From the Principal

Dear Families and Friends,

Welcome back to a new school year. It has been wonderful to see you all again and we have certainly begun 2017 on a positive note! The children all look well-presented and happy. Thank you to all parents for ensuring your child is here on time, ready to learn and in correct school uniform.

A very special welcome to those of you who are new to our community, we hope you get to know everyone quickly and soon feel like IHM is ‘home’. I trust that all members of our community will experience the vitality, warmth and joy of IHM this year.

Parent Information Booklet 2017

On Monday each family received the 2017 Parent Information Booklet. It outlines who we are, what we do and how we work together. There is a lot of practical information in the booklet so I encourage you to read through it and to keep it handy for future reference.

This year’s version includes our new Vision and Mission. As we launch this in 2017, we can be very proud because we have developed it together as a community. It is concise, contemporary and reflects what we value and aspire to at IHM. You will notice these displayed in all learning areas and each class community will use the statements to form their class expectations, rules and guidelines for the year.

New Students

A very special welcome to the new students at IHM whose names are featured further in the newsletter. We have a lovely, curious and energetic group of new receptions taking that very first step in their school life as well as some older students continuing their learning journey here. We wish you all well and hope that your time at IHM is just wonderful!

2017 Staff

One new teacher has joined the excellent IHM teaching team. We warmly welcome Milda Fahey to our school community as 6/7 teacher. We have included photos of all staff members in this newsletter and I hope they will help you to put faces to the names. Our staff are very friendly, dedicated and approachable. We value parent and community relationships highly, so don’t hesitate to say hello or come to speak with us.

Being Green - Newsletter in Electronic Format

In the interests of sustainable practices, today’s newsletter will be the last newsletter that will be photocopied for families.

From today onwards, the newsletter will be available primarily via the school app and the website. Details on how to get the app or website are in the Parent Information Booklet. Should you not have access via these means, we will have some hard copies on hand in the office which you are welcome to collect if you need.

Parent/Teacher Book-a-Chat

In the next few weeks all teachers will be holding ‘Book-a-chat’ sessions where we invite parents to book a ‘chat time’ with class teachers. The purpose is to meet and share your expectations and hopes along with your child’s strengths, unique qualities and learning needs. An invitation notice about this will be coming home today.

Also please save the date for our Welcome Wine and Cheese night and Parent Forum being held on Wednesday 1st March.
New Developments

We have exciting new developments and projects already on the way and more to come! Some of these are outlined briefly here:

School Theme for 2017: The school theme for 2017 “HOPE”, is one of our school pillars. The theme and motto “Hope is an anchor for the soul”, call us into reflection and action on how we can be the face of hope for the world, for ourselves and for all those we meet. 2017 is also a year where we are fostering more creativity, imagination and inspiration, as outlined in our new school vision. This will occur in many contexts including:

ICT: We have continued to upgrade of our ICT network with new laptops and iPads to support personalized and creative learning on a 1:1 ratio basis.

The Imagination Playground: In Term one, we will have this great resource in our school available for all classes to utilize. The imagination playground is designed to encourage problem solving, creativity and collaboration as students play, create and have fun.

STEM and Ukulele: We also have new developments such as all Year 3s learning Ukulele and STEM specialist lessons, which you can read more about in the Parent Information Booklet.

Community Art Project: This term our school will be working with the Bowden/Brompton community and local artists, creating murals using recycled bottle lids which are planned to brighten the local area.

Welcome to our new students

A big welcome to the following students and their families who commenced at IHM this year:

Nicholas Filippou  Tanya Ha
James Whitehead  Eva Hynes
Matthew Bowman  Daniella Tjiptabudy
Orlando Crouch  Chloe Manalang
Robbie Barrientos Nettle  Isabella Muculj
Erin Whitehead

More information on all these will come to you as the weeks unfold, so stay tuned!

Lastly, warmest wishes to you all for a hope filled, inspirational year!

Pauline Kinsman
PRINCIPAL

Included with this Newsletter:

- Book-a-Chat Info & Booking Form (1 per student)
- Swimming Lessons Info & Consent Forms (R-5)
- Instrumental Lessons Info & Application Form (1 per student)
HOPE AS AN ANCHOR FOR THE SOUL

Our theme this year takes on one of our 5 virtues belonging to our Heart Spirituality. This year, we celebrate, explore and live out ‘HOPE’.

