Dear Parents,

As we are about to conclude the final week of Term 1, we have many things to be thankful for. The term has been very busy and I thank all parents, students and staff members for their excellent work. I hope everyone has a restful and enjoyable two week break and look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 26th April for the beginning of Term 2.

Easter – from our Tasmanian Catholic Education Director – Mr John Mula

Happy Easter and welcome back after the Easter break! The Gospels tell how on a number of occasions Jesus raised people from the dead; the most famous was His friend, Lazarus. However when the time came for Jesus, Himself, to die, it at first seemed that He had no power to prevent it. As He hung dying on the cross, some of the rulers mocked Him by saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One.” Luke 23:35. Similarly, the soldiers tell Jesus, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself.” Luke 23:37.

Lastly, one of the criminals also being crucified asked Jesus, “Aren’t you the Christ? Save yourself and us.” Luke 23:39. Finally, Jesus died and was placed in a tomb.

After three days Jesus did rise from the dead at the place and time of His choosing. This was not what everyone had hoped for nor expected. The Resurrection showed to everyone that the way the ‘upside’ Kingdom of God works is not what everyone expects. The Resurrection is a celebration of the anticipation of the life to come, that there is eternal life for all. On a personal level, Easter reminds us that even when hope seems as if it is dead and buried, Christ is there to call it from the grave; Easter is available to us every day.

According to St Paul, who wrote his letter to the people of Corinth between 53 and 57 A.D., only 20 years after Jesus’ death, the Resurrection is so central to Christianity that, without it, our entire Christian faith is empty: “…If Christ has not been raised from the dead, then we have nothing to preach and you have nothing to believe... And, if Christ has not been raised, your faith is a delusion...” 1Cor. 14,17.

Jesus Christ is our hope. Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Temporary Change of Administration Block

In late 2014 we received a minor building grant to renovate the Administration block. It is finally happening!!! At the beginning of Term 2, the temporary Office Admin will be in the Learning Support Block, this is the building down the path from McCann Crescent (the building above the Grade 2, 3 & 4 block). The temporary Learning Support will be in the Art Room. We have been told that the new refurbishment will take approximately 6 weeks. I apologise in advance for any inconvenience.

Soccer for 2016

By now everyone should have signed up and paid the soccer fees to Casey in the Office. The teams were released today and all students will begin training during the first week of Term 2. During Week 1 of Term 2 all players will receive their Uniform. The first game for all players will be played on Saturday 30th April.

Working Bee – Saturday 30 April – 9am to 12pm (Save the Date)

On Saturday 30th April, we will be holding a working bee to tidy up the garden area at the top of the school. This is a big job and it would be great to have many community members volunteer to assist. Please save the date and another notice will be sent out during the first week of Term 2.
**Parish Mass**

I would like to thank the 22 students and staff members who attended the Parish Mass last Sunday 3rd April at 10.30am at the Cathedral. They represented the school with great pride with everyone wearing their uniform neatly. I would also like to thank Ms Bridget Cairns for her organisation.

**Uniform Changeover**

The changeover to winter uniform will be Week 1 of Term 2 (Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th April). All students will be required to be in winter uniform by Monday 2 May. A reminder that our uniform can be purchased from our Uniform Store every Wednesday from 2pm to 4pm.

If we an inclement day before the changeover date, then students are able to wear their winter uniform on this day. However, a mixture of summer and winter uniform will not be allowed.

**ANZAC Day**

It has been a tradition of Immaculate Heart Mary Catholic School to attend the ANZAC Service and March at the RSL on Monday 25th April. We will meet at Lenah Valley Primary School at 8.45am and then March to the RSL (around the corner). I invite as many students as possible to attend this March and Service.

I ask that all students please wear their full school uniform. It would be great to have as many students attend as possible. Please contact the office if you intend to march by tomorrow Friday 8th April.

**Did you Know!**

All government schools are fully funded by taxpayers to educate their students according to need. Funding for government schools is not contingent on the ability of parents to contribute, regardless of factors such as income levels and socio-economic background.

