

# NEWS from the HEART...

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School  
10 McCann Crescent, Lenah Valley



25 March 2026

## Harmony Day - Celebrating Belonging...

Loving God,

We thank You for the rich diversity of our school community and for the many cultures, languages, and stories that shape who we are.

Help us to see one another with kindness, to listen with open hearts, and to celebrate the gift of belonging.

Guide us to be people of welcome and respect, so that our words and actions build a community where everyone feels valued, included, and safe.

Amen.

*Dear Families,*

We join communities across Australia in celebrating Harmony Week, a time to honour the rich cultural diversity that strengthens our school. The message that *everyone belongs* is simply the way of life at Our Place - a community where every child and family is welcomed, valued, and celebrated.

Today, our students came together for a simple Harmony Week Assembly, offering a chance to share some of their learning and reflections. It's a quiet reminder of the richness within our community and the importance of listening to one another with curiosity and kindness.

Congratulations to Tadhg Chivers and Henry Holloway, who recently celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation. This is a special step in their faith journey, and we are very proud of them. They will receive the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time on Wednesday 11 March.



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## Welcome to Mr Damian Bourke, Miss Susannah Clark and Miss Donna Carroll

We are delighted to welcome three new staff members to our Immaculate Heart of Mary community.

Mr Damian Bourke has been appointed as our Prep Classroom Teacher, commencing in Term 2.

Miss Susannah Clark joins our Performing Arts team, sharing the program with Mrs Stephanie Melitsis.

Miss Donna Carroll will be joining our staff as a Teacher Assistant across the Grades.

Damian, Susannah and Donna each bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to their roles, and we wish them every success and happiness as they begin their journey with us in 2026.

## Child Safe Organisations

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Tasmanian Catholic Schools are proud to be Child Safe Organisations, guided by the Child and Youth Safe Standards and Catholic Education Tasmania's safeguarding policies. At Immaculate Heart of Mary, children's safety and voice are central to our work, and all staff and volunteers meet the required child-safety obligations.

Families can access CET's safeguarding policies via the Catholic Education Tasmania website.

[Child Safe Communities - Catholic Education Tasmania](#)



## Holy Week

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This Sunday we enter the most sacred time in our Church year as we begin Holy Week with Palm Sunday. Throughout the week, our students and staff will gather in prayer and reflection as we journey with Jesus toward Easter. These moments of faith and community are an important part of who we are at Immaculate Heart, and we look forward to sharing them with you.

We warmly invite our parents and families to join us for our upcoming **Easter celebrations**, held in the school hall.

- **Monday 30 March** – Palm Sunday, led by **Prep at 11.30am**
- **Thursday 2 April** – Stations of the Cross, led by **Grade 4 at 11.30am**
- **Wednesday 8 April** – Easter Celebration, led by **Grade 3 at 11.30am**

We look forward to gathering as a community to reflect, pray, and celebrate this sacred season together.

