Message from Father Paul Fox

The month of May has been a special month set aside by the Church to honour Mary, the ‘Mother of God’. The highlight for the College was the procession for the Feast of ‘Our Lady, Help of Christians, Patroness of Australia’. Our College Procession, on Friday 25th May, was one of thousands of similar Marian processions around the Catholic world for May. This included a prayer of entrustment, hymns, a decade of the Rosary, and the crowing of Mary as Queen. The students looked great in their processional garments and their preparation was a credit to our Principal and Teachers! June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and we will be having a small Procession and Hymns on Friday 15 June at the Parent Assembly. This will give honour to the Eucharistic Lord!

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of Immaculate Heart College

We are already over half way through Term Two! Of course, much has been achieved during the first half and there is much ground to cover yet before the term is over. However, it is clear that the year is advancing quickly and that plans for the future of the College need to continue at a cracking pace!

On Monday 21 May, we welcomed new students Jorja and Hayden Griffin; Year 1 and Year 3 respectively. Both students have settled in well and are enjoying their educational journeys at Immaculate Heart College. Next term we will welcome Rhys and Faith Coomber-Pill; Pre-primary and Year 1 respectively. Hence, our student numbers continue to grow steadily and pleasingly. In the meantime, I am receiving a great number of calls regarding placements for next year from Kindergarten through to Year 4 and many of these enquiries have led to actual confirmed enrolments through the early payment of fees.

Virtue for June

The virtue for the month of June is ‘Giving’. The students should find this virtue easy to understand and to apply, especially as they have already experienced ‘Secret Sacrifice’.
Honouring Mary in the Month of May

All students of Immaculate Heart College participated in a Procession and Crowning Ceremony of the Statue of Our Lady on Friday 25 May, honouring in this way the Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians (Patroness of Australia).

The month-long anticipated event was a resounding success in all respects. A few weeks prior to the day, the College secured a seamstress who made the capes and sashes worn by the girls and boys respectively. At the same time, the students began learning the beautiful Hymn; *Bring Flowers of the Fairest*, which was sung during the actual Crowning Ceremony and later during the Procession, and again in the Chapel at the end. Closer to the day, the teachers helped the students to assemble their own Miraculous Medals as well as make the baskets that the girls carried, full of petals with which to prepare a flowery pathway for the Statue of Mary.

In preparation for the event, the staff and students rehearsed during the week leading up to the 25th of May. A letter of invitation was sent to all of the parents of the College, and an agenda of the order of events was prepared. All was therefore in place for the special day.

As parents, grandparents and other family members started to gather, the students became excited with anticipation. Soon it was time for them to join the congregation in the College Chapel. In single file and in the order in which they were to process, the students entered the Chapel reverently and took their seats. Father Paul Fox began the special service which led to the blessing of the capes, sashes, Our Lady’s Crown, and the Miraculous Medals. The investiture of the students with the medals and garments then took place, following which they left the Chapel and formed a pre-determined line, according to height, for the Procession. Then, with the accompaniment of the organ, played by Mrs Doris Anastasiades, they sang the Hymn, *Bring Flowers of the Fairest*. At the mid-way point, Year 3 student, Carla Vicedo, performed the Crowning Ceremony; an act of great honour and privilege.

Led by Father Paul, and Year 2 student Ronan Conduit as the Cross Bearer, the Procession began. It made its way slowly but steadily around the fence of the grassed play area, a lovely expanse of greenery where the sky-blue capes and sashes stood out in smart contrast. As the students, staff, and parent body processed, the singing and chanting of hymns and prayers continued. Meanwhile, the Flower Girls (Kindergarten to Year 3) threw petals to form a pathway for the Statue. The four male students who held up the Statue continued to show great strength and resolve to support its seemingly ever-increasing weight. Following them
were the Kindergarten to Year 3 boys with hands in prayer formation. On either side of the students were the Staff of the College, adding flower petals to baskets, adjusting a sash here and there, or securing a cape where necessary. Behind them were the parents and other parishioners, taking photographs or simply enjoying a reminiscent walk down memory lane!

