What is good for your soul?

The volunteer, who lined up to go and help clean up Brisbane after the flood, was asked why he was there. He replied: “It is good for the soul.” Most of us knew exactly what he meant even though the task for him involved working in stinking conditions, for people he did not know and with no payment at all. It was good for his soul because he was giving of himself - generously.

How often do we stop and ask ourselves: what is good for my soul? What actions make me a better person for having done them? We all know what a difference healthy food makes to us, but what about life-giving, soul-fulfilling actions? We each have different things that work for us but one way that works for all is giving of ourselves (not our money) in a selfless way. Rarely will we have the chance to do a dramatic rescue or even clean up a city after a flood but we are offered many simply and ordinary opportunities: ringing an elderly relative, listening to your child’s reading when you’ve heard the story ten times before, offering to do a job your spouse usually does. These actions are good for our souls for they take us out of our own concerns and connect us with other people. We are made for this: created in God’s image we come to the fullness of life in profound passionate self-giving, even in the smallest events of life.

_Loving God, we have been inspired by the many people who gave of themselves during the recent disasters. Led by your Spirit, may we follow Jesus’ example and their example in showing love, even in the ordinary events of life. We ask this in his name, confident that you will hear us._

_Sr Kym Harris OSB_

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**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25th Feb</td>
<td>Sacred Heart Swimming Carnival at Huonville Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri 27th Feb</td>
<td>Prep TMAG Excursion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed 4th Mar</td>
<td>Dancefever Skipping Parent Information Evening 5 - 7pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 9th Mar</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 12th Mar</td>
<td>P &amp; F Meeting 5.30pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"My God be praised for all things”
Mark MacKillop
23.2.1870

_Sacred Heart Catholic school acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Tasmania and their continuing connection to land, sea and community.
We pay our respect to them and their cultures, and to the elders past and present._
Dear Members of Our School Community,

SCHOOL LEADERS 2015
Over the past week classes from Grades 3-6 have been talking about Leadership and the important qualities needed for these positions. Elections have been held and I am pleased to make the following announcements.

School Captains for 2015  Jack McQueen & Olivia Bittner
House Captains          Brielle Gordon & Ethan Lovell  (Hartz)
                        Reece Norris & Ellie Fraser-Marriott  (Picton)

Congratulations to these students on being elected; I’m sure they will show great leadership at Sacred Heart this year. Once our SRC elections have been finalised, we will announce the SRC members for 2015 to the school community.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS & LITURGY
Last week students from all classes were able to attend either the Ash Wednesday Mass at St James in Cygnet (Grades 3-6) or our special Ash Wednesday Liturgy in our bushland setting (Kinder – Grade 2). I’m sure that our students and staff found these liturgies a worthwhile experience as we begin the season of Lent.

SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL TOMORROW
This event will take place at the Huonville Pool tomorrow, Wednesday, 25th February. We are hoping for a fine day, great participation from our students and lots of parents turning up to watch and encourage the children. Please see the special Swimming Carnival reminders page in this newsletter.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING & WELCOME BBQ
On Wednesday, 4th March we are having this information evening at school. Last year, many families attended this event and found the class information sessions interesting and informative. Please note:

- The BBQ will run from 5-7pm so that parents can bring their children along and have a meal. This is provided free of charge by our P&F.
- There will be 2 information sessions for each teaching team this year. This will allow parents with children in different classes to attend both sessions.
- Staff supervision will be provided on the playground, so that parents can attend the information sessions.

A special flyer about this has been sent home to all families today.

NEWSLETTER CHANGES
From this week, our school newsletter will only come out fortnightly. Much of our school information is now being circulated via Skoolbag and our school Facebook page on a daily basis so therefore there is less demand and necessity for a weekly newsletter.

FACEBOOK – A GREAT WAY TO CONNECT WITH OUR SCHOOL
Last year, Sacred Heart set up its own Facebook page to keep our community informed about the many great things happening at Sacred Heart. Facebook allows us to send out posts as they happen, which people like and appreciate.

