



## Principal's Message

It was truly special to be joined by the school establishment board and our three main contributing primary schools to celebrate with a Mass on the Feast Day of St Ignatius of Loyola last week. It was a joyful celebration and a real feeling of the college even further coming to life as a community.

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who attended our community update meetings this week. It was a pleasure to share updates on the progress of the college and spend time answering questions.

There is a copy of our Strategic Plan for 2024-27 attached and we would be very grateful if you could take the time to read the plan and then provide feedback on what you feel is important for your family in the first three years of the life of the college.

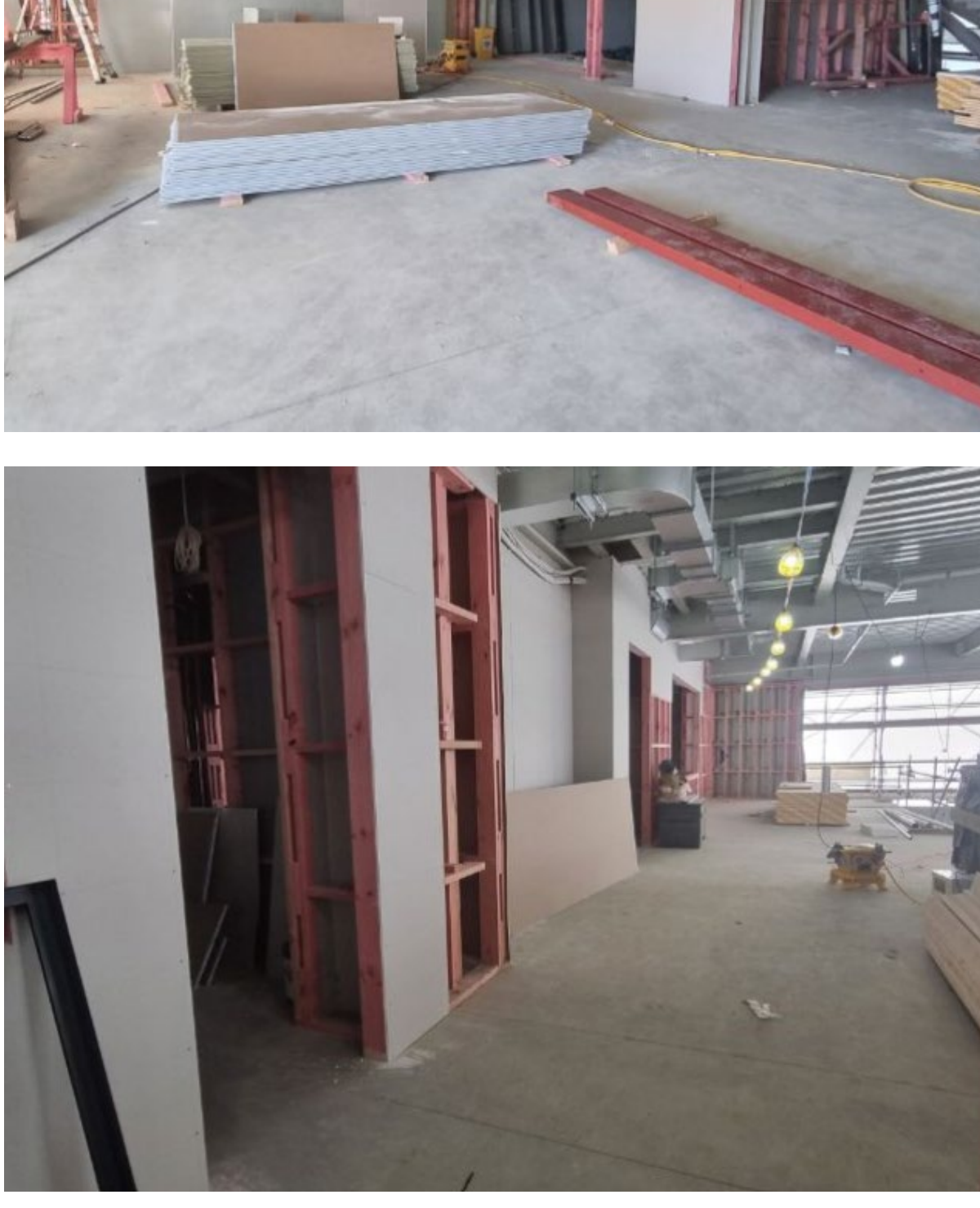
The link for your feedback is [here](#).