The Procession returned to the Chapel where the special service concluded. The Hymn of the day; Bring Flowers of the Fairest, was sung one last time and the students exited the Chapel in the most appropriate way, having now become familiar with the protocol of the Faith. Whilst sad to see such a lovely event come to an end, it was comforting to know that it will be the first of many such celebrations in the life of the College.

NAPLAN Feedback
The first ever NAPLAN Tests for Immaculate Heart College ran smoothly and efficiently on each of the testing days (15th, 16th and 17th May). The Computer Laboratory proved to be the ideal room for the Tests with quiet, space and warmth. Mr Phillips was the Test Administrator and I was the Test Coordinator. It was great team work and I thank him for his professionalism and careful attention to detail. Thanks are also extended to Miss Clark, Mrs Carson, Mrs Byrne and Ms Laundy for looking after the Year 2 students while their teacher was preoccupied in the mornings with the NAPLAN. The Tests have been posted for marking.

It is important to point out that the NAPLAN Tests provide feedback on the education the students have received from Kindergarten through to Year 3 rather than only on the education that they have received since the start of 2012. In other words, they are indicators of the education received in your children’s previous schools as well as at this school. When the results become available to us, we will analyse these and plan our educational programs and strategies to accommodate the key areas of need so that when the students sit for the NAPLAN again in Year 5, the results will then reflect, for the most part, the education received at Immaculate Heart College.

Winter Uniform
The winter Tracksuit jacket and pants have arrived. Parents, you can now purchase these uniform items; the top is priced at $47 and the pants are $30. PLEASE NOTE: The Tracksuit top and pants will be worn every Friday as part of the sports uniform. However, the top can also be worn from Monday to Thursday over the College jumper to keep your child extra warm. Together with the IHC scarf (not compulsory), your child should be ensured of protection from the weather.
Navy blue winter socks for the boys are also now in stock. These are selling at $5 for a pack of 4. Though not compulsory, they are the preferred choice for parents of boys for Terms Two and Three.

These items complete the uniform requirements of students from Kindergarten to Year 3 at the College. It has been noted, however, that some students are still not wearing the correct shoes. Please refer to your child’s Homework Diary or to the IHC Handbook 2012 for details regarding footwear and other uniform rules and regulations. Thank you.

Safe Drop Off and Collection of Students
During the past 10 days, we have been trialling a few changes to the car park situation and the drop off and collection of students. So far, the clock-wise drive through of vehicles is taking place without incident and is proving to be feasible. It is only when larger vehicles park in the ‘turning circle’ that movement is obstructed. If possible, parents are asked kindly to park closer to the top end of the car park so as to allow for a full turning circle for those parents that need to drive off.

In case some parents missed the new approach to drop-off and collection of children, it is outlined again below:

1. If you are dropping off your child at the College gates without parking your car, please drive into the College Car Park in a clock-wise direction, stopping near the gate and allowing your child out of the car in the presence of the teacher on duty at the gate. The School Bus will be parked at the gate near the Accommodation Units from now on to allow for this drop off process to take place efficiently. Once you have dropped your child off, please continue to drive off in a clock-wise direction slowly around and out of the Car Park so as not to obstruct other in-coming vehicles.

2. If you need to park your car to accompany your child to the classroom door, please also drive in a clock-wise direction and park, preferably facing the College. It is advised that ALL parents escort their children at least to the College gates. College Staff members will park their cars further into the Car Park from now on so as to allow extra room for parents to drive through appropriately or park with room and safety. Parents may then drive off, preferably ‘face forward’, having parked appropriately to begin with.

3. For the collection of children, you may either drive up to the gate to collect your child from the teacher on duty at the gate OR you may park your car (same as above) and collect your child from the classroom door or gate.

Parents, your attention and diligence with regard to the above measures will ensure that our children have a safer drop off and collection experience, and that accidents are prevented. Thank you.
Parent Information Evening

A Parent Information Evening was held on Monday 28 May at the Lower Chittering Hall from 7.00pm to 9.30pm for existing and new families. The evening comprised of the following:

1. A general overview of the College’s ethos and curriculum (PowerPoint Presentation by the Principal);
2. Class group gatherings where the teachers explained their pedagogical (teaching/learning) approaches and methods to parents;
3. Supper;
4. DVD on the Catholic Faith; and
5. Question and Answer session.

