I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.”

On Monday of this week we remembered the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King’s assassination on the 4th of April, 1968. His most famous words above were delivered in Washington at the largest ever public rally ever held in the United States. It was just over 100 years since the abolition of slavery in the United States.

Dr. King regularly received death threats and on the night before his death, on the third of April 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee, Martin Luther King gave another speech;

‘...Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I’m not concerned about that now. I just want to do God’s will. And he has allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I’ve looked over and I have seen the promised land. So I’m happy tonight. I’m not worried about anything. I’m not fearing any man.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord!’

The next morning an assassin’s bullet cut short Martin Luther King’s life and the prophetic nature of his words became clear.

There are few people in history who have been willing to put Jesus’ teachings on justice and non-violence into practice in the way Martin Luther King did. Likewise, there have been few people in history who so inspired a nation and brought so much change for the good. For Martin Luther King the cost was high. He could have saved his life by giving in to the threats against him and staying silent, but his courage and faith endured and so did his remarkable legacy. We are also called to be people of justice and peace, in the face of hatred, fear and intolerance.

Secondary Interim Reports and Parent Teacher Night

We had a great turn out last night at our first night for the year. This year we are making changes to the way we conduct Parent Teacher interviews to make them more useful for students and parents. The focus for each meeting is now a learning conference between parent, teacher and, where possible, student. The focus is now not only on progress and achievement in a particular subject but on goal setting and practical strategies for improvement.

We are also in the process of compiling a database of parent email addresses so that both parents and teachers can be in close and regular contact throughout the year. This allows us to keep in touch and organise an interview outside the formal Parent Teacher nights. We are also investigating a change for the future in scheduling our appointments by giving parents the option of organising their interviews online via our website. We hope to have this system available to parents by the mid-term Parent Teacher nights.
Parents and Friends Meeting 11/4/11 - Vertical Pastoral Care
I invite and encourage all parents and friends to attend our meeting on Monday 11th of April. Along with the usual good works of the Parents and Friends Association, we will have an education focus for each meeting. On Monday we are discussing the possibility of moving to a Vertical system for our secondary Home Room Groups. This system operates in many schools and means that instead of students being grouped in Year levels for their Home Room or Tutor group times, they meet each morning in multi-grade groups and each Tutor Group has students from all grades. The Tutor Teacher then moves up with his or her Tutor Group, staying with their Tutor Group for their four years of secondary at Sacred Heart. This system has many benefits for pastoral care and student leadership and is in place in many of our Catholic colleges both here in Tasmania and elsewhere. There is currently a staff team who will be looking at the feasibility for Sacred Heart and would like to have parents join the team. Please come along on Monday and hear all about it.

Literacy Program
At our last Parents and Friends meeting we discussed the results of the Literacy Program for 2010 which indicated that the program was very successful. Overall, the students in Years 7-10 made a gain of 1.9 years in reading comprehension for the twelve months from November 2009 to November 2010. The usual average gain in reading comprehension is 8 months per annum. This is, of course, very encouraging and we aim to build on this achievement in 2011. We will publish all results for students in Primary and Secondary in our next Newsletter.

Students have been allocated Literacy classes according to need and where they can experience consistent success. If you wish to discuss any aspect of the program, your son or daughter’s literacy scores or class placement or their progress in the literacy program, please contact Ms. Jacqui Lawless on 62794090.

Enrolments 2011
Please note that Enrolments for Year 7 at Sacred Heart College for 2012 close on Friday the 15th of April and enrolments for Kindergarten for 2012 close at the end of Term 1 on the 27th of May. Enrolment application forms are available from the Office.

Lenah Valley BER
As our Lenah Valley families will be aware, the construction of the new classrooms and multi-purpose facility is proceeding well and we hope to have use of those new facilities early in Term 2. When that building is finished, we move on to the next phases of the BER which are refurbishments to the Primary block and the rollout of the new IT facilities.

Intensive English Language Centre
Building work on the Intensive English Language Centre is now well underway and we are looking forward to an opening date at the start of Term 2. This will be a great addition to our facilities and a great facility also for students coming into the Catholic system of schools who require intensive English instruction.

