

Sacred Heart School Newsletter



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Keep up to date with what is happening in the school, reminders of events and any news as it happens through the school Twitter feed at: **@shslton** (120 families following)

Please visit our website for more detailed information, video and photo galleries of our school:

www.sacredheartl.tas.edu.au

From the Principal:

OUR P.B.S. VALUES ARE:

Respect for Ourselves

Respect for Others

Respect for our Learning

"Use what talents you possess; the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best" - Unknown

'Finish each day & be done with it. You have done what you could. Learn from it; tomorrow is a new day'

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

Welcome to 2015! 2014 is over and finished. As a mate of mine loves to say 'put a fork in it! It is done!' Learn from 2014 where you can and tomorrow is a new day.

Well tomorrow is here. A new year, another annual opportunity for a new start in a new class with new classmates, new books, new polo tops, new teachers and staff. New changes to our buildings, grounds and surroundings as well as a new timetable for our school day.

'Insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result'. Changing what isn't working as well as we hope and continuing with what is working has to be our mindset as a school. Our children deserve to get the best we can offer with the available resources we have!

Welcome to 2015 for our new families to the S.H.S. Community. We hope that you quickly engage in our school community and it is all you hope it to be!

Welcome to 2015 for our new staff including Miss Alex Hegarty (Grade 4), Melissa Heathorn (Art teacher Gr3-6), Beth Rickerby (B-4 program) and Angie Burnell (Co-teacher Grade 3 /4 team two days a week for Term 1)

Welcome to 2015 and changing roles for some staff. Mrs. Jade Vecchione (co-teacher 2 days a week on Prep), Anna Davie (co-teacher Gr. 2 one day and Grade 6 each Thursday), Mrs. Linda Sydes (Grade 5 two days and co-teacher Grade 1 two days).

Welcome to 2015 and a more than \$1 million dollar Stage Two redevelopment of our Grade 3/4 building as well as physically connecting the Library, 3/4 and P-2 buildings to each other. The program of works is looking like beginning at the start of Term 2.

Welcome to 2015 and the return of our School Fair in March this year after a break in 2014. For new families and families in Kinder and Prep new to the school, our School Fair is a fantastic fundraiser, for me though more a great community event for our school.

Welcome to 2015 and our school theme of *'Be- Attitudes'*. It is obviously playing with the Beattitudes of the Gospel and that values just spoken are not values at all but rhetoric. We all have to *'Be'* what we claim to be in our actions. Our students will help decide which Be-attitudes will be a focus for S.H.S. this year.

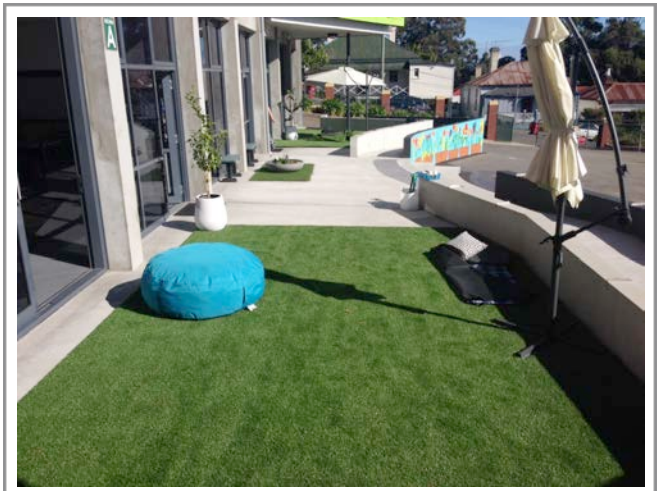
Welcome, 2015 will be a busy, productive and exciting opportunity for our school to continue to enhance what we do and how we do it – all for the only purpose of educating our children into young adults of merit, self worth and integrity.

