



Immaculate Heart College

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

COLLEGE NEWSLETTER 1

January, 2015



Family Fun Night at 'IHC Christmas Evening' Event – Friday 5 December, 2014

Message from College Director, Mrs Doris Anastasiades

Welcome everyone to IHC for the 2015 school year! Welcome also to all the staff with a special welcome to our newest staff member, Year 5/6 teacher, Mr Nino Raju, and Miss Hasoly Hurtado as the Year 3/4 teacher. We hope that you all had an enjoyable holiday and that this year will be a productive and happy one for you all.

Virtue of February: RESPECT
Mission of the Month: NO MORE MONKEY MANNERS!
Model for Students: JESUS, THE OBEDIENT CHILD

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Friends of Immaculate Heart College

Welcome to another academic year at Immaculate Heart College; our fourth since the College began in February 2012. This year, we open our doors as a fully-fledged primary school – Kindergarten to Year 6! Welcome also to all of our new families (11 thus far) and previously enrolled families who have returned.

We commenced in 2012 as a K-3 school with only 24 students. At the commencement of 2015 we are a K-6 school with 94 students! This is not counting the students who will be enrolled at our *IHC Playgroup*. In its second year of operation at the Lower Chittering Hall, the *IHC Playgroup* attracts both families of the College as well as those in the wider community. This will take our enrolments well and truly above 100!

This year, we look towards a number of new and exciting developments for our school. Firstly, of course, there is the new permanent primary school building (Stage 1) which is already underway. Very good progress is being made with all of the documentation, regulations and requirements necessary prior to the commencement of the building itself. I will keep you updated as information comes through for each of the phases of the building project.

Secondly, we have a great line-up of Staff (Teaching and Non-teaching) again for 2015:

- Kindergarten (Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday): Teacher – Mrs Cathy Byrne; Education Assistant – Miss Marie Kilgallon-Laundy
- Pre-primary: Teacher – Miss Mary Clark; Education Assistants – Sister Ramona Fabe Pandan, MCM (Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday) & Miss Marie Kilgallon-Laundy (Monday and Thursday)
- Year 1: Teacher – Miss Elodie Longbottom
- Year 2: Teachers – Mr Darryl Phillips (Tuesday to Friday) & Mrs Cathy Byrne (Monday)
- Year 3/4: Teacher – Miss Hasoly Hurtado
- Year 5/6: Teacher – Mr Nino Raju
- Religious Education – Sister Teresita Salapang Sajelan, MCM (Years 1-6) & Sister Ramona Fabe Pandan, MCM (Kindergarten & Pre-primary)
- College Priest – Father Paul Fox
- Modern Greek – Mr George Anastassiadis (Kindergarten to Year 6, Tuesday & Thursday)
- Piano Lessons (upon request) – Mrs Doris Anastasiades
- Regular Relief Teacher – Mrs Anne Cullender
- PTA Bus Driver – Mr Lawrie Maddox
- IHC Mini-bus Driver – Mr Brian Inions
- Groundspersons/Cleaners – Mrs Diane Whittaker & Mr Jim Duff
- College Caretaker – Mr Peter Foale
- Administration Assistant – Mrs Louise Bewick (Monday to Thursday)
- Bursar – Mrs Sangeeta Pudhota
- Principal – Dr Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis

Other exciting and inaugural events include our very first Year 6 class to graduate at the end of 2015, a camp for our senior students, special sporting visitors and events at the school, a pending Music Programme for all classes, and new nature-based play areas.

Finally, we will continue to offer a strong academic programme with the usual focus on improved literacy and numeracy skills, as well as an additional focus on Science. Along with our existing Languages Education Programme (Modern Greek) and other learning areas on offer, we aim to live up to our promise of offering a well-rounded curriculum. As always, our Religious Education Programme is of a high calibre with emphasis on the virtues, helping our children especially to understand the importance of being respectful and of leading lives that are in line with the teachings and expectations of the Catholic Faith.

Please note the following important messages for the start of the school year:

Public Transport Authority (Bus/Conveyance Allowance)

If you live further than 4.5kms from the school, please ensure that you register to receive Conveyance Allowance from the Public Transport Authority (PTA). Go to www.schoolbuses.wa.gov.au; then go to the 'Parents' tab, then to the 'Online Forms', and finally to 'Mainstream Applications'. Please ensure that you attend to this as soon as possible at the start of the year so that you don't miss out on payment.