The event provided insight to many areas for all families present, particularly the new families who will join us next year.

Special thanks are extended to Mrs Michelle Rossouw for attending to our needs with the Hall and to all of the parents from Immaculate Heart College who made the effort to attend. It was greatly appreciated as much effort and preparation went into the event. On this, I would like to thank the staff for their input and the comprehensive documents that they prepared and disseminated. Parents, if you missed out on collecting these documents, please see your class teacher or me for a copy.

Finally, I would like to thank Father Paul for the very interesting DVD that he has made available for viewing. The 10-part series will be shown in segments for all interested parents over the coming weeks. It is intended to show half an episode each time in the air conditioned comfort of the Computer Laboratory of the College. The actual time and date of the next session has yet to be decided but it will most likely take place on Sundays prior to the Mass at 5pm. Families of the Catholic faith are strongly encouraged to attend these sessions, followed by Mass. However, all families of Immaculate Heart College are encouraged and welcome to attend.

‘Sign In/Sign Out’ File for Staff, Students and Visitors

A ‘Sign In/Sign Out’ File is now available at Reception for staff, students and visitors to the College. Parents of students who come to school after the school bell has sounded at 8.45am are to sign their children in and to provide a reason for the late arrival. This is to inform us that the child has arrived at school but also to try to prevent repeated incidents of late arrivals. The teacher of your child will write the letter ‘L’ in the Class Roll to indicate the late arrival.

Staff and students leaving the College early or any time during the day are also required to sign out (and sign in upon their return). Once again, this provides the College with an accurate picture of the staff and students present at any given time. In the case of an evacuation or Lock Down procedure, the ‘Sign In/Sign Out’ File will be taken by the Administration Staff to provide us with insight as to the whereabouts of staff and students.

Visitors to the College must sign in and wear a ‘Visitor’ badge for the duration of their stay. A separate ‘Sign In/Sign Out’ book has been prepared for the College Chapel for the Parishioners and Prayer Group that visit our school.
Birthday Invitations

The matter of issuing Birthday invitations at school has become prominent in the last few weeks and needs to be re-addressed. As a very small school, it is imperative that parents and students are mindful of the feelings of other students within their class who might not be invited to the Birthday Party of a peer.

Hence, the College’s stance on the matter is that the issuing of Birthday invitations on the College grounds should only take place if the whole class is invited. This way, students do not feel excluded and/or saddened by being left out. The invitations can be given to the Class Teacher who will place them in the Student Homework Diary 2012.

Should parents or their children desire the attendance of only some members of the class, then the matter of issuing Birthday invitations needs to be handled off campus. Thank you for your consideration of this sensitive matter.

School Photographs

Our College photographs arrived on Tuesday 29 May and were issued to the children on Wednesday 30 May. I trust that you all found the photos to be of a high quality. We are certainly very happy with the production and standard of the photographs received, including the mounted whole-school photograph that includes every child who was enrolled at the time of the photo shoot.

Parents, if you are interested in ordering a Faction photograph (Fortitude, Justice, Prudence or Temperance), please refer to the Photo Album which is placed at the Reception Desk and place your order on the sheet provided, then give the correct amount of money to our Bursar, Mrs Pudhota. Please note, however, that these orders must be made within 2 weeks of our College’s delivery of photos; hence, your Faction Photo Orders are due by Monday 11 June so as to reach msp photography before the deadline.

Mrs Kelly Carson

It is with a great measure of sadness that I announce that Mrs Kelly Carson is now ready to leave IHC in preparation for the birth of her second child. Although this special event is some time away still, Mrs Carson feels that she now needs to spend more time at home. Hence, we farewelled Mrs Carson on Friday 1 June in the knowledge that we will see her again in the future once the baby is born.

On behalf of the College’s Directors, Board, staff, students and parents, I would like to extend our heart-felt appreciation and congratulatory comments to Mrs Carson for an outstanding contribution to the College in all respects. She has been an asset to the educational programme of the Pre-primary/Year 1 class and a great Education Assistant to Miss Clark. I know that she will be sorely missed by everyone but mostly by the children of this particular class. However, as stated above, she will not be a stranger to IHC as we expect to see her after the baby arrives.

