From the spiritual viewpoint, the highlight since the last newsletter was the Blessing of the College by Archbishop Hickey on 10th March. This was a privilege and wonderful occasion for our College community. The Archbishop has been very supportive from the outset in establishing the College so it was fitting he should do this before his retirement. Thank you to all who attended the celebration. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents!

We celebrated two major feasts recently; the Feast of St Joseph on 19th March and The Annunciation of the Lord on 26th March. There were special College Masses and treats for the children on these Feasts. Last Sunday afternoon, 5pm Mass was celebrated in the College Chapel for the first time and approximately twenty-five people attended. This was followed by a cuppa, which will also be a regular event. We hope to see the numbers growing week by week; the next Sunday being Palm Sunday! This Friday evening 30th March at 7.30pm, a visiting Priest and I will be celebrating the Second Rite of Reconciliation (i.e., hearing Confessions) in the College Chapel. All Catholics are strongly encouraged to come along and prepare in the best way possible for the great celebration of Easter. Hope to see you there!

Message from the Principal
Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of Immaculate Heart College, the month of March has brought with it some major events for the College. These include the following:

Certificate of Registration
On Friday 2 March, the College received its Certificate of Registration, signed by the Minister for Education, Dr Elizabeth Constable. This important milestone means that the College is now an established educational provider and that it is able to access state and federal funding. The period of Registration is for one year only, being a new school. The process for re-registration is already underway.
Blessing of the College
On Saturday 10 March, the College’s Directors, Board members, staff, students and parent body, as well as many local parishioners and community members attended the occasion of the Blessing of Immaculate Heart College, conducted by His Grace, Archbishop Barry Hickey. As people gathered to welcome His Grace, an atmosphere of anticipation pervaded. Attired smartly in their summer school uniform, the students waited patiently to welcome Archbishop Hickey with a line formation at the entry gate to the College’s paved courtyard. However, he surprised us all by appearing suddenly in the courtyard, having come through the side gate. After greeting him, I asked him if he would kindly allow the children to greet him as planned and he accommodated this request with grace and glee. At the gate, and in the pre-rehearsed line formation, the children sang a welcoming song in Greek, followed by the Morning Offering Prayer. Clearly impressed, His Grace applauded the children and praised them. He then proceeded to the Chapel to commence the special service of the Blessing of the College and all those associated with it.

The Chapel was full with standing room only and with one united voice, all present sang the beautiful Hymn, *Immaculate Mary*. At the conclusion of the service, His Grace blessed all those present in the Chapel, after which he proceeded to bless the Teaching Block followed by the Administration Block, as well as the College grounds. During this time, the students followed behind Archbishop Hickey, led by me and accompanied by their teachers, witnessing the blessing of their classrooms and the Administration Block. They also shared a joke with His Grace who clearly took great joy in the occasion.

At the conclusion of the blessing ceremony, Father Paul Fox addressed the audience and thanked His Grace for taking special time out of his very busy schedule to come to Immaculate Heart College to bless the school and its community. I then gave my address, thanking His Grace in turn but also giving a synopsis of some of the events that led to the foundation of the College. In my speech I also thanked the staff, parents, local community members, and parishioners for offering their services to the school, assisting with the smooth day-to-day operations and making it a great place to work. My speech ended with a tribute to the students, confirming that they are delightful young people receiving an excellent holistic education, thanks to the efforts of everyone involved in IHC.
Archbishop Hickey gave his response, emphasising the importance of having faith; faith as demonstrated by the Founders of the College who have managed to build a school “in the middle of nowhere”. He then cut the Blessing Cake prepared by Mrs Kenny (mother of Mrs Corrina Conduit). Before doing so, he invited all of the children to join him and help him conduct the official duty together. Clearly, His Grace took great joy in having the students of IHC around him. The feelings of joy were reciprocated by the children. Everyone then enjoyed Afternoon Tea along with collegial and friendly chatter.

When it came time to leave, His Grace left quietly from the same side gate from where he had entered but he soon returned to farewell me. We chatted and then he gave me his blessing. I walked him to the gate, thanking him for the gift of blessing that he had imparted on all of us.