Nevertheless, government schools are still able to raise and spend additional funds from private sources such as tuition fees and the hiring out of school grounds and facilities. Some government schools are able to increase their annual budgets by more than 20% in this way, despite being fully funded by taxpayers.

In 2013 (most recent data available) the private income (i.e. fees) in Catholic primary schools (which are not fully funded by the government) was on average $1,738/student and in government schools it was $330/student. In secondary schools the average private income was $3,598/student and in government schools it was $652/student.

Have a great Term break and we look forward to seeing everybody back at school on Tuesday 26th April.

God bless.

*Mr Nick McGann*

*Principal*
On Thursday 24\textsuperscript{th} March a Chess team from Immaculate Heart competed in an interschool tournament at Friends School. This was a large tournament of around 160 students ranging from Primary to Secondary students.

Our team consisted of seven players. They were: York Paul, Axel Allanby and Joe Vinen from Gr 5. Haig Kingston, Harry Gibson and Nicholas Keating from Gr 4 and Noah Smith from Gr 1.

Our team came 5\textsuperscript{th} in the tournament with a respectable score of 13 points out of a possible 28. The Primary A tournament, in which we competed, was won by Friends with a score of 21.5, with Princess St Primary School coming second scoring 19.5 and South Hobart Primary coming third with 17 points.

Our top scorer was York Paul who won 4 out of 7 games. All boys played exceptionally well, especially Noah Smith, who, as a Gr 1 student, showed excellent concentration and resilience over the course of a long day of 7 games of chess! Well done Noah!

Our thanks to Mr Steve Latham for driving the bus and to Mr Tom Krasnicki, our coach, and Mr Nick McGann for their continued support of our students participating in this challenging sport.

Ms Louise Davidson
Chess Co-ordinator.
Basketball Tasmania

is conducting a school holiday camp. These camps are prepared by our professional coaching and administration staff so you know the camps will be organised, safe and have camp content which matches up to Basketball Australia skills matrix for players.

Camps will be lead by Basketball Tasmania staff and have guest appearances from SEABL Imports and also athletes from our High Performance and State Development Programs. All coaches attending camps will have a Current Working With Children Check.

In the upcoming April 2016 school holidays we have two different camps on offer:

**Shooting Camps – Boys and Girls – 9am to 3pm - $50 for 1 day.**
Kingborough Sports Centre, Hobart:
Monday 11 April – Under 12 and Under 14
Tuesday 12 April – Under 16 and Under 18

Fun and Fundamentals Camps – Boys and Girls – 9am to 3pm - $80 for 2 days.
Kingborough Sports Centre, Hobart (conducted by KHBA – register through their website):
Thursday 21 April and Friday 22 April
Camp A: 2007-2010 born
Camp B: 2003-2006 born

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<tr>
<th>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday 8th April</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Monday 25th April</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 26th April</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tues 26th – Friday 29th April</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Monday 2nd May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 4th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 5th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Monday 9th &amp; Tuesday 10th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 11th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wed 11th &amp; Thursday 12th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 12th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Tuesday 17th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 18th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Thursday 19th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday 20th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday 25th May</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Friday 27th May</strong></td>
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What is NAPLAN?
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual national assessment for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. All students in these year levels are expected to participate in tests in reading, writing, language conventions (spelling, grammar and punctuation) and numeracy. All government and non-government education authorities have contributed to the development of NAPLAN materials.

Why do students do NAPLAN tests?
NAPLAN is the measure through which governments, education authorities, schools, teachers and parents can determine whether or not young Australians are meeting important educational outcomes in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide parents and schools with an understanding of how individual students are performing at the time of the tests. They also provide schools, states and territories with information about how education programs are working and what areas need to be prioritised for improvement.

NAPLAN tests are one aspect of a school’s assessment and reporting process; they do not replace the extensive ongoing assessments made by teachers about each student’s performance.

What will be tested and how?
NAPLAN tests the sorts of skills that are essential for every child to progress through school and life, such as reading, writing, spelling, grammar and numeracy. From 2016, NAPLAN content will be aligned with the Australian Curriculum. For more information on this please see the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au. Questions are multiple-choice or require a short written response. The writing task requires students to write a text in response to a prompt.