Lost & Found Property Box

The Lost & Found Property Box will be emptied and discarded at the end of Week 1 (Friday 6 February) if items are not claimed by then. The uniform and other items are from 2014. All labelled items have been placed in the students' respective classrooms for parents to claim. Please also check the Wellington Boots which will be displayed on a pew outside the Multipurpose Hall.

PIPS 2015

The Performance Indicators in Primary Schools (PIPS) testing for Pre-primary students will take place during the first two weeks of the year (Monday 2 February to Friday 13 February). This one-on-one online testing provides the school with invaluable information regarding the students' literacy and numeracy standards at the very start of the year and then again near the end of the year during the October testing period. The information is used by the teacher to inform her practice and to hone in on areas that need attention.

The PIPS testing is a very enjoyable and non-threatening experience for the children. The school usually provides a Relief Teacher for the duration of the testing period so that Miss Clark can administer the test in isolation, testing the students individually. A summary of last year's performance in the PIPS testing follows:

The PIPS assessment at the start of the year showed the raw scores for Mathematics ranged from 13 to 46. By the end of the year, the range improved from 43 to over 75, with half the class answering all the questions in the test. Overall, the average result for our school exceeded the state average in Mathematics.

Similarly, the raw scores for Reading at the beginning of the year ranged from 16 to 78, and improved at the end of the year to a range of 64 to 192 (i.e., the number of questions answered correctly.) Our school was in line with the state average again, with 7 students achieving perfect scores.

The results on the end-of-year graph show that almost all of the children exceeded the state average in their final PIPS results for Reading and Mathematics combined. The improvement in the Mathematics results was due to the structure and teaching of a holistic, integrated programme targeting explicit Numeracy concepts such as recognising number and amount, counting forwards and backwards from different starting points for the numbers 1 - 20, identifying simple number patterns such as counting in twos and tens, ordering and measuring using non-standard measurements, and recognising the numbers when subitised.

The Reading results were improved by an explicit literacy programme using Jolly Phonics, Diana Riggs resources, and the teacher's self-made resources. The programme was structured to emphasise alphabetical awareness, letter-sound relationships, common digraphs, blends and sight word recognition. The children learned how compound words are made (e.g. gold / fish, rain / bow) and were taught to recognise letter patterns, and the beginning, middle and end of words, as well as simple sentence punctuation. Using Marie Clay's concepts of print as a guide, the children were taught the features of print texts, such as author, illustrator, spine, and blurb.

To summarise, these PIPS results ensure that the Pre-Primary class of 2014 is well prepared to achieve the literacy and numeracy outcomes for Year One in 2015. Immaculate Heart College Pre-Primary students achieved excellent results in the PIPS testing of 2014.

Miss Mary Clark (Pre-Primary Teacher, 2014)

The final two weeks of 2014 were very eventful. Please read below for a summary of the events that took place in December of last year.

In-term Swimming Lessons 2014

The annual In-term Swimming Lessons were held Week 8 of Term 4 (1st to 5th December, inclusive). This activity was compulsory for all students from Pre-primary to Year 5; only those students with medical reasons were exempt from participating. The hour-long lessons were conducted by staff at the Ellenbrook Swimming School. According to Ms Di Palmer, Business Development Officer for *State Swims Systems*, our students were well-behaved on all accounts and will be welcomed back this year. Furthermore, many succeeded in passing one or more levels.

IHC Evening Christmas Concert 2014

The College's annual *Evening Christmas Concert* took place on Friday 5 December, starting at 7pm and ending close to 9pm. The Concert was held indoors in the Multipurpose Hall due to the unpredictable weather. The doors and big sliding door were opened to allow for a cool breeze to pass through the Hall. Despite these arrangements, families spread their picnic blankets onto the Hall floor and enjoyed their food and drink in the Hall, equally as much as they would have outside.



Mr Justin Donnelly adjusted the spotlights to showcase the students at the 'stage area' and this worked very well indeed with all other lights dimmed. The Christmas Nativity and Christmas tree were also lit up with fairy lights and battery-operated candles, making for a beautiful setting. The atmosphere was very festive and uplifting.



The students competently performed a variety of Christmas Carols in English and in Greek for the occasion. Two class movies with a Christmas theme were also shown, adding an extra dimension to the event. The IHC P&F also held a raffle on the night. A surprise visit from Santa Clause at the end was a treat for the children.

IHC in Channel 7's Christmas Pageant 2014

The Year 4/5 students (10 year olds and above only) were invited to join the *DIASPORA Greek Dance Group* in *Channel 7's Christmas Pageant* on the evening of Saturday 6 December. Eight students participated in the event. Miss Hasoly Hurtado and Mrs Katerina Dimopoulos briefed the parents of the students at the College on Tuesday 2 December. The students and their families were excited to be attending the event. All went well on the day and it is hoped that the students will be invited again this year.