The Transfiguration of the Lord, which was the daily reading last Sunday, always fills me with wonder and hope, as Jesus radiates the power and glory of God to the gathered Disciples. It is a time to remember that the example of his life, the Good News, is the example we can follow to become the greater glory of God, for ourselves, for those around us and for the wider world. If we all seriously follow the example of Christ then the communities in which we live grow into the Kingdom of God where we can witness the greater glory of God around us; they become heavenly places to be. This is the community we aim to build for our college and the way we go about it is simple; we follow Christ, our glorious example.

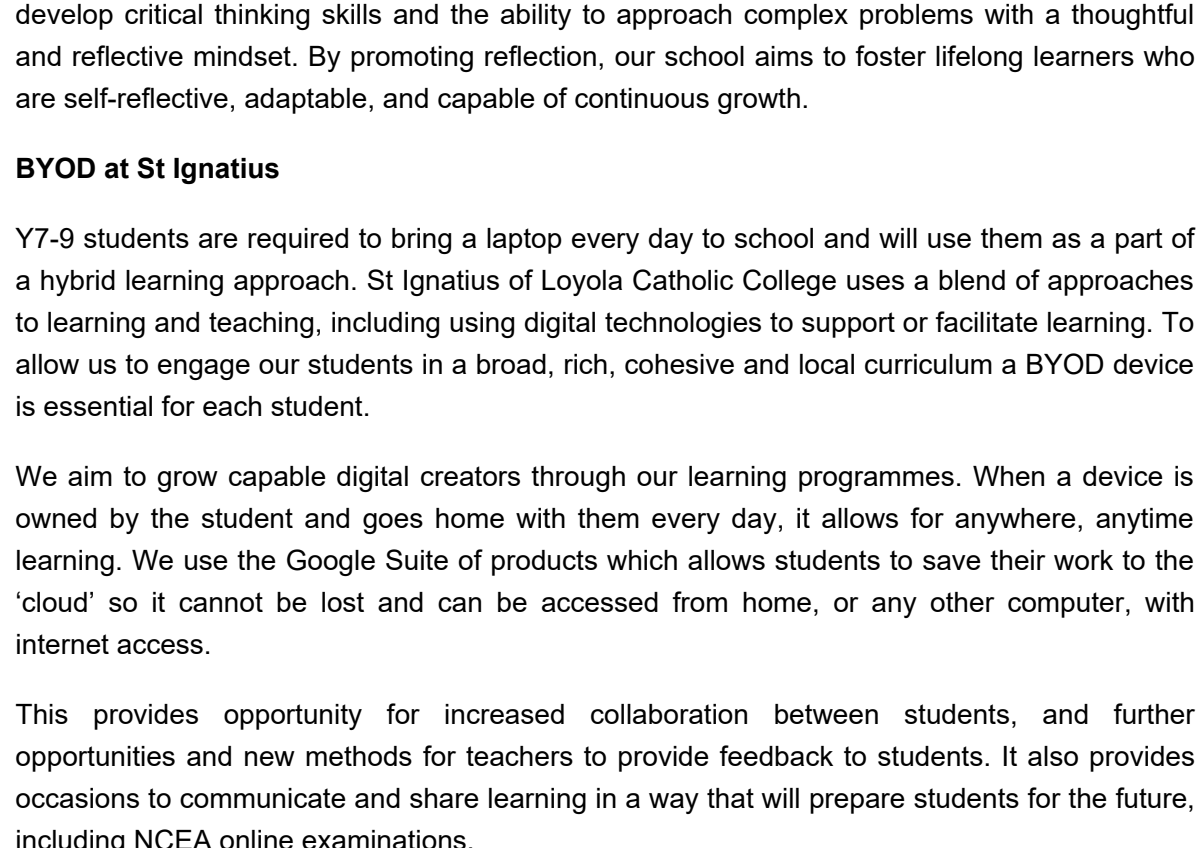
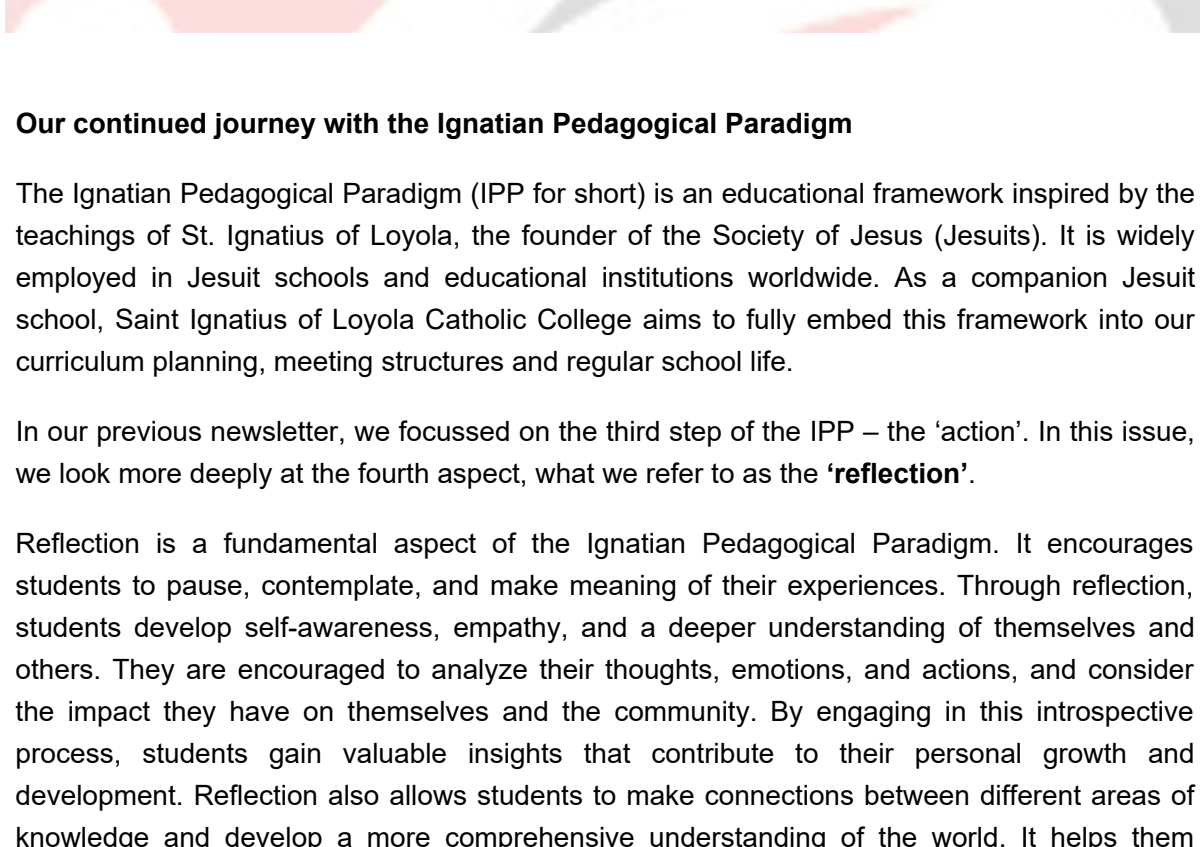
Ad majorem Dei gloriam  
Dean Wearmouth

## Site Progress

Those driving by the school site over the last couple of weeks will have seen the brick facade slowly growing around the Hall, Music and Chapel buildings. Underneath the wrapping on the main teaching block, the same progress is being made. The inside of this block is now really starting to take shape. See the photos below for some internal images and a view of the school buildings taken from the top of the playing fields.



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## Teaching and Learning

### Our continued journey with the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm

The Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm (IPP for short) is an educational framework inspired by the teachings of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). It is widely employed in Jesuit schools and educational institutions worldwide. As a companion Jesuit school, Saint Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College aims to fully embed this framework into our curriculum planning, meeting structures and regular school life.

In our previous newsletter, we focussed on the third step of the IPP – the 'action'. In this issue, we look more deeply at the fourth aspect, what we refer to as the 'reflection'.