To give you an idea of what the tests look like, sample questions and a sample writing task are available on the NAP website: www.nap.edu.au

Who will run the tests?
NAPLAN tests are conducted at schools and administered by classroom teachers, school deputies or principals. Each state and territory is responsible for marking the tests in accordance with strict guidelines and processes.

How can I help my child prepare for the tests?
NAPLAN assesses literacy and numeracy skills that students have already been learning through the school curriculum. Teachers will ensure students are familiar with the test formats and will provide appropriate support and guidance. If you have any questions about your child’s preparation for NAPLAN, you should make a time to speak with their teacher.

The best way you can help your child prepare for NAPLAN is to reassure your child that NAPLAN tests are just one part of their school program, and to urge them to simply do the best they can on the day. The use of services by coaching providers is not recommended.

What additional support can schools provide for students with special needs?
All students are encouraged to participate in NAPLAN tests. Students with disability may qualify for adjustments that reflect the support normally provided in the classroom. Students who have a temporary injury may also be reasonably accommodated.

A formal exemption may be granted for a student with significant intellectual disability and/or significant coexisting conditions, or for a student who has recently arrived in Australia and has a non-English speaking background.

Your school principal and your state testing authority can give you more information on special provisions or the process required to gain a formal exemption.
How is NAPLAN performance measured?
NAPLAN is not a pass-or-fail type test. Individual student performance is shown on a national achievement scale for each test. Each test scale has 10 bands and all year levels are reported on the same scale. Six bands are reported for each year level for each test. One of these bands represents the national minimum standard for students at each year level. A result at the national minimum standard indicates that the student demonstrated the basic literacy and numeracy skills needed to participate fully in that year level. The performance of individual students can be compared to the average performance of all students in Australia.

What happens if my child is absent from school on test days?
Where possible, schools will organise for individual students who are absent at the time of testing to complete missed tests at another time during the testing week. Individual students are not permitted to sit tests after Friday 13 May 2016.

Will I receive a report on my child's performance?
A NAPLAN report will be issued by your school later in the year. The same report format is used for every student in Australia. The school will notify you when the reports are being sent to you. If you do not receive a report, you should contact the school. Individual student results are strictly confidential.

How are NAPLAN test results used?
- Schools use results to identify strengths and weaknesses in teaching programs and to set goals in literacy and numeracy.
- School systems use results to review programs and support offered to schools.
- Students and parents may use individual results to discuss progress with teachers.
- Teachers use results to help them better identify students who require greater challenges or additional support.
- The community can see average school NAPLAN results on the My School website: www.myschool.edu.au

Where can I get more information?
For more information about NAPLAN:
- visit the NAP website www.nap.edu.au
- contact your child’s school
- contact your state or territory’s education authority (details available on the NAP website).

NAPLAN 2016 tests timetable

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Tuesday 10 May</th>
<th>Wednesday 11 May</th>
<th>Thursday 12 May</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 45 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 45 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 5</td>
<td>language conventions 40 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 50 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy 50 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>language conventions 45 minutes writing 40 minutes</td>
<td>reading 65 minutes</td>
<td>numeracy calculator 40 minutes non-calculator 40 minutes</td>
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- Language conventions test includes spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Numeracy test includes number; space; algebra, function and pattern; measurement, chance and data.
- Calculators are NOT permitted in the numeracy test in Years 3 and 5. In Years 7 and 9, each student sits one numeracy test where calculator use is permitted and one where it is not.
The Parents and Friends are holding a Mother’s Day Stall on Thursday 5th May. Gifts will be priced from 50c to $5. A small donation of gifts such as soap, chocolates, candles, stationery or keyrings would be greatly appreciated. You can leave your donation at the office prior to the day. Thank you! IHMCS P & F

Are you free to help out on the day? Please fill out the following and return to the school office by Tuesday 3rd May:

Name: ________________________________
Phone: ________________________________
Time available (between 9 - 1) ____________
Do you have a working with vulnerable children registration? Please provide registration # ____________
Information on registration is available from the school office.
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