End-of-Year Assembly & Awards 2014

The End-of-Year Assembly took place on Friday 12 December at 9.00am in the Multipurpose Hall. It was a formal Assembly for all year levels. Certificates of Completion were issued to all students from Kindergarten to Year 5 for having completed their respective year level. Certificates of academic achievement were issued to the senior students (Year 4/5). Citizenship and other awards were also issued on the day.

Member for Agricultural Region, Darren West MLC and Mrs Leslie West were VIP guests, having donated a prize for an award. President of the Country Women's Association of WA, Chittering Bindoon Branch, Mrs Carolyn Cover, and Treasurer, Mrs Cathy Brown were also VIP guests, having donated a prize for an award. The College's Directors and many parents, relatives and friends attended the event. It was a wonderful end to the year with an air of formality and academic achievement.

Learning Area Awards – Year 4

Religious Education – Sebastian Clare

English – Sebastian Clare

Mathematics – Lachlan Moir

Science – Lachlan Moir

History & Geography – Imogen Blackburn

Modern Greek – Sebastian Clare

The Arts – Samara Edwards

Health & Physical Education – William Gorst

Most Improved Award – Year 4

Harrison Anderson

Learning Area Awards – Year 5

Religious Education – Rebecca Clare

English – Leigh Atin

Mathematics – Ethan Smith

Science – Ethan Smith

History & Geography – Ethan Smith

Modern Greek – Leigh Atin & Ethan Smith

The Arts – Adonis Ramirez

Health & Physical Education – Cameron Whittaker

Most Improved Award – Year 5

Harmarnie Barker

Piano

Cuba Zillessen (For having completed Lesson Book Level A)

Alex Westbrook (For having completed Lesson Books Level A & B)

Isabella Cassidy (For having completed Lesson Book Level B)

Margaret Ramirez (For having completed Lesson Book Level 1A)

Leigh Atin (For having completed Lesson Book Level 1B)

Student Leaders Awards

Fortitude Captain – Leigh Atin

Fortitude Vice-captain – Samara Edwards

Justice Captain – Carla Vicedo

Justice Vice-captain – Sebastian Clare

Prudence Captain – Ethan Dobra

Prudence Vice-captain – Brodie Cayless

Temperance Captain – Cameron Whittaker

Temperance Vice Captain – Harrison Anderson

Sports Captain – Lachlan Moir

Languages Leader – Ethan Smith

Citizenship Awards – Year 5

Citizenship (Female) – Carla Vicedo

Citizenship (Male) – Cameron Whittaker

Citizenship Award Nominee for
Shire of Chittering Australia Day Ceremony
Lachlan Dobra (Year 3)



Winning Faction - Overall

The accumulated Faction Points for 2014, with the handicap points for uneven Faction numbers, and the already adjusted Athletics and Cross Country points added, were:

In 1st place on 1,558 points: Fortitude

In 2nd place on 1,519 points: Temperance

In 3rd place on 1,518 points: Justice

In 4th place on 1,502 points: Prudence

Well done to all students in each of the Factions! However, special congratulations are extended to the students of **Fortitude** for being the overall winning Faction for 2014!

Water Fun Afternoon 2014

In contrast to the formality of the morning event, the students from Kindergarten to Year 5 were treated to a 'Water Fun Afternoon'. An inaugural event for the school, it proved to be immensely successful. Mrs Trudy Riley, in consultation with the Principal, organised and coordinated the event, along with other parent helpers. The event started at 1.20pm and ended at 2.30pm, after which the students were dry and ready to go home. It was a great way for the staff and students to relax and enjoy the last day!



IHC Markets & Swap Meet 2014

The second and final *IHC Markets & Swap Meet* for the year took place on Saturday 13 December. There were 49 stalls (inclusive of swap meet stalls). The event will resume again in February of 2015.

