

Star of the Sea Catholic College

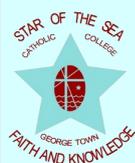
Newsletter

6TH AUGUST 2019

When you open your heart with a quiet mind, love rushes in.

- Genevieve Gerard

Learning
Believing
Belonging
Respecting
Reaching Out
Personal Best



From the Principal

To be people who are fully flourishing as human beings, we need to be people of *open hearts*. What does it mean to have an open heart? It means we approach everything and everyone with a certain amount of innocence, compassion and curiosity. We let life, and God's plan for us, unfold before us, rather than trying to be in charge.

How often have we woken up and, either happily or unhappily, predicted what our day will bring? When we do this, our hearts are closed. We don't allow for new possibilities, new ideas or new relationships to develop. We are so set on what the day will bring that we don't allow it to unfold before us so we can enjoy it with wonder and compassion.

How often do we, when we have conversations with other people, assume we know what the motives of the other people are? Each time we do this, our hearts are closed. We don't allow for new ideas from that person, or new perceptions. We

don't allow what the person is saying to unfold. Instead, we are thinking of what our reply will be, rather than deeply listening to the other person and what they have to say.

And how often do we, when an event happens in our lives or the lives of our children, start making plans about how we will work through this event? We try to control it, we try to be the people in charge, rather than letting life unfold before us and our children. We don't ask the question, "This is interesting. I wonder what will happen now? How will others react? How will our children react?" Instead we try to take charge of reactions and our response to that reaction.

If we are truly to experience freedom, we need to let go of the thought of being in charge. Life will unfold before us, despite our best efforts to control it. And sometimes it will unfold in a most surprising and amazing way that we never thought was possible. If we try to be in charge all of the time,

then we will miss out on that chance to fully appreciate life unfolding before us.

I recently attended a conference which I had preconceived ideas about. I thought it was going to be more of the usual stuff (I was only there because I had to be there, not because I wanted to) and didn't expect to gain anything out of it. I went in with a closed heart. However, on the second day, I went to a workshop which, gently but definitely, opened my heart. I heard something that raised all sorts of questions and challenges for me with regards to what might be possible.

We need to experience this every day. The Star of the Sea Catholic community need to be people of open hearts so we can let life unfold before us. God is in charge of life. That means we don't need to be. And there is great freedom in that.

Mr Richard Chapman
Principal

CALENDAR

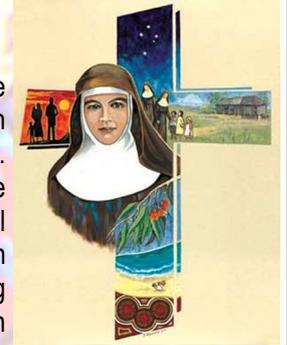
Wednesday 7th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playgroup at Star 9.00am till 10.30am
Thursday 8th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:15pm Primary Assembly
Friday 9th August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • College Disco 6pm and 8pm

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

Feast of St Mary of the Cross

“ Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1Thes. 5:18
Our Year 9 students spent their reflection day this week thinking about the importance of gratitude in their lives and the life of community. Mary Mackillop, our first Australian saint, would have been familiar with this quote from Thessalonians because she lived this. She was a woman who was always thankful for the many blessings in her life despite the challenges and worries she experienced.



Mary Mackillop is known for founding the Sisters of Saint Joseph, welfare institutions and many schools. Most of the schools she opened were in country areas and they especially focused on the education of the poor. Despite Mary’s desire to serve God and those in the greatest need, life presented many blockers. Her Sisters were not at first recognised as real nuns because they were ordinary women from poor families who lived in small mobile communities who spent their time at their schools and visiting people in their homes, hospitals, gaols or destitute asylums. These women had no fixed incomes and relied on local people and businesses for their support. Their differences brought Mary and her Sisters into opposition with the local Church Bishop Sheil excommunicated Mary for alleged insubordination, and her Sisters were disbanded.