IT Technician
The College is blessed with volunteer workers. Added to the growing list of expert helpers is Mr Johan Rossouw, father of Dylan Rossouw in Year 1. Mr Rossouw very kindly and generously offered his services to IHC as an IT Technician on Friday 2 March, after the Parent Assembly. As it turned out, his services were sorely needed on that day and he got to work immediately, helping to connect us to the College’s printer, enabling thus the finalising of important tasks relating to funding. Since then, Mr Rossouw has been coming in to the College in his own time to set up the computers for the staff and students, both in the classrooms as well as in the Computer Laboratory. We are indebted to Mr Rossouw for all of the work that he has done thus far!
Winter Uniform
The following winter uniform items are now in stock and parents/guardians are urged to secure the items needed for their children before the end of term. These include:

- 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) – Arriving Term Two
- Sports track suit – Arriving Term Two
- Anoraks for students who feel the cold (this item is not compulsory) – Arriving Term Two
- Scarves with an IHC label (this item is not compulsory)

The start of Term Two is the official start to the wearing of the winter uniform. However, should the weather still be warm and/or should various items still be out of stock, then there will be a period of transition of a couple of weeks or until the uniform items arrive at the College. A note to this effect will be disseminated accordingly.

Special thanks are extended to the Uniform Committee for its endeavours to have all items in stock on time.

P&F Association
The Executive of the P&F Association met on Wednesday 7 March to organise its first fund-raising venture – an Easter Egg Raffle. Also on the agenda were other items such as social gatherings for the parents and friends of the College. Since then, the P&F Association has had its first official meeting (Friday 23 March). The meeting, led by P&F President, Mrs Corrina Conduit, was very well attended with much enthusiasm evident from the parents and grandparents present. Commencing with The Lord’s Prayer, the meeting was handed over to the Principal to deliver her messages, after which the P&F continued to plan for future fundraising events.

All of the Executive positions are now filled with the latest recruitment of a Secretary, Mrs Robyn Belgrave. Thanks are extended to all members of the Executive who are already hard at work, and to all the parents/grandparents who attended this first meeting. It was a promising start to the IHC P&F Association!

Empty Jars
There is still a pressing need for EMPTY JARS for fundraising ventures. Please bring clean jars to the College and leave them at Reception for Mrs Jillian Westbrook. Thank you.

On-line Reading Programme for our Students
Immaculate Heart College has registered for the on-line reading programme, ABC Reading Eggs, for students in Kindergarten to Year 3. This wonderful programme inspires children to want to read and provides them with an opportunity to do so in an interesting, interactive and fun way, both at home and at school. While the College cannot provide parents with its unique access code, please be aware that your child will be able to log on to the programme from home through his/her own code and password.
Express thanks go to Mrs Kelly Carson (Education Assistant in Pre-primary/Year 1) for initiating the registration process. Judging from the success of this on-line programme, the College might endeavour to register for Mathletics as well.

The Importance of Languages Education
I urge ALL parents/guardians to read the Shape of the Australian Curriculum: Languages, November 2011 paper which can be found online at: http://www.acara.edu.au The paper outlines the virtues of learning languages for Australian children and the preferred pedagogical approach in terms of teaching methodologies, time allocation, regularity, and continuity during the course of the academic year. Hard copies of the document can be found at Reception or upon request from the Principal.

At Immaculate Heart College the Language Other Than English (LOTE) being taught to students from Pre-primary to Year 3 is Modern Greek. This service has been provided to the College for free, compliments of the Greek government through Mr George Anastasiades, a seconded teacher from Greece. Furthermore, my own Greek background status and my particular expertise in Languages Education (Modern Greek) means that each and every child at the school has the opportunity to extend his/her knowledge of the Greek language at any particular time of the day; in the true spirit of an integrated curriculum. The benefits of such availability of expertise in this small school of ours cannot be measured!

IHC is an independent College whose focus is the Catholic Faith. The other focus is Academic Excellence. To this end, the College provides a well-balanced curriculum with a timetable that has been approved by the Department of Education Services (DES) and which has met the 50% time allocation to numeracy (Mathematics) and literacy (English), along with all other Learning Areas of the Australian Curriculum and/or the Curriculum Framework. One of these Learning Areas is Languages Education (Modern Greek). The time allocation given to Modern Greek is in keeping with the recommendations of the paper mentioned above. Similarly, the teaching approaches and methodologies used (cross-curricula and integrated across the curriculum) are also in line with good Languages Education practice.

A Parent Information Session has been planned for Friday 30 March, following on from the Parent & Easter Raffle Assembly. The purpose of the session is to discuss the areas of focus at the College and to provide insight into the curriculum being taught. It is hoped that you can make it to this session; however, if not, another suitable time for a repeat session will be offered early in Term Two.