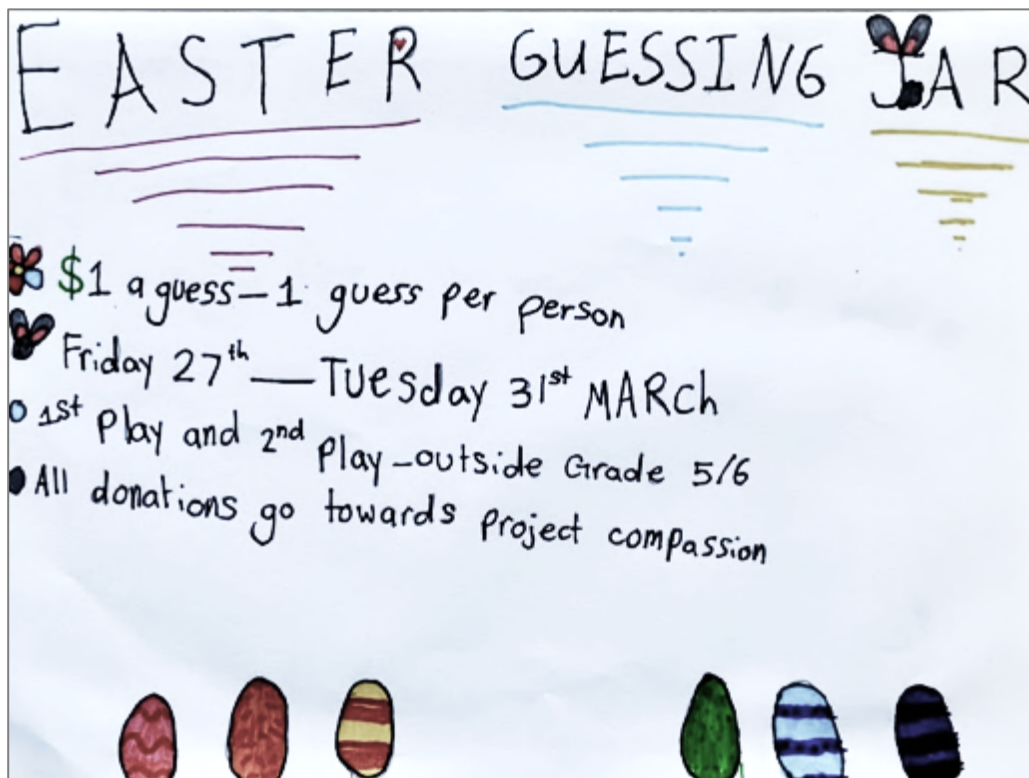
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As part of our Lenten journey, Project Compassion remains a meaningful way for our students to live out compassion in action. A friendly reminder to please return your Project Compassion boxes before the Easter break.

# PROJECT COMPASSION

Our Junior Joeys are also supporting Project Compassion through their Easter Guessing Jar fundraiser. Students are invited to take part during 1st and 2nd play, with all donations going directly to Project Compassion.



## **Building Works**

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While completion is now expected to extend beyond the next fortnight, we are very close.

Updates:

- Drainage works outside the toilets will take place shortly.
  - Our old red umbrella is getting a well-deserved refresh - a new top and a freshly painted base, before being installed over the sandpit.
  - Adjustments to the guards on the ramp rails are being finalised.
  - A centre handrail will be installed on the stairs leading to the Early Years area.
  - Concrete pours are ramping up to complete the "stairway to heaven" entrance from McCann Crescent.
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# Focus From the Heart

## Basketball Tournament

This weekend our Grade 5/6 students hit the courts for the Southern Primary Schools Regional Basketball Tournament. This is always a big weekend for Immaculate Heart, with students playing four games across the weekend. Our students always represent our school with grit, pride and care for others. We wish the Gr 5/6's all the best and look forward to hitting the scoreboard well over the weekend. Our Grade 3/4's hit the courts in a fortnight's time. All information is available on Compass if you'd like to get along to support!

# Classroom Heartbeat

## Grade 4 – Harmony Week

For Harmony Week this year, Grade 4 explored the different countries around the world. We specifically looked at the different languages and how to say 'Welcome' in that language and learnt some fun facts about that country/language.

Here are some that we have learnt:

1. In Fiji, they speak Fijian, and 'bula' is how you say welcome. It is pronounced 'mboo-la'.
2. In Denmark, the language spoken is Danish, and 'velkomenn' is how you say welcome. It is pronounced 'vel-ko-mmen'.
3. In Latvia, the language spoken is Latvian, and 'laipni ludzam' is how you say welcome. It is pronounced 'lie-pnee loodz-ahm'.

We have enjoyed learning about the diverse world we live in and wish everyone a happy Harmony Day.



## Nurturing Hearts Birth-4 Years

Our Nurturing Hearts Program is a wonderful opportunity to learn with your child and connect with our families.

Mrs Brook and Mrs Wall can't wait to see you!



## TERM ONE 2026

### Welcome to Nurturing Hearts for 2026!

We are very excited to begin our Term One Program on Friday 20th February.

The focus for this term's learning experiences is 'FOOD'.

