Dear Parents

What a blessing Freeways are if you daily have to travel by vehicle and time is of great importance. Before we get to travel on a Freeway a lot of work has to be done. For months, even years, men and machinery push and shove earth to fill in gullies, cut through hills, tunnel through mountains, to take out corners and curves, to make the road flat, straight and smooth.

Nearly 2000 years ago John the Baptist echoed the words of the prophet, Isaiah, when he preached: “Get the road ready for the Lord, make a straight path for Him to travel. Every valley must be filled up, every hill and mountain levelled off. The winding roads must be made straight and the rough plains made smooth.” Luke 3: 4,5.

Advent is preparation time for the coming of Christ at Christmas, when we are invited to accept Christ, not only into the world, but into our personal lives. Journeying with Christ is a life-long journey that leads to joy and peace; and, like the Freeway, we might have to make changes to our lives before we can get started.

“Lord, thank You for Advent and its insights into Your way of loving and for helping me to examine my own patterns. Help me to support Your work, Your way with those with whom You invite me to journey. Amen.”

Congratulations and wishing all the best to Bianka S and Samantha K who will be participating in the BJP National Physical Culture Championships this Sunday at Homebush.

Cowan and Lewis will commence selling our school uniform online before the end of term. Samples of the uniform will be available in the Uniform Shop for checking of sizes. Second hand uniforms will also be available in the uniform shop, hours to be advised. Thank you to Veronika Sljokic and Clare Butt for completing the uniform stocktake this week.

Parents of students in Years 3-5 are reminded the survey regarding the use and purchase of iPads for 2017 closes on 30 November. Thank you to those parents of students in years 3-5 who have advised if their students will be bringing their own device to school in 2017 or not.

Congratulations to the newly elected P&F Hub Executive - Grant Howard, Amanda Lewis and those continuing in their positions Eloise Critchley, Kellie Carroll, Vanessa Sharkey, Elizabeth Huxley, Alexia Bembrick and Virpi Tuite.

Thankyou sincerely to outgoing President, Juliana Johnston, and Vice President, Bec Capell, and uniform shop coordinators, Veronika Sljokic and Clare Butt for their amazing contributions to our school community.

Farewell to Miss Fisk as she departs Sacred Heart to get married and to then move to Western Australia. Miss Fisk has been teaching here at Sacred Heart for 4 years and we welcome Miss H Nader who will be teaching year 3F until the end of the year.

This Saturday evening at 5 pm the Kindergarten for 2017 are invited to attend Mass at Sacred Heart for a special blessing, all parents are welcome to attend.

Kind regards

Mrs Suellen Garey
PRINCIPAL

Blessed are the Merciful, for they shall receive Mercy Mt 6:7
Like and follow us at: facebook.com/sacredheartmonavale
Like and follow us at: twitter.com/SHMV16
Religious Education News

 Helpers for Christmas Eve Mass!
Pittwater Parish is renowned for its 5pm Children’s Mass on Christmas Eve and of course we need lots of helpers and children to participate. Included in this newsletter are slips for people (to return) who are able to assist with setting up on Christmas Eve and children who will be attending so we can begin to organise readers and actors.

There will be Christmas Eve Mass in the school grounds at 5.00pm on Christmas Eve. We are seeking a team to work with us in preparing and assisting with this Christmas celebration. We will be working closely with the Parish for coordination. Help will be needed with ushering/crowd control, stage setup, the nativity play, chair set up and putting away chairs after the 9pm Mass, decorating etc. If you feel you would be able to help in any way, we would very much like to work with you in making Christmas Eve a special evening. We will hold a meeting closer to Christmas to discuss details.

Please fill out the form below if you can assist and return to Fiona Ngamu. Thank you so much in advance! If you would prefer to email your reply, please email to shmv@dbb.catholic.edu.au with the heading: “Christmas Eve Mass Helper”

Christmas Eve Liturgy/Play Participation (Children)
Children participation in our Christmas Eve Mass is part of the magic of this special occasion. I would like to include the children from our school who will be attending the Christmas Eve Liturgy/Play to take on roles. We will need readers, dancers, singers etc. If you know that you will be attending the liturgy and would like your child/children to be involved, please indicate on the slip below and return to school via your class red bag or straight to Mrs Ngamu.

If you would prefer to email your reply, please email to shmv@dbb.catholic.edu.au with the heading: “Christmas Eve Liturgy Child Participation”

Christmas Eve Mass Helpers

I, ____________________________ am interested in working with the Parish/School in coordinating/helping with the Christmas celebration to be held in the school grounds on Christmas Eve at 5pm.