Student Achievement
Congratulations to Hannah Steele (8 Gold) who last weekend was a member of the GYC staff team who swam in the MS 24 Hour Swim A Thon held at the Hobart Aquatic Centre. The team managed 2931 laps of the dive pool which equated to 73.2km!

Uniform Changeover
There will be a uniform changeover period of 2 weeks as we move into the Winter season. Students are able to wear either winter or summer uniform for the next two weeks prior to Easter and on resumption of school after the break, all students are to be in winter uniform. With the changeover, girls are able to wear stockings with the summer uniform.

Mr Craig Deayton
Principal

PARENTS & FRIENDS UPDATE
There will be a special presentation on the implementation of the new Australian Curriculum and changes to assessment by Louise Bender at the P&F meeting next Monday night.

Next Meeting: Monday 11th April 7pm in the Secondary Library

Footy Tipping: It has been an interesting start to the competition – quite a tussle between the students and the parents!
Round 1 winner – Simon Fleischmann (8 points)
Round 2 winner – Maxwell Cowburn (7 points)
Current competition leader – Simon Fleischmann (14 points)

Next Fundraising meeting: Tuesday 19th April 7pm in Secondary Staff Room – new parents welcomed and needed.
Please send any questions or feedback for the P&F to presschn@rcsspff.org.au
GIFTED STUDENTS

Central to the Mission Statement of Sacred Heart College is the commitment to provide the best learning experience we can for each student. Although we have a body of information to teach, at the end of the day, we are teaching students, not just subjects. We need to know the needs of each individual student and work towards meeting those needs. This includes students who may be gifted.

**Giftedness: the possession of outstanding natural abilities, or aptitudes**

Talent development corresponds to the progressive transformation of gifts into talents. (Francoys Gagne, 2008)

The research, such as Braggitt’s *Developing Programs for Gifted Students* (1994), has some interesting things to say about gifted students. For example:

- Giftedness is intelligence, but also creativity, personality and motivation.
- Giftedness is not static, it can be developed.
- Some people are born with natural aptitudes. It is possible to develop talents to become outstanding, even if you are not born with the aptitude.

It is clear that parents, guardians and teachers and environments such as home and school will enhance or delay the expression of talent. Parents and teachers do have an impact, either positive or negative, on the development of students and their talent. All children get better with help and training. It is important to note that non-intellectual skills such as emotional intelligence, social skills and motor skills are also developed. In the longer run, we know that all children improve with training. Skills such as reading, research, thinking, exam sitting and so forth need to be explicitly taught. All students ought to be taught these skills.

As a College, we need to ensure that our curriculum suits the individual needs of students, that the environment allows students to develop their abilities, strategies, skills and attitudes in a positive fashion and that we are continually sympathetic and supportive. We need to prize the individuality of students and develop them in appropriate ways which permits them to advance at their own rate of progress.

Some schools go the way of ‘pull-out’ programs. These tend to be reactive - they provide for gifted students only after they have been identified. An inclusive, whole school approach in the context of the whole curriculum allows any student to participate. Students may become more motivated as a result. Extension work does not mean extra work, it means appropriate work, where studies are deepened and knowledge is integrated with life experience. Enrichment means that content, understanding, skills and processes are broadened. Accelerated learning means that students are permitted to speed up their studies, perhaps moving on to the next level of work.

The teacher term for all of this is ‘differentiation,’ which means that we need to cater for differing levels of ability in our classes, not ‘one size fits all.’ As you can imagine, this can be a challenge, but it is also makes for a more interesting classroom. Our Literacy program does explicitly teach many of the skills that will help students succeed and does make allowance for differing abilities.

Last year, I had the privilege of taking a learning extension (gifted and talented) class in the context of our Literacy program. This seemed to be a very positive experience for the students, it certainly was for me. Most of our time was taken up with enrichment and extension work. There was a lot of ‘positive peer pressure.’ I have been heartened to see that many of the students have followed through on the formal and informal curriculum of that class and have continued to stretch themselves with their choices of reading material and attitude to their studies. *Eamonn Pollard—Deputy Principal*

![Image of a school sign]

LOST PROPERTY FROM GRADE 7 CAMP

If you lost any items of clothing, crockery or cutlery at the Grade 7 camp, please claim it. Check at home and then see Ms Pape, there’s quite a selection of items! Anything that is not claimed soon will be donated to charity. *Ms Pape*

COMMENCEMENT LITURGY

If you are missing plates/bowls that were brought to school for the supper following the Commencement Liturgy please collect them from the College Office.

STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

Please do not throw out your envelopes with stamps on them—they can be sent to the College Office where they will be sent through to the missions.

SECONDARY ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The Secondary Athletics Carnival for 2011 has been postponed until 3rd term. The new date for the Carnival will be Monday 26th September. Please mark it in your diaries as it should be a great day.
NEW TOWN CAMPUS

Value of the Week: “Gratitude”
Philippians 1:3 “I give thanks to my God each time I think of you.”

When the apostle Paul wrote these words, he was in prison. Paul had always appreciated the people who helped him and in this letter addressed to the Philippians, he expresses his deep gratitude to them because they had helped him every time he needed it.

Dear Parents,
The word “thanks” is only little but means so much. Thankfully, so many of our students are continuing to show excellent manners and gratefulness every day here at school. Keep up the great work in remembering to be polite to others and in being thankful for all the great things that happen to and for us every day.

HOT SHOTS VISIT

On Tuesday morning, we had a visit from the Hot Shots Jump Rope Team from Queensland. Not only did we see some awesome jump roping take place, but we also learnt that we were being treated to a show from the Australian Champions who had participated overseas last year and won Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals.

The girls were very inspiring — especially for our newly formed Sacred Heart “Heart Starters” Jump Rope Team, who performed their first routine for us as well. They looked fantastic and should have a great year as representatives both for The National Heart Foundation and Sacred Heart College. Many thanks go to Mr Paul Crennan, who has taken on responsibility and coordination for the team and who, with Megan from the Heart Foundation, organized for the Hot Shots to visit and perform workshops. We look forward to seeing his skills with the rope (at least we now know that Mr Fabrizio can still do the “Double Dutch”!!!) Good luck team.

GRADE 5 CAMP

As we read this Newsletter, our New Town Campus Grade 5 Camp will be well underway at Port Arthur. Judging by the weather forecast, it seems that the campers will be experiencing very fine weather and be able to enjoy the Tasman Peninsula at its best.

Thank you in advance to all the many parents who have offered to join the camp at various times. Your support is appreciated. And also thanks to Mr Paul Guinane and Mrs Angela Revell for their enthusiasm and thorough organisation of this great experience. Camps of this nature do not happen by themselves, and the energy and generosity of our teachers is a valuable asset for us. We look forward to hearing many great “camping” stories and seeing some fantastic photos over the coming weeks.

PROJECT COMPASSION

As we are now in the season of Lent, all families would have received a Project Compassion box to have at home. Your generosity is encouraged in placing coins into these boxes — through our educational programs here at school, your child is learning exactly how a 5 cent coin can provide so much in other countries experiencing devastating need. The boxes will be collected during Holy Week and money will be passed on to Caritas.

“CARITAS WEEK”

Next week our Primary Leaders will be joining their Secondary Counterparts to hold a week of activities focussing upon the work of Caritas. Each day will have a particular focus activity beginning with “C” to highlight the countries in which the Caritas organisation works and provides relief aid. Some activities will be a fundraising effort while others will be to simply highlight the issues experienced in these countries. Thanks goes to our leaders for offering support, ideas and time to ensure that the week is very valuable.

ASSEMBLY

Thank you to Mrs Kelly Warburton and Mrs Bridget Newman and all of our Grade 1 students for our lovely assembly today. The movie showing all the activities of “Buddies” was great, as was your lovely artwork about the value of “Cheerfulness” studied last week.

We also had a visit from Emily from the Commonwealth Bank, who presented us with a cheque for $300. This is in recognition of previous school banking efforts. Thank you Commonwealth Bank.

