Message from Father Paul Fox

Last Wednesday we entered the Season of Lent. This is time of spiritual preparation and grace, where we strive to overcome our faults through prayer, fasting and works of charity, thus preparing ourselves for the wonderful celebration of Easter, the greatest Feast of the Church Year! The Ash Wednesday Mass was well attended by parents and local parishioners, with the College Chapel almost filled to capacity! I commend the children on their respect and manners in the Chapel. This was very edifying to all who attended and a credit to their teachers!

On the 25th of March we will begin a 5pm Sunday Evening Mass for parents of the College community. It will be celebrated in the College Chapel. This Mass will be in addition to the existing Masses in the parish, which are as follows: Saturday Vigil; 6pm at St Catherine’s, Gingin; Sunday, 7.30 am at St Anne’s, Bindoon; and Bullsbrook Shrine Church at 9.30am. Parents are urged to participate in one of the Sunday Masses, where they will receive a warm welcome by the parish community. During March we begin the Virtue of Sacrifice. I encourage parents to reinforce what the teachers will be teaching your child/children about this virtue by practising it in a special way in the home!

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of Immaculate Heart College

Welcome to our second College Newsletter. This one brings you the news of the first few weeks of the school year as well as forthcoming events and important notices. As with our Inaugural College Newsletter, you are asked kindly to PLEASE READ EVERY SECTION so that you are completely informed about your child’s education. On this, I would like to thank all members of the College community who have commented on aspects of our first ever Newsletter, indicating thus that they have read it from beginning to end. Much work goes into the compilation of the various news items and it is rewarding to know that the information is being read.

AISWA’s Response to the ‘Gonski Review’

The Association of Independent Schools in Western Australia (AISWA), of which we are a member school, has issued a statement in response to the Review of Funding for Schooling; the ‘Gonski Review’. An excerpt is included below:
The Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia (AISWA) welcomes the release of the Report on the Review of Funding. David Gonski and his team have done a lot of work to produce this report which is well researched and contains 41 recommendations regarding the future funding of schools.

It is wonderful to see a strong recommendation for a significant increase in funding; $5 billion, going to all schools across Australia. The report recommends the development of a School Resource Standard which will reflect the amount needed by all schools to provide a sound education to students and should result in improving educational outcomes for all students. In addition to this, schools will receive loadings according to numbers of students from indigenous backgrounds, from low SES communities, language backgrounds other than English, school size and location, and students with a disability. As a sector, we look forward to working with the government on the detail around the standard and the loadings.

However, it is important to note that, at this stage, the Government has not committed to any of the 41 recommendations except to agreeing to engage with all education stakeholders in order to undertake a more detailed, developmental approach to the elements of the new funding system proposed in the Review.

College Contact Number
The College’s phone numbers are now established. The number for Reception is: 9571 8135. If you wish to speak to the Principal or the Bursar, please ask for your call to be transferred.

College Staff
The arrival of Sister Teresita and Sister Ramona from the Philippines is nearing. The Sisters will be responsible for the Religious Education and Virtues Programme of the College, as well as being Education Assistants for the Kindergarten and Pre-primary teachers. On this, I would like to thank Ms Marie Laundy (Kindergarten EA) and Mrs Kelly Carson (Pre-primary EA) for their wonderful work alongside the teachers for those classes. The current EAs will remain at the College until such time as the Sisters arrive, settle in, and are ready to undertake their EA duties.

We have a new Receptionist; Mrs Edith (Edie) Ward. Mrs Ward is a retired School Nurse and Receptionist and, as such, has much experience to offer the College in her new position of IHC Receptionist. She is a local parishioner who has offered her services to the College in a voluntary capacity. We thank Mrs Ward and welcome her warmly to our school. Her offer means that Mrs Doris Anastasiades is able to devote more time to the Tutorial System and to all of the other duties related to the position of Director and Board member.

