

Star of the Sea Catholic College

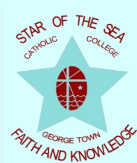
Newsletter

18th February 2020

In true dialogue, both sides are willing to change.

- Thich Nhat Hanh

**Attentiveness
Hospitality
and
Compassion**



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From the Principal

A few weeks ago the United States launched their peace plan for the Israelis and Palestinians. It proposed various things like Palestine becoming a state in its own right, some more land given to the Palestinians and some other land taken away.

The whole plan fell apart pretty quickly when it became apparent that the Palestinians weren't interested in a peace plan that they weren't involved in developing.

Unfortunately the United States' attitude toward the development of this plan is something which is seen in society quite a bit today. People are told what is good for them and they must accept it. But the people who it effects have very little say in the matter.

Closer to home, for many years the Australian government's attitude towards the Australian Aboriginals has been very similar. From the Stolen Generation to today's practice of issuing welfare cards to Aboriginals, there doesn't seem to have been a lot of consultation but instead a lot of "we know

what's best for you so don't argue."

Schools face great challenges in working with parents to maintain the balance of providing an education to children, but also being able to consult with parents as to what is the best way of providing that education. Schools only see students for about 6 hours each weekday for 40 weeks of the year, which means parents see their children for a lot longer and have a greater idea about what is best for their child. The flip side is, though, that parents and educators see children in two very different environments. The home environment where there may only be a couple of other siblings, and a structured classroom environment where there may be 20 other children in the class are two very different things. Parents often have experience with only their own children, whilst some educators have had experience with thousands of children over their careers.

But parents and educators should constantly be looking for

ways to maintain dialogue with each other. We are fortunate at Star of the Sea Catholic College that parents of primary students are often able to call in to the teacher in the morning or afternoon to have a quick catch-up with the teacher. The structure of a secondary school doesn't make that as easy so we have to look at other ways of providing those opportunities for dialogue.

There are sometimes no easy answers, but if we are truly to be a community we need to keep trying. Sometimes it might work, sometimes it might fail dismally, but that should not stop us from trying to be a welcoming and opening school to all of our parents. Communities operate effectively through good dialogue and the chance for each other to be heard and contribute to decision making. For Star of the Sea Catholic community, that should be our aim too.

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal

CALENDAR

Wednesday 19th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.00am - 10.30am SetUp (formally Playgroup)
Thursday 20th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11.30am Induction of College Leaders 2.15pm Primary Assembly 7.30pm - 8.30pm Year 7, 2020. Information Evening
Tuesday 25th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday 26th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ash Wednesday (No meat products will be sold at the canteen) 9.00am - 10.30am SetUp (formally Playgroup)

Star of the Sea Catholic College acknowledges the Leterremairener people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our school stands.

Religious Education and Faith Development

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality

Servant Leadership

We congratulate our students who have been elected to leadership roles in our College for 2020. As our leaders move into their new roles may they be inspired by the example of Jesus, who showed us how to serve others in a very practical way when he washed the feet of his followers, which was traditionally the responsibility of the house-servant. Even though he was aware of his position as a leader, Jesus was motivated by a genuine love for his followers and a desire to set an example.

As our College leaders begin the task ahead of them, may they be blessed with God's gifts so that they may have the courage and commitment to serve the needs of others before their own, have a listening heart and be a voice of encouragement to all.



Shrove Tuesday

Shrove Tuesday is more commonly known as pancake-day and it is the Christian celebration of feasting the day before Christians begin fasting or abstinence during the 40 days of Lent. This year Shrove Tuesday is on 25th February. To help us celebrate, some of our parents and senior student leaders will be making pancakes for all the students. Yum!



Ash Wednesday

The following day, 26th February is Ash Wednesday, the first day of the season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection and fasting, which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. On Ash Wednesday many Christians around the world receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads. This is a reminder that we are not perfect, but with God's help we can try to reach out to others with more love and kindness.

On Ash Wednesday we will be holding prayer service in the Church for students from Years 3-10.

As Ash Wednesday is a day of abstinence for Catholics, this is the one-day meat products will not be sold in the school canteen.

SetUp for Success

Our Early Learning program, SetUp for Success (simply known as *SetUp*) will begin this Wednesday 19th February and runs from 9:00am to 10:30am in the Kinder room. Mrs Trudy Hoffman will run the program, which is for children aged 0-5 and their families. Watch out for more information on our Facebook page in the coming weeks!



Welcome

We welcome Robert Tame (Year 7) and his family to Star of the Sea. We hope they enjoy their time here.

Who to Contact

In this week's newsletter we have included a basic guide of who to contact around the school. Schools can often be complex operations and we don't always know the most appropriate person to speak to, so we hope that this guide provides some help to parents and families.

Shrove Tuesday

Next Tuesday 25th February is Shrove Tuesday, the day traditionally set aside for feasting before entering into the fasting period of Lent. It is also traditionally the time when we eat pancakes (coming from the idea of using up certain types of foods before Lent) and, as we have done in previous years, we hope for our students to be able to share in some pancakes. If any parents or carers are able to help cook these for our students, can you please contact the College office by this Friday 21st February. You will need a WWVP card to help out.

New Priest for the Parish

This week we welcome Father Balasundaram Antonyraj (Father Bala) to the parish. Father Bala takes over from Father Edward and we look forward to working with him over the coming years.