My contact details are: __________________________ (phone)
_________________________________________ (email address)

Christmas Eve Liturgy / Play Participation (Children)

I will be attending the 2016 Parish Christmas Eve Liturgy and my children are able to participate.

Child’s name: ____________________________ Class: __________________
Child’s name: ____________________________ Class: __________________
Child’s name: ____________________________ Class: __________________

Parent’s Signature: ____________________________ Date ____________________________
Religious Dates to Remember
Saturday 26 Nov  Blessing of 2017 Kindergarten students 5pm at Sacred Heart Church

Good News of the Week and Prayers
If you have any Good News you would like to share or if you need our community’s prayers, please see me at school, email me or contact me by phone.

PARISH WEEKLY BULLETIN can be found here

Fiona Ngamu - Acting Religious Education Coordinator

The Hub Parish Liaison News
- Bishop Bernard O’Grady will celebrate his 60th anniversary of Priestly Ordination and 21 years of Episcopacy at 9am Mass at Maria Regina Avalon on Sunday 4 December 2016. Mass will be followed by morning tea. Volunteers are being sought for this celebration. Please contact the Parish office if you are able to assist.
- As a result of the celebrations for Bishop Bernard there will be no 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart Mona Vale on Sunday 4 December 2016.
- Pittwater Parish Christmas Party will be held at Maria Regina Church Avalon, after 6pm Mass on Saturday 10 December 2016. All are welcome and invited to bring dessert and drinks to share and angelic voices. Volunteers are being sought to assist with setting up prior to the party. Please contact the Parish office if you are able to assist.
- Pittwater Parish Christmas Mass times are as follows

Christmas Eve 24 December 2016

- 5pm Children’s Mass ...............Sacred Heart School grounds
- 9pm Youth Mass .................Sacred Heart School grounds
- Midnight Mass .................Sacred Heart Church
  (with Carols commencing at 11.30pm)
- 6pm Children’s Mass ..........Maria Regina Church
- 9pm Mass .......................Maria Regina Church

Christmas Day 25 December 2016

- 8am Mass ........................Sacred Heart Church
- 9.30am Mass ......................Sacred Heart Church
- 6pm Croatian Mass .........Sacred Heart Church
- 9am Mass .........................Maria Regina Church

2017 School Terms, Staff Development Days & Holidays

To assist parents who are planning holidays in January, please note school dates below. All children are required to attend a compulsory assessment in January. Assessment booking details will be published in our final newsletter for 2016, on Wednesday 14 December. Students attend only for their booked time slot.

Friday, 27 January.............. Assessment Day for Kinder – Yr 6
Monday, 30 January .......... Assessment Day for Kinder – Yr 6
Tuesday, 31 January .......... Assessment Day for Kinder
Tuesday, 31 January .......... Yrs 1-6 commence
Wednesday, 1 February...... Kinder commence

PUPIL FREE DAYS 2017
Fri 27 Jan    Mon 30 Jan    Mon 24 Apr    Fri 28 Apr    Mon 18 Dec    Tues 19 Dec

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Sacred Heart Christmas Carols Evening

To assist with placement of children on stage during the performances, would you please return the RSVP slip below to your class teacher as soon as possible.

**Christmas Carols Costumes**
For our Carol Concert, we have clothing suggestions for the children- Please keep it simple, there is no need to buy new clothes.

- **Kindy**  Dress as favourite toy, animal or action figure.
- **Year 1**  Summer Pyjama’s!
- **Year 2**  Beachwear- not bikinis please.
- **Year 3**  Any Christmas style outfit-Santa hat/red/green shirts/ t-shirt, Christmas t-shirt etc.
- **Year 4**  All black t-shirt/shorts/skirt/dress or leggings.
- **Year 5/6**  All white t-shirt/shorts/skirt/dress or leggings.

**Mannequins**  Light heart theatrics. Own choice outfit.
**Band students**  Wear whatever is your class items outfit.

Many thanks
**Susan Rudd - Creative Arts Teacher**

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Sacred Heart Christmas Carols

All families are invited to join us to share in the Christmas Spirit

**Wednesday 7 December 2016**

6.30pm–8.00pm

Sacred Heart School Oval

BYO rugs, dinner/snacks

Children to wear Christmas themed clothing—red/green/tinsel

Carols will commence at 7.00pm

---

**RSVP ~ Christmas Carols Evening ~ Wednesday 7 December 2016**

**CHILD:** ...........................................................................................................  **CLASS:** ...........................................................................................................