Have you checked out our Facebook page? Please feel free to share our school posts with your own FB friends. Feel free to comment as we love to hear all the positive things people want to share about our school.
GRADE 6 VISIT TO HUON FM

Every month I take four Grade 6 children down to the Huon FM radio station to take part in “School News”. This is a live broadcast that allows our students to share what they love about Sacred heart and the many exciting things that are happening. Yesterday, Jack McQueen, Olivia Bittner, Philip Nichols and Ellie Fraser-Marriott attended and did a fantastic job, speaking with great confidence and enthusiasm for our school.

PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENTS

Last week we introduced a new sandpit to our school grounds. What a big hit this has been for many children from all classes; not just the Early Years. We have also introduced Totem tennis which the children are really enjoying. Bocce (bowls) has also been introduced. We are currently building a new outside kitchen out of pallets to add yet another exciting playground initiative for our students. Exciting times ahead. Watch this space!

SCHOOL POLICIES

Each newsletter, we will endeavour to advertise a different school policy so that parents have the opportunity to refresh their knowledge of what our expectations are. This week we have included our revised Attendance Policy.

DANCEFEVER SKIPPING – BACK TO JUST WEDNESDAYS FROM NEXT WEEK

From next week, DanceFever Skipping will be back to just Wednesdays. All children are to wear there sports uniform to school on Wednesdays.

NOTICES & PERMISSION FORMS

Thank you for getting these forms back to us so promptly. This enables the school office to upgrade your child’s data on our system.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION NEWS

Last week our P&F Executive met to get things underway for this year.

Our first P&F meeting for this year will be held on Thursday, 12th March commencing at 5.30pm. The meeting will be held in the Josephite Learning Centre and should finish around 7pm. Light refreshments will be provided. It would be great to see a good turn out for our first meeting.

P&F Car Boot Sale will be this year’s first P&F fund-raiser. This will be held in the school grounds on Saturday, 28th March from 9am – 12pm. Please see the advertisement in this newsletter.

Have a great week!

Luch Brighella
Principal
2015 SWIMMING CARNIVAL REMINDERS

Dear Parent/guardian, 23rd February 2015

**Our swimming carnival is TOMORROW, Wednesday 25th February.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kinder - Grade 2 'Splash' Carnival</td>
<td>9.45 – 1pm</td>
<td>Leaving school at 9.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade 3 - 6 Carnival</td>
<td>11am – 2pm</td>
<td>Leaving school at 10.45</td>
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Order of events for Grade 3 – 6 are: 50M – 22M – Novelty.

All students need to arrive at school in the morning as normal and will then travel to the Huonville Pool by bus. We encourage families to come along to support all swimmers.

Your child will need to ensure that they have:

- a **cut lunch, healthy snacks and plenty of water to drink**, to stay hydrated.
- their **swimming bathers (worn under their sports uniform)**
- **swimming goggles, a cap (if possible) and a towel.**
- a **large strong plastic bag** is also a good idea to place wet clothes inside.
- a **pair of thongs or crocs** to wear to/from the pool. That way we can leave shoes and socks at school.
- A **separate small bag** for their swim gear.

If your child is being collected from the carnival please ensure you are on time, if not, they will return to school with their class.

**Kinder to Grade 2 students – collected from the pool by 1pm**
Grade 3-6 students – collected from the pool by 2pm

Please ensure also that class teachers are informed of this, when leaving.

Hope to see you there to help cheer on our students.

Miss Shae Longey  
Swimming Carnival Coordinator  
shae.longey@catholic.tas.edu.au

Luch Brighella  
Principal
Sacred Heart Catholic School
Student Attendance Policy

Rationale

Education in a young person’s life is extremely important in terms of health and well-being, peer relationships and future career options. The Education Act in Tasmania requires that children of school age are required to be in full-time attendance at a government or registered non-government school unless they are receiving approved home tuition, correspondence education, or have been granted an exemption by the Education Department. It is a legal requirement in Tasmania for every child between the ages of five (5) and seventeen (17) to attend school on a full time basis unless otherwise exempted. Schools are required to maintain an accurate record of student attendance.

Sacred Heart Catholic School supports the legislation and believes that students need to attend school every day in order to fulfil their potential and achieve excellence.

The Principal and staff have a duty of care towards students attending our school at any given time. The Principal, as part of his/her day-to-day management of the school, has a responsibility to follow up unexplained absences of students enrolled at the school. The Principal, Leadership Team and class teachers will monitor continued and unexplained absences of students.

