

# NEWS from the HEART...

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School

10 McCann Crescent, Lenah Valley



11 December 2024

## **Dear God,**

*As we await the birthday of Jesus,  
Help us feel Your love and peace.  
Teach us to share kindness with everyone.  
Amen.*



Dear Families,

On the second Sunday of Advent, the focus is on peace, which is a fitting theme to end our school year. The end of year events brings many opportunities to connect with one another and reflect on the 2024 school year. Our PBS focus aligns with this theme as we seek to cultivate an environment of kindness, care and celebration to finish off the year.

This week, we announced our 2025 Student Leaders, who will lead their Houses and our school during their Grade 6 year. This year, more Grade 5 students than ever prepared and shared speeches to over 140 Grade 2-5 students and staff - a testament to the Grade 5 cohort, showing their willingness to give back to our school community. The 2025 Leaders are:

School Captains	Zoe Mathyssen & Zikolas Schlie
Dillon Captains	Bethany Harley-Hill & James Sewell
Donohoe Captains	Amelie French & Ethan Shott
Young Captains	Prisha Stanfield & Sophie Chick

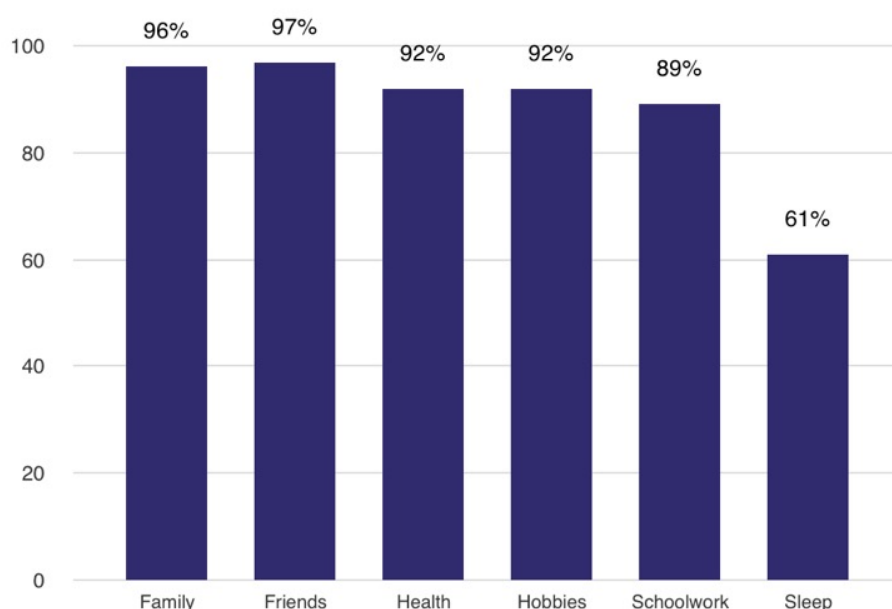


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Over the last week of 2024 we will formally farewell the following staff members and once again thank them for their contributions to Immaculate Heart of Mary, big or small, short or long.

- Kate Jackson
- Elise Jackson
- Emma Coad
- Kieran Gill
- Ashlea Turner
- Hella Foss

As part of our Whole School Approach to Wellbeing, our Grade 3-6 students participate in short surveys at different times of the year. Below is a visual of their most recent data for the below areas. This data is a 'thumbs up, thumbs down' of if they are feeling good about these wellbeing factors. We celebrate our Grade 3-6's feelings of connection to their family and friends. We know that stable and positive connections foster an environment of security where students can thrive. The pattern of sleep result continues to be our lowest and once again visualises the importance of good sleep hygiene - an environment without access to technology, allowing for adequate hours of sleep etc. There are many resources available online around the importance of sleep for our growing children.



2024 has been a momentous and successful year at 'the Heart' with successes stemming from our approach of educating the whole child, including a supportive connection between home and school. Highlights from our students have included: Bush School, Options, Camps, Rocket Maths, Novel Studies, Inter School events, First Nations incursions and much, much more!

We wish all our Grade 6's all the best for what's to come and congratulate them on completing their primary education. Goodluck for high school and beyond!

I feel incredibly fortunate and privileged to have acted in the Principal role this term and wish all families a restful and rejuvenating Christmas break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back on 7 February 2025.

Together we grow,  
Jackson.

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## Final End of Year Events

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### End of Year Assembly

On Tuesday 17 December our End of Year Assembly will be held at school - 1:45pm start.

### Final Day of School

Wednesday 18 December is the final day of school for 2024. We will celebrate with a whole school sausage sizzle from 11:30am - families are welcome to join us.

