



Immaculate Heart College

Through Mary to Jesus: "The Way, the Truth and the Life"
John 14:6

Dear Parents/Guardians

Re; 2017 INFORMATION PACK

This covering letter is for existing as well as new families of Immaculate Heart College. It explains the 'Information Pack' for 2017 which contains within it, various documents that should serve to assist parents in their preparation for the new academic year.

Included in the **2017 Information Pack** are the following documents:

- This Covering Letter
- IHC Vision and Mission Statements 2017
- College Calendar 2017
- IHC Commencement Dates for 2017 (inclusive of opening dates and times of Reception for the new academic year, Orientation Morning for new students, including the Inaugural Year 7/8 Class, and commencement dates for Kindergarten through to Year 8 students)
- IHC Timetable for Pre-primary to Year 8, 2017 (Blank Pre-primary to Year 8 Timetable for time allocation of periods)
- College Uniform Information 2017
- IHC Schedule of Fees 2017
- IHC Fee Payment Agreement Form 2017
- Booklists 2017 and related information (for ordering/purchase of booklist items for Pre-primary to Year 8 students)
- Kindergarten Handbook 2017 for Kindergarten students only

Further to the above-mentioned items contained within, please note the following key points:

Kindergarten

An **Orientation Morning** has been planned for all new students, including Kindergarten students. This will take place on **Tuesday 31 January from 9.00am to 11.00am**. Parents are asked to bring their children to the College, gathering at the College's Multipurpose Hall by 9.00am. Students do not wear school uniform on this day. Please see the *Commencement Dates for 2017* document for the Orientation Morning agenda.

Kindergarten students attend school on the following days during the year: Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The students will commence the academic year on **Wednesday 1 February** for half a day, from 9.00am-12.00pm. Thereafter, attendance for Kindergarten students is for half a day up to and including Friday 10 February. **Full-time attendance commences on**

Tuesday 14 February, from 9.00am to 3.10pm. Parents can deliver their children to the Kindergarten from 8.45am onwards for a 9.00am start.

The College uniform for Kindergarten students is the Summer Sports Uniform for Terms 1 and 4, and the Winter Sports Uniform for Terms 2 and 3. This includes the appropriate footwear (sports shoes) and accessories such as the College Bag, Library Bag, and School Shades (Cancer Council-approved sunglasses designed especially for school children and a new initiative for Immaculate Heart College). A comprehensive booklet regarding the Kindergarten and related requirements is included, where relevant.

Pre-primary to Year 8

An **Orientation Morning** has been planned for all new students from Pre-primary to Year 8. This will take place on **Tuesday 31 January from 9.00am to 11.00am**. Parents are asked to bring their children to the College, gathering at the Multipurpose Hall by 9.00am. Students do not wear school uniform on this day. Please see the *Commencement Dates for 2017* document for the Orientation Morning agenda.

Pre-primary is a compulsory year of schooling; therefore, the expectation at Immaculate Heart College is that Pre-primary students will attend school daily and in a full-time capacity. **All students from Pre-primary to Year 8 will commence the new academic year on Wednesday 1 February at 8.45am**. Students can arrive at the school from 8.30am onwards for an 8.45am start. The school day ends at 3.10pm. The 2017 College Calendar, with term dates, is included in this Information Pack.

The College uniform for Pre-primary students is the Summer Sports Uniform for Terms 1 and 4, and the Winter Sports Uniform for Terms 2 and 3. This includes the appropriate footwear (sports shoes) and accessories such as the College Bag and Library Bag.

Year 1 to Year 8 students wear the Summer School Uniform on Mondays through to Thursdays (inclusive) in Terms 1 and 4, and the Winter School Uniform during Terms 2 and 3 (Year's 7 and 8 must wear the College Blazer). On Fridays, they wear their respective Sports Uniform (Summer Sports Uniform for Terms 1 and 4, and Winter Sports Uniform for Terms 2 and 3). The College Hat, as well as sunscreen, must be worn all year round when outdoors.

