Dear Community Members,

2015 has been a year of many positives. We have achieved many great things both in and out of the classroom. I have been very pleased to be a part of such a vibrant, helpful and caring community.

Board
I would like to thank the Advisory Board for the support that they have offered me during the year. They worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make things happen at school. In particular I would like to thank Mrs Lisa Gibson for the excellent job she has done as Chair of the Board. I have often had conversations with Lisa to ask her advice and every single time she offered sound and pastoral advice. During the year we had many discussions and meetings with the Hobart City Council and the Board were a fantastic help in achieving a suitable solution to the Edge Avenue Park saga!

Parents & Friends Committee
In 2015 there was a change of guard with the Parents & Friends Committee. Mrs Tara Devine stepped down as President. I would like to thank Tara for the tireless work she had done leading the P&F over the past 3 years. Ms Samantha Ransley was appointed President of the P&F in 2016 and she has stepped fantastically well to lead this group. I would like to thank the role the Parents and Friends Association have at Immaculate Heart of Mary. They work extremely hard and have all the children's best interest at heart. They held many fun activities for the students and raised vital funds for the school. This assisted us in purchasing many valuable things to improve the school. Some of these being: air conditioning in Grades 3 and 4, soccer tops for our school soccer teams and instruments for music. Thank you very much!

Leadership Team
I would like to thank the Leadership Team. This team comprised of Paul Egan, Bridget Cairns and Stephanie King. Their professional knowledge and support of me, the staff and the students was superb. I really appreciate their hard work and dedication to our school. I look forward to continuing to work closely to them next year.

Staff
We are extremely fortunate to have committed staff members at our school. Their consistent and thorough approach to teaching the students is a real a blessing. I’d personally like to thank them and I hope they have an enjoyable holiday break.

Students
I would like to thank all the students of our fabulous school. It has been a great pleasure to be the Principal. During 2015, we all worked extremely hard to develop our understanding of the 3 R’s (Respect, Relationships and Responsibility). We are a very welcoming community and we should be very proud of this.

Parents
We are also very fortunate that we have very committed parents in our school community. We had many volunteers that assisted in many programs in the school. I would like to thank them for all the support they have given the school community.
Thanksgiving Mass
Today we held our End of Year Thanksgiving Mass and Leaver’s Ceremony. It was a beautiful event with all children participating at their best. All students should be very proud of their efforts. I would personally like to thank Father Shammi and Deacon Michael Hangan. I would also like to thank Ms Bridget Cairns for the excellent job she did in preparing the Mass. She spent many personal hours in this preparation and it was very prayerful and a superb event. A brilliant way to finish the school year!

Grade 6
For the leaving class of Grade 6, I say thank you. You have all been great leaders and you will be sorely missed. They way you led the younger students through many school events has been an inspiration. The teachers, other students, your parents and I are very proud of you.

I offer the Grade 6 class and their families four pieces of advice. These being:

1. Use your manners. Manners achieve many things in life.
2. Always talk to your parents.
3. You are never too cool to say hello to your old teachers. We all appreciate the ex-student who goes out of their way to say hello to their primary school teachers.
4. Believe in yourself. You will achieve anything you want if you put your mind to it.

We wish all the Grade 6’s all the best for high school and you can be well assured that you can always visit us whenever you like. I would like to thank our School Captains for 2015 - George McLeod, Joseph Kelly, Kalvin Pitt and Libby Beechey. Your leadership has been astounding throughout the year. The Grade 6 Leaving students are: Christine Aleri, Darcy Allen, Samuel Askey-Doran, Libby Beechey, Alexander Brinton, Tyler Casey, Lucas Davey, Lucy Gibson, Jackson Gill, Nathan Healey, Isaac Jones, Mitchell Jones, Hannah Keating, Joseph Kelly, Fred Lagu, Aidan Lietz, Benjamin Lynch, Raphael Mackey, George McLeod, Ela Niekrasz, Freya Oak, Angus Onn, Kalvin Pitt, Samuel Russell, Jack Treloar, Sophie Ward and Tara Watzl.

Grade 6 Award Winners:
Congratulations to the following Grade 6 students who received End of Year Awards at our Thanksgiving Mass:

- Immaculate Heart of Mary Award: George McLeod
- St Mary MacKillop Award: Raphael Mackey
- Spirit of Jesus Award: Nathan Healey
- Academic Achievement Award: Tyler Casey
- Principal’s Award: Freya Oak
- School Captains Award: George McLeod, Joseph Kelly, Kalvin Pitt and Libby Beechey

End of Year Assembly – Change of time to 1.15pm (not 1.30pm) – Tuesday 14 December
The final assembly will be held next Tuesday 14 December in the Hall at 1.15pm (not 1.30pm). At this Assembly all classes will perform a musical item and the end of term awards will be presented to students from Kindergarten to Grade 5. I invite all parents to this Assembly.
Uniform for 2016
In 2016 it is compulsory to wear Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School sports uniform. This will mean that no Sacred Heart sports uniform will be permitted. Also in 2016, it is compulsory for all students to have the Immaculate Heart of Mary House Tops (Young - red, Donohue - green or Dillon - yellow). These shirts will be worn at sports carnivals and on Wednesdays for Buddy groups. These can be purchased from the Uniform Store for $25.00.