I would like to take this opportunity, therefore, to introduce to the College community, our Relief Education Assistant until such time as the Sisters arrive; Miss Shaye Wilson. Shaye (older sister of Alex Westbrook in Kindergarten) has completed her Certificate III in Education Support and has a Working with Children Check. Shaye’s work experience in the field has earned her some outstanding testimonials which encourage us to
believe that she will be a wonderful EA for Miss Clark and her class. We are grateful for Shaye’s immediate availability and the time she spent in ‘Hand-over’ last week, and we look forward to her energetic assistance and positive demeanour in the class. Shaye will be the EA on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays while Ms Laundy will continue to be the EA on Mondays and Thursdays.

Special Visitation to the College

- **Numeracy Representative from AISWA** – On Wednesday 30 May, Mr Rob Hassell (AISWA) visited the College from 9.00am to midday, spending time with me in discussions regarding the whole-school approach that we are taking to improve numeracy skills in the students. I was able to share with Mr Hassell the work done thus far by the team of IHC in terms of moving in the same, forward and constructive direction towards this goal. In particular, I proudly held up the work of the teachers, their Teaching/Learning Programs, and our whole-school philosophy on pedagogy as examples of our efforts. I was also able to seek clarification on the new Australian Curriculum in terms of reporting ‘Achievement Standards’ to parents in the Semester One Reports. Our investigation of this matter led to an idea from me that was deemed worthy and that will be taken to AISWA for further discussion. Mr Hassell left with positive impressions which he also shared with Father Paul.

- **Registration Visit** – On Tuesday 12 June, members of the Department of Education Services (DES) will visit IHC to witness the progress of the College since its first Registration Visit. The visit will include a tour of the College grounds and a review of new and updated documents. The Registration Team will meet with the Directors and Principal from 9.30am to 3.00pm.

- **Capital Grants Application Committee Visit** – On Tuesday 3 July, we will welcome the AISWA Capital Grants Application (CGA) Committee representatives who will assess our future needs with regard to the primary school building plans that were submitted last term. The CGA Committee is required make such visits before offering funds to schools for such projects.

IHC Certificates of Merit and K4J Certificates of Achievement

The following students were recipients of the **IHC Certificate of Merit** at the first Parent Assembly of Term Two:

- Kindergarten: Seth Anderson
- Pre-primary: Francesca Donnelly

The following students received a **K4J Certificate of Accomplishment** for incorporating the Virtue of the Month (or previous months) in their day-to-day behaviour at the College:

- Year 1: Max Maras
- Year 2: Ronan Conduit
- Year 3: Carla Vicedo

The above-listed students are congratulated once more!
Faction Points
Faction points continue to grow as the year progresses and as the students strive to earn the most points for their Faction. The tally of Faction points to date is:

Fortitude: 280
Justice: 305
Prudence: 210
Temperance: 222

Professional photographs of each of the IHC Factions were taken on Photo Day by msp photography. If you are interested in ordering, please refer to the Album at Reception and to instructions provided earlier in this newsletter. Thank you.

Hot Food Fridays
The IHC P&F Association continues to work hard behind the scenes to make Hot Food Fridays a regular treat each week. Your continued support means that the College is not only able to earn extra funds but that the staff and students can sit down together to enjoy a hot lunch each week.

As stated in previous correspondence, the parents involved in the preparation stage, cooking and serving of all foods are mindful of abiding by all regulations in the strictest possible manner. This commitment of time and effort by each and every one of them is acknowledged and greatly appreciated.

Woolworths ‘earn & learn’ Promotion
Immaculate Heart College is now registered for the Woolworths ‘earn & learn’ Promotion. Please endeavour, therefore, to collect stickers (1 for every $10 spent) and to drop your completed Sticker Card into our specially-designed box (thanks to Mrs Trudy Riley) on the coffee table at Reception. The Promotion ends on 1 July so please involve your relatives and friends as well. Every completed Sticker Card submitted helps to earn the College ‘dollars’ towards educational resources.

