

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

14TH FEBRUARY 2017

“Our children can achieve great things when we set high expectations for them.”

Jeb Bush

Learning

Believing

Belonging

Respecting

Reaching Out

Personal Best

From the Principal

Welcome back to returning students and a big welcome to all of our new students and families!

A recent report featured in the news suggested up to 40% of Australian students were disengaged at school - that is, they weren't really interested in the learning taking place. Sometimes this disengagement led to behaviour problems, but more often than not, the students are sitting quietly in the classroom doing the bare minimum, or less, so they don't get noticed by the teacher.

This is a worrying trend and probably goes somewhat to explaining the declining results Australia achieves on international tests like PISA.

And it is easy for us to sit back and say “We don't have that problem,” however, we really know? Are our students really reaching the standards they are capable of, or are they doing “just enough” so they can cruise through school without pushing themselves?

We constantly need to raise the expectations of our students and push them to achieve better and better results. Students usually live up or down to the expectations we have of them, so the higher our expectations the better. Of course we need to make sure the students have the scaffolding they need to reach our expectations, but “just

enough” should no longer be good enough for us. If it is, we are letting down the next generation.

**Principal,
Mr Richard Chapman**

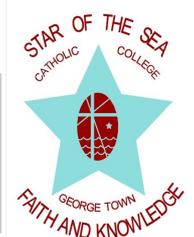


Calendar

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| Thursday 16/2 | Primary Assembly 2.15pm |
| Tuesday 21/2 | Induction of College Leaders 11.00am |
| Monday 27/2 | College Welcome Evening (more information next week) |

Our Lady Star of the Sea Mass times: Saturday 6.00pm Sunday 11.00am

Please see our Social Media sites for information on:
George Town Junior Football Club Registration Day
George Town Gospel Event - Wrap Party



Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart

Spirituality

Attentiveness

Hospitality

Compassion



St Valentine's Day

'We love because God first loved us' 1 John 4:19

St Valentine's Day, for the most part, focuses on romantic love and is characterised by romantic gestures such as the exchange of flowers, chocolates and gifts. St Valentine, the source of this celebration, was a third-century Christian martyr. He was a priest, possibly a bishop, and a physician from the city of Rome. He was thrown into prison for his teachings. On February 14, AD 269 Valentine was beheaded, not only because he was a Christian, but also because he had performed a miracle. He supposedly cured the gaoler's daughter of her blindness. The night before he was executed, he wrote the gaoler's daughter a farewell letter, signing it "From Your Valentine."

The custom of choosing a sweetheart on this date spread through Europe in the Middle Ages, and then to the early American colonies. If love followed, so would engagement – the next mid February, romantically enough. If this doesn't sound familiar enough, these betrothals were sealed with a gift exchange.

One of the earliest popular symbols of the day is Cupid, the Roman god of love, who is represented by the image of a young boy with bow and arrow, but St Valentine's Day should not be restricted to couples. Whoever we are, we are first love by God, and can celebrate this on St Valentine's Day and share that love with others. Every day we have opportunities to show our love for members of our family, and for people with whom we associate, especially those in need.

Love. We often have it, and simply take it for granted. But sometimes, if we're lucky, we live long enough to grow into it in such a way that because of it, we come to recognise the value of life. As the years go by, we come to love flowers and cats and small infants and old ladies and the one person in life who knows how hot we like our coffee. We learn enough about love to allow things to slip away and allow ourselves to melt into the God whose love made all of it possible. Sometimes we even find a love deep enough to detach us from the foam and frills of life, all of which hold us captive to things that cannot satisfy. Sometimes we live long enough to see the face of God in another. Then, in that case, we have loved. (Extract from Meredith Lemos)



The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread.

Mother Teresa

Share the
love of Christ
on Valentine's Day.

Communication

Star of the Sea Catholic College can be a busy place, and it is important we communicate as best we can to parents and community what is going on. Ways in which we will communicate information this year are:

Through Facebook - Facebook is a way we not only let the community know the achievements of our students, but also a way we communicate other messages that parents need to know.

Through Skoolbag - Skoolbag is an app for your smartphone or device that we use to post messages, copies of letters for parents and copies of our newsletter. Simply download the app and search for Star of the Sea.