Professional Learning (PL) for Staff
The months of February and March have been peppered with PL for the staff of Immaculate Heart College. I have attended a PL session on Leadership in Numeracy, and later in the month, Mr Darryl Phillips and I will be attending PL for whole-school Numeracy planning. Similarly, all of the teaching staff and I have commenced PL on whole-school Literacy planning. This takes place after school. This investment of time will benefit the students of the College immensely as it means that we will be able to deliver a whole-school approach toward improved outcomes in both Literacy and Numeracy, as promised verbally and in writing to the College community.
Furthermore, all of the teachers will receive PL in the use of the newly installed Interactive Whiteboards in each classroom. These have been an exciting addition to the resources in each room and the teachers’ mastery of their use is imperative to the optimum learning that can take place as a result. In all respects, therefore, the College is committed to providing PL opportunities to its staff for the benefit of the students.

College Uniform - Winter
A meeting to discuss the winter uniform items was held at the College on Wednesday 15 February involving the ‘Uniform Committee’ and a representative from our uniform supplier, Jenny Franklin Enterprises (jfe). After a productive 2-hour meeting, the following items were agreed upon and have been ordered for Term Two:

- Royal blue jumper with embroidered College Crest
- Navy blue tights for the girls
- Long trousers for the boys
- Navy blue ties for boys (K-3)
- Sports track suit
- Anoraks for students who feel the cold (this item is not compulsory)
- Scarves (this item is not compulsory)
- Scrunchies and/or other hair accessories, custom-made in the College dress checkered fabric (this item is not compulsory)

In addition, new stock in terms of the College dress will include a pocket with white piping and the initials IHC on it to help identify the dress as part of the IHC uniform. Furthermore, additional white collars will be available for parents to purchase as these save on washing of the whole dress.

Whilst on the matter of uniform, parents/guardians, please ensure that your children are wearing the correct footwear (please see the College Handbook or Student Diary for details). Some children are still incorrectly attired in this regard. Please ensure also that girls’ hair, if of collar length or longer, is tied up in either white or navy hair accessories (or the new College-specific hair accessories). Thank you.

Parents you will be notified as soon as the winter uniform items become available.

We have an extremely smart uniform and the children are wearing it with pride. Thank you to the Uniform Committee and to the parent body of the College for instilling in the children pride and joy in the wearing of their school uniform.

Inaugural P&F Association Meeting
The first ever Parents and Friends (P&F) Association Meeting was held on Sunday 26 February from 4.30pm to 5.30pm in the Covered Courtyard of the College. Present were members of the College’s Directors and Board - Father Paul Fox (Chairman) and Mrs Doris Anastasiades, as well as Mr Laurie Eastwood, former Executive Director for 26 years of the P&F Federation of Western Australia. Also present were a number of parents, relatives and friends of the College.

Mr Eastwood provided an interesting summary of the history of the P&F Federation of WA. He also shared strategies and gave suggestions for the smooth operation of a P&F Association at the College. Enthused, there were nominations from the parent body for the positions of President and Vice President. The positions of Secretary and Treasurer
remain open for any parent who is interested but who could not be present on the day to nominate.

On behalf of the College’s Directors, Board members, and College community in general, I congratulate the **Inaugural President of the P&F Association, Mrs Corrina Conduit**, and the **Inaugural Vice President, Mrs Trudy Riley**. Both ladies are thanked immensely for nominating for these important positions which will help drive the P&F Association, making it an essential part of the successful operations of the College. Please speak to either Corrina or Trudy regarding your interest in taking up either the position of Secretary or Treasurer. A note will be disseminated shortly with details of the first P&F Association Meeting.

**IHC Student Homework Diary 2012**
I am very pleased to observe that the *IHC Student Homework Diary 2012* is being put to good and proper use on a daily basis. I trust that it is also providing parents/guardians with a record of the Homework that needs to be done as well as a tangible means by which to communicate with their child’s teacher/s. Please remember to sign off on your child’s Homework every evening in the space provided on the left-hand side of each page.

**College Fees**
Since attaining access to the Internet at IHC, our Bursar has been able to generate invoices for the payment of College fees. Parents are thanked for their patience and understanding with regard to the delay.

