

# Building program a hive of activity

By **ANDY BENNETT\***

THE Bridgewater campus of the federation is a hive of ever-increasing building activity.

The gymnasium has grown a roof and is entirely enclosed and the internal building and fit-out is on schedule for an opening in the second week of term three.

The PE teachers at Bridgewater High School are getting excited and have been visiting new gyms at other schools to gather ideas.

The gymnasium, which will include a full-size basketball court with ample space for two classes, a weights room and high-quality changerooms, will be an outstanding space for teaching and learning.

Just as importantly, it will be a wonderful addition to our community's sporting and recreation infrastructure.

We can envisage all sorts of sporting competitions including basketball, netball, futsal and badminton as well as gymnastics and fitness classes being run through the gym.

The first stage of the Middle School redevelopment is well under way and

our grade seven students and staff are scheduled to occupy the new spaces in the second week of term three.

Stage two work will begin during the school holidays and will be completed in time for term one next year.

A lot of heavy work is being done to establish the foundations for the new grade 9-12 senior school. We may need to pray for no rain, at least on the immediate site, but the first of the new buildings is scheduled for occupation at the start of the 2011 school year.

Further up the hill, the new Bridgewater Regional Trade Training Centre is nearing completion.

On August 24 members of the centre consortium were taken on a tour of the new building. Even though the fit-out is not yet complete and equipment has yet to be installed we could sense the excitement, activity and great learning that will take place once the centre officially opens around mid-October.

The centre is a high-quality building and will be a valuable addition to the way the federation provides education and training and develops employment path-



**Members of the Bridgewater Trade Training Centre consortium recently inspected progress at the new centre. A community open day to launch the centre is planned for October 20. From left, Wilson Forward (Tas Polytechnic), Jo Harris (Bridgewater and New Norfolk High School pathway planner), Lana Hegol (Tas Polytechnic), Stuart Harvey (Department of Education), Cluny Addis (Bridgewater High School), Simon Nuss (Tas Polytechnic), Shane Hickey (Tas Polytechnic) and Malcolm Elliot (New Norfolk High School).**

ways for youth and adults in our community.

After the tour the group met to continue planning the taster courses that will begin soon after the opening and continue for the remainder of term three.

We have planned a week of one-day 'try-a-trade' courses in auto, electrical and construction trade areas to give students an initial experience and a follow-up where the centre offers one week of training in a single trade area.

Our pathway planners are currently gathering expressions of interest from our grade nine and 10 students and we are working on

a way to open the courses to people who aren't attending high school, but would be interested in enrolling in a course.

There will be more information in the next edition of Brighton Community News.

Building program:

- The redevelopment at East Derwent Primary School was officially opened by Dick Adams, MHR, on August 13. Congratulations to the East Derwent community on a terrific day and wonderful addition to their school.

- A lot of progress has been made at Gagebrook Primary. Some of the refurb-

ished internal spaces are about to be occupied including a new office reception, new teacher resource and a teaching professional learning area. The external works are about to increase although there is a slight hold with the prefabricated concrete panels. However, the works are well on schedule for completion for the 2011 school year.

Federation name:

- Returns from the community survey to choose a name for the federation have been counted. As is required by law a recommendation has been made to the Minis-

ter for Education and Skills and we expect an announcement early in term three.

Our website at: [www.education.tas.gov.au/basmlearningfederation](http://www.education.tas.gov.au/basmlearningfederation) is being updated to include news about latest developments including building concepts and plans. Your comments are welcome. Alternatively, you can email comments to [bsm.learningfederation@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:bsm.learningfederation@education.tas.gov.au) or contact Andy Bennett at [Andrew.Bennett@education.tas.gov.au](mailto:Andrew.Bennett@education.tas.gov.au)  
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