Please refer to the document titled *College Uniform Information 2017* in this Pack for detail on the school's uniform requirements. Most IHC uniform items are purchased from our supplier, Lowes, in Ellenbrook. The *IHC Student Homework Diary 2017* (a compulsory Booklist item for Pre-primary to Year 8 students) is also purchased only from the school (parents are invoiced for this item through their School Fees).

Once the school year starts, parents are asked to provide a packed lunch for their children, including a water bottle, as well as healthy snacks for Recess (fruit, vegetables, crackers, etc.). The College has a **Crunch & Sip** policy which allows for snacking on fruit and vegetables, and sipping on water in class throughout the course of the day.

The College Canteen (*Kangaroo View Café*) is open every Friday. Students must order their lunch by Wednesday, 3.10pm each week. They may purchase healthy snacks from the Canteen at Recess on Fridays without pre-ordering.

The College Canteen is a member of the *WA School Canteen Association Inc.* (WASCA), adhering thus to the 'Traffic Light' system which promotes more 'green' foods; therefore, healthy eating.

Since Term 3 of 2015, the College has been providing free breakfast to any student who needs it, made possible by the *School Breakfast Program* (SBP) and College staff and parent volunteers. A basic breakfast is, therefore, available in the Multipurpose Hall from 8.20am to 8.40am. Students are fully supervised by a rostered IHC Staff member whilst having their breakfast. Grace is said before the meal and good table manners are expected of students. Breakfast is open to all students from Kindergarten to Year 8.

Class Groupings, Buildings, and Staffing

In 2017, the following class groupings, buildings, and staffing will apply:

- Kindergarten students will be housed in the Early Learning Centre (Area 1).
- Pre-primary students will be housed in the Demountable Classroom (Area 1).
- Year 1 students will be housed in the Demountable Classroom (Area 1).
- Year 2 through to Year 6 students will be housed in the permanent primary school building (Stage 1), referred to as Area 2.
- Years 7 and 8 will be housed in the classroom situated in the Multipurpose Hall.

The weekly whole-school Mass will continue to take place in the Multipurpose Hall until such time as the Divine Mercy Church is completed. Students from Pre-primary to Year 8 will attend the weekly Mass on Wednesday mornings from 9.00am to 9.45am.

The Teaching Staff for the relevant year groups for 2017 are as follows:

- Kindergarten: Mrs Cathy Byrne (Teacher) and Miss Marie Kilgallon-Laundy (Education Assistant)
- Pre-primary: Miss Mary Clark (Teacher) and Sister Ramona Fabe Pandan, MCM (Education Assistant for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays) as well as Miss Marie Kilgallon-Laundy (Education Assistant for Mondays and Thursdays)
- Year 1: Mrs Emily Coffey
- Year 2: Miss Elodie Longbottom
- Year 3: Miss Hasoly Hurtado
- Year 4: Mr Darryl Phillips
- Year 5/6: Mr Nino Raju
- Year 7/8: Mrs Frances Proudlock
- Modern Greek K-8: Mr George Anastassiadis
- Religious Education K & PP: Sister Ramona Pandan, MCM
- Religious Education Years 1-6: Sister Virginia Muego, MCM
- Education Support Assistant: Mrs Annette Shehan
- Other Staff: To be announced at the start of the new academic year

College Curriculum

Immaculate Heart College has two focus areas: Academic Excellence and the Catholic Faith. A strong emphasis is placed on both of these areas with the Catholic Faith being integrated into the curriculum due to the College's distinct Catholic ethos. In brief, the College's curriculum is as follows:

Religious Education (Kindergarten to Year 8)

The main curriculum resource for the College's Religious Education (RE) and Virtues Program is *To Know, Worship and Love*. Other resources include *The Bible; Christ, Our Light and Life*; and the *Kids for Jesus (K4J)* online series. These resources are provided to the students by the College. *The Life of Grace* (Year 7/8) is on the Year 7/8 booklist.