Reflection is a fundamental aspect of the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm. It encourages students to pause, contemplate, and make meaning of their experiences. Through reflection, students develop self-awareness, empathy, and a deeper understanding of themselves and others. They are encouraged to analyze their thoughts, emotions, and actions, and consider the impact they have on themselves and the community. By engaging in this introspective process, students gain valuable insights that contribute to their personal growth and development. Reflection also allows students to make connections between different areas of knowledge and develop a more comprehensive understanding of the world. It helps them develop critical thinking skills and the ability to approach complex problems with a thoughtful and reflective mindset. By promoting reflection, our school aims to foster lifelong learners who are self-reflective, adaptable, and capable of continuous growth.

### BYOD at St Ignatius

Y7-9 students are required to bring a laptop every day to school and will use them as a part of a hybrid learning approach. St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College uses a blend of approaches to learning and teaching, including using digital technologies to support or facilitate learning. To allow us to engage our students in a broad, rich, cohesive and local curriculum a BYOD device is essential for each student.

We aim to grow capable digital creators through our learning programmes. When a device is owned by the student and goes home with them every day, it allows for anywhere, anytime learning. We use the Google Suite of products which allows students to save their work to the 'cloud' so it cannot be lost and can be accessed from home, or any other computer, with internet access.

This provides opportunity for increased collaboration between students, and further opportunities and new methods for teachers to provide feedback to students. It also provides occasions to communicate and share learning in a way that will prepare students for the future, including NCEA online examinations.

### St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College recommended devices for BYOD 2024

There are many appropriate devices, and the school does not require a particular brand or model. We do have minimum specifications however, and Chromebooks, while initially acceptable for Years 7-10, will not meet requirements as akonga reach our senior school from Year 11 onwards. So they may be used if students already have them and be upgraded when they need to be replaced.

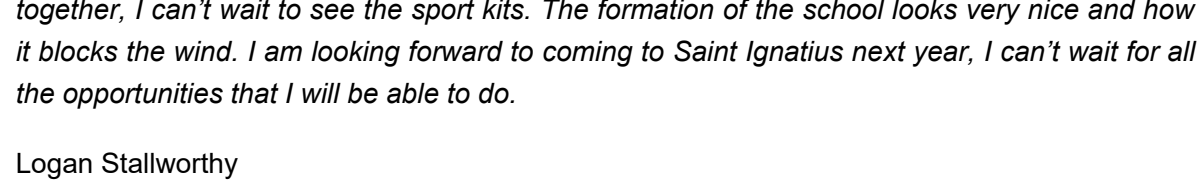
Our minimum specs (listed below) can be taken to local retailers like [Harvey Norman](#), [Noel Leeming](#), [PB Tech](#), etc. to assist with correct device choice. Parents can buy devices from any retailers, but please consider the after sales service and arrangements for when a device needs repair.

### Minimum specification for devices:

- Battery life: 6 – 8 hours. Battery life will lessen over time. Ensure devices are fully charged at home before the school day.
- Keyboard
- Screen size of 13 inches is optimal
- Light enough to be carried around during the day
- Protective case
- 5GHz Wireless capability
- USB Drive
- Built in camera and sound recording
- RAM – 8GB is optimal
- 128GB SSD drives to ensure sufficient space for software. Hard Drive should be at least 320GB.
- Avoid AMD Desktop CPUs, we recommend Intel Desktop CPUs for efficient processing time
- Insurance (Saint Ignatius is not responsible for damage or loss of the device)

Along with these we strongly recommend:

- Preferable OS for Windows – Windows 10/11
- Virus protection – e.g. Microsoft Security Essentials, Windows Defender etc.
- Malware protection, e.g. Malware Bytes etc.



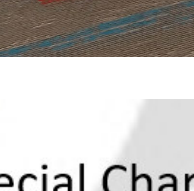
Calling all Visionary Sponsors! Join us in powering the **EPro8 Engineering Competition at Saint Ignatius** of Loyola Catholic College in 2024! We are looking for potential sponsors to help fund the equipment for this STEM competition.

