Keep up to date with what is happening in the school, reminders of events and any news as it happens through the school Twitter feed at: @shsmlton

“The arrogance of success is to think that what we did yesterday is good enough for tomorrow.” — William Pollard

“By celebrating what is right, we connect with our passion and find energy to fix what’s wrong” 
Dewitt Jones

Our P.B.S. Values are:

Respect for Ourselves
Respect for Others
Respect for our Learning

Welcome back to 2014. The start of a new year with new opportunities and the chance to begin afresh!!

In particular, I want to welcome all new families and students to S.H.S. Community.

Our theme for this year is ‘Living a Grateful Life’

We have much to be grateful for! We have a very good school that continues to provide opportunities to develop young people not just students. We have much to be thankful for as parents, teachers and students. In looking at our school the glass is certainly half full. At the same time, as the quote above suggests, we need to continue to critically explore where we need to fill the glass even further.

We have a positive climate and focus in how we interact with each other. I still envision a place that focuses even more on positive relationships. This year Circle Time and our P.B.S. (Positive Behaviour Schools) programs will support this. We will continue with the Good Decision Boards while looking at how we can evolve them to encourage and challenge our students even further. I still envision a place where our expectations are even higher while still remaining a very positive and supportive environment for all.

We have a focus on supporting parents. I still envision a place that is even more supportive, open, transparent and effective in communication between the home and school. A place where we are ok in giving and receiving feedback as parents and as a school because it helps our students and children improve. A place where all parents feel valued and welcomed, encouraged to share and give feedback. A place where we show respect in how we give feedback but are unapologetic about the importance of giving and receiving it.
From the Principal: (cont.)

We have a school that produces very good academic results in comparison to most other schools in Tasmania. I envision a place that isn’t satisfied with this and continues to raise expectations in what we expect of our students and what they can achieve. I envision a place that focuses just as much on developing independent, self motivated learners who have a strong collaborative work ethic as it does on academic results. This year we will focus on Mathematics and evaluating what we currently do and how we teach to hopefully improve mathematical outcomes for our students. I will, more than ever before, be visible in classrooms, be teaching in classrooms and supporting teachers to be the best versions of themselves.

We have very good resources and facilities. What our newly refurbished Prep to Grade 2 building highlights is the difference between good and great. This building is a ‘taste’ of what is to come when in 2015 our Grade 3 / 4 building and Grade 6 building get a similar refurbishment. I envision a place that is connected not just physically but academically, socially and emotionally to improving what we do. The buildings are designed to reflect the importance of classrooms being transparent, open and collaborative. Teaching is no longer an individual profession, no longer behind closed doors and no longer about teaching but about the learning of students. These new learning spaces provide an outstanding opportunity to achieve this. At the end of 2015 you will be able to physically walk from the library across the 3 separated buildings with nearly every class connected across these facilities.

We have much to be thankful and grateful for and at the same time exciting opportunities and times ahead. One thing that will not change is the focus on our school being about values and attitudes.

I envision a place where all teachers, students and parents believe in, support and make each other accountable to the values of respect, dignity and sincerity. A place that is a Catholic School, not a Public or Private school. A place where we mean what we say and we say what we mean. A place where, because we genuinely respect each other, we make the effort to say what needs to be said directly, away from the shadows and corners where gossip and rumour live.

A place where we choose to work or send our children because these values are fundamental to what we believe education should be about, knowing that if these values are not fundamental to us, that we have the choice to work or send our children somewhere else that fits our beliefs more closely.

I hope 2014 is everything that we hope and aspire it to be. I encourage parents to continue to speak and communicate with the school about anything that will keep building and moving our good school towards greatness.

Welcome:
We welcome to S.H.S. new staff Carol Brown, Mel Beety and Jade Vecchione. Jade will be leading our Birth to 4 program, along with Jodie Beardwood, each Monday. Jade has extensive experience in early learning and is an outstanding educator. We will provide information about the start of the program, times etc in next week's newsletter. You can register interest through our school office.

Mel is the Special Learning Needs key teacher and comes with a great deal of experience having held a similar position on the North West coast for the last three years. Her welcoming, relational and friendly manner will be an asset to our school.

Carol will take over our L.O.T.E. Program continuing with the Auslan Sign Language that we began last year. Brooke Campbell will help this transition by being part of the first sessions with classes. Carol is deaf and needs sign language to communicate. This will be a challenging and potentially powerful opportunity for our students to engage in learning sign language by working with Carol.