**Incomplete Enrolment Forms**
Thank you to parents/guardians who have attended to incomplete Enrolment Forms. There are now very few Enrolment Forms which require completion. This includes important details within the Enrolment Form but also attachments such as a copy of your child’s Birth Certificate and Immunisation Record, both of which are legal requirements, as well as a copy of the Baptismal Certificate and past School Reports, where relevant. Please endeavour to supply these documents as soon as possible. Letters regarding this matter have been disseminated to the respective families.

**College Infrastructure**
Since the last College Newsletter, the following items have been installed:
- Interactive White Boards in each of the classrooms;
- Message pin-up boards outside each classroom, the Chapel, and the Administration Block;
- A comprehensive Public Address (PA) System with a programmed siren for the start and end of the day, including Recess and Lunchtime;
- Access to the Internet for the Administration and Teaching Blocks; and
- Business phones for the Administration Block.
These installations/developments have provided the College with the means by which to operate more effectively and appropriately, especially where teaching and learning is concerned, but also in terms of management and administration. Teachers and students are now able to access online resources to embellish the teaching and learning that is taking place.
at the College, in line with the Australian Curriculum and other curricula. The subsequent important items/facilities to be installed are new ramps, stairs and railings. This process is underway.

On the matter of facilities, sincere thanks are extended to the staff and students, in particular, but also to the parent body for their patience and understanding of the long wait for the replacement of the air conditioning units in the Kindergarten and Year 2/3 rooms. This has been a trying situation for everyone at the College but none more so than for the staff and students who have had to suffer the uncomfortable weather conditions as a result of the delays.

Assembly Hall

Before our very eyes on Monday 27 February, the first wall of the Assembly Hall was erected. The vision was quite inspiring, leaving us all awe-struck at how quickly it happened. We look forward to witnessing the development and completion of the Assembly Hall and the Church which will follow.

IHC Factions and Faction Points

On Friday 10 February, the College held its inaugural Faction Assembly. On this day, the College’s four Factions were announced and students were assigned to a Faction to which they will belong for the duration of their schooling at Immaculate Heart College. The four Factions at IHC are as follows:

- Fortitude (Red)
- Justice (Gold)
- Prudence (Blue)
- Temperance (Green)

The Factions are named after the four cardinal virtues, assisting students in this way to remember them. Hence, when it is time to learn about the cardinal virtues through the Religious Education and Virtues Programme, the students will be familiar with the names already.

At the Faction Assembly, students lined up in their Factions and learned how they can gain Faction Points for trying hard at school in their behaviour and attitude, and through effort. Many students succeeded in gaining Faction Points on the very same day that the Factions were introduced, hoping to have the winning Faction at the end of the year!

Merit Certificates

The College is in the process of developing a ‘Merit Certificate’ which will be given to students at the fortnightly ‘Parent Assembly’. This certificate will be acknowledgement by
the Staff of IHC of the good work achieved by students. It will be a reward for any of the following achievements:

- Academic achievement/development/improvement;
- Social development;
- Spiritual development;
- Other.

The category of ‘Other’ allows teachers and other staff members of the College to nominate a student for a Merit Certificate for any number of other positive reasons than those categories listed above. There is always a reason to reward students. Where the reasons are worthy of public recognition, then these will be highlighted through the issuing of a Merit Certificate. However, so that Merit Certificates do not lose their worth/currency, they will be issued sparingly (1 per year level at the fortnightly Parent Assembly), providing students with the motivation required to strive to receive a Merit Certificate during the course of the term/semester.

Once established in this regard, teachers will endeavour to inform parents/guardians about their child’s success in receiving a Merit Certificate so that they can try to be present, if possible, at the Assembly to witness the occasion.

K4J Certificate of Accomplishment
A specific certificate of accomplishment that highlights the Virtue of the Month is found in the ‘Kids for Jesus’ or ‘K4J’ curriculum being used at the College. This educational resource is used to embellish the Religious Education and Virtues Programme being taught at IHC. Students who have demonstrated the Virtue of the Month (February-Respect; March-Sacrifice) receive a **K4J Certificate of Accomplishment**. In this way, their efforts are rewarded and their good behaviour is reinforced, becoming an example for other students to emulate. This certificate is also issued at the fortnightly Parent Assembly.

