights
• Twin share Deluxe bungalow or Villa
• All gourmet meals
• 15 dive package
• All current taxes and airline surcharges
• Dive: $2,665.00
• Non Dive: $2,296.00
The first full round of sport, for all students, is on Saturday 4th May. 

Details of the Winter training schedule are on Learning Point. Training for Winter sport for all students will commence when we return to School in Term 2. There will be training on Tuesday 16th 2013.

**Pavilion Opening Hours Term 2**

The H.A. Macdonald Pavilion will be open for coffee every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning during Term 2 from 8.30am – 10.30am. All parents are welcome to use this opportunity to meet other parents in this friendly, informal setting and if you don’t have time to stay, just grab a delicious takeaway.

We look forward to welcoming you.

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**Individual Sporting Achievement**

**2013 National Junior Track and Field Championships**

The National Junior Track and Field Championships were held in Perth from March 12 to March 17.

**Year 7**
- Jai Taylor – 11th 100m Under 14 Boys
- 3rd Long Jump Under 14 Boys
- 2nd in 4x100m Victorian Under 14 x 100m Relay Team

**Year 9**
- Michael Cann – 3rd Triple Jump Under 16 Men
- 3rd Long Jump Under 16 Men
- Alex Loizou – 11th 400m Under 16 Women
- 15th 200m Under 16 Women

**Year 10**
- Kayla Cheasley – 1st 3000m Under 17 Women
- 5th 1500m Under 17 Women
- Riley Cridland – 11th 2000m Steeplechase Under 17 Women
- Ellie McKeown – 9th 1000m Under 17 Women
- 12th 200m Under 17 Women

**Year 11**
- Kelsey Walton – 6th 3000m Under 18 Women
- Shaun Walton – 7th 3000m Under 18 Men
- 18th 1500m Under 18 Men

**Past Student Class of 2012**
- Sarah Buchanan – 6th 400m Under 18 Women
- 5th as part of Victorian Under 20 4 x 100m Relay Team

**2013 Senior State Life Saving Championships**

The 2013 Senior State Life Saving Championships took place at Anglesea over the long weekend. A number of TPS students were competing, the majority for Point Leo SLSC but also for Inverloch Anglesea.

Amongst some very good performances the medal winners were:

- Adam Howgate for winning his first Gold medal in an Open event as part of the winning Open Men’s Surf Swim Team, alongside Zac Richter and two other Point Leo competitors.

**AGSV Selection**

Congratulations to the following boys who have been selected in Combined AGSV Representative teams:

- CRICKET - William Crowder (Captain), Thomas Feldgen, Thomas Labnoy
- VOLLEYBALL - Jack Miers
- BASKETBALL - Angus Howey
- BADMINTON – Wei Meng (Jason) ANG (Vice Captain)
- TABLE TENNIS – Ambrose Yeung (Emergency)

Congratulations to the following girls who have been selected in Combined AGSV summer sport teams to represent the AGSV in the AGSV vs APS representative games at Yanra Valley on Tuesday 26th March:

- SOFTBALL - Matilda Newton (Vice-Captain), Christina Lees
- TENNIS - Danielle McIntyre, Sarah Trower, Michaela McMenamin, Maggie Santamaria (Emergency)

**Victorian Champion**

Sam Danko, Year 10, sailing with his cousin Jack Lidgett, won the Victorian 420 Championship over the weekend at MYC. There were light conditions, and given their larger size, it was a great effort. The Gowans boys, Rhett Year 12 and Tyrone Year 10, finished 8th.

Winter Sport

Training for Winter sport for all students will commence when we return to School in Term 2. There will be training on Tuesday 16th April. Details of the Winter training schedule are on Learning Point.

The first full round of sport, for all students, is on Saturday 4th May.

Stephen Brennan
Director of Sport

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