Sacred Heart School Newsletter

From the Principal:

Holiday Happenings

Astro turf around edge of Presentation Gym	Students use this as a 'short cut' to get to the Presentation Gym and toilets. The grass had died and dirt and mud was getting spread in the gym and buildings.
Annex entry to Kinder building has been removed	It had to be demolished. We are currently organising to build a simple undercover area in front of the door and running along to the deck inside Kinder. This will give the students outdoor play space, cover and protection (as well as parents) in inclement weather.
Realigned the gate/fence entry to the school from Margaret Street.	This allows the area in front of the Kinder building facing the Church/ School car park to be accessed within the fenced school grounds. It enables us with a duty of care to have Gr. 5 students access this entry to their classrooms and potentially allow students to use this area during the school day.
Kinder	<p>Have provided water access near the sandpit for a mud kitchen, the tarp above the sandpit has been removed and 4 climbing plants in pots have been placed around the poles that in time will cover this area, creating a natural cover and shade.</p> <p>The rock, sand 'hill' has had ropes attached to make a clearer path, seating near the sandpit that will also store any items the Kinder students want to use when playing in the sandpit.</p>
Stairs	<p>We have the timetables painted on the stairs above the office and connecting to the new P-2 building.</p> <p>We think it is just a cool idea.</p>



Sacred Heart School Newsletter

Co-Teachers 2015

As discussed briefly last year we will be employing co-teachers to work in all classrooms P-6 between 1-2 days a week. The main and core aim of this is to further enhance the learning outcomes of our students particularly in the areas of literacy and numeracy, with a specific focus of problem solving and critical thinking in these areas. Groups of students will be identified to work with co-teachers for a period of time based on their literacy and numeracy needs.

Whether students are working in this group or remaining with the rest of the class – all students benefit.

- ✓ *The students working with co-teachers benefit as they get specific support based on their needs.*
- ✓ *The students remaining in class benefit as the class size is reduced and the teacher is left with a smaller number of students to give more personalised explicit teaching and time to.*

A letter to all parents will be sent out explaining this new initiative in more detail next week.

S.H.S. New Terms And Conditions

You will hopefully have received correspondence today around new Terms and Conditions for enrolment and payment of fees. The first point I would like to make is that this is a new requirement of all Catholic primary and secondary schools in Tasmania from Tasmanian Catholic Education Office. *It is not something that we have decided to do to make things more complex for parents!*

The second point is that in terms of fees and payment of fees –the day-to-day reality for parents will not change. Some parents will have to re-establish some payment plans, however even though the annual fees will be billed in full early in the year, previous approaches to paying this off won't change.

The realities of the modern world, I imagine have resulted in the legal documenting of the 'contract' that is the enrolment form parents sign when enrolling their child in a school. *The last point and most important one for me is that the ability of parents in being able to pay full fees will not be and should not be a factor in the ongoing enrolment of a child at S.H.S.* Please if any queries or questions or concerns contact myself or our office to discuss.

Early Numeracy Interviews

This coming week Grade 1-2 teachers will be working 1:1 with your child conducting 'Early Numeracy Interviews'. Our Prep classes will also be doing this in coming weeks. Each class teacher will be released to work 1:1 with each child in their class working through a series of numeracy tasks. These interviews are invaluable as they give a clear understanding to the class teacher of where each student is. More importantly the interviews identify what are the next steps that your child needs to enhance their numeracy. This data is critical for the teacher to know where each child is at and then support each child in their numeracy development.

Last year we provided an information sheet to each family of the interviews and where your child's development is at, at the beginning of this year. We will do the same again this year.

New Sports Polo Tops

Hopefully all students now have their new polo tops. A big thanks to Rebecca Millwood (and family) and Kelly Cox (and family) for their organisation pre the two Uniform Shop Days and during the two days. In any transition there is always a lot more work to begin with and at the beginning of this year, that was certainly the case.

The new polo tops are more comfortable for students, more durable and better designed. *Just as importantly it helps our students connect to their House Team* – seeing other students around the school who are in the same House by the colour on their polo top. *This helps students connect to a smaller community within our larger school community.* It will also be so much easier on sports carnival days in knowing which students from which House have won events etc.

Thanks to Amanda Cowley and Impressions for their coordination and management of the design, ordering of polo tops to meet the start of the 2015 school year.

