

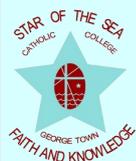
Star of the Sea Catholic College

Newsletter

4TH DECEMBER 2018

Patience is not simply the ability to wait - it's how we behave while we're waiting. - Joyce Meyer

Learning
Believing
Belonging
Respecting
Reaching Out
Personal Best



From the Principal

On Sunday we began a period of waiting in the Catholic church, commonly known as Advent.

The idea of waiting for something is becoming more and more foreign to our young people. They live in a world where a lot of things are instantaneous, or close to it. If they want to find out a piece of information, they simply jump on the internet and find it in seconds. If they want to listen to a certain song, they can download it straight away, or even stream it. In my day if you wanted to hear a certain song you would listen to the radio for hours, or even days, with the hope that it would soon come on.

Businesses are also trying to satisfy our need for instant gratification. Advertisements tell us that if our pizza isn't delivered in a certain amount of time, we'll get it half price,

or even free. Not only that, we are able to see exactly where our pizza is by following it on an app. On the flip side of this, the one thing which people seem to complain about most when it comes to hospitals is the waiting time, especially in the emergency department.

Of course the problem with our need to not wait is that it is very self-centred. While many around the world are starving, we complain if our pizza is two minutes behind time. While many in our society are homeless, we get upset if our computer is running slow. While many have no access to health care, we complain when our doctor is running 10 minutes late. I think there is a phrase that people use in these circumstances - something like "first world problems."

God, of course, does not instantly gratify us. It is quite

the opposite. Often, the unfolding of God's plan is painfully slow. We can experience hardship ourselves or within our family, we can struggle at work, we can go through toxic relationships, only to come out of it the other end with only a slight inkling of God's plan for us.

Advent is a time for us to be patient in a world that has very little patience. It is a time to stop complaining about slow service and instead look and wonder about the world around us. It is a time to reflect on the coming of someone, in the form of a child in a manger, who will ask us to leave our self-centredness behind and instead open our hearts to others.

May this Advent be a time where we re-learn how to wait.

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal

CALENDAR

Wednesday 5th December	9.00am -10:30am Playgroup @ Star 1.30pm -3.00pm Little Stars (for 2019 Kinder enrolments) Year 8 Camp
Thursday 6th December	2.15pm Primary Assembly Year 8 Camp
Friday 7th December	Year 8 Camp
Monday 10th December	Advent Prayer
Tuesday 11th December	Year 10 Reflection Day

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

The Season of Advent Has Arrived



Heart
Spirituality
Attentiveness



Hospitality
Compassion

Using the Advent wreath to count the weeks before Christmas originated in ancient harvest festivals of northern Europe. Evergreen branches were wound round wagon wheels as decoration and brought inside for the winter. These year-end celebrations were marked as well by feasting and the lighting of lamps against the growing darkness. Early Christians adapted these traditions to fit their celebration of the birth of Christ. The Advent wreath stands as symbol of Christ who comes to save us.

The growing light of the Advent wreath helps to recognise Christ not only in the historical event of the nativity but in our lives today and the hope we carry as we prepare for the coming of God's reign. The evergreen branches symbolise Christ who stands firm against the emptiness of sin and death. The circular shape reminds us of God's never ending love for humanity. The violet candles remind us to be joyful and reflect on how we can reconcile ourselves with others and God. The rose candle of joy, lit in the third week, reminds us that Christmas is just around the corner. As we gaze at the evergreen branches we catch a glimpse of eternity where there is light and warmth and life unending.

You are invited to
Star of the Sea Catholic College
Kindergarten to Year 10
End of Year
Prayer Service and Awards Evening
Friday 14th December
6.00pm
Our Lady Star of the Sea Church
Please join us

FAMILY AND SCHOOL WORKING TOGETHER

Let us keep encouraging our children to wait and be patient. The lead-up to Christmas is a great time for our children to learn the art of patience.

2019

We are busy planning for 2019 and hope to have our class structures and teachers in Primary available to our parents before the end of the week. If you have children who are leaving the College at the end of this year, could you please inform the College office as soon as possible as this will help with our planning. Alternatively, if you know of families who are wanting to enrol their children next year in our College could you encourage them to contact the office as soon as possible so that classes can be sorted without changes at the beginning of next year.

College Captains

Following consultation with staff, students and parents, we have decided that from 2019 onwards, the College Captains will be the two students who receive the most votes in the election, rather than having to be one boy and one girl. That means that future College Captains could be two boys, two girls, or one girl and one boy.

Primary Assembly

This Thursday will be our last Primary Assembly for the year (as next Thursday is our Primary Pool Day). It will be held at 2:10pm in the Primary Gallery.

Presentation Day Feast

Last Friday's Presentation Feast Day was a great occasion, with lots of fun. A big thank you to the students who brought in some food items for our Vinnies collection. They will go a long way to supporting local families who find it difficult around Christmas to have enough food on their table.



NHSSA Athletics



On Thursday 29th November the Star Academy of Sport attended the NHSSA division 3 Athletics Carnival at St. Leonards. Star had a fantastic day rewarded with our first shield in 7 years taking away the NHSSA Div 3 Athletics Senior Shield. Our juniors took out third place and we also went on to finish third overall which is a fantastic result considering the much larger schools we were competing against. We took out 15 events, many of these being field events. Many of our students displayed great College spirit by taking on extra events which certainly played a huge role in winning the shield by just 10 points. Thanks to Mr Joe Stepsys and Ms Karen Stewart who supported on the day.

GEORGE TOWN CHRISTMAS PARADE 2018

Saturday, December 15th

Meet at the Fire Station – 5:30 pm at the latest. Parade begins at 6pm

Christmas t-shirt, Christmas Hat

Please return permission forms to Mrs Mac by 13th December.



BEE BOP DANCE STUDIO— D2D 2020 Fundraiser

Come along and have your car washed Saturday the 8th December,
in George Town

at the Woolworths roundabout from 10am!!!

ONLY \$5 for a wash and rinse or \$10 for a wash rinse and chamois!!

Also while you wait enjoy a delish sausage at the BBQ!