The first ever students of the College to receive a **K4J Certificate of Accomplishment** were:

- Pre-primary: Ella Maras
- Year 1: Dylan Rossouw
- Year 2: Lisa Pudhota
- Year 3: Connor Conduit

**Tutorial System**
The IHC Tutorial System (K-3) commenced on Monday 13 February. This special programme provides all students with quality one-on-one time with Mrs Doris Anastasiades who aims to assist students in the following domains:

- Academic;
- Social; and
- Spiritual.

Affectionately labelled ‘**Tutorial Time with Mrs Anastasiades**’ or ‘**TT with Mrs A**’, the Programme has been very well received by the Staff and students.
Mrs Anastasiades spends 15-20 minutes with each child, once a week, talking to them about their general progress and state of well-being at the College. She then focuses on the specific area of need as identified by her and/or the class teacher. In this way, the children are receiving invaluable one-on-one tuition which will assist them in their academic, social and spiritual journeys. After three tutorial sessions with each student, Mrs Anastasiades prepares notes on the progress being made and disseminates them to the staff and the parents/guardians of the child. However, this is not done in isolation; the notes are given out in conjunction with a face-to-face meeting with the staff member concerned and a parent/guardian of each child. Therefore, it can be said that the Tutorial System is a five-way process:

1. Tutor – Student;
2. Tutor – Teacher;
3. Tutor – Parent;
4. Teacher – Student; and
5. Parent - Student.

The Tutorial System requires a concerted effort and commitment from all persons involved for it to be truly successful. That is, teachers and parents must try to follow up on the recommendations made by the Tutor regarding her observations and work done during ‘Tutorial Time’ with each student.

Reporting System
The formal reporting system of IHC has changed slightly since the IHC College Handbook 2012 was published. It now comprises the following reporting approaches:

- Term 1: Teacher/Parent/Student Interviews
- Term 2: Formal Report + Interview, as needed
- Term 3: Learning Journeys
- Term 4: Formal Report

The above-stated approach will provide parents with a comprehensive coverage of the progress being made by students. It will offer a variety in the type of feedback given which is, in turn, intended to cater for all types of learners.

Australian Flag
The College has now acquired an Australian Flag which will be hoisted onto a proper mast in due course. The Flag will be raised and lowered daily, as is correct protocol, and will be especially useful on occasions of celebration such as ANZAC Day. Thanks are extended to Ms Julian Moylan MP for providing us with the beautiful new flag.

Thanks are also extended to Mr Kevin Kenny (brother of Mrs Corrina Conduit) for sourcing three flagpoles for the College. This has saved the College a substantial amount of money. We are grateful to Mr Kenny for his initiative and thoughtfulness.
PTA and Dedicated Bus Service
Reminder: If you are interested in a dedicated bus service for your child, please endeavour to collect a form from Reception (copies are available at the Reception Desk) or download a form from the website:
www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au/Portals/0/sbs/pdf/mainstream%20Application%20Form%20030310_v2.pdf
Please complete the form and return the hard copy to Reception. That way, we will be able to determine how many families are interested in the provision of this service. Without commitment to the service, the PTA will not endeavour to start up a dedicated bus service for our College.

On the other hand, if you are in a position where you live more than 4.5kms from the College but can drive your child to school, please complete the section titled ‘Conveyance Allowance’. This will provide you with some financial assistance in the transportation of your child to school.

In the meantime, special thanks are extended to Mr Laurie Maddox who has been driving the College’s 8-seater bus daily in a voluntary capacity since February 1. Mr Maddox has also secured a Relief Bus Driver; Mr John Williams. While the service has been invaluable, it can no longer be provided for free. Families using the College Bus Service will be contacted soon to make a small contribution towards its running costs.

Health Screening Programme
Forms regarding the Health Screening Tests that will be undertaken at the College were handed out to Kindergarten and Pre-primary parents on Friday 10 February. These must be completed and returned to Reception. If there are any outstanding forms, please attend to these immediately in order for the Health Screening Programme to take place effectively on the following days:

Wednesday 21 March – Kindergarten Health Screening Test
Thursday 29 March – Other Year Levels Health Screening Test

We are grateful to the School Nurse and the Child Development Team (Speech Therapist and Occupational Therapist) for this very important service to our school. Early detection of health-related issues in children is paramount to a healthy future.