The school day will finish at 12:00pm due to building project needs, including removing furniture from some classrooms for the holiday period.

**Please contact the office if your child requires supervision after 12:00pm on 18 December.**

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## School Sports Athletics

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Another huge congratulations to Jake Burt and Harry Halloran, who represented Tasmania at the All Schools National Athletics Carnival in November. Both boys held their own on the big stage with some solid results. Jake achieved a silver medal (2nd) in the 1500m and a bronze (3rd) in the 800m. Jake was also one of the Tasmanian team captains. Harry threw some PB's in the discus and shot put and ran an excellent 800m. Well done boys.



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## Sacramental Program – St Mary's Cathedral Parish

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St Mary's Cathedral Parish are now accepting enrolments from students in Grades 3-6 for the 2025 Sacramental Program.

There will be an information session on Tuesday 11 February 2025, at St Mary's Cathedral at 6pm.

The Sacramental Program timetable will be confirmed and communicated early in 2025. Enrolment forms are available from our school office. Please contact the Parish Office on [cathedral@aohtas.org.au](mailto:cathedral@aohtas.org.au) if further information is required.

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## Giving Tree Christmas Appeal

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Our Giving Tree Christmas Appeal for 2024 is progressing with amazing generosity from so many in our school community! There is still time to donate if you have been thinking of doing so – our gifts will be collected by a St Vincent de Paul representative on Tuesday. A heartfelt thanks to all those who have donated gifts for those in need.

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## End of Year Summary Reports

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A reminder to Prep - Grade 6 families that End of Year Summary Reports will be released through the Compass App on Friday. Keep an eye out for a notification.

## Capital Works - Building Project

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### [Walk through video](#)

### [Community Information](#)

Since our last newsletter, the project has really gotten underway! At the time of writing, the demolition of the interior of the building is happening, with the first stage being the removal of all electrical. This is very exciting for our school community. As the activity on site increases, it is a good time to re-read the community information linked above - especially regarding the use of McCann Crescent to allow for best access and traffic flow.

## 2025 Enrolments

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We are currently finalising enrolments for 2025 and have limited capacity in some of our classes. If you know of anyone who may be interested in joining Immaculate Heart for 2025 and beyond, please direct them to get in contact with the school office to organise a tour.

## 2025 School Dates

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Catholic Education Tasmania has released the following school dates for 2025.

Term One Resumes (Teaching Staff)	3 February 2025
Term One Resumes (Students)	7 February 2025
Term One Concludes (Students)	10 April 2025
Term One Concludes (Teaching Staff)	11 April 2025
Term One Student (Non-Attendance Time)	14 April 2025 – 25 April 2025
Easter (Good Friday)	18 April 2025
Easter (Easter Monday)	21 April 2025
Easter (Easter Tuesday)	22 April 2025
Term Two (Staff and Students Resume)	28 April 2025
Term Two (Concludes)	4 July 2025
Term Two Student Non-Attendance Time	7 July 2025 – 21 July 2025
Term Three Resumes (Teaching Staff)	21 July 2025
Term Three Resumes (Students)	22 July 2025
Term Three Concludes	26 September 2025
Term Three Student Non-Attendance Time	29 September 2025 – 13 October 2025
Term Four Resumes (Teaching Staff)	13 October 2025
Term Four Resumes (Students)	14 October 2025
Term Four Concludes (Students and Teaching Staff)	18 December 2025*

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## Calendar

Please click here for our school calendar: [School Calendar](#)

Calendar of Events	
Thu 12 Dec	Step-Up Day 9.30am – 10.50am
Thu 12 Dec	Kinder Parents Afternoon 1.45pm – 2.45pm
Fri 13 Dec	Grade 6 Big Day Out
Fri 13 Dec	Reports available via Compass
Mon 16 Dec	Grade 6 Graduation & Leavers Dinner
Tue 17 Dec	End of Year Assembly 1.40pm
Wed 18 Dec	Whole School Sausage Sizzle 11.30am
<b>Wed 18 Dec</b>	<b>School Finishes for 2024 12 noon</b>
Tues 28 Jan	Book List & Uniform Day 10am – 4pm (more info soon!)
Fri 7 Feb	First Day 2025 school year for Prep – Grade 6 students
Tue 11 Feb	First Day 2025 school year for Kinder students



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## Nature Holiday Program



"My kids come home with sparkling eyes and tales of adventure!"

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- Camp cooking + hot chocolate
- Cubbies & swing building
- Potions, clay & paints
- Fire-making with flint & steel
- plus much more!

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