☐ My child **WILL** be attending the Christmas Carols evening

☐ My child **WILL NOT** be attending

........................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

Parent Name ...........................................................................................................  Parent Signature

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Little Einsteins’ Club

Congratulations to our debating team once again. They had an extremely challenging topic last week. We as the affirmative needed to argue that foods that have added sugar should be taxed. The children once again put forward a case that could not be faulted. Sacred Heart debating team won five out of five debates, allowing our team to move straight to the grand final. We look forward to this next challenge! Congratulations Mrs Nolan-Brown for coaching the students this year.

Gateways

On another note, 36 students from Sacred Heart have taken part in a writing workshop aimed to improve and extend children’s writing craft. Students were chosen according to a strict criteria. University Competition results, NAPLAN data and report grades. We hope they have enjoyed this experience.

Today marks the last day of writing groups that have taken place throughout years 2 and 4. Students have enjoyed a six week period of lessons that have been differentiated to point of need for instruction. This has been a wonderful opportunity for students to work with like-minded students on writing techniques and strategies in a small group setting. Mrs Wheen, Mrs Wood, myself and classroom teachers have delivered programs with specific writing goals tailored to suit individual needs within each year. It has been a wonderful opportunity for all students in years 2 and 4.

Michaela Browne - Gifted Education Coordinator

Library News

Congratulations and thank you to Sam Capell and Thomas Shanahan who were part of the Dymocks Book Bonus Fundraiser, part of the Premier’s Reading Challenge. Together they raised $408.15 towards new books for our Library, and a bonus voucher for themselves. Thank you for your love of reading and your generous donations.

Melonie Harrison – Teacher / Librarian

2017 Grade Parents

A very big thank you to our grade parents who have performed the valuable service of welcoming and social networking to enable everyone to feel part of the Sacred Heart community.

If you are interested in the position for next year, please contact the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kinder 2017</th>
<th>Year 1 2017</th>
<th>Year 2 2017</th>
<th>Year 3 2017</th>
<th>Year 4 2017</th>
<th>Year 5 2017</th>
<th>Year 6 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Position filled</td>
<td>Position filled</td>
<td>3-4 required</td>
<td>3-4 required</td>
<td>3-4 required</td>
<td>3-4 required</td>
<td>3-4 required</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

School WHS

Student Medication

If you are unsure of the expiry date of your child’s medication held at school, please contact the school office. Parents should ensure medications are kept up-to-date.

A reminder to parents of children who are leaving Sacred Heart at the end of 2016 to collect medications held in our sick bay during the last week of school.
Opal Card Information from Transport NSW

Transport NSW have now moved the “endorsement” aspect of School Opal Card applications to an online portal. All applications completed from 24 November onwards WILL NOT need to be printed and handed to the school office. Applications completed from 24 November onwards will be electronically endorsed by the school. Transport NSW will advise the school when an application is awaiting endorsement.

Printed application forms which have already been handed to the school office for 2017 Opal Cards have already been endorsed by the school and forwarded to Transport NSW.

Eligible children in year 2 who have not already updated their details, must update their details and submit a new online application form. A street map showing the eligible distance from Sacred Heart school for a free School Opal Pass can be viewed at the school office. An information flyer from Transport NSW can be found on our school website here.

Information for parents, guardians and students

Our school has partnered with Transport for NSW to use the new online process for you to submit school travel applications.

This means we will be able to process your applications online, making it easier and faster for parents, guardians and students to apply for school travel.

Applications for school travel in 2017 are now open, including for travel to Mascot and Green Square station and for private ferries. Parents, guardians and students are encouraged to apply as soon as they are able via:

Applications for 2017 school travel are now open via www.transportnsw.info/school-students

A new application is required when:
- applying for a School Opal card or travel pass for the first time,
- enrolling in Kindergarten, or
- requesting an additional entitlement as a result of a shared parental responsibility situation.

You will need to do an update application if the student has a current school travel pass and:
- is progressing from Year 2 to Year 3,
- is progressing from Year 6 to Year 7, or
- changes address, or
- changes school or campus.