[Click on this link to find out more information.](#)

## Cura Personalis

### Which House will you belong to?

#### Faber House



Saint Peter Faber was one of Saint Ignatius' closest companions. Faber and St Ignatius met in Paris, where Faber had come to study after life as a shepherd on the mountains in France. Peter Faber was the first of St Ignatius' companions to be ordained. Faber eventually became the master of the Spiritual Exercises. While hard on himself, Faber was gentle with others. He was humble and quiet and considered a great leader.

Faber was sent to Germany in 1541, where he was very inspirational and many people from all different backgrounds would find him a gentle source of instruction and guidance. He was then sent to work in Spain, and Portugal. His final journey in 1546 was to Rome where he died in St. Ignatius's arms at the age of 40. Pope Francis announced the canonization of Peter Faber on December 17, 2013.

[Watch this short video about the life of Saint Peter Faber](#)

### Student Short Video Events

Our Heads of Faculties have been working in some of our Catholic Feeder schools to delivery training sessions to our 2024 foundation students. We have enjoyed meeting them and hearing about their hopes and dreams for our new school.

Here is what the students had to say about their experiences this week:

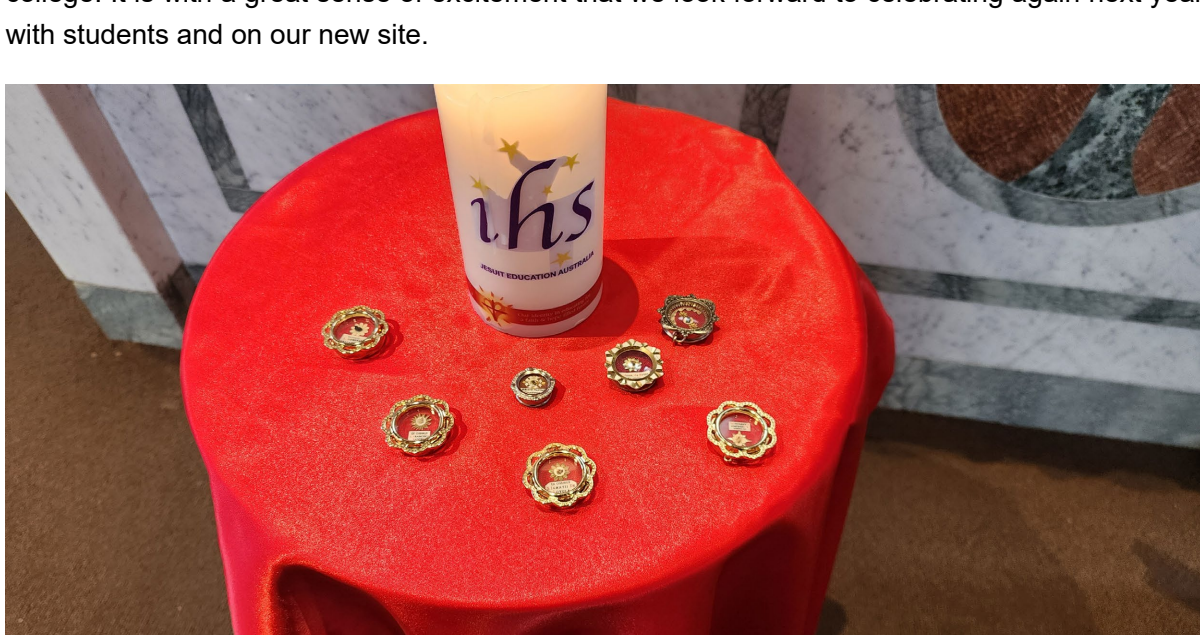
*I am very excited for the 2024 opening of Saint Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College. This has been 27 years in the making and I am very privileged to be able to be one of the first people who will be attending the school. I am especially excited for the lessons that will be taught and the extra-curricular activities available. After recently seeing the Boys and Girls uniform it is clear to me that it will be very comfortable and formal with a hint of casual. Having the building being built right now, you can already tell that the school will have a fun but also fair atmosphere.*

*Since meeting the heads of departments that will be teaching at the school, it is safe to say that they are very kind and caring people who will be there for you when needed and able to discipline when necessary. I am very much looking forward to meeting and making friends with all of the students at Saint Ignatius and building relationships with them over the next 5 years.*

