Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the 2016 School Year here at Sacred Heart, Highgate and the first of our school’s weekly newsletters. I hope the holidays have been a chance for families to enjoy a wonderful Summer holiday, get some rest and enjoy recreation together!

On behalf of all our teachers and staff, I extend a very warm welcome to you all and a special hello to our new children and their families who have joined us.

Our teachers have settled smoothly into routines, planning and timetables after their holiday break, and are delighted with the enthusiasm of their classes, as everyone tackles their studies.

In addition to my welcome, accompanying today’s Newsletter, are letters to all parents and families at Catholic schools in WA, from both the Executive Director of Catholic Education Western Australia (CEWA), Dr Tim McDonald, and Archbishop of Perth, Timothy Costelloe.

This year, we welcome the following new staff members to our school:

- Miss Maria Yelash
- Mrs Carol Panaia
- Miss Ashleigh Barker
- Mrs Amanda Saraceni
- Mr Jason Tyrrell.

I am sure that our School Community will make all our new and returning staff members feel at home and supported in their roles.

**Learning: What did I learn from my experiences today?**

This week, we conducted the 2016 Parent Information Sessions. These sessions are planned as an opportunity to inform parents about curriculum content, classroom rules and routines, homework expectations etc. Our Teachers prepared comprehensive handouts and presentations, and if parents were not able to attend, information packs have been sent home. This year, we called for an evaluation and feedback form for parents to complete - thank you for this, and we will spend some time as a staff, collating and identifying how we can improve or enhance these.

The coming weeks are important as a data collection period, and once assessments and standardised tests are completed, teachers are able to plan for enrichment opportunities, and the necessary intervention strategies. As always, preparation for any testing situation begins with adequate rest- these first weeks at school can be very tiring, and combined with warm weather, really can affect our boys and girls- early nights are called for!

All good work is grounded in good communication, and I urge parents to always make contact with their child’s teacher, if they have queries regarding their child’s learning and progress. We often refer to our real work, or core business, as Teaching and Learning. We continue with our participation in AITSL (the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership) processes. The Australian Professional Standards for Teachers, is a public statement of what constitutes teacher quality. The Standards define the work of teachers, and make explicit the elements of high-quality, effective teaching in 21st-Century schools, which result in improved educational outcomes for students. We are really blessed at Sacred Heart Primary School to have such skilled and knowledgeable staff at our school, and I look forward to our continued work in this area.
Engagement: How did I promote positive relationships with students/staff/parents today?

I value and appreciate the building of strong and positive relationships with all our community. It is so vital in a Catholic School that we communicate with each other through the eyes of understanding and compassion – our attitude each day, will be a model of reflection to our students, parents, and to our community. I have been very impressed with the level of engagement that our students have already demonstrated here at Highgate. I look forward to our special Blessing and Commissioning of our senior students at next Wednesday’s Mass. I was able to chat with our senior students this week, to outline some of the opportunities that they will experience this year, including Camp next week, and what we expect of them as leaders and role models within our school.

On Friday 26th February the first of many pleasant gatherings that will be hosted by the Parents and Friends Association this year, will be the Family Pizza and Movie Night on the School Oval. I look forward to seeing many of you there! Thank you to all who are assisting in preparation for this evening- it is sure to be a lovely way to begin our year.

Accountability - How did I take responsibility for my work quality today?

Accompanying this week’s Newsletter is information regarding timetables and the Term Planner - these can become the important fridge details! Please read these carefully and hopefully, the next week should run fairly smoothly. Next week, all parents will receive the printout of their child’s confidential details that are currently on our Administration system. Please read these forms carefully, and make any necessary changes and updates, and return these forms to the School Office promptly, in order for records to be updated.

Discipleship - How did I live out the teachings of Jesus today?

In the realm of discipleship, I have witnessed a genuine spirit of generosity within our school community. As we strive to lead by example and follow the call of Jesus’ service to others, we unknowingly have a profound effect on others. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and preparation that you, our parents and guardians have accomplished over the summer break. The love and care that you have shown for your children, helps them to show love and concern for their friends and family. Thank you for fulfilling your vocation as a parent and guardian. This has such a positive influence on our boys and girls.

Next Tuesday, our staff will gather for the regional Commissioning Mass, where they will blessed and commissioned to their “vocation or calling” to work in a Catholic School.

