Dear Parents and Carers

As this is the last newsletter the staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very much for all your support throughout the year, it has been much appreciated.

It has been a very busy year and the last couple of weeks have been particularly busy. Thank you to those parents who helped set up and dismantle tents for the Year Two Sleep Over last Friday. Thanks must also go to the group of Year Six parents who worked so hard to organise the successful 'Year Six and Out’ family fun night last Friday.

Just a couple of other important reminders.

A letter will go home on Friday about the Junior School Presentation Night on Thursday 6 December outlining the details for the rehearsal at Wrest Point during the day and the performance that night.

A letter will also go home on Friday about the Junior School and Early Learning Centre Picnic days.

Step up Day will occur on Wednesday 6 December. Boys from Prep to Year Five spend half an hour after recess in their ‘new’ classroom for next year along with their ‘new teacher.’ All boys will take home a 2008 class list at the end of the day. Please remember the class lists are set and are not negotiable unless there has been a serious educational oversight. The Year Six boys spend the whole day in Middle School on this day as part of their Orientation and the 2008 Prep boys have their Orientation morning on Monday 4 December from 8.45 am until recess.

Please ensure that you have informed us of a change in:- your email contact and mailing address and details at work and home, your family circumstances, and the medical status of your son.

Please return any Library books.

Reports will be posted home next Thursday 6 December.

Once again thank you all very much for your support this year and we hope that you have an enjoyable and relaxing festive season.

Jenny Manthey - Head of Junior School/Early Learning Centre

What lies behind us
And what lies before us
Are tiny matters
Compared to
What lies within us
Ralph Waldo Emerson
**Kindergarten**

Three new boys visited their brothers in Kindergarten last week.

Luke Manns with baby brother Samuel, Quinn Kacic-Midson with Ellis and Felix Morgan with Toby.

**Prep**

*Santa’s Little Helpers*

Thomas Reeves, Lachlan Richardson and Nathan Plunkett

**Year One**

**Sam’s Christmas**

One Christmas Eve Santa’s elves were working very hard. Santa was sleeping. He was trying not to wake up because the elves were humming while they were working. He woke when the telephone rang. It was a little boy called Sam. He said, “Can I please have a rocking horse and everything else you have except coal and potatoes.” But Santa gave Sam coal and potatoes, no toys. Every other child got toys. Sam was very disappointed when he woke up. Immediately he phoned Santa back. He wanted to stomp the ground but he didn’t want to get it twice in a row so he just hung up before Santa could know who it was.

Sam gloomily walked back to his Mum and dad’s bedroom. His Mum and dad got all the presents in the house. Sam thought he had zero presents. Sam had a tiny present laying in the corner. It was very small. Sam opened it. Sam was amazed. Sam got what he wanted, a rocking horse. It was all in pieces. Sam carefully carried it up to his Mum and Dad’s room. When Sam got there he was panting for breath. Sam threw his box onto his Mum and Dad’s bed. His Mum and Dad were very angry. Sam ran to the phone and quickly phoned Santa and said, “Santa, my Mum and Dad say they are very angry with me. I didn’t do anything wrong.” “Well, if you didn’t do anything, why are your Mum and Dad angry?” asked Santa.

Just at that moment Sam’s Mum and Dad came speeding like a rocket toward Sam and crashed into him. Santa came and said, “I’m going to make all of these Sam’s presents because Sam is so good.” “Happy Christmas everyone,” said Santa as Santa left and everyone was happy.

James Anderson  Year 1S

**Prep**

*Santa’s Little Helpers*

Thomas Reeves, Lachlan Richardson and Nathan Plunkett

**Year Two**

**Sleepover Memories**

Last Friday night on the ELC Oval, Year 2 had a sleepover. These are some of my memories. My favourite one was spotlight because we had to search the oval. I also enjoyed Tent Time and last but not least there were the quiet games. Daniel, Max, Hamish and myself made a fort out of jenga, tessellations and MAB blocks. I really enjoyed the sleepover.

James Tucker

Last Friday night 2L and 2S pitched their tents on the ELC grounds. My favourite memories were: Spotlight with Mr Groves, TT and having the worst sleep ever! Spotlight with Mr Groves was about Quentin, our community bear, hidden on the oval. He was going to blow up in 16 minutes. Patrick Kearney found him just in time. TT (Tent Time) was supposed to be inside our tents but nearly everyone was outside playing and even Adam the gap student set up a game of cricket. Apart from the bad night it was the best Year 2 event ever! Ramsay Waterhouse

**More elves**

Patrick Alcock, Sam Kokkoris and Joshua Seaman.

