Dear Parents/Caregivers

This is the third Assessment and Reporting update for 2013 and provides information about your child’s end of year report. All Catholic schools in Tasmania are moving towards a common report format (Prep-10) for both mid-year and end of year reports. Common reporting helps to build consistency in and between our schools throughout all stages of schooling. In 2014 we will be seeking feedback from parents/caregivers regarding both the midyear and end of year report. We look forward to your responses as we continue to work together to provide the best possible education for your child.

Dr. Trish Hindmarsh
Director of Catholic Education

End of Year Reports Prep-10

The End of Year Report is a summary statement that records the achievements of your child at a particular point in time. Teachers make a judgment based on their shared professional knowledge about how evidence in student work, over the school year, matches the achievement standards for each year level.

In each subject area teachers develop assessment that is directly aligned to what students have had an opportunity to learn, based on the intended curriculum. What is reported is directly aligned to what has been assessed. The intended curriculum for Tasmanian Catholic schools is outlined below.

The Curriculum for Tasmanian Catholic Schools

In Tasmanian Catholic Schools the curriculum for Religious Education is Good News for Living. Good News for Living can be viewed online at http://www.catholic.tas.edu.au/publications/re-resources

The Australian Curriculum English, Maths, Science and History are the intended curriculum for Tasmanian Catholic schools P-10 and in 2013 students were assessed against the achievement standards for these subjects (these can be viewed online at http://www.australiancurriculum.edu.au/Home)

The Australian Curriculum and/or the Tasmanian Curriculum inform the curriculum for other key learning areas, with the exception of VET (Vocational Education Training) subjects and specific school-based electives offered in Years 9 & 10.

The Tasmanian Curriculum can be viewed at http://www.education.tas.gov.au/Students/schools-colleges/curriculum/Pages/Tasmanian-Curriculum.aspx

End of Year Report Format

The End of Year Report includes:

- A summative A-E rating for subjects studied
- An indication of progress against the strands identified for each subject
- Attitude and application ratings
- A general/pastoral comment

Individual subject comments are not included as part of the End of Year Report.

In the primary school, subject based comments will be incorporated, where appropriate, within the general comment.

In secondary schools, subject-based comments will only be included in the general comment if especially warranted.

In consultation with parents/caregivers a narrative report may be provided for one or more subjects. A narrative report is given when it is not appropriate to assess a student against grade level expectations.
The Complete Picture

The A-E rating is only one part of the complete picture of student progress. The progress by strand highlights areas of strength and/or areas for further development. Please be aware that students receiving all ‘extending’ on the strands may be awarded an A or B based on the quality of their work.

Application and attitude to learning will help you to determine if your child is working to his/her full capacity. Together these provide the overall picture of your child’s progress, which cannot be conveyed by a single A-E rating.

It should also be noted that a student who has maintained the same rating from report period to report period is making progress. A C on the mid-year report and a C at the end of year indicates that your child has made the expected progress from one report period to the next.

Reporting in Kindergarten

Kindergarten educators are required to keep quality journals of student progress and development throughout the year. These journals are a rich source of information about student development and take time and care to maintain. They are used for a number of purposes including reporting to families.

These journals comply with the National Quality Standards for Early Childhood Education and Care and take the place of other formal forms of report documents used previously.

Days of Attendance

Attendance figures represent the number of days attended as at report submission date prior to printing. Depending on school size and internal demands, the day(s) of printing will vary. This will result in small differences in the total number of days between and, in some circumstances, within schools. Your child’s school will inform you of the dates represented on the report.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

When parents/caregivers receive a report card they also have the option of a parent-teacher interview to discuss their child’s progress. At the end of the year Parent/teacher interviews are by parent request. Requests for an interview need to be made immediately following the release of reports. Teachers are not available from the 20th December 2013 until 3rd February 2014.

A-E Ratings

The A-E rating describes the quality of achievement against the year level achievement standards. Students cannot be assessed against an achievement standard beyond their year level unless they have been taught the entire year level content to which an achievement standard applies.

The A-E rating is based on evidence of student learning through ongoing assessment. It is not influenced by effort or attitude, which are reported separately.

A- Outstanding Achievement
B- High Achievement
C- Sound Achievement
D- Partial Achievement
E- Minimal Achievement

An A indicates a student has demonstrated outstanding achievement of the knowledge, skills and understandings expected at year level. This statement encompasses evidence of learning beyond the expected level.

An E indicates a student has demonstrated minimal achievement of the knowledge, skills and understandings expected at year level.

A C indicates your child has achieved the expected standard for a student in that year level.

Students in Prep-Year 2 will not receive an A-E letter rating. Their achievement will be conveyed using the rating descriptor only. (e.g. High achievement)