Matthew 25:35 – “I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me into your house.”

When people arrive somewhere new, the first thing they want to feel is welcomed and be made comfortable.

Dear Parents,

Again let me take this opportunity on behalf of our whole staff to welcome you back to the 2011 school year. It has been wonderful to see the students return refreshed and cheery... ready to energetically go about their school days. This should prove to be an exciting and invigorating year – with many improvements to our learning environment completed or in the final stages of planning and almost ready to begin.

Welcome to our new Kindergarten students and newly enrolled students in various other grades. Not only do our two Kinders now enjoy three days of full-time school, but fantastic surroundings as provided through a thorough refurbishment of the "Kinder House". The new Kindergarten has been described as “state of the art”, and all parents are welcome, and encouraged, to visit the new facilities.

VALUES EDUCATION/ SPIRITUAL FORMATION

This year we are implementing a weekly values education and spiritual formation program where we will focus upon a value or virtue each week. You will note this week’s value at the top of this section and further values and their appropriate scripture reading will appear each fortnight in the newsletter. It would be wonderful if parents could talk about the weekly value in focus with your children, to build understanding and hopefully adoption of that value in our daily lives. Many thanks to Mrs Jane Davies (REC) and Mrs Kelly Warburton (ICT coordinator) for their input in preparation of this program.

ICT

The major ICT facility roll-out has begun and all teachers were very excited to return from the break and find large LCD Screens and “Elmo” visualizers in all classrooms. Some classes have begun using them immediately and others are just waiting on a few final details with power –outlets. Miss Nicole DeGouveia and Mrs Kelly Warburton have been appointed as ICT coordinators and are working hard in their new roles to assist teachers in implementing programs and teaching practice to make full use of the new facilities and to enhance the learning programs for our students.

This has been a major teaching and learning improvement for primary and a huge vote of thanks must go to Mr Stuart Brinsmead for his support, organisational efforts and management in up-grading the ICT of our school.

Thanks Mr Brinsmead!!!

MOVE WELL – EAT WELL INITIATIVE

As stated in a newsletter, nearing the end of 2010, Sacred Heart Primary was accredited as a Move Well Eat Well school. Thank you to Mrs Jill Long and Mrs Sue Burrows who worked hard to promote this initiative within the school and to provide the necessary documentation to allow our accreditation. As one part of this initiative, we will continue to timetable Daily PE and Fruit-break into our morning routine. We would ask that you support us in our endeavours by ensuring that students bring from home a piece of fruit to have during this break and to encourage water as the drink of choice at school.

As another part of this initiative, we will be implementing a “Package Free Lunch Box” on Wednesdays. Mrs Long has provided teachers with ideas about what types of foods lunch-boxes might contain, and further information will be delivered to your child shortly. We hope to have strong parental support in creating imaginative lunchboxes full of fresh food items and “package free” on Wednesdays.
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING AND PARENTAL CONTACT
Primary Parent Information Evenings will be held on Tuesday Feb 22nd. Further information regarding times for particular grades will be forwarded via your child’s class teacher shortly. We strongly encourage your attendance at these meetings, as it provides a crucial opportunity for parents to meet our teachers and to gather information pertaining to your child’s year at school.
All our staff welcome parental contact with regard to student progress and behaviour and endeavour at all times to give accurate information and advice. With this in mind, we would ask that parents be mindful that teachers find it very difficult to relay important information in the business at the beginning of the school day. If you have an issue of importance to discuss, please do not hesitate to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time so that your concerns can be given our full attention.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENTS
All students arriving at school prior to 8:30 am are reminded that they must wait in the quadrangle area outside the Primary office, unless they are accompanied by their own parent or guardian. Similarly, this applies to those students who must wait for buses or siblings in the secondary school at the end of the school day. Ensuring the correct supervision and safety of our students before and after school is vitally important to us, and we would ask for parental support with this issue.

CORRECT WEARING OF UNIFORM – PLEASE SEE INCLUDED INFORMATION

FEAST OF SAN CARLO MASS AND PROCESSION
On Sunday 13th of February, the Hobart Italian Community will celebrate the Feast of San Carlos Borromeo. A number of students have been invited to represent Sacred Heart College at the Mass at St Mary’s Cathedral and in walking in the procession that will follow. Congratulations to those students and their families who have offered to attend, as they proudly represent our College in the wider community.

NEW TOWN CAMPUS ASSEMBLIES
New Town Primary Campus assemblies will be held fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, commencing at 2 pm in the SSJ. We welcome and encourage parents to attend these assemblies as they are celebrations of the work and achievements undertaken by students throughout the term. The first “Beginning of the Year” assembly will be held this Thursday, 10th February.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL
The Primary Swimming Carnival takes place at the Glenorchy Pool for Grades 3 – 6 on Friday 25th February from 9.30– 2.15pm. If any parents could help as officials at the carnival, it would be very much appreciated. On the following Thursday at the Glenorchy pool, the Grade 1 and Grade 2 students have an aquatics morning from 10.00am – 12.00pm. All parents are very welcome at these carnivals.
Mrs Jill Long

DATES TO REMEMBER
Primary Assembly – Thursday 10th Feb
Parent Information Night – Tuesday 22nd February
Primary Swimming Carnival – Friday 25th February
Early Childhood Swimming Carnival – Thursday 3rd March
Commencement Event – Friday 11th March

Warm Regards
Mrs Sue Walker - Deputy Principal – Primary NT