Semester One Reports
I am in the process of adjusting our formal Semester One Reports for Pre-primary to Year 3 to reflect the Australian Curriculum for English, Mathematics and Science. Once this is done, the teaching staff can commence entering details into the reports. The Semester One Reports will be issued by hand to students on the last day of Term Two (Friday 6 July). If a follow-up interview is requested, either by the teacher or the parent, it will take place at the start of Term Three.

Parents, we have a wonderful school with diligent teachers and exceptionally delightful students who are relishing their experience at IHC on a daily basis. Let’s continue, therefore, to work together towards continued and sustained harmony and improved standards. I value the contribution that everyone makes to the College. Thank you for your on-going support!

Dr Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis
Principal
Messages from the Staff

Tutorial System

Dear Parents/Guardians, your children are delightful and respond very well during Tutorial Sessions with me. This term I will be concentrating on improving the students’ literacy standards and on using strategies for English as a Second Language (ESL) in Pre-primary to Year 3. So far, the Kindergarten children have been working on their rhyming words as an extension of their work in the classroom. They are very proud of their efforts; as they should be!

During the next few weeks, I'll be in touch with each of you in order to make an appointment to discuss your child's progress. If you have any areas that you would like me to work on with your child, please let me know. The purpose of the Tutorials is to work with teachers and parents, in order to help with each child's overall development so that he/she may be successful academically, socially and spiritually. Your input will be most welcome.

Mrs Doris Anastasiades
Tutor

Year 2/3

The students in Year 2/3 have been busy researching the animals on which they wish to prepare a report. They have also focused on what type of habitat their chosen animals thrive in and will make a model zoo enclosure based on their investigations.

In Religious Education, the Virtue of the Month is ‘Giving’. We are learning that gifts that we give to others can be free; such as helping and serving others.

In Mathematics, we have been focusing on measuring the weight of objects by using scales. We predicted the weight of objects and then used the blocks to measure the mass.

Mr Darryl Phillips
Year 2/3 Teacher

Pre-primary/Year 1

The Pre-primary/Year 1 class has been busy learning about our Indigenous Australian heritage. We have looked at the art work of the Aboriginal people and the techniques involved in that; symbols and use of colour. We have also learnt about the didgeridoo; one of the most challenging wood-wind instruments to play, and we have created our own.

We know that the Aboriginal people moved from place to place as part of their nomadic lifestyle and that they lived off the land as hunters and gatherers. They lived in houses called ‘Gunyas’, made from bark, twigs and sticks. We went outside as ‘hunters and gatherers’ ourselves and made replica Gunyas. We have also made boomerangs which we practised throwing in the grassed play area.

Miss Mary Clark
Pre-primary/Year 1 Teacher
Kindergarten
The children have had a great start to the term and have had lots of fun learning all about dinosaurs. Some of the more interesting things we’ve done this term include making fossils with clay, constructing dinosaur skeletons with pasta, and making an oozing lava volcano in the sandpit. We are now beginning to learn about Outer Space and have lots of interesting space activities and adventures to look forward to.

The Kindergarten has also recently set up an IHC Shops in our Home Corner. The children are enjoying playing shop keepers and have been using some fantastic ‘shop language’ as well as learning about money and numbers.

Please note; we will be requiring baby food jars, empty boxes, cylinders and meat trays for future activities. Any donations will be greatly appreciated! Thank you.

Mrs Cathy Byrne
Kindergarten Teacher

Dates for Term Two and Term Three

TERM 2 (11 weeks – Remaining Weeks)
Monday 4 June Foundation Day – College Closed
Friday 15 June Feast of The Sacred Heart (PARENT ASSEMBLY)
Friday 22 June Kindergarten Excursion to Sci-Tech
Friday 29 June PARENT ASSEMBLY
Friday 6 July End of Term 2 – Staff and Students (REPORTS)

TERM 3 (10 weeks)
Monday 23 July Staff Day
Tuesday 24 July Start of Term 3 – Students
Wednesday 15 August Solemnity of the Assumption (Holy Day of Obligation)
Friday 28 September End of Term 3 – Staff and Students

THANK YOU, MRS CARSON!