We commence the 2016 School Year with our Opening Whole School Mass next Wednesday at 9.00am (Ash Wednesday). We will be ably led by our Year 6 class. Thank you to Mr Tyrrell and our other staff for their work in preparing the children for this special liturgy. Our student leaders will be blessed and commissioned to their duties at this Mass, and we encourage and welcome our parents and families to join us for this special occasion.

Father Irek Czech joins the Parish of Sacred Heart, Highgate this year. Having met with him on Tuesday evening, when the Parish Council hosted a small gathering for Father to acquaint himself with the Parish and its various groups, I learned that Father eagerly awaits his involvement in all our activities at school in this year. His presence (together with his guitar) at today’s Assembly was a real highlight!

The expected heat wave next week, will see our school provide adequately for the children’s learning in their air conditioned classrooms, and also ensure their break times will be in the Hall and its air conditioning, as the hot weather is expected to be extreme. Please don’t forget to freeze water bottles and send along fruit for the afternoon’s Crunch and Sip break.

In closing, can I call for prayers for all families within our school community who may be battling with illness and injury. In this, the Year of Mercy, we are called to trust in Jesus, to receive His mercy and let it flow to others. Can I wish everyone well for the weekend and thank you all for your hard work in getting the children back to school so well prepared and fully equipped! I hope our new day for newsletter issue- Fridays, will provide families with the necessary information to prepare for the coming week.

Many thanks and God Bless

Mrs Tanya McGuire
Principal
Staffing placements for 2016 are as follows:

**PRINCIPAL**  Mrs Tanya McGuire
**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**  Ms Renee Byrne-King
**ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**  Mrs Carolyn Perlini

**YEAR 6**  Mr Jason Tyrrell
**YEAR 5**  Mrs Sonia Caielli (Mon and Tues) and Mrs Amanda Saraceni (Wed Thurs and Fri)
**YEAR 4**  Miss Ashleigh Barker
**YEAR 3**  Mrs Julia Hill
**YEAR 2**  Mrs Laura Taylor
**YEAR 1**  Mrs Emma McHardie

**PRE PRIMARY**  Ms Gabriella Previti
**KINDERGARTEN**  Mrs Marie McKenna (Mon Wed and Fri)
**PRE-KINDERGARTEN**  Mrs Marie McKenna (Tues and Thurs)
**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**  Mrs Stephanie Alderman (Mon and Tues)
**LIBRARIAN**  Mrs Sue Goss (Mon and Tues)
**MUSIC**  Mrs Frances Ammoscato (Tues and Wed)
**ITALIAN**  Mrs Sonia Caielli (Wed)
**READING RECOVERY/EMU**  Mrs Leonie Wyre
**LEARNING SUPPORT**  Mrs Leonie Wyre
**ART**  Ms Renee Byrne-King (Wed and Thurs)
**SCIENCE**  Mrs Carolyn Perlini (Wed and Thurs)
**STRIVE –ENRICHMENT**  Mrs Barbara Worner (Thurs and Fri)

**CURRICULUM COACH UPPER**  Ms Renee Byrne-King
**CURRICULUM COACH LOWER**  Mrs Carolyn Perlini

**EDUCATION ASSISTANTS**  Ms Nguyen Dinh
Mrs Rebecca Cattai (Mon Tues and Wed)
Mrs Rebecca Greener (Thurs and Fri)
Mrs Leonie Cornish (Mon Tues Wed and Fri)
Miss Maria Yelash
Ms Sue Hanford (LSL Term One)
Mrs Nadia Parsons (Mon Tues and Fri)
Mrs Carol Panaia (Mon Wed and Fri)
Mrs Frances Ammoscato (Thurs and Fri)