Fortnightly Whole-school Assemblies
Parent Assemblies are held on Friday mornings at 9.00am on a fortnightly basis in the Covered Courtyard. These are deemed to be more formal than the Faction Assemblies held in the alternate weeks. At the Parent Assemblies, those students who have made special progress will be presented with an IHC Merit Certificate or a K4J Certificate of Accomplishment, depending on the nature of the achievement/progress made. In time, short presentations of items and/or school work will also be presented. All parents/guardians, relatives and friends are welcome to join us at these fortnightly assemblies. The next Parent Assembly is on Friday 2 March.
The Future
The College has placed advertisements and/or editorials in the following local newspapers: Northern Valley News, Echo Newspaper, and The Advocate. More such advertisements are to follow. The purpose is to promote our lovely school and to encourage prospective families to consider enrolling their children at Immaculate Heart College. However, as stated in the previous College Newsletter, the best advertisement is that of word-of-mouth. Your positive comments will be noted over and above anything that is in print. Hence, consider the future of your child at the College when you speak about the school in the wider community as positive comments about IHC will help it to grow from strength to strength. Similarly, do not hesitate to speak to your classroom teacher or to me if there is an issue or area of concern. Together, we can continue to build a wonderful school.

God Bless!

Dr Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis
Principal

Messages from the Staff

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten students have been learning all about themselves and their bodies this week. Our classroom is full of all of their beautiful art work on this topic.

We have also been focussing on our classroom rules and the children have been displaying some beautiful behaviour and manners. Congratulations are extended to Sophia who won our Class Award.

Mrs Cathy Byrne
Kindergarten

Pre-primary/Year 1

Dear Parents/Guardians, we have been working hard at learning our letters, sounds and numbers. Jack, our class puppet, has already been home with James Marcojos (Pre-primary), and I heard they had a fantastic weekend together! Jack will be visiting each student’s house throughout the coming weeks and I look forward to reading about the adventures the children will have with him. The beans that we planted last week for Science have started to sprout and are almost ready to be planted into pots and soil. Please, come in and have a look!

Miss Mary Clark
Pre-primary/Year 1
Abig hello from Year 2/3!
It has been busy but the time has certainly gone quickly. It is already nearly half way through the term!
We have been very busy learning the Virtue of Respect over the last few weeks. We have been reading the book, ‘Manners in the Playground’ and learning how God is of many images, such as a Potter, a Good Shepherd, a Mother and a Father. We are excited to get more K4J (Kids for Jesus) program resources. In English we are learning about frogs and their life cycles, and creepy crawlies. We have been learning our times tables and number sense in Mathematics and have been investigating balancing in Science. And, finally, we have got our Interactive Whiteboard mostly working!

Mr Darryl C. Phillips
Year 2/3

Tutorial System

I began the Tutorial sessions last week with children from Pre-Primary to Year 3 and with Kindergarten children this week. After consultation with the teachers, I discussed with each child a goal that he/she would like to achieve in order to improve either in behaviour or work in the classroom. Each child was given a chart to complete each day in order to record that he/she had worked towards achieving that goal. At the second Tutorial session, rewards will be given for achievements and new goals will be determined. Kindergarten children will also receive a chart this week where they will colour a shape each day, if they have remembered to do what has been asked of them in the classroom.

As the success of the Tutorial System depends largely on the cooperation of parents, I’d like to ask you to encourage and to remind your child/children to work on achieving their goals. The next step in the Tutorial System is the Parent and Tutor Meetings. I will be available to meet with parents from the week beginning the 12th of March onwards. Please call Reception (9571 8135) to make an appointment to discuss this innovative approach to the holistic development of your child at IHC. Thank you.

Mrs Doris Anastasiades
Tutor
FOUNDATION DAY (1/2/12) POSTER
(A gift from the College’s Photographer; msp photography)