**Tent Time at the Year 2 Sleepover**

Max Kokkoris and Hamish McCulloch
Year Three
As part of our work with chickens we constructed experiments to save chicken eggs after they fell from a 2 storey building. The boys came up with some wonderful design and we had 31 out of 44 eggs survive the drop!!

London Times Obituary of the late Mr Common Sense
Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as: Knowing when to come in out of the rain; why the early bird gets the worm; Life isn’t always fair; and may be it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don’t spend more than you earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6 year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a class mate; teen suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or a bandaid to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense was replaced by the Ten Commandments become contraband; crimes became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a beating when you couldn’t defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and a son, Reason. He is survived by his 4 stepbrothers, I Know My Rights, I want It Now, Someone Else Is to Blame and I’m a Victim.

Not too many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.

Year Four
On Friday 16 November a team went to represent Hutchins at the Interschool Athletics carnival. Here are the reports from some of the Year Four boys.

When we arrived, we had to get ready. We did a warm up lap. I did the 400m and came first in Division A. Then straight after I did the long jump and I came second with a jump of 3.69m. Then we had a break. Then I did the 100m and came first. Next I had the 200m and came first. Next Lachlan and I did the high jump and we were equal third. Last I did the relay and came first by a long way.

Connor Spaulding

I did the 100m and came second in Division A. Then I did the 200m and came first in Division B. Then I went in the relay. I was the last runner. We came first.

Patrick Lickiss

I did the 400m and came first in Division B. Then I went in the 100m. I came second. Last, I went in the relay and we won.

Will Geason

First I did the vortex and came third. Then I had a break and went in the 100m. I came second by not much.

Allan Bakker

I did the 100m and came sixth. I had a break for a long time and then I did the relay and we came first.

Thomas Sonneveld

My first event was the 100m and I came first. My next event was the 200m and I came second in Division A. Last I did the relay and we came first.

Carter Hansen

First I did the 100m and came third. Then I did the 200m and came first. Next I did the high jump and I was equal third with Connor. Then I went in the relay and we came first.

Lachlan Paul

Year Five
We would like to thank all the families who made the billeting experience for students from Launceston Church Grammar School last week such a success. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Boys have been busy learning about early Australian exploration and have worked together to produce some interesting work to present to the class.

Josh Williamson and Henry Garrett have been selected to represent the south in cricket at a series in Ulverstone in December. Good Luck!

Year 5 would also like to thank all those who have contributed to the collection of Christmas toys and games for the hospital and Ronald McDonald House. It is still not too late if you have any other items. These can be delivered to classrooms or to the JS Office.

Finally, we would like to thank all those people who have helped us this year. We would not have been able to have so many wonderful learning experiences without your assistance.

We hope you have a very special Christmas with your families.
Summer Holiday Program
The Summer Holiday program is now available and filling up quickly - especially Tuesday and Thursdays (excursion days). Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Anglicare Christmas Appeal
Please help with the collection of Christmas food for distribution to the needy families of Hobart. Any items can be left at the School Chapel.

JS Presentation Night DVD/Video Order
JS Presentation Night is to be held on 6 December at Wrest Point Casino. We are again offering the service of having a professionally recorded DVD or Video of the evening available for you to purchase, provided sufficient orders are received.

Orders will need to be returned to school by Friday 30 November, accompanied by payment. The cost for either DVD or Video is $30.00. Payment may be made by either cash or cheque. If paying by cheque please make this payable to The Hutchins School and returned to Mrs Priest at the Junior School office.

Orders will be distributed to the boys prior to the completion of the school year. Please note: Obviously due to time constraints we will be unable to accept late orders.

Recycle Mobile Phones
The Kidney Foundation is leading the fight against Kidney disease. By simply recycling your mobile phones you can help save the environment by limiting the numbers of old mobile phones containing highly toxic metals that end up as land fill.

A box has been placed in the JS Reception area for placement of any old mobile phones.

Year Six
Last Friday night Year 6 boys along with their families had a great time participating in '6 and Out'.

This was an opportunity for the boys to celebrate reaching the end of their Junior School years. An enthusiastic band of parents did all of the organising and ran the night.

There were some magnificently dressed family members as all were asked to dress as something that started with and ‘H’. There was Humpty, some Hippies, some Hillbillies, at least one Hobgoblin, some Hula dancers, Hermione, a Hawthorn footy player, Hi 5 and Heaps of others.

Christmas Hospital Appeal
Over the next few weeks Year 5 will be running their Hospital Christmas Appeal.

Any toys, books, games, videos, DVD’s, electronic games etc that your child has outgrown would be greatly appreciated. Please send these along to your sons class. They will be distributed to the children’s ward and Ronald Macdonald House.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the staff of ELC and Junior School.