Guitar and Keyboard Tutor Wanted

Our guitar and keyboard tutor, Alex Millward, has now moved to the south of the state and because of that we are seeking a new tutor or tutors. If you are able to tutor guitar or keyboard and would like to find out some more information around it, please contact Mr Chapman at the College. A WWVP card is compulsory.

Parents and Friends

A letter was sent home last week regarding opportunities to be part of our 2020 Parents and Friends group. If you are able to help out, please return the forms as soon as possible so we can begin with meetings.

Year 7 Transition Information Evening

Our Transition Information Evening for parents and carers of our Year 7s is this Thursday. Please inform the office if you are attending if you haven't already done so. The evening will go ahead as we have had enough responses. It will be held in the new area of the secondary campus (near the carpark).

Fees

A reminder to parents that invoices for fees will be sent home at the end of February. If you would like information on direct debit please contact Mrs Condric in the Finance Office, or pick up a form from the College Office.

Medical Information

It is necessary for us to keep the student's medical information up to date. Student Medical Background forms will be sent home with each student on Wednesday 19th February. If there have been any changes to your child's medical requirements, to which the school should be notified, please complete the form and return it to the school by Wednesday 26th February.

Uniform Shop

Just a reminder that the Uniform Shop is open on Thursday afternoons from 2.00pm - 4.00pm. Aprons and hats for Hospitality classes can be purchased also.

Shout Out Week 1, 2020

Date	Student's Name	Reason
7/2	Ruby Davidson	Being a good friend and sharing
7/2	Billy Power	Helping a class mate
11/2	William Singline	Listening quietly on the mat
7/2	Zoe Gillies	Fantastic attention in music
11/2	Alby Hawkins	Being a great restorer
11/2	Mia Barker	Playing nicely with her friends
11/2	Brock Holden	Being a great listener
11/2	Vanessa Linley	Beautiful paintings
11/2	Luis Lee	Saying please and thanks you
11/2	Dyson Bromley	Being a good listener
11/2	Ether Daire	Listening well
10/2	Brooke Baillie	Fast and clever math work
7/2	Archie Parker	Fantastic attention in music
11/2	Huntar Carnie	Listening well
11/2	Jaxsyn Pollock	Music
11/2	Miley MacFarlane	Music
11/2	Connor Judd	Music
7/2	Jack Lindfors	Supporting a classmate
11/2	Indiana Cartwright	Music
7/2	Oscar Smith	Being a kind person
11/2	Kirra-Lyla Harris	Her great cutting skills
11/2	Evie King	Singing Beautifully
11/2	Huntar Carnie	Singing Beautifully
11/2	Danica Sweet	Beautiful dancing
11/2	Chase Davis	Packing up our classroom without being asked
11/2	Charlotte Judd	Her colourful work
11/2	Ashton Meessen	Asking an adult for help
7/2	Jessie Anlezark	Excellent Manners

PBS Focus:

We are safe when we keep our hands to ourselves in the yard.



Shout Out Winners:

- * Jaxsyn Pollock - Game for the whole class.
- * Connor Judd - iPad or Mac time.

Stars of the Week - 13th February 2020

Kinder	Chase Davis	For his willingness to help around the classroom.
Prep	Dyson Bromley	For making a very settled start to his Prep year. Dyson listens well and works hard.
Grade 1	Hunaisha Ahmed	For being a kind and considerate class member.
Grade 2/3	Miley MacFarlane	For her caring and thoughtful attitude around the classroom.
Grade 4/5	Jack Lindfors	For his helpfulness and co-operation in the classroom.
Grade 5/6	Sianna Brunacci	For her continued dedication to improving her mathematical skills.

We invite you to join us
on
Thursday 20th February 2020
@ 11:30am
in the Church
to officially introduce
our
2020 College Leaders



Out and about at Star

School Communication Procedures

Schools can get busy and we sometimes can be unsure of who the most appropriate person is to contact at Star of the Sea Catholic College.

The following, while not covering every possibility, gives a brief guide. Sometimes it may not be possible to speak to the person you want straight away, but by leaving a message at the office the person you want will be able to get back to you.

Mr Damien Taylor (Deputy Principal) - for major concerns about behaviour; for when students are reluctant to come to school.

Mrs Melissa McGillivray (Student Support Coordinator) - for questions about special learning needs, Learning Plans, student wellbeing and NAPLAN.

Mrs Sally Walters (Curriculum Coordinator) - for questions about curriculum and reporting.

Mrs Rose Briscoe (Religious Education Coordinator) - for questions about Reflection Days and College prayer and liturgies.

Mr Gary Goodall (Year 10 Coordinator) - for questions about Year 10 events and activities.

The class teacher (Primary) - for questions or concerns about academic progress or social issues; for minor issues about behaviour.

The class teacher (Secondary) - for questions or concerns about overall academic progress or social issues.

The subject teacher (Secondary) - for questions or concerns about academic progress or behaviour in a certain class.

Mrs Kathryn Condric (Bursar) - for questions or concerns around fees.

The College Office - for all other questions or concerns. While the people in the office may not know the answer straight away, they will be able to find out from the appropriate person.

Mr Richard Chapman (Principal) - while the Principal delegates certain duties to different staff around the College, if you feel your concerns have not been addressed adequately you can book an appointment with the Principal to help to address them.