Such adversity would have made most people want to quit but not our Mary. Yes, she must have suffered from anxiety and worry but gratitude poured out of her through the many letters she wrote. She had extraordinary trust in the providence of God and she was a doer. Her gratitude allowed her to be grounded. She accepted the cross of opposition as she worked to carry out God’s work in the world and everything that should have destroyed her was turned around.

Today we bear the legacy of her work in our schools and social institutions. Like Mary we need to be people of gratitude, hope and trust in God’s love and providence, because it is in this we can be shining witnesses to Christ’s love in the world.

Heart
Spirituality



Attentiveness
Hospitality

Stars of the Week - 1st August 2019

Kinder	Finley Upston	For his detailed drawings.
Prep/1	Ruby McDonald	For settling in class beautifully and making new friends.
Grade 2/3	James Holz	For being a focused learner during reading instruction time.
Grade 4	Maddison McDonald	For making a great start to Term 3 and fitting into our class wonderfully.
Grade 5/6 D	Kate Symes	For making a wonderful effort at improving her literacy skills this term.
Grade 5/6 W	Luke Chapman	For being in charge of his own learning and using feedback to improve his work. Well done!

Making Jesus Real

So many times we have the opportunity to help other people. This can be in small ways by giving someone a smile or speaking to people, not the heroics of a big gift.

Takers always moan and want more and more. They can never be satisfied.

Givers say things like "How can I help you?", "Thank you" and "Yes I can!". Takers say things like "Do I have to?", "Why can't you do it?" and "Who cares?".



Disco

Our Disco will be held this Friday evening between 6pm and 8pm in the Hall. More information about this went out last week. We hope to see many of our school community there.

Secondary Redevelopments

You will have noticed that our secondary building has started to take a bit more shape over the last couple of weeks. There have recently been more contractor's vehicles parked near the building site, so we ask everyone to take extra care when driving past the front of the school.

Feast of Assumption

The Feast of the Assumption is on Thursday 15th August and is a holy day of obligation. On this day we take the opportunity to gather as a Catholic community to celebrate this Feast Day with Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church at 9:15am. We look forward to seeing members from across our Catholic community at the celebration.

Book Week

Book Week is on its way!

The theme is "Reading is my Secret Power" beginning 17th August until Friday 23rd August. Children and staff are encouraged to dress up as their favourite character or even create their own costume.

There will be a parade during book week, date and time to be advised, so get your thinking caps on.

Lisa Barrenger

Country Gold

Last Thursday, sixteen Grade 5/6 students went to South George Town Primary to try out for the Tamar Region for the Country Gold Carnival in September.

Congratulations to all who tried out. We were really impressed with how you conducted yourselves over the course of the day. Selection panels had a very difficult time choosing teams as there were a lot of talented players across all sports.

We would like to acknowledge Belynda Hyland, Olivia Hockey, Daisy Lindfors, Sianna Brunacci, Taylor Thomson-Strain, Giovanni Gandolfi, Kate Symes, Alex Baillie, Reagan Widdowson, Hayley Ford, Ashton Harrison, Izaak Holz, Blake Miller, Kobi Barrenger, Bonnie Leslie and Emma Thomas for their efforts on the day.

The following students have been selected from our school to represent the Tamar region:

Netball: Taylor Thomson-Strain Soccer: Ashton Harrison, Blake Miller
Hockey: Giovanni Gandolfi, Kate Symes & Alex Baillie

Star of the Sea Catholic College Disco and Games Night

Friday 9th August

6:00pm to 8:00pm in the Hall

\$2 per student or \$5 for a family

Glowsticks, drinks and snacks
available at the canteen

Last Friday Year 7 and 8 students attended an excursion to the Cataract Gorge. The excursion was based around Indigenous culture. Aboriginal elder, Hank Horton, and TCEO ATSI Education Officer, Belinda Downward, both organised and coordinated the excursion.



