

Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

13TH FEBRUARY 2018

From the Principal

“Wanting to be somebody else is a waste of the person you are.” -

- Marilyn Monroe

Learning
Believing
Belonging
Respecting
Reaching Out
Personal Best

If we are going to be happy, one of the first things we need to do is to accept ourselves for who we are. This can be quite difficult for us in the modern world, and even more difficult for our students. We live in a world where we are constantly compared to others. A lot of this is done through social media. We compare ourselves with others through Facebook or Instagram, we compare how many likes others have or how many views their post has had.

Of course, all of this is not helpful to our mental health. It is no surprise that the rise in mental health issues in recent times has been at a similar time to the rise in social media. It is important that we teach our students that they are not defined through their social media pages.

Accepting ourselves for who we are means accepting a few things about ourselves, like our bodies, our minds, our mistakes, our feeling and emotions, and our personalities. We are not all built like athletes. We do not all have the intelligence of rocket

scientists. We are who we are, and that's okay. That doesn't mean we don't look after ourselves, but it does mean we accept our limitations.

Even our schools these days are things that we compare. We feel we need to compare the teachers in them with those in other schools, or the programs they run with the programs that other schools run.

At Star of the Sea Catholic College, we accept ourselves for who we are. We are not a school of thousands of students, nor are we trying to be. We don't offer every extra-curricular activity under the sun, nor do we want to. We accept who we are - a Catholic school serving the people of George Town and surrounds that offers quality education, small class sizes, a caring atmosphere and a dedicated staff. And that's okay.

Staff Movements

We welcome Miss Meghan Edwards (Grade 3/4), Mr Tim Harris (Utility Officer) and Naomi Cox (Cleaner) onto our staff this year.

Late last year, Mrs Denise Milburn and Max requested 12 months leave. We wish them all the best for 2018 and look forward to seeing them in 2019.

Mrs Milburn's teaching load has been taken up by Mr Gary Goodall and Mrs Chris Jones.

Many of our Grade 3/4 parents would be aware that Mrs Michelle Hoult is a candidate in the March state election. The College has a contingency plan should she be successful.

Board and Parents and Friends

Included in this newsletter is some information about opportunities to join the College Board and Parents and Friends. Take some time to read through them and please consider helping our College out by joining one of these groups.

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal

Welcome
Back

Calendar

Thursday 15th February:

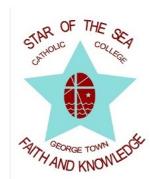
Wednesday 21st February:

Primary Assembly 2.15pm in the Gallery

Playgroup @ Star 9am till 10.30am

Induction of Student Leaders 11.30am

Welcome evening & BBQ 5pm till 7pm



Religious Education and Faith Development

February 11 was world day of prayer for the sick. This day, established by Pope John Paul II in 1993, is celebrated each year on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

On this day of prayer we called to mind all those who are sick in our community and give thanks for health workers, volunteers and all those who minister to the sick and infirmed.



Shrove Tuesday

Heart

Spirituality

Attentiveness



Hospitality

Compassion

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. To help us celebrate some of our mums and Year 10 leaders made pancakes for all students today. Yum!



This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 14. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, which lasts for six weeks and leads us to Christ's resurrection at Easter. We call it Ash Wednesday because many Christians around the world receive a cross of ashes on their foreheads. It is a day of penance, reflection and prayer.

This cross of ashes reminds us that we are not perfect, and that we know we are not perfect. With God's help we can try to reach out to others with more love and kindness especially in our own families, our school and parish communities and in our world and think about how we can be better people.

On Ash Wednesday we will be holding a prayer service in in the Church for students from Year 2- to Year 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.

Congratulations to the following **Star Powerball Winners**:

- Week 1 winners were Jen Parish & Roberta Ferguson with #22
- Week 2 winners were D'arne Breward & Melitta O'Toole with #39
- Week 3 winners were Jody Maurer & Sally Walters with #31
- Week 4 winners were Sheree Jones & Anne Pearce with #33
- Week 5 winners were Deanne MacKean & Jo-Anne Suitor with #29
- Week 6 winners were Mandy O'Toole & Shirley Lincoln with #19
- Week 7 winners were Dianna Rose & Helen Whinnett with #32
- Week 8 winners were Mandy O'Toole & Shirley Lincoln with #19
- Week 9 winners were Anne Pearce & Kathryn Condric with #23
- Week 10 winner was Myles Baker with #35

Thank you to everyone who supported our First Lego League Team by purchasing a Star Powerball number.