Sacred Heart School Newsletter

Specialist Timetable

Below is a summary of days for specialist lessons which we hope helps parents in organising uniforms and expectations around these activities across the different days of the week.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Gr. 3, 4 & 6 MUSIC and P.E.	ART Gr. 3-6	Kinder & Gr. 5 MUSIC/ P.E.	P, 1 & 2 MUSIC and P.E.	9am Assembly (Term 1 & 2 only)
Prep Motor Skills 2pm	HEALTH P-6	Prep Motor Skills	P-6 Dance Fever (Term 1 only)	12:30pm 5/6 Friday Sport (Term 1 & 2 only)
			P-6 Dance Fever-Skipping Term 4	2pm Assembly (Term 3 & 4)
			1:30-2:30pm SHS Band Program	

Parent / Student / Teacher Goal Setting

In week 3 of this term, we will conduct our first Parent/Student/Teacher meetings. The focus will be on parents identifying and naming what you hope and aspire for you child to achieve in the 2015 year. Where comfortable, we would encourage you to bring your child along.

Students will bring home information on this tomorrow. Returning the booking sheet provided to your youngest child's teacher by Wednesday can make bookings 11th of February. Appointments will be conducted on Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th of February.

Parents of students in Prep to grade 2 will also have opportunities for meeting with the grade teachers around more general grade information.

Structure of the School Day

There will be a small change to the structure of our school day. In essence we will keep the same 2-hour block to begin the day but increase the middle block for a longer period of time and as a result shorten our afternoon block. We believe increasing our middle block to help with our teaching time for mathematics and making our afternoon session shorter supports our students learning. The last session of the day where students' concentration is at its shortest makes sense to be shorter than the morning and middle blocks where concentration is better. Initially it will take a little time for students to wait 30 minutes longer for their lunch break. We encourage parents (and class teachers will talk with students also about this) to think in terms of 2 lunch breaks. Half your lunch at 10:50 and the other half of your lunch at 1:20 p.m.

Time	Session
8:45am	Mon- Wed Daily Fitness –run in House teams.
9- 10:50am	1 st session – primarily literacy focus during this time
10:50am	Eating time 1 st Lunch
11:30-1:20	2 nd session – primarily numeracy focus along with specialist classes on some days
1:20pm	Eating time 2nd lunch
2pm	3 rd session of the day – specialist lessons and other learning areas primarily during this time.

Sacred Heart School Newsletter

Swimming Trials

With our Swimming Carnival coming up, Grade 3-6 students will have their swimming trials this coming week to help place students into divisions for the carnival. Mr. Anderson would still encourage any parents that can help on the day to contact him or the office to put your name down to volunteer.

The SHS Swimming Carnival is Monday 16th February at Riverside Pool.



~ February 2015						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHS Gr 3/4 swim trials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6pm Board meeting • 7.30pm Prep Parent Information Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHS Gr 5/6 swim trials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.15pm Gr 1/2 Literacy Information Session • 7.15pm Gr 1/2 Literacy Information Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am Assembly 	
15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHS Gr 3-6 Swimming Carnival 	Parent / Student / Teacher Interviews			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am Assembly • 12.30pm Gr 5/6 Summer Sport • P & F Welcome BBQ & Movie Night 	
22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.15am Gr 5/6 Bookclub • 7pm P & F Meeting 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.30pm Band / Strings program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9am Assembly • 12.30pm Gr 5/6 Summer Sport 	

SHS School Fair - Friday 20th March

S.H.S. Parents and Friends email
shsl.pnf@catholic.tas.edu.au

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS 2015

TERM 1 Thursday 5.2.15 to Thursday 2.4.15

TERM 2 Monday 20.4.15 to Friday 3.7.15

TERM 3 Monday 20.7.15 to Friday 25.9.15

TERM 4 Monday 12.10.15 to Wednesday 16.12.15

Student absences

Please remember to call the School office on 63311011 or email shsl@catholic.tas.edu.au if your child will be absent from school.