Dear Community Members,

As we approach the Easter season, I reminded all students that when they wake up on Easter Sunday that they remember the real reason why we receive chocolate eggs, bunnies, etc on that day. The answer the students gave me was that it was for Jesus’ resurrection.

Please keep safe over the 5 day long weekend and we will see all students back and raring to go for the final two weeks of Term 1 on Wednesday.

Holy Week – from our Tasmanian Catholic Education Director – Mr John Mula

In reflecting on Holy Week it can be seen as a perplexing time for Christians for it has as its climax the death of their founder and leader, Jesus Christ. The passion story in the Gospels reflects a time of great turbulence. However Jesus, seeming to anticipate the moment of His arrest, keeps His dignity before the Jewish Sanhedrin and the Roman tribunal and meets death with great integrity. After the Last Supper, Jesus and the Apostles went for a walk in the garden of Gethsemane. Jesus asks His Apostles to pray with Him for a while. For a brief moment we have a glimpse of Jesus struggling with death, as every human must. He is shaken with cold fear. He reaches out to His friends for support as the terrible finality of death bears down on Him, but they are asleep. Later these friends, numbed by terror and confusion, abandon Him to save themselves. Yet Jesus was able to say His prayer of trust: Not my will, Father, but Yours be done. Luke 22:42

Of course, the arrival of Easter Sunday lessens the perplexity of Holy Week. Similar to the manner in which early members of the Church were able to turn with renewed appreciation as to how their Lord had suffered before He entered into His glory, so we in all the ups and downs of our lives are able to likewise look at the events of Holy Week with renewed appreciation. We know that if our faith and trust hold true, death is not the end but the beginning of a new life.

The celebration of Easter, which firstly saw Jesus voluntarily accept Calvary and then rise gloriously from the dead, is a wonderful time for a family to revive and revitalise its friendship with Jesus. Through this friendship God’s love can flow through our family into the world. If we can hold faithfully to something stronger and greater than ourselves, then we can provide the stability and inspiration for our children in their attempts to rise to the challenge of goodness. Easter is definitely a time to renew our friendship with Jesus and receive the food of His life in the Sacraments.

Grade 4 & 5 Camp – Port Arthur

It was great to welcome the Grade 4’s back from their two night camp at Port Arthur last Friday. I was fortunate to spend most of Thursday at camp. From all reports the Grade 4’s had a very successful camp with all the children behaving beautifully. The students were involved in many different activities - some of these being: volcanoes at the beach, exploring the sand dunes and Port Arthur Historic Site, a visit to Inflatable World (a substitute for UnZoo because of the wet weather). I would like to thank the fabulous parents who attended the camp (Bec Davie, Leeanne Walsh, Susan McLeod and Nigel Gibson) they showed excellent initiative and they were “Walking God Moments” for the entire camp. In particular, I would like to thank and congratulate Mrs Jane Davies and Mr Paul Egan for organising and leading this brilliant camp. The children had fun and were a real credit to their families and the school.

Parish Mass

On Sunday 1 April, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School has been asked to represent the two Parish Masses at the Cathedral. We will be responsible for the readings and the procession of gifts at both Masses. We would love to see as many students as possible at one of the Masses. The Masses for the Sunday are 10.30am and 6pm (Cathedral). Please return the note that was distributed last week if you can assist.
Soccer for 2016
It is great to see that there is so much interest in children playing soccer for Immaculate Heart. Today was the deadline for the return slip to inform us of your interest to play. I thank all the parents who have volunteered to coach or manage a team. Without your help the soccer would not go ahead. I remind all students and parents of the following deadlines:
- **Friday 1st of April** – Final day for payment and sign ups
- **Thursday 7th April** – Team lists released
- **Thursday 7th April at 6pm** – Coaches/Managers meeting in Grade 6 classroom
- **Friday 8th April** – Training times to be announced

Parent Teacher Interviews
It was great to get such a positive response from the Parent/Teacher interviews that were held this week. These meetings are important to assist in the two-way communication between home and school. I thank all the parents for making a concerted effort to attend this important meeting. A thank you goes out to all the teachers for their continued commitment in educating the students of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School.

Abigail’s Garden – A Beautiful Surprise
On Monday 14 March (Long Weekend Holiday) I was pleasantly surprised to see Eloise Davies parents (Steve and Katrina) working in Abigail’s Garden. This is and was a real “Walking God Moment” as they were working anonymously and did not want any fanfare for their work. They organised the birdhouse to be in the garden. I thank them for their contribution to this lovely garden.
I also thank Natasha Webster (Library Technician) for her management and inspiration in turning this area back into a peaceful and attractive place for students to visit.