**SOCIAL WORKER**  Ms Hilary Campos (Fri)

**FINANCE OFFICER**  Mrs Linda Robertson (Mon Tues and Wed)

**ADMIN OFFICERS**  Mrs Vanessa Castelanelli (Wed Thurs and Fri)
Mrs Anita Miocevich (Mon Tues and Wed)

**PARISH ADMINISTRATING PRIEST**  Fr Irek Czech (for 2016)
Welcome Back to 2016
We would like to welcome you back to Sacred Heart Primary School for 2016. We trust that all our students and families have had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday break. We are looking forward to a productive and engaging year ahead for all students at Sacred Heart Primary. Over the past week we have had the opportunity to visit all the classes. It has been wonderful to see the students’ excitement. Our students have had a positive start to the year and have shown a wonderful sense of pride and commitment. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new students, parents and staff to our caring Sacred Heart Community. We thank our very committed staff who have worked tirelessly to ensure a very smooth start to the year for all students and a very successful parent information evening on Wednesday night.
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Whole School Social Skills Program: Active Listening
Social skills remain an important focus at Sacred Heart in 2016. At Sacred Heart, we recognise that the learning of social skills is most effective when it is fun, engaging and students apply what they have learnt to authentic situations. We also recognise the important role of parents, primary caregivers and the wider community in helping our students to become proficient at using social skills. Please talk to your child about what they are learning and look for opportunities to practice the current social skill – Active Listening – outside of school. If you would like to know more about how we teach social skills at Sacred Heart, we encourage you to go to our Engaging Hearts and Mind blog at: http://shpsshengagingheartsandminds.blogspot.com.au/
Thank you for supporting our whole-school social skills program.
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Mary Street Drive-through Service
We are happy to report that the after-school pick-up on the Mary St drive through has been running very smoothly.
A few reminders:
- Students should not be entering cars in drive-through unless they are parked in one of the three pick-up bays available.
- All parents walking with children, who are not in drive-through, are to use the side path and side gate only to enter and exit the school; do not walk your children between the cars in the school driveway or school pick-up zone.
- Please do not reverse your car in the school pick-zone. If you are waiting to leave, you will need to be patient and wait for the cars in front to exit first.
- The drive-through gates will open just prior to 3pm and continue to close at 3.20pm each day, so please ensure that the children are collected before this time.

Thank you for your co-operation, and for helping us to ensure that we keep the students safe during this busy time of the school day.
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Parent Term Planner
To keep parents informed with up to date information the planner is available on the school website. Hard copies will not be sent home to families. Please check the website regularly as the planner will be updated as required. The Planner is available on the school website at:
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Ash Wednesday and 2016 Sacred Heart Opening Mass
There will be an Ash Wednesday Mass this Wednesday, 10th February, at 9.00am at the Sacred Heart Church. This will also mark our Opening Mass. This Mass will be led by Father Irek, and will see the start of the Lenten period in the Liturgical Calendar. The members of staff will proclaim the readings and participate in other areas. Please come along and join us!
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Commissioning Mass for All Sacred Heart Staff
On Tuesday, 9th February, all staff from Sacred Heart Primary School will be joining with several other regional schools and attending our annual Commissioning Mass at Infant Jesus parish. This Mass is a wonderful opportunity for us all to come together, renew and reaffirm our commitment to Catholic Education. The Mass begins at 4.30pm.
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Year 6 Camp
The Year 6 camp commences on Wednesday February 10th. The students will leave by bus after our Ash Wednesday Mass. The Year 6 students will return on Friday 12th February, in the afternoon approximately 2.30pm. We wish them all the best and hope they have a whole lot of fun, while learning about Leadership and independence. We look forward to your safe return.
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)

Literacy and Numeracy Whole School initiatives
Sound Waves
In 2016, Sacred Heart is trialling Sound Waves as our whole school spelling program. The Sound Waves phonemic approach uses a sound-to-letter strategy which acknowledges that sounds can be represented more than one way in written form. This synthetic phonics approach focuses first on the basic units of sound in our language – phonemes. It then explores the letters that represent these sounds and how they can be put together to form written words. Sound Waves enhances learning with strategies for reading, writing and spelling. This way your students will gain a deeper understanding of how words are structured. The Year 5 and 6 class in 2015 used the Sound Waves program resulting in substantial gains in spelling skills, by the end of the year. We look forward to using such a well-recommended spelling program.

iMaths
This year the school has decided to trial a mathematics program teaching mathematics explicitly and using investigations allowing students to apply their knowledge of mathematical concepts learned. iMaths Investigations apply the maths concepts of your Curriculum to real-life situations. Every Investigation has been designed to engage and motivate students and show them how much fun maths can be. The iMaths tracker book will come home regularly to assist parents and teachers in communicating the students’ progress in the Mathematics learning area.
Carolyn Perlini and Renee Byrne-King (Assistant Principals)
SCHOOL NEWS

SPORT UNIFORM
The white polo shirt is to be worn on the following days:
Monday: Years 3, 4, 5, 6
Tuesday: Years Pre Primary, 1, 2
The coloured faction polo shirt is to be worn on the following days:
Friday: Pre Primary to Year 6

SWIMMING CARNIVAL - Years 3 to 6 ONLY
Monday 29th February
Bayswater Waves 9.30am–12.30pm
Parent assistance is needed on the day. Please write your name on the sheet on the Library door so you can assist in making the carnival a successful one. Thank you.