A reminder to parents that our assemblies are held on Thursdays once a fortnight in the SSJ, beginning at 2:30 pm. The next assembly will be a liturgy focussing upon the Last Supper as it falls on Holy Thursday. Again, we would like to encourage as many parents to attend as possible.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Holy Week Liturgies — Mon 18th — Thursday 21st April

Holy Thursday Assembly/Liturgy – Thursday 21st April

Good Friday and Easter begins — 22nd April

School Returns - Mon 2nd May

Mrs Sue Walker—Deputy Principal Primary New Town

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Students will be bringing home Entertainment Books early next week. If you do not wish to purchase the book please return it back to the College in the envelope provided ASAP. Last year we raised over $2700 with the sale of these books and we look forward to your continued support this year.
RUGBY GALA DAY

On Friday students from Grades 3 – 6 walked to Giblin Street to participate in a Rugby Gala afternoon. Students have been involved in developing rugby skills for the past five weeks during PE lessons. We were fortunate to have Junior coaches from NSW work with our students.

The afternoon was a great success. Students played a modified game in a round robin format. They showed great skills and enthusiasm for the game.

Thank you to Mr Monaghan who organised the coaches and event.

AURORA EDUCATION

On Monday students from Prep – Grade 6 benefitted from education sessions provided by Aurora. These sessions focused on a range of safety with electricity issues, water and electricity don’t mix! The presenters also spoke about how electricity is made and specialised equipment.

Our Kinder students will be participating in a session in Term 2.

Thanks to Jackie Fleischmann for organising these important presentations for our students.

LEARN TO SWIM

The Learn to Swim program has started with a splash! It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm our students are approaching the program with and the enjoyment they are getting out of it.

The program obviously focuses on swimming skills and water safety; however, many other skills are developed. Children are expected to be organised (ready to go), responsible (for their belongings), independent (getting dressed etc.) and resilient (when you get tired and things don’t always go your way). The development of these life skills is also integral to the program.

Thank you to the parents who have been able to help our students at the pool, it has been very much appreciated.

CHALK TALK GRADE THREE BLUE

In Grade Three Blue we have been looking at the features of Persuasive writing. We have looked at print and electronic advertising and explored how words, images, sound and colour are used persuasively. We have written persuasive texts on the topics, cats make better pets than dogs, playing at Edge Ave is better than on the Astro turf and children should choose their own bedtimes.

GREAT BOOKS FOR CHILDREN!

Are you looking for a great book for your child? Fantastic Australian author, Paul Jennings, has written a book “The reading bug... and how to help your child catch it”. It’s full of great ideas about how to get your child to love reading. It also has a fantastic list of suggested books for children to read, and is organised into grade groups: books for babies; pre-schoolers; early, lower and middle primary; upper primary and lower secondary; and secondary. It’s a great book, but you don’t have to buy it to get the list. It’s available on his website at: http://www.pauljennings.com.au/books_detail.asp?pid=1722.

Happy reading! Mrs Sharon Molnar - Teacher Librarian
A Prayer of Gratitude

God, thank you for the blessings you have bestowed upon me today. Help me share your generosity and love with those I meet.

Amen

SACRAMENTS

Congratulations to Charlotte and Eliza Adams, Keren and Julia Budiongo, Ruth Gildo and Dorothy Lagu who made their First Reconciliation recently. This is the next step in their journey of faith, deepening their relationship with God and the Church.

If your child is preparing to receive a Sacrament, please inform the school so that we can acknowledge this important step in their spiritual life.

HOLY WEEK

This is a significant week in the life of the Church and as a result, in the life of a Catholic School. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday and ends with Easter Sunday. Students from each class will be presenting the events in the life of Jesus leading up to his death and resurrection throughout Holy Week.

On Monday the 18th at 2.15, Prep, Grade 1 and Grade 2 are presenting Palm Sunday.

On Wednesday 20th at 9.15, Grade 3 are presenting Washing of the Feet and at 2.15 Grade 4 is presenting the Agony in the Garden.

On Thursday the 21st at 2.15 Grade 6 are presenting the Crucifixion.

On Monday the 2nd May at 2.15 Grade 5 will raise Jesus.

We warmly invite parents and friends to attend these liturgies as part of our community worship during this holy season.

Ms Jacqui Lawless – Deputy Principal Primary Lenah Valley