Integrated Learning
All Learning Areas, particularly Religious Education and the Virtues Programme of IHC are taught in an integrated way during the course of the academic year. This implies that in any given Learning Area, for example, English, the focus of the College - the Catholic Faith - is interwoven through the teaching/learning process. A concrete example of the integrated approach to learning for all subjects, including RE and the Virtues Programme, is the making of the Sacrifice Bracelets during the month of March. These bracelets were introduced to the students in the RE lesson of the day but they were made during the Art or Technology and Enterprise lesson time. Furthermore, the mathematical aspects regarding the making of the bracelets were also highlighted by the teachers.
There are many more examples of how your child’s learning is integrated during the course of the day at school. This sound pedagogy ensures that learning is fun and meaningful, and that it is not just contained in the constructs of a timetable or confined within the four walls of the classroom; rather, it transcends all activity during the course of a day and all boundaries – both at school and at home.

Swimming Lessons
Swimming lessons are being organised for the last few weeks of Term Four. I have been in conversation with the swimming instructor and will continue to liaise with her during the course of the year to streamline the programme for all of the students of the College. More information will follow as we firm up plans.

Teacher/Parent/Student Interviews
The formal reporting format for Term One involves a three-way interview (teacher/parent/student) which will take place on either Tuesday 3 April or Wednesday 4 April for respective families in each of the classrooms. A 15 minute block of time has been allocated to each family so that the teacher, parent/s, and student can discuss progress, areas of strength (stars) and areas needing attention (wishes). Families are asked kindly to be punctual to their allocated session so that they can maximise the time spent with the teacher and so that they do not cause delays for other families.

ANZAC Day Celebrations
Term Two will commence on Monday 23 April for both the staff and students. However, Wednesday 25 April – ANZAC Day – is a holiday. The staff and students will then return to school on Thursday 26 April. An ANZAC Day Assembly is planned for Friday 27 April at 9.00am in the Covered Courtyard of the College. All parents, family and friends are welcome to attend.

College Staff
While progress is being made with regard to the return to Australia of Sister Teresita and Sister Ramona, this is still a month or two away from coming to fruition. Hence, the Education Assistants in Kindergarten and Pre-primary will continue to be part of the staff of IHC. We look forward, therefore, to the return in Term Two of Mrs Marie Laundy and Mrs Kelly Carson.

Health Screening Tests
On Wednesday 21 March the Kindergarten students underwent their Health Screening Test. The same applied for the Pre-primary and Year 1 to 3 students on Thursday 29 March. These tests are very important as they provide early detection of health problems, allowing for intervention where possible. We thank our School Nurse, Mrs Christine Pietraszek, for all of her work in this area and we look forward to further visits from Mrs Pietraszek and her Child Development Team.
Assembly Hall

A picture tells a thousand words! As can be seen in this picture, in contrast to the one in the March issue of the College Newsletter, the building of the Assembly Hall has certainly progressed! Father Paul and I had the happy task of walking around the building site on Friday 16 March to discuss the placement of sound and screen facilities.

IHC Certificates of Merit

The first ever IHC Certificates of Merit were issued to the following students on Friday 2 March:

Pre-primary: James Marcojos
Year 1: Mj Anderson
Year 3: Carla Vicedo

Since then, the following students have also attained an IHC Certificate of Merit:

Kindergarten: Noah Green
Pre-primary: Shaun Pudhota
Year 1: Dylan Rossouw
Year 2: Grace Doulas

Congratulations are extended to all of the students who have received this honour.

K4J Certificate of Accomplishment

The K4J Certificate of Accomplishment, presented for the exemplary display of the Virtue of the Month was awarded to the following students:

Pre-primary: Emillie Parsons
Year 1: Jasmine Laundy
Year 2: Ronan Conduit
Year 3: Trinity Fraser

Well done to all the students who have attained this worthy recognition!

Faction Points

The students have been working extremely hard during the term to ensure that their Faction is the winning Faction! To this end, they have been earning points for various achievements. As the scores fluctuated from week to week, the winning Faction was always a different one. Listed below is the final tally of scores for the end of Week 9 of Term One:

- Fortitude (Red) = 173
- Justice (Gold) = 199
- Prudence (Blue) = 120
- Temperance (Green) = 124
Incursions
The first ever Incursions to take place at IHC were on Tuesday 6 March:

- Mr Chris Parsons (father of Emillie Parsons in Pre-primary) provided an hour-long Incursion to the Pre-primary/Year 1 students on the various roles undertaken by him as a Western Power employee. The children were also treated to a ‘show and tell’ of a Western Power vehicle, complete with sirens for different purposes. It was an exciting Incursion that also had the Kindergarten students watching from their enclosed verandah.

- Mrs Corrina Conduit (mother of Connor and Ronan Conduit in Year 3 and Year 2 respectively) visited the Year 2/3 class to demonstrate how she bottle feeds orphaned puppies to good health and growth. Soon, the Kindergarten, Pre-primary and Year 1 students joined the group. All of the children were enthralled with the puppies and gained much insight into how they can be cared for in a similar way to infants.