Welcome

We welcome new students and their families to Star of the Sea.

Grade 9: Jesse

Grade 8: Sophie, Lara & Piper

Grade 7: Ashleigh, Nicholas & Azalea

Grade 6: Billy & Riley

Grade 5: Bronte & Harry

Kinder: Hunaisha, Declan, Chantz, Tilly, Ruby, Charlee, Zoe, Savannah, Ryder, William, Chelsie, Archie, Ashton & Oscar.

We hope they enjoy their time here.

Welcome Evening

Please keep Wednesday 21st February free for our Welcome Evening. The event will begin at 5:00pm with a short address by Mr Chapman in the Primary Gallery and run through to about 7:00pm. During this time, parents have the chance to have some informal conversations with their child's teachers. A BBQ will be supplied. We would encourage all parents to attend.

Invitation

We invite all families to our Induction and Blessing of College Leaders on Wednesday 21st February at 11:30am.

Ash Wednesday

Tomorrow is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. Lent is a time of fasting, prayer and almsgiving. As such, on Ash Wednesday there will be no meat products available at the school canteen. Ash Wednesday will also see the launch of Project Compassion which will culminate with the Money Line just before Easter. The students will attend an Ash Wednesday service in the church tomorrow at 11:45am. Parents and friends are welcome to join us.

When to Contact the School

Sometimes students have an off day where things don't go well. However, if students are continuously having bad days or are very reluctant to come to school, it is time to contact the class teacher or Assistant Principal and have a discussion. Similarly, if your child is having ongoing issues with another student, please contact the school. Whilst Star of the Sea will always do something about things we know, sometimes there are things we don't know because a student keeps it to themselves or a family chooses not to inform us in the hope that things will sort themselves out. However, it is much better to contact the school sooner rather than later.

Hats, Hats, Hats

A reminder that our students in the Primary area now should be wearing hats at recess and lunchtime. Students without hats will be asked to stay in the shade at these times.

School Banking - begins Friday 16th 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.



PBS Focus Week 2: Respect- Active Listening

We can show respect by being an active listener.



Traffic & students safety

The school urges all parents to support road safety by obeying signage displayed and also ask you remind your child/ren to be very aware of potential traffic related dangers around the school.

Sometimes for example, motorists do not abide by road laws, and if students are crossing inappropriately (with or without you), or just not aware of their surrounds by always looking either way, 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 your support to children watching of appropriate behaviour.

Free meningococcal W vaccination Program for Year 10

The Tasmanian Government is funding free meningococcal W vaccine in Term One for all students in Year 10 and for those students in Years 11 and 12 who did not get the vaccine in 2017. The vaccine provides protection against four strains of meningococcal disease (ACWY) and is administered as a single dose.

Parents/guardians of Year 10 students will receive the Meningococcal W consent form coming home from school with your child early in Term One 2018. You need to read the information, complete and return the form by February 21 regardless of whether your child is being vaccinated at school.

While meningococcal disease can affect people of any age, older teenagers are more likely to carry and spread the bacteria to others. The reason we are vaccinating 15 to 19 year olds is to reduce their risk of meningococcal W disease and to reduce the risk for the wider community.

The George Town Council immunisation service may contact you about the meningococcal W vaccination program. Schools are authorised to provide basic parent/guardian contact details to local councils for this purpose. To learn more about meningococcal disease and the meningococcal W vaccine visit www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/menw

Medical Information

It is necessary for us to keep the student's medical information up to date. If there have been any changes to your child's medical requirements, to which the school should be notified, please contact the school office to obtain a Medical Record update form.

Change to Hillwood School Bus Timetable/Route

There have been some changes to the Hillwood school bus timetables and routes for the 2018 school year. To assist parents and students, the Department of State Growth has now launched a new dedicated webpage with detailed information on the changes.

http://www.transport.tas.gov.au/project2018/changes_to_school_bus_routes_and_timetables_for_2018

The website lists all changes by region and school, and interactive maps showing the revised routes and timetables for the services that have been affected, together with contact details for the relevant operator if parents want to confirm any details.