Parent/Teacher/Student Goal setting:
We are having a different approach to the first Parent/Teacher meetings this year. The focus will be on parents identifying, naming what you hope and aspire for your child to focus on and achieve in the year ahead. Where parents are comfortable we would encourage students to come along to the parent/teacher/student goal setting meetings.

**There will be no generic Parent teacher information sessions this year as in other years in lieu of the goal setting sessions.**

Teachers will give out any generic information in the 1:1 meeting that will take place. Notes are being sent home today, with the eldest child in the family, to book times and to complete the goal setting sheets before the meetings with teachers.
From the Principal: (cont.)

**Holiday Happenings:**
There has been work happening during the holiday period in preparation for the start of this year. Some of the key elements are:
- Repainting and refurbishing of the Grade 5 classrooms and stairwell
- Repainting and maintenance on our S.H.S. Swimming Pool
- Restating 'Kinder Play Panels' back into the Kinder playground
- Picnic tables replaced outside Grade 6
- A.F.L. Goals purchased and arrived, creating holes for the goals in the oval to allow them to be removed if needed. The goals will be put as soon as possible.
- Purchasing 60 iPads for the Grade 3 students in their 1:1 Program
- Purchase of Laptops and iPads -$40,000 to be used across the K-6 classes

**School Uniform:**
A note was emailed out to families last week reassuring everyone that any Girl's Uniforms purchased from our Uniform Shop for students Grade 4 - 6 are the exact uniforms that St. Patrick's have. For these we use the same provider and purchasing a uniform from our shop will meet the Uniform Policy at St. Patrick's.

**This year:**
Below is information around specialist timetables to help parents in organisation of each week:

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**Prep – Grade 2 Building Completion:**
We are hopeful that our students will be moved in to their new classrooms by the end of this month. We will keep parents informed of progress and how we will transition classes in moving into the new learning spaces across the next few weeks.

**Swimming Trials:**
Swimming trials for Grade 3 - 6 classes in preparation for our School Swimming Carnival will take place next week. *Specific information will be sent out by Mr. John Anderson this week.*

**S.H.S. Welcome BBQ Friday 14th:**
I invite all families to come along to the P & F Welcome to the Start of the New Year BBQ on our School Oval. As was the case last year there will be a movie shown in our Presentation Hall for students. It is a great opportunity to come together and welcome a new school year in for families. Information is attached as part of this newsletter.

**S.H.S. Swimming Carnival 17th February:**
**Parent Help Swimming Carnival:**
Our Carnival for Grade 3-6 students is on Monday 17th February. As most parents would know we need significant parent help with a variety of roles and jobs on the day. If you can help and are able to give up this time can you please contact our P.E. Teacher Mr. John Anderson at john.anderson@catholic.tas.edu.au
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Sacred Heart Family BBQ & Movie Night

Come along and welcome in the New School Year for 2014
Come & join all school families to enjoy a BBQ tea, games and a children's movie session featuring DESPICABLE ME 2

On FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2014
BBQ FROM 6.00PM ON THE OVAL
SAUSAGE SIZZLE TEA PROVIDED
MOVIE SHOWING FROM APPROX. 6.30PM IN THE PRESENTATION HALL
BYO DRINKS
Proudly supported by School Board and Parents & Friends
SCHOOL NOTICES

2014 TERM DATES
TERM 1  Thursday 06.02.14 to Thursday 17.04.14
TERM 2  Monday 05.05.14 to Friday 04.07.14
TERM 3  Monday 21.07.14 to Friday 26.09.14
TERM 4  Monday 13.10.14 to Wednesday 17.12.14
EASTER  Good Friday 18.04.14 to Monday 21.04.14

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
shs.clothingpool@catholic.tas.edu.au

2014 Opening Days
Thursday’s 2.00pm - 4.00pm

SCHOOL CANTEEN
Help is desperately needed in the School Canteen this year. Your help would be appreciated. If you can help could you contact the school office or email: debbie.scott@catholic.tas.edu.au. The hours are Friday 9:00 - 11:00am or 9:00 - 1:10pm. You can help weekly, fortnightly or monthly.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dance Dance Dance
Just for fun

Do you like to move and groove to music? Come along and let yourself shine like the star you are. Every level welcome. Dance classes held Thursdays at St Albies Hall after school.

Please phone Jeanene Gillow on 0419344081.

Places are limited so be quick.