NEWS from the HEART...

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School

10 McCann Crescent, Lenah Valley

17 August 2022





This week, we celebrate Catholic Education Week (CEW), an opportunity for the 38 Catholic Schools in Tasmania to celebrate and promote their distinctive mission and ethos.

The theme for 2022 is 'Proclaim with Joy' which reflects our mission to uphold Catholic ideals, and to provide an education that engages our students and staff in rejoicing the good that happens in their lives.

Catholic Education strives to make a difference in the lives of ALL who attend our school and in the wider community by challenging our students to live out the message of Jesus and to reach their full potential as compassionate and contributing members of society.

At Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School we are a community of people loved unconditionally by God, through Christ, who impels us to deepen our relationships with all people.

In the Josephite tradition, we embrace lifelong learning that leads towards a future where hope, respect, compassion and justice can flourish.

2022 Australian Cross Country Championships

Congratulations and good luck to Jake Burt who will be representing Tasmania at the 2022 Australian Cross Country Championships in Adelaide next week. An outstanding achievement Jake!



Cyber Safety

We encourage a working partnership between parents and school to ensure students are safe and treating others with the same respect they would online. Over the past few weeks, we have been made aware of several issues involving excessive time on devices, and concerns about tone of some communication (during gaming, group chats, texting etc).

This has highlighted how important it is for all parents to monitor and have clear boundaries around the use of technologies.

Parent Information & Resources

Think You Know

The "Think You Know" website is run by the Australian Federal Police and includes information for children and parents - an informative way to be aware of Cyber Safety issues.

eSafety Commissioner

The Office of Children's eSafety Commissioner is focused on helping Australians have safe and positive experiences online.

iPad – BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Parent Survey

As part of our ongoing process to school improvement, we are reviewing our BYOD 1:1 iPad model for Grade 3-6 students and exploring the option of a school owned device model. Many thanks to those of you who have provided honest and open feedback.

Our survey will close this Friday.

Book Week

A reminder that it is Book Week next week. Our wonderful IHMCS book parade will be held on Wednesday, 24th August, on the Astro at 9 am. In the case of inclement weather, the parade will be in the School Hall instead. The theme is 'Dreaming with eyes open'. It is tradition at IHMCS that students dress up as a book character. I look forward to seeing some creative costumes.

Basketball Tournament

Information is available on Compass for Grade 3-6 families for this year's Basketball Tasmania Primary School Championship. This year the event is split across two weekends: Grade 5/6 on 22nd & 23rd October (please note Hobart Show Weekend) and Grade 3/4 on 29th & 30th October. In past years, the event has been a huge success for Immaculate Heart and we look forward to seeing many students on the court again this year. Entries will close this Friday 19th August.



Breakfast Club

Following the resounding success of our Breakfast Club trial last term, it will continue for the remainder of the year.

Toast with a few different spreads will be offered on a Tuesday and a Wednesday from the school canteen from 8:15am - 8:45am.

During our trial, a number of families reached out regarding how they could support this initiative. Although we do not require donations, attached are the items that we use, should anyone wish to contribute. These can be left with the office.

School Term Dates 2023

2023

Term One: 3 February 2023 - 6 April 2023

Term Two: 26 April 2023 - 7 July 2023

Term Three: 24 July 2023 - 29 September 2023

Term Four: 16 October 2023 - 14 December 2023

Staffing Update

Mr Ryan Cooper has been appointed to the Grade 5/6 Teaching Team for the remainder of 2022. I know you join me in welcoming Ryan to our school community.

Grade 7 Enrolments for 2024

(Current Grade 5 Students)

A reminder to all families with a student in Grade 5 that enrolments close for Catholic Colleges - Grade 7 in September. It is essential that an enrolment form is completed for respective secondary colleges (including Sacred Heart College).

Nurturing Hearts Birth - 4 Program: Friday 9.00am - 10.30am

This term, Nurturing Hearts are exploring Water through play experiences: water in different environments, water to live, grow and keep healthy, water and the weather, and water science.

Come along and join Mrs Brook and Mrs Wall every Friday morning - they'd love to see you!