Holy Week Prayer Services
It has been fantastic to be a participant in the Holy Week Prayer Services. We held the Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday and Good Friday re-enactments during the week and I would like to congratulate the Grade 6’s who played an important role in all of the services and the students that participated in each event. I would like to thank Mr Paul Egan and Ms Bridget Cairns for their hard work and dedication in preparing all the students.

Farewell Deacon Michael Hangan (School Chaplain)
Last Thursday 17th March, Deacon Michael had his final day as our Chaplain. We thank Michael for his work as our Chaplain over the past 13 months and we wish him all the best with his future endeavours. We will be advertising for another Chaplain in the near future.

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 have an inclement day, then students are able to wear their winter uniform on this day, however, a mixture of summer and winter uniform worn at the same time will not be allowed.

End of Term Assemblies - Music Soiree and End of Term Awards Assembly
The end of the Term is fast approaching. During the final week we have two main assemblies. On Tuesday 5th of April we will be hosting an end of term Music Soiree in the Hall beginning at 1.40pm. At this assembly classes will be presenting a musical item organised by our Music teacher, Mrs Claire Williams.
On Thursday 7th April we will be hosting our End of Term Awards Assembly. We will be giving three awards out from each class. These awards are aligned with our PBS program. The awards that will be distributed will be the “Respect Award”, “Responsibility Award” and the “Relationships Award”. It would be great to have parents attend these special assemblies.

2017 Kinder Enrolments
Kinder enrolments for 2017 are now being accepted. As we need to know sibling numbers it would be appreciated if any families that have a child ready for Kinder 2017 (need to be 4 as at 1st January 2017) obtain an enrolment form from the office as soon as possible as first round applications close in a few weeks.
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 closer to the date.

Easter Raffle
I would like to thank all the families who donated an Easter egg to our raffle. We had plenty of donations that were made into several hampers. All the winners of the hampers were drawn and announced yesterday. I congratulate the winners (remember to share them with your family!). I would also like to thank the P&F for their organisation of this raffle.

ANZAC Day
It has been a tradition of Immaculate Heart Mary Catholic School to attend the ANZAC Service and March (8.45am) 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 participate by Friday 8th April.

State Little Athletics Carnival
Congratulations to Arielle Cannell, Harrison McLeod, York Paul and Oliver Kelly for their excellent results at the Tasmanian Little Athletics Championships held in Launceston on the weekend of Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th of March. Arielle (Under 8s) finished 1st in the shot putt and discus and 2nd in the 70m, whilst Harrison (Under 10s) finished 1st in the long jump, 2nd in the 70m and triple jump and 3rd in the 200m. York Paul finished 5th in the hurdles and Oliver Kelly finished 4th in high jump, 5th in javelin and triple jump, 6th in long jump, 8th in the 100 metres and 12th in shot putt. I congratulate these students on their fine performance.

Congratulations Nayte
You may remember reading about Nayte Dobson (G3) in our newsletter last August and how he won the Annual Island Threads Quilt Competition in his division with his quilt “Fishing with Poppy”. Now Nayte has become even more famous by having his quilt featured in the Down Under Quilts magazine! Well done Nayte!

Have a great Easter break and God bless.

Mr Nick McGann
Principal
An Invitation for all families to attend
Sunday Mass

Who: Students and their families
Where: St Mary’s Cathedral
When: Sunday 3rd of April 2016
Time: 10.30am or 6:00pm
Dress: Formal school uniform

Please come along and join the Parish Community in the celebration of our Sunday Mass.

We wish children to be involved in all parts of the Mass such as reading and taking up the offertory.
It would be helpful, if you are able to attend, to return the slip given to your child/ren last week so students can be chosen for these particular jobs.

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St Therese's School Moonah
is having a Handmade Craft Market on Saturday 9th April 10-2pm
Lots of stalls with wonderful hand made products just in time for Mothers Day.
OPEN DAY
SATURDAY 2ND APRIL 2016
9AM—11AM
Prospective Grade 7 students for 2016 are invited to come along to our Open Day for a personalised tour of our wonderful facilities.

Enrolments for Grade 7 2017 close on Friday, 22nd April 2016.
For further information please telephone: 6279 4090 or email: admin@shc.tas.edu.au
Hey Kids!

JOIN THE HOBART JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB IN 2016!

- New players Under 8’s-14’s pay only $20 rego!
- Girls only teams available this year!
- No experience required!
- Fun, friendly and welcoming, that’s the Hobart Junior Football Club!

For further information please call:
Phil Geason 0411 454 315
Russell Cripps 0408 493 145