Results of Online Programme - Skoolbo 2014

The following information is a summary of the demonstrated improvement shown by individual students who used the online programme called 'Skoolbo' here at IHC:

Number of Classes	7	Average Improvement in Literacy & Numeracy			29%
		<i>Literacy</i>	<i>Numeracy</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Total Answers		88,720	86,535	175,255	
Skills improved by 10%		343	319	662	
Skills improved by 100%		90	82	172	

Highest Participation

Cooper Smith (13,458 answers)
James Marcojos (10,187 answers)
Ethan Smith (9,775 answers)
Princess Vicedo (6,219 answers)
Dylan Scibilia (5,336 answers)
Harry Zappulla (5,128 answers)

Most Improved

Cooper Smith
Matthew Trainor
Hamish McLennan
Harry Zappulla
Princess Vicedo
Evan Whittaker

Skoolbo will be offered again for free to all students at IHC in 2015. Our other online programmes include *Reading Eggs*, *Mathletics*, *Language Perfect* and *Education Perfect*. These are paid for by the parents of the school; an invoice will be dispatched in due course.

Our latest addition to the online programmes of the school is the very comprehensive *World Book Web* which the school has paid for; therefore, it will be yet another free online resource for the staff and students of IHC. *World Book Web*, along with all of the other online programmes listed above, will be incorporated into the teaching/learning programmes so as to further embellish and extend the educational experience of our students. This is yet another way in which Immaculate Heart College strives for academic excellence!

In closing, I would like to reiterate that our aim is for a school of excellence in all regards; a school in which every child matters and every child is nurtured to reach his/her potential in a safe and caring environment. We will continue to work towards achieving this, and every other goal, and we look forward to working with you, the parent body of our lovely school in order to do so.

Dr Angela Evangelinou-Yiannakis
Principal

YOUCAT (Catholic Youth Catechism)

For what purpose are we here on earth? (YOUCAT Question 1)

We are here on earth in order to know and to love God; to do good according to his will, and to go someday to heaven. To be a human being means to come from God and to go to God. Our origin goes back farther than our parents. We come from God, in whom all the happiness of heaven and earth is at home, and we are expected in his everlasting, infinite blessedness. Meanwhile we live on this earth. Sometimes we feel that our Creator is near; often we feel nothing at all. So that we might find the way home, God sent us his Son, who freed us from sin, delivers us from all evil, and leads us unerringly into true life. He is "the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

Why did God create us? (YOUCAT Question 2)

God created us out of free and unselfish love. When a man loves, his heart overflows. He would like to share his joy with others. He gets this from his Creator. Although God is a mystery, we can still think about him in a human way and say: Out of the 'surplus' of his love he created us. He wanted to share his endless joy with us, who are creatures of his love.

Why do we seek God? (YOUCAT Question 3)

God has placed in our hearts a longing to seek and find him. St. Augustine says, "You have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." We call this longing for God ***Religion***. It is natural for man to seek God. All of our striving for truth and happiness is ultimately a search for the one who supports us *absolutely*, satisfies us *absolutely*, and employs us *absolutely* in his service. A person is not completely himself until he has found God. "Anyone who seeks truth seeks God, whether or not he realises it" (St. Edith Stein).

Can we know the existence of God by our reason? (YOUCAT Question 4)

Yes. Human reason can know God with certainty. The world cannot have its origin and its destination within itself. In everything that exists, there is more than we see. The order, the beauty, and the development of the world point beyond themselves toward God. Every man is receptive to what is true, good, and beautiful. He hears within himself the voice of conscience, which urges him to what is good and warns him against what is evil. Anyone who follows this path reasonably finds God.

Why do people deny that God exists, if they can know him by reason? (YOUCAT Question 5)

To know the invisible God is a great challenge for the human mind. Many are scared off by it. Another reason why some do not want to know God is because they would then have to change their life. Anyone who says that the question about God is meaningless because it cannot be answered is making things too easy for himself.

Can we grasp God at all in concepts? Is it possible to speak about him meaningfully? (YOUCAT Qu. 6)

Although we men are limited and the infinite greatness of God never fits into finite human concepts, we can nevertheless speak rightly about God. In order to express something about God, we use imperfect images and limited notions. And so everything we say about God is subject to the reservation that our language is not equal to God's greatness. Therefore we must constantly purify and improve our speech about God.

Why did God have to show himself in order for us to be able to know what he is like? (YOUCAT Qu. 7)

Man can know by reason that God exists, but not what God is really like. Yet because God would very much like to be known, he has revealed himself. God did not have to reveal himself to us. But he did it out of love. Just as in human love one can know something about the beloved person only if he opens his heart to us, so too we know something about God's inmost thoughts only because the eternal and mysterious God has opened himself to us out of love. From creation on, through the patriarchs and the prophets down to the definitive revelation in his Son Jesus Christ, God has spoken again and again to mankind. In him he has poured out his heart to us and made his inmost being visible for us.