**Collection of school information by the Australian Government under
the *Australian Education Act 2013***

Dear Parent/Guardian

Collection of information about schools

The Australian Government provides funding to Australian schools under the *Australian Education Act 2013*. That Act and the associated *Australian Education Regulation 2013* require that your child's school provide the Australian Government with certain information about the school, its financial arrangements, and its student body to ensure the funding is properly calculated and accounted for.

What information is collected by the Australian Government?

The authority that operates your child's school such as, a state or territory education department, a Catholic Education Office, or an independent school authority, will provide basic information about the school to the Australian Government. This includes its name, address, contact details, years of schooling offered and its staff.

The authority must provide the Australian Government with information about the school's finances, including annual audited financial statements and certification that Government funding has been used for proper purposes relating to education.

In addition, the authority will provide certain performance information at an aggregate level, including student attendance rates, student results in the National Assessment Program. For secondary schools this includes, post-school student destinations such as going into the workforce, vocational education and training, or higher education.

The authority is required to publish much of this information, and it is also published by the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) on the My School website at www.myschool.edu.au.

The school authority must also provide information to the Australian Government about the makeup of the school's student body during an annual school census. This is because Australian Government funding varies according to whether students are primary, secondary, receiving distance education, or are overseas students; and is calculated to provide additional funding, called 'loadings', for students at educational disadvantage.

The authority must provide information about the number of students attending the school, including the number of:

- primary and secondary students
- full-time and part-time students
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
- students with disability
- students with low English proficiency
- students receiving distance education
- boarding students
- overseas students.

continued over

Who receives this information?

Most of the information is provided by school authorities to the Australian Government Department of Education (the department). Some of it is provided directly to ACARA.

The department may in turn pass the information on to ACARA, state and territory education departments and authorities, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), and the Productivity Commission. The department will also provide the information to other organisations if required or authorised by law to do so.

The department may also disclose the information to its Information and Communication Technology (ICT) service providers, to allow them to provide ICT support services to the department.

Why is this information collected?

The department collects information about schools under the *Australian Education Act 2013* for the purposes of that Act, which include:

- ☐ calculation of Australian Government funding
- ☐ oversight of funding conditions and requirements
- ☐ monitoring of financial performance and educational outcomes of schools
- ☐ publishing and providing information about schools to the public.

The department also uses the information for research, statistical analysis, and policy development on school education for the Australian Government.

Information passed to ACARA, state and territory education authorities, the ABS, and the Productivity Commission is used by those organisations for their public purposes. For example, the information collected from school authorities under the *Australian Education Act 2013* forms part of the national statistical collection maintained by the ABS.

Is my child identified in the information collected by the Australian Government?

Where school authorities are required to provide the Australian Government with information about students, that information is aggregated statistical data that does not identify individual students. The information is not matched with any other information held by the Australian Government that can be used to identify individual students.

However, from time to time the department engages contractors to audit or verify school records to ensure that the information a school provides to the department is accurate. The information previously collected by the department may also be passed onto these contractors for this purpose.

When carrying out an audit, the contractors may need to access information about individual students from the school's records. This information may be 'personal information' within the meaning given in the *Privacy Act 1988*. The contractors may pass this information onto officers within the department if there is a discrepancy in the data provided by the school and the school's records and further investigation is required.

There may be other circumstances in which a school authority will voluntarily provide information about individual students to the department when seeking additional funding for those students. Most commonly, these are where a student has not been in attendance at a school during the annual school census reference period but the authority wishes to receive funding for him or her, or where the authority believes that the demographics of the students at the school are not representative of the households in the ABS statistical areas serviced by the school.

Other than in exceptional circumstances (for example, investigation of fraud relating to overseas students), the department does not disclose personal information to any overseas recipients.

Contacts for further information

If you have questions about the collection of information about schools by the Australian Government under the *Australian Education Act 2013*, please contact:

The Recurrent Assistance for Schools team at: GrantsandDatahelp@education.gov.au.

You can get more information about the way in which the department will manage your personal information, including information on accessing or correcting your information, and how to make a complaint, in our full privacy policy, at education.gov.au/privacy or by requesting a copy from the department at privacy@education.gov.au.