Through the newsletter - the College newsletter will be published each Tuesday and will keep families and the community up to date with latest events and what is coming up. Due to limited space and the extravagant cost of printing, advertisements that are not directly related to the College will only be added to our electronic version (through Facebook, Skoolbag and the College website).

Through letters home - whilst as parents you sign off on minor excursions (e.g. short trips around town) when your child is enrolled, bigger excursions need permission. Along with this, since we aim for no surprises, letters to let you know of planned minor excursions or other events will also be sent home, along with any other vital information.

Welcome

We welcome our new students and their families to Star of the Sea Catholic College. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Year 8: Tayte

Year 7: Alyssa - Nicole - Harry - Brayden - Ethan - Shaniya

Year 5: Tristan

Year 3: Jayden

Year 2: Isabelle

Year 1: Jessie

Prep: Leo

Kinder: Sabian - Scarlett - Tahi - Hamish - Raphael - Allira-Grace

Invitation

We invite all families to our Induction and Blessing of College Leaders on Tuesday 21st February at 11:00am. This will coincide with the visit of Her Excellency Governor Kate Warner to the College on that day.

Welcome Evening

It is traditional that the College has a Welcome Evening at the beginning of the year as a chance for parents and teachers to meet. This will take place on Monday 27th February and will take on a slightly different look this year, with a more structured time to help with conversations. More information will come soon about this.

Primary Assembly

We invite all Kinder to Year 6 families to attend our Primary Assembly which will be held in the Primary Gallery at 2.15pm every **Thursday**. All Welcome.

Medical Information

Medical update forms will be sent home with each student tomorrow. These forms allow us to update our medical data base for the 2017 school year. Please return them to the College office by Wednesday February 22.

Year 7 Immunisation forms went home with students last week. These will need to be returned to the College office by February 20, as the Council will be collecting them on that day. If you do not return them by this day, your child will not be immunised at the College

Congratulations

Newstead College had their Presentation Evening for 2016 last week.

Star of the Sea College would like to take the opportunity to congratulate these past graduates on their success and awards.

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|-------------------|--|
| Nathaniel Wood | Musical Theatre |
| Danielle Muralt | English Communications 3 |
| Nicola Cunningham | UTAS Sports Recreation Management |
| Jessie Cunningham | Life Sciences 2 |
| Andrew Laird | Electronics Foundation 2 |
| Ethan Mikic | Outstanding Results in Year 11 |
| Alexander Wood | Outstanding Results in Year 11 |
| | Minister for Education & Training – Respectful Student Award |
| Emily Denny | Academic Excellence |
| | Newstead College SRC President |
| Morgan Kelly | Academic Excellence |
| Nicola Cunningham | Academic Excellence |
| | Commitment to Future Education |
| Jesse Cunningham | Academic Excellence |
| Maddison Schenk | Academic Excellence |
| Bliss Cocker | Zonta Club Endeavour Award |
| Taylor Sternek | Outstanding Service to the College and the Community |

Traffic & Student Safety

The school urges all parents to support road safety by obeying signage displayed and also ask that you remind your child/ren to be very aware of potential traffic-related dangers around the school. Sometimes motorists don't always abide by road laws, and if students are crossing inappropriately (with or without you), or are just not aware of their surroundings we could have an accident. The education and care of our students is a partnership between the staff and parents and we all need to do our bit by acting appropriately and not showing a disregard for road laws, even if only to demonstrate to children watching an example of appropriate behaviour.

School Banking - begins Friday 17th February

Heritage Isle Credit Union runs a school banking program in partnership with the local schools in George Town . This program is a great way for children to begin to learn about saving money – and they get rewarded for doing it as well! Bank books should be sent to the College Office on Friday mornings, and one of our team members collects the banking and deposits into the students account. If you would like to open an account with HICU for your child, we will need the following:

Identification – Birth Certificate and a letter from your child's school (name, address and date of birth)

Completed application form for the child and one for the signatory (parent guardian)

If the child is under 13 years of age, an adult needs to be a signatory on the account. If your child already has an account with us at HICU, pop in to branch and collect a school banking deposit book and wallet.