Kindergarten students receive formal tuition in RE for up to 30 minutes per week whilst primary to Year 6 are taught RE three times per week for 40 minutes per session. In Year 7 and Year 8 Religious Education consists of four, 30 minutes periods and is entitled, Theology. On Wednesdays, all staff and students attend whole-school Mass. There is also one 20-minute session per week dedicated to learning Sacred Hymns.

The formal RE and Virtues Program is taught daily by the Religious Sisters at the school and once a week by the College Priest at the whole-school Mass. Informally, and in an integrated manner, all teaching and non-teaching staff promote the Catholic ethos of the school throughout the curriculum. Catholicity and the Virtues of Faith, Hope, Charity, Fortitude, Justice, Prudence, and Temperance permeate all Learning Areas in an integrated manner that enhances the College's ethos (see the *Vision and Mission Statements* document, and the College's Handbook - please refer to the College website www.ihc.wa.edu.au).

Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)

The Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) is the cornerstone document that guides the Kindergarten Teaching/Learning Program of the College. Its five principles, approaches to practice, and learning outcomes are adhered to in the everyday teaching and learning experiences of the Kindergarten staff and students. As the overriding framework, it guides planning, programming and practice for the teacher, leading students confidently towards compulsory education in Pre-primary and the new Australian Curriculum (AC). In 2017, the new AC for Kindergarten will be used in conjunction with the EYLF.

The Australian Curriculum (AC) and the WA Curriculum

In 2012, Immaculate Heart College implemented the Australian Curriculum (AC) for English, Mathematics, Science and History (in part) for Pre-primary to Year 3. The same approach was applied in 2013 for Pre-primary to Year 4. In 2014, the History and Geography Learning Areas of the AC took the place of Society and Environment (otherwise referred to as SOSE) from the Curriculum Framework (CF).

In 2017, **all 8 Learning Areas** (English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences*, Language other than English (LOTE)-Modern Greek, The Arts, Health and Physical Education, and Design and Technology) will be from the Australian Curriculum (AC). However, it must be stated that the AC has been modified to suit WA standards. As such, it is now referred to as the ***WA Curriculum*** and it is mandatory for all schools in WA to use this version of the AC rather

than the existing AC version. The difference is simply that in WA, the authorities have de-cluttered the curriculum, identifying 'core' items to be taught from 'additional' items in each Learning Area. The 'core' items are mandated teaching items whilst the 'additional' items are taught by choice. The Achievement Standards for each Learning Area are, therefore, based on the 'core' items being taught in each Learning Area.

*Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) include History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship, and Economics and Business. The year level of commencement of each of these areas within HASS is as follows:

- History and Geography for Pre-primary and up
- Civics and Citizenship for Year 3 and up
- Economics and Business for Year 5 and up

HASS will be the new collective terminology, therefore, to be applied to the Learning Areas listed above and it will be taught during dedicated periods in the weekly timetable but also in an integrated manner across other Learning Areas as there is much content and skills to be covered during the academic year for each year level.

College Timetable

The College's timetable for Pre-primary to Year 8 offers over 50% of teaching/learning time to literacy (English) and numeracy (Mathematics). This is achieved through morning literacy and numeracy blocks of time throughout the week. All other Learning Areas in the weekly timetable meet the *recommended* time allocations (specific time allocations are not provided by educational authorities).

A blank IHC Timetable has been included in this Information Pack to show the starting and finishing times of the day, Recess and Lunch times, and time allocations for each of the eight periods per day in Pre-primary to Year 8. The Kindergarten timetable adheres to a later starting time (9.00am) but the same finishing time (3.10pm). However, the Kindergarten timetable structure is more flexible than that of the rest of the school.

Please take special note of the THREE-WEEK holiday period at the end of Term 2.

Once again, thank you for enrolling your child/children at Immaculate Heart College. Everyone at the College looks forward to a close working relationship with you for the benefit of your child/children's holistic education.

Yours faithfully

Lucas Hurley
Principal

2 November 2016