Kerry Mc Mahon

*I liked meeting some teachers and staff yesterday was a very nice way to learn how the teachers work and operate. I liked the new uniform with the red, white and black work well together, I can't wait to see the sport kits. The formation of the school looks very nice and how it blocks the wind. I am looking forward to coming to Saint Ignatius next year, I can't wait for all the opportunities that I will be able to do.*

Logan Stallworthy



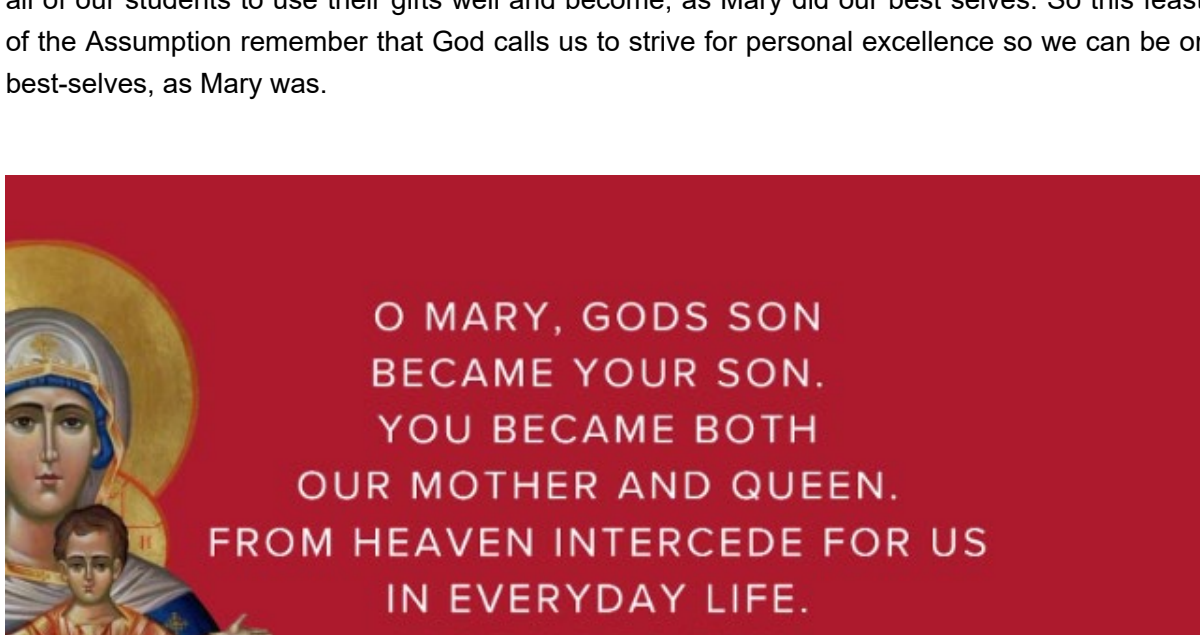
## Special Character

Last Monday the school celebrated the Feast Day of St Ignatius of Loyola with a Mass at St Patrick's Pukekohe. It was a particularly special day for us as it is the first time we celebrated Mass as a college.