How does God reveal himself in the Old Testament? (YOUCAT Question 8)

God shows himself in the Old Testament as God, who created the world out of love and remains faithful to men even when they have fallen away from him into sin. God makes it possible to experience him in history: With Noah he establishes a covenant to save all living things. He calls Abraham so as to make him "the father of a multitude of nations" (Gen 17:5b) and to bless "all the families of the earth" in him (Gen 12:3b). The people of Israel, sprung from Abraham, become his special possession. To Moses he introduces himself by name. His mysterious name 'Yhwh', usually transcribed 'Yahweh', means "I am who I am" (Ex 3:14). He frees Israel from slavery in Egypt, establishes a covenant with them on Sinai, and through Moses gives them the Law. Again and again, God sends prophets to his people to call them to conversion and to the renewal of the covenant. The prophets proclaim that God will establish a new and everlasting covenant, which will bring about a radical renewal and definitive redemption. This covenant will be open to all human beings.

Channel 7 Christmas Pageant 2014 - Report

On Saturday 6 December, eight students from Immaculate Heart College participated in the *Channel 7 Christmas Pageant*. These students were Leigh Atin, Harmarnie Barker, Imogen Blackburn, Rebecca Clare, Nicholas Clark-Francis, Adonis Ramirez, Ethan Smith, and Carla Vicedo. The students paraded alongside the members of the *DIASPORA Greek Dance Group* in traditional Greek dance costume. Although there was a long wait, the students behaved themselves beautifully. They eagerly rehearsed the dance routine and practiced saying Merry Christmas in Greek (Kala Christouyenna!). Shortly before parading, they were sprayed with glitter from head to toes to match their sparkling smiles.



Once the parade began, the students smiled and waved at the audience on either side of them. They performed their routine exceptionally well and greeted the crowds in both English and Greek. There was a rush of energy whenever they saw a familiar face in their crowd and they performed enthusiastically whilst in front of the cameras.



Once the parade was over, the students were exhausted but became rejuvenated by crowd. I received comments such as “I cannot wait until next year!”, “This was such an amazing experience!” and “Even though my feet are so tired, I would do it over and over again!” To say that the students enjoyed themselves is an understatement! This unique experience provided them with exposure to the Greek culture, personal growth, and a sense of giving back to the community. Seeing the children’s faces light up as you wave to them is priceless. The *DIASPORA Greek Dance Group* welcomes us again to join them in the Pageant if their application is successful for 2015. We look forward to this opportunity and hope to incorporate many more students.

Miss Hasoly Hurtado (Greek Dance Instructor/Year 3/4 Teacher)

COLLEGE CALENDAR 2015

TERM 1 (9 weeks)

Wednesday	28 January	Staff Retreat Day
Thursday	29 January	Staff Day
Friday	30 January	Staff Day & Orientation Morning

Monday 2 February

Wednesday 18 February

Monday 2 March

Thursday 19 March

Wednesday 25 March

Thursday 2 April

Friday 3 April

Sunday 5 April

Monday 6 April

Start of Term 1 – Students

Ash Wednesday

Labour Day – College Closed

Feast of St Joseph

Annunciation of Our Lady

End of Term 1 – Staff and Students

Good Friday – During School Holidays

Easter – During School Holidays

Easter Monday – During School Holidays

TERM 2 (11 weeks)

Monday 20 April

Monday 27 April

The Month of May

Tues-Thurs 12-14 May

Sunday 24 May

Monday 1 June

Friday 12 June

Friday 3 July

Start of Term 2 – Staff and Students

ANZAC Day Public Holiday – College Closed

Dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God

NAPLAN Test Days

Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians

(Patroness of Australia)

Western Australia Day – College Closed

Feast of the Sacred Heart

End of Term 2 – Staff and Students

TERM 3 (10 weeks)

Monday 20 July

Staff Day

Tuesday 21 July

Saturday 15 August

Friday 25 September

Start of Term 3 – Students

Solemnity of the Assumption (Holy Day of Obligation)

End of Term 3 – Staff and Students

TERM 4 (9 weeks)

The Month of October

Monday 12 October

Sunday 1 November

Monday 2 November

Tuesday 8 December

Friday 11 December

Monday 14 December

Tuesday 15 December

Friday 18 December

Dedicated to Our Lady, Queen of the Rosary

Start of Term 4 – Staff and Students

Feast of All Saints

All Souls' Day

Feast of the Immaculate Conception (Feast Day of Immaculate Heart College)

End of Term 4 – Students

Staff Day

Staff Day

College Administration Closes