Education is a sequential process. Absences often mean students miss important stages in their learning, causing them to find ‘catching up’ difficult. Absenteeism contributes significantly to student failure at school.

The Sacred Heart Catholic School Attendance Policy aims to ensure students and parents/guardians have a clear understanding of the importance of regular attendance. It is important that students, staff and parents/guardians have a shared understanding of the importance of attending school.

At Sacred Heart Catholic School, we:
- Believe all students should be enrolled at school and attend school all day, every school day.
- Believe attendance at school is the responsibility of everyone in the community.
- Believe non-attendance or truancy can place students in unsafe situations and impact on their future employability and life choices.
- Monitor, communicate and implement strategies to improve regular school attendance.

Purpose

To maximise student learning opportunities and performance by ensuring that students are required to attend school and do so regularly, and without unnecessary or frivolous absences.
RESPONSIBILITIES

School Responsibilities
- A safe and supportive learning environment.
- Clear communication of expected dates of attendance.
- Notify parent/guardian of student absence.

Student Responsibilities
- Punctual, regular school attendance.
- Commitment to learning.

Parent Responsibilities
- Ensure the child attends school and that it is seen as a priority.
- Notify school promptly of student absence.
- Ensure a safe and reliable mode of transport to and from school.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. All enrolled students are required to attend school unless reasonable and valid grounds exist for them to be absent.
2. While illness is reasonable grounds for an absence, shopping excursions or birthdays are not.
3. Parents have a responsibility to ensure that their children attend school regularly and are only absent if ill or if absolutely necessary.
4. Parents have a further responsibility to provide either a written note or telephone call informing the school about the absence.
5. The Principal has a responsibility to ensure that attendance records are maintained and monitored at school.
6. All student absences are recorded daily by teachers and are aggregated on our database.
7. Daily telephone calls are placed by the School Office Staff to ascertain the status of absent students.
8. The Principal has a further responsibility to ensure that unexplained absences are investigated, and that high levels of absenteeism are adequately explained. The Principal will contact parents of students with high levels of unexplained or unapproved absences, using the protocols issued by the Tasmanian Catholic Education Office. (See below.)
9. Student attendance and absence data will appear on student midyear and end of year reports.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSE TO STUDENT ABSENCES

1. Parents/guardians are requested to telephone the School Office prior to 9.00 am to inform of their child/children's absence and the reason for the absence. Alternatively, parents may inform the class teacher/s of the absence. If the absence extends beyond one day, parents/guardians are asked to telephone the School Office each day the child is absent.
2. Office staff will contact parents/guardians by 9.30 am each day to ascertain the whereabouts of any child who has not been advised as absent by parents/guardians.
3. Parents/guardians are requested to inform the Principal in advance and in writing of any anticipated extended absences from school, e.g. for health, family or holiday reasons.

PROLONGED STUDENT ABSENCES

Prolonged student absences are generally a matter of:
- Illness/health
- Attendance at intra-state and inter-state competitions
- Family holidays during school terms
Students are not encouraged to be absent without good reason. Long absences and or inconsistent attendance may result in the student failing to meet specific curriculum requirements and consequently affect their overall academic progress and development.

**Attendance at Intra-State or Inter-State Competitions**

In the event of a student seeking permission to be absent for a prolonged period of time for such competitions, it is the parent/guardian’s obligation to obtain permission by applying in writing to the Principal ahead of time so appropriate staff may be informed.

**Family Holidays in Term Time**

There may be occasions when there is an exceptional travel opportunity or cause for travel for the student and family for certain reasons. It is the parent/guardian’s obligation to inform the Principal in writing regarding the intended holiday, giving details of the dates in which the student will be absent from school.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND TASMANIAN CATHOLIC EDUCATION OFFICE (TCEO) PROTOCOLS FOR UNEXPLAINED AND UNAUTHORISED STUDENT ABSENCE**

1. **Level 1** - An Admin Staff member will make telephone or SMS contact with parents/guardians when any absence is not reported to class teachers, or Admin Staff.

2. **Level 2** - If a student is absent for three (3) days unexplained or unauthorised absence and there has been no notification from the parents/guardians, Admin Staff will contact the parents/guardians by telephone or SMS to establish the reason for the student’s absence.