Coles Sports for Schools is back to help Aussie kids stay fit and healthy. When you shop at Coles, you'll receive Sports for Schools vouchers that your local school can exchange for sports gear. The more vouchers you collect, the more sports gear they'll receive. Start collecting today and hand into Star of the Sea, because the race is

Playgroup

@Star



When: **Wednesdays 9am-10:30am**

Beginning Feb 21st

Where: **Star Kinder Room**

Who: **Families with children aged 0-5**

Bring: **Drink, Snack & hat**

Call: **63821242 for more information**



ATTENTION

2018 REGISTRATION & ACTIVITY DAY
SUNDAY 25th FEBRUARY @ 11AM
GEORGE TOWN FOOTBALL GROUND
(OPEN TO ALL BOYS AND GIRLS)

Please join us on the day above for Registration Day.
Your chance to meet the coaches, committee and potential players

AUSKICK

All past and potential participants are also invited to attend this day

Wear your sporting gear and join in on the footy based activities starting at 11.30

The GTJFC is giving 2 participants a chance to win free registration (valued at \$100 each)

FREE Sausage Sizzle and Chicken Burgers from the BBQ
\$1 Drinks available for purchase

Registration Fee of \$100 this year Includes your child's
2015 Season "Game Day" Polo Top

An Information leaflet will also be available on the day

George Town Junior Soccer Club

Is seeking players and coaches to join our club for the upcoming 2018 season.

Teams compete at Churchill Park Launceston as part of the Northern Tasmanian Junior Soccer Association with players ranging from U6 to U16. We welcome all children born 2013 and before to come along and join our club.

Registration and information day will be on February 18, 2:00pm at the clubrooms



We train Wednesdays 4:00pm-5:00pm at the Junior Soccer Clubrooms at Blue Gum Park.
For more information please contact
Dayle Clark 0408 923 140
Fiona Hills 0438 595 492

<https://www.facebook.com/gtjuniorsoccer/>

Parents and Friends

The strength of a school is determined by the involvement of all members of the community; staff, students and parents and friends.

With this in mind, Star of the Sea Catholic College extends a warm invitation to all parents and friends of the College to join our Parents and Friends Committee.

The role of the Parents and Friends Committee is, amongst other things:

- to develop a real community of parents, teachers and students, which reflect a truly Catholic ethos
- to work closely with the School Principal to achieve common goals
- to endeavour to have all parents enjoy the exciting experience of their children's formal school years
- to provide a healthy forum for ideas and discussion on relevant issues
- to assist in planning and organizing functions associated with the life of the school community
- to work to provide extra resources and items for children and teachers to assist with education and lifelong learning.

At this stage we are looking at holding meetings once a month during school time, beginning Tuesday 27th February at 9:00am at the College. However, if a number of parents would prefer another time then we are open to change.

At the initial meeting, specific roles will need to be filled such as President, Secretary, Treasurer, etc, but if you don't feel up to taking on these responsibilities, you are still most welcome to come along - no one will be forced into a role! If you would like to join the committee, simply come along for the first meeting. If you would like to join but the timing does not suit you, please contact the College and let the front office know when you are available.

It would be great if we had at least one parent from every year level in the College.

College Board

At the first Board meeting of this year, two of our Board members, Mrs Debbie Millward and Mr Michael Vanderzwan, will complete their time with the Board, having served for the maximum number of years. The College thanks them for all of their contributions to the school over the past 6 (and more) years.

In order to fill these two positions, nominations are now open to join the Star of the Sea Catholic College Board. Nominations are open to parents of current or past students and friends of the College.

The Board performs an important advisory role and has responsibility for the overall wellbeing of the school. Among its responsibilities are to:

- advise and assist with policy formulation
- support the Principal in maintaining the school as an institute of Catholic Education
- contribute and assist on matters of major change
- liaise with the local Parish
- participate in the implementation of the school's Strategic Plan
- contribute to the planning and management of maintenance and building programs
- oversee the finances of the school

The Board is made up of two ex-officio members (the Principal and the Parish Priest or their representatives) and up to 6 other members. The current Board members are Fr Edward Zammit, Mr Richard Chapman, Mr Paul Thomas, Mrs Lisa Hawkins, and Mr Michael Doherty. Board members should be able to work co-operatively, uphold confidentiality and have, or have the ability to get, Working with Vulnerable People cards. Board members should not be bankrupt or have committed fraud.

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please fill out the attached form. Nominations need to be signed by a proposer (the person who nominates), a seconder (the person who agrees with the nomination) and the nominee (the person who is being nominated).

Forms need to be returned to the College office by Monday 26th February. Should there be too many nominees an election will be called for.

Board meetings will occur on the 3rd Thursday of every month beginning Thursday 15th March at 7:00pm. There is a possibility of changing the timing should the members agree.

Nomination for Star of the Sea Catholic College Board

Proposer: _____ Signature: _____
Secunder: _____ Signature: _____
Nominee: _____ Signature: _____

Details of person nominated

Phone: _____

Email: _____