Already have a School Opal card or travel pass?
- When you’ve updated, and you are eligible for free school travel next year, Transport for NSW will send you an email confirmation once your application has been processed. For travel in rural or regional NSW, we’ll also inform your nominated transport operator(s).
- If you already have a School Opal card that does not need updating, or you’ve successfully re-applied, the Opal card will automatically be updated for travel next year. Do not throw it out as you’ll be able to use it when the school year starts in 2017.
- If you currently have a printed travel pass provided by your transport operator, a new pass will be ready at the beginning of the new school year.
Happy Birthday from all at Sacred Heart to the following students who have their birthday during the coming week:

Phoebe H  Sienna D  Charli S  Max E  Andy L  Fergus H

School Awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KD</td>
<td>Sienna D, Byron B, Lewis C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1L</td>
<td>Ruby D, Lachlan C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2R</td>
<td>Ruby H, Tom T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3F</td>
<td>Illuka O, Finlay M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4B</td>
<td>Tom S, Matthew M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Maya H, Abbey T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6D</td>
<td>Sienna B, Phoebe B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6S</td>
<td>Michael G, Ryan M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Principal’s Award: Grace D (Yr 2)

Canteen News

**CANTEEN ROSTER** (start 9.30am - finish 1.45pm)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>Maria K, Jacki D, Sonja S, Linda D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs</td>
<td>Janelle O, Belinda Y, Karissa M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>Wayne R, Lachlan Y, Mal L/Richard L, Guy R</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

URGENT HELP NEEDED: This Friday from 9.30am-1.45pm or 11am-1.30pm. Please contact Marie asap.

Volunteers: A gentle reminder to please send in your rsvps, even if you are unable to attend for our Thank you morning tea next Tuesday in the Hall from 9am. Also, for all our canteen volunteers in 2017, we ask that the forms be sent back asap in order to complete the roster for term 1 2017.

Roster: There are only a few weeks left of term and the canteen is busier than ever, especially Fridays where we really need all hands on deck! If you are unable to make your rostered day please, please make other arrangements asap by either replacing yourself or swapping with another volunteer.

Online ordering: We are noticing that quite a few children are ordering GLUTEN FREE chilli chicken wraps and sandwiches when they are not GF. This makes a difference to the cost of the item as all breads/wraps are already supplied by the parents. It is also very time consuming to contact each parent to confirm the correct order. If your child is GF and you have not discussed this with us, we ask that you let us know or come in to the canteen with their specific breads so that we can accommodate them.

Kay & Marie – Canteen Coordinators
Please feel free to contact us via email at: sshmv.canteen@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Kiss & Drop Roster

We have a number of gaps in our Kiss and Drop roster in Term 4. Your duty would take half an hour every three to four weeks. If you can help, please email nicholsselina@gmail.com. We’d love to hear from you.
The Hub News

Thank you to all Sacred Heart parents, committee members, Mrs Garey together with Mrs Wheen for attending our Hub AGM and final meeting for 2016.

Many subjects were discussed on the evening which will be covered fully in the minutes. We will keep you updated as to when these will be available on our school website to view. 

Congratulations to Amanda Lewis and Grant Howard who were elected to the 2017 joint role of ”Hub Co-President”. We thank them for volunteering for this role and look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Many thanks goes to Juliana Johnston and Rebecca Capell who stepped down from their roles of President and Vice at the AGM. Both have dedicated many hours of volunteering during the last three years and committees like the Hub would not exist without the hard work and dedication that they have given. We look forward to thanking them formally at our end of year Mass in December.

December 7 will be our school Christmas Carol evening and we would really appreciate some parent volunteers for this event to help sell items in our canteen (candles and ice-blocks). Please contact the Hub if you can lend a helping hand.

In 2017 we will be running a "Second Hand Uniform shop". Uniform donations are needed so please give if you can. We are currently looking for a parent volunteer to help manage this shop. If this sounds like something you would like to put your hand up for then please contact the Hub at the below email as soon as possible.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Selina N who has been coordinating our Kiss and Drop roster. This is Selina’s family’s last year at Sacred Heart, and we have another amazing mum, Rebecca M, who has kindly offered to take on this role - thank you! Please contact the Hub if you would like to be added to this roster as I know how much we all value this wonderful service, which cannot continue without parent support.

The school recently received a cheque from The Athletes Foot for $800. A big thank you goes to the 2016 Vice President Rebecca Capell for this fund raising initiative. We are continuing this fund raiser in 2017, so please consider supporting the school by shopping at The Athletes Foot for your school and sport shoes for next year.

If you have any items that you would like to forward to the Hub Committee, or include in a Hub meeting agenda, please email sacredhearthub@gmail.com

Juliana Johnston – Hub President Kellie Carroll - Hub Secretary