



# SACRED HEART COLLEGE

EDUCATION WITH HEART THAT KNOWS NO BOUNDS

MARIST SCHOOL  
OBSERVATORY



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Dear Grade 7's

Welcome to Sacred Heart College's Junior High School. Everyone will have told you that you were the big fish in a little pond and now you are going to be the little fish in a big pond. I like to think that you are going to be the younger brothers and sisters of the family. That was the philosophy of Marcellin Champagnat when he started his first school. His first recruits loved him for the elder brother and father that he was. I like to believe that you will find the same sense of family in the High School. You will get a Grade 12 buddy who will help you settle into the High School and will also give you help and advice.

Like any family it is important for each member to understand the role they have in the family and the rules that make it possible for each person to develop that role. As you settle into the High School one of the things you will realise is that we rely on what is called "self-regulation" and "intrinsic motivation". What self-regulation means is that there are school rules but we expect you to follow them because they will ensure your overall success at school and not because you will get into trouble if you disobey them. We don't have a complicated system of merits, demerits and detention systems to enforce these rules. Instead it is important to realise that your actions and choices have consequences and that you need to be able to deal with those consequences if you make inappropriate choices. You are going to make mistakes, but learning from those mistakes is an important part of growing up in the Sacred Heart College family.

In all our relationships the learners and staff at Sacred Heart College strive to be respectful and appreciative of one another. This means greeting one another when we see each other. Minding our language and manners, offering help to people who look like they might be struggling to carry things and anything else that makes it easier to get along with one another.

In the feedback you gave us when you visited the High School many of you indicated that you expected to have to work hard to contribute to the high academic standards that Sacred Heart College is known for. These standards are achieved because the teachers who will teach you are highly qualified professionals who work hard. Each of them has their own unique style and way of teaching but all of them will provide you with the necessary support you will need to achieve your potential. It will take some time to get used to moving around to different classes and different teachers but your success will depend on how motivated you are to succeed. Intrinsic motivation means that your will to succeed comes from within and not because your parents' or the teachers say you must.

Managing your time and meeting deadlines is an important part of your success in High School. Your diary helps you in this regard and so carry it in your Blazer Pocket and use it everyday. There are protocols that outline our expectations around late coming, missing tests and meeting deadlines. These will be explained to you during the Junior High Orientation as well.

We have an extensive co-curricular programme and believe that being involved in these activities are an important part of your growth and experience here in the High School. So you are expected to be involved in at least one activity but we would encourage you to be involved in more. It is a good idea to take one sport and one cultural activity.

We are looking forward to having you in the Junior High School and wish you success in all that you do. Take advantage of this opportunity to be part of a school that has an incredible past and an exciting future.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Heather Blanckensee  
Principal: High School

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