What is hope exactly?
Can you touch it, feel it, see it, smell it or hear it? How do we describe this simple 4 letter word?
For some it is the place where there is calmness, serenity, desire, wisdom, knowing and intuition all rolled into one. For others it is called upon during those times where we might feel we are drifting, or we have suffered loss or facing uncertainty.

Many people use the word ‘hope; just as they would ‘wish’ but it is much greater than that. The Oxford dictionary defines it as: A feeling of expectation and desire for a particular thing to happen.

What do you hope for your child, yourself, your family the world in 2017?

Here at IHM we consider the word in the Christian tradition – it’s one of the 3 theological virtues, is symbolised by the colour green and St Jude is the patron saint of Hope!

In scripture, the book of Hebrews tells us that ‘We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure’. Hope, together with faith, keep us steady, focussed and positive about the future.

Our symbol this year with be the ‘Tree of Hope’, reminding us that we bring hope to our IHM community this year – an expected, highly anticipated hope for the year ahead.

A New Role Model and House Name

Marie Louise Hartzer is a special lady whom we honour within our school story. Marie was the first Superior General for the congregation of the Daughters of our Lady of the Sacred Heart. This congregation of sisters were asked to run Immaculate Heart of Mary School from 1951.

So their story and history are very much a part of our tradition. So to honour her courage, her leadership and her faith, we will introduce Hartzer House. This will replace Hindmarsh, but will remain the colour green.

During 2017 we will provide the students with opportunities to discover her story and why she is an important part of who we are today.

School News

Swimming Lessons – Mon 13th – Fri 17th Feb
Swimming is held in Week 3 at the College Aquatic Centre for all students from Reception to Year 5 and information has been sent home today.

An important reminder that Police Checks are needed in order to assist any other child other than your own at swimming lessons; please chat with office staff about any queries you may have. Consent forms need to be returned to school by Wednesday 8th February.

Instrumental Lessons at IHM
Instrumental lessons are once again being offered at the school for all students, R-7. Guitar, piano, violin, drums and singing are currently being taught. Each family will today receive a brochure from Hallmark Music Studio with information about lessons and costs. If your child is interested please return application forms to the school office.

P & F News

Hello and welcome from the IHM P&F Committee
The IHM Parents and Friends (P&F) Committee would like extend a warm welcome to new families starting at IHM this year and invite you to come and join the P&F team.

The role of the P&F is to help foster a community spirit within the school. Some of the events we organised last year included a family picnic day, the Sports Day BBQ and morning teas for open day and VIP days. We also organised several fundraising activities including school raffles and Election Day BBQs.

The P&F meetings generally go for around an hour and are very casual. There is no obligation to attend every meeting, just come when you can. Meetings are held in the school library in the 3rd week of each term on Wednesday nights at 7pm. Our first meeting for this year will be on Wednesday 15th of February at 7pm. Please contact Jacqui or Meegan if you would like to join. jacquib@abfsolutions.com.au or Megmullin@live.com

Class dinners
This year the P&F Committee is coordinating a class dinner for the Reception/Year One parents. These dinners are a great way of getting to know each other in an out of school environment.
Details of the dinner date and venue are below along with the contact details of Cindy Lovegrove who is coordinating this wonderful night.
If you would like to come along please email Cindy & let her know as soon as possible.

Date: Friday 10th February 2017
Time: 7:00 pm
Place: Café Paesano at North Adelaide
Contact Details to RSVP: Cindy Lovegrove
clovegrove111@gmail.com

Brompton Playgroup Commences this Friday
Playgroup is held here at IHM in the Cuskeynd Cottages every Friday morning from 9:30 – 11:30am for children aged 0 – 4. Everyone is welcome. Come along and enjoy the fun!
Your Comments and Feedback

You are invited to provide comments and feedback about our school and will be forwarded to the Principal, Ms Pauline Kinsman. In the future these can be emailed to the school.

What has been going well: ..................................................................................................................................................

What can be improved: ..................................................................................................................................................

Any further comments: ..................................................................................................................................................