Friday 20th February: Exploring Fruits and Veggies

Friday 27th February: Exploring Baking

Friday 6th March: Exploring Food from around the World

Friday 13th March: Exploring 'Sometimes' Foods

Friday 20th March: Easter Fun! 🐰

Friday 27th March: Cross Motor Play in the Hall

Friday 3rd April: NO SESSION - GOOD FRIDAY

Friday 10th April: Excursion (Location TBC)

Friday 17th April: NO SESSION - STUDENT FREE DAY



## Kinder Enrolment

Kindergarten 2027 enrolments are now open and close on the 15 May.

 **GROW WITH US**

Enrolments for KINDERGARTEN 2027 are now open

If your child was born in 2022,  
we would love to welcome them to  
Immaculate Heart in 2027!

For more information, please visit our website  
[www.ihms.tas.edu.au](http://www.ihms.tas.edu.au)  
or call 6228 3335 to request an Enrolment Pack  
and arrange a Principal Tour of our school.

Current Immaculate Heart Families, with a child born in 2022, are reminded to submit an Enrolment Form to secure a Kindergarten place for their child in 2027.

## Key Dates

Please see the following school dates from Catholic Education Tasmania.

<b>2026</b>	
Term One Concludes (Students)	Thursday 16 April 2026
Term One Concludes (Teaching Staff)	Friday 17 April 2026
Term One Student (Non-Attendance Time)	Monday 20 April 2026 – Friday 01 May 2026
Easter (Good Friday)	03 April 2026
Easter (Easter Monday)	06 April 2026
Easter (Easter Tuesday)	07 April 2026
Term Two (Staff and Students Resume)	Monday 04 May 2026
Term Two (Concludes)	Friday 10 July 2026
Term Two Student Non-Attendance Time	Monday 13 July 2026 – Monday 27 July 2026
Term Three Resume (Teaching Staff)	Monday 27 July 2026
Term Three Resume (Students)	Tuesday 28 July 2026
Term Three Concludes	Friday 02 October 2026
Term Three Student Non-Attendance Time	Monday 05 October 2026 – Friday 16 October 2026
Term Four Resume (Students and Teaching Staff)	Monday 19 October 2026
Student Free Day	Friday 23 October 2026
Year 10 Students Conclude	Friday 11 December 2026
Students Conclude	Thursday 17 December 2026*
Teaching Staff Conclude	Friday 18 December 2026*

## Calendar of Events

Thu 26 Mar	Canteen Day
Fri 27 Mar	STCPSSA Swimming Carnival
Fri 27 Mar	Nurturing Hearts 9.00am – 10.30am
Fri 27 Mar	Canteen Day
Mon 30 Mar – Wed 1 Apr	Grade 6 Camp
Tue 31 Mar	Uniform Shop open 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Wed 1 Apr	Canteen Day
Thu 2 Apr	Holy Thursday – Grade 4 Stations of the Cross
Thu 2 Apr	Canteen Day
<b>Fri 3 Apr – Tue 7 Apr</b>	<b>Easter Break – NO SCHOOL</b>
Wed 8 Apr	Grade 3 Easter Celebration 11.30am
Fri 10 Apr	Grade 1 Bush School 11.35am
Fri 10 Apr	Nurturing Hearts 9.00am – 10.30am
Sat 11 Apr – Sun 12 Apr	Regional Primary Basketball Comp
Tue 14 Apr	Assembly 1.40pm
Tue 14 Apr	Uniform Shop open 3.00pm – 4.00pm
Wed 15 Apr	Canteen Day
<b>Thu 16 Apr</b>	<b>Last Day of Term 1 (for students)</b>
<b>Fri 17 Apr</b>	<b>Student Free Day (teachers only)</b>
<b>Mon 4 May</b>	<b>First Day of Term 2</b>
Mon 4 May – Fri 8 May	Learn to Swim Program – Collegiate Pool



Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School is located in Nipaluna on the Traditional Lands of the Muwinina people of the South East Nation who lived with and cared for this Land for many generations.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Palawa people, and the deep connection they have to Country and Culture. We acknowledge and pay our respects to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community and to Elders past and present.

We are committed to learning as a part of this community, and to supporting the continued sharing of knowledge and culture.