SWIMMING TRAINING 2016 (commencing Week 2)
Beatty Park
Monday afternoon 3.15pm–4.00pm
Friday morning 7.30am–8am
This is for children in Years 3 to 6 ONLY this year. Children who can already swim 25 metres and wish to become 50 metre swimmers are encouraged to attend. This is not a beginner swimming lesson.
A qualified coach will be available to coach our children on Monday afternoon and Clairly Lance (parent) will train the children on Friday morning. Entrance fee to Beatty Park is payable.
Children who made the effort to attend last year really benefited from the sessions and most became members of our Interschool Team. I encourage you to consider this wonderful opportunity for your child.
Check this out! You Tube-Elite Swim Tips.
How to do a competition race dive presented by Alex Hetland.
Check this out! YouTube Elite Swim Tips.

SCHOOL GATES & SAFETY AT SCHOOL
Gates are opened at the following times:
8.15 to 9.00am and 2.50 to 3.20pm
Please note during the above times the school gate on Harold Street, near the oval, needs to be pushed opened in order to enter. (the gate will always be closed, there is no need to press the bell for assistance)
Parents are reminded that there is NO child supervision provided to students who arrive at the school before 8.15am. Students dropped off before this time will need to come into the school from Mary Street. Students are not to be dropped off and left unsupervised by parents outside the supervision hours as it can be dangerous and unsafe.

Student Absences/Lateness
When a student is absent from school parents are required to:
- Contact the school office explaining WHY their child is absent. (Parents can also inform the class teacher if they wish).
- Send a note to the class teacher when their child returns to school explaining WHY their child was absent.
All students who arrive LATE to school (after 8.45am) MUST be signed in at the school office reception BY A PARENT

PICK and DRIVE After School Pick up
Around the streets of Sacred Heart there is limited parking. Because of this a Pick Up and Drive area in the front car park (Mary Street) after school has been set up. If you would like to register for Pick Up and Drive, forms are available from the school office foyer or the school website at:
Please return the completed form to the school office. Families who have already registered please place your family name sign on the dashboard of your car so that the teacher on duty can direct children to vehicles.

Sacred Heart Primary School is an ALLERGY AWARE SCHOOL
We ask all families to ensure that children’s lunch boxes DO NOT contain any products made from peanuts or treenuts such as Nutella, Peanut Butter, Muesli bars etc.
Our school canteen is also an ALLERGY AWARE ZONE.
Parents are requested to inform the school if their child suffers from an allergy (including from band aids) or any other medical condition such as Asthma that staff need to be aware of.
Please inform the school office with any details regarding your child including medication and a medical action plan provided by your doctor.
Please provide any student medication (ie. Asthma Ventolin & Spacer, Epipen, antihistamines) to the class teacher as soon as possible to prepare for any emergency.

Canteen News
Phone: 9422-7945
Dear Parents,
Please be aware that the Canteen will continue to operate on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for Term One. Attached is a copy of the Canteen Menu with the same homemade foods as offered previously.
Parent support through the purchase of snack or lunch items is necessary if we wish to have a School Canteen run from the premises.
We would greatly appreciate even a weekly purchase to make our Canteen financially viable.
Thank you for your support.
Suzanne and Antoinette (Canteen Staff)

UNIFORM SHOP - Open Fridays 8-9am.
For more information and phone orders please call Vilma Spence on 9271 4479. Order forms are available from the school office or the school website at:

Deliveries for students
If parents need to deliver any items to their child ie. recess/ lunch/books/hat etc., it is requested these items be left with the office staff at reception. Thank you for your co-operation.

Lost Property
There are numerous items that were left in Lost Property last year. Please collect from the Undercover Area.