3. **Level 3** - If a student is absent for five (5) days unexplained or unauthorised absence and there is no contact from parents/guardians, a letter is sent by the Principal to the parents/guardians with a request for the parents to contact the College to discuss the student’s absence. A medical certificate will be requested if the student has been absent for more than five (5) days duration because of illness.

4. **Level 4** - If a student is absent for ten (10) days unexplained or unauthorised absence in any one school term or if there is a pattern of absence which is of significant concern, a letter is sent by the Principal to the parents/guardians outlining attendance concerns and asking them to attend a meeting with the Principal. The letter will include a print out of the student’s recorded absences. The meeting will involve the development of a plan to support the student’s attendance.

5. **Level 5** - If a student is absent for fifteen (15) days unexplained or unauthorised absence in any one school term, the school will initiate a case management approach, involving a meeting with the parents/guardians, with an emphasis on restating the plan to support the student’s return to regular attendance. If there is difficulty in contacting the parents/guardians, sending a letter by registered mail may be necessary.

6. The Principal will inform the TCEO when a student has been absent from school for twenty (20) days or more of unexplained or unauthorised absence. The TCEO will ensure that an investigation is made and appropriate measures are undertaken, including prosecution where appropriate.
Is your garage getting crowded? The kids finding it hard to find their beds? Your wardrobe bursting at the seams? We have the answer!

Sacred Heart Catholic School
Car Boot Sale
Saturday 28th March 9-12

$10 per car/stall/marquee
Kids stall: gold coin donation

Call the school office on 62971313 to secure your spot or return the slip below.

See you there!

Cake stall
Safe kids play area!
WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART

Channel Heritage Museum

Working in the Bush

Zumba

Music

Ash Wednesday
Tuesday:

3:30-4:00 8 years & under Ballet/Tap intro
4:00-5:00 Acrobatics 5-16 years
6:00-7:00 Teen Jazz
7:00-8:00 Adult Class

Friday:

3:30-4:00 Baby Class
4:00-5:00 8 years & under Jazz
5:00-6:00 12 years & under Jazz

5.00 Half Hour Classes
10.00 Hour Classes

Discounts apply for PCYC members
Solo lessons available

Further interest please contact
Emma Robson
Mobile 0427228106
Email: emma.robson73@gmail.com
Huonville Lions Junior Football Club
Meet the Coach
Friday 27th February, 2015
Huonville Football Oval
4.30pm
Come along and meet your coach for 2015
Initial training session for age groups U8 and up
Registrations are still open for new and returning members

"Do you like playing games? BattleAxe Games is now running FREE games days every day of the week!

• Pokemon League runs on Sundays from 12pm on
• Bring your Board/Card/Handheld Video Games on Mondays from 3pm on
• My Little Pony is on Tuesdays from 3pm on
• Dungeons & Dragons is on Wednesdays from 3pm on
• Yu-gi-oh! is on Thursdays from 3pm on
• Friday Night Magic (Magic the Gathering) is on Friday from 3pm on
• Vanguard and Weiss Schwartz run on Saturday from 12pm on.

Bring your own games along, or borrow the trial copies available (limited supply). Most of our events also include free and exclusive collectible promotional items, just for participating! In addition to the above events, we're always open for casual play of any games, regardless of day. So come and join us for fun and new friends at 13/4 Huon Arcade, Main Street Huonville (just opposite Banjos). Contact us on 0447 341 808 or yelsha42@gmail.com for more information."
REGISTRATION & Kick -

THURSDAY 26TH Feb & 5th March 4.30PM
AUSKICK TO UNDER 10'S AT KERMANDIE OVAL - KERMANDIE STORM
UNDER 11 & 12 SOUTHERN STORM Kermandie and Cygnet oval.

ALSO

Under 11 & 12 Storm Registration at Kermandie is to ease travel and to spread the numbers with the age groups. Clothing orders also available.
All new comers welcome
Come and have a kick with your mates and meet some new ones.

For more information contact Adrian Short on 0419 820121

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Fun Kids Night Out
Disco FunFactory Movies
Games BBQ
Friends Xbox

20th Feb
6:30pm to 10:00pm
Bookings Essential