The Uniform Store will be open on Thursday 28 January from 10am to 2pm for purchases. Up until the end of February 2016, the Uniform Store will be open on Wednesdays from 2.30 – 4.30pm. Opening times will then be reviewed at the beginning of March.

George McLeod and Oliver Kelly – Athletics
Congratulations to George and Oliver for representing Tasmania at the Australian Schools Athletics Championships held in Canberra over the past week. They performed extremely well in all their events and they should be very pleased with their efforts.

Kindergarten Nativity
It was great to see all the Kinder students perform the Nativity story of Jesus’ birth so beautifully on Tuesday in the Kinder classroom. It was a massive turnout with many parents, siblings and grandparents in attendance. I would like to thank Shelly Horne, Fran Haynes and Rosemary O'Rourke for the wonderful preparation of the children. The Kinder class will be performing the Nativity as prayer at our End of Year Assembly next Tuesday at 1.15pm in the Hall.

Reconciliation Candidates
We congratulate Sophia McLoughlin, Brodie Gordon, James Wastell and Patrick Arthur who will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation tonight. Nikki Hayes, Abbie Johnston and Sam Zinnah will celebrate this Sacrament in early 2016. They will all celebrate their Confirmation and First Eucharist late in Term 1, 2016.

Quiz Night
On Saturday 28 November, we held a very successful Quiz Night at school. We had over 125 people in attendance. I would particularly like to thank Samantha Ransley (P&F President) and Bridget Cairns for their excellent organisation of this event. We raised $4000.00 to spend on water fountains for the students. It was a real community builder. Thank you also goes to the P&F members who assisted and all the parents who organised a table. A list of our fantastic sponsors is attached to this newsletter. Please support these businesses.

End of Term Year BBQ and finishing time
The P&F are holding a Family BBQ at 12pm on the final day of school. Students are free to leave with their parents after this BBQ. Further details will be sent out at a later date.

Stay ChatTy Visit
Last Wednesday 1 December, Mitch McPherson visited our Grade 5/6 classes and spoke to them about his personal story and gave them useful strategies to deal with mental health. He spoke very well and the students found the session to be very worthwhile.
I would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy Christmas. The staff and I look forward to seeing you all in early February to begin the 2016 school year.

God bless and have a holy Christmas.

Mr Nick McGann
Principal

Grade Two

Grade Two have been working on a social skills program. We have been learning how to focus on the positive, negotiate fairly and be good winners and losers. We worked together as a team to make paper chains to decorate our class Christmas tree. Thanks to Sophia’s Dad for donating the live trees to our school.

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<th>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</th>
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<td>Friday 11th December</td>
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Merry Christmas
Thank you to our fabulous Quiz Night Sponsors:
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- THORPE & TURNER TRAVEL ASSOCIATES
- Valley Floral Boutique
- RockaDolls Pinup Makeovers and Photography
- Catholic Super
- Total Eye Care
- OBread
- Paul's Bodyworks
  Panel Beater & Painters - Hobart, TAS
  27 Melville St, Hobart TAS 7000
- BIG4 Holiday Parks
- nest
- fabrique
- FAR OUT Play Centre
The IHMCS P & F Christmas Raffle will be drawn Tuesday 15th December
Over $1000 worth of Prizes!

**1st Prize – Value $330**
iPad mini 2 Wi-Fi 16GB

**2nd Prize - VALUE $200**
Cadbury Chocolate Hamper
Cosmetics Hamper
Carton of Crown Lager
Carton of Solo soft drink
6 x bottles of wine
$20 Coles Myer Voucher

**3rd Prize – Value $125**
Cadbury Chocolate Hamper
Cosmetics Hamper
2 x bottles of wine
2 x bottles of champagne
$20 Coles Myer Voucher

**4th & 5th Prize – Value $85**
Cadbury Chocolate Hamper
Bottle of wine
Bottle of champagne
$20 Coles Myer Voucher

**6th Prize – Value $75**
Cosmetics Hamper
Roses chocolates
Bottle of wine
Bottle of champagne

**7th & 8th Prize – Value $60**
Food and Wine Hamper
Bottle of champagne

**9th & 10th Prize – Value $30**
Cadbury Chocolate Hamper
Bottle of champagne

**11th Prize – Value $30**
Roses Chocolates
Bottle of champagne

**12th-16th Prize – Value $16**
Cadbury chocolate box

**Tickets from the school office**
$2 each or 3 for $5