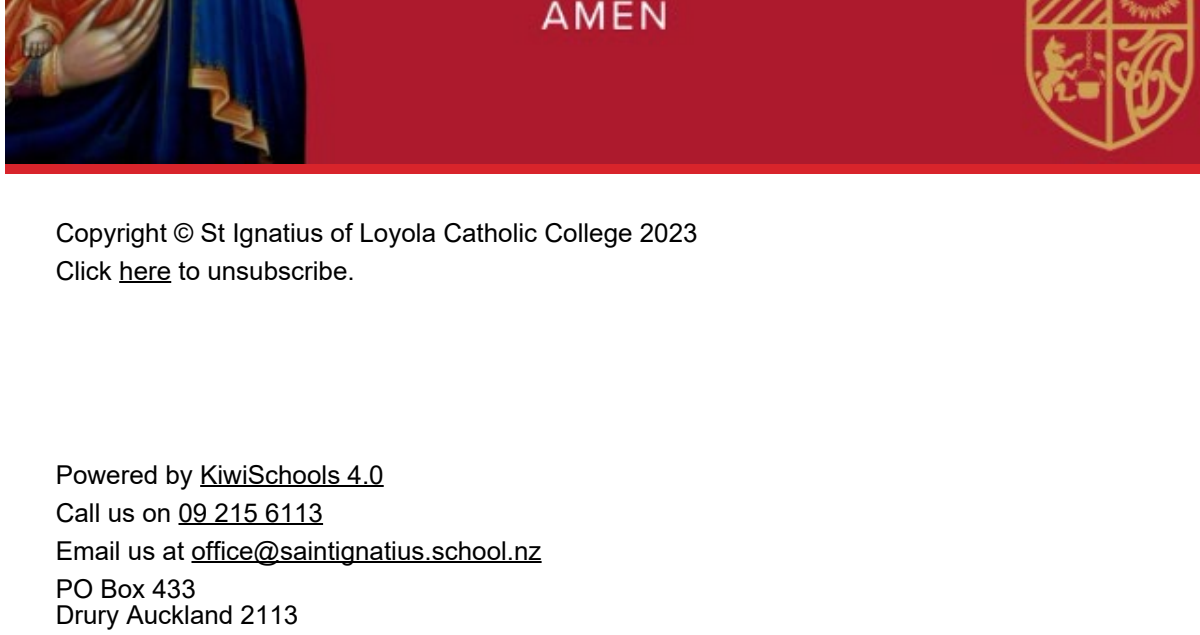
Fr Robert Steele was the principal celebrant and in his homily he reminded us that St Ignatius wanted people to focus and prioritise the things that matter, in effect, "the things of God" and once we have these in order then we are best placed to "go forth and set the world on fire."

The Mass was well attended by representatives from the Catholic Diocese of Auckland,

members of the School Board and our main feeder schools of St Mary's Papakura, Holy Trinity Takanini and St Joseph's Pukekohe. Catherine Ryan, the Vicar for Education for the Auckland Diocese was present and addressed the congregation after communion, congratulating the gathered community on the special occasion and about the fantastic opportunities available for students attending the college next year. We would like to thank all involved in the day, particularly the students from our main contributing Catholic Primary schools for their ministries; their service made it a beautiful occasion.



We have been blessed that the Jesuits have placed into our care seven first-class relics including one of St Ignatius of Loyola, these were present at the Mass and can be seen in the photo below. We continue to ask for his prayers as we continue the work of establishing our college. It is with a great sense of excitement that we look forward to celebrating again next year with students and on our new site.



Next Tuesday the Church celebrates the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the patronal feast of New Zealand. In the Catholic Church, we ask saints to take a special interest in us by bringing our projects, concerns and joys to God. In New Zealand that saint is the Blessed Virgin Mary in her state of being assumed into heaven. So what does this mean?

Mary is for us the perfect model of what it is to follow Jesus. She was present at all of the important moments of his life – birth, ministry and death. She is also present at the beginning of the Church at Pentecost where she supported the congregation after their ministries, particularly St John who at Jesus' request adopted her as his own mother. The feast we celebrate on Tuesday is directly related to this. Jesus had a special place in his heart for his mother – as many children do – and Mary was in such a perfect relationship with God, that when the time came for her to die she became the first of us to follow Jesus into heaven; body and soul. This is where we get the word assumed as it is a reminder that she didn't ascend as Jesus did – who did it under his own power – but rather she was assumed or brought up into heaven by God's choice.

Mary serves as a reminder to us all of what following God looks like. By no means was she a carbon copy of Jesus; instead she was fully herself, she answered God's call and became the best possible version of Mary. Perhaps the best example of this is that she said 'yes' to being his mother, not just when asked but also throughout the life earthly life of Christ. God calls us all to become our best selves and to use our gifts well whether that be academic, sporting, cultural or in our interactions with others. Ignatian spirituality knows this well, we discern decisions that will bring us ever more closely with Christ knowing that this is not in competition with our happiness. At St Ignatius, this is best seen in our striving towards 'Magis' or personal excellence, we want all of our students to use their gifts well and become, as Mary did our best selves. So this feast of the Assumption remember that God calls us to strive for personal excellence so we can be or best-selves, as Mary was.