Dear Parents,
I’m stepping off the ledge of one of Perth’s tallest buildings to raise funds for the Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation (soon to be known as Perth’s Children Hospital Foundation) and I need your help. The Foundation exists to promote the prevention and treatment of illness and injury in children throughout Western Australia. They provide vital support to families, hospital staff and much needed funds for equipment and programs at the hospital.
You don’t need to be crazy (like me) and jump off a 160m tall building to help; you can simply visit the link below and make your donation to this worthy cause.
All donations are tax deductible, even for businesses, and you’ll be making a real difference to lives of children who have been touched by tragedy way too early.
To make your donation visit
Thank you in advance, your contribution if greatly appreciated.
Kasey Lake (Year 3 parent)

ATTACHMENTS
• Parent welcome letter
• Message from the Archbishop Costelloe
• P&F Movie Night Flyer
• Summer Canteen Menu
Welcome back to all students and families. The Sacred Heart P&F Association is an important part of our school community and we encourage you to get involved. We aim to enhance our children’s school experiences and opportunities, and build community at Sacred Heart. The P&F does this through events and programs such as the School Banking Program, school celebrations for Mother’s and Father’s Day, family friendly events, fundraisers and much more.

All parents are encouraged to be part of the P&F and come along to our monthly meetings and help out with P&F activities throughout the year. Getting involved in the P&F is a great way to get to know other parents in the school and to make new friends. We have monthly meetings in the School Library and our first meeting is be held at 7.00pm Thursday 18th February. At this meeting we will be nominating P&F Class Representatives for each year group (Kindergarten to Year 6) as well as a P&F representative to the School Board. Class Representatives have the role of communicating P&F news to parents in their year, and providing feedback to the P&F. Being a Class Rep is a relatively easy task and several parents can share the role for each class. Please give it some thought and please contact me (Andrew) on 0438 861 669 if you’d like more information.

P&F monthly meetings are open to all, and they are fun and informative…so please give it some thought. (pss. You don’t have to come to every meeting). Items can be added to the P&F’s meeting agenda by contacting the Secretary, Yvette Keys on yvettekeys@bigpond.com.

In 2016 we have a new executive team for the P&F. They are Kathryn Bond and Danielle Darragh (joint vice-presidents), Yvette Keys (Secretary), Anita Pavic (Treasurer). You can now spot them at school with the photos below.

Finally, I hope you and your families can make the Family Movie Night to be held on Friday 26th February to welcome everyone back with a family picnic and feature film Big Hero 6.

Regards, and peace,
Andrew Del Marco (president)
Mob 0438 861 669 delmarco@iinet.net.au

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**School Banking 2016 - every Tuesday in the School Hall**

The Commonwealth School Banking Program is held every Tuesday morning from 8.30-9.00am and we have relocated this year to the School Hall. We started the year off to a flying start, with fantastic numbers of children banking lots of hard earned pocket money saved during the holidays. Everyone is looking forward to earning lots of tokens to go towards this years great new rewards. Please come down to visit us and pick up any rewards you may have missed out on last year and check out the new items on offer for each term during 2016.

To all new and existing families who are keen to join, please feel free to open a Youthsaver account at any Commonwealth Bank for your child. Remember to take your child's full Birth Certificate and your Driver's License or Passport with you. Once you have the account details, visit us in the hall on a Tuesday morning and we can join your child up to the program. This is a great way to introduce your children to the benefits of regular saving. If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact our School Banking co-ordinator Julianne Davidson (juliannedavidson@iinet.net.au).
Looking for Soul Food? The Centre for Faith Enrichment is offering two short online courses in Term One.
(1) **Encountering Jesus Anew in the Year of Mercy:** Tuesdays 16th February – 8th March, 12pm-1pm, $20.
(2) **Dive Deeper: Exploring Faith:** Tuesdays 23rd February – 8th March, 8pm-8.30pm, $15.
For more information or to register, visit [www.cfe.org.au](http://www.cfe.org.au) or call 9241 5221. These courses are a great opportunity to explore matters of the soul in a relaxed and friendly way, with no exams or assignments! ALL welcome!

Parenting Courses

Making Stepfamilies Work - Monday 8 February x 6 weeks
Parent Teen Connection - Wednesday 10 February x 4 weeks
Pit Stop - Thursday 11 February x 8 weeks
Virtues Parenting Programme - Monday 15 February x 6 week
Dads Raising Girls - Monday 22 February (Midland)
For enrolments phone 6164 0200. [www.relationshipswa.org.au](http://www.relationshipswa.org.au)