Welcome back!
We hope you all had a fantastic Christmas break and are ready to start the new school year. We have many exciting learning experiences planned for the year and we look forward to working together throughout the year.

Religion
Our Religious Education Units for this term include: “God the Creator” and “Journey Towards the Cross.” The unit on God the Creator focuses on the children learning about the Creation story and being aware of some environmental issues. In the unit “Journey Towards the Cross,” the children explore Lent as a time of growth, change and service.
You are always welcome to join us for our school masses in the church.
Dates are listed below.

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<tr>
<th>MASSES</th>
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<tr>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>Wednesday 13th Feb 9:00a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPENING SCHOOL MASS</td>
<td>Sunday 17th Feb 9.00 a.m.</td>
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Literacy
We would like parents who are able to help during our Literacy Block to fill in and return the attached timetable. The completed timetable with these names will be on display outside each classroom.
Parent helpers will be starting in the first week of second term in Year 1 AW and Year 1 NH. You must have completed a Parent Helper Course (or intend to complete the 2013 course) to be included on the roster.
A reminder that children need to return their communication bag each day and be punctual ready to start the morning at 8:45am.
We hope that you continue the practice of reading books to your child, as this is a powerful strategy in helping your child gain meaning from text. Please remember to fill in the reading log each time you hear your child read.

Maths
In Maths the children will investigate:
- Counting to 120 by ones, fives and tens
- Measurement - length
- Calendars - months of the year, days of the week
- Graphing

IDEAS to help your child at home:
- Counting practice
- Reading their weight on a set of bathroom scales.
- Comparing heights of family members (tallest, shortest, ordering heights).
- Writing dates on a calendar.
Inquiry Unit
This term we will focus on History in particular looking at families both in the past and the present. Students will identify the differences in family structures and roles today and how these have either changed or remained the same over time. We will incorporate the vocabulary of present, past and future, signified by terms indicating time such as ‘a long time ago’, ‘then and now’, ‘now and then’, ‘old and new’, ‘tomorrow’. We will also examine dates and changes that may have occurred that have personal significance, such as birthdays, celebrations and seasons. The students will also investigate the differences and similarities between students’ own daily lives and life during their parents’ and grandparents’ childhoods, including family traditions, leisure time activities and communications.

Happy Box
Oral language is a major focus in the junior levels, therefore we encourage children to share news, experiences and items from home. Each child will have the Happy Box assigned to them. Of course we will still encourage the children to bring in something to share with the class if it is special or unique. Please help your child to prepare for this experience by discussing what they will be sharing with the class.

Absences
If your child has been away from school for any period of time, please fill in an absentee note then forward it to the classroom teacher upon their return to school. This is a legal requirement.
If your child has an infectious disease or head lice, please notify us immediately.

Children are reminded to bring a NAMED water bottle to school, which they are able to leave on their table during the day. This is extremely important especially as the weather will continue to be warm this term. We will also have ‘fruit time’. Each child is required to bring a piece of fruit to school every day to eat as a snack during class time in the morning. If your child cannot manage a whole apple/orange, please cut into quarters. Please remember that at Sacred Heart we have a 'non-sharing of food' policy. Also we ask that you do not send to school any nut-based products such as Peanut Butter, Nutella, Snickers, etc.
Grade 1s Timetable 2013

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<tr>
<th>Specialist</th>
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<td>Health &amp; Phys.Ed</td>
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<td>Year 1NH &amp; 1AW</td>
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<td>Drama</td>
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<td>Music</td>
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<td>Library</td>
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Children are encouraged to borrow from the library any day other than Monday before school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to make a time to come in and see us.
We look forward to a happy and rewarding year working with you and your child.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Nadia Holding and Mrs Anna Walpole