Both parents are thanked for their invaluable time offered to the staff and students of IHC as they have contributed in an interesting and tangible way to the education of all concerned.

Updating Contact Details
Parents, please ensure that you have provided the College with your updated contact details including home/postal address, landline and mobile numbers, and email addresses. It is imperative that the College has a true and accurate record of your contact details. You may email these to me at: angeliki_777@hotmail.com . We will soon have a school email address and website which will allow us to communicate even more effectively and to promote the College and its activities efficiently and widely.

Easter
Easter is the most important religious event in the Christian calendar. While it is a sombre time of reflection, sacrifice and prayer, it is also a time of great celebration once our Lord is resurrected! Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the College community a Holy and Blessed Easter, and a safe and happy holiday.

Dr Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis
Principal

Messages from the Staff
Kindergarten
The Kindergarten children have been spending a lot of time talking about their families and homes this week. We’ve made some beautiful ‘photos’ of our families and have been reading a big book called Owl Babies.

We’ve also been having a ‘Colour Day’ every Tuesday in the Kindergarten and are quickly learning the names of our colours. We’ve enjoyed lots of sensory play this term and have had fun squishing around in gelli baff, clean mud, cold spaghetti, finger painting; not to mention feet fishing for marbles and sock washing!
The Kindergarten children are really enjoying the new Interactive Whiteboard and, so far, have had fun playing interactive games, singing along to music videos, and watching some educational DVD’s.

Mrs Cathy Byrne
Kindergarten

Pre-primary/Year 1
Mrs Carson and I would like to congratulate the Pre-primary and Year 1 students on how well they work with the Year 2/3 students. Congratulations are also owed, therefore, to the Year 2/3 class and to Mr Phillips for the wonderful behaviour and respect that the children show to the younger students. All of the students worked together to make the Sacrifice Bracelets and it was a pleasure to witness the cooperation and supportive behaviour that was taking place amongst them all!

We have started using the e-learning programme called Reading Eggs on the Interactive Whiteboard and also individually. Soon we will be sending home the usernames and passwords so that students can log on at home.

As always, the children have been practising their school prayers and have been visiting the Chapel regularly during Recess and Lunchtime, under the watchful eye of the teacher on duty. It is a rewarding experience to witness the children asking, of their own accord, to visit the Chapel and then praying quietly within.

Miss Mary Clark
Pre-primary/Year 1
The Year 2/3 students have been learning about ‘Secret Sacrifice’ during this Holy season of Lent. We have been learning the song "I've got a Mission" from the K4J (Kids for Jesus) Virtues Programme. Furthermore, we have been busy learning new concepts in Mathematics such as mentally counting by 10 from any number and how to achieve balance.

Our focus in literacy is the Persuasive Text Genre in Language and we are learning to master this in an oral form first and foremost. Finally, we have been looking at the history of our school with NearMaps.com.

Mr Darryl Phillips
Year 2/3

Tutorial System
Parents, as you know, the Tutorial System is designed to help the children to develop spiritually, academically and socially. This term, we have been focusing on social and character development. The children have been very cooperative and have been trying, and succeeding, in implementing their goals. The teachers have been very supportive and have been encouraging the children to remember to work on these goals. As a result, the children have been very happy because of their achievements. I am particularly proud of them and of the teachers for all the support that they have given so generously.

In order for the Tutorial System to be fully successful throughout your child’s years at the College, we also need your support. Because of the Teacher/Parent/Student Interviews which will take place at the end of this term, we have decided to have the Tutorial System Interviews next term. I will let you know when I will be available and I hope that you will take advantage of this opportunity to find out more about this innovative initiative which is designed to help your child’s/children’s holistic development.

Mrs Doris Anastasiades
Tutor
### Significant Dates in Term Two

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Term 2 (11 weeks)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 23 April</td>
<td>Start of Term 2 – Staff and Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day – College Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 27 April</td>
<td>ANZAC Day Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Month of May</td>
<td>Dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God</td>
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<td>Tues-Thurs 15-17 May</td>
<td>NAPLAN Test Days</td>
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<td>Thursday 24 May</td>
<td>Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians (Patroness of Australia)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 4 June</td>
<td>Foundation Day – College Closed</td>
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<td>Friday 15 June</td>
<td>Feast of The Sacred Heart</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 6 July</td>
<td>End of Term 2 – Staff and Students</td>
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Parents, please note that the school term will begin on Monday 23 April and that this will be a **normal school day** for staff and students, as will be Tuesday 24 April. Wednesday is a public holiday for ANZAC Day. The students then return to school on Thursday 26 April. The Parent Assembly on Friday 27 will be dedicated to ANZAC Day. We hope to see as many parents as possible at this Assembly. Thank you.