COVID Update

Please be aware of the following in line with our COVID-19 Safety Plan:

- Students and staff are to stay away from school if unwell.
- Positive cases are required to isolate for at least 7 days.
- Close contacts are still required to follow <u>close contact rules</u> for 7 days including testing daily if leaving their home and wearing a mask (all persons 12 years and older) in indoor settings when outside their home.
- Face masks are no longer required to be worn in schools, early childhood centres or on public transport unless the person is a close contact.
- Students and staff can wear masks if they choose to.
- The reinfection exclusion period has been reduced from 12 weeks to 28 days. People who have symptoms of COVID-19 within 28 days following their release from isolation do not need to test and isolate for 7 days.

Confirmed cases

Should a student or member of staff test positive for COVID-19 they must:

- Isolate for a minimum of 7 days, provided outside the 28-day reinfection exclusion period.
- Isolate for a further 3 days if they still have symptoms on day 7.
- If test positive using a rapid antigen test, register the result with Public Health using their online declaration form or phone the Public Health Hotline 1800 671 738.
- Notify household close contacts of the need to observe close contact requirements when leaving their homes.

Close Contacts

Household close contacts of a confirmed case are no longer required to isolate at home. For a close contact to leave home they must:

- Not be symptomatic (must remain at home if they are).
- Return a negative test each day before leaving home for the 7 days following their last contact with the confirmed case.
- Wear a face mask in all indoor settings when outside the home unless an exception applies (e.g. need to drink) or subject to an exemption.
- Notify their employer and the school of their close contact status.
- Immediately return to their home if they become symptomatic whilst in the workplace.

Covid-19 Testing

- If staff or students have symptoms, they should stay home and test for COVID-19. If it is less than 28 days since they had COVID-19, they do not need to get tested but should still stay at home if unwell.
- If the test is positive and the person has not had a COVID-19 infection within 28 days, the person is considered a confirmed case.
- If the initial test result is negative and symptoms continue, students and staff with ongoing symptoms are advised to take a second test the following day.
- If the second test remains negative, this is sufficient to enable a return to work or school.
- If a person has returned 2 successive negative rapid antigen tests and still feels unwell consider taking a PCR test.

Colds and Flu

- Positive rapid antigen tests must be registered on the Tasmanian Government COVID-19 website by the confirmed case or their parent/carer.
- Students/staff with cold or flu symptoms are required to stay home and test for two consecutive days.

- If the person has twice tested negative on successive days for COVID-19 and their symptoms are mild e.g. a runny nose, there is no coughing or sneezing and, if a student they have indicated when asked that they feel well, then the person is permitted at school /workplace.
- The wearing of a face mask by an adult with mild symptoms is encouraged.

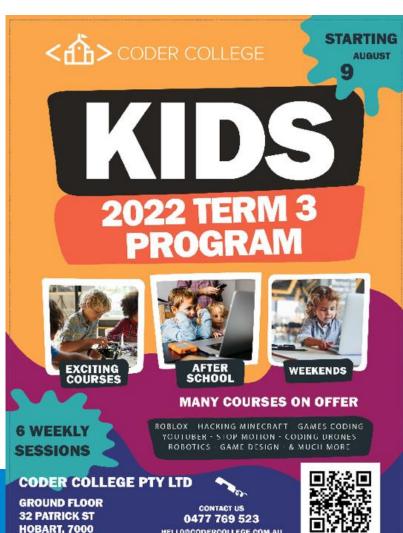
Rapid antigen tests are available to students and staff who are displaying symptoms. Two tests will be provided for testing for two consecutive days. Five tests will be provided for staff or students who are close contacts to cover the 5 days they will be in the school community during isolation.

Warm regards

Rachel Kelly Acting Principal

Calendar of Events	
Wednesday 17 August	Canteen orders due on QKR by 9.00pm
Thursday 18 Thursday	Choir excursion – Guilford Young College performance
Thursday 18 August	Canteen Day
Friday 19 August	Nurturing Hearts 9.00am – 10.30am
Wednesday 24 August	Book Week Parade – 9.00am
Wednesday 24 August	Bush School – Kinder & Prep 11.15am – 1.15pm
Wednesday 24 August	Uniform Shop open 2.30pm – 4.00pm
Wednesday 24 August	Canteen orders due on QKR by 9.00pm
Thursday 25 August	Canteen Day
Friday 26 August	Nurturing Hearts 9.00am – 10.30am
Tuesday 30 August	Grade 6 Camp







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